



# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

Monthly,  
Price  
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No. 57

Vol. VI

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

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JULY, 1921

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And All the Usual Features

**ST. DUNSTAN'S MOTTO: "VICTORY OVER BLINDNESS"**

Published at St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.



ST. DUNSTAN'S DANCE COMPETITION.—A FLASHLIGHT GROUP OF THE JUDGES AND COMPETITORS

# St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

No. 57.—VOLUME VI.

JULY, 1921.

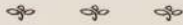
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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN.]

## EDITOR'S NOTES

AS these notes go to Press we are approaching the end of our summer term, and from the 23rd July our workrooms and training rooms will close down for the usual summer holiday, re-opening again on the 24th of August. To those who are returning we wish a thoroughly good holiday, and to those who are leaving us to start in the various professions and handicrafts they have mastered at St. Dunstan's good luck and the greatest possible measure of success. In the early days of St. Dunstan's, when the first few men set out to make their way in the world, it was only possible for us to hope that they would be successful, for the system of St. Dunstan's was on its trial. Now, however, after six and a half years, we can do more than this, for the principles upon which St. Dunstan's was founded have been vindicated, and we can confidently state, from the news which reaches us every day of our men's success in the enterprise they have undertaken, that the difficulties which daily present themselves to the blind home worker can be overcome when they are approached with the St. Dunstan's spirit. Every month it has been our practice to print a few pages of letters from St. Dunstaners all over the world which show that this spirit is very much alive and confirm what has been said. That these letters form one of the most popular features of the REVIEW is proved by the correspondence which we frequently receive in regard to them. Those appearing in this issue on pages 5 and 6 are not in any way exceptional, but are typical of the communications that we are able to print every month. We commend them specially to the notice of our readers, and hope that after perusing them any of our comrades who have not previously sent us a note of their experiences will do so.

As we write these notes, St. Dunstan's Working and Sales Exhibit is in progress at the Beaver Hut, Strand, which has been kindly placed at our disposal rent free by its owners, Mr. James White, and the London County Council. The exhibit was formally opened by the Rt. Hon. Ian Macpherson, P.C., K.C., M.P., Minister of Pensions, at 3 o'clock on Monday, the 11th inst., and it is hoped that, apart from the general publicity which the Show will afford, new openings in both the retail and wholesale markets will be found. The Minister of Pensions in an eloquent speech called attention to the fact that the goods on sale were of splendid value, and admitted that of all the wonderful things he had seen arising out of the war nothing had astonished him so much as the successful way in which the men of St. Dunstan's had overcome their handicap, and were in spite of difficult times able to carry on. The Government, he said, had made the best arrangements it possibly could for disabled men as a whole, but in regard to one class of disabled men, namely the blinded soldiers and sailors, they had thought that in Sir Arthur Pearson the nation had someone who was more capable than any Government of looking after the interests of men whose difficulties he was so peculiarly adapted to understand. "The success of St. Dunstan's, which is unparalleled by any other activity undertaken

on account of disabled men, has confirmed us in the opinion that we were right." These words coming from a Cabinet Minister are very heartening. On pages 7 and 8 an account of the opening ceremony and of the Minister of Pensions' speech is printed, to which we would draw our readers' attention.



As usual, the REVIEW will not be issued in August, and we are therefore postponing the publishing date of this number until the 20th, in order to include a note of a number of interesting events which are happening towards the end of the term.



### The Prince and St. Dunstan's

THE PRINCE OF WALES has always displayed a keenly sympathetic interest in St. Dunstan's, and hardly a week passes but we have news of some kindly attention he has shown in of our men.

It is of interest to record also that when the Prince of Wales met Sir Arthur at the Fresh Air Fund Fête, an account of which appears on another page, he particularly referred to the large number of blinded soldiers whom he had had the pleasure of meeting in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. It appears that whenever the Prince was reviewing ex-service men he particularly looked out for and frequently spotted a St. Dunstan's badge, and always made a point of having a little chat with the men.

Whilst visiting Liverpool the Prince said he would see all ex-service men in Liverpool, which of course included St. Dunstaners. There was a very big muster of ex-soldiers, but H.R.H. was determined to see our men, though he had to vault over the railings behind which they were placed. He selected T. Eaton as being a representative man and shook hands with him. He asked him if had been to St. Dunstan's and if he was now back at home, also if he now suffered any pain from his wound. He was very sympathetic.

H. Bennett was present at the gathering of ex-service men which met the Prince at Bristol. The Prince shook hands with all the men, but Bennett was apparently the only one he spoke to. Recognising the St. Dunstan's badge, he

asked Bennett quite a lot of questions, including the length of time he had been at St. Dunstan's, what trade he had taken up and what progress he had made since leaving. Needless to say, Bennett was highly pleased at being thus singled out for Royal attention, and if the Prince could only realise the immense pleasure he gave, he would think those few minutes very well spent. Incidentally it may be remarked that His Royal Highness could not have picked out a better man for his attention, for the part of the town where Bennett lives is a centre of intense loyalty, and his kindly chat with Bennett was a human touch which has gone very straight to the people's hearts.

While visiting the Devon County Show at Tavistock, the Prince expressed high approval of the work the St. Dunstan's men were showing. A mat bearing the Prince of Wales' feathers, made by Sapper Eden, of Sidford, received special praise. Later, the Prince desired to purchase the mat, and requested that it should be sent to St. James' Palace.

The Prince's well-known faculty for remembering faces was exemplified during his visit to Newport, when he had a conversation with two of our men, R. Viner and A. Evans. Evans having obtained the Prince's autograph in the morning, was presented to him again in the afternoon. The Prince at once recognised him, and chaffed him about his "double ration."



WE would remind our readers that the sixth volume of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW begins with this number, and that binding cases may be had on application at cost price.

### "Some Amusing Mistakes" Competition

THE idea of this competition, in which Mr. Charles J. Jones kindly offered a prize of 10s. has evidently taken the fancy of very many of our readers. Entries have come from all quarters and they deal with every kind of mis-adventure, amusing or otherwise, into which our men have been landed.

The work of judging has been a cheery one but perhaps the point which has most impressed us has been the unfailing good humour with which our competitors have accepted the sometimes distinctly awkward positions in which they were placed. After careful consideration the prize has been awarded to W. Coleman who relates a little experience he had one day while waiting for his wife who was shopping.

"Close to where we live there are some gardens, and knowing there was a seat a few yards inside, I found it with my stick, and was just preparing to sit down, when a voice said, 'what the — are you doing.' To my surprise and the intense amusement of other people present, I had sat on the face of a colonial who was lying full length on the seat asleep—until I awakened him!"

Considerations of space unfortunately prevent us printing more than a few of the other entries, but the following, amongst others, may be quoted in brief:—

J. H. McDonough, St. Leonards-on-Sea: "While a patient in the 4th London Hospital, I was one night feeling in my locker for some milk which they usually left there for me. As I couldn't find it, I struck a match to look for it!"

D. O. Evans, Llansamlet: "One day, as I was taking a walk round the village, I was stopped by a friend who asked me what was the matter with my feet. I looked at him in astonishment, until he told me that I was wearing one brown and one black shoe."

H. Tomkinson, Earls Colne: "In a rush one day to get smartened up and changed, I shaved very quickly, and then feeling my face a little rough and sore, I thought

a little cold cream would do it good. Drawing a small tin from my locker, I put some of the contents on my face. It suddenly occurred to me that it had rather a different smell than usual, so I walked to the top of my ward and asked the orderly what I had got in the tin. He told me it was 'brown boot polish.'"

S. W. Webster, Maida Vale, started out to work one morning a little later than usual, and thought he had missed the usual bus. A voice, however, called "come on," and in his eagerness to mount, Webster tried to get up with the driver instead of the conductor.

H. Spencer, Luton, while staying at the College, returned from Baker Street one very rough night, and found to his surprise the College gates locked—as he thought. However, a voice from the darkness enquired where he was bound, and when he asked, "Is this the College of St. Dunstan's?" the reply was, "No, you are trying to get into the Zoo."

J. Attrell, of Polegate, mistook his mother's rough-coated dog for his fur-coated son.

H. Dingle, of the Bungalow, who can see slightly, thought he was threatened with collision by a small girl pushing a miniature perambulator. He stretched out his hand saying, "Mind, my dearie. . . ." when a voice said, "Why, this ain't your missus, it's my blinking dawg."

T. Till, of Lancaster, went to a lecture with his wife. She placed his hand on the rail leading upstairs, and when he reached the top he gripped the lady by his side and hurried her off. To his surprise he suddenly received a box on the ears, and Mrs. Till arrived just in time to explain to the abducted lady that her masterful cavalier was blind.

J. Corns, of Shepherds Bush, mistook a lady's knee for an empty seat on top of a bus when returning home from St. Dunstan's. . . .

Perhaps it is as well that our space has run out!

## News of St. Dunstan's Men

### A TANDEM ENTHUSIAST

We have had a very interesting letter from J. R. Brown, of Nuneaton, telling us some of his experiences with his machine. One day he cycled from Nuneaton to Birch, near Heywood, Lancashire (about 100 miles), and completed the journey in nine hours. Mr. Brown's brother-in-law rode with him, and they travelled back two days after in just under the nine hours, including the time that they stopped for dinner and tea. Taking the time off that they stopped on the road, the actual journey was completed in seven-and-a-half hours, a very excellent performance on which we congratulate both riders.

### A FOWL'S CURIOUS APPETITE

C. J. Condon, of Andover, sends us a cutting he had read to him the other day, as he thinks it might be of interest to some other poultry farmers. We are inclined to agree with Condon that this particular fowl had a prodigious and peculiar appetite—if the inventory of its crop contents is to be believed! But we apologise for our doubt, for as the record has been in print before it must be true!

### A LETTER FROM IRELAND

All is not strife in the land of Erin to judge by the cheery letter we have received from L. Halpin of Ballybough. Halpin writes:—"My baskets are taking very well, in fact I am told by good authorities they are the finest seen in Dublin. I am making two dozen for a bazaar, and have completed one dozen which are quite satisfactory, and I hope to obtain many orders from the same quarter. Many thanks to St. Dunstan's for my good training."

### A FIRST YEAR POULTRY FARM

In a recent letter R. E. Hill, of Tideswell, Buxton, sends some details of his poultry farming and mat-making. Hill is evidently determined to make good at his

chosen occupation, and we congratulate him on the excellent progress he is making, and the fine spirit which evidently animates his work. Hill writes:—"At Tideswell, near Buxton, in the High Peak district of Derbyshire, far away from the madding crowd, my establishment is situated and here I am carrying on the work of poultry farming and mat-making.

My poultry farm is on one-and-a-half acres of good land, which in rainy weather is advantageous on account of quick and effective drainage of water, and the absence of anything approaching sewerage.

This field has been let to me on generous terms by His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, through the powerful influence of St. Dunstan's, to which I feel I shall be a life-long debtor, for so many kindnesses shown to me.

This field is now the centre of my interest and of my labours. Here I have my building erected, which serves the purpose of work room and store house. In it I have my mat-making frame and my bench, erected on which is fixed the Kibbler. Here I keep my stock in trade, garden tools, hen corn, etc.

Just above this building my poultry farm begins. I have four fowl houses arranged in a line facing the south. I keep the incubator at home to be under observation, but the foster mothers have been brought into requisition in the field. On one occasion I received a visit from a member of the After-Care staff. He inspected the incubator and found that I had too many degrees of heat and feared I had spoiled the eggs. I wrote and told him that the eggs had proved better than I bargained, for I had a 75 per cent. hatch. He replied that he was pleased to receive my report, more especially as the eggs had received a roasting! These visits and hints have been useful and much appreciated. I am now rearing 130 chickens hatched in the incubator, and I find that I have a fair average number of pullets amongst them. This is my first year of poultry farming,

## From all parts of the World

and I am in the experimental stage, with many things yet to learn by practical experience. Until the year is up and I have reaped the full harvest from my labour and experience, I am unable to tabulate my profits, but I am hopeful that I shall be able to turn to good account the help I have received from St. Dunstan's in the way of instruction, also the material assistance given to place me in a position to command success."

I HAVE great pleasure in printing the following letter from T. Till, which contains a very valuable suggestion. It will be noted that we have purposely left out his address, for fear that the Public Nuisances Committee of his local authority may prosecute him for unlawfully hammering nails into public property! However, we hope he will escape this fate, and we congratulate Till on his ingenuity, and wish him good luck with the 11th commandment: "Don't be found out":—

"I should like to acquaint our readers with a very useful little hint. I don't know whether it is generally known, but it cost me several nasty bumps before I got hold of the dodge. I will try to explain. Some people have what is known as the 'Perception of Obstacles' in a far greater degree than others. For my own part I can generally tell the approach of a lamp-post, that is, if it is a good thick substantial one, although on windy days, or when there is any vehicle passing, it makes it a little difficult. On my way to work I have to navigate a few of these iron policemen, and I often had my 'perception of obstacles' after the obstacle had approached, with dire results. Now for the hint. Get a few two inch or three inch nails, and armed with a hammer, go out to meet your enemy, or better still, get someone to take you. When you come to your lamp-post, select the first joint of the

kerbstone on the edge of the parapet nearest the post. This will generally be found to be about three or four feet from the post. Into the joint, and as near level with the top of the kerb as possible, drive in your nail, leaving about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch projection. Do the same on the opposite side of the post. Then go on to your next enemy and do the same. The best time to do this is a dark night, or passing pedestrians will think you have gone 'balmy.' I suppose you will have tumbled to the idea by this, so that I need scarcely explain that you can now go along at a good swinging pace to your work, and as soon as your stick catches one of these nails you know that you have only to put out your stick and you touch a post. I have also to pass along some very rough unmade streets, and some of the parapets have quite a big drop at the end of them. It is a nasty feeling to be walking on the parapet one second, and the next to find yourself in thin air. This is where your nail dodge again makes itself useful. A nail stuck into the edge of the parapet before the drop makes everything quite safe and prevents shock. Before leaving St. Dunstan's I spent a few months at Sussex Place, and I fancy a few fellows would remember the Hydrant, where we had to cross over to Sussex Place, and also the five lamp-posts. A nail stuck in front of that hydrant would have saved many poor noses, and much obscene language. There is only one drawback to this little dodge—that it is scarcely safe to put it into practice where motors draw up to the kerb. These nails are so insignificant as to be unobserved by passing folk, but if a car drew up against one of these little danger signals it would inevitably mean a burst tyre. But really it is quite a good dodge, and I have blessed the day when I took the trouble to take these precautions. I am naturally a brisk walker, and I go along at a good pace, and these signals give one a feeling of perfect security. All good wishes."

W. A. Underwood, of Northwich, sends along an amusing letter on Optimism and Canary Breeding—we don't know which receives most attention! Anyhow we wish Underwood all success—such optimism certainly deserves it:—

"In fulfilment of my promise to acquaint you with the progress of the canary innovation, I append the following:—

"Optimism is the one necessity in canary breeding. I commenced this season with four cocks and ten hens, and I have just concluded the first round of the three or four which comprise the season. The first stage in each round is the production of eggs. Nine of my ten hens went successfully to nest, and in due course presented me with thirty-nine pale, rosy-spotted blue eggs. Of these thirty hatched out.

"Optimism at this stage was running high, but it was just here that the test began its pitiless embargo on success. Hens which had sat well during the whole of the fortnight required for incubation turned their backs on the gaping mouths of first one and then another brood. The luck of the game was against me. Young chicks starved to the number of twenty-three. Only seven left the nest alive.

"Did you ever know such a ruthless test for optimism? Reason would seem to argue that I had a poor selection of hens, and that it is a case of money badly invested. Thirty-five John Bradbury's represent the debit side of my canary account, and optimism is my only asset. The stock I possess will yet justify their initial outlay and keep.

"To-day, at the outset of the second round, I stand as follows:—Breeding Stock: Four cocks and ten hens. Chicks: Four seven weeks' old and three five weeks. Eggs: Twenty. What will the future decide? Really one never knows, does one?"



#### CALLED TO THE BAR

We offer our best congratulations to Sergeant Bowen, of 71 Bridge Street, Cambridge, who has brought two years very hard study to a successful and happy conclusion by being called to the Bar.

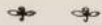
An extract from a recent letter to Sir Arthur follows:—

"Dear Chief,—I have very much pleasure in notifying you of the success which has once again fallen to me. I was awarded a very complimentary position amongst the Thirds in the Tripos Examination results, and I certainly think I have every reason to be thoroughly satisfied with this placing. It was indeed a very proud and happy moment when I knelt to receive the reward of my two years' labours. I have in less than two years gained the distinction of being admitted and called to the Bar, and have also had the honorary degrees of B.A. and LL.B. conferred upon me. My success has been a great surprise to very many people, all of whom are overjoyed at the achievement, and the ovation accorded to me in the Senate House will long live in my memory. The achievement is, I claim, merely another demonstration of the fact that it is possible for us who have lost our sight to conquer our disability, and notwithstanding our handicap, continue to live our old life, or to select any other profession or business and carry on regardless of what we would have once thought an insuperable handicap."



#### Circular

ON June 28th, a circular with reference to the reduction of the price of leather was sent out by the After-Care Department. Will any man who has not received a copy apply to Captain Ian Fraser.



It is with sincere regret we have to announce that Mrs. E. Thomson who has been attached to our After-Care staff for so long—in fact she was one of our first visitors—has been obliged to resign her position as Social Visitor, owing to failing health.

We are sure all the St. Dunstaners in her area will miss her exceedingly, and join with us in wishing her many happy years at her beautiful home "Danecroft," Stowmarket.

## St. Dunstan's Working and Sales Exhibition at the Beaver Hut, Strand, W.C.

THIS fine Exhibition was opened on Monday, the 11th July, by the Rt. Hon. Ian Macpherson, M.P., Minister of Pensions. Sir Arthur Pearson introduced Mr. Macpherson to the distinguished company present, and he was accompanied on the platform by Lady Pearson, Mrs. Macpherson, Captain Ian Fraser and Mrs. Fraser.

Mr. Macpherson, in the course of an interesting speech, paid eloquent tribute to Sir Arthur's wonderful work in connection with St. Dunstan's. "There was one class of disabled man," he said, "and the Government wishes me to confess it, whose care could be left in abler hands than those of the State. These were the hands of Sir Arthur Pearson. In my judgment it was a wise choice.

"Nothing could be finer than to see the material success of his endeavours and those of Capt. Ian Fraser in the Exhibition. You have here results from men who have gone through despair, through helplessness, through the quagmire of doubt, right up to the summit of independence. Some day," he said, "we shall erect a new statue in our great City—a statue to the man who has led from despondency to splendid achievement those gallant fellows who have made what is, perhaps, the greatest sacrifice of all except life—the sacrifice of sight, and the record of his great work for humanity will be written thereon in letters of purest gold.

"Sir Arthur and the men with whom he has been associated have made it clear that they do not want charity or debilitating sympathy. They do not want idleness.

"If any man or woman in this country wishes to purchase these exhibits on the ground of sentiment let them do it; but we do not wish it—rather we would have them purchase on the ground of worth. The struggle of these men has resulted in producing articles worthy to take their place in the finest markets of the world.

"There was a new spirit of humanity abroad in the land," Mr. Macpherson said, "which had told the Government to go further than any government had gone before, and to bring comfort to the lives of those who had suffered. The Government were proud to have been able to do so."

Mr. and Mrs. Macpherson afterwards accompanied Sir Arthur and Captain Fraser in a detailed tour of the Exhibition. All the men in turn were introduced to the Minister of Pensions, who shook hands with them and made interested enquiries as to the Regiment and Division they had served with, how long they had left St. Dunstan's, ending with sympathetic enquiries as to their progress. Mrs. Macpherson also was evidently deeply interested in the exhibits and our men, so much so in fact that when her presence was desired in a flashlight group she was at last discovered in deep conversation with one of the sale's representatives, to whom she was giving a lengthy list of orders.

The Exhibition as a display forms one of the most attractive and representative that St. Dunstan's have yet undertaken.

A big banner sign across the Strand is the first thing to catch the eye of the prospective visitor, and in the exterior display at the Beaver Hut, effective use is made of the well-known St. Dunstan's badge and motto. This also is extensively used in the scheme of decoration inside the big hall. Entering the main doorway the vestibule, attractively coloured in primrose and dark brown (a colour scheme which obtains throughout the Exhibition) masses of ferns and flowers are banked around, and form a cooling and attractive relief this torrid weather. Descending a flight of steps into the main hall we find the working exhibits extending along the whole of the left hand aisle in the following order:—Netting and Rug-making, Basket-making, Joinery and Mat-making. Next

we come to a fine display of the appliances used by the St. Dunstan's Masseurs, while in the opposite corner is a stand devoted to the work of the St. Dunstan's Poultry Farmers. In the rear hallway G. D. Warden has his stenography stand, and he is being followed by J. H. Harker.

The whole centre of the Hall is occupied by an enormous area of tabling, upon which is displayed a most complete range of every form of stock from the various workshop departments. The right hand wall is devoted also to the exhibits of the larger articles St. Dunstan's make, such as step-ladders, large hampers and so on. It should be mentioned that not the least interesting feature of the Exhibition to the general visitor is a series of quotations referring to the work, the aims, and the spirit of St. Dunstan's as expressed by famous writers and speakers.

The working displays are drawing crowds and honest and often almost embarrassing admiration at our men's skill is freely expressed. Their cheery spirit and fund of information obviously impress visitors very much. We congratulate them all on the way they are helping to make a record success of the show.

The men who are giving working displays are as follows:—J. Dixon, Sinnet Mats; E. J. Thompson, Brush Mats; F. Ralph, Joinery; J. V. Tweedie, Baskets (square work); M. Lane, Baskets (cane work). The netting and rug making exhibit is represented by new workers each day.

A large and distinguished list of notabilities have expressed their intention of paying a visit to the Exhibition, during the time it remains open amongst these being: The Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour, Sir Laming Worthington Evans, Mr. Lloyd George, Dr. Macnamara, Sir R. S. Horne, Capt. Hon. A. H. L. Hardinge, M.C. Mayor of Westminster, Rt. Hon. H. A. Fisher, Miss Gladys Cooper, Alderman J. C. Rolls, Bishop of London, Rt. Hon. G. N. Barnes, Sir Eric Geddes, Rt. Hon. W. Massey, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Lord Milner, Mr. Hughes, Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. H. Bottomley, Miss Sybil Thorndike, and others.

We are writing this review of the Exhibition against time, and it only

remains now to say that it promises to be in every way a remarkable success.

Congratulations are due to all those workers on the staff, who have combined so splendidly to give of their best in the arduous work the organisation and arrangement of the display has involved in the short space of time at disposal.



### When.

OH, when will the good time be coming?

Oh, God up in heaven, say when?

Oh when will our looms all be humming

And men cease to quarrel with men.

Oh, when will we strive for the better,

The nobler, the higher, the true,

Oh when will we act to the letter

This "Do unto others as you?"

Oh, when will the good time be coming?

When all unemployment shall cease.

When angels their harps will be strumming

To see our enjoyment of peace.

When the dear little children will never

Again for the needed food cry,

When the mothers shall cease, and for ever,

Their aprons to hold to their eye.

Oh, when will we "Do unto others

As we would have them do to us."

Oh when will we call all men brothers

Without any fuming or fuss?

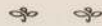
Oh, when will the angels be strumming

Their harps o'er the goodness of men?

Oh, when will the good time be coming?

Oh, God! in Thy mercy, say WHEN?

*Third Reserve.*



### Bound Volumes

MISS M. CROFT has two bound volumes of the REVIEW, numbers 2 and 3, and very kindly offers them free of charge to any reader who makes application to the Editor. We tender Miss Croft our sincere thanks. In case a number of applications are received for these volumes, preference will be given to the one which arrives first at the Editor's office.

## Departmental Notes

### Netting

WE think that After-Care netters will be glad to hear that the Work Rooms will not be closed during the Summer holidays, except for Bank Holiday week. We shall send out orders for rugs and nets as usual, except from July 30th to August 8th. Will After-Care workers kindly note that we shall be glad if they will not send parcels during these few days? G.H.W.



### Shorthand, Typewriting and Telephony

OUR sincerest congratulations to the following men on having passed their Typewriting Test:—

W. F. Gannaway, D. T. Vernon, H. George, T. W. Moore, E. Bartlett, P. Sheridan, G. Brewer and W. T. E. Collins.

The best of luck and all good wishes to our two Telephonists, G. A. Loveridge and F. Shelton. The former started work at Gresham Street on June 30th, with Mr. William Charles Crocker, Solicitor. A position has been found for the latter at Dick's Asbestos Co., and he starts work there on July 4th.



### The Braille Room

WE heartily congratulate the following men on having passed their Reading and Writing Tests:

*Reading:* J. E. Edwards, G. F. Furniss, W. F. Gannaway, W. Whiteside, H. Acton, Wm. Nichols, C. John, A. Back, J. McDonough, W. J. McQuirk, and H. MacAteer.

*Writing:* T. Moulard, F. Hemsworth, W. Moorcroft, and F. Crabtree.

The following are amongst the books that have been recently added to the National Library for the Blind:—"The Story of the British Navy from the Earliest Times to the Present Day," by E. K. Chatterton; "Story of Sir Francis Drake,"

by Mrs. Eldon; "Story of Captain Cook," by John Lang; "Story of General Gordon," by Jeannie Lang; "Story of Nelson," by E. F. Sellar; "Story of Lord Roberts," by E. F. Sellar; "The Problems of Power," by W. M. Fullerton; "Landmarks," by E. V. Lucas; "The Jacket," by Jack London; "The Secret Agent," by J. Conrad; "Those Other Days," by E. P. Oppenheim.

This number of the REVIEW will be published just before the end of the term, so should there be any Braillists who would like to have a book sent home for the holidays, and have not already given in their names at the Braille Office, will they please do so at the earliest possible moment.



### Music Notes

THE Band and Concert Party had a great success at the Pensions Hospital, Orpington, on May 25th. A Farewell Concert was given by them at the Bungalow on June 16th, when Sir Arthur and Lady Pearson were present. The Band gave their very best performances. "The Passing of Salome," in which P. Nuyens and A. Turrell had a violin and cornet solo respectively, was especially to be praised. The imitation of a train on the side drum by W. Jack was most appreciated. The whole Band is to be congratulated on their clean and precise playing, and Sir Arthur made special mention of them in his speech. They joined in with D. Gamble in some of his humorous songs, which were extremely well received. B. Collins, H. Costigan, W. Collins and C. Russell in their songs, W. Coleman and G. Webster in their recitations, and P. Nuyens his splendid violin solos, and gave of their best. It is very much to be regretted that so many of the party will be leaving shortly, as they have done such excellent work during the year and been so much appreciated at the hospitals.

## News from the Workshops

THE end of the Term naturally brings into prominence consideration of the men who will be leaving us to put to use the practical knowledge they have gained by so much pleasurable effort.

They advance to their new ventures with confidence and high hopes, but at the same time all should realise that they have special difficulties ahead. While conveying to them the best wishes of the Workshops Staff for their ultimate success, we may say just one thing. Business management should receive the close attention of every man. Methods of account-keeping, estimating costs, stock-keeping, and the way in which to deal with customers, require constant and careful thought.

Another of our Instructors in the Boot Shop, Mr. F. Darby, has joined the After-Care Staff as a Technical Visitor. We are confident, from what we know of him personally, that the men under his charge will have the assistance of a skilled man and a good friend.

### BASKET DEPARTMENT

A new man, W. Buckle, has done exceptionally well with barrel baskets and waste papers in quite a short time. G. Brewer has been very much hindered by ill-health, but has shown considerable self-reliance during his recent work. F. Stew has made good use of his time since his return, and has got good neat results with small work generally; his interest and industry are marked. Small hampers made by B. E. Ingrey had a good general appearance, and were much improved in the carrying of stakes; two oval clothes baskets made by him were also of a good shape. Since our last reference A. Waite has had good experience with plate baskets, square-arm baskets, and other varied work, including a hamper; he is a promising workman and gets good results. Another favourable comment is also well deserved by J. Noble, who has covered

the whole range of work, and has recently been making some excellent clothes and baker's baskets; his baskets are always of a very good style, and he is sure to prove a capable workman. The hamper work done recently by D. S. Munro has been very satisfactory indeed; he is very self-reliant and capable.

### BOOT DEPARTMENT

Very satisfactory early work has been done by P. Sheridan; in a short time he was able to commence on ordinary repairs. F. C. Harrison also continues to make excellent progress, working very hard and tackling any kind of job with success. After a long absence, J. Bolton is at work again on boots and clogs, and is doing well both as regards shape, rivetting, and edges. There has been a marked improvement in the work of W. Nelson, several pairs of men's soling and heeling during the month reaching a good level. T. Evans is still maintaining his standard and also advancing in several details both in boots and mats. J. C. Stephens has also advanced considerably in all his work, particularly with ladies' single soles and  $\frac{1}{2}$  rubbers; these had previously given him a lot of trouble, and his success deserves sincere congratulation. In addition to his bench work, A. Morgan has been taking up patching and hand sewing, and is becoming quite a competent man all round with a sound idea of the requirements of the trade. The same sound idea of work and keen interest in every detail is shown by A. H. W. James, whose careful work, both in this shop and the Mats, deserves every commendation. Excellent reports have also been made during the month on several boot repairs, ladies' and gents', carried through by S. Brydson.

### MAT DEPARTMENT

W. F. Gannaway and H. W. Allen are doing well in all respects with this work and promise to reach a high standard.

E. Donald is also showing ability and will, we expect, do better still. F. Chudleigh works hard, and is getting well hold of every part of his job, and A. Campbell has put in a lot of very useful work during the last month. A. Cook has made some nice looking mats, and the standard reached by F. Crabtree in his last piece of work was very good. Several mats with initials, words, borders and designs, made by G. Powell, have been in excellent style. Other design mats made by W. J. Harris have been very good; this man continues to turn out nice looking repairs in the Boot Shop. The turn-out of mats during the month by J. Hunter have had the excellent merits both of quantity and quality, in both of which he appears to have been out to establish a "record." Congratulations also to P. D. Jensen on account of all the work he has been doing recently, and to R. Colville, whose sinnets have been carefully and well made, and who has also been successful with lettered mats. Further commendation is also deserved by E. Bartlett on the excellent standard he always maintains with his work.

### JOINERY DEPARTMENT

The elementary work which T. W. Moore has just finished has been exceptionally good; he is now undertaking his tool chest. J. S. Harrison has done similar work, and also an oak tray, and in addition has been doing oak picture-framing, on which he has met with success. C. H. Hainsworth has continued to devote all his attention to picture-framing, gaining experience with the different moulds and exercising a large amount of patience and forethought. A. W. Birchall is also having varied experience with cupboards, small boxes and trays, and has made picture-frames in good style. The work done of late by F. Ralph has been of an excellent character; he has proved himself so adaptable to different classes of work that we may look forward with confidence to his future success. Some very good work has been done in the shop during the last few months, and there is reason to be very proud of the results achieved by the men.

### PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES

The following Proficiency Certificates were awarded during the month:—

E. D. Martin (baskets); E. J. Laker (baskets); W. J. Packwood (mats); H. Lea (boots and mats); P. D. Jensen (mats); A. H. W. James (boots and mats); F. T. Dance (mats); E. A. Pugh (mats); E. T. Hughes (mats); W. J. Wood (baskets); D. S. Munro (baskets); A. T. Iddiols (C.C. baskets); G. Williams (baskets); J. Noble (baskets); G. Matrenin (baskets); B. Fitzpatrick (baskets); J. C. Stephens (boots); S. Brydson (boots); J. L. Brooke (clogs); and H. C. Clarke (mats).

W.H.O.

### Mlle. Lenglen at St. Dunstan's

Mlle. SUZANNE LENGLEN, who paid a visit to St. Dunstan's Hostel on the 8th July, was very interested in the lawn tennis nets made by the blind men there. She is herself an expert "netter" so her opinion is additionally valuable. She has promised to do her best to encourage sales of these nets in France. She also thought that the blind should be able to string racquets.

"I am very impressed with the happiness of the men" she said. "It would you think make you so sad to be without sight, and is it not wonderful that although the sight is not there the intelligence shines still more brightly? You can judge them as though they had eyes as before."

"If I had missed seeing St. Dunstan's I should have been indeed unfortunate. You see it is my eyes that are much to me."

A tray specially made that morning was presented to Mlle. Lenglen and there was quite a competition among the boys to secure her autograph.

"Why do you always type your love letters, old bean?"

"Saves brain-fag, dear boy. I just type 'My Darling,' and then tap away at the jolly old 'X,' and—er—well, there you are!"

## Church and Catholic Chapel Notes

### Catholic Chapel Notes

WE are all very sorry that with the closing down of the Bungalow we are losing our little Chapel. It has been very dear to many of St. Dunstan's, and we will carry away with us happy memories of Worship and Intercession there. We are hopeful that we may be able to continue our services in one of the Lounges at Cornwall Terrace, which Sir Arthur has sympathetically placed at our disposal. Our new arrangements will be duly mentioned in subsequent REVIEWS. In the meantime I trust that all the Sisters who have so lovingly looked after the Chapel will accept our most grateful thanks. Miss Clegg, Miss Berry and Mrs. Howell have been untiring in fulfilling their respective Chapel duties, and their help has been greatly appreciated. Miss Warren and Miss Parkinson have both been most kind in giving us splendid assistance at the organ, whilst Miss Morris, Miss Bird and Miss Eastwood have helped us greatly in the choir.

Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sundays 3rd, 10th and 17th July, at 8 a.m.

As the 17th July is our last Sunday, I trust that all will make a special point of being present. *E.W.*

After the summer holidays special facilities will be arranged for men to attend the services in neighbouring churches. The Chaplain would like to take this opportunity of thanking the entire staff for their many kindnesses and helps during the past and previous years, and to wish both staff and men all the pleasure and happiness of a well-deserved holiday. *P. H.*

### Births

H. HOTSON, son - - - Jan. 17, 1921  
A. BACK, son - - - Jan. 21, 1921  
T. COOK, son - - - Mar. 7, 1921  
T. MURPHY, son - - - April 17, 1921

### Births—continued

W. V. SARGENT, daughter April 21, 1921  
—, SHAYLOR, daughter - May 5, 1921  
J. VERNON, daughter - May 9, 1921  
F. WARIN, son - - - May 11, 1921  
J. E. BATTY, son - - - June 7, 1921  
F. G. WISHART, son - - June 11, 1921  
S. GAME, daughter - - June 12, 1921  
F. G. FREEMAN, son - - June 14, 1921  
F. FOSTER, daughter - - June 15, 1921  
J. SESSMAN, daughter - - June 19, 1921  
J. THOMPSON, daughter - June 25, 1921  
C. T. CONDON, son - - June 30, 1921

### Marriages

IN April, George F. Joyner was married, at St. George's Presbyterian Church, East St. Kilda, Melbourne, Australia, to Miss R. M. Ross.

On Saturday, 4th June, J. C. Robins, at St. Luke's Church, Bryanston Square, to Miss Frances Wrixen.

On Saturday, 18th June, Harry Northgreaves was married, at St. Marylebone Church, to Miss W. E. A. Giffen.

On Tuesday, 21st June, W. M. Jack was married, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, to Miss E. Y. Rolls.

On Thursday, 23rd June, Samuel Marshall Brydson was married, at St. Marylebone Church, to Miss E. V. Seymour.

On Thursday, 30th June, Arthur Tanner was married, at the Primitive Methodist Church, St. Ives, Cornwall, to Miss E. Bowyer.

### Baptisms

ON Sunday, 12th June, Eileen Constance, daughter of Horace Venning Kerr, was baptised in the St. Dunstan's Chapel.

On Sunday, 26th June, Wilfred Arthur, son of Albert Waite, was baptised in the St. Dunstan's Chapel.

On Monday, 27th June, Jack, son of Frederick Warin, was baptised in the St. Dunstan's Chapel.

## Sports Club Notes

### TANDEM PRIZE COMPETITION

OUR big Competition for the tandem prizes offered by Sir Arthur has been the outstanding feature of the month. It was clear by the preliminary notice in last month's REVIEW that the competition would be of a most strenuous nature, and so it has proved. Each branch of the sports represented on the programme has been keenly contested, and the competitors have been "all out" to secure points.

(a) *Sports*.—This section of the competition was held on Saturday, 11th June, and a very large number of competitors were present. The morning was beautifully fine, and we were greatly helped by securing the services as judges of Captain Hervey, Mr. Hardwick, of the Vesta Rowing Club, and Mr. Hitchens, of Wadham College, Oxford. It was fortunate that we had the services of such experts in the art of judging, because many of the events were so closely contested that in some cases only inches decided the race. The S.S. 90 yards sprint was splendidly won by G. F. Taylor, whilst A. Biggs won the T.B. event in the fast time of 10 $\frac{3}{8}$  secs. J. S. Harrison did excellently in Putting the Weight, after very little practice, the respectable distance of 29 ft. 10 ins. Altogether we had a most encouraging start, and it was noticeable how greatly many of the boys had improved and how level the racing was generally.

The following are the results:—

Event	No.	T.B.	S.S.
Sprint	1	A. Biggs	G. Taylor
	2	H. Northgreaves	Steel
	3	F. Peacock (D.H.)	P. Conlin 11.1.5
Cricket		P. Nuyens / 10 3.5 (1yd.)	(1 yd.)
Ball	1	H. Northgreaves 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	J. L. Brooke 70.2.3
	2	A. D. Kirstein 60	J. H. Ham 60
	3	J. Ingram 57.2.3	A. James 59 $\frac{1}{2}$
Throwing		yds. ft.	yds. ft.
Football	1	J. Harrison ... 28 1	A. James ... 31 1
	2	J. Morris ... 24 1	J. H. Ham ... 29 6
	3	J. Ingram ... 24 0	J. L. Brooke 26 0
Putting		ft. ins.	ft. ins.
Weight	1	J. Harrison ... 29 10	J. H. Ham 26 7
	2	H. Northgreaves 27 0	E. J. Lloyd 23 9
	3	A. Biggs ... 26 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	P. Conlin ... 23 6
Standing		ft. ins.	ft. ins.
Jump	1	J. P. Meighen ... 24 10	J. H. Ham 24 10
	2	H. Northgreaves 24 8	P. Conlin ... 24 4
	3	J. Harrison ... 24 7	J. Simpson 23 7

(b) *Swimming*.—These events took place at the Marylebone Baths on Friday, June 17th, and some great racing was seen. The diving was excellent, and the judge had great difficulty in deciding the winner. In the one-length events the swimming was particularly good, and it was a splendid performance on the part of G. F. Taylor to complete the length of nearly 35 yards in the time of 24 $\frac{3}{8}$  secs. In the T.B. events the boys steered a wonderfully straight course and a most exciting race was seen, all the three competitors practically arriving together, resulting in A. Biggs and J. Greaves dead heating, with J. Harrison a few inches behind. The following are the results:—

	T.B.	S.S.
Diving	1st A. Biggs	1st J. Simpson
	2nd J. S. Harrison	2nd G. F. Taylor
	3rd J. H. Greaves	3rd J. W. Yarwood
Pair Relay	1st A. Biggs and G. F. Taylor	
	2nd J. Yarwood and P. Nuyens	
	3rd Steel and J. H. Greaves	(54 secs.)
One Length (T.B.)	1st A. Biggs and J. H. Greaves	(Dead Heat)
	2nd J. S. Harrison	(29 secs.)
One Length (S.S.)	1st G. F. Taylor	
	2nd J. Simpson	
	3rd J. W. Yarwood	(243.5 secs.)

(c) *Rowing*.—Again we were favoured with delightful weather for the rowing events, which took place on the early mornings of Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 22nd, 23rd and 24th. For each event we had good entries, and the racing was full of life. The racing was exceptionally keen and the finishes were generally very close. The following are the results:—

	T.B.	S.S.
Single Sculls	1st A. D. Kirstein	1st R. Wilkinson
	2nd F. Hemsworth	2nd P. Conlin
	3rd A. Biggs	3rd A. T. Turrell
Double Sculls	1st A. D. Kirstein and R. Wilkinson	
	2nd J. H. Ham and J. Harrison	
	3rd P. Nuyens and E. J. Lloyd	
Pair Oars	1st A. D. Kirstein and R. Wilkinson	
	2nd J. Simpson and F. Hemsworth	
	3rd A. Biggs and G. F. Taylor	

(d) *Outer Circle Run*.—This important event was decided on the morning of the 28th June, at 7 a.m. We were lucky in having an ideal morning—just nice and cool for the runners. The entry was not so large



as last time, owing to several of the competitors being "hors de combat" before the race, and the desire on the part of others to leave the event to those who were vitally concerned in the struggle for points. It was throughout a grand race, and the three placed pairs all finished in quicker time than the winners of our last run, *i.e.*, 18 mins. 17 secs. The following are the results:—

1st	P. Conlin and J. Ingram	17 mins. 26 3/5 secs.
2nd	A. Kirstein and R. Wilkinson	17 " 40 "
3rd	J. Simpson and F. Peacock	18 " 10 "

Each of these men deserve our hearty congratulations for a very sporty race, and perhaps a special word of praise should be accorded to F. Peacock, who ran at a moment's notice to oblige J. Simpson, whose partner unfortunately was unable to run.

*Tug-of-War.*—Here we had some tremendous pulls. Five teams entered, and the total team weight had to be not more than 63 stone. Great amusement was caused when the teams had to weigh in, and although one team sacrificed everything as regards boots and clothing that could be dispensed with decently and in order, yet they found themselves 11 pounds over! and so they had to drop a man. To show the strenuous nature of the intervening contests the same team weighed again for their semi-final pull and found themselves about a stone lighter! and all was merry and bright!

In the first round Ham's team beat Northgreave's team 2—1 and Biggs' team beat Greaves' team 2—0.

In the semi-final Biggs' team beat Lloyd's team by 2—0.

The final between Biggs' team and Ham's team took place on Wednesday, 29th June. Here we saw the best pulling of the round, both teams being on the verge of being pulled over. At length Biggs' team won by 2—0, and great praise is due to the lighter team (Ham's) for the splendid show they made. The teams for the final Tug-of-War were:—

*Biggs' Team.*—A. Biggs, P. J. Conlin, G. F. Taylor, J. Ingram, C. J. Fawcett and A. D. Kirstein.

*Ham's Team.*—J. H. Ham, J. W. Shread, A. E. Trigg, G. H. Wiltshire, F. Peacock and W. J. Harris.

The Tug-of-War concluded our Competition. It was a real success from beginning to end, and some excellent sport was witnessed. One or two competitors had very hard lines through being "crooked," whilst others were unfortunate in losing their partners through some unforeseen circumstances just at the last moment. We offer the heartiest congratulations to those who head the list and win the tandems, A. D. Kirstein, A. Biggs, P. Conlin and R. Wilkinson, and also to the rest of the competitors for putting up such an excellent fight. The final points work out as follows:—

	T.B.	S.S.					
	Sports	Swimming	Rowing	Tug-of-War	Outer Circle Run	Total	
A. D. Kirstein	11	15	20	4	10	38	
A. Biggs	11	15	4	—	—	35	
J. Ingram	2	—	—	5	15	22	
J. Harrison	11	6	3	—	—	20	
H. Northgreaves	16	—	—	—	—	16	
F. Peacock	3	—	—	3	5	11	
F. Hemsworth	—	—	8	—	—	8	
J. H. Greaves	—	7	—	—	—	7	
P. Nuyens	3	3	1	—	—	7	
J. P. Meighen	—	—	—	—	—	5	
J. Morris	—	—	—	—	—	3	
J. W. Shread	—	—	—	3	—	3	
G. H. Wiltshire	—	—	—	3	—	3	
P. Conlin	7	—	5	5	15	32	
R. Wilkinson	—	—	20	—	10	30	
G. F. Taylor	10	13	1	5	—	29	
J. H. Ham	16	—	5	3	—	22	
J. Simpson	1	8	3	—	5	17	
H. M. Steel	5	1	—	—	—	6	
J. L. Brooke	6	—	—	—	—	6	
A. James	6	—	—	—	—	6	
J. W. Yarwood	—	5	—	—	—	5	
C. J. Fawcett	—	—	—	5	—	5	
E. J. Lloyd	3	—	1	—	—	4	
A. T. Turrell	—	—	3	—	—	3	
A. E. Trigg	—	—	—	3	—	3	
W. J. Harris	—	—	—	3	—	3	

#### TUG-OF-WAR

Although the weather has been exceedingly hot yet we have been more than usually busy with Tug-of-War. This was mainly caused by receiving an invitation to take part in certain "out" sports. These invitations we readily accepted, because it is always nice to have the opportunity of testing our power against sighted competitors. The first difficulty was to obtain a thoroughly representative team of eight with a maximum weight of 90 stone. Over forty men of various sizes and weights presented themselves for the right and honour of representing St. Dunstan's. The judges, Capt. Hervey and Sergt. Hardacre, had a very difficult task in selecting our

best eight from all these excellent "pullers," but it was at length done and the following team did duty on both the following occasions:—

A. Biggs, A. D. Kirstein, A. E. Trigg, A. T. Turrell, J. Simpson, H. A. Burtenshaw, W. J. McQuirk and A. Cook; with W. J. Harris as reserve.

On the 9th June, therefore, we attended at the Catford Sports to pull against a team of the maximum weight of 90 stone, and to our astonishment found ourselves drawn against the Peckham Police, who exceeded 113 stone in weight, almost 24 stone heavier than us! Had we anticipated this a few days earlier our team would have been dieted on Virol or some other fattening matter—it was too late now, and there was nothing else for it but to pull.

We did so, and got pulled over after a very brave defence. In the second pull, whether by sheer strength or skill, it is hard to tell, we pulled the "Bobbies" over. The third was against us, and so we retired defeated but certainly not disgraced, judging by the great reception we received on leaving the field, by two pulls to one. To show their good feeling the Police very kindly treated us to tea after the pull.

This exercise and experience was of great benefit for our more important engagement on the following Saturday, when we went to Herne Hill to pull against the champion Church Lads' Brigade Cadet team of all England. This team turned out to be the 3rd London, who had defeated Peterborough in the final. Their weight was about the same as ours and so we felt that this time we had a chance. We were anxious to win because H.R.H. Prince Henry was watching us, and we also wanted to retrieve our reputation after Thursday. Again we were accorded a most kind reception upon entering the field, and at once we found ourselves up against a most splendid body of cadets. We won the first pull after a strenuous struggle, and also the second, rather more easily, and so retired victors by two pulls to nothing. It was really a very interesting experience for our boys, and they pulled well together and in good style. Great credit is due to the instructors for

their able tuition and to the judges for the splendid team they chose to represent us.

#### SATURDAY SPORTS

Although we have had a very busy time in connection with the Tandem Competition, yet we have managed to put in some very exciting Saturday mornings. It would seem as if each Saturday were getting more strenuous than the preceding one, and this is greatly due to the great improvement which the new comers are making. They are gradually creeping up to the standard of the more experienced men and so the races are more level. Very few of our last term's records have been broken, but A. James, who threw the football 36 yards beats the old record made by himself by 4½ yards.

The result of the last competition for Sir Arthur's prize is as follows:—

	T.B.	S.S.	
J. P. Meighen	395	J. Simpson	405
J. H. Greaves	320	A. James	285
H. Northgreaves	253	J. L. Brooke	280
F. Peacock	253	G. F. Taylor	265
A. D. Kirstein	225	J. W. Yarwood	255
E. A. Pugh	150	P. F. Dixon	140
J. S. Harrison	150		

#### SWIMMING

We have had plenty of swimming during the last few weeks, and it has been a delightful pastime during the warm weather. Early each morning parties of the boys have been to the Marylebone Baths for swimming instruction, and in addition we have had an "out" engagement and also our own miniature gala.

The first named engagement was the result of an invitation to send along six T.B. swimmers to take part in the gala of the Lewisham Swimming Club at Ladywell Baths on June 21st. A merry little party accordingly set out and had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Our swimming was quite good, and the large audience gave us all a great reception. Our team consisted A. Biggs, J. Greaves, J. Birchall, J. Shread, J. S. Harrison, T. L. Evans, with J. Morris as reserve, and the racing resulted in J. Birchall and J. Greaves and J. S. Harrison finishing first, second and third respectively.

Our little gala was quite successful. We had too many entries to go through heats and finals on the same evening, so we had again to keep to our early mornings for the heats and Friday, July 1st, for the

finals. For this competition we increased the distance from 30 to 70 yards, and this rather told on the swimmers. Some splendid times were recorded and the finals resulted as follows:—

70 yards T.B. (Championship)—  
1st ... J. W. Birchall  
2nd ... J. H. Greaves  
3rd ... A. Biggs (52 2.5 secs.)

70 yards S.S.—  
1st ... J. Simpson  
2nd ... J. W. Moore  
3rd ... W. J. Packwood (62 2.5 secs.)

Plunging (T.B.)—

	feet	ins.
1st ... J. H. Greaves ...	32	5
2nd ... A. Biggs ...	32	5
J. W. R. Shread ...	31	5
J. W. Birchall ...	29	11
G. F. Furnis ...	27	10
P. Nuyens ...	26	2

Plunging (S.S.)—

	feet	ins.
1st ... J. Simpson ...	34	11
2nd ... W. J. Packwood ...	26	7
J. Billington ...	24	6
T. W. Moore ...	24	3
E. Lupton ...	24	3
J. H. Matthews ...	21	6
J. W. Yarwood ...	20	3

We are most grateful to our Swimming Instructor, Mr. W. Jones, and his brother, Mr. E. Jones, and their friends, for their kindness in providing all the prizes for this competition, Mr. E. Jones himself presenting a handsome Cup for the T.B. Championship contest. *E. E. W.*

LATE NEWS.—On Thursday, 7th June, the boys gave a splendid show at the Forest Hill Swimming Club's gala, where J. W. Birchall and J. Simpson won the 30 yards and 70 yards races respectively. The Mayor of Lewisham had previously expressed an opinion that our fellows could not participate in this sport, but his mind was disabused at this function, and he showed no hesitation in complimenting the competitors and congratulating them on their wonderful performance. The Swimming Instructor, Mr. Billy Jones, also received his full share of praise, whilst W. Tovell and C. Hunt are also to be congratulated on the splendid way in which they train the boys.

#### PRINCE HENRY'S WONDERMENT

The boys pulled with a will at the finals of the Church Lads' Brigade Cadets Sports at Herne Hill on the 11th June, where they defeated the finalists of the Tug-of-War competition. H.R.H. Prince Henry wit-

nessed the tussle and was keenly interested. At the conclusion he was obviously astounded at the skill and vigour displayed and his astonishment was expressed in one word, "wonderful." Earlier in the week the boys had suffered defeat at the South-Eastern District Tradesmen's Sports meeting—but they were giving over 23 stone to their opponents—and therefore they were not particularly optimistic over their chances at Herne Hill. However, their spirits revived considerably when an amateur "bookie," who has seen them at many of their games, offered the long odds of 33 to 1 on them beating their opponents. One of the team promptly took the odds to 3d., but the "layer" has not yet been paid. The boys won—and handsomely—by two straight pulls, and the ovation they received more than compensated for their previous defeat. Col. T. Mostyn Ffoulkes presented the winning team with handsome medals during his recent visit to St. Dunstan's, and the organisers of the Tradesmen's meeting also sent along medals.

#### Miss Espir's Departure

We have received from an anonymous correspondent the following, and we are fully in accord with the sentiments expressed therein. St. Dunstan's will miss the whole-hearted labours of Miss Espir very much:—

"As one who was present at the concert given by Miss Espir and the St. Dunstan's Concert Party on the evening of Thursday, June 16th, I should like to write a few words of appreciation of the two hours' real enjoyment they all gave us. One would have to go a very long way to find a better programme than that provided for us that night, every item being received with deafening applause.

"I am sure that everyone who has known Miss Espir, and realizes how hard she has worked and what splendid results she has obtained, will be extremely sorry to hear she is leaving St. Dunstan's at the end of this term. She will be missed not only by her pupils, but by all those with whom she has come in contact."

## Discussion Club Notes

### SOME PRIMITIVE FORMS OF LIFE AND WHAT THEY LEAD UP TO

ON June 6th, Mr. Way of the National Institute for the Blind lectured to us on "Some Primitive forms of Life and what they lead up to."

From the life histories of the little amoeba, the hydra, and jelly-fish, we were made to realise, how eventually man, with his complicated nervous system was evolved.

It was fascinating to learn how the amoeba, which was seemingly only a mass of protoplasm, justifies its claim to be living matter in that it can re-act to outside agents, assimilate its food, reproduce its kind.

Its power of movement might be considered slow in these days of hurry, it being able to move one inch in one hour.

We learnt that the amoeba lives in man's blood, and has a busy time there, acting as both policeman and scavenger.

It was interesting to know that all life began in water in unicellular form. We came away from Mr. Way's interesting lecture re-impressed with the wonder and mystery of life.

### EXPLORATION IN THE SAHARA

On June 13th we had the great pleasure of listening to Mrs. Rosita Forbes, in her thrilling account of her recent adventurous journey of twelve days across the waterless Sahara to Kufra, the desert headquarters of the Senussi, a very fanatical religious confraternity, similar to the Jesuits. It seemed almost incredible, that the slim and beautiful woman could really have undergone the terrible experiences that she described so vividly, in such a remark as "We walked on bleeding feet and our eyes began to have a numbed feeling and our gums to split." With easy grace Mrs. Forbes described how she made coffee for men who had arranged to murder her, how she left her "flea bag" during the night, walked about, scratched

her skin which was irritated by the sun swore and got back into the bag again! How, parched with thirst she reached at last a place where there was water, and dug with her hands until she and several others could put their hands into a four foot hole to drink the precious liquid that trickled slowly through the sand: how she had to eat a sheep's eye to please a sheik, and how she walked thirteen hours a day on end across a desert that was so flat that it was like a gramophone disc, and you felt that at any moment you might fall off the edge.

A temperature of 124 degrees in the shade added to the hardships. Mrs. Forbes told us that the questions she was bombarded with on her return were:—

"Was there much sand where you come from?"

"Did you have a bath every day?" (For seventeen days all the washing possible was finger tips.)

"Could you speak Arabic?"

Sir Arthur took the chair for us and among the audience were Lord Horne and Brigadier General Sir William Horwood and Lady Horwood.

### THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

On June 20th Mr. Griffen, Secretary of the National Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Soldiers and Sailors, gave us a very able lecture on this subject.

He began by pointing out the moral and spiritual import of the League and then went on to give us the main points of the covenant, which was described as the greatest ever made. Mr. Griffen showed how to understand the moral and spiritual side one must study mankind and realise how it must either progress or retrogress, and it was clearly proved to us that the League is a great step towards the advancement of mankind, and its object, if achieved, will save the world from much unhappiness. Therefore, the League should receive the support of all

those who care for the advance of the human race. We learnt that the desire for peace is no new development, but this spirit has appeared at intervals down the ages and can best be described under the term of Balance of Power. The years before the Great War teach us the futility of physical and material alliances which were also alliances of States and Nations, not people. The League of Nations in contrast to these, is moral and spiritual, and rests on the democracies of the world, and owing to this is charged with being idealistic. But Mr. Griffen proved by his statement of the work achieved up to the present time by the League, that it ably justifies its existence, both from a practical and idealistic standpoint.



#### ANGLO-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

On Monday, June 27th, Mr. Dennis Whittle gave us a very interesting and amusing talk on Anglo-American Friendship.

He said he had gone out to America in 1912, and had married an American, but like the boys present had been in France during the War.

He pleaded that the great thing for the world, and especially at the present industrial crisis, was a deep friendship and understanding between England and America. They had so much in common, their language was practically the same (which in itself was the basis of union), they had the same ideals, the same love of sport and fairplay, and together (especially if joined with Japan), could police and hold the world.

He touched on the finding of America by an Italian named Amerigo Vespucci, who sailed from Spain, and told us that a German making a map from Amerigo's plans, named it "America" by which it has been known ever since.

He spoke of the pluck of the Pilgrim Fathers, who in 1620, sailed for America, in the "Mayflower," a ship of 120 tons, and of William Penn, who arrived in Virginia, in 1607, and formed an aristocratic centre in the South.

America had become a huge melting pot, and possessed foreigners of all

nations and of her 110 millions of people, 9,000,000 were coloured.

Hence the great difficulties she had to overcome before she was able to come into the War, because Americans had always prided themselves on not meddling with other countries' affairs. Washington's words: "Do not have anything to do with Europe, keep clear of entanglements," still held good, and though many of the people wished to join the allies, it was only after much work and persuasion, that President Wilson was able to make the majority see that it was their war too.

But when she entered, she entered with heart and soul, and spared neither men, money, or help of any kind, and the enthusiasm among the people was unbounded.

Mr. Whittle said he believed that had our statesmanship been better, and had we behaved better to America in the early days, there would probably been no War of Independence, and America would to-day belong to us as Canada does.

He begged everyone to do their best to further the friendship between the two great countries, and to try to understand America's point of view, as well as our own.



#### Blind Rose Growers

FIVE ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN TAKE PRIZES

ONE of the most interesting features of the National Rose Society's Show, held in the Royal Botanic Gardens, on June 29th, was the exhibit by the Guild of Blind Gardeners.

Out of six St. Dunstan's entrants five carried off prizes, one first, two seconds and two thirds. All the roses grown by the blind gardeners were shown in a special tent.

The success of these St. Dunstan's men should encourage many others to join the Guild. Those who wish to become members have only to pay an entrance fee of 1s., there being no further subscription. Those who desire to join should write to Miss B. Brown, the Braille Room, St. Dunstan's.

#### End of Term Events

PRESENTATIONS TO MISS SHAND AND  
CAPTAIN RUSSELL ROBERTS

AT the Bungalow on the evening of the 14th July, a great company assembled to hear Sir Arthur bid farewell on his own behalf and that of the Staff and the men to Captain T. Russell Roberts, who has for over four years filled so capably the position of Adjutant at the Bungalow.

In the course of his address Sir Arthur referred to the fact that we should very soon now be handing over possession again of the Bungalow to the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Kahn. He pointed out that the temporary possession of this beautiful estate had meant everything to St. Dunstan's and its work, and without that splendid loan it would have been difficult, if not impossible, to have achieved what St. Dunstan's has achieved. "In your names," went on, Sir Arthur, "I am thanking Mr. and Mrs. Kahn most heartily for their magnificent help. I want you to imagine they are here to-night and give them a real hearty vote of thanks. Some time ago Mrs. Clare Sheridan, the famous sculptor, modelled a beautiful bust of a blinded soldier, an Australian named Rennie. I bought it, and it has now been mounted on a marble slab with a bronze tripod. It bears the following inscription: 'A token of gratitude presented to Mr. and Mrs. Otto H. Kahn by the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and men of the Imperial Forces who were blinded in the War. It signifies their sincere appreciation of the generous hospitality and good will which placed St. Dunstan's Regent's Park, London, at their disposal for the training and re-education which enabled them once more to become competent, happy and self-reliant men.' Practically all the men who have been with us have left a contribution towards this memorial, and I am quite sure that Mr. and Mrs. Kahn will receive it with the same pleasure with which we give it."

After some inspiring words of advice to the men who were leaving, Sir Arthur asked Capt. Russell Roberts' acceptance of a dressing bag from himself and a fitted tandalus and a walking stick from the Staff and the men at the Bungalow. Sir Arthur said that for over four years Capt. Roberts had been a great factor in the successful running of St. Dunstan's. He was now finding another sphere for his fine activities in which Sir Arthur was quite sure he would be as successful and popular as he has been while with them. "Capt. Roberts has been a real man," ended Sir Arthur, amid loud and prolonged applause.

In a very happy little speech, Capt. Roberts returned thanks. He said he had felt it a deep privilege to have been associated with Sir Arthur and St. Dunstan's. "Mine has been an easy job," he said, "for two reasons, one because Sir Arthur has always backed me up in every way, and the other because the men have always been so splendidly loyal. I should like to point out," he added, that in Sir Arthur you have a Chief who has not only been responsible, very greatly, for raising the status of the pensions of blinded soldiers, but the pensions also of every soldier who fought in the war."

The heartiest musical honours were accorded to Captain Roberts and after a brief interval an enjoyable dance programme was undertaken.

AT CORNWALL TERRACE

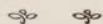
A most excellent and original programme was submitted by the boys of Cornwall Terrace Annexe to the large audience which attended there on the evening of the 13th July. Sir Arthur and Lady Pearson were present and added importance was given to the occasion by reason of it forming also an opportunity for the Chief to bid farewell and "good luck" to members of the staff and some of the boys who are leaving at the term end. Miss Shand, as most of us know to our regret, is leaving Cornwall Terrace.

and Sir Arthur asked her to accept from him a silver ink-stand with an inscription recording her four-and-a-half years of devoted service to the interests of St. Dunstan's. Rousing musical honours held up Sir Arthur's words for a time and then the Chief referred in happy phrasing to another "jolly good fellow" who was coming to "mother" the Cornwall Terrace boys—Miss Power, our Matron at the Bungalow. After paying high tribute to the loving labours of those other members of the staff who are leaving us, Sir Arthur gave an inspiring little address to the boys who are going out into the world at the end of the term. He said that he thought the words of a song they had just heard expressed perhaps the best advice he could give:—

"The mill won't grind with the water that is passed."

The splendid and determined way in which they had learnt to overcome their handicap while at St. Dunstan's, would, he knew, be backed up when they found themselves again in the big battle of independent life, by a still greater will to succeed—and succeed, he knew they would, in every sense of the word.

Space is running short but we must find room for hearty congratulation to the members of the concert party, who included the Cornwall Terrace Band, M. Doyle, H. D. Gamble, R. C. O. Cowley, W. Pearce, A. Biggs, A. Kerstin, P. Nuyens, H. Costigan, D. T. Vernon, P. Sparkes, and G. Webster. All were really splendid, but a word of special praise must be given to the wonderfully versatile work, as author and actor, of R. C. O. Cowley. In the chief's expressively brief words:—"He's clever!" Miss R. Killen, L.R.A.M. gave yeoman service at the piano, and hearty thanks are due also to Mrs. Mason who provided refreshments at "very popular prices"—in other words, free!



QUESTIONING a class, an Inspector asked: "If you were to say to me 'You was here yesterday,' would that be right?"

"No, sir," was the reply.

"And why not?"

"Please sir, because you wasn't."

## The King of the Belgians and St. Dunstan's

WE have pleasure in printing the following letter recently received by Sir Arthur Pearson from Their Majesties the King and Queen of the Belgians. It is interesting to recall that this is the second time within a few months that royal visitors to this country have particularly singled out St. Dunstan's for their patronage, for a few months ago, on the occasion of their visit to the United Kingdom, the King and Queen of Denmark invited Sir Arthur Pearson to meet them at Buckingham Palace and gave a donation to him for use at the Hostel.

THE EDITOR

Secretariat du Roi,  
Londres, le 7 Juillet, 1921

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Sir,—The King and Queen, on the occasion of Their visit to London, would have been deeply gratified to have been able to give an effective proof of Their sympathy in the work undertaken by the innumerable organisations in London which are concerned with the relief of suffering and the care of the poor.

As it would have been impossible to render assistance to all these interesting associations, Their Majesties decided to select one amongst them which appeared to Them, more than all others worthy of encouragement.

That is the Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors' Hostel, which is conducted under your devoted Presidency.

I have therefore been commanded by Their Majesties, and I have the great honour to forward to you with this letter, a gift of £100.

The King and Queen desire me to express to you, at the same time, the assurance of the very sincere wishes which Their Majesties cherish for the happy continuance of your noble work and for the welfare of those heroic combatants whom you surround with your enlightened solicitude.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) MAX LEO GERARD,  
Secretary to the King.

## Bridge and Whist

DEAR EDITOR,—If the question of manipulation of playing cards has never been raised before in your columns I should like to raise it. I am keen to know whether other blind men manipulate their cards in the manner of sighted people, or do they in the main have them brailled upon the back and manipulate them under the table or placed upside down upon its surface? I am one of the newly-blind, full of the enthusiasm of the new broom, and wishful to do my bit towards bringing my new world level with my old world in all things. I am rather proud of having taken part in two public whist drives where over a hundred sighted people were playing, and I the only blind. In the second of these I had to change tables after almost every deal and my score was only two off the second prize. I hold my cards in my right hand in the shape of a fan, and moving them apart when required with my right thumb and selecting and reading them with my left thumb. I have them marked on the face, top and bottom, so that whichever end I get uppermost the notation is at the left top corner. I mark the letter denoting the suit below the number of the card, as this simplifies reading, and I always sort my suits in the same order. I place diamonds with hearts behind them between my right thumb and first finger, and clubs with spades behind them between my first and second fingers when sorting. After this with what time I have left I sort them out in numerical order, keeping them in their suits. This, however, is not essential, and in a whist drive one would not have time. I have met a number of blind men in the last four years, but have not met anyone who pursues this system, hence my letter. Yours, &c.,

C. M. ROGERSON,

Brasenose College, Oxford.

### REPLY FROM THE EDITOR

I am venturing to reply to Mr. Rogerson's letter in which he touches upon the most

interesting point, namely, the manner in which he handles Braille cards when playing whist or bridge. I play a good deal of bridge, and frequently with two or three other blinded officers, and can therefore speak from my own experience as well as from some of theirs. I think—though, of course, I stand to be corrected, and indeed hope that some of my colleagues will contribute their views—that practically all of us adopt much the same system as that outlined by Mr. Rogerson. I differ from him only in one little detail, namely that I hold the four suits separately between the thumb and fingers of the right hand, whereas he puts two suits together.

There is no doubt in my mind that the old system of having the cards embossed on the back has many disadvantages. One which I think is very important indeed is that a blind man using cards marked on the back must either keep them on his lap or lay them on the table, and even if this does not lead to his playing exceedingly slowly, the very fact that the method is strange tends to make the blind player look obvious, and apart from embarrassing him might reasonably be expected to embarrass those playing with him.

I have the honour to be chairman of the Inventions and Research Committee of the National Institute for the Blind, which is responsible for deciding general technical matters of this sort, and in this capacity I recently brought the matter up, and a decision was arrived at that cards marked in the general manner Mr. Rogerson suggests should be considered as standard, and should always be supplied except when a particular request for some other marking is made. In the standard marking the Braille letter indicating the number of the card is placed on the face in the top left hand corner and the bottom right hand corner, and the Braille signs "a" to "i" are used for 1 to 9, "t" is used for ten, "j" for jack, "q" for queen, "k" for king and "l" for joker. The Braille suit sign is placed

immediately below the numbers, the letters "s" for spades, "k" for hearts, "d" for diamonds and "c" for clubs being used. "K" is chosen to represent hearts because when one is in a hurry it is an advantage not to have two letters, namely "h" and "d," both occupying only the top portion of the Braille cell. At the present time cards are produced at the National Institute for the Blind by hand, but it is intended shortly to make dies by means of which they will be printed on a press just as ordinary Braille is printed. This will obviate mistakes and lead to better dots. Naturally before these dies which are expensive are made it is essential that we should have the best possible system, and I should therefore be glad to receive the views of any of our readers on the subject. Personally there is only one point in which I think the system can be improved. I refer to the letter "t" for ten. This was adopted two or three years ago, when the system was first introduced in preference to the Braille character "a," "j," because it was felt that it was better that one character should be used instead of two. When I am hurried I sometimes confuse the "t" for ten with the "q" for queen, particularly if the cards are rather worn, and I am therefore inclined to think that the Braille "o" would be a better sign to denote ten. "O" has the advantage that it cannot be confused with any other letter used in the system, and since it stands for nought in ordinary print it will be readily associated with ten. If any readers who play whist or bridge or other card games would be so good as to send their opinions both in regard to the subject generally and to this detail in particular I shall be grateful.

IAN FRASER, Editor.

### St. Dunstan's Dance Competition

THE Dance Competition announced in our last issue, duly took place, on July 5th, at the Bungalow. It was a remarkable success in every way, and the heartiest thanks are due to Mrs. Clifford White, with whom the competi-

tion originated, and who with her friends gave all the handsome prizes, amounting in value to over £30. The judges were Miss Phyllis Bedells, the famous premier danseuse and Mr. Richardson, the editor of the *Dancing Times*, perhaps the leading authority on modern ballroom dancing. The events consisted of Waltz, Fox-Trot, Saunter, and One-Step, with separate classes for totally blind and semi-sighted competitors, and three special prizes for the best dancers in each class were also given.

In announcing the results Mr. Richardson commented on the extraordinary proficiency displayed by the men, and said that the uniform excellence of their dancing came as a surprise to both Miss Bedells and himself. He confessed that their chief difficulty in judging had been to remember the disability of the competitors, so high was the standard reached in their dancing.

The following were the results:—

WALTZ		WALTZ	
(Totally Blinded)	(Semi-Sighted)	(Totally Blinded)	(Semi-Sighted)
1st Palmer, J.	1st Wilkinson, R.	1st Palmer, J.	1st Wilkinson, R.
2nd Bagstaff, S.	2nd Costigan, H.	2nd Bagstaff, S.	2nd Costigan, H.
3rd Birchall, J. W.	3rd Simpson, J.	3rd Birchall, J. W.	3rd Simpson, J.
FOX-TROT		FOX-TROT	
(Totally Blinded)	(Semi-Sighted)	(Totally Blinded)	(Semi-Sighted)
1st Birch, W.	1st Costigan, H.	1st Birch, W.	1st Costigan, H.
2nd Webster, G. J.	2nd Wilkinson, R.	2nd Webster, G. J.	2nd Wilkinson, R.
3rd Shread, J. W. R.	3rd Lloyd, E. J.	3rd Shread, J. W. R.	3rd Lloyd, E. J.
SAUNTER		SAUNTER	
(Totally Blinded)	(Semi-Sighted)	(Totally Blinded)	(Semi-Sighted)
1st White, L.	1st Ruddock, W.	1st White, L.	1st Ruddock, W.
2nd Birch, W.	2nd Brooke, J. L.	2nd Birch, W.	2nd Brooke, J. L.
3rd Palmer, J.	3rd Warren, R.	3rd Palmer, J.	3rd Warren, R.
ONE-STEP		ONE-STEP	
(Totally Blinded)	(Semi-Sighted)	(Totally Blinded)	(Semi-Sighted)
1st Birchall, J. W.	1st Toomey, A. T.	1st Birchall, J. W.	1st Toomey, A. T.
2nd McLoughlin, D.	2nd Gover, H.	2nd McLoughlin, D.	2nd Gover, H.
3rd Martin, P.	3rd Brooke, J. L.	3rd Martin, P.	3rd Brooke, J. L.

The prizes for the best dancers were as follows:—

(Totally Blind)	(Semi-Sighted)
1st Palmer, J.	1st Wilkinson, R.
2nd (Birchell, J. W.	2nd Costigan, H.
(Birch, W.	3rd Warren, R.

Wiltshire received the prize for the best dancer over 50 years of age.

## If You Are Up Against It

WE make no apology for reprinting from an American journal, the following article by Doctor Frank Crane, which has been sent along to us. It seems to us to express with typical American crispness and vigour a standard of philosophy which there are few of us would not be the better for if we could always rise to it. The reference to our "Chief" will give the article an added interest to our readers.

WHAT proportion of the billion or so people inhabiting the earth are Up Against It?

I like that somewhat slangy phrase. It is vivid, real, full of poetry. We can sense in it the man beating his fists upon the closed door.

How many women are sitting red-eyed to-day amid the ruin of their house of dreams, whispering tragically, "It's all over"? How many lovers scorned are saying, "My light is gone out forever"? How many business men are muttering, "I am a failure"? How many discouraged boys, girls, old folks are exclaiming, "What's the use"?

Oh, the army of the Defeated Ones!

Get that horde in your mind's eye—the blind and deaf and all the physically deficient, the sick of body and of spirit, the labourer out of a job, the actor dismissed, the singer who has failed, the miner whose claim has proved worthless, the student who has flunked, the husband and wife divorced, the politician defeated, the army of the dejected, mooning in self-pity—and you will have some idea of what is meant by hell.

Besides these, all of us, even the usually contented ones, have our moments of bitterness. We now and then come to an *impasse*. The road is blocked. We come to a stone wall. We are Up Against It.

Now, I am not going to preach to these baffled ones, nor cozen them with platitudes and hollow homilies. Nor will I tell them "Heaven is your home," and "It might be worse," and "It's all a blessing in disguise." I will not give them any pious promises nor comfortable lies.

But I will show them a trick. That's all. Just a clever dodge, by which they can escape.

I shall not tell them to cheer up when there is no cheer, to hope on when they

can see no hope, nor to struggle and pray and persist—but just to use their gumption.

For instance:

When you are out motoring, sometimes you find the road barred; the highway is being repaired; you cannot pass, and you see the sign "Detour," with an arrow pointing to the left perhaps, to a narrow woods-road.

What then? Do you sit there and wait for somebody to come along and take you to an asylum? Do you give up and weep, or pray—or swear? No; you make the Detour. Often you discover that the Detour was the best part of your trip. And then, being of a reflective turn, you set down in your commonplace book these points of "The Gospel of the Detour":

1. I waste less time making the Detour than if I attempted to push through the prohibited road.
2. I am happier making the Detour than I would be raging because I could not go straight on.
3. The Detour may be the quickest way. "The longest way round is the shortest way home."
4. The Detour is often the most interesting. I find new adventure. I meet the unexpected.
5. I cannot control the road, and I cannot prevent obstacles, but I can adjust myself.
6. Most people who arrive have come by Detours.

Did you ever notice on the map that the wriggliest lines are the rivers? No river runs straight.

And yet rivers are the oldest, smoothest, and most reliable means of transportation in the world. God made them. Men used them long before railways or streets. You need no horse nor steam nor sail; just get on your raft and you'll float down.

The river is the eternal type of circumvention.

It does not break down and batter and push and blast its way to the sea. It goes around. When it comes to a rock, a mountain, or a rise of land, it simply

noses about until it finds some point of least resistance, and goes that way, whether it is forward, back, or sideways, for it knows that at last it must find the ocean.

And, Soul of Man, why cannot you find your goal—which is Happiness—by the river way? Why push and sweat and spend your strength and invite the glooms when you meet an obstacle? Why not go around it?

#### THE HEALTH DETOUR

Let us look at some of your obstacles. Is there anything in the world more interesting than you and your troubles? Very well. Let us consider your barred highway and note the Detours.

First of all there is the Detour of Health.

This is timely. For the world just now is full of cripples, the horrible harvest of war, the price and penalty of the madness of nations. Your boy, so proud and up-standing when he marched away, has come home with his right arm gone. Your husband is back—blind! He that was a leader is now classed in the ranks of the unfortunate. The pillar has become a burden.

All over the United States are mutilated bodies, men once fair and fit reduced to a certain dependence. You who read this may be one of them. You ask yourself what chance you have now in the great struggle. You had great ambitions. Where are they now?

Well, what has happened? You are not dead. The journey is not over. You have simply come to a fence across the road, with a red lantern dangling. Which does not mean that you cannot go on, but that you cannot go on That Way.

But look! There is a sign "Detour." You can go around!

What is it you want? What does any man want? Only this; a chance to work, to be self-supporting and independent, and to find contentment.

Well, that does not take two legs. It does not take all of the five senses. Some of the greatest achievements have been gained by physically deficient persons. Do you not recall the poetry of blind Milton, and the scientific discoveries of blind Huber, the music of deaf Beethoven,

the literary mastery of consumptive Robert Louis Stevenson, and all the long list of those who Detoured?

Sir Arthur Pearson, the great English publisher, was the proprietor of five big English dailies and a string of magazines throughout Great Britain. In the prime of life, in the midst of a career of wealth and power, he mysteriously lost his sight. The greatest specialists could do nothing. This man, in the thick of a myriad activities, was suddenly condemned by fate to spend the rest of his days in darkness.

He had come to a Detour. He took it like a good motorist. He had not lost his nerve, he said; he had simply lost his optic nerve.

He sold his papers and devoted himself to the business of showing the blind how to get on. He became the head of St. Dunstan's Hospital for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors in Regent's Park, London. There he taught the gospel of Happy Detours. His philosophy is good medicine for everybody.

"Don't pity the blind," he says. "They don't want your pity and can't use it. I know that the average conception of how to treat a blind man is to read the Bible to him and play soft music. We don't believe that. We believe that the blind are normal human beings, who, having lost one faculty of perception, must develop others."

According to Sir Arthur's point of view, happiness does not come from accumulating things or leading a comfortable existence; neither does it come from any self-given order to be "glad." Happiness comes from doing, from the forth-putting of one's creative faculties; and he who has learned this needs no man's pity.

The only real tragedy of life is inhibition, paralysis by discouragement or fear. The man who has lost his sight, the king who has lost his throne, the child who has broken her tea set, or the woman who has lost her love, is apt to be panicky. But the triumph of life consists in defeating defeat.

What the blind can do, you can do. Oh, Down-and Outer! Buck up! Make the Detour!

## The Prince's Best Birthday Present

THE PRINCE OF WALES, who was 27 on the 23rd June, devoted part of his birthday to 1,000 poor children from Canning Town who were given an outing in Epping Forest by the Fresh Air Fund. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Princess Mary, and before leaving the Prince told the children that his visit to them was the best birthday present he had ever received.

The children came in the morning in accordance with the daily programme of the fund which Sir Arthur Pearson founded in 1892, and over which he has presided ever since. Sir Arthur told a few friends at lunch how, when a young journalist visiting the East-End, he had been touched by the lot of the poor children there, and how in the last thirty years the effort he then inaugurated had given no fewer than 4,000,000 children a real happy day, and 60,000 more a fortnight's holiday in the country or at the seaside. The happiness of the children whom they would shortly see playing in Epping Forest would be repeated throughout the summer in the vicinity of no fewer than forty of the largest centres of population in the kingdom.

After lunch Sir Arthur and Lady Pearson received the Prince of Wales and Princess Mary, who spent their afternoon with the children and enjoyed the Prince's birthday tea all the more heartily for the simplicity of the environment and the high spirits of the rest of the company.

The intention was that no difference should be made between this and any other Fresh Air Fund programme—that the Prince should see a normal entertainment. But, as so often happens, the great public had not been sufficiently reckoned with. Fathers, mothers, older sisters and friends had heard that the Prince was coming, and they not only came themselves but brought their uncles and aunts, with all the remaining relatives they could muster from Loughton and the whole Forest neighbourhood. The Prince, in consequence, had a wonderful welcome.

The party passed through the waiting throng which came hard on the Prince's heels, cheered him, called out greetings to him, waved flags, hats and handkerchiefs at him. The guests of the Fresh Air Fund were, for the moment, overwhelmed.

It was a curious sight, possible nowhere but in England. The people were beside themselves with delight, and the Prince entered into their mood. He shied at the cocoanuts; then persuaded Princess Mary to try her hand.

The Canning Town children were evidently very poor, but most of them were very tidy. Their faces shone; their hair had been well brushed; the boys' collars (when they possessed them) and the girls' frocks were more nearly immaculate than one would have supposed possible after hours of play.

The signal event of the afternoon was tea. The Prince insisted on having a cup from the children's urn, though, as he said, he had had one from a teapot already. They shouted "Many happy returns of the day, sir," and did not appear over-shy. Their royal visitor made them a little speech. He said:—

"Boys and Girls,—It is with the greatest pleasure that my sister and myself have come down here and shared in one of your wonderful days in Epping Forest. I thank you very much for your very kind birthday wishes. I should like you to know that my visit here is the best birthday present I have ever had." Then there were cheers for Princess Mary, and the Prince called for yet another round—this time for Sir Arthur Pearson.

When the Prince bade "good-bye," His Royal Highness authorised Sir Arthur to send forth in his name the following message:—

"I shall be glad if you will cause it to be known that should anyone wish to make me a birthday present they cannot give me one that I should appreciate more highly than a contribution to the Fresh Air Fund."



## The "Bandmaster" Bird

IN the back room of a little house in Walworth I was watching the amazingly nimble fingers of a blinded soldier lacing the "thrums" of the fibre mat he was making. A firm and splendid mat it was going to be too—none of your loose-woven amateurish efforts, but the hard wearing product of a highly trained hand. But it was not to watch Corporal Moore using the skill at mat-making he had learned at St. Dunstan's that I had come. I wanted to know why it was necessary to teach a linnet to sing. It seemed about as necessary (sometimes more so!) to teach the sun to shine.

Suddenly in a pause in our talk a flood of liquid melody filled the little room. "Tolic-ar-see, tolic-quay-see, tolic-gow-see, tolic-e-ker-quay-wheet," thrilled the little brown-clad bunch of feathers in the cage above our heads.

The face of the blind man lit up, and throwing his head back, his lips shaped the rippling notes in silent joy.

"Every one a chalk!" he murmured, and then, turning to me, "a bird only scores a 'chalk' or point in a singing match," he explained, "for the true linnet notes, which are accepted and known by all fanciers and judges. The untrained, or badly trained bird stutters, repeats himself, and his singing becomes monotonous and even irritating after a time. "Now that bird," and with the certainty of gesture of the blind, he pointed to the little cage on the wall, "that bird has never lost a match yet, and what's more, he's never happier than when he's singing for a stake."

Most of the men who own and train birds belong to a club, and matches are constantly being made between the members. The competing birds are taken to the club room some time before the match starts, and the rival owners toss for "nails" or position of cage. At a signal from the referee the dark handkerchief covers are removed and the judge keeps an exact record for ten minutes, or however long the match is timed to last, of the number of "chalks" or perfect

notes sung by each bird. Absolute silence is maintained by all present during the contest, and even smoking is forbidden. The temperament and pluck of a bird plays quite a big part in such matches, as much indeed as it does in contests of any kind between human beings. A "cowhearted," or cowardly bird, although he may be much the better songster, may be put off his song by a bolder and more confident competitor, and there are many "old soldier" tricks which an experienced bird will adopt—often without any training in such wiles by his owner—to discomfit a rival in a match.

There is always intense excitement in the club during a match, and many a quiet wager is made on the result. Really good birds do not often change hands. Every fancier has his own special methods of feeding and training, and a bird that will sing splendidly under one man's care may be almost dumb under other treatment. They have a big money value too, some of these prize-winning songsters, three, four, or even five pounds a-piece, being a common figure in sales. A "bandmaster" bird, that is, one that can be trusted to always sing true, and is thus able to train younger birds without assimilating any of their mongrel notes or bad habits, is a very valuable possession to a keen fancier, and times would have to be very hard indeed before "bandmaster" was parted with.

It is difficult for the outsider to realise how much these little songsters mean in the lives of many of their owners, but I might quote the words of Corporal Moore to show what his linnets count for in his life:

"I accepted a big bid for the four birds I had some time ago, but no sooner had they gone that I got restless, and couldn't even stick to my work. The house seemed empty and darker without their singing, and it wasn't many days before I had to have some more round me again. It is the best hobby I know of that a blind man can have."