

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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CONTENTS

Wireless (concluding instalment)
Memorial Service to Sir Arthur
Football Competition Results
The Story of Net Making
Happenings of the Month
German Blinded Soldiers
Commons' Impressions
After-Care Meetings
St. Dunstan's Carols
War Memorials
and
The Usual
Features

FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR



THE CANADIAN MEMORIAL TABLET TO SIR ARTHUR PEARSON, AN ACCOUNT OF THE UNVEILING OF WHICH APPEARED IN OUR LAST ISSUE.

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 71.—VOLUME VII.

DECEMBER, 1922.

PRICE 6d.

[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN.]

We send all our readers the old and yet ever-new Greeting :

**"A Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year"**

EDITORIAL

WE are writing these lines on the anniversary of the day which will ever be held in memory by all who have in any way been associated with St. Dunstan's. When the book of life of Sir Arthur Pearson was so suddenly and tragically closed on December 9th of last year, the world lost a great and noble philanthropist; the staff of the great Organisation known as St. Dunstan's, which his genius had conceived and built, was deprived of a great Chief, and the source of inspiration for every effort; but the men of St. Dunstan's themselves, lost a father—a father who had loved and worked for the 2,000 sons he had gathered round him with a splendid vigour which no tie of kinship could have strengthened. It may be said that while St. Dunstan's lives we shall never need the incidence of a date to hold in memory the loss of our great founder; but in the ever pressing claims which the battle of life makes upon us all, we can find a finer uplift of heart and a firmer girdling of the buckler of effort in the holding of a day, an hour, or even a less space of time sacred to memories of him. And that we feel is as the one we mourn would have had it himself. We recall that at an end-of-term address Sir Arthur made, we believe it was, in fact, the last before his death, he quoted as the motive that should inspire the men who were leaving to go into the world, the words of a song they had just heard sung:—

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

To his vivid, forceful mind, the present and the future were all important; the past, something irretrievable, and therefore of immeasurably less importance. We are doing him most honour in carrying on in the way he would wish, by applying all our energies to the conquest of to-day and to-morrow. The great work that he was called upon to leave so suddenly, was at once taken up by the able minds and fine enthusiasm of those he had trusted. The greatest balm for the sense of our loss, which to-day's anniversary must inevitably bring, is the thought that the widespread work of St. Dunstan's has never stopped or faltered—the aims and ideals of its great founder have been consistently maintained, and the men into whose lives his noble work and example brought so much of hope and achievement are ever bearing forward the banner of victory he raised.

German Blinded Soldiers

By CAPTAIN IAN FRASER

As briefly announced in our last issue, Captain Fraser paid last month a short visit to Germany, for the purposes of studying at first-hand the position of the blinded soldier in that country. The account which appears below of his investigations, and the conclusions he has come to, form an article which will probably have a more direct and personal interest to our readers than almost anything which has appeared in the pages of the REVIEW. It has always been the undisputed privilege of the Britisher to "grouse," but after reading Captain Fraser's descriptions of the conditions under which the war-blinded men in Germany work and live, we do not think there will be many St. Dunstaners who will not be glad to echo our Chairman's expression of gratitude that he is not a German blinded soldier.

EARLY in 1921 Sir Arthur suggested that I should go to Germany to investigate what was being done there in connection with the re-education, training and after-care of blinded soldiers. For various reasons I was unable to go in 1921, and the immense pressure of work consequent upon my acceptance of additional responsibilities at St. Dunstan's during this year has caused further delay. However, on the 16th November I was able to start upon this long planned visit, when I spent ten days in Berlin.

It is impossible properly to appreciate the position of the German blinded soldier without first obtaining some idea of the general conditions under which the people as a whole are living, so I will not confine myself in this article to a description of the German blinded soldier problem. I will refer to all sorts of incidental matters which will, I hope, contribute to a general understanding of living conditions in Germany, and also touch upon some little points which have nothing to do with my subject, but may nevertheless be interesting to my readers.

I was accompanied by Mrs. Fraser and Mr. Black, who, as stated in a recent number of the REVIEW, is now our Chief Technical Adviser. Ours was regarded by the Ministry of Pensions as a semi-official mission, and I had letters of introduction from our Foreign Office to the Embassy in Berlin, who had been asked to place an official interpreter and guide at our disposal during our stay. We had the pleasure, subsequently, of an

interview and an invitation to lunch with Lord D'Abernon, H.M. Ambassador in Berlin, from whom we gathered much which was intensely interesting about conditions in Germany. He then referred us to a British Officer, attached to his staff, who was to be our interpreter, and we proceeded with the tour of inspection which the Embassy had been asked to arrange for us.

I cannot describe in detail all the institutions, schools and workshops which we went through, and it must suffice to say that we found out all that could be discovered about the education, training and after-care of blinded soldiers and civilians, and a great deal of what is being done for disabled soldiers as a whole.

I had interviews with the heads of all the larger institutions and workshops in Berlin, with an important official in their Ministry of Labour, who is charged with the care of the disabled, the Directors of Factories in which blinded soldiers are employed, with the manager of a school for blinded soldiers in Berlin, and with several individual blinded Germans. I learned facts and figures from each and all of these people, and always sought to confirm what I heard at one interview by asking the same questions at the next.

The number of Germans who were blinded in the war was not definitely known by anybody we met. The reason for this is probably that being divided into States as Germany is, and since her Pensions Warrant is administered not

centrally, but through the Governments of these States, there are no co-ordinated figures easily obtainable. It seems pretty certain, however, from what I was told that there are between 3,900 and 4,200 Germans blinded in the war. The British Empire suffered about 2,000 similar casualties; the French Republic, as far as we know, between 3,000 and 3,500; and the Belgians and Americans perhaps 100 or 125 together. If the number of Russian soldiers blinded before the Revolution is added, it will be seen that though we cannot arrive at an accurate figure, the number of Germans blinded is very much less than the total number amongst the Allies engaged upon the German fronts. This is not strange, for we know that throughout the war German casualties were less than ours, mainly on account of the fact that they were fighting upon what a strategist calls "interior lines," and were thus able to move their troops from one part of the front to another with far greater ease than could the Allies. This facility for the movement of troops enabled them to man their lines with a smaller number of men per mile, and, of course, resulted in fewer casualties.

No Mechanical Protection

Thinking that I might find an additional reason for their relatively small number of blind casualties, and remembering how ingenious were the Germans in the construction of protective devices in their trenches, I inquired if they had developed some form of protection against shell splinters which, worn over the face, would reduce the number or extent of injuries to the eyes. I heard of no such thing. It will be remembered that one or two efforts were made in England—notably by the eminent oculist, Sir Richard Cruise—to devise some form of screen or visor for this purpose. But for some reason, probably on account of the discomfort and difficulty of attaching such device to a steel helmet, this was not seriously taken up.

As was the case amongst the British soldiers, I was told that the great majority of their men were blinded by splinters from high explosive shells, while only a

few had suffered from bullet wounds, grenades, etc. Some of the men we saw were abnormally mutilated, but whether this is due to the greater destructive power of our weapons, or to the possibility that the most severely wounded men would be the ones whom one would expect to predominate amongst those being re-educated at a date so distant from the cessation of hostilities, I do not know.

Guns Germans Hated

One German told me that the thing he hated most about the British Army was their small guns, the shells from which arrived so suddenly that one did not know they were coming. I told him that I, too, had felt a similar "hate" when I had been in the near neighbourhood of Whizz Bangs, and that I much preferred Crumps, because they came slowly and gave one time to get out of the way. This man spoke of our small artillery as being extremely accurate and devilishly destructive. He had been an interpreter in Thos. Cook & Son before the War, and owing to his knowledge of English had been engaged in a listening post with delicate apparatus which the Germans developed to a very high degree for the purpose of overhearing conversations made over trench telephones in our lines. He told me the Germans were very annoyed when a British Signal Officer invented the Fullerphone, which defeated them in this listening business, and merely irritated them by making a buzzing noise when anybody was talking. They were most anxious to discover how a Fullerphone was worked, and actually offered a large cash prize for the first man to capture one.

As far as I could gather there is no soldier who has been both totally deafened and blinded in Germany, though, as in this country, there are a good many whose hearing has been affected in a more or less serious degree. Also, apart from temporary blindness there is not a case on record of a man having lost his sight from gas. Contrary to the general belief on this subject this is also the case in England.

Inflammation of the frontal sinus and similar head troubles were fairly numerous. I was informed by an eminent ophthalmic

surgeon in Berlin, and they have been treated in much the same way as our surgeons have dealt with similar cases here.

This same Professor told me that there have been one or two isolated instances in which men who had detached retina had been given back a certain amount of sight by operations, but that these were extremely rare. This again is similar to English experience.

This same informant happened to be Adviser to the German Ministry of Pensions upon the very difficult subject of the attributability to or aggravation by War Service of a man's condition, and I gathered from him that in this matter, as indeed in almost all questions of principle affecting the award of pensions, the German system was almost exactly like ours. I was very struck by the similarity between German laws and our laws on this subject, and was inclined to form the opinion which at first I hesitated to hold, that the German mentality, the German idea of Justice, and the degree to which they are possessed of the quality of sympathy were extremely like our own. I discussed this matter with one or two intelligent observers of German psychology who had been in the country both before and since the War, and also with many British Officers on the Commission of Control, and found that they held exactly the same view.

"Scourged of Prussianism"

Now that the Germans have scourged themselves of Prussianism, which was a blight upon a peace-loving people, I am convinced that they are a race who are entitled to as much respect and consideration as the average Englishman normally has for any foreigner.

I gathered the impression myself, and it was confirmed by many Englishmen whom I talked to, that usually the utmost cordiality existed between Germans and Englishmen, whereas the most intense bitterness predominates in most of the relations between the Germans and the French or Italian officers allied with us on the Commission of Control. I say quite frankly that I think the German respects us, while he has most profound contempt for most other Europeans.

The German people are extremely poor. This fact, and not, I think, any lack of sympathy on their part, is the cause of the miserably insufficient pensions which their disabled men receive. While I was in the country one could obtain from 25,000 to 30,000 Marks for an English pound, so that we were almost millionaires with the modest amount of English money which we had at our disposal. For example I brought home fifty quite good cigars, which cost me very little more than 50 Gold Flake Cigarettes would have cost in this country.

Working-Class Poverty

But though 30,000 Marks were obtainable for one English pound, this does not mean that a German who had say 30,000 Marks per month to live upon was as badly off as an Englishman would be with £1 a month. The reason for this is that the Mark is worth very much more in Germany than it is outside. In order to appreciate what the pensions which German blinded soldiers receive are worth, I made a number of inquiries among working-men and employers in regard to wages, and though I would hesitate to put forward these figures with absolute certainty, I think it is fairly safe to say that 5,000 Marks in Germany were worth last month to a working man about 19s. or £1. Now the Berlin Tramdriver, or a Taxidriver, or any ordinary working-man, engaged in an occupation of this standing, gets 5,000 or 6,000 Marks a week. This enables him to purchase for himself and his family about the same value in housing, food, clothes, etc., as an Englishman could obtain for £1 or 21/-. This will illustrate the poverty in Germany, and must be taken into consideration when one thinks, as one sometimes does, about the relative merits of winning or losing a War.

A pair of the commonest kind of boots would cost a German two or three weeks' pay, and a shoddy suit from five to six weeks' pay. Milk was almost unobtainable by the poorer people, and the grey bread which some of us may remember seeing in German trenches had still to be consumed in the poorer parts of Berlin.

It is quite true that there is not so much unemployment in Germany as in England, but there is infinitely more poverty, infinitely more suffering, and very much less food.

Bad Times to Come

I believe that Germany is enjoying a period of good trade similar to that which we enjoyed for a year or eighteen months after the War, and that immediately the printing of paper money is curtailed, as it must be curtailed, a period of acute depression and unemployment will be experienced. We have gone through the worst in this country, though the number of unemployed is still tragically large, and may get a little larger this winter. We have, I think, turned the corner, whereas the Germans have their crash to come, and the fact that they have artificially staved it off for so long will make it infinitely worse.

I do not know what conditions are like in the country districts, for I was too busily engaged to be able to leave Berlin. In that city, however, there is no doubt that German working-men and women, in full work, are existing upon weekly incomes which leave them worse off than those who are unfortunately unemployed in this country. The idea many Englishmen have that the Germans are doing well, and that the War has left them better off than it has us, is clearly wrong.

The pension received by a German blinded soldier is about 7,000 Marks a month, with an allowance of 1,400 Marks a month for each child. This means that a married man with two children has about 10,000 Marks, or approximately £2 a month, if my estimate of the purchasing power of German money in Germany be correct.

To this must be added about 400 Marks per month, which is allowed for the upkeep of a German blinded soldier's dog. No attendant allowance is given, and instead the State has provided each blinded soldier with a dog guide. This, or any other guide, is allowed to travel on railways free, and in addition veterinary attention for the dog is provided at the expense of the State if this is required.

Judging from remarks made to me by individual blinded soldiers the dogs are a great asset, and probably 3,000 German blinded soldiers have them and use them. They are the same type of dog as the Police Dog which was used by the Germans, and I think by some of the Allied Armies, for the carrying of messages and in connection with Medical Services in the Field during the War. Trained at a special farm owned by the State, these dogs are remarkably efficient as guides. They wear a sort of harness round their shoulders, with a stiff leather handle about a foot long coming up almost in a vertical position from the middle of the animal's shoulders. The blinded soldier holds on to this handle, and is thus able to feel any forward, backward or sideways movement of his guide. When the blind man with dog desires to cross a road, the latter sits down, and no amount of impatience on the part of his owner will result in his moving forward until the way is clear. The dog is most unnatural as far as his relations with his own kind are concerned, for he passes them by with complete indifference. Whether or no the dogs are trained by harsh treatment I cannot say, but they are certainly affectionately regarded by their owners, and are well looked after.

Dogs not Wanted

If I lived in the country I should most certainly have a dog, and probably I should go for walks with him, because there is no doubt that it would be more companionable and less dangerous to walk with a dog than to walk without one; but I should not like, and I do not believe St. Dunstan's men as a whole would like, to be accompanied in both town and country by an animal with an elaborate harness and a red cross on each shoulder. Somehow or other I should regard this as a most blatant kind of label, and should imagine people on the pavement saying as I passed, "Look, there is one of those poor devils with his dog. Isn't he wonderful?" Perhaps I am too squeamish, but I hate being commented on at all, and particularly in this sort of a way.

There are only two services rendered to blinded soldiers in Germany which resemble in the least the activities of St. Dunstan's. One is a school in Berlin, in which about 500 of their men have had the opportunity of learning Braille and Typewriting, Massage, Shorthand Writing, Telephone Operating, etc., and of adapting themselves, as did a few of the St. Dunstan's men, for a return to their pre-war occupations. But though the same subjects were taught in this school as at St. Dunstan's, it would appear that a much smaller degree of success has been attained. For example, they only trained ten masseurs, and then gave it up because their men were unable to do well. Whether this was due to the training or to other conditions, over which the school had no control, I was unable to find out. But seeing that there must have been an enormous demand for masseurs in connection with war injuries, one would imagine that had the training been good there would at least have been a temporary boom in this work for blinded men. Since apparently German blinded masseurs were not employed in this way, I think it is reasonable to infer that their efficiency must have been low.

Telephone-Operating, again, has only been a partial success, for the only men at present employed are those who were previously working in the German Post Office.

Germans Copy Us

With stenography they appear to have had better results, for eighty or ninety men are employed in this work all over the German Empire, and are said to be doing relatively well. Mr. Henry Stainsby, Secretary-General of the National Institute for the Blind, may well be proud of his Shorthand Machine, which made this occupation for blind people at all possible, for it has been most accurately copied by the Germans, whose men now use it.

At this school I discovered in connection with typewriting a little gadget which we may be able to adapt to the Remington Machine for those of our men who use a typewriter in connection with their profession. It is quite a cunning device for

indicating to the blind operator when he has come to the bottom of his page. I have set our Experimental Engineer working upon this, and hope some good may come of it.

The second direction in which German blinded soldiers are able to obtain assistance similar to that available for Englishmen is in connection with Pension inquiries, for there is an organisation very meagrely supported by voluntary subscription which does for them what the St. Dunstan's Pension Department does for our men.

State and Public Neglect

Apart from the 500 men I have mentioned, who went through the Berlin School, and prepared themselves for professional life, there have been practically no special arrangements made for German blinded soldiers by the State or by voluntary enterprise, and the remaining 3,500 or more of their men were left uncared for with the exception of a few who found their way into civilian blind institutions, until the employment of disabled men in factories was made obligatory upon employers by the State.

It appears that some of those who went into civilian blind institutions stayed there, doing brush-making and basket-making, and if the conditions in the largest civilian blind workshops in Berlin, which I visited, are at all similar to those in the Provincial Institutions I do not envy the men their lot. The standard of work in this particular Institution was far below that obtaining in the best English Workshops for the Blind.

Others however merely passed through a period of training and then returned to their homes. In some cases they were given tools and equipment, but in no case did they receive any form of After-Care, and it can be readily understood that as a result only a small number have been able to make a success of the difficult business of buying their materials, working them into saleable articles, and finding a market.

When the Act for the compulsory employment of disabled men in factories was passed, Local Committees rather similar to our Employment Exchanges, or War

Pensions Committees, were set up all over the country, and a register of all employers in their districts was kept. The employer was obliged to take into his works or factory a number of men, having a disablement greater than fifty per cent., amounting to not less than two per cent. of the total number of his workmen.

Dull Monotonous Work

A blinded soldier would apply to the Committee for employment. Through their register they would see where there was a vacancy, and would send him along. From this point the State ceased to have any interest in the man, and it was up to the employer to do what he could to fit him into his business. I fear that the majority of employers have put their blinded men on to dull, unskilled, monotonous work. I had a talk with one blinded soldier who told me that he and four of his comrades were employed in a well-known factory famous for the manufacture of lenses and optical instruments. It appears that one of the first processes in the manufacture of lenses requires the use of small blocks of wood upon which fine emery paper has been glued. These five blinded soldiers were engaged in the wearisome task of soaking the old emery paper off these blocks of wood and sticking on fresh pieces. In England I imagine that the blocks of wood would be used as scrap for lighting fires, but in Germany labour is so cheap, and moreover the blinded men have to be found work to do, that it seems to pay this firm to utilise their blind men in this way.

Though I am afraid the majority of German blinded soldiers are badly occupied, like the one whom I talked with and his four comrades, there are amongst employers one or two notable exceptions who seem honestly to have considered the welfare of their men. Foremost amongst these is Siemens Electrical Works. At Seimenstatt, a few miles outside Berlin, is an immense factory in which electrical apparatus of every kind and description is made. In one workshop where small metal parts are manufactured, amongst two or three hundred sighted employees are eighty blinded soldiers.

They fit into the routine of this factory, each doing an automatic job with an electrically driven machine, specially adapted for his use. As this is the only example of really good factory employment for the blind on a large scale I will quote at some length from the notes which I made in my diary after inspecting the place.

A Big Firm's Example

"The blind and otherwise disabled men work in the same factory as the sighted. They earn, according to the Director, wages about equal to women employed on similar machines, or to quote another comparison, about 80 per cent. of sighted unskilled workmen. The machines in use are fundamentally the same for the disabled men as for fit men and women, the only differences being special devices for quickly clamping materials to be machined, and protecting devices. The thing which strikes one about Siemens is not the skill of the blind men, which though good is not surprising, nor the cleverness of the machines, but the goodwill of the firm, which has obviously set out to do the thing thoroughly and with every possible consideration for the blinded men. It is true that they were compelled to do something, but they would appear to have gone out of their way to handle the problem as much from the men's as their own point of view. Originally these men were engaged upon handwork, *i.e.*, fitting screws into parts, assembling parts, winding coils, etc., etc., but this was so dull that men did not take to it eagerly. This has now been discontinued at Siemens, and machine work has taken its place. The Director says that the sound of quickly moving machinery, the necessity for the blind man's concentration, and the feeling that good production is being procured alongside of and under similar conditions to sighted workers has produced good moral effect and led to an increase in the men's interest and diligence.

"Mr. Black's impression from seeing the men at work confirms that they are interested and diligent. Personally I should consider the work to be dreadfully

monotonous, but one must take into account that practically the only alternative is idleness, and that financial conditions, the low pensions they receive, etc., force the men to carry on. Some are engaged on more complicated work than others; for example, a few work two slow-running drilling machines simultaneously. Perhaps this indicates that the Director will move the best men on constantly to more difficult jobs, which will add to their remuneration and interest. However, the extent to which the monotony of the work outweighs the advantages of regular employment and relief from worry depends entirely upon a man's temperament and the general conditions of living. Having regard to English conditions, pensions, etc., I feel there are few British blinded soldiers who would undertake this work.

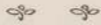
Elaborate Business Methods

However, it might meet a long-felt want for the civilian community, the majority of whom have no better alternative. Siemens is a very wonderful firm. The whole combine employs 81,000 men. Their vast and elaborate factory and offices are well-planned and built. The general standard of efficiency appears very high, as the following examples of their methods will illustrate. All prospective employees are tested in a special room, with special scientific apparatus for steadiness of hand, eyesight, memory, observation, quickness, etc. If the applicant for work does not reach a certain standard he or she is rejected. An elaborate private theatre is provided in which heads of departments and technical men receive periodic lectures on scientific subjects, and there is a cinematograph in this hall for demonstration purposes.

I do not think I can honestly say that we have much to learn from Germany, but in view of the reports we have had from time to time as to the wonder of this work at Siemens—reports which, though much credit should be given to Siemens, are nevertheless exaggerated—I think it is a good thing that the matter should have been examined.

Briefly then I have come back from Germany with an increased regard—if

that is possible—for my own country, and a feeling of great satisfaction that I am not a German. At the same time I am bound to say that I would rather be a German than a good many other kinds of foreigner. More particularly I have come back with a greater pride in St. Dunstan's, and I am extremely thankful I am not a German blinded soldier.



The Song of the Netter

Since Harry played at tennis in the rosy Tudor days,

Ten thousand thousand racquet-strings have thrummed in England's praise,

O, ye who skip on shaven lawns and win ecstatic sets,

Say, have you ever wondered where they make the tennis nets?

Oh, Regent's Park is gay with sun and flowers and filmy frocks,

And nutty squirrels, and little boys in ankle-straps and socks:

And there, within a squat brick shop to keep them from the wet,

Hard by St. Dunstan's dreamy chime the blind men sit and net.

"Put nine and twenty little knots astride a mesh of wood,

Embraced by nine and twenty loops in closest brotherhood;

Release the lot, one plain row net, and then put on an increase,

Continuez toujours, mes braves, for orders also increase."

When Harry plays at tennis on a sun-flecked lawn in June,

Does he think of Merrie Eng'land as a trust—or as a tune?

Does a litt'e breeze from nowhere ever whisper of a debt

He owes the man who saved his lawn and made his tennis net?

C. R. A.

After-Care Meetings

THE past month has witnessed several more of the popular and very useful re-unions of St. Dunstan's men at the various provincial centres. On the 8th, 9th and 10th of November three of these meetings were held at the Fortuna Café, Manchester, and the attendance for the three days totalled over 200. Guessing competitions were arranged, and prizes were won by the following:—Mrs. W. Scott, Manchester; T. McNally, Manchester; G. Furniss, Bolton; F. Tait, Bolton; J. Booth, Dukinfield; H. Hague, Ashton-under-Lyne; J. Orrell, Wigan (Consolation Prize).

Mr. H. Cubley, the famous Lancashire entertainer, came each day and greatly amused the boys with his humorous songs and stories, and several St. Dunstaners sang, including J. Greaves, H. Faulkner, J. Walsh, W. Chambers, F. Dyson, C. Molloy, J. Booth, G. Taylor, J. Harrison (Recitation).

Miss Joan Chambers (aged two and a bit) rendered most valuable assistance in passing round the sweets, and seemed much concerned when she realised they were fast diminishing in number!

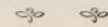
Mr. T. E. Swain welcomed the men with a short speech, and expressed Captain Fraser's regret at being unable to be present through pressure of work.

A similar meeting was held at the Angel Hotel, Liverpool, on Friday, November 24th, the men and their wives numbering about sixty; and here again Mr. Cubley was able to attend, and provided a most amusing entertainment in addition to accompanying, in the songs they gave, the following artists:—T. Eames, Birkenhead; W. Westeel, Liverpool; G. Matthews, St. Helens; L. Jackson, Rock Ferry (Recitation).

Prizes for Guessing Competitions were won by A. Forster, Warrington; T. Eames, Birkenhead; R. Tudor, Liverpool.

L. Jackson, at the end of the meeting, proposed a hearty, and very nicely expressed vote of thanks on behalf of the boys present.

In Captain Fraser's absence, due to his visit to Germany, Mr. Swain received the men, and conveyed a message to them from our Chairman.



Obituary Notice

MANY St. Dunstaners will have already heard of the death of Mrs. H. K. Holland, Matron of the House from June, 1917, to December, 1920, but we are sure they will appreciate the further details that have now reached us through the courtesy of Mr. T. H. Martin, of our After-Care Visiting Staff, who represented St. Dunstan's at the funeral.

Mrs. H. K. Holland died very suddenly while on a visit to Oberammergau in the Tyrol, where she had gone to witness the famous Passion Play. Friends brought her home, and the coffin, covered by the Union Jack and banked with flowers—among them St. Dunstan's beautiful wreath—lay in the little Wiltshire Church near her home in Lea, not far from Malmesbury.

The funeral took place on September 21st, and the day, though autumnal, was beautiful. Friends had come from far and near, so the little church was almost full when the vicar went to meet the mourners at the door. Among those present were V.A.D.'s and officers in uniform, as well as a large number of ex-service men.

One of the hymns chosen for the occasion was "Sleep on, Beloved," and this was followed by the reciting of the 90th Psalm, a lesson and prayers. The organist then played the Dead March, after which everyone joined in singing "Now the labourer's task is o'er."

Filing past the coffin the officers and ex-service men took up the wreaths and floral tributes; carrying these they marched to the grave, where the last prayers were said as the coffin was lowered to its final resting place.

Since the war many of us have learnt to think of death in a new way, although his coming still means grief; our sympathy goes out to the bereaved husband and children in their great loss.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

Saleable Joinery

TGROVE, OF BOTLEY, is developing a special line in the making of cupboards. While engaged on the first a chance caller saw it and immediately ordered one like it; a second order followed almost at once, and two more seem likely now that the piece of work has actually been delivered, since it gave great satisfaction. Such pieces of furniture mean hard and difficult work, and we are sure Grove deserves his success which we hope will continue.

For the Silver Screen

The eldest daughter of ISAAC CORNS, of Blackpool, was one of the lucky hundred selected by Miss Norma Talmage to come to town under the *Daily Sketch* scheme for Film Aspirants. We send our best wishes for her success in her career, and wonder if any other daughters of St. Dunstaners are venturing in the same line?

A Pigeon Fancier

J. C. BROWN, of Wellington, has found a new interest in pigeons and has been remarkably successful with them. We are glad to hear that his birds have taken three prizes. It may be that there are several who would like to take up this hobby. Another of Brown's interests is in rabbiting! C. Ray is another from whom we should like to hear, since we learn that he is very keen on rabbits and has done well with them at shows, recently carrying off a Challenge Cup.

It is not very long since we had the pleasure of adding the name of H. SAUNDERS, of Tottenham, to our roll of St. Dunstaners married, and recently the usual gift of a silver tea-pot was sent to him. We are glad to learn that this

will always be esteemed by both Mr. and Mrs. Saunders as a souvenir of "all at the Old Home."

G. A. BROWN, of Kilburn, also sends us word of the safe arrival of his pot and his appreciation of it. May many a cup that cheers be brewed in these pots.

Varied Interests

Another interesting letter reaches us from E. E. SWAYNE who should have his hands full in his general store since, as well as having the shop, he repairs boots and makes mats. He has been intending to come to Headquarters for some time, but has not been able to manage it. When he does he will find the usual St. Dunstan's welcome. We know he is doing his best to keep cheerful, though neither weather nor business have been as bright as they should be of late.

A New Line

F. RALPH, of Purley, is one who is finding new openings for himself. He has manufactured a gramophone cabinet which is so appreciated by the customer that she has herself written to H.Q. expressing her admiration of the piece of work. May she be but the first of many such clients.

Prize Winning Poultry

N. A. HUTCHINSON, of East Ham, is, we are glad to hear, having luck with his poultry. One bird exhibited at St. Mary's Hall, Plaistow, in the early part of November, carried off second prize.

A Keen Masseur

ODDLY enough we have had remarkably few letters of late from those St. Dunstaners who have been trained as masseurs.

FROM THE WORLD OVER



C. GREAVES, we are interested to hear, is comfortably settled in his new home and very pleased with his clinical outfit. He could still be busier, he tells us, but seems to be possessed of exceptional energy, and takes pride in the fact that he is able to keep his room in excellent order himself, only requiring his wife's assistance where such things as carpet and curtains are concerned. We hope that he will soon be sufficiently occupied to content even his ambition.

From Canadian St. Dunstaners

OUR Canadian post-bag is unusually heavy this month, perhaps because letters concerning the tribute to be offered to Miss Pearson are just coming to hand. One and all raise a wail of regret that reasons of health compel Miss Pearson to lay aside the work she has so splendidly performed, and wish to be associated with the offering that is to be made to her—some articles of furniture for her bungalow near Brighton.

Among the many who have written are:—

J. R. MACPHERSON, who tells us that he has most pleasant memories of West House under the matronship of Miss Pearson.

B. R. SWENERTON, who thinks it hard to realise the "tremendous loss this must be to St. Dunstan's."

E. J. TURNER "never spent a holiday there, but has heard so much from others of the wonderful time she gave the boys there, that he wants to join in whatever testimonial is being offered—as he too hopes to return to St. Dunstan's some day."

C. PURKINS says that although he "only had the pleasure of seeing Miss Pearson once, he heard so much of her from others and always hoped to have the opportunity of seeing her again."

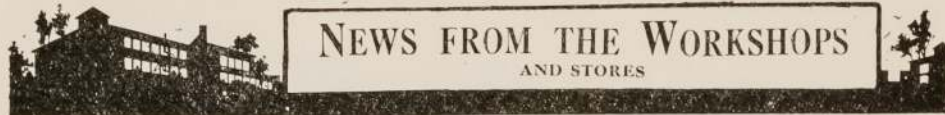
M. SMITH, of Quebec, is yet another with happy memories of holidays at Brighton, and he also wishes to offer his thanks and best wishes for Miss Pearson's speedy recovery, as do N. TOPPING, of Toronto, A. S. E. BICKHORN, of South Vancouver, A. P. ARCHIBALD, Victoria B.C., W. AUSTIN (of whom more news will be found in another paragraph), D. BARKER (who was lucky enough to be one of those attending the Reunion for the unveiling of the Canadian Memorial to Sir Arthur), and C. F. HORNSBY, of Alberta, who hopes the token of remembrance offered to Miss Pearson will be something worthy of her great services to the boys who had the pleasure of staying at West House.

Other Canadians writing for the same purpose, but who also give us welcome personal news of themselves, are T. J. Rodin, W. Farnell and J. Downie.

W. FARNELL writes that he is particularly busy getting his stock ready for another man to take over, since he himself is returning to England having had a bungalow built for him at Peacehaven. It looks as though those now in town who were Farnell's comrades at St. Dunstan's might have an early opportunity of hearing his recent adventures.

J. DOWNIE tells us that a St. Dunstan's exhibition has been arranged in the Hudson's Bay Company's store at Vancouver, and although it is not yet opened, the project is having splendid advertisement in the Vancouver papers. Meanwhile we send him congratulations on the special prize he took recently for his netting and the exhibit he himself arranged at a show which we hear drew great attention.

T. J. RODIN is yet another of the many who have written concerning Miss Pearson, and he adds that he feels he has a special claim on her for he spent every holiday at West House!



NEWS FROM THE WORKSHOPS AND STORES

BOOT SHOP

TWO new men, H. R. Prior and C. Brammer, have made very good use of their time in the Shops, profiting very quickly by the instruction given, and forming a good idea of the requirements of the trade. J. J. Jerrard continues to make improvement, and is having experience now with quarter-rubbers. J. Melling is very painstaking and persevering; his work in the Clog Shop has shown steady improvement with re-clogging, and his ironing is distinctly good. During the whole of this term H. A. Baker has been doing good work on Boots, and there is every indication that he will make a capable workman. Our congratulations are also due to H. W. Allen who has, since our last reference, continued to do really good work of all kinds. In spite of some ill-health T. A. Wilson has also continued to turn out the thoroughly sound repairs which we are now accustomed to see on his bench.

CLOG SHOP

A. Lillie has been making Boot Clogs mostly quite well, and we may especially refer to a pair with Wellington Tops, the Tacking on, Ironing and Trimming being good, and the Welting very good. E. Turnock has been working hard at Clogs, gaining useful experience on all classes of repairs, and making Slipper and Three-Lace Clogs. A pair of children's clogs with brown tops looked very well indeed.

MAT SHOP

G. Harris has made a good start. H. A. Baker has got a sound idea of the work, especially with regard to thrumming and cutting. A five-diamond mat made by him early in the month was particularly good. H. Tomkinson's mats reach a good level, and he has lately been having

experience with insertion borders, and other mats with letters which have come out well.

BASKET SHOP

On the centre-cane work P. McGloin has been having experience with Barrels and Work Baskets, getting through a useful amount of work. C. Van Niekerk has also had some little experience here for the purpose of making centre-cane trays with plaited borders. He is to be congratulated on his very rapid advance with this work, and the success he made in a short time.

Two new men on Willow Work, W. T. Harris and R. Watt, are in the elementary stages. They have shown steady improvement with Round Arms, Barrels and Waste Papers. J. R. Brown has continued to gain experience with Square Work, both Arm Baskets and Hampers, which should prove valuable to him in further development of his business. Since our last reference, T. Watmore has made Dog Baskets, Round Linen Baskets, Square Arms and Hampers, and has got a very valuable knowledge of construction throughout. J. W. Roylance has also done much useful work with square Clothes Baskets, Willow Work Baskets and Square Linens. He is making satisfactory progress all round.

PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES

The following have been issued during November:—

W. Allen (Mats and Boots); A. E. Sherwood (Mats and Boots); J. Bennett (Mats); C. A. Biggs (Mats); A. H. Bradley (Mats); F. W. Brooker (Mats); H. A. Critchell (Mats); J. Davies (Mats); J. McGee (Mats); D. A. Purvis (Boots); J. B. Hart (Boots); E. J. Harlow (Picture-Framer); W. Birch (Baskets); A. Stevens (Baskets); A. Sneddon (Baskets); W. A. Foulkes (Baskets); W. A. Burtenshaw (Baskets).
W.H.O.

The Unveiling of War Memorials

To the Royal Fusiliers

ON Saturday, November 4th, 1922, the Lord Mayor of London unveiled a Memorial to the 22,000 Fusiliers who gave their lives for the cause of Justice in the Great War.

The ceremony took place in bright cold weather, and the day was luckily dry with a wintry sun.

It was a great day in the history of the City of London, which has always been justly proud of its own Regiment (The City of London Regt. Royal Fusiliers). The Bishop of London dedicated the Memorial in the presence of representatives of all the Battalions of this famous Regiment, and a huge orderly crowd of relatives and friends of the gallant men who gave their lives that we might live.

The Memorial takes the form of a Fusilier in fighting kit at the ready, and is mounted on a square block of stone about ten feet high, the whole being perhaps eighteen feet in all.

The Fusiliers gained thirteen V.C.'s during the War, over 3,000 mentions in despatches, and many thousands of decorations.

I had the honour of leading my old Battalion in the march past the Memorial.

W. LOWINGS
(late Sergt. Major),
4th London Regt., Royal Fusiliers.

To the Middlesex Regiment

A PARTY of our boys were invited by the Middlesex Regiment to attend the unveiling of their Memorial by the Prince of Wales on Saturday, November 4th, at Mill Hill. A conveyance was sent down by the Regiment, and our little party of about ten men were taken away and entertained at the Corporal's Mess. During the ceremony they were placed well to the front near the Guard of Honour, and afterwards Lieutenant-General Sir Ivor Maxse, who unveiled the Memorial for

the Prince of Wales (who, although present, was unable to leave his car owing to his hunting accident), came and spoke to the boys, and specially congratulated Cassidy on winning the Brighton walk. It is interesting to notice how quickly the news of this event has spread.

Armistice Day at the Cenotaph

A SMALL party of our boys, consisting of J. Griffiths, T. Eaton, J. McNicholl, J. Roylance and E. Turnock, and accompanied by our Instructors C/Major Tovell and Sergeant Hunt, represented St. Dunstan's at the Armistice Service at the Cenotaph on the morning of November 11th. Although no definite arrangements were made for us to be present, yet we were very lucky in getting through the crowds, and marched down Whitehall preceded only by the Guards' Band. Our men were placed just close by the King, and after His Majesty had laid his wreath at the foot of the Cenotaph, our men were privileged to lay theirs next to that of the King.

The wreath St. Dunstan's sent along was a very beautiful one made of laurels. It was about three feet high and surmounted by a huge scarlet ribbon bow. I have heard from those who were present that it was a very touching service indeed.
E.W.

Cheltenham

AS we go to Press word comes of a great rally that is to take place at the Town Hall, Cheltenham, to see the work of St. Dunstaners. Demonstrations of our various arts and crafts will be given, and considerable interest is being aroused in the district. We hope to receive interesting sidelights on the affair from those of our men who attend.



DEPARTMENTAL NOTES



Netting Notes

THIS month we have something to mention that we believe will be of particular interest to our St. Dunstan's grandchildren! This is a swinging cot, invented by Mr. Albert Mason, of Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. This netted cot is such an ingenious novelty that we have taken out a patent for it, securing the English rights for our English St. Dunstaners and the South African rights for Mr. Mason. This has been done according to his own generous wish to give our English fellows the benefit of making these cots and to secure them the profits on all sales. We have given it the trade name of "Masonetta," and it is important that each cot sold should carry this trademark and its patent number. For this reason we propose to do all finishing touches at Headquarters and to send our After-Care workers the netting only to make. We have designed a simple adjustable stand to match the cot, the brown wood of which tones with the framework of the cot. The Masonetta cot and stand together will be retailed at £2 10s.; the cot alone is priced at £1 10s.

G.H.W.

Braille Room Notes

OUR heartiest congratulations to the following men on having passed their Braille Tests:—

Reading: F. W. Brooker, J. W. Spink, H. J. Howes and F. Glover.

Writing: J. Hunter, T. Eastham and T. Urry.

The following are amongst the books that have recently been added to the National Library for the Blind:—"Essays: Speculative and Political," by Rt. Hon. Lord Balfour; "Courage," Address given at St. Andrew's, 1922," by Sir J. M. Barrie; "The English Novel," by G. Saintsbury; "English for the English: A Chapter in National Education," by G.

Sampson; "Books and Characters," by Lytton Strachey; "In Morocco," by Edith Wharton; "Modern Pilgrims in Mecca and Siege in Sanaa," by A. J. B. Wavell; "If Winter Comes," by A. S. M. Hutchinson; "Christopher Hibbault, Roadmaker," by M. Bryant; "Tales, Poems and Sketches," by Brett Harte; "Moon of Israel," by Sir H. Rider Haggard; "Doctor of Pimlico," by W. Le Quex; "St. Jude," by Ian Maclaren; "Red House Mystery," by A. A. Milne; "Bronze Eagle," by Baroness Orczy; "Noughts and Crosses and Other Stories," by Sir A. Quiller Couch; "The Frozen Pirate," by Clark Russell.

A number of our readers will remember the Chinese Blind Boys' Band which visited the Workshops last summer. These musicians come from Foochow, and have been on tour for some months in England under the able direction of Mrs. A. I. Wilkinson, President of the Blind Boys' School at Liu Kwangm, who for many years has worked unceasingly amongst the Chinese Blind. Mrs. Wilkinson, having mastered their language, taught them music amongst other things. In the early days the only instruments they had were a Chinese two-string violin, a penny whistle, a harmonica and a Chinese drum: but as time went on they were able to add other instruments to their collection, and have eventually brought their Band to its present state of perfection.

Recently we have had the pleasure of welcoming to the Braille Room three members of this Band, who expressed a wish to study our English system of Braille Music more thoroughly. Fortunately they all know some English, one being very fluent, so if his companions did not quite follow the lesson he was able to act as interpreter. They proved themselves to be most intelligent and apt pupils, in fact, their quickness at grasping the intricacies of the Braille Musical Notation in an unfamiliar language was almost uncanny.

Typewriting, Shorthand and Telephony

WE sincerely congratulate the following men on having passed their Test:—

G. H. Wootley, W. T. Harris, J. W. Cookson, H. R. Prior, J. Mitchell, E. W. Savage, T. Gildea, C. S. M. W. Lowings, J. Hallaron, A. W. Cima and G. Matthews.

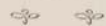
There are many changes to record among our telephonists, including, we regret to say, one or two that were omitted from the previous number of the REVIEW. H. E. Lambert has started work at Messrs. Vandenberg's, and in October, F. James went to Trinity House; both are giving every satisfaction. W. Nicholls has gone to Messrs. Raymonds, Regent Street, where he is doing well. R. Smith has left London to go to the Transport Company at Liverpool, while M. Burran replaces him with Messrs. Alfred Wright and Co. Peter Martin, at the end of October, took over the board at St. Dunstan's Shop in Regent Street.

We very much regret that C. Reddish's health has made it impossible for him to continue his Telephony work, but hope we may soon be hearing better news of him. His post at the Mining Association has been filled by J. Hughes.

We wish every success to those men who have started for the first time, and hope the old hands will all like their new posts. D.A.P.



At a whist drive at Denton in connection with the St. Dunstan's National Whist Championship, W. M. Williamson, a St. Dunstaner, presented the prizes to the successful competitors, and thanked the large company present for their attendance and help.



Wanted

WE are anxious to secure for record purposes a copy of ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for July, 1916. Will any reader who has such a copy in possession, which he can spare, be so good as to forward it to the Editor?

The St. Dunstaners' Memorial to Sir Arthur

LADY (Arthur) Pearson's suggestion, to which I most heartily agreed and to which I referred in a recent number of the REVIEW, that the Blinded Soldiers' personal memorial to Sir Arthur should take the form of a portrait of the Chief, has met with the approval of a number of the men, and accordingly the work has been undertaken and is nearing completion. Sir William Orpen, perhaps the most famous of British portrait painters, has most generously undertaken the work at a fee far below that which his pre-eminent skill usually commands, in order that the portrait might come within the limits of our little fund.

Full particulars as to the portrait itself and a reproduction of it on art paper suitable for framing will be published in a future number of the REVIEW, and in the meantime I write this to notify St. Dunstaners of what has been done and to tell them of the arrangements that will be made early next year for a suitable unveiling ceremony. Lady Pearson is trying to secure the services of some eminent person, if possible our Patroness Queen Alexandra, to perform such a ceremony, and as it may take place before the January number of the REVIEW is published, I will be glad if any St. Dunstaners who would like to come would let me know in order that I may drop them a line at an appropriate time to give them particulars.

I am sorry it will be impossible for us to make any arrangements for accommodation of men who come or for expenses in connection with their visit, but refreshments will be provided if necessary for anyone who comes from a distance, and I hope that as many as are able to arrange their journey themselves and can get back the same day will be present.

I would again urge upon all those who would like to be informed of the time and date of the arrangements to write and tell me so, as otherwise it will be impossible to be sure that everyone who might want to come has the opportunity.

IAN FRASER

The History of our Crafts

The Story of Net Making

We are publishing, under the above heading, a series of articles dealing with the origination and progress of the various crafts which are taught at St. Dunstan's, and in which our men have accomplished such splendid work. Quite apart from the historical interest which will attach to these reviews of the crafts which occupy the working hours of many St. Dunstaners, the information which the articles provide should help in other directions: as, for instance, in any advertising or publicity the men themselves do, and also in the possible provision of ideas for the making of articles for sale.

THE making of nets is one of the oldest of all arts. It was practised even among primitive tribes, to whom it was a craft of the most vital importance, since rough nets were used by hunters and fishermen. Remains and painting of such nets have been found among ancient Egyptian ruins.

Nets, as we of St. Dunstan's know them, are made of good quality string, both white and coloured, also of a variety of tanned hemps for such articles as must have strength—viz., sports or garden nets. Various other materials are used in different countries. The Eskimos, for instance, make their nets from the sinews and strips of seal skins, while the Chinese produce extraordinarily fine nets of silk and even hair.

As an industry net making has passed through three stages. At first nets were made entirely by hand, then machines seemed about to wrest the trade from the craftsman; finally came a realisation that, in certain lines at least, handwork surpassed that of the best mechanical effort. It is in this direction that we, of St. Dunstan's, have found success—not by entering into competition with machinery, but by developing our work along lines where the manipulation of human fingers is essential to the best result.

In this connection it may well be that even our own netters will be surprised at the lengthy list of articles turned out in St. Dunstan's workshops.

Tennis Boundary Nets	Goat Nets
.. Playing Nets	Hay Nets
.. Ball Bags	Nets for Potatoes,
Golf Driving Nets	onions, soap & lemons
Water Polo Nets	Bird Feeders
Cricket Nets	Sweet Pea Nets
Hammocks	Seed Protectors
Toy Hammocks	Cot Nets

Nursery Swings	Sponge Nets
Toy Swings	Watch Nets (used on
Fruit Nets	certain passenger
Pig Nets	liners)
Rabbit Nets	Copper Nets (for boil-
Bat Nets	ing joints of meat)
Cat Nets	Egg Nets
Chicken Nets (sectional	Rick Nets
for runs, circular for	Crèche Nets
green food)	Anglers' Landing Nets

We think this is rather a wonderful catalogue, especially when it is remembered that we only began work in April, 1915, and that then netting was looked upon more as a pleasant pastime than as a decidedly useful second string to any man's bow. Of all the crafts practised at St. Dunstan's it is the most original in as much as netting had never before been regarded as an organised industry suitable for those without sight. The fact that it needs no expensive equipment and can be carried on anywhere and at any time—fastened to an iron ring in a coping stone on the beach, in a man's garden, even fastened to his bed-post and worked at in the small hours—has made our success possible.

The first netting machine was patented in England in 1778, but it can hardly have been a commercial proposition for twenty years later the French government offered a reward of 10,000 francs to the inventor of a practical automatic net-maker. A Frenchman named Jacquard produced a model which, through Carnot, was brought to the attention of Napoleon. As a consequence the inventor was summoned to the capital and into the presence of the Emperor who, looking him up and down, said:—

"So you are the man who pretends to do what God Almighty cannot? To tie a knot in a stretched string!" However,

Jacquard received the prize and in addition a Government appointment.

The first man in the United Kingdom to produce a really efficient netting machine was James Patterson, a Scot, a native of Musselburgh, near Edinburgh. Originally a cooper, this man joined the army, served through the Peninsular War, and took his discharge after Waterloo. Having produced his netting machine, he opened a netting factory, interesting himself primarily with the manufacture of fishing nets; but the knots produced by the machine were not perfect, and the business only became a financial success when Richie, another Musselburgh man, discovered a means of adapting the machine to form knots similar to those made by hand.

The machine is a somewhat complicated affair. It consists of an arrangement of hooks, needles and sinkers, one of each being required for every mesh in the breadth of the net. Through the series of loops formed on these a steel wire is shot which carries with it the twine for the succeeding range of loops. This twine the sinkers successively catch and depress sufficiently for the two sides and loop of the next mesh to be formed.

The resulting knot is now tightened up, then the last mesh is freed from the sinkers and transferred to the hooks. So the process continues.

The origin of the word "net" is unknown. In some parts of the country netters about to make a net say that they are going to "bread" or "breathe" it. In Dorset the word "braiding" is used as we use "netting," while over the doors of the netting factories one often sees the phrase "Braidiers' Entrance."

Even in fishing nets, which are now mainly made by machinery, there is a considerable amount of variety. The principal types are (1) The Seine, a net designed to imprison fish and enable them to be drawn ashore. (2) The trawl, a net which is towed from a boat and entangles the fish in its complicated folds. (3) The drift net, which moves with the tide, and (4) The moored net, a stationary affair used on the principle of nets in mackerel

pots; in these fish are suspended by the body. The technical expression by which the width of a net is described is an "over;" a drag net, for instance, is three fathoms long, one "over" or wide.

St. Dunstan's authorities have investigated the possibility of such nets being made in our workshops, but the industry is so well organised among the sighted that it is impossible to hope for success in that direction.

During the War a great impetus was given to the manufacture of wire netting by its use at naval bases and harbours as a protection against submarines. A big establishment, manned by naval labour, was organised on the Essex coast, and at Bridport, nearly six hundred miles of wire net were turned out, being a dead weight of over 100,000 tons Alas! no sooner was the production of this fully perfected than the Germans equipped their submarines with extremely effective cutters!

Previous articles in this series have dealt with Basket Making and Braille.

An Honour Shared by Three St. Dunstaners

THROUGH the courtesy of Mr. Swales, we have received an interesting account of the unveiling of the war memorial to the 3,000 men of Middlesborough who fell in the Great War. In this, Mr. Swales himself took part, assisted by G. Hollins and T. Dowson, the latter (a Middlesborough man and the first from this district to be blinded) being selected to open the Park Gates.

The Memorial took a somewhat unusual form, being not only a Cenotaph in granite, but a new set of gates for the Albert Park. Bronze tablets bearing the names of the fallen men were erected on the adjoining walls. The Cenotaph was unveiled by the Mayor, the Tablets by the St. Dunstaners, who also took part in the procession.

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THE world has a million roosts for a man, but only one nest.

Wireless—A New Hobby for the Blind

By CAPTAIN IAN FRASER

Second and Concluding Instalment

WITHOUT doubt every improvement man has made in communication has been the forerunner of an immense advance in civilisation, and Radio Telegraphy and Telephony cannot but contribute very largely to this; and, if greater opportunities are to be given to individual men to crystallize the opinions of a mass of mankind by the spoken word instead of the written word, we can look forward to a great improvement in the oratory of our public men, and to a greater appreciation and discrimination on the part of their listeners and critics.

So far I have dealt with the subject of broad-casting, and I have devoted most of my time to this because we are on the eve of its inception in this country. In fact, in two or three weeks' time, the British Broad-casting Company will be giving regular concerts, entertainments, lectures and speeches every evening.

But now I will turn away from broad-casting for a few minutes to discuss the possibilities of wireless from a commercial and strategic point of view. There are in all great countries at the present time powerful wireless stations which conduct trans-continental and trans-oceanic traffic. They compete with the cable companies, and appear to be doing good business. There is a regular system between England and America, between England and Canada, between London and Paris, between London and Berne in Switzerland, between London and Brussels, and, of course, in other parts of the world there are similar links. Any night on my apparatus, by tuning in to the appropriate wave-length, I can hear some of these stations working. They are sending Morse so quickly that you cannot distinguish the dots and the dashes. One hundred words a minute is the speed at which these messages are sent, being both transmitted and received by delicate mechanical

electrical and photographic instruments. It is claimed by the Radio Companies that they can handle large volumes of traffic much more expeditiously than the Cable Companies, for over long distances not more than twelve or twenty words a minute can be reached through the cable.

Then, again, if you send a cable to, let us say, Egypt, it goes through half-a-dozen different stations, where it is received and re-transmitted, all of this work taking up time, whereas by Radio it goes direct from a big station at Oxford to one at Cairo.

During the War wireless was used to a considerable extent, for it enabled the commanders of moving troops to keep in touch with each other without the necessity of laying wires, which takes up time, and with which there is always a risk of breakage by shell-fire. In the air, too, it was of the greatest possible service, for it is the only practicable means of communication between an aeroplane or airship and the ground. These same remarks, of course, apply to the sea.

Another great service which Radio is rendering now, and will to an increasing extent render in the future, is the directing of aeroplanes, airships and ships in fogs. By means of direction-finding apparatus it is possible for the pilot of an air-vessel or the navigating officer of a ship to steer a straight course and to obtain his bearings even if he cannot see a yard in front of him on account of the thickest weather. Then, too, there is the immensely important function of wireless at sea in connection with the calling for assistance in the event of shipwreck. But this is so well known that I need not enlarge upon it.

But the real bar to progress from the point of view of commerce and warfare is that Radio is not secret. This means that a message transmitted, for example, from one ship to another in action can be

received by the opposing fleet, and though it may be in code, no code has yet been invented which cannot be unravelled by experts. These same remarks, of course, apply to communication between one business house and another. The best you can hope for when you put a message into code is to puzzle the decoder and cause a delay between the time when you send the message and the time when the enemy or rival firm can understand it.

Just as a ship can obtain its direction by wireless, so it is now becoming possible to transmit wireless waves along one definite line instead of broad-casting them in all directions. This provides a certain amount of secrecy, for only stations in the line of this beam of wireless waves can receive it. But something more is needed, for until you can send a message from one place to another with the certainty that no one can overhear you, until you can telephone from one place to another without the risk of all the world knowing your business, the universal adoption of Radio Telegraphy and Telephony will be delayed. Such strides have been made during the past few years that I for one do not doubt that we shall shortly overcome these difficulties, and that it will be a comparatively simple matter for you or I to lift up our telephone receiver here in London and ask for a number in New York or Paris. It may take a year, it may take ten years, but it is inevitably coming, and I believe that with this facility for international communication the means by which the world produces wealth will be greatly enlarged and facilitated, and with that will come a higher standard of living, and greater numbers of the mass of men and women will be able to get all that is best out of life.

One final word, from practical experience of my own: from what I have heard about the experience of one or two other St. Dunstaners who have already acquired receiving sets of their own, I can assure you that listening-in is a hobby any blind man can follow. Every night there will be a regular concert, speech or lecture, and, in addition, there are scores of amateurs carrying on conversations

with each other, and hundreds of messages from ships and great trans-continental and trans-oceanic stations. You can listen to all of them without any difficulty, and even if you do not take the trouble to learn Morse you can get, as I have got, an immense amount of enjoyment out of it.

I have recently had an interview with the Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Henry Jackson, who is President of the Wireless Society of London. I asked him if he would appeal to all the Wireless Clubs and Societies all up and down the country to lend a hand to any blinded soldiers who wanted to become listeners-in. It so happened that at the time when I made this request Admiral Jackson was just going to visit the Prince of Wales to ask His Royal Highness to become Patron of the Society. I hear that the Admiral told the Prince of our scheme, and that the Prince wished us good luck with it, and said he would like to give his Patronage to it. Some notices to this effect have appeared in the Press, and I am beginning to get applications from blinded soldiers who want to be put in touch with Wireless Societies near them. Some of these Societies have offered to make our men Honorary Members, and I daresay many others will follow their example.

The reason I have asked for this help is that although a blind man can look after his apparatus himself, tune it in, connect it up, alter his circuits, experiment with it, and even make some of the apparatus without any sighted assistance, yet he cannot very well put up an aerial, and if he knows nothing about the subject to start with, he must have a little assistance in deciding what to buy, and how to fix it together.

I am in a position to say now that if any St. Dunstaner wants to engage in this new hobby, he has only to let me know, when I will make arrangements for some form of help to be afforded to him by the Wireless Society in his neighbourhood. And as I have said, he may even be fortunate enough to be made an Honorary Member of it.

There are not a great many hobbies which we can follow without any sighted assistance at all, so I advise any of you, and particularly those who have a

mechanical or scientific turn of mind, to make inquiries about it at once. You will find it an endless source of delight and interest.



CHAPEL NOTES

OUR Armistice service was held in the big Lounge at Headquarters on the morning of Saturday, November 11th. There was a splendid attendance of men and staff, and the simple service was in every way most impressive. I know that everybody was touched by the two minutes' silence, and I feel sure that there were few of us who did not think at this solemn time of our late Chief and his inspired work for us. It seemed hardly a year since the last Armistice when he was present with us, and many of us remember how sympathetically he joined in the service.

Baptism

ON Sunday, December 3rd, at St. Dunstan's Chapel, DORIS AUDREY, daughter of WALTER and GLADYS AUDREY RUDDOCK.

Marriages

ON Wednesday, November 22nd, at St. Ethelburga's Church, Bishopsgate, JAMES INGRAM to Miss FRANCES MARION BARTHOLOMEW.

September 19th, at St. Saviour's Church, Brighton, H. RANDALL to Miss DORIS GRADY.

Our Babies

YET another St. Dunstaner's baby has carried off first prize at a local baby show. This time Bernard Arthur, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. B. Hamilton, of Brandon, is the champion to whom we offer congratulations.

In this connection we must also mention the children of Mr. and Mrs. T. Q.

Rodin who have broken all records, the baby girl having secured the prize of a silver spoon, scoring 99 points out of a possible 100, while her small elder brother took second place being only a point and a half behind her!

Births

ON November 16th, the wife of G. BARRATT, of a daughter.

November 9th, the wife of J. BENSON, of a son.

November 8th, the wife of M. CAREY, of a son.

November 11th (Armistice Day), the wife of H. CHAFER, of a son.

November 20th, the wife of W. Q. DIMOND, of a son.

November 12th, the wife of A. F. GROVES, of a daughter.

October 28th, the wife of P. JOHNS, of Great Barrow, of a daughter.

November 7th, the wife of A. JORDAN, of a son.

October 18th, the wife of A. LAW, of Shrewsbury, of a daughter.

October 23rd, the wife of F. MARIN, of Yorkshire, of a daughter.

October 21st, the wife of G. E. PERRY, of Wolverhampton, of a daughter.

November 16th, the wife of T. ROGERS, of a daughter.

October 21st, the wife of W. RUDDOCK, of Surrey, of a daughter, being a first baby.

October 28th, the wife of J. W. SIMPSON, of Leeds, of a son.

On November 5th, the wife of A. R. SPENCE, of West Croydon, of a son.

November 2nd, the wife of P. WHITE, of Leominster, of a daughter.

November 10th, the wife of T. STRINGER, of a daughter.

November 18th, the wife of W. WALTERS, of a daughter, this being the seventh child.

September 1st, the wife of CLUTHA MACKENZIE, of New Zealand, of a daughter.

October 27th, the wife of H. MYFORD, of Burnham-on-Crouch, of a son.

November 4th, the wife of Lt. W. OLD-FIELD, of a daughter, Betty Elfreda.

Memorial Service to Sir Arthur

OUR Memorial Service in honoured memory of Sir Arthur was held in the big Lounge at Headquarters on Saturday, the 9th instant, at 11 a.m. There was a great audience of men and staff present to show their love and respect to their late Chief, whilst Lady (Arthur) Pearson, with Sir Neville, Captain and Mrs. Fraser, Mr. Kessell and Mrs. Bates were in the congregation. The service was intensely simple. It opened with the hymn, "Lead, Kindly Light," followed by the 23rd Psalm, "The Lord is My Shepherd." Then a short portion of Scripture (1 Thess. 4, 13) was read, and just four simple prayers followed, one of them being the special St. Dunstan's prayer for the work, staff and men. The Rev. Harold Gibb, well known to all St. Dunstaners as a Chaplain blinded in the war, gave a very touching address, and then we all sang that magnificent hymn which was written by a kinsman of Sir Arthur, "Abide with Me," and the service concluded with the Blessing and the Nunc Dimittis.

It would be hard to attempt to describe the service and atmosphere—everybody present was so deeply moved, and even though one year had passed it was almost impossible to realise that he had indeed left us. We all left the service with deep feelings of gratitude to Sir Arthur for all the glorious work he had accomplished, and a renewed resolution to do all that we could to carry on this work which was so near to his heart. So whilst he has passed on, his work lives and his memory

will ever have an honoured place in our hearts.

In his address, the Rev. Harold Gibb paid a deep and sincere tribute to Sir Arthur's wonderful personality. He said he first heard the name of Sir Arthur Pearson in 1915 from the lips of his mother, who had come to visit him in hospital, and after she had left him he lay in the shadows with the two names—"Sir Arthur Pearson" and "St. Dunstan's" continually recurring in his mind. Later, Sir Arthur came to see him, and almost his first words were: "Gibb, I must have always been a good business man, otherwise I should not have made my fortune so quickly, but I know that as a blinded man I am worth a great deal more to the world than ever I was before."

Mr. Gibb went on to speak of all he owed to St. Dunstan's; of the marvellous leadership of its great Chief, and he closed by saying that if Sir Arthur could send his men a message to-day he felt it could be summed up in the following words:

"If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the earth—and everything that's
in it,
And what is more, you'll be a man, my
son."

AT THE CEMETERY

At the conclusion of the service, a deputation representing the officers, After-Care and resident men, consisting of Major Strong, Duxbury and Batchelor for the After-Care, and Sergeant Major Lowings and A. Sneddon for the present men, together with Captain and Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Bates, Miss Goole and Mr. Gibb, went up to the Cemetery to lay the floral tributes, which had been given by officers, men and staff, at the foot of Sir Arthur's grave. One tribute was in the form of St. Dunstan's crest, standing quite four feet high, whilst all the other wreaths and flowers were sympathetically arranged and the Rev. Harold Gibb said a suitable prayer. Our visit was intended to be representative of all the many who loved Sir Arthur and who could not pay tribute in person at his last resting place.

E. W.

Happenings of the Month

Presentations

A PLEASING ceremony was enacted at Headquarters on Thursday morning, 30th November last, when Mr. Harry Wheeler (Chairman), Major Robert Bristow (Secretary), and Messrs. Harry Sagar and E. Berens, of the Brighton County Club, paid a visit in order to view the workshops and class rooms, and also to present the special prizes won in the Brighton walk. Mr. D. V. Mills, sporting representative of St. Dunstan's, introduced the visitors to the assembled company, following which Mr. Wheeler made a happy speech in which he remarked upon the pleasure it afforded them to meet the men again and to attend St. Dunstan's. He felt sure that if the walkers enjoyed the entertainment which the County Club were enabled to give them half as much as the members, then the occasion was one of all round delight. Mr. Wheeler went on to speak of the difficult task set before men with a disability, and how wonderfully they came out of the ordeal. He then handed Mr. Cassidy, the winner, a gold braille watch, the gift of the Club. Mr. Cassidy, in response, expressed deep gratitude for the generosity which had been displayed by the Club, mentioning that when the walk was first mooted they had no idea what pleasures were to be associated with the interesting event. They entered upon the task endeavouring to emulate the example of others who had done the journey, and although it seemed that some of them did fairly well, they hoped next time to do better. He never before felt so much at home as he did on the 21st October last while within the County Club; in fact, he should hold it as one of his most cherished memories as long as he lived.

Mr. W. Birch, the runner up, next received an ivory handle, gold mounted, malacca walking stick presented by Joe Beckett, while each starter was the

recipient of a silver cigarette case, inscribed with his name, all presented by Mr. Bradbury Pratt, a member of the County Club.

Captain Fraser, who was accompanied by Mrs. Fraser, added a few words of thanks to Mr. Wheeler and his colleagues for the generosity displayed, and declared that, taking the walk all through, most possibly Brighton was the brightest spot on the route.

Mr. Wheeler, having thanked St. Dunstan's for the reception accorded, intimated that it was their desire that the walk should form an institution, and the Club would be pleased to entertain the walkers again next year. He then announced that Mr. W. W. Sampson, of Air Street, Piccadilly, would present St. Dunstan's with a 100 guinea challenge cup, which was to be competed for annually in connection with the London-Brighton walk, while Mr. Harry Sagar would present a cheque for 25 guineas which it was decided to utilise—at the suggestion of Mrs. Fraser—in a special Christmas celebration.

At the close of the pleasant function Mr. Sagar handed the promised cheque to Captain Fraser. *D.M.*

The Music Party

THE Bungalow was a merry enough scene on November 30th, when the Music Staff invited all their present and former pupils to a Christmas party. Well over a hundred of the boys met in the gaily decorated hall, there to regale themselves first with tea, and then with the mysteries of the palmist and the big bran tub. The last caused tremendous laughter, for some of the boys spent hours searching for the biggest parcel, only to find themselves covered from head to foot with bran.

Then, when the last dip had been taken and the last brilliant future forecasted, Miss Carrie Tubbs and her concert party

entertained us all. The concert began with violin solos by Mr. Harold Fairhurst and then with songs by Miss Tubbs herself. So through music grave and gay to the burlesques and stories of Mr. Ben Lowes. All the artists had most generously given their services, and it was not until half-past eight that the concert party left amidst the cheers of the boys for them and Miss Bald and the Music Staff, all of whom had given them such a happy evening.



St. Dunstan's Revels

THERE were distinct signs at St. John's Lodge and Cornwall Terrace on Monday, December 11th, that Christmas was approaching. At both establishments a joyous evening was experienced, and the boys and staffs entered into the proceedings as only St. Dunstaners can. The first item on the programmes was, of course, food, and plenty of it, accompanied by liquid refreshment and the usual accessories, such as bon bons, etc., which go to make up a festive spread.

With the "decks cleared," the musical part of the programmes was carried through, and it must be admitted that there was no lack of talent. At St. John's Lodge Mr. T. Watmore took the chair, and it was obvious that he had filled a similar role on many occasions. The band—conducted by J. Spink—discoursed lively music, and the instrumentalists—E. Wheeler, J. Jerrard, S. Holmes, H. Chafer, C. Aldridge, D. Purvis and T. Watmore—did their work well. Songs, both sentimental and humorous, were rendered by Hill, Purvis, Chafer, Collins, Hill, Watmore, Mills, Scout Mordue and Miss Fawcett, all of which had a hearty and enthusiastic reception. In addition Miss Courtney gave a wonderful banjo turn, repeated encores being asked for and given, whilst J. McGee (mandoline) and K. Howes (piano) contributed to the programme. After supper a fish pond, which contained presents for each man, caused considerable amusement, H. Chafer succeeding in catching two real

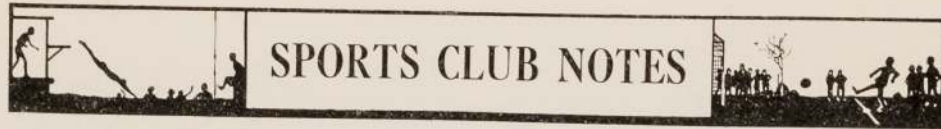
herrings before he eventually landed his proper present. The spirit of Christmas was paramount, and the St. John's Lodge boys and staff collected among themselves £4 10s. for the purchase of Christmas presents to send to the Foundling Hospital.

At Cornwall Terrace Matron presided over the function, and during the course of the evening a pleasing little ceremony was performed: Mr. Joe Binks, who gave such able assistance in the recent Brighton Walk, being presented with a pencil by C. Durkin on behalf of the boys who participated in the walk. The medals and special certificates in connection with same were also presented to the walkers by Matron. The jazz band gave selections in their inimitable style, and they were ably assisted by those of the audience who had extracted oboes from their bonbons. Others who contributed to a splendid programme were Messrs. G. Matthews, H. Finkle, F. Pawley, W. Birch, T. E. Clarke, T. Eaton, A. Mason, A. Urry, J. Robinson, D. Pettitt and G. Davies. Altogether it was a wonderful evening, which was appreciated as much by Mr. Joe Binks and Mr. J. T. Hulls, the well-known boxing referee, as by the boys and staffs themselves. These gentlemen visited both establishments accompanied by Captain Williams, who, of course, showed his usual enthusiastic interest. The thanks of everybody are due to all those who worked so untiringly in the organisation of the two functions which were undoubtedly an unqualified success. *D. M.*



Carols for St. Dunstan's

WE think our readers will be interested in the re-production we give on page 4 of cover of the words and music of one of the new carols which the Rev. Henry A. Mackenzie, B.D., has specially composed and written for the Carol League. Mr. Mackenzie, who has always taken a most generous and sustained interest in St. Dunstan's work, is also the author of many other carols which have proved very popular, including "Angel Voices" and "The Manger Throne." It may be mentioned that the Carol League are issuing special lantern slides to illustrate the "Star of Duty."



SPORTS CLUB NOTES

ON Saturday, the 2nd inst., we concluded our last sports for the term. The competition throughout has been most successful, and although no new records have been put up, yet some excellent performances have been witnessed. In spite of the handicaps being continued, W. G. Bawden and E. Turnock head their respective sections, and great credit is due to them for very consistent running. Generally speaking, all the competitors have improved considerably, and if it were possible for them to keep up their running after they have left they would make remarkably fine athletes. The following are the leading scorers during this competition:—

S.S.		T.B.	
W. J. Bawden ...	490	E. Turnock ...	415
H. Finkle ...	345	J. Spink ...	355
H. Potts ...	315	H. Boorman ...	335
H. Prior ...	265	T. Watmore ...	260
J. W. Cookson ...	260	C. Johns ...	240
C. H. Aldridge ...	150	H. Wootley ...	170
W. Burtenshaw ...	145	J. Griffiths ...	160
E. H. Harlow ...	95	C. Wilshaw ...	150
A. Dean ...	85	H. Chalor ...	150
H. A. Baker ...	85	D. Purvis ...	85
		T. Ashe ...	85

FOOTBALL COMPETITION

It seems to me that during the last few weeks the great interest has centred upon whether the Saints could keep their hold upon the head of the League Table, for whilst they have twice been beaten the Oddfellows have not lost a match during the last seven engagements. At the present moment the Oddfellows, having to play one match more, are ahead, but the deciding match between these two teams has yet to be played. The shooting has been particularly good, and several men, including W. Burtenshaw (3 times), J. Hart, H. Smy, D. Purvis, D. Luck, C. Aldridge, H. Prior, F. McMahon (twice), and F. Pawley, have scored three goals in a match, which is exceedingly good. This, however, was beaten by A. Stevens, who came along with his arm in bandages

and scored four goals. Now Stevens' team are anxious that he should always turn up with his arm in a sling!

RESULT OF MATCHES

Thursday, November 2nd—	Goals
Oddfellows v. Forest of Dean ...	8-3
Saints v. Brighton Stars ...	6-2
Thursday, November 9th—	
Oddfellows v. Oak Villa ...	4-2
Terrace Ramblers v. Lucosites ...	5-2
Friday, November 10th—	
Saints v. Forest of Dean ...	4-3
Oak Villa v. Brightonians ...	4-4
Friday, November 17th—	
Lucosites v. Brighton Stars ...	5-0
Terrace Ramblers v. Saints ...	7-5
Thursday, November 23rd—	
Saints v. Brightonians ...	7-4
Oak Villa v. Forest of Dean ...	4-3
Friday, November 24th—	
Brighton Stars v. Terrace Ramblers ...	1-1
Saints v. Lucosites ...	5-2
Monday, November 27th—	
Oak Villa v. Saints ...	5-3
Tuesday, November 28th—	
Oddfellows v. Terrace Ramblers ...	5-4
Brighton Stars v. Brightonians ...	2-1
Wednesday, November 29th—	
Saints v. Oak Villa ...	4-3
Thursday, November 30th—	
Forest of Dean v. Lucosites ...	2-0
Brightonians v. Oddfellows ...	3-3
Friday, December 1st—	
Lucosites v. Brightonians ...	3-2
Oddfellows v. Lucosites ...	4-3
Monday, December 4th—	
Oddfellows v. Lucosites ...	2-1
Oak Villa v. Lucosites ...	0-0
Tuesday, December 5th—	
Forest of Dean v. Brighton Stars ...	2-0
Oddfellows v. Brighton Stars ...	5-3

RESULTS OF THE LEAGUE TABLE
(Correct to December 5th, 1922)

Name	Pl	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
Oddfellows	13	9	1	3	54	32	21
Saints	12	10	2	—	52	31	20
Oak Villa	12	5	4	4	43	48	14
Brightonians	12	5	5	2	48	45	12
Lucosites	13	5	6	2	32	31	12
Terrace Ramblers	11	3	5	3	37	37	9
Forest of Dean	12	2	9	1	25	42	5
Brighton Stars	12	2	9	1	19	38	5

ROWING

Our second rowing competition took place on Saturday, November 25th, and was in every way most successful. Again

we had a most beautiful morning and some keen racing. Three ladies from Bedford College, the Misses Abbott, Little and Drake, most kindly assisted us by coxing, and did very good work. One of the best races was the final for the T.B. Single Sculls, in which H. Boorman, A. Sneddon, and T. E. Clarke rowed practically in a line almost to the winning post, when Boorman managed to get in by the narrow margin of one foot from Sneddon. In the Pair Oar event W. G. Bawden and E. Turnock had great difficulty in getting away from H. Potts and J. Robinson, but did so in the last ten yards and won by half a length. The Final of the S.S. Single Sculls was splendidly won by W. A. Foulkes, with J. W. Cookson second.

RESULTS

Single Sculls S.S.—1st Foulkes, W.A.
Single Sculls T.B.—1st Boorman, H.
2nd Sneddon, A.
3rd Clarke, T. E.
Pair Oar— 1st W. G. Bawden & E. Turnock
2nd H. Potts & J. Robinson

SISTERS' WALK

There is no doubt about it that the Brighton Walk gave us all the walking fever. The sisters particularly found this "catching." The result was that the St. John's Lodge sisters challenged the Cornwall Terrace sisters to twice round the Outer Circle. The Cornwall Terrace sisters, finding that this was rather too strenuous a race, challenged the St. John's Lodge for a walk round the Outer Circle once only. The challenge was sportingly accepted, and at 4.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 8th November, the walk duly took place. It was decided that each sister should start at a minute's interval instead of all together, and the order of going was drawn by Matron. I was very surprised at the speed with which each competitor commenced her journey, and I am convinced that each one deserves the highest praise for the really great performance she put up. It was an excellent race from start to finish, and the result was in doubt until the times were made up. At length it was found that Miss Fraser, of Cornwall Terrace, had completed the distance in

the perfectly wonderful time of 28 mins. 55 secs. and had easily won by just two minutes from her next competitor. Miss Fraser's walking was quite like what we see at Stamford Bridge when the champions are taking part, and it was extraordinary how she kept up her speed all the way round. In justice to the boys I must say that a great deal of the sisters' excellence was due to their training. Night after night they took out respective sisters and made them walk at a high rate of speed round the circle, and I have myself noticed the sisters coming in absolutely "done to the world." I did hear that one of the trainers was so keen that he went too quickly at the start and had to be assisted back by the sister he was training after reaching half way! On the completion of the race Miss Power most kindly entertained the sisters to tea, and together with Mrs. Banister gave the prizes. The first prize was a most handsome pair of brown suede wool-lined gauntlet gloves, whilst Miss Gamble and Miss Mason each received a silver mounted stick, which, if they are wise, they will stick to! It was altogether a great success, and the St. John's Lodge sisters showed great sportsmanship by the way they called for cheers for the Cornwall Terrace sisters who had won the competition. These cheers were responded to, in spite of a heavy tea, in excellent style by the winners.

RESULT OF THE SISTERS' OUTER CIRCLE WALK

Order	Name of Competitor	Time of Starting	Time of Finishing	Total Time	Finishing Order
4	Miss Fraser C.T.	4.40	5.8.55	28.55	1st
7	Gamble	4.43	5.13.50	30.50	2nd
13	Mason	4.49	5.19.50	30.50	2nd
14	Lees S.J.L.	4.50	5.21.3	31.3	4th
1	Bathurst	4.37	5.8.16.3.5	31.16.3.5	5th
10	Stein	4.46	5.17.18.1/2	31.18.1/2	6th
2	Drage	4.38	5.9.35	31.35	7th
11	Fribank	4.47	5.19.3	32.3	8th
12	Fawcett	4.48	5.20.32	32.32	9th
3	Morris	4.39	5.11.26	32.26	10th
5	Paterson C.T.	4.41	5.13.33	32.33	11th
6	Stewart	4.22	5.15.14.3/10	33.14.3/10	12th
8	Cameron	4.44	5.18.35	34.35	13th
9	Bamberger	4.45	5.25.40	41.40	14th

SWIMMING

Instructor Jones is arranging a little swimming competition on the 8th inst., at Marylebone Baths, and has personally secured from his friends some splendid

prizes. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Garner who has given us a handsome silver cup for the T.B. final; to Mr. Wiffen for offering a guinea for a prize, and to other friends who have given other prizes. The two events arranged are:—

1. Three lengths T.B. handicap—2 lengths breast stroke and 1 length go as you please.
2. Three lengths S.S. handicap—1 length breast stroke and 2 lengths go as you please. *E.W.*

Football Competition Results

ONCE again the judges of the football competition have been flooded in a sea of entries. Hundreds of envelopes were opened from sporting St. Dunstaners, who were all anxious to forecast correctly the three leading teams in the first and second leagues, and both divisions of the third, published in the sporting papers on November 27th. To do so a month ahead is no easy matter, but nearly all the competitors seemed to show great second sight in divining the leading team of each League. The only trouble was that the sight in every case grew a little misty when it came to guessing the seconds, and especially the thirds! No one got every single team in its correct place, but it speaks well for our readers' knowledge of form when we say that out of the twelve different teams nearly every entry stated eight correctly. Many had banked on Bristol City instead of Swansea Town for the third in the Southern division, and Grimsby Town instead of Rochdale in the Northern. In fact, Rochdale had only one supporter, and he deserves our especial sympathy, for, having backed a winner in that case, he failed to do so in four others, and so had to go with the "might-have-beens."

Now for the results. The positional tables in the sporting papers showed, as everyone knows, the following names:—
1st League—Liverpool, Sunderland, Burnley.
2nd League—Leicester City, Notts County, Bury.
3rd League, N.—Nelson, Wigan, Rochdale.
3rd League, S.—Plymouth Argyle, Watford, Swansea Town.

The nearest forecasts were:—

First Prize of £5: H. Abbey, 10 Victory Street, Bolton (2 wrong, 1 misplaced).

Second Prize of £1 10s.: F. Crabtree, St. Dunstan's Lodge, The Heath, Fakenham, Norfolk (3 wrong).

Third Prize of 10s. (divided between the following): J. T. Watch, 183 Blackburn Road, Bolton; R. R. Newman, 12 St. Paul's Road; S. H. Webster, 30 Clarendon Gardens, Maida Vale, W.9; A. Brown, Montfort House, Northern Lane, Holbeach, Lincs. (each of whom had 3 wrong and 1 misplaced).

While we offer our heartiest congratulations to the winners, we would like to add our sympathy with those who were not among the lucky few, but whom we know from past experience will enter for the next competition with just the same sporting enthusiasm that they showed this time. All luck to them. We hope it will not be long before we can announce another competition of a similar nature, and so give everyone another chance of success.

In the course of a letter written by Miss Little, one of the ladies from Bedford College who so kindly officiated as coxswains in the rowing races recently held, she says: "I am always glad to do anything for St. Dunstan's... It was quite a new experience for me to cox rowing—sculling I am comparatively accustomed to, so you can imagine how much I enjoyed it, quite apart from the excitement of racing! The crew was really wonderful, and seemed to have unlimited weight and energy to put in. I heartily congratulate them on their success, for they thoroughly deserved to win. The enthusiasm of all the crews was exhilarating—it just shows what St. Dunstan's can produce!"

Commons' Impressions

By Frederick Martin, M.P.

[IN view of the very wide interest that has been aroused by the election of Mr. Frederick Martin to Parliament, our readers will, we are sure, be interested in the following article giving his impressions of the Mother of Parliaments, which we are taking from a recent issue of *Lloyd's News*. At some future date we hope to induce Mr. Martin to write a special article for these pages, perhaps giving some helpful hints to other St. Dunstaner Parliamentary aspirants. But just at the moment he is naturally very busy indeed.

Mr. Martin asks us, however, to say that he would be pleased to help any St. Dunstaners who might wish to go to the House of Commons, but would prefer them to write and let him know a day or two in advance.—ED.]

THE manner in which the House of Commons on Wednesday forgave Mr. Jack Jones illustrates a characteristic of the Assembly which must, I think, appeal very strongly to every new member. That is the characteristic of generosity and of sportsmanship.

To me the whole incident was most dramatic. From my seat on the Front Opposition Bench immediately inside the Bar, a seat which has been courteously assigned to me in order that I may find it easily and without stumbling over right honourable and honourable feet, I listened on Tuesday to the angry shouts of the member for Silvertown.

When you have to rely upon the sense of hearing to do the duty of eyes as well as ears, you become sensitive to the moods of others as revealed by the tone of their voices. There was no doubt about it, Mr. Jones was angry, and Mr. Jones was rude, very rude indeed. He told the Government that they were "dirty dogs," and he expressed vigorous contempt for the authority of the Chair. And so Mr. Jones, the naughty boy, was requested to leave the House.

Next day, after questions, Mr. Speaker announced "Mr. Jack Jones." There came a dead silence. We all felt like a lot of schoolboys waiting for the culprit to receive "what for." Nothing of the kind. The hon. gentleman who represents the dockers made handsome apology, savouring with wit his expression of regret. He had lost his temper, he said. It was about the only thing he had to lose.

The dead silence of apprehension was broken by laughter and cheers, cheers most hearty from the Government benches, where sits that section of the gentlemen of England who are supposed to be most strenuously opposed to all for which Mr. Jones stands.

A GENEROUS SPIRIT

A manly apology met with a generous response. That is very characteristic of the Commons of England.

If I had never, in my pre-St. Dunstan's days, seen Mr. Bonar Law, I should judge him by his voice and accent to present the appearance of an intellectual, scholarly man, a gentle inquirer after truth wherever it might be found, the soul of reason, the mildest mannered man who ever refrained from splitting an infinitive.

There is nothing here of the manner of the Tribune of the People. Yet we know that Mr. Bonar Law is, as they say in my country, a "bonny fechter," and that his rather apologetic manner must not be presumed upon. He has, by his own confession, broken up three Governments. Will he be strong enough to keep this one in health and vigour? I wonder.

The Chamber in which the debates take place is only one department of the House, and not always the most interesting.

There never was a building more cunningly designed to trap the steps of the sightless than is the Palace of Westminster. To me the place is up to date, a labyrinth of corridors, varied by numerous sudden and unwelcome flights of steps.

But the sins of the architects are compensated for by the kindness of members, from Mr. Speaker downwards, and by the constant attentiveness of officials great and small.

As for the policemen in and around the House, my gratitude knows no bounds. Never before have I realised how pleasant it might be to be well known to the police.

If Sir Arthur Pearson had been in the position which I now occupy he would have been explosively indignant on many occasions, for he hated to be helped in the ordinary affairs of daily life, and he resented the idea that he was not fully capable of looking after himself.

But he was a superman, as I and thousands more had good reason to know. Whereas I am a very humble and commonplace person, who welcomes a helping hand, and seldom fails to find it when the emergency arises.

I don't know what is to be done about catching the Speaker's Eye, but there is plenty of time to think about that. So far, there have been no painful intervals of silence in the House, and if one member reserves his maiden speech for next session perhaps no harm will be done, and the world will struggle along.

An Ingenious Device

THERE has recently appeared in the daily press a description of a device invented by a blind supporter of Glasgow Rangers Football Club to enable him to follow the game. It is a polished board, 20 ins. by 9 ins. which folds in the middle and is carried by two leather handles. The touch line is marked with thick steel wires, the corner flags by hollow-topped brass buttons, goal posts by strips of brass, and the centre of the field and penalty area with corrugated patches of gutter-percha, like the surface of golf balls. The position of the teams is marked by brass buttons—rough topped for home and smooth for visitors. The user of the contrivance of course needs a companion to guide his fingers over the board according to the travels of the ball.

The foregoing invention, with one or two minor exceptions, is by no means

original, for doubtless many St. Dunstaners will remember a similar board which was up for trial in March, 1921. Upon that occasion, the inventor—Mr. Joseph Gibb of Glasgow—came to London and, accompanied by one of our own men, visited the Arsenal ground when England played Scotland in an inter-league game, and helped him to follow the play. The board was constructed on very similar lines to that referred to above, but we are afraid that it was not very enthusiastically received, and we believe that our football enthusiasts prefer verbal description. What are our readers' views on this subject?

Austin—Martin

WE have an *amende-honorable* to offer W. Austin. Many moons since we received a most interesting account of his wedding, and it should have gone into the next number of ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW. Owing to pressure on space the paragraph concerning this important event was crowded out; then came the disorganisation consequent upon the summer holidays—hence further delay. We now, however, send our belated good wishes to both W. Austin and his bride, and are sure that those of Austin's friends who now hear the news for the first time will join with us in our congratulations.

The photograph of Miss Irene Martin (now Mrs. Austin) makes us sure that Austin is a lucky fellow. We are glad to hear that the newly-married couple are now happily settled into their new home, after the excitement of their remarkably pretty wedding; also that they recently had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Pete Milligan. The two old St. Dunstaners must have found plenty to talk about.

Orders for Playing Cards

ST. DUNSTANERS when ordering Braille playing cards are requested to state whether they require them embossed in the new standard system, or whether they would like them marked on the back as per the old style.

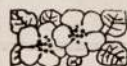
"In Memory."

PRIVATE CHARLES HENRY WALTERS, 1/8th Worcester Regiment, died November 22nd, 1922. One of the many who paid toll for the long sustained defence of the Ypres Salient, Private Walters, enlisting in September, 1916, was wounded there in the following year. Admitted to St. Dunstan's in February, 1918, he proved himself to be a very hard worker, and a man determined to benefit to the fullest extent by his training. He gained his Proficiency Netting Certificate and a First-Class Certificate for Mat-making, in which crafts he was set up in business near Stratford-on-Avon. Walters, a devoted husband and the father of two little children, lost his wife just over a year ago. This was a terrible blow to him, and the ill-health and headaches he suffered from were thought to be caused by the depression of his loss. Unsuspected frontal sinus developed, however, and he died at the age of 32. The additional disability to the loss of both eyes which this St. Dunstaner suffered from, by wounds in both legs and arms, make his plucky fight in the battle of life the more notable. The now orphaned children are being cared for.

PRIVATE THOMAS FREDERICK MARSH, 7th Yorks and Lancs. Regiment. A great favourite with his fellow St. Dunstaners, and a good son, Private Marsh enlisted in the early days of the War—on the 28th August, 1914. Discharged from the Army in February of 1917, he was admitted to St. Dunstan's two days later. Taking up training as a carpenter, he gained a 2nd class picture framing Certificate, and passed his Typewriting Test. He died on the 12th November, at the age of 26, of consumption, after treatment in various sanitoriums.

ABLE SEAMAN JOSEPH HENRY HORWOOD. Serving in the Navy previous to the war, and discharged therefrom in September, 1920, Horwood was admitted to Cheltenham Annexe early in the following year. At various Annexes, he continued under our care until his death, and although always hoping for a return to health which would render him able to take up training, his hope was never fulfilled. He died on November 18th, at the age of 44, leaving a wife to mourn him.

PRIVATE BARNETT RUBENSTEIN, late 22nd West Surreys. Another of the war sufferers whose continued ill-health has constantly set a rein on his progress in training. Enlisting in 1915 and discharged from the Army in 1918, Barnett came to St. Dunstan's the same year, and has since been at one or another of our Annexes. As far as his health allowed he engaged in basket-making, netting, etc. A single man, he died at the age of 26, on November 16th last.



The Star of Duty.

Words and Music by HENRY A. MACKENZIE, B.D.

p *mf*

1. Far down the a - ges, o'er the darkened earth, Heav'n's Star-lit choir pro -

f *mp* *cres.*

- claimed a HE-RO'S birth. O'er deep-er night God's star now sheds its ray!

dim e rall.

He - roes with sight-less eyes we voice your Cause to - day. A - men.

2.

You, who for us, laid down your gift of sight;
 Who for our safety, left the realm of light;
 Fought for our freedom, brave and unafraid:
 Sons of the starless night we pledge you friendly aid!

3.

To lift the menace from those hearts distressed,
 Where haunting fear resides, and shadows rest;
 Be it our pride to play a splendid part,
 Shedding our light of love upon each burdened heart!

4.

From Heav'n's high ramparts hear the bugles blow!
 Duty's bright star shines on us here below.
 When light has faded from those sightless eyes,
 Let duty's call be answered with Love's Sacrifice!