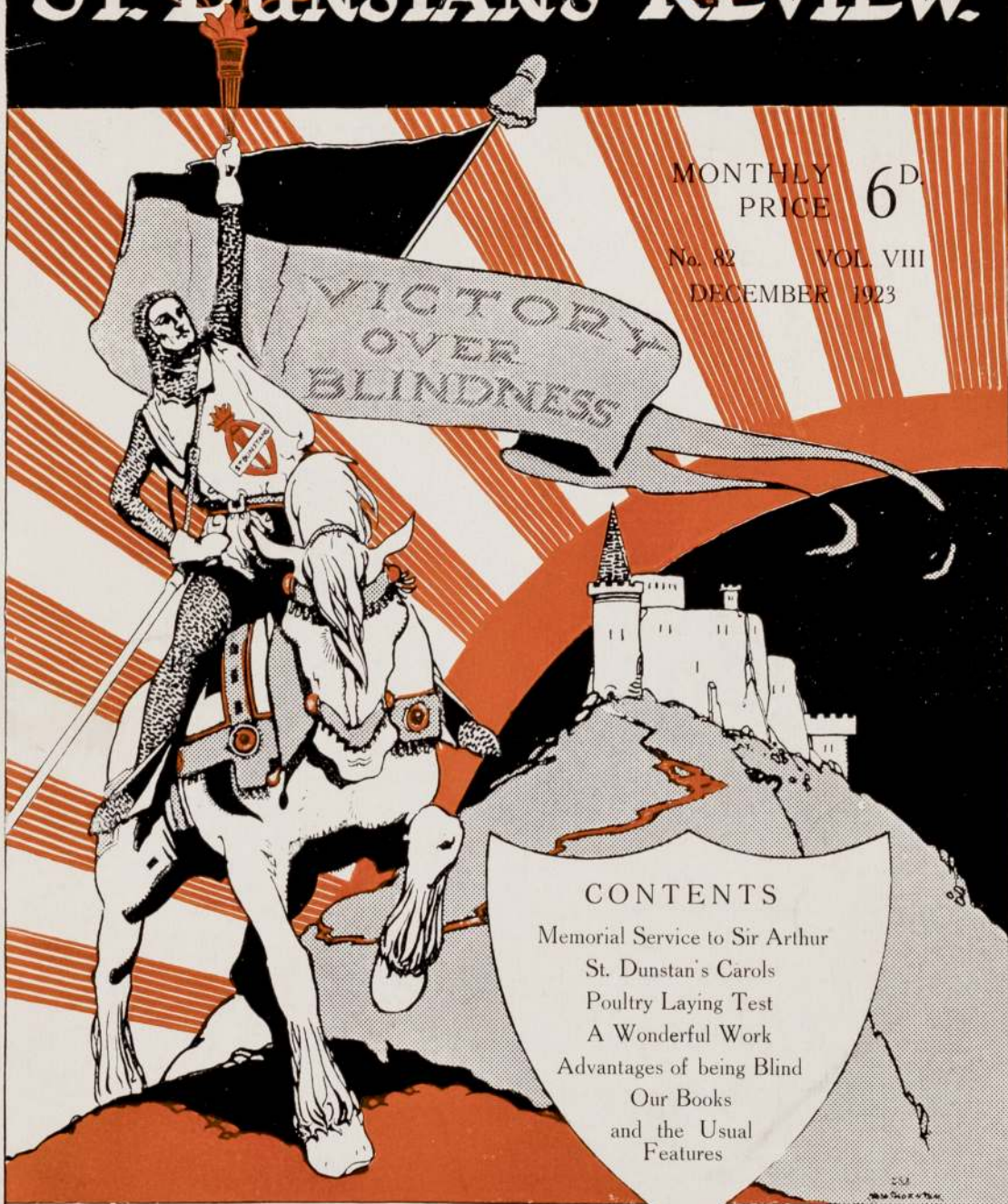


# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

MONTHLY  
PRICE 6<sup>D.</sup>

No. 82 VOL. VIII  
DECEMBER 1923



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*FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR*





Short Odds - Two to One  
(but well worth it!)

The Editor  
wishes all his Readers  
A Jolly Christmas & A Prosperous New Year.

# St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 82.—VOLUME VIII.

DECEMBER, 1923.

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

## EDITORIAL NOTES

ELSEWHERE in this issue appears a letter of farewell from Miss D. A. Pain, who is leaving us this Christmas to join the National Library for the Blind at Westminster. Miss Pain has been with St. Dunstan's practically since its inception, and has rendered most valuable and unflagging service. The importance to every St. Dunstaner of the department which she controlled so admirably cannot be over-estimated; indeed, Braille is to the whole blind world an inestimable blessing. It is particularly fitting that Miss Pain, whose patience and enthusiasm has been responsible for opening again to so many St. Dunstaners the glorious land of literature, should now be joining the National Library. This has always been of the greatest service to St. Dunstan's. It has, as is generally known, lent any of its immense numbers of books absolutely free to blinded soldiers (and, indeed, to all blind people), while the help it has given us by providing Braille teachers—a shining example of whom is Lady Nicholson, now a member of the Council—will always be remembered with gratitude. Any reference to the National Library and its assistance to St. Dunstan's would not be complete without mention also of the late Miss E. W. Austin, who was a member of our original committee, and who was the leading spirit of the National Library until her death.



The General Election has, of course, been of as wide interest to St. Dunstaners as everyone else in this politically worried land of ours; indeed, probably St. Dunstaners have figured more prominently in the public eye than the bulk of ordinary electors. First and foremost, there has been the outstanding fact of two St. Dunstaners standing this year as candidates, and congratulations are due equally to both Mr. Fred Martin, who was successful in holding the seat he gained at the previous election for East Aberdeenshire, and to the new St. Dunstaner candidate, Captain W. Appleby, who, standing for the Spenny-moor Division of Durham, made a splendid fight in spite of his defeat by the Labour candidate, polling himself over 8,000 votes. Captain Appleby is the organising secretary of the British Legion for the North of England. St. Dunstaners, whatever their shade of politics, will be proud of the plucky battle put up by Captain Appleby.

As regards the "man-in-the-street" St. Dunstaner, he has, we are sure, had his share of fame during the political turmoil. We seem to have read of a St. Dunstaner who stood up to a packed crowd of hecklers and appealed for a hearing, at least, for the candidate. (Typical, that, of our men!) Then, apart from the hard work done by many of "the family," on platforms and by personal canvass, for many candidates, the press has been full of pictures and "election news" of how and where our men voted. That much of such "news" existed only in the imagination of an over-zealous reporter does not affect the fact that St. Dunstan's has played no small part in the Election of 1923—which is as it should be!



## Memorial Service to Sir Arthur

Sunday, December 9th

THE Lounge at the Bungalow, familiar as the setting of so many gatherings in which Sir Arthur was the central figure, helped the impression of a family gathering. It was arranged as a chapel, a blue runner up the central aisle reaching to the carpet spread before the altar, on which was the Cross and two vases of white chrysanthemums.

The badge of St. Dunstan's, worked out in flowers, rested before the altar, together with other baskets and sheaves of flowers. The organ was taken by Miss Warren, and a small choir (members of staff) occupied the two front rows on the left side.

Among those present were Lady (Arthur) Pearson, Sir Neville and Lady Pearson, Captain and Mrs. Fraser, Mr. Kessell, Mrs. Bates, Miss Power (Matron), and a very large company of St. Dunstaners—both men and staff—the majority of whom had been associated with St. Dunstan's from its earliest days.

Captain Williams conducted the service, which was both beautiful and impressive. It opened with the hymn "Lead, Kindly Light," and then Psalm 23 was sung. Mr. Kessell read the lesson (Revelations 22 (i-v)), and after special prayers and a hymn, "For All the Saints," Captain Fraser gave a most sympathetic and inspiring address. He said:—

"Last year it was our privilege to hear the Rev. Harold Gibb speak for a few minutes at this service. This year we had hoped that the Rev. Andrew Nugee, another St. Dunstaner, would have performed this difficult task, but in their absence it has fallen to my lot to try and do it, and I shall endeavour for a very few minutes to lead your thoughts upon lines which I think are appropriate at this time.

"Some difficult tasks come in everyone's way, and I can assure you none that has come my way has been more difficult and yet more appreciated.

"I suppose most of us will agree that a man's greatness is to be judged by the extent to which he served other men, by the extent to which he did something good for the people who were living at the time he was living, and by the extent to which what he has done lasts and benefits mankind for all time. There are not merely various degrees of greatness, but two distinct directions in which men may be great. There are those like Pasteur, Lister and even Marconi, who are great because they have found methods and means of commanding the forces of nature and bringing them to the service of men; and then there are those who are great because they have an understanding of human nature and because they are able to interpret the desire and wishes of the people amongst whom they live, and also because they are able to set an example which is worth following, and which it does their fellows good to follow.

"The man, Sir Arthur, whom to-day we honour and remember, was of the latter type, and I venture to think an outstanding figure in that group of great men. He had profound understanding of human nature. Not merely did he understand our natures—that is to say, the difficulties, temptations and problems of those of us who had lost our sight—but he understood the deepest feelings of the nation at a time of stress, and because he understood that, because he was able to put into words and into writing in understandable form, what were in fact the emotions of the whole people at that time, he was able to command their respect and their support.

"I think genius is never a flash in the pan—is never a spontaneous thing. A genius is not born amongst a people who are not ready for him. When such an accident occurs, as that a man is born in a community which is not ready for the thoughts he has to give, he is said to be before his time, or else he is entirely

misunderstood, and is regarded as mad—or else he is merely ignored, and the great thing which he found out is not realised until perhaps he has been dead for a century. True practical genius is that type of genius which enables a man to be in his practises and in his thoughts just sufficiently ahead of his time to be able to lead people on towards progress, and not sufficiently ahead of his time to be speaking about matters which they do not understand. No man can successfully bring into being any great movement unless that movement is being thought about, subconsciously, perhaps, but is nevertheless at the back of people's minds, and unless he is able to put these thoughts into words.

"I think the people of the Empire desired that some great work like St. Dunstan's should spring up, and the service which Sir Arthur rendered to them was to use his understanding of human nature to make articulate the thoughts which were already in people's minds. Great unformed thoughts they were, which he helped to develop—the idea of service by the community on behalf of those who were wounded, the idea of sacrifice on the part of those who started St. Dunstan's, and who worked hard. That was the service he rendered to the community, though similarly with us he brought out the idea of courage in the face of difficulties which was in our minds. In some, perhaps, it was so faint that they did not realise it was there, but there is inherent in human nature a desire to live and a desire to do, and all that we needed was that magic touch which Sir Arthur gave us to bring out the best that was in us, and to draw from the people of this country the best that was in them. Herein lay the genius of Sir Arthur Pearson, which caused St. Dunstan's to be formed.

"While we appreciate—as we all do—the immense service rendered us personally, while we appreciate what was done for nearly two thousand men, for their wives and their families, do not let us imagine that this was the limit of his service. The success of St. Dunstan's, the example which he set us, were very much more widespread in their influence throughout

this country and throughout the world than perhaps some of us imagine. It will be recorded that St. Dunstan's was an outstanding example not merely of a courageous effort on the part of the men housed in St. Dunstan's, but as a typical instance of the height to which human sacrifice could rise, and the desire of a great people to do the right thing by the men who had fought their battles, and suffered in them—and as such I think it had an amazing effect upon our community, upon the world, which will not be forgotten when we who benefited most have gone.

"It is not given to us to know if our Chief realises how things are now, but if he does, one thing I am certain of, and that is that he will feel that just as he led us to regard the difficulties which the war brought upon us as difficulties to be surmounted, so I think he would feel that the additional troubles which were brought upon us two years ago only came to be surmounted, and at least he will say of the men of St. Dunstan's, I think, that they have done their best, and that they are carrying on as he would have wished them to carry on."

With the singing of the hymn "Abide with Me," and the blessing, there closed a service which will long remain in the memory of those present.

### Warwickshire Memorial Service

Knowing that many of the Warwickshire St. Dunstaners would be unable to attend the memorial service at Headquarters, the Rev. Harold Gibb decided to hold a special service at his church at Sherbourne, near Warwick, on Sunday, 9th December, and a large number of men gladly took this opportunity to show their love and appreciation of their late Chief.

A large party of men came from Birmingham, the transport being kindly provided by the "Lest We Forget" Association of that town. The service opened with the hymn "O God Our Help in Ages Past." Members of the Warwick Musical Society augmented the choir of the church, and rendered as a duet, "God So Loved the World," while a quartette sang, "How We



are Ambassadors," the service closing with a soprano solo, the hymn, written by a kinsman of Sir Arthur Pearson, "Abide with Me."

In his address Mr. Gibb spoke of all that they owed to Sir Arthur and his wonderful leadership, and of the helpful power of his spirit which did not end with his death, but was ever present with them, and he went on to say that if the Chief could send his men a message to-day, he felt it might be summed up in the following words:

"Watchman! what of the night."

And the answer, so full of meaning to all who have lost their sight, would come:

"The dawn is near."

After the service the Rev. and Mrs. Gibb entertained all the men to tea. Everyone greatly appreciated their kind hospitality and this opportunity of meeting old friends.

The following St. Dunstaners were present:—W. Castle, H. Cook, P. Cashmore, W. Dainter, F. J. Brown, S. C. Grattidge, W. Hines, G. Lilley, T. North, T. Shaw, W. Trott, W. Wickens, E. D. Martin, N. Matthews, J. Avey, T. Denwick, W. Street, J. Sibley, G. W. Rickards, F. J. Trendell, A. Benning, D. Batchelor, G. J. Smith, W. Walters, J. R. Brown, W. McCarthy, V. H. Lea.

The following members of the staff were also present:—Miss Evers, Miss Pain, Miss Wardle, Miss Hodgson, Miss Nelson.

Unfortunately, the fog in Birmingham prevented several of the men from attending the service.

### Miss Pain's "Au Revoir"

We gladly give space to the following message from Miss D. A. Pain, who is relinquishing her charge of the Braille and Typewriting department at Headquarters, to take up duty at the National Library for the Blind. We are sure that every St. Dunstaner, both past and present, will join with us in wishing Miss

Pain every happiness and prosperity in the years to come:—

It is with many regrets that I am leaving St. Dunstan's after all these years, and before I go I would like to send a message to every St. Dunstaner, to thank you for all you have done to make those years such happy ones. I want you all to know how deeply I appreciate the way you have worked with me, and so have made what might have been a difficult task simply a pleasure. Thanks to you and to my Braille teachers my memories of St. Dunstan's will always be very precious, and I hope that by leaving I shall not be losing any of the many friends I have made whilst there.

I am not saying "Good-bye," for after Christmas I shall be working at the National Library for the Blind, and so shall still be in touch with St. Dunstan's, and I shall look forward to many opportunities of seeing you whenever there is a re-union.

The address of the Library is:—

18 Tufton Street, Westminster,

and I hope you will all come and see me there whether you have learnt Braille or not, for I know I have many friends who did not honour me with their presence in the Braille Room in spite of many invitations to do so.

Again I say "Thank you" and "Au Revoir," and end by wishing you a very happy Christmas and all good things in the New Year.

(Signed) DOROTHY PAIN.

From Australia comes word of P. Baker, who after a long and painful illness of two years' duration, now sends a cheery Christmas message to his friends "At Home." All will be glad to know that he is now able to sit up in a chair in the sunshine for a couple of hours daily, and hopes to be able to walk about again by the end of the year. We congratulate him on the plucky way he has faced his illness.

### Sister Read's Thanks

We have received from Sister ("Auntie") Read the following letter, which she asks us to publish in the REVIEW. We very gladly do so, and know full well that every St. Dunstaner reciprocates most heartily the kindly wishes which Miss Read sends.

109 Upper Richmond Road,  
Putney, S.W. 15.

MY DEAR BOYS,

Just a word to thank you all for your most generous gift, I cannot express how very pleased I was to receive it; also to read of all the kind and nice things you have said about me. I must say I spent a very happy eight years amongst you.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

The best of luck,

From your sincere friend and well-wisher,

(Signed) ANNIE L. READ  
("Auntie.")

### Literature for the Blind

As the result of representations made by Headquarters to the Postmaster-General, with regard to the speedy despatch of Braille letters and literature, the following letter has been received:—

To the Chairman,  
St. Dunstons.

SIR,

*Literature for the Blind.*

I am directed by the Postmaster-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo and to inform you in reply that packets in Braille, &c., type posted under the special regulations regarding "Literature for the Blind," are exempt from the rule which prescribes that halfpenny matter must be posted before a specified time if intended for despatch on the day of posting.

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient Servant,

(Sgd) F. V. NICHOLS.

For the Secretary.

### St. Dunstan's Carols

Not only wireless enthusiasts, but St. Dunstaners everywhere, will be deeply interested in the broadcasting from 2 LO on the evening of 23rd December of Christmas carols on behalf of St. Dunstan's funds. These carols are being sung by four gentlemen of St. Paul's Cathedral Choir, and there will also be an address on St. Dunstan's work by our Chairman, Captain Fraser, who is asking those with wireless sets everywhere to arrange "listening-in" parties for the occasion, and to organise collections for our work.

In view of the wide interest which is being aroused by this event, the Editor will be very glad to receive from readers news as to how and where they heard the carols and any other points of interest in connection with this effort.

### The Basket Makers' Exhibition

We hope, in our next issue, to be able to give the names of those St. Dunstaners who secured prizes for their work at this, the most important basketry exhibition of the year. For the moment we can only say that an entire room was given up to work by our men.

Since A.D. 422 basket makers have plied a busy trade in the City, but at the moment 50 per cent. of the basket work purchased in this country comes from abroad, from Belgium, the Netherlands or Germany.

Among the interesting exhibits was a "ton" basket used for coaling in the docks. It is guaranteed to hold from fifteen to twenty people!

A cradle, shaped like a spiral shell, also attracted a considerable amount of attention, as did a grandfather clock encased in "centre cane" work of white and gold. It was priced at fifty guineas.

Among the smaller articles the most unique was a wicker cricket ball with a bell or rattle inside it. It was designed for the benefit of blind cricket enthusiasts, and we shall look with interest to see whether it finds favour among St. Dunstan's athletes.





## NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

IT sounds as though E. E. Blaker, of Sussex, had spent his holiday in a most enjoyable manner, and though it is rather late in the year to comment upon it we think that others may like to follow his example when opportunity arises and make a veritable St. Dunstan's holiday touring on from one place to the next nearby where a St. Dunstaner was located. In this way Blaker covered Dover, Sandwich, Deal, Minster and Broadstairs. He finished up by spending a very pleasant week-end at Camberley.

One who is looking forward to Christmas with its usual brisk trade is A. J. Radford, of Wilts. He has secured a nice collection of toys and intends to carry on the sale of these as well as of his baskets. The idea is certainly a good one, and we hope with him that customers who come to buy the one class of goods will be captivated by the other.

From Brockenhurst comes word of the progress of J. Clare, who not long since fixed up a stall at the Arts and Crafts Exhibition there, where he was successful in selling many of his excellent pieces of joinery and also secured a few orders. These, we hope, will lead to others.

We have not had much news of G. F. Smith, of Leamington, of late, but it is well to know that he is looking forward to doing well with his eggs this winter. He has a good supply of pullets and is busy with plans for their better accommodation, being distinctly overcrowded at present. He has had an excellent crop of apples this year.

Another poultry man doing well is C. H. Brown, who is near Burton-on-Trent. He not only won three first prizes at Burton but also carried off a "special" at Derby. All St. Dunstaners will be

proud to think that one of their band has done so well. He fills up any idle moments by making mats, and has succeeded in securing local orders for these.

A. H. Osmond, of Walthamstow, is another busy with mats, but he adds boot repairing to his list of accomplishments. Now, to widen his circle he has been taking singing lessons and is looking forward to the time when engagements will come his way.

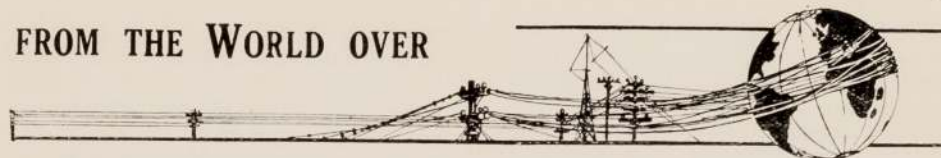
In the same district, G. H. Orrow is fighting the battle of life, and his shop, which looks remarkably well, is always crowded with small customers. It is unfortunate, in Orrow's opinion, that Walthamstow children do not receive a larger amount of pocket money!

Another of the group who take long views is T. E. Skelly, of Batley. As an addition to his shop he has, we hear, put up a small shed where he hopes to sell ices, &c., next summer. Into this he has put a table and some forms (we hope with him they will be crowded), and is now laying out a garden on a spare piece of land in the belief that this will prove an added attraction. Without doubt Skelly should have a particularly prosperous business some day.

Is it too late to speak of the result of an August show? J. Worthington, of Montgomeryshire, did remarkably well at the Welshpool affair, we are glad to hear, where the Prince of Wales was present. Worthington says that he always had a crowd around his tent to watch him at his mat making.

Special congratulations to M. Oldroyd, of Dewsbury. We hear that his boot repairing is a credit to St. Dunstan's. His shop is always in perfect order and

## FROM THE WORLD OVER



his business methods are excellent. He contrives to keep a small stock of boots for his regular customers, and they all tell him that the leather he uses for his repairs is "of the best." Now that the first difficult few months are a thing of the past we feel Oldroyd should face the future unafraid.

We do not seem to have had much news from J. Jones, of Lydd, of late so are doubly pleased to hear that he is making sure progress, having bought a horse and cart. In this he drives about selling such things as brooms, brushes and baskets. It is probable that the winter will give him a bit of a set-back, but if it does Jones must remember that with spring will come the cleaning fever that besets all good housewives and that this will bring with it a sure market for his wares.

Mats have been keeping H. Harris, of Loose, busy. He has had no less than twelve different orders since he started work and feels sure that others are on the way, for he is getting well-known locally. We congratulate him upon his gallant start in this line.

One of our most indefatigable workers is C. Hainsworth, of Leeds, and his friends will be glad to hear that he is doing in the carpentry line. In addition still taking the keenest interest in all he to the gift of enthusiasm he has undoubted business capacity, and we are confident that he will make a success of his trade when once he gets settled in his shop and can keep himself in the public eye. Grit and character such as his carry a man a long way.

F. Guseley, of Yorks, is another who is never idle and news from him is to the point, if brief: "I am as happy as

possible with plenty to do and plenty to read." Guseley is one who should take an interest in the article on "Our Books." This he will find upon another page.

Trade is good in boots and clogs, says W. Taylor, of Stourbridge, but we think nearer to his heart lies his backyard outfit of poultry, for he, like many another St. Dunstaner, unable to go in for poultry work professionally, takes immense interest in his few heads of stock.

The knowledge that he had advance orders for eggs and Christmas poultry has been a great consolation to A. R. Orris, who, like a good many others, has had a somewhat difficult time of late, but it is a big thing to see a break in the clouds and better prospects ahead. To add to his other work Orris has been carrying his small child to school, which means covering a distance of 2½ miles four times daily. He must be in splendid condition and might make some of our sprinters look to their laurels could a test be arranged.

Baskets are still engrossing C. Eades, of Reading, who finds much interest in fashioning things with his hands and is always eager to try new designs. What does he think of the musical cricket-ball described on another page?

Oddly enough, those engaged as telephonists seem among the least communicative of our big brotherhood, therefore we are particularly glad to be able to report a piece of news concerning W. Robinson, of Liverpool. All will be interested to hear that he is "doing excellently" and making progress in every way. It sounds as though he were a true disciple of Monsieur Coué!



We have not many grocers on our list, and of these W. Kirkup, of Durham, intends to head the list if hard work and courage will do the trick. He has an excellent grasp of the business and serves customers and interviews travellers in a thoroughly independent and capable manner. Kirkup is doubly fortunate in that he has a wife who is as businesslike and clever as himself. The two should go far along the royal road of prosperity.

\*\*\*

Another hard worker in a different line is H. Nelson, of Durham. He is now well established with poultry and enters into everything with keenness and ability.

\*\*\*

G. Rice, of Turners Place, is yet another poultry man whose business is flourishing and he now finds it necessary to make a round in his pony and trap at least four days in the week.

\*\*\*

We wish success to the new venture of H. Holmes, of Durham, who is arranging to share a stall in the market. His legitimate work, as all will remember, is baskets, but he has developed an interesting sideline, or rather hobby—the breeding of Airedales. One of his dogs just missed getting a prize at a local show. We hope to hear that next time he pulls it off.

\*\*\*

On the list of hard workers mention must be made of C. Greaves, of Sheffield, for he puts his heart into everything he undertakes. And his energy and independence of spirit should carry him a long way. We are proud to hear that the skill with which he gets about is a source of wonder and admiration to all who come in contact with him.

\*\*\*

How many of our joiners have made writing-desks? W. Shute, of Braintree, Essex, has just completed an excellent piece of work in this line, we hear. He also deserves congratulation on a fine oak communion table, which already in the local press has won great praise.

\*\*\*

Potatoes have been occupying all the leisure moments of H. Wright, of Chesterfield. He had "set" them himself, so

thought he had better "finish the job." When he does have spare moments Wright is a keen fisherman and has carried off the prizes at more than one competition.

\*\*\*

A kindred spirit is J. H. Smith, of Derby, who is also a very keen fisherman, and has made some excellent catches when his duties as masseur set him free. Would not Wright and Smith like to swap some fishermen's yarns for the benefit of REVIEW readers?

\*\*\*

Pigs have caught the attention of N. Brown, of Durham, and those he possesses look in the pink of condition. He attended the Royal Show at Newcastle and has come back impressed with what he learnt there. He should make a thorough success of his farm, we feel sure, for his mind is open to improvements and new ideas.

\*\*\*

Plenty of work has come of late to W. Paul, of Durham, who says that his new house seems to have brought him work. With boots, mats and a sweetshop, he finds himself a very busy man.

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To the long list of St. Dunstaner prize-winners we add yet more names, that of E. Clarke, who has not only taken first prize at a local show, with his White Leghorn cock, but second at Warsop. We share his pride in the achievement and note too that, despite the time he has had to give to his own affairs, Clarke has won golden opinions from his landlord, as during the latter's wife's illness Clarke proved himself an invaluable asset in both house and shop.

\*\*\*

R. Davies, of Sweffling, also secured first prize for his Leghorn bird, and a "highly commended" for another entry at a local exhibition. He too is working very hard.

\*\*\*

Another who is winning popularity as he goes along is R. Eggerton, and this should aid him in making his little business a success, in which he has already made an excellent start. It certainly pays when customers like to drop in for a chat—they usually stay long enough to buy!

A very new recruit to our shop-keeping ranks is A. Bundy, of Gloucester, who, when our last report of him came to hand, had just that day opened up a tobacco and sweet business. Although he had only been in possession a few hours, we hear that the business showed visible signs of improvement, that his sister was proving the boon Bundy anticipated she would be and that every member of his family was lending willing aid. Nothing seemed to come amiss to them, from running errands to scrubbing shelves. With such goodwill to help him Bundy's burdens should be light. We look forward with certainty to hearing that the little business becomes well-established in a miraculously short space of time.

\*\*\*

A St. Dunstaner who deserves particular credit is W. T. West, of the Ramsgate district. He has worked in a whole-hearted manner and the results achieved during the past year are entirely due to his own fine efforts. We offer him our sincere congratulations, and are glad to know that with him the repair business is good and that he has a fine stock of boots and sundries with which to attract customers.

\*\*\*

We hear that C. Roach, of Darlington, is now so occupied with his poultry that he has no time for mats. May his success in this line continue—he has taken two prizes during the year.

\*\*\*

It is fortunate for F. Spurgeon, of Halstead, that he has a farm as a "side-line," for there is practically no boot-repairing obtainable in his district. However, his poultry and pigs keep him busy. He has put up all his own sheds, made various alterations and improvements in the house, and, in addition, has erected a wood paling around the garden, so he has not had many idle moments of late. Now, like many others, his desire is "more land"!

\*\*\*

Almost as busy is T. Tranquillity, of Colchester, for he has been putting up new houses for his poultry. His friends will be glad to hear that he has some fine birds and is even a recipient of orders from London.

We have not much news to report concerning F. Spencer, of Luton, who says trade is a bit quiet in his direction. However, we are interested to hear that his children are growing splendidly—"a fine young family."

\*\*\*

A few months ago we mentioned that F. Marsden, of Blackburn, was grappling with the construction of a greenhouse. This was such a success that he decided to build a second and now anticipates developing the work still further in the spring.

\*\*\*

Poultry and mats together are keeping G. Davis, of Gloucester, busy, but his pride at the moment is the pig he is fattening up for Christmas. We shall look forward to hearing the figure at which it tips the scales. By the way, has Davis read the recent articles we have published on pig rearing?

\*\*\*

A wise man of Leicester is W. Biggs, who has set up in a boot polish business. It is progressing well, we are glad to know. Despite his absorption in his own affairs, however, Briggs finds time to support St. Dunstan's and is always keen to interest outsiders in the work being done at Headquarters. At the moment he is arranging with two clubs to carry out whist drives. We hope they will both be successful and enjoyable functions.

\*\*\*

Nottingham St. Dunstaners are particularly fortunate inasmuch as the people of the town seem particularly thoughtful and generous. For instance, the manager of the Hippodrome has, for three years past, given passes to St. Dunstaners, and has now extended the much-appreciated courtesy to newcomers in the district. Other firms, notably Messrs. Farmer & Co. and also Messrs. Foulds, have given special privileges with regard to concerts. C. A. Clay is one who particularly appreciates these kindnesses, and also W. Shakespeare, who, by the way, is finding a good deal of interest in writing songs and music.



## Poultry Notes

### St. Dunstan's Laying Test.

We have now completed the second period of the Test, and our Editor has kindly allowed me sufficient space for the publication of the results of all the pens.

Also at the end of the Test every competitor will have sent to him a recording card showing from day to day the eggs laid by each of his individual birds.

Results for the second period are:—

Pen. No.	Breed	Owner	HEAVY BREEDS.		Total	Total Egg to date	Test Value
			Eggs laid	Second Period Grades			
35	Rhode Is. Reds	Fowler, J.	1st 80	2nd 5	85	158	158
43	W. Wyandottes	Stamper, T.	31	18	49	135	135
42	W. Wyandottes	Crabtree, F.	66	4	70	125	125
28	Rhode Is. Reds	Boorman, F. W.	39	20	59	118	118
38	W. Wyandottes	Griffen, A.	58	2	60	116	116
26	Rhode Is. Reds	Trigg, A. E.	29	15	44	108	108
30	Rhode Is. Reds	Tebble, E.	24	43	67	133	105
30	Rhode Is. Reds	Condon, C. T.	32	20	52	95	95
23	Rhode Is. Reds	Holmes, P.	49	10	59	83	83
33	Rhode Is. Reds	Mr. N. M. Steel	37	3	40	83	83
31	Rhode Is. Reds	Nelson, H.	37	2	39	82	82
27	Rhode Is. Reds	Clark, R. A.	18	23	41	75	75
29	Rhode Is. Reds	Mr. Littlejohn	32	1	33	71	71
37	W. Wyandottes	Wright, W. H.	9	16	25	66	66
34	Rhode Is. Reds	Mr. Maclaren	13	22	35	64	64
24	Rhode Is. Reds	Woodrow, W.	—	30	30	66	66
25	Rhode Is. Reds	Woods, E. L.	6	8	14	48	48
39	W. Wyandottes	Levett, J.	23	—	23	44	44
40	W. Wyandottes	Hargreaves, H.	18	24	42	42	42
45	Light Sussex	Boyter, R.	1	3	4	31	31
32	Rhode Is. Reds	Mr. Smith	21	2	23	31	31
44	W. Wyandottes	Last, W.	—	20	20	21	21
22	Rhode Is. Reds	Mr. Bissett	10	—	10	10	10
41	W. Wyandottes	Letch, S. J.	—	1	1	1	1

Pen No.	Breed	Owner	LIGHT BREEDS.		Total	Total Eggs to Date	Test Value
			Eggs laid	2nd period Grades			
9	White Leghorns	Mr. Bulman	62	7	69	136	136
4	White Leghorns	Tindall, J.	27	25	52	123	123
13	White Leghorns	Pink, A.	43	12	55	120	120
7	White Leghorns	Burgin, W.	37	33	70	116	116
5	White Leghorns	McIntosh, C.	32	39	71	120	111
14	White Leghorns	Coulson, A.	49	12	61	111	111
15	White Leghorns	Mr. Ramsden	54	13	67	111	111
12	White Leghorns	Mr. Irvine	32	14	46	99	99
8	White Leghorns	Webb, W.	14	20	40	90	95
18	Black Leghorns	Carlton, W.	17	13	30	84	84
3	White Leghorns	Whitingslow, J.	8	13	21	77	77
2	White Leghorns	Owen, Capt.	14	10	30	97	97
1	White Leghorns	Horsnell, N.	4	61	65	110	66
6	White Leghorns	Hetherington, T.	10	27	37	65	65
20	La Bresse	Mr. Capper	12	21	33	57	57
10	White Leghorns	Crown, C. H.	8	24	32	54	54
17	Black Leghorns	Harris, F. J.	32	1	33	49	49
11	White Leghorns	Gwyn, I.	—	19	19	19	19
19	Anconas	Mr. Irish	8	7	15	15	15
16	White Leghorns	Hawkins, G. H.	2	7	9	10	10

## The Agricultural Labourer

They call me Hodge, say I'm a stodge, and many such like things;  
You'd think that they were angels all, if only they had wings.  
I often have to laugh at times, such funny sights I see,  
And yet, you know, for all their show, they all depend on me.  
You all depend on me, my lads, you all depend on me;  
I'd have you know, for all your show, you all depend on me.

I grow the breakfast porridge and I find the morning milk,  
I grow the trees of mulberries for ladies who wear silk.  
I grow the morning coffee and the muffins and the tea,  
And so, you know, for all your show, you must depend on me.  
You all depend, &c.

The tailor thinks he makes the man; the tailor does not know  
Who 'tis that tends the woolly sheep on which the trousers grow;  
While Mary Mann from Manchester is dressed that all may see,  
But Mary and her cotton frocks must all depend on me.  
You all depend, &c.

The God who made the universe, He sends the sun and rain,  
But you depend on me, my lads, for all your wealth and gain.  
I sow the seed, I kill the weed that checks the seedling growth,  
You all depend on me, my lads, on that I'll take my oath.  
You all depend, &c.

I would ask you very kindly to join some friendly lodge,  
And take a little interest in your stolid brother, Hodge.  
I know that I look clumsy when I'm ploughing on the Lea,  
But still, you know, for all your show, you must depend on me.  
You all depend, &c.

Then take a little thought, my lads, and set the matter right,  
And when you pass old stolid Hodge just smile with faces bright.  
The food you eat, both sour and sweet, from home or oversea,  
You all must know I help to grow, it all depends on me.  
You all depend, &c.

THIRD RESERVE.

The Test Manager reports:—"In the Heavy Breed Section the egg average has been well maintained, notwithstanding the bitterly cold weather.

"The Light Breeds have not done so well, and have given a decreased egg supply.

"The check has not been serious and production is already on the up-grade.

"The general health of the flock remains excellent.

"There has been only one bird in hospital—a case of inpaction of the crop. She has not yet been returned to her pen.

"The condition of the birds is now better than at any time since arrival at the Test, and those with any experience of winter egg production know it is not at all easy to keep the heavy layer in good condition during the short days of winter."

## A Wonderful Record

Splendid news comes from H. A. Knopp, of Worksop. Out of thirteen entries in the local Poultry Show, he has been successful in carrying off no less than ten awards, as per the following list:—

Light Sussex cock (Exhibition)—First and special for best cock in show.

Light Sussex hen (Exhibition)—Second.

Rhode Island Red hen (Exhibition)—Second.

Rhode Island Red cock (Exhibition)—Commended.

White Leghorn hen (Exhibition)—Third.

White Wyandotte cock (Utility)—Second and runner up for silver cup, awarded for best cockerel in show.

White Wyandotte hen (Utility)—Second.

Utility breeding pen—heavy breed—White Wyandottes—Second; Rhode Island Reds, Third.

Utility breeding pen, light breed, White Leghorns—Commended.

We should imagine this creates something like a record for St. Dunstaners' successes at one show, but shall be only too glad to receive corrections as to this statement, relating either to the past or in the future.



## Letters to the Editor

*To the Editor of St. Dunstan's Review.*

DEAR SIR,

I would be glad if you would publish the enclosed letter from Mr. Magregor, of the Ministry of Health.

It appears from a recent conversation I have had with J. Boon, of Bristol, that the visitor in question was an employee of the Bristol Local Blind Institution. No doubt the misunderstanding in this case arose from the fact that this representative of the Local Institution went to see Boon to encourage him to let his name be placed upon their list as a home worker. The Ministry of Health are responsible in a large measure for financing this home workers' scheme, and this is as far as their connection with it goes.

All Boon's observations as to the disadvantages from a St. Dunstan's point of view to our men joining this home workers' scheme are not, in my opinion, affected by this misunderstanding, but it is only fair to give publicity to the fact that it was a representative of the Local Institution and not of the Ministry of Health who was responsible for approaching Boon and inducing him to join in the scheme.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) IAN FRASER,  
Chairman.

[Copy.]

MINISTRY OF HEALTH,  
28th November 1923.

DEAR CAPTAIN FRASER,

With reference to the correspondence appearing in the current number of *ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW* between yourself and Mr. J. Boon, of Bristol, I wish to point out that the visitor referred to by Mr. Boon as being a representative of the Ministry of Health was, in no sense, such, and that no such representative has, in fact, visited Mr. Boon.

Yours truly,

(Signed) E. D. MAGREGOR.

*To the Editor.*

DEAR SIR,

I have been particularly interested in the contributions to the wireless page of this month's *REVIEW*.

Since my last letter I have again received American broadcasting on the morning of Sunday, 25th November, at 1.30. So far as I can tell without a wave meter the wave-length was about 350. Unfortunately, I was about one second too late to receive the station call, but it was a delightful programme with a very fine orchestra. At times it was so loud that the words of the songs were remarkably clear, and I have no doubt that had I connected my loud speaker the result would have been very good. Only once during 75 minutes did I lose it through fading.

For this reception I at first employed one detector, one H.F. and one L.F. valve, but after a while I included a further L.F. This, however, was to no advantage, as the tendency was to amplify atmospherics so much that the result so far as the music was concerned was no better than with three. Finally, I went down to one detector and one H.F., and the result was amazingly good. I am not in a position to employ more than one H.F., but I feel the addition would mean too much howling.

I agree with Capt. Fraser that a lot of patience and skill is required to tune in these American stations. It may take even half an hour to get a good reception after you have located it.

Referring to Mr. Botley's letter, he should with his set get all the broadcasting stations in this country with, perhaps, the exception of Manchester, which is very difficult to pick up. So far as the amateurs are concerned, if Mr. Botley can get down to 190 metres he should be able to receive practically all the amateurs within a radius of, say, 30 miles. They are usually working on wave lengths between 180 and 440. The usual time for their transmission is after broadcasting has closed down until often as late as 1 a.m. They are also very

busy on Saturday afternoons and Sundays. Personally, the greatest distance I have covered in this country with amateurs is Birmingham, 130 miles from Croydon, although a friend of mine has heard a Lancashire amateur on two valves.

Just a word about basket coils. My experience has been that the tuned anode system with *Burndepl* coils is far and away the most efficient I have yet come across and gives far greater efficiency than the former. I have a range of these coils which takes me up to 9,000 metres, but, although there is no broadcasting above 4,000, the higher wave lengths enable me to enjoy the reading of long-distance Morse messages and press news sent out from this country all over Europe. I strongly advise all who have a spattering of Morse to practise reading for all they are worth, as the pleasure derived adds very considerably to the enjoyment of "listening-in." Very good practice is to try and pick up the Air Ministry on about a 1,000 metres, sending out weather reports to all stations about 10 words per minute. This station is very loud and the call is G.F.A.

It may be of interest to readers to know that since writing before I have had a tuned anode system adapted to my set, and I have now no difficulty whatever in picking up all Continental broadcasting stations and French amateurs, with the exception of Austria and Switzerland. I also receive all aeroplanes flying this side of the French coast, together with English and French aerodromes.

I sincerely hope all men who are keen will continue to ask questions through the medium of the *REVIEW*, and relate their own experiences upon any interesting reception.

Yours truly,

(Signed) E. G. THOMAS.

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We much regret that, through an oversight, we married F. J. Harriss, of Billerica! We were referring to the excellent stall Harriss and D. Cockerill, of Laindon, had arranged at the British Legion Carnival, and we congratulated both on the help given by their wives. Harriss is, of course, not married, and we regret if the use of the

plural may have led some of his friends to think he had "stolen a mark" from them.

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The Editorial Chair is not always soft and easy, as we have also been taken to task by A. J. Holland, of Rushden, for describing him as of Hants instead of Northants. Our apologies again!

\*\*\*

BOY WITH THE BROWN EYES.

Boy with the brown eyes, Oh, why do you linger  
So long at the verge of this fairy-like bower?  
Why do you loiter, and raise not a finger  
To pluck at a leaf or a fern or a flower?  
For here on the threshold of elfin lands,  
As still as a lizard you lie and gaze,  
With your heels in the air and your face in  
your hands,  
As there were no end to the length of your  
days.

There are daffodils dancing a minuet measure.  
Come, gather an armful, and still leave a bevy.  
There's a lilac bush waiting to yield up her  
treasure;  
The breeze with the breath of her blossom is  
heavy.  
Still here on the threshold of fairy lands,  
As still as a lizard you lie and gaze,  
With your heels in the air and your head on your  
hands,  
As there were no end to the length of your  
days.

There are six speckled eggs in the nest by that  
willow,  
And down in the stream where the sunlight  
is flashing  
There's a sleepy old trout with a stone for his  
pillow;  
Above him blue kingfishers darting and dash-  
ing;  
But here on the threshold of wealthy lands,  
As still as a lizard you lie and gaze,  
With your heels in the air and your face in your  
hands,  
As there were no end to the length of your  
days.

Boy with the brown eyes, perhaps you are  
thinking  
That all the strong men who go forth in their  
power  
To hunt and to slaughter would laugh at your  
shrinking  
From plucking a leaf or a fern or a flower.  
So here on the threshold of fairy lands  
I'll leave you to linger and gaze, and gaze  
With your heels in the air and your face in your  
hands,  
As there were no end to the length of your  
days.

C. R. A



## A Wonderful Work

THERE lies before us a little grey-covered booklet, every page of which proves in the most convincing way how much of sympathy and generous feeling there is still left in this old world of ours, and at what a very low price it is possible to purchase happiness for those who most need it and whose birthright it should be—the children of our generation.

That booklet is the thirty-second Annual Report of Pearson's Fresh Air Fund, a charity in which every St. Dunstaner will always have specially sympathetic interest. The great heart and wide humanity of St. Dunstan's founder gave the Fund birth, and the energy and enthusiasm he was able to inspire in those who worked with him has built it up from a little personal affair which gave holidays in the country to a few hundred of England's poorest children, to a magic carpet which has in the past year alone given nearly 105,000 children a day in the country and 2,400 a full fortnight's holiday at the seaside or in the clean air of fields and woodlands.

It is a wonderful record, and no less wonderful is the way in which all this splendidly beneficent work has been carried out at a fractional cost. We cannot do better than quote a passage from the report as to what this work means for the little ones whose joy it has in care.

A day in the country! A fortnight's holiday! The very words ring with happiness, even to those accustomed to a comfortable home and the delights of a garden. What then do they hold for a child whose "home" is very possibly a single room devoid of all comfort, shared with six or seven people; a child whose "garden" is a grey and grimy street or alleyway, where the never-young boys and girls contrive strange games of cricket and "footer" (in which almost anything kickable figures as the ball), or float make-believe boats of dirty paper in the evil-smelling water which drains along the gutter. No one has taught these children

to play, yet their youthful impulse is to brighten their dull lives with games. Strange games for which dirt and refuse gathered from the roadway are used in place of the golden sand and sea-washed pebbles with which happier children build their castles. And when the games are over and the day done? Well, then the pavement must harbour these children of slumland, for very often the "one-room home" is in the occupation of lodgers—night-workers who have rented them, sometimes in relays of eight-hour tenancies. So the ragged and half-famished little ones must needs trudge about the street, waiting for their homes to be clear before they can creep to the pile of sacking they call their bed. The atmosphere of such a place is at all times vile, and illness can add yet further horror to these gloomy dens where little children are herded with adults throughout the year, right on into the hot sultry days of August. . . . A day in the country! A fortnight's holiday! . . .

Magic words to children such as these, whose lives from infancy are wrapped in squalor, dirt and degradation. Some have gleaned a vague knowledge of the country, the sea, of forest and flower-decked meadow—a dream-country where birds sing and the air is full of sweetness. Yes, they have heard about these wonders of nature, and perhaps have seen pictures of them. . . . and they are all as distant from their lives as the Forbidden City for most of us. Then comes that coloured bit of pasteboard. No need to tell the lover of the Fresh Air Fund what that ticket is. Clutched in the dirty little hands of a slum-bred child it is a passport to Heaven. A day in the country! . . . a fortnight's holiday! The gate of Paradise is open—to them.

We have not space to quote in full many interesting happenings and figures from the report, but we may mention that the Fresh Air Fund now operates in almost every

big city of the British Isles. The whole of the expenses are defrayed by the promoters, Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., and the Shaftesbury Society, which has always worked in conjunction with the Fresh Air Fund.

Our Royal Family has always taken the greatest interest in the Fund, and the King's generous annual subscription is always one of the first to arrive. This year the Duke and Duchess of York spent a couple of hours among a thousand little children from the East End. Among the contributions received during the past year was the 2½ per cent. allocation from the proceeds of the Arthur Pearson Fund, which totalled £718.

The Fund, as most of our readers know, owes much to the self-sacrificing and voluntary labours of St. Dunstan's own treasurer, Mr. Ernest Kessell, who has, ever since its inception, acted as honorary treasurer and honorary secretary.

### Music Staff's Party

The music staff gave a tea-party to the music pupils at the Bungalow on 5th December. Among those present were Lady (Arthur) Pearson, Captain and Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Chadwick Bates, Miss Power, Lady McCormick, Miss Deane, Lady Twinning, Miss Coleman, Major-General Sir Charles Melliss, V.C., Lady Kensington, Mrs. Donald Cameron and Miss Monro.

Each man drew for and received a little present, some of the lucky ones getting very nice clocks. There was also a competition for guessing the correct weight of a sugar-frosted cake. A. Chiverton and J. W. Cookson both guessed correctly, and each received a cake.

After tea there was an excellent concert, and the men were very much honoured by so many splendid artistes kindly performing. Mr. Melsa, the great violinist, gave of his best, and Madame Mesal played the piano. Miss Phyllis Archibald, the distinguished operatic contralto, sang some delightful songs, much to the enjoyment of the audience. The other artistes included Mr. Kirilloff, Mr. and Mrs. Rex Burchell, Miss Edith Eatherley—whose songs at

the piano were very amusing—Mrs. Barrington Hooper, Miss Lamb and Colonel Sullivan.

Miss Eva McCall, who is so untiring in teaching singing to our men at the Bungalow, conducted a chorus of her pupils in the famous "Lea Chanteys," arranged by Doctor Richard Terry, and these choruses were among the great successes of the evening, the men singing were Messrs. Matthews, Inman, Hill, Rhodes, McDoyle, Osman, Brown, Lomas and Singleton. The choruses were really delightful, and reflected the greatest credit on the men who had worked so hard at them, and on Miss Eva McCall for her ability in calling forth such good work.

During the concert Lady Pearson made a charming little speech of thanks to the music staff.

### Birmingham St. Dunstaners.

The annual meeting of the Birmingham St. Dunstaners' Club was held in the Queen's Clubroom on the 7th instant. The Report and Balance Sheet were read by Miss Hodgson, and the committee for the following year elected:—Miss Evers (in the chair), hon. secretary and treasurer, Miss Hodgson, and the following men: W. Trott, W. Castle, W. Daintier, H. Cook and E. Read and P. Cashmore as deputies.

Three members of Birmingham Toc. H. were present. Their help with the sports this season has been considerable and greatly appreciated.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Stratford shopkeepers, who give the refreshments for the social evenings. Also to numerous friends and helpers, including Mrs. Hilman (who kindly gets and distributes theatre tickets), and to Sir Whitworth Wallace, who regularly supplies cigarettes.

The following is an extract from a letter from J. W. Clare, of Brockenhurst:—

"A few lines to say that the Exhibition is over, and that the results were very satisfactory. We almost sold out, and got three or four orders for framing and trays. Both pairs of trouser presses were sold, also both curbs. Altogether, the Exhibition was a record both for exhibits and for attendance."





## SPORTS CLUB NOTES

WELL, after all, we have had little luck this term, for, with the exception of the first two or three Saturdays, the ground has been absolutely unfit for sports. This has been a great disappointment to all our sportsmen, but we are looking forward to resuming in real earnest next year.

## FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

Luckily we have not been so handicapped here, and have been able to get through our league programme in fine style. G. Zipfel has kept goal splendidly all through the many matches, and, I am sure, has stopped more shots than a First League goalkeeper does in a season. As I suggested last month, the Oddfellows were going strong, and this has been borne out by the fact that for the third successive time they have become champions. They deserve all the credit possible for their wonderful record, and I think special praise is due to their captain—Prior—for the excellence of his shooting. He actually scored 23 goals out of his team's total of 39! Their position was only finally assured after the last kick of the last match had been made. This vital game was between the Snobbers and the Geordies, and the Snobbers had only to win to secure the championship. The importance of the occasion must have affected their shooting, for they only scored one goal and, therefore, drew, losing their fine chance. Taken all through, the competition was a huge success, and the fact that only seven points separates the extreme ends of the table shows how evenly matched the clubs were.

A glance at the goal-scoring list is interesting, and it is splendid to find Gilpin heading the T.B.'s, with Wilshaw and Roberts sharing second place. Prior again heads the S.S. with 23, and for a time Inman (17 goals) ran him close, but lost his shooting boots in the concluding matches. Jarvis, with 16, and Coman, with 15, did particularly well, whilst Hunt, Halloran and Parnell showed excellent form.

RESULTS from 6th November.			
Nov. 7	Oddfellows	.. 4	Snobbers .. 4
.. 7	Foresters	.. 3	Geordies .. 3
.. 8	Watlings	.. 4	Foresters .. 0
.. 8	Oddfellows	.. 5	Geordies .. 1
.. 9	Piehards	.. 3	Swankers .. 1
.. 9	Snobbers	.. 5	Watlings .. 3
.. 13	Oddfellows	.. 4	Piehards .. 2
.. 13	Foresters	.. 2	Swankers .. 1
.. 16	Snobbers	.. 1	Geordies .. 1

## FINAL LEAGUE TABLE.

No.	Team	Goals						
		P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts
1.	Oddfellows	.. 12	6	2	4	39	32	16
2.	Snobbers	.. 12	6	3	3	47	33	15
3.	Piehards	.. 12	5	4	3	30	35	13
4.	Foresters	.. 12	5	6	1	32	33	11
5.	Geordies	.. 12	4	5	3	27	29	11
6.	Swankers	.. 12	3	6	3	30	33	9
7.	Watlings	.. 12	4	7	1	32	38	9

## GOAL SCORERS to 6th November, 1923, inclusive.

T.B.		S.S.	
Boorman	.. 8	Prior	.. 23
Roberts	.. 9	Cookson	.. 7
Wilshaw	.. 9	Parnell	.. 11
Dawes	.. 7	Halloran	.. 12
Gilpin	.. 11	Mathews	.. 9
Wootley	.. 8	Jervis	.. 16
Hill	.. 5	Coman	.. 15
Watt	.. 7	Sney	.. 2
Stringer	.. 3	Anderson	.. 9
Pawley	.. 6	Inman	.. 17
Ash	.. 3	Murphy	.. 6
Brammer	.. 1	Hunt	.. 13
Chiverton	.. 1	Lovell	.. 4
		Tarry	.. 1
		Muir	.. 5
		Wood	.. 2
		Parnell	.. 1
		Crook	.. 1
		Williams	.. 1

## MARRIED v. SINGLE.

A great deal of excitement has been caused during the last weeks of term through the efforts of the married and single boys to decide an important game of football and to discover who are the more fortunate lot of fellows. The extraordinary thing about it is that each time they have tried the games have resulted in a draw with such scores as 8-8, 6-6, and so on. After the first game, the single boys, jealous of the happy lot of the married men, determined to take them

down a bit, and so they secured (the transfer fee was not stated) the services of the centre-forward of the Pie-hards—Wilshaw by name—but even his services failed to bring the decisive result. They then thought that the game should be re-played by each side taking one kick, but the result was 2-2! Then it occurred to them that perhaps the T.B. men of each team could settle it, but the result was 1-1! The captains then decided to enter the fray, and so Prior and Jarvis shot, but the result was 0-0. They then deputed their sergeant-majors to "carry on," and so forth, but the result remained 0-0. Very weary and disappointed, both sets of players left the field because the gong had sounded for dinner, and if it had not been for the food question, I doubt not but that they would still be playing. I understand that the married men have a dastardly scheme in hand, and that is to introduce their single foemen to nice young ladies, then they will be able to have all the best players on their side. So far as I can judge this scheme is likely to be very successful, because the single men appear to be rapidly falling into the trap!

## WALKING.

It has been suggested that we should hold a handicap walk on Saturday, 26th January, when Mr. Donoghue, the genial secretary of the Queen's Park Harriers, has promised to make himself responsible for escorts and timekeepers. The distance will be twice round the Outer Circle, and the race will commence from the bungalow. As this will be a handicap walk every man will have a good chance of getting home first, whilst we have received a splendid cup from Mr. Handcock to be given to the winner. Will all those T.B. men who would like to enter please send me in their names not later than the first week in January, so that the necessary arrangements can be made? I will write to all competitors later on, giving them the final particulars.

## OLD BOYS' SPORTS.

Our jerks' class with our competitive events, held each Tuesday evening at the Bungalow at 6.45 p.m., has been most

enjoyable. I wish that more of those boys who are able to come would do so, they would derive much benefit from the exercise. We close down for this year on the 11th instant, and re-start operations on Tuesday, 8th January 1923. The following are the leading scores:—

T.B.		S.S.	
Webster	.. 885	James	.. 1,095
Henry	.. 850	Brown	.. 965
Gamble	.. 770	Downs	.. 835
Nicholls	.. 720	Scott	.. 620
Hughes	.. 700	Bawden	.. 230
Kerr	.. 370	Steel	.. 100
Meighen	.. 280	Taylor	.. 100

## News from the Workshops

A. Jarvis has made rapid advance with his mat-making, his recent mats with borders being very satisfactory samples. In the basket-shop H. A. Mann was, previous to his absence on account of ill-health, doing small willow work, but since his return in the latter part of November, he has commenced on centre-cane barrels and a tray. This style of work will probably suit him better. W. Murphy is still sticking to it; on square work he is carrying his stakes very well, and working his rods much better. He has also made several good barrel baskets. Since our last report E. Roberts has had experience with waste papers, square-arms, barrels and small hampers; he has now started on round soiled linens: his work shows steady improvement. It is always a pleasure to see G. H. Gilpin smilingly hammering in rivets and producing thoroughly well repaired boots of all kinds. The very satisfactory standard he has reached will, we are sure, be regularly maintained. E. Turnock is also making valuable use of a short time in the boot shop, having better success with each job that he undertakes. J. Whittingham has been improving considerably in the shaping of his heels and getting a good edge; his marking and riveting is distinctly good. He has also improved recently in finishing.

W. H. O.





## DEPARTMENTAL NOTES

### Braille Room Notes

After Christmas when I leave to go to the library, Miss Stacey will be in charge of the Braille Room, and there is no one to whom I would rather hand over my work, for I know she is always ready to do everything she can for you all. Many of you know her well, and I hope those who do not will make a point of going to see her when they are at Headquarters.

We sincerely congratulate the following men on having passed the Braille tests:—

*Reading*—W. Muir, R. C. Watt and J. Attrell.

*Writing*—A. Jarvis, W. T. Harris and Mr. C. O. Le Bas.

I would like to put in a special word about J. Attrell, who has been working at Braille since he left St. Dunstan's, and has now passed his Reading test, and is well on the way to becoming an expert reader.

A new Braille magazine, called the *Inter-Allied Magazine*, is now being published by the Permanent Blind War Relief Fund, and if there are any St. Dunstaners who have not seen it and would like to have a sample copy sent to them, will they please write to

Miss STACEY, The Braille Room.  
Should they prefer to have this magazine instead of the one they are now receiving they have only to let Miss Stacey know.

D. A. P.

### Typewriting and Telephony

We sincerely congratulate Mr. K. Gow, who has passed his Typewriting test.

All good wishes to A. Smith, who has obtained a post as telephonist with Messrs. Lovell & Christmas, Ltd., Smithfield Market, where he will be very busy. Also to H. Boorman, who has begun work at Messrs. Joseph Barker & Perkins, motor engineers, Willesden. We wish them both every success.

D. A. P.

### Netting Notes

December has proved a very busy month for this Department, as we have attended two exhibitions specialising in art and crafts. The first of these was held at Eustace Miles Restaurant, and lasted for one week. The General Election rather interfered with our sales, but, nevertheless, we managed to dispose of a fair quantity of baskets, nets, rugs and frame-made goods.

The second exhibition was held at St. Peter's Hall, Bournemouth. Our invitation to attend this very beautiful Arts and Crafts Show arose from the Arts and Crafts Exhibition held at the Central Hall, Westminster, last month, and we had the pleasure of meeting again many of the stallholders, who welcomed us at Bournemouth as old friends. We were given at St. Peter's Hall the whole of the platform, with two large stalls, on which we set up a fine display of baskets, joinery and nets. Our space permitted demonstration in basketry to be carried on, and W. Lowings kindly came daily from his home at Eastleigh to do this for us. There are a good many of our fellows settled in the Bournemouth district, and we were glad to see Mr. and Mrs. Prettejohns and their little boy, Mr. and Mrs. McAndrew and their children, Mr. Fawcett, who is practising massage at Bournemouth, and Mr. Farmery. Mr. and Mrs. Ashe, at present on their honeymoon at Bournemouth, also looked us up, so that day by day we were able to muster good family gatherings, and over a cup of tea to interchange items of news interesting to all St. Dunstaners. In addition to selling a large proportion of the stock we were showing, we were able to dispose of goods to one of the principal emporiums in the town, so that we feel that our efforts during the four days' sale were thoroughly successful. Apart from this, however, we are glad we went to Bournemouth, because we obtained an opportunity of interesting a section of the

public who did not know much about St. Dunstan's work in general. I must add a testimonial which was given to our salesmanship. One of our visitors remarked that St. Dunstan's had a unique position in Arts and Crafts Exhibitions, because we were all such crafty artists! Perhaps a new sign might be designed for future occasions setting forth this special qualification.

G. H. W.

### Sweepstakes Again

The demand for St. Dunstaners as the drawers of Sweepstake tickets is ever on the increase. Two made the draw for the Manchester Handicap, promoted by the National Sailors' and Firemen's Union a few days ago, while when the Actors' Association had a private sweep on they sent us a hasty telephone message, and, as a result, C. Wilshaw hastened off to do yoeman service.

### Who Was He?

After the Boxing Tournament held at the National Sporting Club the other night an auction sale was held for the benefit of an Aid Society badly in need of funds. Among the "lots" put up to auction was a little Irish terrier presented by "a St. Dunstaner." In case the owner has not heard the result of the sale we think he will like to know that the game little dog fetched five guineas for the cause.

### The Hampton Court Vine

How many men have shared in the work of making the baskets in which the famous black Hamburger grapes from the vine at Hampton Court are sold? Those who have done so may like to know that this vine was planted in 1768, in the reign of George III, who liked to stay at the palace. Towards the end of his reign it had grown enormously and in its best year yielded 2,200 bunches. Even now, when it is elderly, to put it mildly, 600 bunches have been gathered from it—and basketed by us.

### Misuse of St. Dunstan's Name

It has been necessary for Headquarters from time to time to warn the public of the misuse of St. Dunstan's name by unauthorised hawkers of goods supposed to be made by our men. A recent case of the kind shows, however, how much St. Dunstaners themselves can do by prompt and vigorous action to arrest this particularly mean form of fraud.

Recently a man called at the house of A. J. Burtenshaw, of Walthamstow, with stationery for sale, which he said he was selling on behalf of the blinded soldiers of St. Dunstan's. Mrs. Burtenshaw answered the door, and told the salesman that the paper was of no use to her husband, as he was also blind. Immediately the man had left, she told her husband, and he sent his little son, aged nine, after the hawker, with a message asking him to go back, as his father wished to speak to him. The man still persisted in saying that he was selling on behalf of St. Dunstan's, but Burtenshaw was very dubious, and told his son to follow the man and keep in touch with him, while he got on the 'phone to Captain Fraser, with the result that the man was later taken into custody.

Prisoner, who gave the name of Clarence Friedman, of 38 Harold Road, Leytonstone, and described himself as a licensed pedlar, was, at the Stratford Petty Sessions, charged with obtaining money on false pretences. Evidence was given by Mr. and Mrs. Burtenshaw, and Mr. Coleman, of St. Dunstan's, informed the Bench that neither Friedman nor any other person was authorised to sell goods from door to door on behalf of St. Dunstan's, or to act in any such capacity whatever. The prisoner admitted that he had no connection whatever with St. Dunstan's, and pleaded guilty to the offence. After a remand for enquiries, he was eventually bound over for one year in the sum of £5.

The arrest of this man was entirely due to the smart action of Burtenshaw and his little son, and Headquarters will be glad if others of our men will send the earliest possible information of similar cases which may come to their notice.





## CHAPEL NOTES

I feel sure that those who were present at our Armistice Service on 11th November were greatly impressed. There is something so wonderful about the sacred silence that one could not help but feel deeply touched.

It was good to see such a splendid and representative congregation — men and their escorts came from all over London, and the singing of the grand old hymns was most inspiring.

Our services are now over for the year, but we hope to recommence on Sunday, 6th January, with our first service at 11 a.m. and Holy Communion at 11.40 a.m. Need I say again how very welcome any of our boys will be who care to join us. The first Sunday of the New Year is an excellent time for making such a start.

May I thank all those who have so sympathetically supported our services during the year? Miss Berry and Miss Bird, and Miss Paterson, have been most helpful and enthusiastic, whilst Miss Warren has frequently come along at great inconvenience to preside at the organ.

I cannot close these brief notes without extending our best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year, for health, happiness and success. As the Book so well puts it, "We wish you good luck in the Name of the Lord."

### Births

BOWLES.—On 16th November, to the wife of L. Bowles, of Liverpool, a daughter.

CASS.—To the wife of E. S. Cass, of West Hartlepool, a daughter (Dorothy) on the 19th November.

CLARK.—On the 9th November, to the wife of W. W. Clark, of Bermondsey, a son (Stanley William).

DAVIES.—At Salford, on 26th November, to the wife of W. Davies, a son (Anthony).

DEEGAN.—To the wife of J. Deegan, a son, on 9th October.

FRANCIS.—On 24th October, a daughter, to the wife of J. Francis, of Battle.

GLOVER.—On 14th October to the wife of F. Glover, of St. John's Wood, a son (Frank).

HAMILTON.—On 7th November, to the wife of B. Hamilton, of Brookville, a son.

HERMON.—To the wife of A. Hermon, of Oxford, a daughter (Alma Muriel), on 22nd November.

HILL.—To the wife of R. E. Hill, of Buxton, a daughter (Ethel), on the 23rd August.

HINDLEY.—On the 24th November, to the wife of J. Hindley, of Manchester, a fine son.

HOLLINS.—On 31st October, to the wife of H. Hollins, of Middlesbrough, a daughter (Dorothy Jean).

HOLMES.—On the 22nd October, to the wife of A. E. Holmes, of Oxford, a son (Basil Frank).

McAVOY.—On 15th October, to the wife of J. McAvoy, of Ayr, a son (John).

MILLER.—On 24th May, to the wife of W. Miller, of Surbiton, a son (Arthur Francis).

STIBBLES.—To the wife of J. Stibbles, of Perth, on 5th November, a daughter (Dorothy Henderson).

WILLIAMS.—On 24th November, to the wife of E. Williams, of Shipley, a son (Edward).

### Marriages

ASHE—HUNT.—On 1st December, at St. Stephen's, Bow, E., Thomas Ashe to Miss Elizabeth Gertrude Hunt.

McLURG—HARNER.—On 14th November 1923, at Whitham Parish Church, W. McLurg to Miss L. Harner.

PIKE—ILLMAN.—On 15th December, S. Pike, of 28 New Haven Street, Brighton, to Miss Florence Illman, at St. Peter's Church, Brighton.

## "In Memory"

PRIVATE LESLIE GEORGE NORSTER.

(16th Hampshire.)

WE record with deep regret the death of this plucky St. Dunstaner. Norster enlisted on 26th March 1913 and served his King and country faithfully and well until his discharge in October 1919. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's on 3rd April 1922, but owing to bad health was unable to learn a trade whilst at the Hostel. At the end of November last he went to the Pensions Hospital, Richmond Park, where he died suddenly on 1st December. Amongst the floral tributes laid upon his grave was a wreath "From Capt. Fraser and his other comrades at St. Dunstan's," in the form of our Badge.

### Deaths

MOORE.—We send our sympathy to A. E. Moore, of Walthamstow, who has just lost his daughter, aged 16. The funeral took place on the 14th.

ROSE.—J. Rose of Haddingtonshire, Scotland, who recently lost his mother.

### Strange Mishaps

An American committee has just issued a report on the Prevention of Blindness, certain paragraphs of which make curious reading. It seems that in America no fewer than 318 people lost their sight in one month through accidents.

Among these were five women who accidentally stuck curling tongs into their eyes. A particularly extraordinary accident which resulted in the blinding of a man took place at an agricultural fair. Here a huge Swiss cheese was exhibited. Later it was cut for sandwiches. As this was being done compressed air inside caused it to explode and a piece struck a bystander in the eye. Another case of blindness was caused through "the kick of a grasshopper," according to the wording of this report.

### Praise for Exhibitors

An Industrial Exhibition was recently held at Sittingbourne. When declaring

it open the lady officiating unexpectedly observed that having seen two St. Dunstaners working at the Gravesend Agricultural Show she had ordered from St. Dunstan's a very large door-mat with the words "Torry Hill" on it in black letters. This had now been delivered, and was so well made that she pointed it out to all her visitors, hoping it would result in fresh orders. The craftsman who made this mat has our congratulations, as have the two workers who first aroused this lady's interest.

### In the Public Eye

Various notices from the local press have reached us concerning W. Lowings, known to his friends as "Bill," and we are sure that many will be interested to hear of Lowings' activities.

To Lowings was entrusted the honour of laying a wreath on the altar at the Memorial service on Armistice Day in his district. He also took an active part in a smoking concert organised by the British Legion, and with his little daughter's valuable assistance worked very hard to make Remembrance Day a success in every way.

We are proud to read such notices concerning a St. Dunstaner.



### Advantages of being Blind

**S**PLENDID optimism, you will at once say, but then you are not a St. Dunstaner. You have not had the advantages of its training. Have you ever lain in bed and read? You put a candle beside the bed or if you are lucky enough to have electric light, you switch it on and then comes the trouble of getting in to a comfortable position for reading. You punch the pillow and turn from side to side, this way and that, to get the light on your book; you become uncovered and the cold gets down your back. That is where I score. I simply put the book under the bed-clothes and read till I drop off to sleep. . . . Braille. You eventually go to sleep and leave a candle burning and run the risk of being asked all sorts of awkward questions by the fire insurance company. Again, you wake up and want to know the time; you grope about till you have found a match, and then burn your fingers trying to look at the face of your watch. Me? I simply feel for my Braille watch—a gift from St. Dunstan's—and am asleep again before I have hardly had time to think that it is not time to get up.

You want to cross a road, and after you have narrowly escaped with your life and caused poor taximen to endanger their souls, besides consigning you to perdition, splashed with mud, and wondering why the Government does not legislate to stop the importation of motor cars—while I, well, the ever-kindly policeman, seeing my St. Dunstan's badge, holds up the traffic and over I go, as cool as a cucumber, and as happy as a sandboy. Then what about your chances in a London special fog? Why, you cannot find your own house—while I, well, I get there just the same, and perhaps take you home as well; and when you get there, you have no matches and fall over things that are always there. I walk round them, and never touch them.

I wonder if you know how many stairs there are in your house? I think it is a hundred to one chance; you very often

walk up one too many. I know them and never make a mistake.

The average man goes about with his eyes shut as far as seeing just everyday ordinary things is concerned. I am sure that I know more about the town I am living in than most persons who can see. For instance, I told an acquaintance where a pillar-box was that he must have passed thousands of times and never noticed; he was quite astonished when he found that I was right. I know a St. Dunstaner who is actually glad that he is blind. He says that before he was blinded he could not read or write. Now he can do both—in Braille, of course. Just imagine the patience of the teacher who tackled this almost hopeless case. This man is now a craftsman, which he was not before the war. There is another aspect which is a great advantage. How many men, when they are introduced to a stranger, look him up and down, and judge him by his clothes, or the colour of the tie he wears, or something just as unreliable? I do no such thing; I get beneath a man's skin by intuition, the tones of his voice, his handshake. I know more of him in five minutes than most men would in a week. I have learnt to use the senses that God gave me, where most people rely on the one that I have lost. But you will say how do you manage to deal with correspondence from people who do not read Braille. I laugh quietly to myself as my fingers travel nimbly over the keys of my typewriter—another advantage of my training at St. Dunstan's—and the machine—one of Remington's best—yet another aid which St. Dunstan's gives to its happy St. Dunstaners.

We hear that Matthew Oldroyd, of West Town, Dewsbury, is doing well with boots and clogs. He is certainly to be congratulated upon our Social Visitor's report, which says:—"Oldroyd is a thorough workman, and his boot repairing is a credit to St. Dunstan's. His shop is in perfect order, and his business methods are excellent. He keeps a small stock of new boots for his customers, who tell him that his leather is of the best. His is a cash trade and a most successful one."

### Our Books

**F**ORTY years ago there was no library from which Braille books were issued. The foundation of the National Library is due to the insight and courage of two ladies, one of whom was blind.

They obtained a small grant of £25 and themselves set to work to transcribe the world's masterpieces, lending out the Braille books they made at a charge of one penny a week. It was a brave beginning. To-day the National Library has 92,000 volumes on its list, and its circle of readers numbers 10,000 and is scattered all over the world. It is an interesting place to visit. In one room are rows and rows of files, into these are slipped the sheets of Braille as they come in from the band of volunteer workers who do the transcription. Their work provides paid work for the blind, for all they do has to be read, revised and duplicated if more than one copy of a book is required. In another room the sheets are being varnished and on another floor is the latest development, a bindery. New books are being bound in different colours according to their class, fiction in one colour, history in another, and so on. The effect when one looks down from an upper floor and sees case on case of these great volumes is excellent, and, of course, the different colourings make the classifying of the returned volumes a simpler matter than before. Sometimes as many as 800 volumes have been sent out in one day and, of course, a similar number received in. Often there are 23,000 volumes in circulation at one time.

When there is no further demand for a certain book, or it has become worn and dilapidated, there is even yet a life of usefulness before it. Such are sent out for the benefit of blind people suffering from infectious diseases; some have been despatched to leper settlements.

In the beginning, a charge of 5s. per annum was made for the use of the books, but it was found that this subscription, low though it was, proved a bar to many. Now the library is free to all blind in whatever part of the world they

reside. Books from the Westminster library are sent to the far corners of the globe, some of its readers are in Australia and New Zealand, some in the United States of America and Japan.

Just too late for insertion in our last issue, Captain Fraser sent us particulars of a gift made him, which we know gave both himself and Mrs. Fraser the greatest pleasure. It took the form of a rug incorporating the badge of the Gloucester Regiment (Captain Fraser's old unit).

It was the work of F. W. Thompson, of Tavistock, South Devon, and is a remarkably clever and effective piece of work in every way. It is natural that our Chairman values, however, even more highly than the hard work and careful design which went to the making, the friendly thought which prompted its giving.

Mr. Irvine is to be congratulated on having again taken prizes for his birds at the Moffat Show. He has gained two firsts, one second, and two thirds.

We hear that J. H. Twigg, of Little Broughton, Cumberland, has been successful in winning first and third prizes for pullets at a local show.

Another St. Dunstaner who deserves congratulations is R. Davies, of Saxmundham. At a local show he carried off a first and special prize for one of his Leghorn pullets, and had another very highly commended.

We learn from a letter Captain Fraser has received from A. Yates, of Moulscumb, that two of the great interests of his wife and himself are gardening and wireless, an excellent combination, which provides for all conditions of weather. We congratulate both Yates and his wife upon the flourishing condition of their garden, and the success they are having with their wireless. They have a three-valve set which a friend made up for them, and Yates mentions he can get all B.B.C. stations with ease and also Paris.



## Trade Advertisements and Notices

[We have decided to devote some space each month to advertisements of goods made or supplied by St. Dunstaners, for which there may be a demand from others of our readers. No charge will be made for the insertion of these announcements, which, as our space is limited, must be as short as possible. They can only be accepted from men who have actually been trained at St. Dunstan's, and we undertake no responsibility with regard to them.—Ed.]

### A. A. BIGGS & Co., IMPORTERS, EXPORTERS.

95 SZECHUEN ROAD, SHANGHAI, CHINA.  
AGENTS FOR "KIA MUN TRADING COMPANY." GOODS SENT TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD.

*Mail Order Department: 24 Kung Ping Road, Shanghai.*

SILK HOSIERY (Pure Chinese Silk), Ladies' & Gents', SWATOW LACE, FILIGREE LACE,  
BROCADES, CROSS STITCH WORK, (all Guaranteed Hand Made).

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FIGURED SILK MATERIALS.

SILK MATERIALS (all Colours Guaranteed Pure Chinese Silk).

PONGEES. CHINESE TEA SETS, JAPANESE TEA SETS.

WHEN ORDERING SMALL QUANTITIES ADDRESS MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT.  
LOWEST FIGURES TO ST. DUNSTANERS. NO ORDER TOO SMALL—NONE TOO LARGE.

### The Best Sheffield made Table Cutlery at Lowest Possible Prices

Being in touch with the Sheffield Manufacturers I can supply the Real and best Sheffield made table cutlery of any description at the minimum cost. I can supply readers of "THE REVIEW" with **Presentation Cabinets of 105 pieces of Cutlery** down to the small order of half a dozen **Stainless Dinner, Desert or Tea Knives**, with forks or without.

*Write for particulars and prices, which will be sent post free and thus get the present lowest prices of the articles you may want.*

### W. BURGIN, Huthwaite Bank, Thurgoland, Sheffield

## J. A. MORTON, *Furniture Manufacturer.*

NAPHILL, NR. HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

Offer of Furniture to the readers of "St. Dunstan's Review."

BEDSTEADS, solid oak, full size, carved panels, 55/- each; in solid mahogany, 70/- each. Photo free.  
DINING ROOM CHAIRS, drop-in seats, solid oak, £7 5s. per set of 6 chairs.  
SOLID OAK DINING TABLES, from 57/6 each.  
SOLID OAK TYPEWRITING TABLES, turned legs and recess for paper, 25/- each.  
TEA TRAYS—Oak, 16 × 12, 6/3 each; to 24 × 16, at 9/3 each.  
Mahogany, 16 × 12, 8/- each; to 24 × 16, at 12/- each.

*Trays are polished any colour desired. Postage 1/- extra.*

*Full description of any of the articles above sent on application.*



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