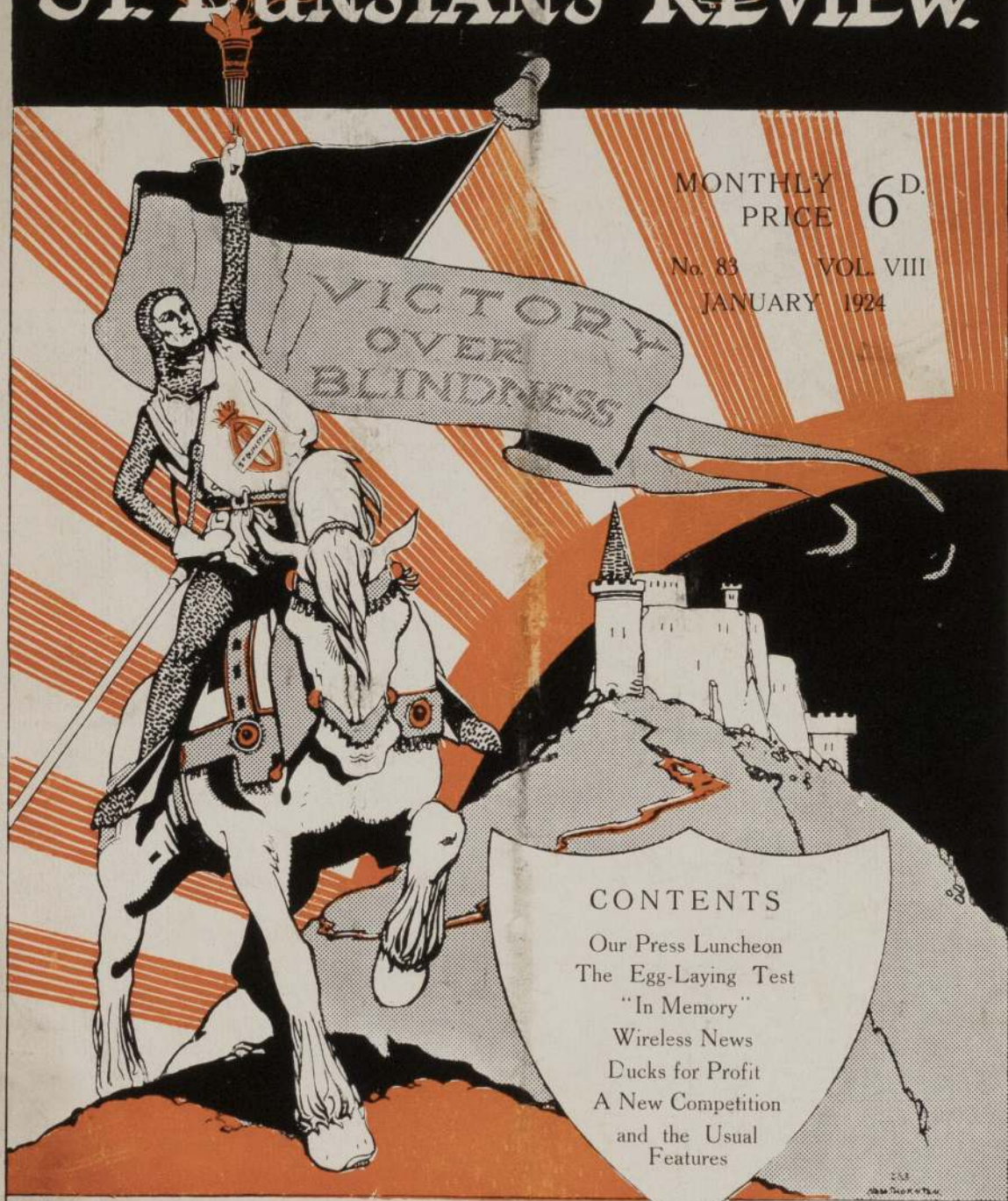


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

MONTHLY
PRICE 6^{D.}

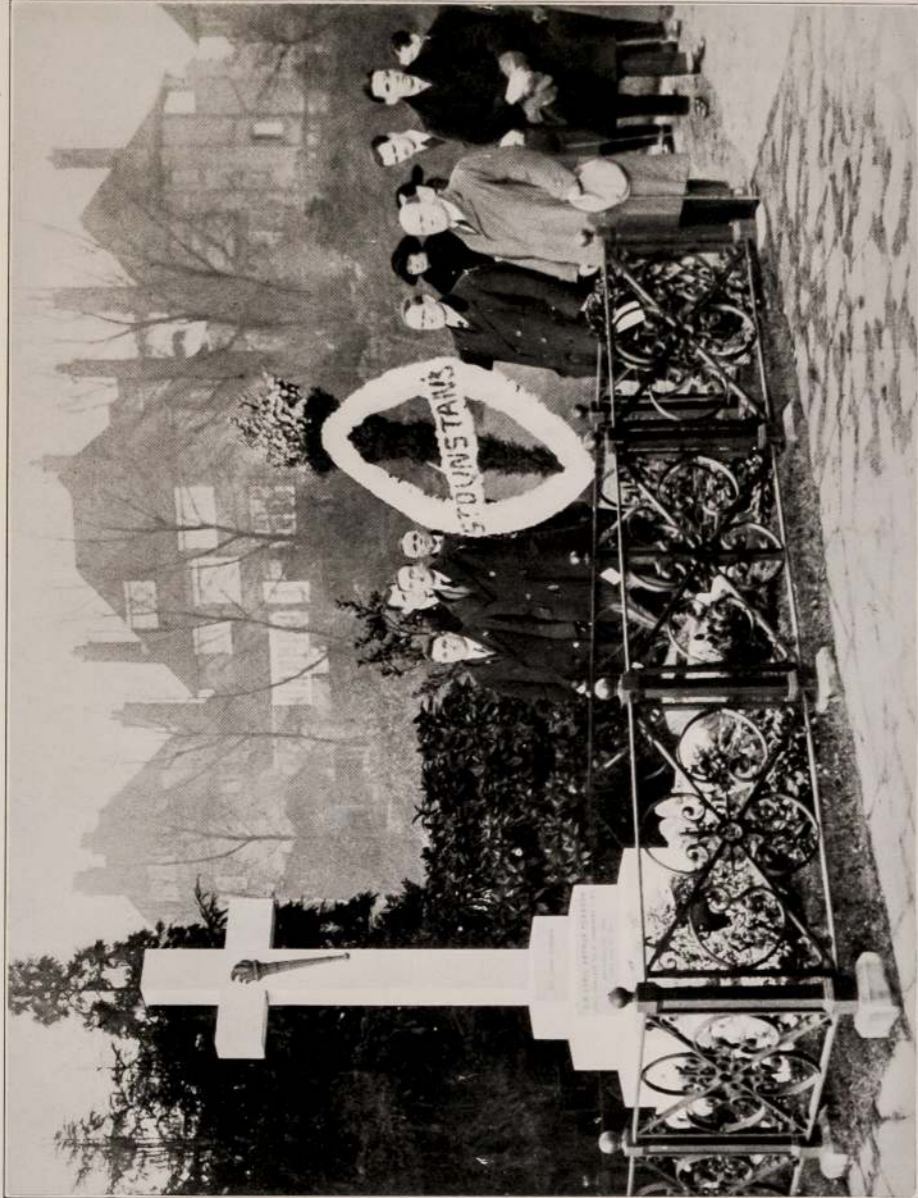
No. 83 VOL VIII
JANUARY 1924



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FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR



Our readers will like to possess the above record of the placing on our late Chief's grave of the splendid floral tribute from St. Dunstaners on the occasion of the second anniversary of Sir Arthur's death.

"In Memory."

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 83.—VOLUME VIII.

JANUARY, 1924.

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

EDITORIAL NOTES

WELL, the holidays are over, and the traditional feasting and merry-making which is part of the Christmas ritual to every true Britisher is over too—at least as regards that particular festival. We hope sincerely that 1924 will provide many more opportunities, and what is perhaps of greater importance, much more of the where-withal and the incentive to thus celebrate. Taking it all round there will be few mourners to the memory of the year that has gone. It was a year of hard work with but little return, political and social disturbances with but little change for the better, and generally a year of which most of us are glad to see the back; so let us raise our glasses to 1924, and to peace and prosperity for everyone everywhere.



Hardly a month passes but we are able to record some special achievement of a St. Dunstaner either in the direction of winning an award at some public show or in open competition in shop or stall display. Our men, we know, are as skilled craftsmen as any in the world, and it would be surprising indeed if their work did not frequently receive public recognition. In the matter of displaying the goods to the best advantage, however, they are naturally handicapped compared with sighted competitors, and it is this fact that makes it necessary so often to add to our reports of these personal triumphs such words as "his wife was largely responsible for the effective display." The wives of St. Dunstaners are wonderful! Just how wonderful only those who are brought into constant personal contact with them can testify. They have smoothed many difficulties, stimulated many ambitions, and helped in nearly all the successes achieved by our men. Here's to them, and also let us add to the mothers, sisters and sweethearts who play so great a part.



More than departmental interest only attaches to the Egg-Laying Test which is now being conducted at St. Dunstan's Poultry Farm at King's Langley. Already the London and provincial press have given evidence that the public in general and poultry farmers in particular are sympathetically eager to see how the birds of St. Dunstan's blinded poultry farmers will acquit themselves in this test of the be-all and end-all of every self-respecting hen's life—the laying of eggs. The *Daily Chronicle* recently had an important article on the subject and sent a special representative down to King's Langley to interview our poultry superintendent, while several other important journals are referring to the competition. It is hardly necessary to point out that such publicity is of the greatest value to our men, and if, as we sincerely trust will be the case, our tests compare favourably with those engaged in by sighted poultry breeders, valuable evidence will have

been given once again of the capability of St. Dunstaners to overcome their handicap. It is this independence of outside help and the determination to make good in spite of difficulties which has been the greatest factor in gaining for St. Dunstan's men the regard and admiration of the world, and has been responsible in no small degree for the splendid support accorded from every section of the public for St. Dunstan's work. The practical and material benefits to be derived by our poultry farmers themselves from the success of this test are so obvious as to need no comment.

St. Dunstan's Press Luncheon An Interesting and Useful Function Revived

IT was for a number of years the practice of Sir Arthur Pearson to entertain at luncheon once a year the members of the Newspaper Press and leading sportsmen and others who had rendered outstanding support to the work of our organisation.

By the generosity of Major the Hon. J. J. Astor, M.P., a member of St. Dunstan's Council, who defrayed the cost of the luncheon, and who takes the greatest interest in our work, this practice was revived again on the 13th December last, and a large and distinguished company sat down at the Hotel Cecil, with General the Earl of Cavan, K.P., K.C.M.G., etc., presiding.

After luncheon a new film showing St. Dunstan's work in narrative form, and made by Mr. Cecil M. Hepworth, was shown to the Company, and aroused the greatest interest.

Lord Cavan, in proposing the toast of "St. Dunstan's," with which he coupled the name of Capt. Ian Fraser, our chairman, read the following message from Her Majesty Queen Alexandra:

"I hear with interest of the luncheon which is being given by Major Astor, on behalf of St. Dunstan's, to the representatives of the Newspaper Press and others who have so regularly given their help to the institution. I trust that the meeting will be in all respects a success, and that the kind efforts of the Press to promote the good cause in which, as Patroness, I am so deeply concerned, will go far to further the appeals to be made this winter upon behalf of our blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen,

whose claims must always be of the first importance amongst their fellow-countrymen."

"ALEXANDRA."

He also read a letter from the Minister of Pensions, regretting that owing to ill-health he was unable to be present, but wishing St. Dunstan's all prosperity. Lord Cavan, in the course of an interesting speech, said that he had very gladly accepted the invitation to preside because it gave him an obviously public opportunity of saying that His Majesty's Forces can never be sufficiently grateful to Sir Arthur Pearson and his successors for their care and after-care of all members of those Forces who were blinded in the service of their country. He went on to suggest methods by which the service and support of the members of the Forces could be secured.

In responding, Captain Fraser mentioned that it was just two weeks more than two years ago that Sir Arthur Pearson had presided at a similar luncheon to this one, and that was the last public occasion before his death on which he advocated the cause which he had so dearly at heart. Captain Fraser proceeded to outline briefly the past work and the present and future responsibilities of the Organisation, and tendered to all who had helped to keep the name of St. Dunstan's before the great British public and to raise funds for the continuance of this work most sincere thanks.

Sir Neville Pearson proposed "St. Dunstan's Best Ally—the Newspaper Press," and, in the course of a witty and

informative speech, emphasised the immense value to St. Dunstan's of the publicity given by the Newspaper Press of the whole Empire. Incidentally, he pointed out how widely distributed was the great family of St. Dunstan's and the vast character of the Organisation which was required to maintain contact and give practical help and advice to all the members of this family. He coupled with the toast the name of Major Astor, who, he said, was well-known to everyone as a good sportsman and a stalwart champion of the ex-service men. At St. Dunstan's they were particularly grateful that he had joined the Council, for on many occasions his advice had been invaluable.

Major Astor, in responding, expressed the great pleasure it gave him to have been the means of reviving such an enjoyable and helpful gathering as this luncheon and said that the debt which the cause of charity owed to the newspapers would be difficult to estimate.

Lieut.-Col. Eric Ball, in proposing the toast of "The Chairman," humorously remarked that he would have to be very brief, as there was a certain King's Regulation that said that a junior officer was not allowed to criticise, either adversely or favourably, a senior officer. He thanked Lord Cavan very much for the encouragement he had given them in his speech to carry on the work of St. Dunstan's.

Lord Cavan briefly responded and shortly afterwards the company dispersed.

Anonymous Donations

We are asked to acknowledge with very many thanks the following anonymous donations:—

To St. Dunstan's:—

Kilburn	£1 0 0
London, E.C.	1 0 0

To Captain Fraser:—

Hampstead	5 0 0
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To the Secretary:—

Bournemouth	1 0 0
Peterborough	1 1 0
Birmingham	0 5 0
St. John's Wood	0 5 0
Sheffield	0 5 0

A Competition

Captain Fraser has been presented with two pairs of head-phones and has offered them to the Editor as prizes for any competition he can devise. It is obvious that the contest must be one in connection with Wireless, and there comes the rub, for the Editor is but the merest tyro in matters appertaining to the mysteries of radio. He has a dark suspicion that Captain Fraser's knowledge of this fact and his desire to remedy such an undesirable state of affairs was partly responsible for, not the offer of the prizes, but the condition that the Editor should invent a competition for them.

Well, he cannot let his readers miss these prizes, and so has faced the problem bravely. Here is his solution—

A prize of one pair of head-phones is offered to the reader who sends in the best suggestion for a competition for the other pair.

The applause having subsided, the Editor desires his readers to note that entries must be received by February 10th, and addressed "Wireless Competition," The Editor, St. Dunstan's Review, St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

Joking apart, we hope our readers will take a real interest in making entries for this Competition, quite apart from the question of the modest prize we are offering.

Wireless is taking an ever-increasing part in the recreational life of our men, and it is being followed with such skill and adaptability by those who have possessed sets for some time that we are sure many suggestions will be forthcoming which will be of interest and value to the less expert or the beginners among our readers.

Captain Fraser has kindly consented to give the Editor the benefit of his wide and expert knowledge of radio in judging the entries received.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

FROM Exeter comes word of W. Tout, who is pegging away happily in his little workshop and taking such pride and pleasure in the excellent work he does that we feel he deserves more local recognition than he gets. We hope that 1924 will bring him all the trade he wants.

A variety of work has been coming to J. Marriott (Cambs) of late, for he is fortunately situated in an agricultural district and also succeeds in obtaining orders from people in the surrounding villages; he has even despatched some baskets to Staffordshire. His luck is in with poultry too, for from 49 laying birds he secured 195 eggs in one week.

Another who is proud of his poultry is R. K. Lowrie, of Langley, Bucks, who in that drear month of November sold 135 dozen eggs. His birds look in splendid condition. Lowrie also goes in for pig breeding with success, and his farm shows that a great deal of work has been spent on it. It is a place of which its owner has every reason to be proud.

Just before the close of the year F. J. Brown, of Birmingham, received an order for a large traveller's skip from one of the largest manufacturing firms in the city so he is hoping that January, or at latest February, may see him busy on repeats. We congratulate Brown on the possibility of something developing, for we hear the firm in question uses a goodly number of such skips and we feel sure that this St. Dunstaner will have put his customary good work into the preliminary order.

Poultry and netting have been keeping busy W. N. Williamson, who is settled near Manchester, but he reports a temporary lull in the last named industry.

Knowing the energy both Williamson and his wife put into the working of their business we are confident of their ultimate success, and wish them every prosperity in the New Year.

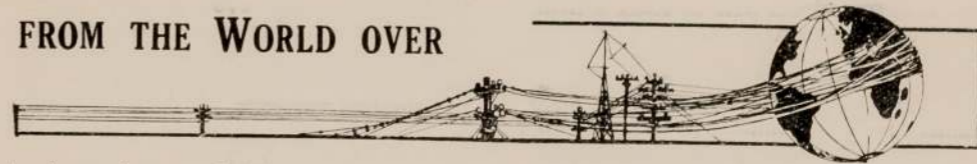
Several men have had the misfortune to lose dogs lately, and now here is yet another man who has had his poisoned—W. Woodrow, of Salop. The dog was a great pet and valuable to him in many ways. All dog lovers will sympathise. We hope that, although perhaps no dog will come up to that dog, Woodrow will soon find another intelligent canine friend. He has been working hard with his poultry of late and despite weather difficulties and the onslaught of rabbits, the birds look remarkably well.

"My luck has turned the right way at last," says W. H. Byrd, "and orders are coming in for baskets." He hopes soon to build up a steady connection as he is the only basket maker in his Somerset village. All Byrd's friends will be glad to hear that his little son is better; at one time the child was in a dangerous state.

A particularly busy man these days is A. Law, of Shrewsbury, for he has picked up some poultry houses at a bargain price, and is now re-erecting them. Law is lucky in having a friendly neighbour who is by trade a cabinet maker. Such skilled aid as this friend can give smooths many a rough corner.

A most startling experience befel A. Griffen, of Hereford, a few months ago, and though it is rather late to mention a July occurrence we feel sure his friends will like to know details. It seems that the whole household had a very narrow escape as during a thunderstorm a ball of fire entered the kitchen and appears

FROM THE WORLD OVER



to have burst. Griffen describes the affair as resembling a bombardment. Oddly enough the only casualty was a pail of eggs which Griffen had most unfortunately brought in! The bucket was put out of shape, needless to say. Except for this no harm was done as the family was amazed to find when the sulphur fumes cleared off. We offer belated congratulations on a marvellous escape.

Is W. J. Bowers, of Hounslow, alone in his line? He has lately bought a coffee stall and finds it interesting work though it keeps him busy until a late hour each night. Bowers, by the way, is another of the wireless band and listens-in every spare moment.

A kindred spirit in the wireless direction is J. A. Morton, of High Wycombe, who, as readers of our advertisement page will gather, is a very enterprising man. The stock of goods he has for sale is one of which any manufacturer might be proud.

Another who has built up a most promising business, due partly to his own hard work and capacity, partly to the fact that he is lucky enough to have a wife as indefatigable and keen as himself, is W. C. Smith, of Derbyshire. The lines they stock would make a very long paragraph so we must content ourselves with mentioning only baskets and mats—which, of course, Smith makes himself—hardware, glass, china, earthenware, ironmongery and toys.

In Bolton F. Tait has made a very good start with a new business (sweets). Everything is in excellent order, and noting the arrangement we are not surprised to hear that Tait was only three points off the Cup Prize for "artistic and original

arrangement" offered at the Bolton Town Carnival a month or so back. We hope that next year he will carry it off with ease.

How many St. Dunstaners have tried model making as a hobby? A. Wilson, of Buxton, has found the making of a model ship a fascinating piece of work. It is a remarkable achievement, and when it is exhibited we anticipate that Wilson will find it hard to convince people that it is his work—even though he be a St. Dunstaner.

The friends of D. Makin, of Willington-on-Tyne, will be sorry to hear that he has had a serious set-back in his progress. His pony bolted and unfortunately broke a leg, so had to be shot. Makin had only had it three weeks.

We learn that J. Nolan, of Salop, has had a successful poultry season and a good trading year generally—in fact, his best since leaving St. Dunstan's. As a result, he is very proud to have been able to considerably increase his children's War Savings Certificates, and at the same time put away a little "nest-egg" for himself. Our hearty congratulations to this thrifty and hard-working St. Dunstaner.

We are glad to learn from a letter received from T. Kent, of Chelmsford, that he is getting on very well and that joinery work is coming in splendidly for the New Year. He had also a very good Christmas trade.

A. Welland, of Guildford, is also possessed of keenness. Indeed, we hear that he works too long hours for the good of his health and could not be persuaded to take a holiday last year as he did not want to shut his shop. "Stick-to-it-iveness" is an excellent attribute, but even this must be tempered with wisdom,

and it is sometimes wise to relax a little however much there is waiting to be done.

A very busy man with a very busy family is J. Thomas, of Glamorgan, for cows, pigs and poultry all flourish with him; he runs a milk round, helped by his family, and yet finds time to do a fair amount of netting

A very high recommendation comes to us concerning the work of F. Ralph, of Purley, and he has every reason to be proud of his progress. He has become quite an expert in french polishing and staining, while his general wood work is equal to that of any man with sight or without. This being so it is not surprising to hear that he has quite a pile of complimentary letters from the customers to whom he has given satisfaction. Ralph has recently finished off a child's wardrobe and toy cupboard, some frames and a trouser press, yet still has work in sight. He should be a proud and happy man.

Another who has made a name for himself as an expert, although in a different line, is G. F. Furniss, of Bolton, who has brought the reseating of chairs to a fine art. So good is he at this work that people from the neighbouring villages send their chairs in to him by the district carrier.

Everyone who remembers E. Lupton, who is settled near Kirkham, will be interested in hearing that he has several strings to his bow. He has built a wash-house at the back of his premises, and is now busy on poultry runs. He should do well in this line as he has an excellent chance of marketing his wares, being little more than six miles from Blackpool.

H. Hurst, of Derbyshire, too, is very keen on his birds. He has not a great number but those he has are in excellent condition. His friends will regret to hear

that he has been having a very anxious time of late as his eldest daughter has been seriously ill. We hope soon to be able to record that she is well on the road to complete recovery.

Yet another who finds perpetual interest in his birds is C. H. Brown, of Salop, but in addition to poultry, he goes in for pigeons, and as a sheer pastime, fishing.

An interesting account of his various activities has been received from W. Lowings, of Eastleigh, Hants, who, by the way, proved a valuable assistant to Miss Witherby at the Bournemouth Show. "We had a good time there," he tells us, "and I have been very busy since my return. In addition to my basket work I have now a regular position as a jazz drummer at a dance hall, and shall be keeping up concerts as well both with the drums and for singing engagements."

All sporting St. Dunstaners will be interested to hear that Lowings "kicked off" at a recent local football match, and that he has just been made a life member of his branch of the British Legion.

We congratulate Lowings, not only on these successes but on the energetic way he goes to work to keep the name of St. Dunstan's before the eyes of the people of Eastleigh. It is only a week or so ago that he was performing, both as a singer and as a jazz drummer, at a Unity Club concert.

In a cheery letter of Christmas greetings sent to Captain Fraser by W. Dimond, of Bampton, we hear that Dimond was brought into close touch during the Election with a candidate internationally famous in the world of sport—Commander C. B. Fry, who was standing as Liberal candidate for the Banbury Division, who used Dimond's parlour as his Committee Room. It must have been an interesting time for Dimond, and from personal knowledge we share his hearty admiration for Commander Fry.

One who, like Lowings, is working hard for St. Dunstan's is T. W. Grove, of Botley. He has been getting up a dance for us and we shall look to receive some interesting details concerning it.

A fine piece of luck has befallen F. W. Wenborn, of Dover, as through the good offices of a friend he has been able to secure the use of a show window in a prominent position in order that he may make a week's special show of his baskets, while the united efforts of this same friend and Wenborn himself have won for him a considerable amount of publicity in the local press. It is pleasant to hear that with the help of his "very capable wife" (as Wenborn describes her) he was able to put up an excellent show and also to cope with his own trade. The venture should have proved not only a success financially, but also in a publicity way, and every time a man makes more widely known his own good work he does something for all St. Dunstaners.

From W. H. Farr, of Windsor, pleasant news comes to us. "I am keeping very busy," he reports, "and have work enough to keep me so for some time to come: I have five oak bedsteads in my workshop which will be completed within the next few days."

Since so many St. Dunstaners are now keeping ducks we are sure they will read with interest the account of the methods of A. J. Holland, of Northants, which will be found in another part of the REVIEW. His pullets, we are glad to hear, are laying well, although recent weather has been bad for them. Holland tells us that all the birds are white on his little farm, hens and ducks alike, and that he is often told how clean they look and that they do great credit to both himself and his wife, who, we are sorry to hear, is still having trouble with her foot.

Another who is showing plenty of initiative, although in a different direction, is J. Burley, of Norwich, who has

been making a model bed-chair, and this not being sufficient outlet for his energy, he has, with the help of a neighbour, repainted and papered the house both inside and out. The result is most satisfactory evidently, for we hear "it looks very nice indeed."

We have not had much news of G. Nancarrow, of Cornwall, lately so are the more glad to be able to record that he is getting a fair number of local orders, although he would like still more. We hope with him that one just received from a school council may lead to further trade. Nancarrow is another of the large branch of our family eager to help St. Dunstan's and keep its name before the people of his district. We believe that he has already submitted some useful ideas to headquarters and is now busy thinking out others.

Space is limited but despite this we must mention that J. Brockerton, of Coleraine (Ireland), finds himself "as busy as he can be." He is at work at present on a large turkey rug, and has an order for a yet larger one which is to be started as soon as the first is finished. In addition he has a commission for four or five fibre mats. Congratulations to him both for what he is doing and for what he has done, for we hear that he recently turned out a particularly tricky motor mat which proved perfect in every way. This is high praise indeed.

Another who is winning laurels is T. Till, of Lancaster. The work he has been putting into a large picture cabinet is said to be beautiful.

G. G. Madieson, of Brighton—who makes really good centre cane baskets, by the way—connects the fact that his name recently appeared in the REVIEW with the other fact that he has received a number of orders from Scotland lately.

Poultry Notes

St. Dunstan's Laying Test

WE hear from one of our Scotch boys, R. Boyter, of Ancrum, Roxburghshire, that he was successful recently in obtaining third prize with one of his birds at St. Boswell's Show.

There were quite a number of entries to compete against.

We have just had news from G. Fletcher, of Marple, saying that he has been successful in gaining a number of prizes with his poultry at a local show. He took first and special with a White Leghorn pullet, first with a White Wyandotte pullet, second with a Rhode Island Red pullet, and several other prizes.

He also tells us that his birds have laid very well since the beginning of September.

We understand from J. H. Twigg, of Cockermonth, Cumberland, that the particulars given in the last REVIEW of his successes at local shows did not record all of them.

We understand his wins included four first prizes, two specials, one third, and a few highly commended tickets, and in Lockerbie in Scotland he won V.H.C. ticket, and is trying his luck again at Egremont.

W. Last, of Pennsylvania Farm, Llanllwni, near Pencader, South Wales, writes us saying he has again been appointed station holder for the distribution of sitting eggs throughout Carmarthen, under the County Council scheme.

This is the third year in succession that Last has been chosen, and he is to be congratulated on his success.

An important notice which appeared in a recent issue of "Eggs" should be of interest to many of our poultry farmers, and as it is just possible some of you may have discontinued taking

this paper I now give a copy of the notice. It reads as follows:—

INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION OF FARMS.

"We have been advised that the Ministry of Agriculture is prepared to carry out, at the request of the S.P.B.A., for an experimental period of one year, commencing 1st January, the inspection of plant, stock and methods of poultry management of all members throughout the whole of England, Scotland and Wales, who wish their names to appear in the Association's Register of approved breeders.

"It is to be perfectly understood that the responsibility for granting or withholding of certificates for the registration will rest with the Association. No name will be added to the Register except on the recommendation of the Ministry's Inspector. The responsibility of the Ministry will be confined to the work of inspection and incidental duties relating thereto.

"Will our members who desire to have their plant and stock inspected and registered kindly communicate with us without delay, so that the necessary arrangements can be made. The names of all approved farms will be published in "Eggs," and in the Register, and a certificate will be granted by the S.P.B.A. A list of approved farms will be sent to the Ministry of Agriculture."

I need hardly remind you that you are all life members of the S.P.B.A., and those of you who hold good stocks of pure breeds and desire to sell eggs for sitting and day olds, should take the necessary steps to have their farms registered.

We have now come to the end of the third period of our Laying Test, and the following results speak for themselves:

HEAVY BREED SECTION.

Pen No.	Breed	Owner	Eggs laid 3rd Period		Total	Total Eggs to date	Test Value
			1st	2nd			
35	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Fowler, J. ...	71	—	71	229	229
42	W. Wyandottes ..	Crabtree, F. ...	43	16	59	184	184
38	W. Wyandottes ..	Griffen, A. ...	64	—	64	180	180
43	W. Wyandottes ..	Stamper, T. D. ...	26	13	39	174	163
30	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Condon, C. T. ...	50	15	65	160	160
26	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Trigg, A. E. ...	40	4	44	152	152
28	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Boorman, F. W. ...	28	27	55	173	148
36	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Tebble, E. ...	33	29	62	195	138
23	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Holmes, P. ...	44	5	49	132	132
33	Rhode Is. Reds ..	McLeod, Steel, Mr. ...	35	2	37	120	120
31	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Nelson, H. ...	27	6	33	115	115
29	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Littlejohn, D., Mr. ...	41	2	43	114	114
27	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Clark, R. A. ...	27	27	54	129	111
34	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Maclaren, D., Mr. ...	27	16	43	107	107
40	W. Wyandottes ..	Hargreaves, H. ...	38	25	63	105	105
37	W. Wyandottes ..	Wright, W. H. ...	21	15	36	102	102
39	W. Wyandottes ..	Levett, J. ...	52	2	54	98	98
25	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Woods, E. L. ...	34	9	43	91	91
32	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Smith, G. R., Mr. ...	38	5	43	74	74
24	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Woodrow, W. ...	9	30	39	99	70
45	Light Sussex ..	Boyter, R. ...	20	11	31	62	62
44	W. Wyandottes ..	Last, W. ...	—	23	23	44	44
22	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Bisset, L. A., Mr. ...	41	—	41	51	51
21	Rhode Is. Reds ..	Hamilton, B. ...	4	9	13	13	13
41	W. Wyandottes ..	Letch, S. J. ...	1	3	4	5	5

LIGHT BREED SECTION.

9	W. Leghorns ..	Bulman, C., Mr. ...	57	4	61	197	197
15	W. Leghorns ..	Ramsden, N., Mr. ...	54	11	65	176	176
13	W. Leghorns ..	Pink, A. ...	45	7	52	172	172
14	W. Leghorns ..	Coulson, A. ...	43	17	60	171	171
7	W. Leghorns ..	Burgin, W. ...	44	20	64	180	160
5	W. Leghorns ..	McIntosh, C. ...	47	16	63	183	158
4	W. Leghorns ..	Tindall, H. J. ...	16	20	36	159	140
12	W. Leghorns ..	Irvine, Mr. T. ...	15	5	20	119	119
18	Black Leghorns ..	Carlton, W. E. ...	23	4	27	111	111
6	W. Leghorns ..	Hetherington, T. ...	35	15	50	115	107
20	La Bresse ..	Capper, A. H., Mr. ...	25	31	56	113	103
2	W. Leghorns ..	Owen, Capt. W. ...	30	5	35	102	102
10	W. Leghorns ..	Brown, C. H. ...	26	21	47	101	101
8	W. Leghorns ..	Webb, W. ...	5	9	14	113	100
17	Black Leghorns ..	Harris, F. J. ...	53	—	53	93	93
3	W. Leghorns ..	Whitingslow, J. ...	3	7	10	87	83
1	W. Leghorns ..	Horsnell, N. ...	1	59	60	170	67
16	W. Leghorns ..	Hawkins, G. H. ...	33	18	51	61	61
11	W. Leghorns ..	Gwyn, I. ...	12	27	39	58	58
19	Anconas ..	Irish, H. ...	5	9	14	29	29

The Test Manager reports as follows:

"Practically all the birds that had fallen into a neck moult are now laying again or will be very shortly.

"During the month we have had some trouble with colds—mostly in the Light Breed Section—but are now almost free. One bird has been in hospital with eye cold—a very slight case; she will shortly be returned to the flock.

"As the records for the month will show, the egg production has been well

maintained. The average for the two sections works out at 11.02 eggs per bird for the four weeks. The difference between the sections is .12 eggs per bird in favour of the "heavies." This would appear to show that the light breeds—principally the White Leghorns—can be equally as good winter layers as their heavy breed sisters.

"The average size of egg is most satisfactory."

J. T. B.

Letters to the Editor

Huthwaite Bank Poultry Farm,
Thurgoland,
Near Sheffield,

1st January 1924.

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

As my fellow poultry-farmers chose me to represent them on the committee in regard to the present Laying Test that we are holding, I should like this opportunity to make a few comments about the same, with your permission.

In the first place, I venture to say that we have been able to show that we have some good stock, as our first and second reports show up very favourably, and better than most other laying tests that are now in progress. I think there will be some good records made by the end of the test next February, and the result will, I am sure, be watched with interest.

Now, I think the laying test will prove of value to us, as it will not only show us what our birds can do but the comparison with other tests and thus the poultry public will know what kind of stuff we keep, and that should prove a good advertisement to the men and *St. Dunstan's*.

I am writing on New Year's day and along with me I guess the thoughts of poultry farmers are turned to this year's breeding; and I think, if we are satisfied with our present test efforts, and are in favour of our running one at the end of this year, we shall now set about the details of it, and make up our minds as to its duration and time, so that all of us would then know about it early enough to hatch birds for the purpose.

With this point in view, I suggest that the men in favour of a further test should write our Superintendent, and state their wishes on the matter. As a basis of comment on the matter, I venture to suggest the following: that the test be of a duration of 12 lunar months (48 weeks), the date of commencement to be 1st November

1924. This would, I think, give the men a chance who may have been a little late in hatching their birds out.

With regard to sections, I think these could be so arranged as to make provision for classes to suit those with a large number of birds, and those who have only a few such as a single pen and pens for two birds, and I venture to think that this would allow us to have a larger test and be more fair to all competitors.

As it is better to know what to provide for I think it would be better if we can make up our minds on the matter and let our views be known, so if the men would write at once something can then be ascertained and a definite scheme put down.

In conclusion, I send my best wishes to all at *St. Dunstan's*.

Yours sincerely,
WALTER BURGIN.

Lieut. H. Irish, of Mirfield, writes the Editor as follows:—

"I was interested to read in the last number of the REVIEW of various successes at Poultry Shows. Perhaps you will be interested to hear of mine. I took five birds to the Mirfield Fanciers' Show on Boxing Day, and came away with five first prizes and a special for gaining the greatest total number of points in the Show. I won in the heavy breed exhibition class with a Rhode Island cockerel, the heavy breed female class with a Rhode Island pullet, the light breed male class with an Ancona cockerel, the utility cockerel class with an Ancona cockerel, and the selling class with an Ancona cockerel. All except the first one were utility classes."

Our heartiest congratulations upon a very fine capture of prizes.



Another Prize Winner

A first prize at a local show has been won by R. Davies, of Sweftling, with his Leghorn bird, while another exhibit was highly commended. We congratulate him on these results for we know he has worked hard in every way.

"In Memory"

CORPORAL LEONARD DAWSON LLOYD.
(Kite Balloon Section, R.A.F.)
Died, 23rd December 1923.

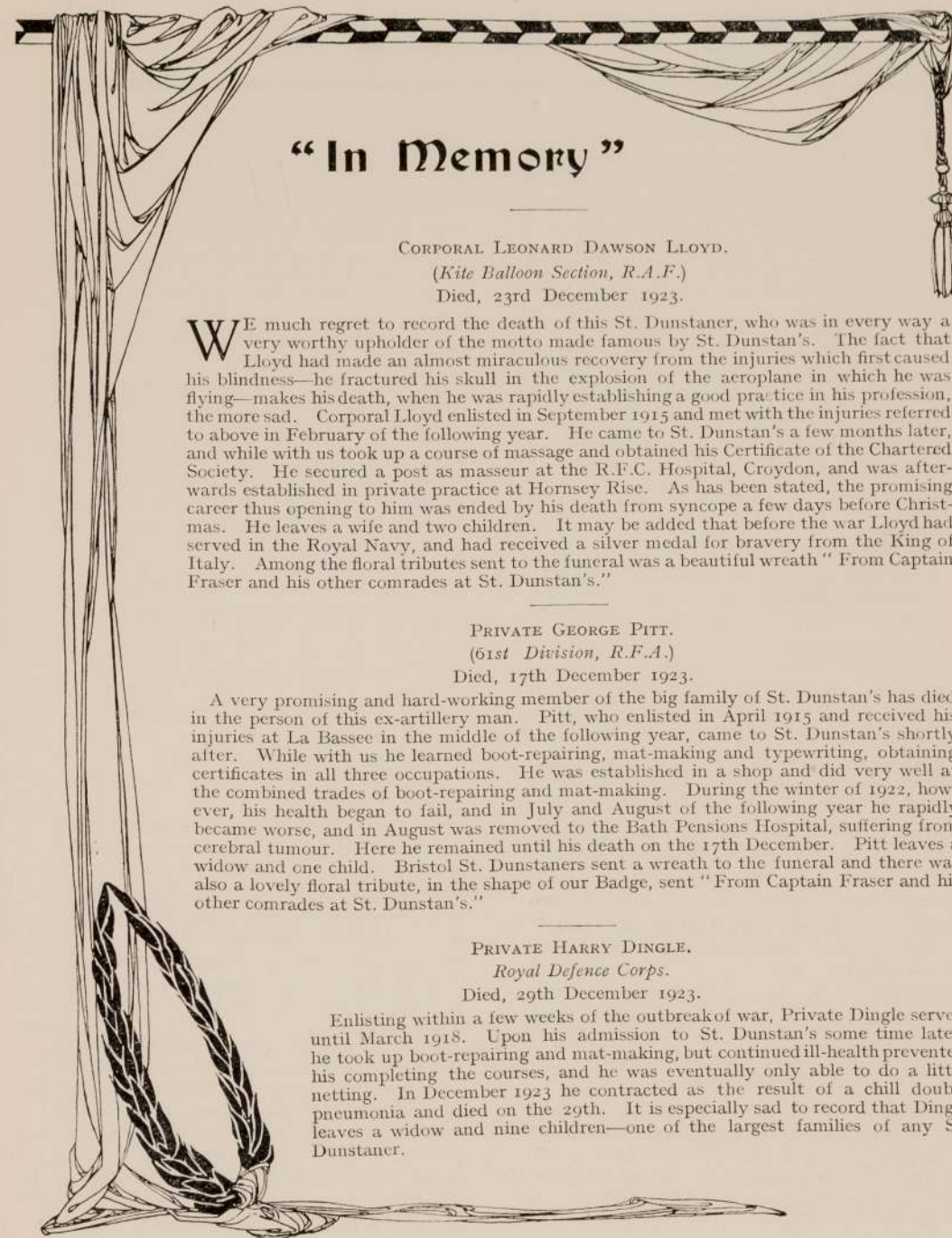
WE much regret to record the death of this *St. Dunstan*, who was in every way a very worthy upholder of the motto made famous by *St. Dunstan's*. The fact that Lloyd had made an almost miraculous recovery from the injuries which first caused his blindness—he fractured his skull in the explosion of the aeroplane in which he was flying—makes his death, when he was rapidly establishing a good practice in his profession, the more sad. Corporal Lloyd enlisted in September 1915 and met with the injuries referred to above in February of the following year. He came to *St. Dunstan's* a few months later, and while with us took up a course of massage and obtained his Certificate of the Chartered Society. He secured a post as masseur at the R.F.C. Hospital, Croydon, and was afterwards established in private practice at Hornsey Rise. As has been stated, the promising career thus opening to him was ended by his death from syncope a few days before Christmas. He leaves a wife and two children. It may be added that before the war Lloyd had served in the Royal Navy, and had received a silver medal for bravery from the King of Italy. Among the floral tributes sent to the funeral was a beautiful wreath "From Captain Fraser and his other comrades at *St. Dunstan's*."

PRIVATE GEORGE PITT.
(61st Division, R.F.A.)
Died, 17th December 1923.

A very promising and hard-working member of the big family of *St. Dunstan's* has died in the person of this ex-artillery man. Pitt, who enlisted in April 1915 and received his injuries at La Bassee in the middle of the following year, came to *St. Dunstan's* shortly after. While with us he learned boot-repairing, mat-making and typewriting, obtaining certificates in all three occupations. He was established in a shop and did very well at the combined trades of boot-repairing and mat-making. During the winter of 1922, however, his health began to fail, and in July and August of the following year he rapidly became worse, and in August was removed to the Bath Pensions Hospital, suffering from cerebral tumour. Here he remained until his death on the 17th December. Pitt leaves a widow and one child. Bristol *St. Dunstaners* sent a wreath to the funeral and there was also a lovely floral tribute, in the shape of our Badge, sent "From Captain Fraser and his other comrades at *St. Dunstan's*."

PRIVATE HARRY DINGLE.
Royal Defence Corps.
Died, 29th December 1923.

Enlisting within a few weeks of the outbreak of war, Private Dingle served until March 1918. Upon his admission to *St. Dunstan's* some time later, he took up boot-repairing and mat-making, but continued ill-health prevented his completing the courses, and he was eventually only able to do a little netting. In December 1923 he contracted as the result of a chill double pneumonia and died on the 29th. It is especially sad to record that Dingle leaves a widow and nine children—one of the largest families of any *St. Dunstan*.





CHAPEL NOTES

I was so cheered to find such a goodly number at our first service of Term, and do hope that we will be able to carry on as long as I am in London. We all feel how helpful these simple little services are, and I look forward to the men themselves—those who are residents and also the old boys—to see that our Sunday worship is maintained.

I am delighted to have still the services of Miss Berry and Miss Bird as Chapel Sisters, and hope that Miss Warren will be able to come sometimes and look after the musical part.

Births

BALLARD.—On December 6th, to the wife of A. W. Ballard, of Bridgnorth, a daughter.

BELL.—To the wife of R. Bell, of Dublin, a daughter (Frances Eva), on December the 3rd.

DOYLE.—To the wife of M. Doyle, of London, W.I, a son, on the 13th of December.

PAUL.—On December the 3rd, to the wife of Wm. Paul, a daughter. Mother and child both doing well.

RENDELL.—To the wife of J. Rendell, of Tiverton, on Sunday, the 25th of November, a son.

SMITH.—A daughter to the wife of G. F. Smith, of Newbury, on December the 6th.

SWINGLER.—A son to the wife of E. Swingler, of Tuxford, on December the 10th.

VARLEY.—On the 5th of December, to the wife of B. E. Varley, of W. Bergholt, a daughter.

WENBORN.—On December the 13th, to the wife of F. W. Wenborn, of Dover, a son.

Engagement

Good wishes for future happiness are also sent to A. Mann, whose marriage with Miss Winifred Jackson, of Stanford, Lincs., we hear, has been arranged for Easter Monday next. We hope to be able to announce further details later.

Marriages

WOOLLEN—HANDLEY.—At East Ham, A. J. Woollen, late of the 2nd Wiltshires, to Nurse Norah Handley.

(This, we hear, is yet another "hospital romance," for Woollen met his bride at the Leytonstone Hospital, where he is masseur. We offer our best wishes to the young couple.)

Deaths

We sent our sympathy to :

BATCHELOR.—Mr. and Mrs. Batchelor, of Tooting, who lost their baby on Wednesday, December the 12th.

GEORGE.—H. George, of Brighton, whose father died suddenly on Christmas Day.

GODING.—W. Goding, of Leicester, who on the 28th of December lost his wife after a long and painful illness of almost two years' duration. She was in her thirty-sixth year. Since Easter last Goding has suffered three bereavements, having lost his little son of three years, his only brother, and now his wife. We are sure he will have the deep sympathy of all St. Dunstaners.

GREAVES.—Another who has just suffered a loss is H. Greaves, of Lincs., who, like H. George, is bereaved of a father; he died on the 4th of December, after an eight weeks' illness.

HOUGH.—On the 30th of December the mother of Hough, of Northwick, passed away.

JOHN.—On the 29th of October, after a long and painful illness, the mother of W. D. John, of Glamorganshire.

McAVOY.—On 21st of November Mr. and Mrs. McAvoy, of Ayrshire, were bereaved of their 16-year old daughter after a two years' illness.

MOWTELL.—On the 23rd of December the sister of F. Mowtell, of Cramlington, passed away. It is barely nine months since Mowtell lost his father, and word of this second tragedy came to him in the form of a telegram while he was writing a letter of good wishes to Headquarters. We join with his many friends in offering him the sympathy we know he needs.

From the Chairman's Post-Bag

A BUDGET of New Year greetings have been received from St. Dunstaners overseas. Here is a letter from J. Chisholm, of Auckland, New Zealand, from whom it is always pleasant to hear.

"We have had a wet spring," he writes, "and as our trees blossomed during the worst of it we have doubts of getting much fruit, but it is too early to speak definitely on the subject as yet. It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good though, for the crops are getting ahead of our stock. I keep on clearing the ground and have a good bit ready for the crops in the autumn. We have some more oats just in and will soon be putting in maize as both the stock and ourselves are fond of it. Eaten when in the right stage it beats green peas in hot weather.

"All the scrub I take up at present is being saved for a bonfire by a young lady friend of mine aged nine years. She intends to celebrate Guy Fawkes day in the correct fashion!

"Please remember me to everybody.

Yours sincerely,

J. CHISHOLM."

Another New Zealander, R. W. Glasson, also of Auckland, writes that both he and his wife are concentrating all their energies and time on preparations for the New Year, but promises a further letter to give details as to his accession to the ranks of the Benedicts. We hope to receive such items as will enable us to announce the event in the REVIEW with due decorum.

"Life goes on here very much the same," according to J. P. Robinson, of Nelson, New Zealand. "We have had a very nice spring and the country is looking very pretty just now. It has been good weather for the garden, and we have been kept busy with both vegetables and flowers. We are getting the place stocked up by degrees and finding a lot of pleasure in it. There has been so much to do that

it is often hard to decide what to do next. I am feeling wonderfully well and can tackle things now that I would not have thought possible some months ago."

A very unpleasant experience befel J. Nisbet, of Otago, and we are sure everyone will be sorry to hear the set-back he has received. The house he was left in took fire and there was no one about to see, so the fire took strong hold before it was discovered. Nisbet lost everything he possessed except the clothes he had on—even his watch; his St. Dunstan's badge and his savings, which were in a suit case, went with the rest.

When J. W. Thom, of Caulfield, Victoria, Australia, wrote a reunion was about to be held in Adelaide. As he was going to it we hope to receive an interesting account of proceedings from him, as came from certain Canadians.

Here are letters from the Canadian mail:—

"I should have written sooner," says J. W. Ogilvie, of Toronto, "but I thought I would wait and see how my work made out at the exhibition when I intended to send you my work and spool basket, but unfortunately it got sold, so I'll enclose details of this on a separate sheet.

"I suppose you have heard all about the reunion we had at Pearson Hall, where we had a very nice time. We had Suggden down from Calgary, and MacDonald from Sak., and Bruce from Winnipeg, and Jimmie Downie from Vancouver, and a lot of others. We had sports and I won the golf putting competition, and I think I had the best of the broad jump only my glass eye jumped out and hit my glasses, and I didn't know just what had happened. When I stopped I had gone 8ft. 3in., and the jump was won by 8ft. 4in., so I think I could have won it easily enough.

"The next day we had an election of officers, and W. Dyes, who used to be at the house, was elected President for the coming year.

"In the afternoon we had a trip across the lake in a boat given by the City Council, then at night we went to the theatre, and after that we just went around to meet our old friends from St. Dunstan's."

We note with special interest Oglitree's promise to send over something which should take well for the British Empire Exhibition, for we intend to make our exhibit worthy of St. Dunstan's, and are looking to the overseas men to lend their valuable aid, in order that it may be truly representative.

Another who found the reunion at Sir Arthur Pearson Club a "great success" was J. Downie, of British Columbia, who had a long journey before he could take part in it.

"It was just fine meeting the boys again as it brought back pleasant memories of St. Dunstan's," he says, "and then comes an item of more personal news:

"I am pleased to have to inform you that Mrs. Downie presented me with a fine baby boy just two days before the reunion, and as they were both getting on well I did not mind going. There were fourteen in our party from Vancouver, including wives and escorts, and as we were about a week in the train we had a jolly time and after the reunion we scattered all over visiting friends and relatives.

"I have done fairly well with hammocks this summer and carried off two first prizes at the Toronto Exhibition as well as getting an award at the Vancouver and New Westminster Exhibition. Now the season for hammocks is over I hope to be kept busy with my drums."

Mrs. Fraser's Accident

Many anxious inquiries were received from those who read in the papers of the accident that had happened to Mrs. Fraser during the recent election, and these invariably wrote that they felt

they were voicing the feelings of all St. Dunstaners when they expressed their sympathetic dismay at what occurred. Among those who wrote were J. Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sheehy, A. E. Mann and H. J. Goodwin.

We feel sure that everyone will like to know the actual facts: Mrs. Fraser was unfortunately struck by a stone, thrown in a moment of excitement by some hooligan in North St. Pancras, at about 8.30 p.m. on polling night. The stone hit the eye and caused slight concussion and hemorrhage. The oculist would not let Mrs. Fraser use her eye for a few days, but she has now quite recovered normal sight.

A Skidding Motor

Owing to the greasy condition of the roads a motor car skidded and crashed into the shop window of F. Chapman, of Willesden. It was a nasty accident and might well have been worse, yet, as it was, it did serious damage to Chapman's stock of baskets, and we are sure all basket makers will sympathise with him in this catastrophe.

Our Silver Teapots

A letter of thanks for the St. Dunstan silver teapot has been received from S. C. Pike, of Brighton. We are glad to know that both Pike and his wife are delighted with their wedding present.

Congratulations

We offer congratulations to F. Buckley and E. J. Turner, who have both been successful in qualifying at the examinations in Massage and Swedish remedial exercises. We hope they will keep themselves fit in future as well as their patients.

We feel sure everyone will feel sympathy for the little daughter of R. Edwards, of Denbigh, who recently had the misfortune to fracture her leg. We are glad to hear she is making satisfactory progress.

Our Christmas Greetings

If the Christmas and New Year cards received by the various departments at headquarters could have been all displayed together we should have had a remarkably fine show. The recipients take this opportunity of thanking all the senders for their kindly thoughts. Among these were:—

Mr. and Mrs. Stacey, T. E. Rogers, T. Grayson, I. Hague, Mr. and Mrs. Hodkin, Mr. and Mrs. Hines, J. Attrell, R. Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Mr. and Mrs. S. Battin, Mr. and Mrs. Colville, A. E. Mann, F. W. Thompson, H. Agate, W. Sebbage, P. Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, J. McCarty, and Mr. and Mrs. Spencer.

In addition W. Bailey sent a photograph of himself and family, which is extremely good—he looks happy and contented; and an excellent postcard photograph of himself was received from W. Ward. W. Nash, of Lowestoft, sent us one of his specimen calendars—which, of course, we were interested in seeing; we also received several most attractive works of art from the overseas men, one showing a Canadian orchard in full bloom.



Captain Fraser received just before Christmas the following letter from Colonel Anley, of Cheltenham. We publish below both Colonel Anley's letter and Captain Fraser's reply, and are sure that all St. Dunstaners, and particularly the men who spent any time at Cheltenham Annexe, will very heartily re-echo the good wishes and thanks expressed in the letters.

Springfield Lawn,
The Park,
Cheltenham.

Christmas, 1923.

DEAR CAPTAIN FRASER,

I am sending this, my Christmas greeting, to you, the whole staff, and all the inmates of St. Dunstan's, as a token that my interest in the Institution has in no way slackened since the break-up of the annexe here. I am sending greetings (of the same simple pattern) to several of

the "boys" who were here, as I would not like them to think that I had forgotten them. Several other of my friends have passed away.

I expect you knew Charlie Gray—he is at Woking in a small business with his brother, so I asked my son, who is Commandant of the Senior Officers' School there, to go and see him, and he found him very fit, and also found that they had served together in France, in the 41st Division, of which my son was G.S.O., so they had a long talk!

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) BARNETT N. ANLEY.
(Colonel.)

Capt. Fraser replied as follows:—

21st December 1923.

DEAR COLONEL ANLEY,

Very many thanks for your kind letter of Christmas greetings. I do think it was extremely nice of you to take the trouble to write to us, and I am particularly glad to feel that the welfare of the blinded men is still of such interest to you.

I am sure that the men whom you befriended at Cheltenham, and to whom you have written, will be delighted to receive your greetings. Thank you so much for asking your son to interest himself in Charlie Gray. What a happy coincidence that he should have been in the 41st with your son!

I feel that many of the men with whom you came in contact would like to know that you remember them, and, accordingly, I would like—if you will allow me—to publish your kind letter to me in the next number of our REVIEW, of which I will send you a copy in due course.

With renewed most grateful thanks for your greetings, which I and all at St. Dunstan's most heartily reciprocate,

Yours very sincerely,

IAN FRASER,

Chairman.



It has been our pleasure from time to time to entertain at St. Dunstan's as guests one or two French blinded soldiers. An

interesting letter from one of these, M. F. Meyer, who stayed with us at St. Dunstan's for a short time about a year ago, has reached the Chairman. We quote M. Meyer's own words:—

"I don't want the year to finish without sending you my best wishes for the new one. I wonder if you still remember yourselves of the Franchman who was last year in St. Dunstan's work; I am always reminding myself of its good hospitality, and of all the persons who took care of me there. I have left Paris to spend the winter season on the Côte d'Azur, and I am enjoying very much this nice country. I wish you a nice Christmas and a Happy New Year, and I remain, yours sincerely, F. Meyer."

Greetings from Siam

We are sure our readers will like to know that the members of the British Legion in Siam, when sending a subscription to St. Dunstan's, as the result of a Memorial Service held in Christ Church, Bangkok, on Armistice Day, 1923, wished "the heartiest greetings of the season conveyed to our blinded ex-service men, from their ex-service comrades resident in Siam."

The kindly message has, of course, been acknowledged and heartily reciprocated on behalf of St. Dunstaners.

A Successful Typist

The firm with which S. A. Chambers, of King's Norton, is employed recently made a special offer to the employee who could show the best record for the department with which he was connected. The honour has been won by S. A. Chambers for the Mail Order Department, of which he is in charge.

A Belated Notice

It has just been noted that the birth of Isabel Ethel, the little daughter of T. Mowland, of Newfoundland, was never published in our usual column. We take this opportunity of making amends, for we know what joy her arrival gave to both Mr. and Mrs. Mowland, who by the way had been married for six years before the child came. She was born on the 5th of June 1923.

Workshop Notes

W. T. Harris has been steadily advancing with his basket-work, making improvement in the working of his rods, and gaining much more confidence. During last term he made hampers, a work-basket, some barrels and also a three-cornered soiled linen. J. E. Parnell concluded his course in the boot-shop in a very satisfactory manner. He had experience in every class of work, and did uniformly well throughout, so that we can confidently wish him every success in his new venture. J. Lawlor also finished this term; he is capable of doing repairs on all types of boots, from single soles to men's heavy work, and we consider that the very high standard which he reached and maintained from the very commencement of his instruction to be a really remarkable achievement for a totally blind man.

H. Hallaron also gained some very valuable experience in the shop since his illness in July last; he has a sound knowledge of the work, and has always steadily applied himself to overcome his difficulties, meeting with a great measure of success. We shall also miss very much the presence of G. H. Gilpin, who spared no pains or time throughout the whole of his course. His work was also very sound and reliable, and we feel sure that he will give his customers the same satisfaction that he has done to his instructors. Our good wishes for success go with him and all the other men who have left this term.

G. H. Wootley is making fair headway with his work, which shows an improvement all round, but it is quite time that he got over his difficulty with riveting.

F. W. Tarry has been making splendid progress of late; he has just completed a very nice oak bedstead. He is quite interested in his work, and is very regular in attendance. D. Hunt is making steady improvement; he is now engaged on making trousers presses, and has produced an excellent example.

W. H. O.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

I AM in the position of having to write a few Sports Notes when there is nothing to write about, because we have done nothing fresh since last month's remarks. But I am glad to find that amongst the new boys who have come into residence this term there are a number of keen sportsmen and it looks as if we are in for a busy term. Already quite a remarkable percentage have given in their names for the Football Competition, Swimming and Saturday Sports, and so there will be some exciting competitions. We were very unfortunate last term with our Sports; the wet weather had made our ground impossible, and except for three Saturdays we were unable to compete. The suggestion has been wisely put to me that we should use the Bungalow on Saturday mornings whenever our ground is unfit and carry on on similar lines to the Old Boys' meetings on Tuesdays. This will mean that each Saturday morning will be utilised either indoors or on the Sports Ground.

We are busy getting our new teams together for the next Football Competition, so our friends can look out for some weird titles in next month's "REVIEW." I am hopeful that we will be able to get about as many teams as last term, so that we can be sure of some exciting matches.

PHYSICAL JERKS.

Although the mornings of early January are usually not as summerlike as we would wish, yet our boys have turned out splendidly. I am convinced that these early morning jerks are of inestimable value to health and are worthy of perseverance. The following list of those who last term never missed a morning except when away sick or on leave gives an idea of how popular these early constitutionals are:—

W. Coman	G. Wootley	H. Wood
T. Stringer	C. Brammer	D. Hunt
G. Gilpin	H. Prior	R. Watt
W. Murphy	A. Chiverton	G. Matthews

F. R. Pawley	J. Whittingham	R. J. Williams
C. Wilshaw	E. Roberts	W. Muir
B. Inman	J. Lovell	J. Jarvis
A. Hill	J. Cookson	H. G. Boorman
A. Mann	J. Halloran	T. Ashe

WALKING.

Our six miles' Outer Circle Walk is due to take place on Saturday, 26th instant, and already we have a splendid list of entries. I am so glad to find that several have entered who have not done so before, and feel sure that they will enjoy the experience. Walking is an exceedingly pleasant form of exercise, and even our training can be made most interesting if we have a nice escort, especially if she can walk quickly enough! All those who have entered will be duly informed of all the latest arrangements, but it must be remembered that the race starts from the Bungalow, and competitors will be wise to get there at least half-an-hour before the start. The handicaps will be arranged by an A.A.A. handicapper, whilst the judge and officials will be fixed up by Mr. Donoghue of the Queen's Park Harriers.

J. E. W.

A Christmas Party

Members of the Birmingham St. Dunstan's Club had their Christmas party on the 19th December. Miss Hodgson provided a splendid supper, which was followed by a concert, given by the Alexander Concert Party, and afterwards the men had a dance till "closing time." There was a record attendance, and all the men thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Miss Nelson and Miss Gough were there to help.

The men present included: W. Castle, P. Cashmore, H. G. Cook, W. Dainter, C. Grattidge, H. Giles, W. Hines, W. Hughes, H. Kirkbright, G. Lilley, M. Matthews, E. Moss, T. North, E. Read, T. G. Shaw, T. Shaylor, E. Tatton, W. Trott, E. Varley, V. Wicken, A. Waite and escorts.



DEPARTMENTAL NOTES



Netting Notes

It will interest our string workers to learn that Londoners are very appreciative of our frame-made containers, fitted with half-pound balls of twine. We have sold from Headquarters 2,460 of these in the four weeks preceding Christmas. The bulk of all our pretty framework articles, including bags, sponge nets and containers, are made by our crippled fellows who cannot so well manage the netting, and it is most encouraging that their beautiful work is meeting with such appreciation.

G. H. W.

Braille Room Notes

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

Reading: C. Brammer.

Writing: T. Ashe.

We are very grateful to the junior children of the Brondesbury Sunday School for their kind gift of "Servitude," in six volumes, for which they have collected amongst themselves.

Typewriting and Telephony

We sincerely congratulate R. Williams, who has passed his Typewriting test.

All good wishes to G. Douglas, who has obtained a post as telephonist at the British Empire Exhibition; also to T. Powell, at the Gas and Coke Co., Camden Town; also to S. Dyer, at a firm found for him by his previous employers.

Bournemouth Handicrafts Exhibition

[The following interesting and amusing sketch was received from our contributor just too late for publication in our last issue.—ED.]

I think that the Netting Department should adopt the motto of the Royal Horse Artillery, "Ubique," for following other exhibitions, the early part of this month found the netting staff at Bournemouth, where a very comprehensive Handicrafts

Exhibition was held. It lasted four days, and the whole of the arrangements were carried out by Mrs. Robinson, by whose invitation St. Dunstan's occupied the platform of St. Peter's Hall. As usual, we took a goodly supply of all our wares, not forgetting that the Christmas shopping had commenced, and taking some dainty work suitable for presents. I undertook the demonstration of light basketry and I have come back from this Exhibition strengthened in my views that there is nothing so beautiful as an article which is entirely made by hand, without the stain of machine oil following it to its completion. I had the opportunity of touching some wonderful things, ranging from picture postcards to candlesticks and ladies' hats, all made entirely by hand. Hats made of raffia which felt like silk, beautiful gloves made from the humble rabbit and goat skin, picture postcards made from—what do you think?—pieces of postage stamps! vases of wood and pewter, most beautiful work, almost like china, embossed leather, and lingerie. I must tell you about the lingerie, for it just goes to show what people think we can do.

One lady visitor thought that the boys of St. Dunstan's made all that fine stuff, she being under the impression that *all* the exhibits were from St. Dunstan's! Fancy getting dainty linen, &c., mixed up with the heel-balling department in the boot-shop, for instance! I told her that the only garment I ever made was a doll's frock for my little daughter; we laid the doll on the table and cut the material round it and sewed it on. The only fault with this was that we could not get it off again! (This, gentle reader, is not a fairy tale, but is actually founded on fact.) Anyway, if I find I cannot get a living out of baskets, I am going to ask to learn—no, not telegraphy.

Let's get back to our 'orses. We had a most successful time, and came back with a lot less luggage than we went with. Our

Miss Witherby always anticipates this, and by an ingenious arrangement of baskets for packing is enabled to put one inside the other, like the Japanese baskets I remember as a boy, that went one inside the other until one found a small doll in the smallest one. There was a good attendance each day, and what I took to be a small orchestra played every afternoon. Great was my surprise to find that all the music came from one sweet-toned harp, which sounded at times like at least three instruments. The Exhibition was opened by Lady Whitehead, who made a most eloquent speech about the work of St. Dunstan's and extolled the beauties of our goods, advising everybody to pay us a visit on the platform, which I think they all did. We had visits from several St. Dunstaners residing in the town, among them being the redoubtable Paddy Ashe, with his blushing bride. He said he was very happy, and I believe him! Mr. and Mrs. Martin also kindly helped us on two days, so that we were quite a family party.

I must not conclude without a reference to the management of the Central Hotel, who fed your humble servant free of all charge, making me the daily guest of the hotel during my attendance at the show. This was a most generous act, I think, and one that shows that St. Dunstan's, and all its works, is appreciated wherever it may be.

W. LOWINGS.

The Prince and a St. Dunstaner

Once again a St. Dunstaner has been honoured by being selected as the representative ex-serviceman to be presented to the Prince of Wales during his recent tour of the Principality. J. H. Matthews was the lucky man, and H.R.H. shook him warmly by the hand, and then asked several questions, not only about Matthews himself, but about St. Dunstaners in general.

"J. C." wishes any blinded soldier she may have met while training at the Huts, Cambridge, to know that she still remembers "The Boys," and thinks of the early days of the war. She sends her greetings and wishes them well.

Capt. Williams' New Appointment

The news will be received with widespread regret by past and present St. Dunstaners that the Rev. J. E. Williams, M.A., who for the last five years has been chaplain to St. Dunstan's, is leaving us shortly. We are glad to know, however, that our "Padre," who is taking up an important and interesting appointment, namely, the living of Rippingdale, Lincoln, to which he has been presented by Lord Ancaster, will not be leaving St. Dunstan's until April, and, even then, he has made arrangements to come up weekly to keep in touch with our sporting activities.

During his long stay at St. Dunstan's Captain Williams has endeared himself to everyone with whom he has come into contact, and his personal popularity, quite apart from the hope and comfort he imparted in his spiritual work, has been added to in no small measure by his keen and untiring labours in the fostering and control of the sporting and recreational side of life at St. Dunstan's. It says much also for his kindly and sympathetic nature that he was able to combine with his spiritual and sporting duties very efficient control as Adjutant, first at our Residential Annexes, and latterly at Headquarters.

Captain Williams is the son of the Rector of Bradfield St. Clare, and was educated at Christ College, Cambridge, where he secured a first in history and also a first in theology. After curacies at Paddington and Hampstead, he served in the Army as Senior Chaplain and was thrice mentioned in dispatches.

We are quite sure that when Captain Williams leaves us to take up his new appointment he will carry with him the most sincere good wishes and kindly remembrances of all past and present St. Dunstaners and all members of the staff also.

More than a fair share of trials and troubles have befallen R. Finch, of Dudley, for not only has he had his boy ill, but was unfortunate enough to have a small fire which, besides being alarming, destroyed a certain amount of his belongings, such as clothing, &c.

Wireless News and Notes

A Useful Hint

"Waverley,"
101 King Charles Road,
Surbiton.

SIR,

It has occurred to me that the following little hint, which I have found very effective, may be of interest to those wireless readers who have outdoor aeri-als.

I think it will be readily appreciated that the wireless aerial is subjected to a great variation of "strain." Broken telephone wires are an only too common example of the effects of a gale. If a weight is attached to the halyard, sufficient to hold the wire taut, and it is not fastened in the customary manner, the aerial wire is free to "give" in a high wind. I have never had any trouble since adopting this simple device, although broken wires and bent poles seem to be only too common amongst my neighbours.

I should also like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to Mr. Thomas for the information supplied in last month's issue in reply to some queries I raised in a previous letter.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. BOTLEY.

Heard Captain Fraser

6, Holding,
Crowmoor,
Shrewsbury, Salop.

DEAR EDITOR,

Re your request in this month's REVIEW, I wish to tell you I distinctly heard every word of the talk on St. Dunstan's work by Capt. Fraser, broadcasted from 2 LO on the evening of 23rd December, at the above address, on a two-valve set.

I also enjoyed the carols which followed, sung by the four gentlemen of St. Paul's Cathedral Choir.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM H. HILDICK.

Wireless for Friendship

In a letter to Captain Fraser, A. C. Evans, of Newport, Mon., says:—"I am getting on very well with my work at basket making, and continue to obtain orders. I am also kept very busy at committee meetings on the Labour Exchange locally, and with the British Legion. In the October issue of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW we were asked to write and let you know those of us who had wireless sets. At that time I was thinking about going in for one, and now I have one. It is a four-valve set, with a Brown loud speaker. I listened to the transmissions from London of the Pittsburg and Paris programmes the other day, and consider wireless will be the means of linking up this country with other countries, and make us all better friends."

Aerial Insurance

One of the first receptions of F. G. Braithwaite, of Guildford, with a wireless set he recently installed, was, curiously enough, Captain Fraser's broadcast speech on St. Dunstan's.

In a letter our Chairman has received, Braithwaite says: "You will be interested to hear that I have recently installed a four-valve receiving set with loud speaker, my first reception gave me considerable pleasure, for who should be speaking but yourself, on the work of St. Dunstan's."

"Judging by the amount of listeners all over the country this must be a splendid way of arousing interest in St. Dunstan's. I wonder if any of the boys have thought of insuring their sets or, more especially, their aerial, in the event of same collapsing and causing damage to a third party, for I find it is now possible to do this at 7s. 6d. per annum."

Other wireless enthusiasts will be interested to learn of the insurance of an aerial and may wish to follow suit.

Our Raw Materials

The following article, broadly descriptive of the various classes of timber used by our joiners and cabinet-makers, concludes the series dealing with the raw materials employed by the Craftsmen of St. Dunstan's. We hope these articles have been of value and interest to all our readers.

About Timber

IN dealing with the question of joinery, carpentry, cabinet making and picture-framing, special consideration will be given to facts which are applicable to the particular purpose for which this article is published. The wood-working crafts may be considered as old as the hills, yet certain fundamental factors have existed for all time, especially with regard to the nature, character, and adaptability of varied timbers. It is proposed, therefore, in this article to deal exclusively with these three subjects.

In the trade, timbers are often classified as hard and soft woods. This is not because they are hard or soft substance, or on account of their particular strength, but because of their intended purpose. Hardwoods are the timbers specially selected for cabinet work, whereas soft woods are those timbers used almost exclusively by the joiner and carpenter. For instance, oak, mahogany, ash, walnut, teak, maple, and even yellow pine are classed among those timbers; hardwoods, they being specially suitable for the production of furniture. Yellow pine is the very best timber for the making of picture-frame mouldings, which are to be stained and polished, also it is particularly suitable for making drawing tools, the building of organs and pianos on account of its reliability—seldom splitting or shrinking, its easiness to work and lightness in weight. Deals, spruce and pine are accepted as soft woods, they being specially adapted to buildings construction, shop, office, and warehouse fittings and general carpentry. Still, it is not to say that a joiner or carpenter would not use timbers classed as hard woods, or that a cabinet-maker would be disqualified in his craft because he used soft woods. These terms are almost obsolete to-day,

but were very much used some years ago when imported timbers were not so much in evidence as at present.

There are three classes of timber. First, that containing a high percentage of resin, thus more valuable for work which has to resist weather conditions. Among these will be found pitch pine, oregon pine, cowrie pine, red, yellow and white deals, fir and spruce. This timber is mainly selected for building purposes, horticultural and culinary work, cheap shop fittings, light bridges, scaffoldings and other general rough carpentry. The finer qualities of these timbers are selected for joinery work where framing, windows, doors, &c., are to be constructed, it being nice mild timber to work. The finest deals come from Archangel, Riga, Norway and Sweden, the commoner qualities from the last two places and Denmark. We look to America and Canada for the best pines, there being some beautiful timbers of this class obtained from these countries. Deals are imported during the open months of the year, the Baltic being frozen in winter and early spring, thus preventing shipment. It usually reaches us in unworked timbers, cut in sizes ranging from 11in. to 4in. down to as small as plasterers' lathes and slaters' battens. A quantity of worked timber is also imported in the shape of floorboard, with tongued and grooved or square edges, also matchboard. The unworked timbers are stacked, seasoned, and then selected for conversion into sizes more adapted to general use, and the requirements of the many varied departments of the wood-working craft.

The second class is close-grained timbers, which include mahogany, walnut, teak and poplar, which are also of a uniform texture. These are among the

choicest of timbers, being in great demand for furniture production and high-class office, shop and bank fittings.

Among its many varied uses teak is extensively employed by railway companies for the building of coaches, and this timber is obtained from India, the East Indies, and Great Britain, the first-named being the best in every respect.

Walnut is procured from Persia, Spain, America and Africa, as well as the British Isles, the best qualities being rich in colour and figure. Hickory or white walnut is a native of America. Walnut is not a plentiful timber, it works well, and is not subject to shrinkage as in the case of many other timbers.

Mahogany is procured from Honduras, West Indies, Tobasco, Cuba, Australia and Western Africa, the last named being weak in colour, soft open-grained timber difficult to work. Mahogany is a favourite on account of its general rich colour and figure, width and freedom from knots and blemishes such as usually found in other timbers. It is a most reliable wood for almost any cabinet work, shrinks very little and is in most cases beautiful to work, therefore demanding a high price.

The third class is the hard open-grained timbers, among which can be cited oak, ash and beech. Generally speaking this class of timber is rich in figure and among the most desirable and serviceable where strength and durability are required.

There are many kinds of oak, although this tree only grows to perfection along what is known as the "Oak Belt" across Europe and North America. The timber varies according to the climates, subsoil, and conditions under which it is grown. The American oaks are rapid in growth, attaining considerable height and girth, there being what is known as white oak which is rich in figure, wonderfully free from knots and most serviceable for cabinet work, and for the manufacture of the best oak picture-frame moulding. The red oak is an inferior quality, not as clean in colour, is more open-grained and stronger in texture, will split and twist freely, and it is not at all suitable for

cabinet work, but serves admirably for building, roofing and fencing, and is occasionally employed in the manufacture of cheap oak picture-frame moulding.

There are two particular classes of British oak, which may be conveniently termed as that grown in the north and south. These differ considerably in character. The south country oak is a clean, white timber, fairly free from knots, rich in figure, the trees attaining a good height and girth. The north country oak is harder, tougher and more difficult to work. It is used extensively for ship building, and along with that grown in the south country cannot be equalled for roofing, joists, bridges, fencing, and any work which demands strength and durability, and where weather conditions have to be resisted. It is, however, un-serviceable for furniture production on account of its habit of twisting, shrinking and splitting.

The Riga oak comes next best in quality, some selections of this variety being used in the cabinet trade.

For furniture production, church, office and shop fittings, no oak can equal the Austrian, which is mild, soft and rich in figure, the trees growing to a considerable height and girth. Austrian oak is white in colour, easily worked, and is employed in the manufacture of the best oak picture-frame mouldings. Great competition exists between the Austrian and the American white oak for supremacy in the cabinet trade, but whatever kind of oak is to be employed great care must be exercised with regard to its conversion, storage and seasoning, for under the very best of conditions difficulties frequently arise when dealing with this class of timber.

Ash is a native of Europe and Asia, it is a strong timber but not as durable as oak. It is seldom used for building purposes because it cannot resist atmospheric conditions and is soon subject to rot. It is a valuable timber for the manufacture of vehicle wheels, tool-handles, and any purpose where a springy timber is required. It is not easy to work, the younger timber being the strongest, the old trees producing hard, brittle wood. Ash is often rich

in figure, and in colour is nearly a white wood.

When dealing with the question of timbers it would take volumes to fully explain every detail affecting growth, felling, seasoning, conversion, storage and adaptation. All the foregoing remarks must therefore be accepted in the broadest sense, for it must be realised that no two trees are exactly alike, and no two boards cut from the same tree are absolutely the same. Again, the age of the tree, and the time it was felled, greatly affects the character and value of the timber produced. A perfect board cut from a good tree, badly seasoned or incorrectly stored and handled, would cause considerable difficulty to the worker. It is hoped that the few remarks given may prove not only interesting but useful.

E. H. A.

Ducks for Profit

A PRACTICAL CONTRIBUTION FROM A. J. HOLLAND, OF RUSHDEN, NORTHANTS.

I would like to state that I have had the best of results from my White Runner ducks, and hope that the following remarks on the way I manage them will be of interest to those who may not have been satisfied with their own efforts in this direction. To any who might think of keeping ducks, I would say that if properly managed they will pay well for the trouble taken.

Firstly, I clean my duck-houses out every day, and see that the bed is dry, for ducks will not thrive on a wet bed, though they like the wet outside. Also, they want plenty of ventilation all the year round, but the wet should be prevented from blowing in on them on rough nights. I always shut mine out in the morning for the rest of the day and let the air in to dry the house.

Ducks should always have plenty of clean water, with grit and shell in it. Their drinking bowl should be placed in the

shade in summer, and a good distance from their food. Do not let them make mud-holes round their troughs if you want good-flavoured eggs.

Now, as regards feeding, the quantity that ducks will require will depend on the amount of grass-run that they have got, and also on the weather, for when it is wet they find more and will eat much less when not in lay. It will take them a few days to get used to a change of mash. I give mine mash first feed in the morning and again mid-day, and grain for the last feed, in their water, which is three-parts wheat and one part kibbled maize. Ducks need a little more food than that given to a hen. I scald the bran for my ducks, and find it suits them better. I put the bran, biscuit-meal, fish meal, and the maize-meal in a bucket and mix well, and then pour on boiling water, enough to scald it well, and cover it over with a sack, and let it stand for an hour, and then add the boiled greens, the Sussex-ground oats, and the sharps to dry off with, which, when mixed, should be a little moister than for hens.

The parts given here are good handful, and will make enough mash for 12 ducks for two feeds for the day, and will work out at one good handful per bird. The quantity of boiled greens that I add to it is 12 ounces.

6	parts	broad	bran.
3	"	No. 2	biscuit meal.
3	"	best	white fish meal.
2	"	maize	meal.
2	"	Sussex-ground	oats.
8	"	sharps.	

I find this the best mash that I have used, and they will lay well on it.

To give some idea of ducks as winter layers, I thought this might be of interest to those who have not kept them. Two of my White Runner ducks, that were hatched on the 5th May 1923, have to their credit up to the time of writing an unbroken sequence of seventy eggs each. They both started to lay on the same day, and it will be interesting to see which comes out top. This is not a number just thought of, but is quite correct, as I keep a proper record of all my birds.

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.]

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

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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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Gee & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.,
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