# St. Dunstan's Review.

MONTHLY 6D PRICE 6D No. 91 VOL 1X

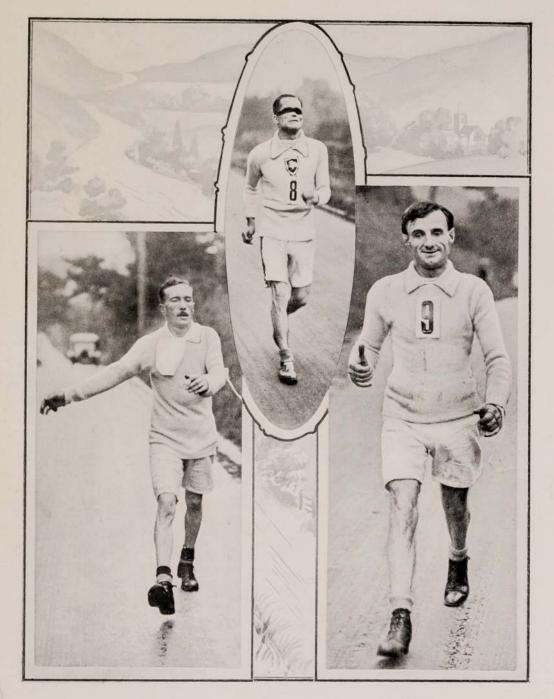
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FOR THE AMUSEMENT DINTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR

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



ST. DUNSTAN'S LONDON TO BRIGHTON WALK.

Our picture shows, in action, the first three men to finish,

Top Centre, J. INGRAM.

Right, F. LENDERYOU.

Left, J. EDWARDES.

# St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 91,-VOLUME IX.

OCTOBER, 1924.

PRICE 6d.
[Free to St. Dunstan's Men.

#### **EDITORIAL NOTES**

TF we are to judge by the columns of the newspaper press, the most important happening at St. Dunstan's since our last issue has been our men's London to Brighton Walk on 4th October. Although a purely sporting event, which was participated in by a comparatively small number of St. Dunstaners, it is probable that in its many aspects this walking race really can claim to exercise a much wider influence on our work than might at first sight occur to those of us who are not, as Captain Fraser humorously said in his speech at the dinner which followed the race, "Bitten with the ambition to walk fifty-two solid miles just for the sake of doing it." In itself, the race forms a test of endurance which could probably not be undergone by more than two ordinary men out of a hundred, and here alone we feel that much more has been accomplished to the credit of St. Dunstan's than the mere proof of our men's capacity to carry out an outstanding feat of athletics. They have "told the world," as our American cousins have it, that the years which have passed since the War have seen no diminution of the fine spirit of determination which has made the name of St. Dunstan's and the men of St. Dunstan's stand so high in public regard. But the London to Brighton Walk has had its practical and material value as well. The interested spectators at every point along the line of route, and the great crowds which stretched practically from the environs of Brighton to the finishing post at the Aquarium have been reminded, in a splendidly effective way, that the organisation of St. Dunstan's is still an intensely live and essential factor in the community. To any undertaking which is, as is St. Dunstan's, dependent entirely upon public support and public interest for raising the funds necessary to carry on its labours, such spectacular evidence of our men's victory over their handicap must bear good fruit in every direction. Again, although the press of the whole Empire have always been most helpful in keeping the achievements and the needs of St. Dunstan's in public view, it is rarely that we can hope to secure such widespread attention for St. Dunstan's as has been possible by reason of the highly interesting character of this unique event to every newspaper reader.

We offer to every competitor in the Brighton walk our hearty admiration for a gallant and plucky performance, and in doing this we would make no distinction between the men who completed the whole distance and those who, falling out before the full course was done, yet within their capacity put up equally as gallant a fight. We have had this year a first-hand opportunity of following the whole course of the contest and of observing its character at every stage. We are sure that very careful consideration will be given by those charged with the responsibilities for this annual contest to a suggestion which has

been made. Briefly, this suggestion is that some means should be found next year to make the event more of a competitive race and less of a supreme test of endurance. How this can best be effected might provide an interesting subject for discussion by all concerned. We suggest, however, that if the contest could be framed in such form that a much larger number of entrants would be attracted, and all have a reasonable hope of completing the course, it would be an eminently desirable thing.

#### Comradeship

# A Message of Greeting from Canadian St. Dunstaners.

We have the greatest pleasure in giving space to the letter printed below. We feel we need add nothing to the acknowledgment expressed on behalf of all St. Dunstaners by our Chairman.

The Sir Arthur Pearson Club, Club Headquarters, 186 Beverley Street, Toronto, Ontario. 24th September 1924.

St. Dunstan's,
Inner Circle,
Regent's Park, N.W.I.
ATTENTION—CAPT. IAN FRASER,
CHAIRMAN.

DEAR SIR,

In the course of the 1924 annual general meeting of the Sir Arthur Pearson Club of Blinded Soldiers and Sailors, held at Pearson Hall, Toronto, on 11th September, Mr. A. G. Viets, P.P.C.L.I., moved that a message of greeting be forwarded to St. Dunstan's for transmission to all past and present St. Dunstan's men.

At the same time the hope was expressed that the old feeling of comradeship which existed between St. Dunstan's men from all parts of the British Empire might be permanently maintained through frequent contact and inter-communication. The St. Dunstan's spirit which is present and which will continue with undiminished vigour in each and every one of us, coupled with interests in common, represents a bond of union that cannot be broken.

With assurances to St. Dunstan's of our sincere gratitude and the best of wishes for all St. Dunstan's men, we remain,

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) A. G. VIETS,

President.
(Sgd.) J. W. DOIRON,
Secretary-Treasurer.
St. Dunstan's,
London, N.W.I.
9th October 1924.

To the President and Secretary-Treasurer, The Sir Arthur Pearson Club,

186 Beverley Street, Toronto, Ontario. Gentlemen.

I was extremely gratified to receive your letter of 24th September and to hear of the message of greeting and comradeship which it was proposed by Mr. A. G. Viets, P.P.C.L.I., should be transmitted to all past and present St. Dunstaners from the members of the Sir Arthur Pearson Club of Blinded Soldiers and Sailors.

I wish to convey this very welcome greeting to all St. Dunstaners, and I will therefore ask the Editor of St. Dunstan's Review to be so good as to give publicity to your letter, in order that the message of good-feeling and comradeship may be as widely circulated as possible. I know that I am speaking for all the St. Dunstaners who will thus receive your message when I ask you to convey to the members of your Club the hearty thanks and reciprocal good wishes of their fellow St. Dunstaners.

Yours faithfully, (Sgd.) IAN FRASER, Chairman.

#### Wireless for the Blind

By IAN FRASER AND OSWALD CARPENTER

#### CHAPTER III.

A LTHOUGH crystal detectors are relatively insensitive, they are cheap and easily adjusted and, with one or two exceptions, need no batteries to facilitate their operation. For these reasons they are employed in simple and inexpensive receiving apparatus.

Using an aerial of normal receptive efficiency in conjunction with a crystal receiver of average sensitivity it is possible to intercept transmissions from a broadcasting station twenty miles distant. This range may be considerably exceeded under exceptionally favourable conditions, but in general it represents the limit beyond which reception of the normal broadcasting transmissions is too weak to be pleasurable. In the case of the high-power broadcasting transmitter at Chelmsford, however, crystal reception is possible at a distance of one hundred miles. We shall return to the subject of crystal receivers when in due course we deal with practical data relative to the various circuit arrangements employed in wireless work.

The most sensitive detector at present known is the Three-electrode Thermionic Valve, which, unlike the crystal detector, may be used to amplify the feeble currents set up in the receiver aerial. Amplifications of more than one million times are possible when using a number of valves, and thus transmissions which although totally inaudible when other detectors are employed, may be reproduced with sufficient volume, if desired, to be heard one-half of a mile or so from the receiver. It may be safely stated that the threeelectrode valve is the most important factor in modern wireless achievement, for in its capacities of oscillator, amplifier, and rectifier, it has revolutionised the transmission and reception of telephonic and telegraphic signals.

In order to grasp the fundamental principles underlying the functioning of the valve we must deal with one or two salient features of the Electron Theory, which was previously referred to in Chapter I.

Electrons carry an indivisible and inseparable negative charge of electricity and behave as negatively charged bodies. When an atom is robbed of one or more of its electrons the equilibrium or electrical balance of the atom is upset, and lines of force are created in the æther adjacent to it. These lines of force endeavour to restore the electrical equilibrium of the atom by attracting any available electrons to make up the deficit. An atom in this state is termed a Postive Ion, and it behaves as a positively charged body, the electro-motive force it exerts in endeavouring to absorb electrons being obviously in the opposite direction to the e.m.f. exerted by an electron in trying to be absorbed by a positive ion. Thus the distinction between negative and positive currents is seen to be one of direction, for whether current is conveyed through the agency of electrons or positive ions is immaterial except as regards the direction of the flow. Unlike charges attract one another and like charges repel one another. Thus an electron will be attracted to a positively charged body and repelled from a negatively charged body. Similarly, a positive ion will be attracted to a negatively charged body and repelled from one positively charged.

The discovery and application of certain phenomena incident to electric lighting bulbs enabled an English scientist, Dr. J. A. Fleming, to evolve in 1904 the first form of thermionic valve. In appearance this device was somewhat similar to an ordinary lighting bulb save that it contained in addition to the usual filament wire a metal plate placed near

the filament and connected with the exterior of the valve by means of a lead brought through the wall of the evacuated bulb.

Now when the filament wire is heated by passing an electric current through it, the electron groups constituting the atoms on the surface of the wire are loosened and move about in zigzag paths in all directions, colliding with the atoms of the metal. The velocity of their motion depends upon the temperature of the wire, and if we increase the temperature so that the filament becomes incandescent a certain number of electrons will in each second attain a high enough velocity to escape from the metal (the analogy of the evaporation of a liquid suggests itself). Now this withdrawal of the electrons from the atoms of the heated filament will, as we know, cause the affected atoms to become positive ions and these positive ions will, of course, attract the escaping electrons and reabsorb them. Thus we get a kind of "pull devil, pull tailor" action and a state of equilibrium is attained when the number of electrons emitted per second is balanced by the number drawn back.

If now we maintain the metal plate, termed the Anode, at a positive potential relative to the filament a proportion of the electrons emitted by the filament will be attracted to the positive Anode and will constitute an electric current between the filament and the Anode.

The necessity for the vacuum within the bulb is due to the fact that air is an insulator and therefore does not readily permit electrons to pass through it. It should be remembered that whereas a conductor is liberally supplied with electrons, the movements of which constitute an electric current through the conductor, no such agents exist in a vacuum. It is therefore necessary to provide a source of free electrons (the heated filament) and a means of giving these electrons direction (the positively charged anode).

The Fleming Valve, it will be observed, contains two electrodes. It is not capable of producing the amplifying effects associated with its later development, the three-electrode valve. It serves as a

rectifier and may be arranged in a simple receiver circuit in the following manner: The anode is attached to the aerial end of an inductance coil, across the two ends of which is connected a condenser. An accumulator battery is connected to the two ends of the filament and a telephone earpiece is placed between the negative terminal of the filament battery and the earth end of the inductance coil.

Now those who carefully followed Chapter II are aware that each wave sets up first a positive current and then a negative current (or vice-versa) in the receiver circuit, and that to rectify these oscillating currents we have to eliminate either the negative or the positive currents. Since the anode of the two-electrode valve is connected to one end of the inductance and the filament to the other it follows that the anode will assume positive and negative potentials with respect to the filament in unison with the positive and negative currents set up by the incoming waves. As we are aware, every time the anode is positively charged a current will flow across the valve. This current will flow from the filament to the anode, through the inductance, through the magnet coils in the telephone earpiece and so back to its starting point -the filament, thus completing the circuit. Now every time the anode is negatively charged it will not, of course, attract any electrons emitted by the filament; it will, as we know, repel them, and so no current will flow across the valve, which, becoming non-conductive, renders the circuit incomplete. No current will therefore flow through the telephone earpiece when the anode is negatively charged. The oscillating currents are thus converted to unidirectional form as in the case of the crystal rectifier.

The sensitivity of the two-electrode valve does not exceed that of a carborundum crystal, but unlike any crystal, it is not desensitised by powerful signals or natural electric disturbances. In virtue of its reliability, therefore, it was developed and used on the Marconi transoceanic services for a number of years prior to the introduction of the three-electrode valve. It is not now used for

reception, but types of large size and capable of handling a considerable amount of current form an integral part of practically every medium and high-power valve transmitter, their function being to rectify high-voltage alternating currents, thus rendering them suitable for application to the anodes of three-electrode transmitting valves.

Although the reader will probably never come into contact with a two-electrode valve, the rudimentary theory of its action has been dealt with at some length, since possessing this knowledge the task of understanding the principles of the three-electrode valve is considerably simplified.

In 1905 it occurred to an American wireless engineer, Dr. Lee De Forest, to interpose a meshed wire grid in the path of the electron stream between the filament and anode of a Fleming valve, and by varying the potential of this grid to control the current flowing through the valve when the anode was maintained at a steady positive potential. In this way he hoped to secure a relay action, making small variations in the potential of the control electrode, the grid, effect large variations in the number of electrons passing through it on their way from the filament to the anode.

Unfortunately, the physics of the valve were not sufficiently developed at that time to make apparent the necessity for several conditions which we now know to be essential in the successful operation of the device. It is true that De Forest's arrangement did produce relay effects of small magnitude, but it was so unreliable that it did not emerge from the laboratory stage It is a noteworthy fact that the patents were allowed to lapse and that the idea of the three-electrode valve lay dormant for many years. As it will serve no useful purpose to give an extended account of the early history of the valve we will deal with the operation of the modern high-vacuum three-electrode valve, the development of which is largely due to the work of an English wireless engineer, Captain H. J. Round.

In appearance the three-electrode valve closely resembles an electric lighting bulb,

but it contains, in addition to the filament, a spiral of wire surrounding the filament, and a metal cylinder open at both ends surrounding the spiral of wire. The spiral of wire is known as the Grid, and the metal cylinder as the Anode. Connections from both ends of the filament and one from the grid and one from the anode are brought to four metal pins projecting from the base of the valve.

In operation, the anode is maintained at a steady positive potential relative to the filament by the employment of a battery, termed the Anode (or hightension) battery. The positive terminal of this battery is connected to the anode and the negative terminal to the filament. Thus, when the filament is rendered incandescent by the application of an accumulator battery across its two ends, a steady stream of electrons will flow through the valve from the filament to the anode, returning to the filament via the anode battery. This current is termed the anode current. If the anode potential remains constant, the anode current will increase as the temperature of the filament is increased, since the number of electrons emitted per second will then be greater. Beyond a certain filament temperature, however, the anode current will remain constant even though more electrons are being given off.

This is due to what is called the Space Charge. The explanation of this space charge is that the stream of negative electrons through the valve is so dense that it neutralises the field or attracting force due to the positive anode. Presenting the matter in another way-each electron in the stream will tend to repel its neighbour since all are of the same polarity, i.e. negative. Thus, when a large number of electrons are flowing through the valve, the mutual repulsion will be so great that it will outweigh the attracting force of the positive field due to the anode. In these circumstances a number of the electrons will not be able to reach the anode and will be compelled to return to the filament.

It is at this point that the function of the grid will become apparent. The grid, as we know, is in the path of the stream and the electrons must pass through the apertures the spiral of wire affords. Now, if a positive potential is applied to the grid the effect of the space charge will obviously be neutralised to an extent depending upon the intensity of the positive charge on the grid and in consequence the anode current will increase. If, however, a negative potential is applied to the grid the space charge will be assisted, for, quite clearly, the effect of repulsion will be accentuated.

Now the grid is nearer the filament than is the anode, hence a small variation in the grid potential will produce a greater effect upon the electron stream than a corresponding variation in the potential of the anode. Taking a typical receiving valve, a positive grid potential of one volt will increase the anode current to the same extent as an addition of ten volts at the anode. Similarly a negative grid potential of one volt will reduce the anode current to the same extent as a reduction of ten volts at the anode. Thus we are causing one volt to perform the work of ten, and we say that the Amplification Factor of such a valve is ten.

If we connect the grid and filament of a valve of this type across the inductance coil and condenser previously referred to the incoming oscillations will obviously vary the grid potential positively and negatively in time with their frequency, and tenfold amplified current changes will occur in the anode current. These current changes will, of course, be exact reproductions of the incoming oscillations on a larger scale. If now we communicate these magnified oscillations to the grid of a second valve of the same type a further tenfold amplification will be effected, thus making (ten times ten) one hundred amplifications in all.

Apologising for the late news, J. Hughes, of Streatham, informs us that he married on the 18th July, at Wandsworth, Miss Bessie Cecilia, youngest daughter of the late Mr. A. E. Salter. The honeymoon, we understand, was spent at Lynton, and Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were the recipients of many beautiful presents.

#### Prizes for Inventors

Captain Fraser has received a letter from a lady who is keenly interested in a school for the blind, and who asks for the help of the inventive genius of St. Dunstan's. Here is the problem she sets: The pupils of the school are very keen on playing football, but to do this they have to use a ball with something attached to it which continually makes a noise, so that they can always follow the sound. We quote from her letter as follows:—

"Several methods have been tried, all with great drawbacks, and their final arrangement has been to fix discs of tin (5 or 6) to the laces of the football through holes bored in their centres. The drawback being that the metal discs constantly cut into the leather of the football, which necessitates patching it after each game and renders it very quickly useless. They have already tried various things, such as a bell and other small things inside the bladder of the ball, but this is very bad for the bladder, which has to be slit in order to insert the objects, and the result is either that the noise is not sufficient to be heard or the ball is too heavy. After this long explanation my proposal is, "I will offer 5s. each for the two most feasible suggestions for a continuous noise to come from a football when it is in motion, and an extra 10s. to whichever suggestion (if either) solves the difficulty without constant injury to the

We are quite sure that there will be many St. Dunstaners who will be only too ready to put their wits and their knowledge of football to help Captain Fraser's correspondent to solve the difficulty with which she is faced. Suggestions on the subject should be addressed to "Football," c/o The Editor, St. Dunstan's Review, Headquarters of St. Dunstan's, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London, N.W.I, and should reach us before the 10th November.

### "In Memory"

PRIVATE WILLIAM GEORGE SANDERS.

(10th Leicester Regiment.)

E have to record with much regret the death of this St. Dunstaner. Sanders enlisted in 1915, and received his discharge in 1917. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918, and whilst with us learnt boot repairing and mat-making. He was also a very keen netter, and preferred this occupation. The continued poor state of his health was always a great drawback to him, and he spent a great part of 1922 in hospital, but was discharged at the beginning of 1923 and was considerably better during that year. This, however, was only temporary, and in 1924 he was again taken to hospital, where he remained until his death on the 16th September. He was buried on the 20th September at Rothley. St. Dunstan's was represented by Miss Evers, and among the floral tributes was a beautiful wreath "From Captain Fraser and his other comrades at St. Dunstan's." Sanders leaves a wife and three children to mourn him.

#### PRIVATE WILLIAM TURNER.

(13th Royal Fusiliers.)

Enlisting in January 1915, Turner was wounded at Armentières in March of the same year, and admitted to St. Dunstan's some months later. He learnt mat-making, in which he became very proficient and obtained a first-class certificate. His stay at St. Dunstan's was interrupted for a while owing to a serious accident which his wife sustained by falling down some steps, but he returned later to complete his training. He did very well at mats when he first left St. Dunstan's, but his health was never very good, and he died very suddenly on the 31st August, his death being due to heart trouble. The funeral took place on the 4th September at Burslem. Amongst the floral tributes was a wreath "From Captain Fraser and his other comrades" in the shape of our Badge. St. Dunstan's was represented by Miss Evers. Turner leaves a widow and three children.

#### PRIVATE JAMES WRIGHT.

(1st Battalion Scottish Rifles.)

This St. Dunstaner enlisted in 1915 and was discharged in 1916. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1918 and learnt mat-making, netting, and typewriting, but he only did a little mat-making when he left, as his health was very bad. He devoted most of his time to netting, and also spent a good deal of time at the Annexes. As his health grew gradually worse he was removed to Haddington Hospital towards the end of 1922, where he remained until the end of 1923. Then he was sent to Bangour, where he died on the 14th September. The funeral took place at Merchiston Cemetery on 17th September. Among the many beautiful floral tributes was a wreath from St. Dunstan's. Wright leaves a widow.

#### AIR MECHANIC JAMES BLACKBURN.

(Royal Flying Corps.)

Enlisting in June 1917, and discharged in January of the following year, Blackburn came to St. Dunstan's in December 1917, and whilst with us learnt boot repairing, clogging, and netting. Owing to bad health he was unable to take up these trades when he left, and spent a great part of his time at the Annexes. However, in spite of all efforts, his health grew worse, and he passed away on the 19th August, his death being due to tubercular trouble. The funeral took place on the 14th August, and he was interred in the family grave at Preston Cemetery. St. Dunstan's sent a beautiful wreath in the shape of our Badge, and was represented by Mr. Fairclough.

# NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS'

VEN in these days of universal house-shortage the average man quails before the idea of attempting the building of a home for himself, but J. A. Morton, of Naphill, High Wycombe, is tackling the job in an undaunted spirit. With the assistance of a labourer he has laid the concrete flooring and also fitted in a large tank for a water supply. As we go to press he is very busy making doors, window frames, and sashes. We hope to receive a snap of the finished house before long, and meanwhile tender congratulations to Morton on his gallant attempt.

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From Letchworth comes word of B. E. Ingrey, who reports himself as fairly busy with baskets. Recently he had a very successful stall at a local show, where he sold every basket he had made for the occasion.

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Speaking of basket makers, has anyone surpassed the effort of Golbeck? One of his latest efforts was a basket large enough to take 30 birds.

赐赐赐 The friends of T. S. Meredith. of Cheltenham, will be glad to hear that he is now settled in very nicely and, naturally, is taking the greatest interest in his small place. The neighbours are helpful and friendly, trade seems brisk, and there is every prospect that Meredith will do well. Good wishes to him.

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The garden has been occupying the attention of T. W. Grove, of Botley; he has been very busy fencing it, making gates, &c., in addition to general work. and attention to fowls. In odd moments he has been considering the making of a dresser with a drawer beneath that should be an excellent piece of work. We hope later to be able to report it as a fait accompli.

In several cases local breweries have meant work for St. Dunstaners. The latest to report orders from such a source is B. G. Wood, of N. Hants, who has been steadily working his way through 300 cases for spirit jars. It is not the most interesting of work of course, but Wood has the true philosopher's spirit and tackles anything and everything with the same cheery energy.

Another blessed with local orders is W. H. Whiteside, of Lytham, who is never without customers for his baskets. His son, by the way, has just passed a stiff entrance examination and has been admitted to the Grammar School. May his school days be happy ones.

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And yet one more basket maker who seems to find orders for all the work he can do in the intervals of looking after his poultry is W. A. Foulkes, of Bow Brickhill. He has just built himself a splendid large-sized chicken-house, which looks a most professional affair.

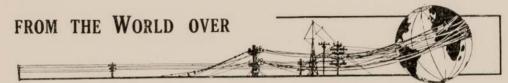
縣 縣 瑪 Without such demands upon him, W. Bamber, of Brighton, says that the days slip by quickly; what with wireless, Braille reading, and netting he finds few

slack hours.

The market trade is good according to the report of A. Tillotson, of Nelson, and he ought to know, for, accompanied by his wife, he visits several town markets regularly, taking with him such things as baskets and brushes. Perhaps Tillotson has the capacity for making friends, for this stands one in good stead in such work.

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From Ireland comes word of S. Holmes, who is being kept busy making trouser presses. He has just received a repeat order from an excellent firm with whom he has done business before, which makes



the second order from them within a month, and he is naturally feeling pleased at this recognition of the excellent work he has put in to everything he has done for them. We hear that he is now at work on a hall-stand, and for this, too, a customer is within sight. Congratulations to Holmes.

His garden, chickens, and pigs keep B. Martin, of Ireland, well employed, but despite these activities he finds time for basket making and has recently completed an order for a dozen shopping baskets, and has further custom in sight, we are glad to hear.

As all Bristol men know that city became fired with enthusiasm to have a "Wembley" of its own and organised a fine show accordingly. Several St. Dunstaners demonstrated there, among them H. Bennett, who put in three excellent days' service and finds that, as a result, his local trade has benefited considerably. Nothing like advertising one's capabilities.

Another who has been gaining public notice in somewhat the same way is D. T. Edwards, of Sandy. He had a stall at the local show, sold all the baskets he had, and reports that he will be kept busy for some time to come on orders already received. Excellent news, indeed.

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Our poultry men have sent us little news this month-perhaps on account of the season. W. N. Williamson, of Denton, is one of the exceptions, but even he mentions that his birds are moulting. However, he has been looking over his records of late, and finds that he has averaged 1,000 eggs a month. Williamson is one of the many St. Dunstaners who find their wives veritable helpmates. Mrs. Williamson takes the keenest interest in all his pursuits and is a most valuable assistant, we hear. What with a wireless-set, piano, and gramophone, Williamson finds a good deal to occupy his leisure, but despite these engrossing pursuits, he gets through a surprising amount of Braille reading, we hear.

Wireless, although in another form, is proving a blessing to H. E. Raymond, of St. Annes-on-Sea, for he is getting together quite a connection owing to the able manner in which he manufactures wireless sets. The making of trouserpresses is another line in which he rather specialises, and he has done well in various other directions, particularly since Blackpool proved a good market.

If all our cyclists are taking as full advantage of our recent spell of comparatively decent weather as E. E. Bryer, of Yate, Glos., there must be many tandems on the road. Luckily for Bryer, he has a friend who is as enthusiastic a rider as himself, and after working hours the two scour the country. They often go into Bristol to visit the Hippodrome, or see friends and relatives. And to make life yet more pleasant for Bryer, there are several St. Dunstaners within cycling distance, so he can keep in touch with old comrades without too much trouble or expense.

#### A Presentation Basket.

We learn with interest that J. Benson, of Borrough Bridge, has nearly completed a linen basket, which is being presented by the parishioners to their Vicar-a signal honour, indeed, for this St. Dunstaner craftsman.

The Editor desires to express his thanks to the readers who have so kindly forwarded copies of the October 1922 issue of THE REVIEW.

#### The Brighton Walk

UR third Brighton Walk is past and over, but I must say at the outset that I do not think it was quite as successful as the previous ones. The pluck was there-courage and determination were not lacking -but somehow we had no luck.

The morning opened beautifully, and we thought we were in for a glorious day, but shortly after the start we ran into a patch of cold clammy fog which chilled us. Then we were going strong, and just at the first big trying stage of the journey, about 20 miles out, rain descended heavily. It was just at the moment when the natural bodily heat was being spent and we needed the warmth of the sun and its cheering influences, so that the rain at this stage was a blow from which many did not recover. During that fatal 20-30 miles almost everybody had a bad time with stomach trouble. Cramp, caused principally by the wet drying through the sweaters, is a terrible thing to get rid of, and it seemed unfortunate when each man had the will and determination to go ahead that these pains should say "No" and mean it. In consequence, man after man dropped out. Men who had done well in the previous walks, and who we felt assured would finish, had to seek the shelter of the ambulance car. Some may say that the training was not what they should have done. No doubt, many men would have been glad of more preliminary work, but this is most difficult when work and suitable guides had to be considered; but this could not have been the main reason, because those who had put in faithful work for months past also broke down, and even the famous Mr. E. C. Horton, the English 12 hr. recordholder, who guided Ingram, had his bad time. I feel, therefore, that the unhelpful and difficult weather conditions during the first half made all the difference as to the complete success of our venture. Yet, after all, when six men finish in time that a sighted competitor would rejoice over, showing evidences of wonderful pluck, our walk cannot possibly be written down as unsuccessful. It showed that our boys were indeed capable of mastering possibly the most difficult long-distance walk organised and of taking their place amongst the athletes of the country. This is no small honour, and we heartily congratulate all those men who attempted the journey, and particularly those who completed the long, long trail with such

There was a very cheery gathering of competitors and guides on the Friday evening at the Buckingham Hotel, Strand, when we looked in about 8.30 p.m. Everybody was in good form and spirits, and things looked happy for the morrow. At 4.30 a.m. next morning there were again scenes of animation and life-all the men and guides with huge smiles on their faces, and their competition numbers fore and aft! The char-a-bancs turned up and we made for the start. At Big Ben, at 4.55 a.m., everything was all ready, and we were delighted to have many of our old Sisters and present Sisters there to give us a good send-off. On the stroke of 5.0 Mr. Joe Binks sent us on our way, and for the first 15 miles we seemed to be doing much better time than the year before. Ingram had gone ahead, closely followed by Birch, with Northgreaves and Lenderyou. I believe that Ingram was 7 minutes ahead of last year, and Birch four minutes. Each man was walking well, and we were very optimistic. Between Merstham and Crawley we had our bad luck and, in consequence, Gransby, Chiverton, Rhodes, Moeller, Northgreaves, and Meighen (who had replaced Pawley) had to finish after very pluckily endeavouring to carry on. Then we received a great blow when Birch fell out at Lowfield Heath (27½ miles) for a full hour. We thought he would be unable to continue, but after a time his determination

prevailed and he set off again. Although he went on courageously for ten to fifteen miles, he finally had to retire. Then at the same place Durkin had a wretched time. He was cheery, and the spirit was strong, but he found the flesh weak, and it was very hard for him to stop-but

cramp is a terrible enemy.

We had now only Ingram, Lenderyou, Edwards, Fairfield, Lowings, and Boorman on the road. This was disheartening, and it seemed as if these boys knew what depended upon them, for they permitted neither cramp, strain, or muscle to stop them reaching Brighton. Each of them had bad times; Boorman and Lowings frequently needed doctoring, but their escorts, Gordon Brown and J. N. Thomas, worked magnificently. It was a wonderful performance for these two to get through, but what about the others? Ingram reached Dale Hill with only the downward descent to Brighton of 7 miles before him at about 1.40. There were visions of a great record, but cramp intervened, and although Ingram finished in 10 h. 32 m. 25 s., he was only 37/1-5 secs. better than Birch's time last year. We feel sure that if he had been left alone by the cramp fiend he might have done the course in the marvellous time of  $9\frac{3}{4}$  hours. Lenderyou kept on wonderfully well—he was cheery all the time, in spite of everything, and is worthy of great praise for his splendid showing. Edwards, too, was wonderfully cheerful all the way, and it was great to finish third in such a punishing race at the first time of asking. Fairfield was there, too, at the finish, and nothing seemed to put him out-indeed, it looked as if he could have easily carried on a few miles more. He was followed by Boorman and Lowings, and the race was over.

RESULTS AND TIMES.

1. J. Ingram 10 32 25 E. C. Horton.
2. F. Lenderyou 11 1 12 W. J. Stupples.
3. J. Edwards 11 16 32 Messrs. Martin & Wall.
4. E. Fairfield 11 22 31 E. Wall.

5. H. G. Boorman 12 36 41 Gordon Brown, &c. 6. W. J. Lowings 12 37 15 J. N. Thomas.

It is interesting to note that Ingram did the journey in 56 mins., Lenderyou in 38 mins., and Fairfield in 12 mins. quicker than last year.

#### At Brighton

Every man to finish had a great reception at Brighton, crowds lining the route practically all the way from Preston Park to the Aquarium, where the winning post was. The first to welcome the men as they came in was Captain Fraser. Then there was no delay in getting guides and competitors to Brills' baths, to be ready for the Brighton Club's dinner later in the evening. This proved to be, as last year, a right royal welcome, and in spite of the hospitality of the Club being severely taxed owing to the arrival of more guests than had been expected, every possible provision was made.

The chair was taken by Mr. W. Sagar, the President of the Club, who had on his right Captain Ian Fraser, and on his left Mr. W. W. Sampson, the donor of the splendid 100 Guinea Challenge Cup, which the winner holds for the year of his victory. At the Chairman's table also were Mr. C. T. Knowland and Mr. C. Anglis. Mr. Anglis was the donor of the handsome silver cup which was won outright by the second man home, while Mr. Knowland presented a silver cup to the third man

to finish.

During dinner a most excellent musical entertainment (every item of which was vociferously applauded) was provided by the following :- Mrs. Colvill, Little Maisie Wood, Mr. James Russell, and Harry Mason, the light-weight boxing champion.

After the Royal Toasts had been enthusiastically honoured, the Chairman, in an eloquent speech, offered the heartiest of welcomes to the big assembly of guests. He said that the Committee and members of the Brighton County Club deemed it the highest privilege to have as their guests that night the men who had proved that the great sacrifice they had made in fighting for King and Country had not affected one iota their courage and sportsmanship, as was evidenced by their splendid performance in this great race. In handing to the winner, Mr. Ingram, the possession of Mr. Sampson's fine Challenge Cup, he would like to mention that he had asked Mr. Ingram to accept also from himself another Cup, to hold as a permanent memento of his heroic effort,

(Applause.) He also understood that the splendid Cups for the second and third men given by Mr. Anglis and Mr. Knowland respectively would be duplicated each year by these two gentlemen. Furthermore, he had pleasure in announcing that the other three competitors who had finished would be presented by the Committee and members of the Club with silver cigarette cases, suitably inscribed. These special awards, it should be noted, were in addition to the gold and silver medals which were to be given to every competitor in the race by the Council of St. Dunstan's. (Applause.)

Captain Fraser, in responding, offered the heartiest thanks of the men of St. Dunstan's to the Chairman, Committee, and members of the Brighton County Club. Their splendid hospitality and their generosity in the matter of prizes for the competitors had contributed very greatly to the success of this important annual event. St. Dunstan's had always had many close associations with Brighton, and they knew that they could always count upon the interest and support of its residents. There were few St. Dunstaners who had not experienced at some time or another the pleasures and comforts of the Holiday and Convalescent Home which, by generous help, St. Dunstan's had been able to maintain in Brighton for so long. The whole aim of St. Dunstan's ever since its foundation had been to set a new and immensely higher standard of achievement for those without sight than had previously been thought possible. He ventured to think that the grit and endurance shown by the competitors in to-day's gruelling contest had proved, quite as effectively as the success of St. Dunstan's men all over the Empire in so many trades and professions, that they were making no idle boast in claiming for their motto "Victory over Blindness." (Cheers.) The great majority of those present to-night had to return to London, and, therefore, he was unable to do what he would have liked very much to do. That was to publicly thank individually the very many kindly folk who had helped in so many ways to ensure the success of this Walk. He

would have to be content, however, with expressing gratitude to them collectively for their splendid assistance, which he knew full well had been given without any thought of thanks or reward, but purely in admiration for the work of St. Dunstan's and the men who so splendidly carried its banner. (Cheers.)

After brief speeches of thanks had been made by Ingram, Lenderyou, and Edwardes, a most enjoyable evening terminated with the company joining hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem.

It would not be right to end this brief summary without a word to those who helped in this very big venture. May I therefore say how grateful we are to Mr. Barringer for all the outside organisation which was so wonderfully done at short notice; to Mr. Joe Binks for all that he did towards the arrangement of officers and escorts; to the various gentlemen who most kindly gave their day to judging and timekeeping, the cyclists, and especially the escorts, who gave freely and willingly of their best. I hope also that Major Bamberger, D.S.O., Messrs. Anglis and Middleton will accept our grateful thanks for providing cars, and that Miss Gamble will realise how indebted we are to her for not only providing a car but driving it herself all through the long day. This car, with Miss Paterson, did great service as Food Car, and particularly hard did they work during the last fifteen miles, when the competitors were so scattered. I should think that this car travelled not far off 200 miles from start to finish!

Then our thanks to Cpl.-Major Tovell for all his work not only in looking after us through the journey but for acting as chef at Headquarters. I believe his 'poached eggs' are "star turns." To Morrison, Mackenzie, and Lomax for invaluable help; to the Sisters, including Miss Bamberger and Miss Davis, for splendid assistance, and to our Sports Secretary, Miss Airs, for all she did.

The programme department was safe in the hands of Mr. Brevett and Mr. Anglis, and the judges "held" up many cars successfully in their spare moments.

I need hardly add that Monty and Christopher gave willing service throughout and that Drummer Downs again accompanied the walkers on his tandem and sold programmes en route. It was typically kind of Mr. Kessell and his family, with Mrs. Barringer, to come along with us. whilst it was nice to have Miss Greenwood, Miss Notley, Miss Brant, and Mrs. Broughton with us. The presence of Captain and Mrs. Fraser cheered and helped us.

FULL LIST OF STARTERS.

No.	Name	Regiment	Guide	Club		
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	W. Birch H. G. S. Boorman A. Chiverton C. Durkin J. Edwardes E. Fairfield H. Gransby J. Ingram F. Lenderyou W. J. Lowings J. Moellar H. Northgreaves J. P. Meighen F. Rhodes	The Buffs Royal Berks Yorkshire Regt	Mr. Travell ,, A. Gordon Brown ,, P. Brown ,, Cobb Messrs, Martin & Wall ,, G. Cooper ,, E. C. Horton ,, W. J. Stupples ,, J. N. Thomas ,, L. R. Cox Messrs, G. & R. Booker Mr. May	Queen's Pk. H. Stock Ex. W.C. Surrey W.C. Polytechnic Belgrave H. Surrey W.C. Belgrave H. Surrey W.C. Ashcombe A.C. Belgrave H. Belgrave H. Surrey W.C.		

We publish the following impression of the Brighton Walk exactly as we received

it from W. Lowings.

#### The Long, Long Trail

There's a long, long trail a winding, Into the land of my dreams. And the last five miles seem fifty. As I near the Sea Gulls screams.

At long last we reach the starting post— Big Ben. We line up, a pause, is everyone ready? Then, ding, dong, ding, dong, then an eternity; will it never strike? My heart tried to get out and leap forward alone, and then-crash!-we were off, amid the cheers of some who were just going home, and others who had risen early to see us start. (At least two Sisters among them.) Just a bit excited at first, but after a mile or so, settling down to it. Fifty-two miles! "Take it steady," says the guide, who knows the job better than I do, and we gradually lengthen out till we are dotted over about a mile of road.

Who is leading? Scrappy reports come back, a gruff voice comes out of the J. E. W.

darkness, "Good luck, mate," and drifts into the gloom. An hour-and-a-half passes like this, and gradually my guide is able to see a little way in front. I wonder how I stand. Am I last? Surely not. No! my guide can see shadowy figures trudging along in the rear. Good! "Carry on, Sergeant-Major!" Then we seem to be drawing away from the boys in rear. I feel a bit sorry and hope they are all right and still toddling on; feel a bit sorry for myself! Lots of cars coming behind; this must be our convoy. It is; I can hear Old Bill Tovell's voice above the rest, "Stick it Bill!" I feel a bit irritable; I am sticking it; but let me say here and now that Cpl.-Major Toyell must have walked very nearly all of the journey in his doubling backwards and forwards. I take off my hat to him; he is a sportsman.

"A little beef tea?" Yes, very welcome, and our dear old "Buckshee" dishes out a drop in a very big mug to prevent it being spilled. Why did he not fill it? I swallow a little and spill a lot down my legs. Never mind; that feels

How far have we done? There is a town ahead, we shall know. My guide does not say much. "Keep your breath," he says, "you'll want it." True, Oh prophet; live for ever. Here's the town; twenty-six and a quarter, I think it was. Our time is not too bad, and by all accounts we are laying fourth; better still. It has been raining about this time, a nasty cold rain, and this takes a few men off the road. I feel a bit groggy myself, but I conjure up a wintry smile as we go through the town. We shall be at Crawley soon. I feel more like crawling; my legs are getting a bit mutinous; they do not come forward with the same readiness as they did at Large Benjamin. A couple of sandwiches and a little hot tea, and so we get to Crawley.

That's broken the back of the journey. I confide to my guide that my legs are a bit troublesome; I think he knows it; he has been walking behind me for some time; he is sizing me up. I know. He props me up against a telegraph pole and gives me a good rubbing; the cold and wet has made me stiff. Then I try to get going; it is very painful to move; if I could only lay down in the road and sleep! I have a job to get under way, but gradually regain the full use of my limbs. Still we toddle on. Hullo, there's someone coming along steadily behind. I cannot regain my old pace; he gradually gets nearer, and after about an hour passes me. I am fifth! I reason it out. If I feel rough, so must the others. Carry on ! I go down frequently now for massagegood old Tovell; he anoints me with about a gallon of oils and they rub it all in between them. Bill puts his mack down, and I gratefully but not very gracefully lay my weary limbs down on it. Up again and on. Tovell sings to me; all that I remember is something about "with his toes turned up." I could knock his head off for being so cheerful. He worked in a long line which went, "and there was old Bill Lowings in Brills' baths with his toes turned up." I would have given all I had to have been there at that moment. (I do not think I shall get a "place" now; all I hope for is to complete the job.) I eat bananas mechanically,

and chew grapes. Miss Stacey is never far away with hot tea and stimulants. The milestones mock me. "Brighton, six miles and a quarter," says one. Ananias! We trudge on for about ten miles, and there is another, "Six miles to Brighton," and on the reverse side-"London, forty-six miles." Someone must have dug it up and shifted it, and as we walked the same friend picked it up and carried it forward, putting it down in front of us, to mock us. At last here is a certainty. Dale Hill. Who called it a hill? As we trudge up it I feel benevolent towards the unemployed, and wonder why on earth the powers that be do not give them the job of levelling it up a bit. By this time the little car is trailing us up closely, first going to the front and waiting for us to pass and then in rear. I think of the carrion crow I remember so well out East, waiting to pick up anything that was to be had . . . just a whimsical thought ... with no real resemblance . . . but just the return of long forgotten scenes. I am recalled to the Brighton Road by my guide: "Now then Billy," he said, "you will soon hear the people cheering." (Preston Park.) There is another chap, very game still; he is only a few yards behind me; he draws nearer, and then he has passed me. I pull myself together; I feel cross with him . . . I go forward a bit faster-I have passed him again. We reach the big arches and he passes me again. I must keep a little strength for the last hundred yards. He is about twenty yards in front . . . I cannot put out any more . . . the crowd gets denser, my guide lets me go, and I finish, with my tail up . . . and my head. Half a dozen people grasp my hand. I am there, and in a few minutes Bill Tovell's song comes true; Old Bill Lowings is in Brills baths with his toes turned up and a nice hot cup of tea, with a dash of "Eau de vie."

> To Brighton is fifty-two miles, And there's fifty-two weeks in a year; I think I'll do a mile a week, And then I'll surely get there!

> > W. L.

# A London

## SPORTS CLUB NOTES



UR old boys will be very sorry that the Daylight Saving Bill ended so early in September, because it put a stop to our outdoor games. The loss of that hour made all the difference. Still, we are glad to have had such excellent sport throughout a rather trying summer, and I am sure that the competition just closed was one of the keenest we have had. We heartily congratulate James and Meighen on their success in heading their respective sections, but as these gentlemen have done the same thing before they will be getting used to our congratulations. The following secured the highest points.

T.B.		S.S.						
Meighen	915	James	6.060	1,1371				
Nicholls	8821	Scott	b. 6	1,050				
Ingram	7171	Bawden	+ (+)	1,005				
Nuyens	710	Prior	1	6-0				
Webster	705	Steel	5	670				
Kerr	675	Downs	6.67	6172				
Winter	615	Meredith	1.(1)	205				
MacFarlane	585							
Gamble	325							
Burran	170							
Boorman	130							

#### FOOTBALL.

Again we are in the throes of another Football Competition—I wonder how many we have had? The old titles are gradually being replaced by modern ones, and I give herewith the names of the teams so that our readers will be able to identify each team.

#### TEAMS.

The Taffies.—Birch, Lee, Davis, Welks.
The Ramblers.—Edwards, Fairfield, Hill,
Sheppard.

The Magpies.—Gill, Dawes, Burleigh, E. Williams.

Southend United.—Pawley, Thompson, Finkle, Knight.

Wanderers.—Shakespere, Judd, Brooks, Fallowfield.

Spudonians.—Watson, Tebbutt, Coles,

Springvale.—Turnock, Healet, Handley, Larkholme.

Tally Ho's.—Meighen, Roberts, Hunt, R. J. Williams.

#### MATCHES PLAYED.

Sept.			
16th. Southend	5	Taffies	- I
Ramblers	+ - 3	Spudonians	I
18th. Magpies	+ - 3	Tally Ho's	- 3
Wanderers	2	Springvale	0
19th. Taffies	2 2	Spudonians	2
Southend	5	Ramblers	2
23rd. Magpies	. 5	Tally Ho's	2
Tally Ho's	2	Wanderers	2
30th. Springvale	3	Tally Ho's	I
Wanderers	3	Taffies	2
Oct.			
1st. Ramblers	2	Taffies	1
Southend	. 4	Spudonians	1
2nd. Spudonians	1	Springvale	I
Southend	7	Magpies	3
3rd, Taffies	4	Tally Hos	2
Ramblers	. I	Wanderers	0

#### SWIMMING.

Our swimmers have had a very exciting few weeks, for they have been present at five galas. We are most grateful to those who have so thoughtfully invited us and given us such a great welcome. I can assure these clubs that their goodness is most warmly appreciated. The following results must be of interest.

August 27th.—Surrey Ladies' S.C.—Kingston. 1st, Kerr; 2nd, Wilson; 3rd, Birch.

Sept. 8th.—Walter Bricketts—Kentish Town. 1st, Birch; 2nd, Henry; 3rd, Rhodes. Sept. 1oth.—Battersea Police—Battersea.

ist, Henry; 2nd, Rhodes; 3rd, Birch. Bawden beat Birch in a race (1 length) over and under water.

Sept. 11th.-Walthamstow S.C.

ist, Birch; 2nd, Nuyens; 3rd, Downs. Oct. 2nd.—Port of London—Hoxton Baths. 1st, Henry; 2nd, Downs; 3rd, Meighen.

#### PHYSICAL JERKS.

I am sure that the majority of our athletes have heard of the famous Muller physical training. The great idea is that five minutes in the morning before breakfast is so invigorating, especially when based upon sound scientific lines. Captain Fraser has most kindly arranged with

Mr. Muller to come up to St. Dunstan's and give our boys a course of lessons so that they can carry on their excellent scheme for themselves. The classes arranged for the present boys at Headquarters are on Thursday, from 6-8 p.m., and for Old Boys, Tuesdays, at the Bungalow from 6-8 p.m. I do hope that all Old Boys who would like to get a working knowledge of these exercises will hurry up to the Bungalow before the series are over. They will be glad they did.

Saturday Mo Sports.	rnin	g	Points to date.				
Т.В.			S.S.				
Gill	100	215	Burleigh	250			
Pawley   Fairfield		190	Fallowfield Brookes	235			
Harrison	17.2	180	Finkle	130			
Edwards	0202	145	Harkness	95			
Roberts		130	Knight	90			
Shakespere	1000	80	Davies )				
Milligan		65	Blackman >	So			
Lea	2.0	55	Sheppard J				
Thompson		40	Williams, R.	75			
Clamp		30	Williams, E.	70			
Tebbutt		20	Coles	25			

# Poultry Notes—Our Next Laying Test

The Test Committee, comprising Messrs. Thomson Brown, Guttridge, Capper, and Holmes, met at the farm on the 3rd inst., when final arrangements were made for our second Winter Egg Laying Contest.

At the last moment quite a few more men sent in their names, and we have now a satisfactory list of competitors.

The total entries this year are 76, whereas last year we had only 45.

The entries in the various sections are: Section I.—White Leghorns, 20 pens.

Section 2.—Rhode Island Reds, 26 pens.

Section 3.—White Wyandottes, 8 pens. Section 4.—Any other light breed,

5 pens

Section 5.—Single Bird Section, 17 birds.

With Captain Fraser's approval it has been decided to have a St. Dunstan's Challenge Cup. This will be held for one year, and will be awarded to the owner of the best pen in the test. Anyone winning this cup three years in succession shall retain it.

Other prizes decided on are :-

Sections 1, 2, and 5.—First Prize, Gold Medal; Second Prize, Silver Medal; Third Prize, Bronze Medal.

Section 3.—First Prize, Gold Medal; Second Prize, Silver Medal.

Section 4.—Prize, Gold Medal. And Awards of Merit for all pens which pass the standard fixed by the Committee. SPECIAL PRIZES.

I. For pen with highest number first-grade eggs in Sections I-4, a No. 2 St. Dunstan's poultry house.

2. For bird with highest number of first-grade eggs in Section 5—a No. 3 St. Dunstan's poultry house.

It is also hoped that our two principal Poultry Societies, viz. the National Utility Poultry Society and the Scientific Poultry Breeders' Association, will each give a prize as previously, in which case these will be awarded as special prizes.

Competitors have been advised to send their birds to the farm on the 14th, 15th, and 16th, and the test starts on the 1st November.

J. T. B.

#### Our Best Story Competition

Pressure on our space this month necessitates the holding over of the entries received in the above competition. A selection of these will, however, be published next month, including the winning story, which was sent in by S. K. Jerome, Avonhut, Hurn, Nr. Christchurch, Hants., to whom the prize of a safety razor in case has been forwarded.

In announcing the closing of this competition we should like to express our appreciation of the wide interest it has aroused. We hope to renew it on a future occasion, when those competitors who have not secured a prize this time may be able to try their luck again.

#### A Headquarters' Re-Union

THE Annual Dinner and Re-Union of shorthand-typists, telephonists, and others engaged in business in the London area took place at Headquarters on the 9th October. Some sixty of the Old Boys sat down under the chairmanship of Captain Fraser to the splendid dinner provided by Miss Burbage and the catering department, and during the course of the meal many old friendships were renewed and old times talked over. After the loyal toasts had been honoured, Captain Fraser expressed the great pleasure it gave him to welcome so many old friends.

Since we had the last meeting, he said, I can say that, speaking generally, St. Dunstan's has gone along on much the same lines as it used to. There have been a considerable number of economies made in the administration. I hope, and I believe that I am right in saying, that those economies have not been of such a nature as to affect what St. Dunstan's should give to the men. There may have been diminution of the services which were less essential and necessary, but, on the whole, I think we can claim with fairness that St. Dunstan's has weathered the storm of the last two or three years of depression in a very remarkable degree. I cannot claim, nor can any particular individual claim, the credit for that. It was due to the fact that good foundations were there, and that such financial arrangements were made as enabled us to carry through that extremely bad time. What I can tell you is, that the last two years, bad though they have been, have not been so bad as the year before that, and this last year has been relatively good. In fact, at the end of the year ended last March, the year for which our annual report is now published, we ended up with a margin on the right side. The margin was only some \$2,000, which is about I per cent, of our expenditure and income, but, nevertheless, it was on the

right side, and that, I am sure, when you realise the year before there were extraordinary difficulties, is a good sign for the future. Now, that is due to the fact that what might be called the war-time establishment of St. Dunstan's was reduced to a peace-time establishment. It is common to most businesses that during the war years they expanded and expanded, and departments assumed new duties until one got to the top, and then as things got more settled it required very considerable and definite action to bring them into line with the income one can expect to get in normal times. We are now in a fair way to be able to look forward to the future with confidence, and we can go on the lines that we are now going on without worrying. That does not mean that we must go back to the more expensive things of the war, but it does mean that St. Dunstan's has weathered the financial storm and that St. Dunstan's -as many of you may have been justified in imagining—has not depreciated to the extent you might have expected it to depreciate when the loss of Sir Arthur came upon us. It was reasonable for you to suppose that things might be very different for you. We are, however, settled on a basis which satisfies me for the future. (Applause.)

"As far ahead as any human being can look the prospects are good. Now I account for that particularly on the grounds that the foundations of St. Dunstan's are good, and that the goodwill of everybody was extraordinarily high. I account for it also because the loyalty and understanding which you men had towards us at headquarters was an extraordinarily sound thing, based upon a real confidence, and for this I want to thank you and tell you that I most deeply appreciate it.

"I know that many of you gave me your support. You said, 'We must stick up for St. Dunstan's and see it through.' I do not doubt for a moment that the

support you gave me accounts for the fact that we got on to a stable basis. There is, I think, no organisation in the world which depends so essentially for its success as St. Dunstan's does upon the men themselves throughout the country. Headquarters may be efficient. I hope it is. If it were inefficient, it would be a bad thing for all of us. But the efficiency of its Headquarters never made a great movement. The mere efficiency of a machine never made a great movement. St. Dunstan's has got through because we have 2,000 men throughout the country who believe in us, and that we have done our best. (Hear, hear.)

"You sometimes hear things that are good and sometimes ill. When you do I hope you will come and ask about them and satisfy yourselves either that these things are true or untrue. If they are untrue, they require to be denied.

"I hope you will agree with the view I hold that St. Dunstan's on its present basis is what we, as a community, are entitled to. (Hear, hear.)

"I would like you to feel that our independence is one of our greatest assets. I would like you to agree with me that a fusion of our interests with any other institute would be a mistake. We rely for our measure of success upon the fact that we are a particular group of persons who have particular ideals, and who have striven to get along in the world without the help of others. The fact that we are blinded ex-servicemen is something we cannot help—is the link that should keep us bound solidly together and at the same time independent of other organisations. It must have been discussed by some of you as to whether or not we should amalgamate with this or that organisation-with, for instance, another institution for the blind. It has been said that some kind of amalgamation of St. I unstan's with another institution might be good, and that some decentralisation might be more beneficial from a national point of view. I disagree. I am not prepared to think that it is in our interests to believe these things. In my view, great things have always been taken up by individuals, as was this one by Sir Arthur

Pearson, and I believe it is just that independence which is the strongest asset of St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstaners. (Hear, hear.) On the other hand, it is not for us to go about scorning other people, and I want to tell you of an arrangement whereby a member of the Council of the British Legion has become a member of our Council. It merely shows we are friendly and that we desire to work hand in hand with them, but at the same time we maintain our independence. I had very considerable trouble with regard to the whole question of the blind community. I got into direct contact with the Ministry of Health, which represented that in their opinion some amalgamation should take place. In refusing, I thought I was serving your interests best, and so long as I am concerned with your interests I shall stick to the view that the independence of St. Dunstan's is our greatest asset. (Applause.)

Recently there was brought forward at a British Legion Branch meeting a resolution to the effect that it was desirable that St. Dunstan's should become a Government Institution.

"One of our own men, I am glad to say, happens to be a member of that branch, and he moved an amendment that the committee should appoint a deputation to come and see me on the subject. They came, and I pointed out to them the reasons why St. Dunstan's was better as it is. I was of opinion that no organisation could possibly deal so quickly or adequately with individual cases as this organisation could do. I took the view that, whatever merits or demerits there might be in such an organisation. St. Dunstan's was best carried on on the present basis. The result was that this delegate put forward the point of view which I had given him, and they passed it by a majority of 35 to 7 votes, turning down the suggestion which had been made, and incidentally adding to their resolution a vote of confidence in St. Dunstan's.

"I am very proud of that, because I think it is the view the majority of ex-servicemen take." (Applause.) "You may know that in the political field I am interested in a particular

party. You cannot go into the House of Commons unless you do belong to a particular party. I do not want to know your political views. We are here as St. Dunstaners, but I do want to tell you that the steps I am taking in the political field are in my opinion steps advantageous to St. Dunstan's. Should I have the good fortune to get in, I am convinced that the advantage, so far as St. Dunstan's is concerned, will be as great as was the advantage I found we had gained when I got on to the L.C.C. I must belong to a particular party. I go to the House, if I go at all, because I desire to try and serve in a field in which I hope there may be room for me, and my attitude to St. Dunstan's is that I shall be the first person, if I find any of my activities are harmful to St. Dunstan's, to submit my resignation. I do not think it will be the case. If I am so fortunate as to have these new duties given me, I think what I can do for St. Dunstan's will be increased. (Applause.)

"As I know, among you there has been some little conversation. I thought I would frankly tell you that I am quite the last person to bite off more than I can chew, and so long as the men of St. Dunstan's feel I can serve them I will. (Hear, hear.)

"I welcome this re-union and I very much appreciate the support which you have given to our Headquarters during the last year, and I hope that the confidence which has existed between us for so long will continue on the same strong basis, and that you will agree with me in regard to the contention I have put forward as to the necessity for our sticking together to secure what we believe as blinded soldiers we are entitled to, and what we know and believe the public desire us to have. I impress upon you the importance of independence and sticking together." (Loud applause.)

After H. Kerr had proposed in a happy little speech a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was seconded by Sergeant Nicholls, an adjournment was made to the big Lounge, where an excellent entertainment took place. A "star" turn was

the appearance of Miss Gracie Fields (from "Mr. Tower of London"), whose sparkling contributions were immensely enjoyed. Other artistes who generously gave their services also were Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, whose songs provided a real musical treat. St. Dunstaners themselves made up the rest of a fine programme, among those performing being H. V. Frampton, J. Doubler, E. Slaughter, F. O'Kelly, J. Macfarlane, J. Fleming, T. Tootell, R. Cowley, G. A. Brown, H. Manning, S. Webster, A. Nicholls, and W. Harding.

One of the most successful gatherings ever held broke up in time for the guests to catch their last trains home. The arrangements throughout reflected the greatest credit upon all concerned with the organisation.

#### Ross Swenerton's Funeral

In a letter to Captain Fraser, Mr. Baker gives some details of the funeral of this St. Dunstaner, to whose death we referred in our last issue. Mr. Baker, in his letter, says:—

"We are quite heart-broken over his untimely death. He was so cheerful and courageous always, and kept going until the last minute. He insisted on working full time up till Friday evening, 4th July, in spite of my remonstrances about his ill-health and run-down condition. He promised to work only half-time during the week commencing 7th July, and intended going on his holidays, starting Saturday, 12th July.

"A private service was held at his home, 95 Bernard Avenue, Toronto, at 2 p.m., Thursday, 10th July. Later, at 2.30 p.m., a church service was arranged in the Church of the Messiah (C. of E.), Toronto. The remains were laid to rest in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, North Toronto. The Rev. W. R. Ramsay Armitage, Rector, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Harrington. Pall bearers were Herbert R. Swenerton, brother, J. H. Suydam, friend, A. G. Viets, E. A. Baker, J. Pender West, friend, and Stewart Dobbs, President of Amputation Association of the Great War."

#### ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

# After-Care Meetings and Re-Unions

#### Nottingham

A joint meeting of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire St. Dunstaners took place at the Y.M.C.A., Nottingham, on the afternoon of Wednesday, 24th September.

Over 70 sat down to tea, and a very

cheery gathering it was.

Unfortunately, the promised pianist failed to arrive, so that Mr. Salon and Mr. Layland, of Toc H., and Mr. J. H. Smith, all of whom were prepared to sing, were unable to fulfil their part of the programme, excepting Mr. Salon, who gave one or two monologues.

Mrs. Clay and Mrs. Ling gallantly came to the rescue also with dance music, which

was greatly appreciated.

After tea, Mr. Swain read a message of greeting from Captain Fraser, who was unable to be present, and then had a short After-Care talk with those present on various subjects of general interest.

He spoke of the pride at H.Q. at the splendid way the men were "carrying on"—of the need for mutual understanding and trust between himself and the men, explaining some of his own difficulties as Manager of the After-Care, in dealing with individual needs, and of the value of these meetings as an opportunity of a personal talk as well as a re-union of old friends, and a renewal of the fine old St. Dunstan's spirit of cheery optimism and fellowship.

He announced with regret the departure of Miss Evers from the After-Care staff, but was glad to be able to introduce to them Miss Gough, whom many would remember in the Bungalow days, and whom he and they would welcome as the Visitor for the Derbyshire "Boys." Unfortunately, Miss Hodgson, who needs no introduction in the Midlands, and who will be the future Nottingham Visitor, was unable to be present.

The question of future joint meetings of these two counties was discussed, and the meeting was unanimously in favour of combining, but opinion as to the place of meeting was divided. In a show of hands Nottingham won in the vote for the meeting to be again held there next year, but then, as it was afterwards pointed out, the Notts St. Dunstaners' population far exceeds the Derby one, and some of the journeys in the latter county are a truly terrible undertaking, that perhaps an alternative may be suggested later.

Mr. Swain finished his speech amid loud

While the private interviews were in progress, the rest of the company got busy dancing, guessing weights, or talking.

#### Manchester

On Thursday and Friday, 2nd and 3rd October, two happy gatherings were held at the Fortuna Cafe, Oxford Road, Manchester. At each meeting there were approximately 50 St. Dunstaners, so that, including their wives, we had the largest attendance yet achieved at a provincial After-Care meeting. Unhappily, Captain Fraser was unable to join us, but Mr. Swain acted as host and conveyed our Chairman's personal message of welcome to those present.

Where such a large number is concerned, it is almost inevitable that a few are unable to attend for business or sickness reasons, and to these few we send out many regrets, together with a sincere wish that we may look forward to renewing acquaintance next time, which Mr. Swain very nearly (but not quite) promised us would be

next year.

Mr. Cubley's entertainment during the afternoon was given its usual enthusiastic reception on both days and was generously assisted on Thursday by J. Morris, H. Birley, C. Molloy, Mrs. G. Gillibrand, and F. Dyson, and on Friday by C. E. Thomas, J. Walch, W. Jones (pianoforte solo with nose), Mrs. W. Jones, J. Thompson, and J. Greaves. Mr. Thomas was accompanied by his friend, Mr. Wright Sutcliffe, who provided an amusing 20 minutes

with humorous items, whilst a duet entitled "Great Scott" by these two gentlemen is certainly worthy of special mention.

Winners of the Guessing Competitions were as follows:—

Thursday.—Pie Competition.—J. Heapy and C. Parkinson (tie—pie divided).

Thursday, Cake Competition.—Mrs. Richards and J. Bates (tie—cake divided). Friday, Pie Competition.—J. McKenna. Friday, Cake Competition.—Mrs. Tait and Mrs. Knott (tie—cake divided).

Space forbids a detailed account of the many really splendid efforts of all concerned, but we trust the artists and helpers may be amply compensated in being assured that by doing their "bit" they contributed very considerably to the success the meetings undoubtedly proved to be.

#### After-Care Meeting at Leamington Spa

A meeting took place at Leamington on Wednesday, 10th September, at the Blue Cafe. Mrs. Fowler very kindly placed the large hall at our disposal, and also provided a voluntary orchestra, so that after tea we were able to have some dancing in between the songs.

Over forty sat down to tea, at the end of which Mr. Swain read a message from Captain Fraser, and afterwards addressed the meeting, telling them how things were going on at headquarters and of the great value he attached to these meetings in helping them to keep in touch with each other and with him, that they all might have a better understanding of mutual difficulties.

He also announced with the deepest regret the departure of Miss Evers from the "After-Care" Staff towards the end of the year, owing to her approaching marriage, and spoke feelingly of the splendid work she had done so many years for St. Dunstan's.

Captain Abraham once more came and entertained the meeting with his comic songs, and Miss Cooper kindly gave her services also. Both of these singers were much appreciated. It was so nice, too, to have contributions to the programme from some of the "Boys." Both Carter and Herriot sang and were deservedly encored.

While the dancing was in progress Mr. Swain had a private interview with each man.

There were the usual guessing competitions, and the time for dispersal came along all too quickly.

#### Walking Race for Northern St. Dunstaners

Just as we go to press we receive the following details of the arrangements made for the Manchester Walk:—

At the committee meeting on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Y.M.C.A., Peter Street, definite arrangements for the Walk were made and are as follows:—

On Saturday, 8th November, there will be a 10-mile circular Road Walk open to all St. Dunstaners in the Northern Area who care to enter, starting 2.30 p.m. from the Baths, Harper Hay. Semi-sighted men will be asked to walk bandaged to make it fair for the T.B.'s.

There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, and a prize also for the best time done by any man over 40 not in the first three and one for any man over 45 not in the first three. Competitors must be at the baths not later than 1.45 on 8th November. At the conclusion of the walk there will be a tea and concert provided for competitors, their wives, and escorts.

It will greatly assist the organisers if all those entering will kindly send in their names and addresses at the earliest possible date to W. M. Slack, Esq., Hon. Sec. Manchester Harriers, 129 Wembury Road, Mosten Lane, Manchester. No applications can be taken which are received after 29th October. Please put your address clearly and state if you will require a walking escort or are bringing your own.

Any boys not competing will be welcomed at the concert at the Red Lion, Blackley, about 7 p.m., but tea will only be provided for competitors and their wives and escorts.

(Sgd.) A. Hodgson.

Clopton, Stratford-on-Avon.



### DEPARTMENTAL NOTES



#### Braille Room Notes

We heartily congratulate the following men on having passed the Braille Reading Test:—

R. J. Williams. J. Edwards.

J. Healy.
We also congratulate E. Watson and
H. A. Mann on having passed the Braille
Writing Test.

The following are a few of the books that have recently been added to the National Library for the Blind:—

"Enchanted April" (Countess von

"Capt. Desmond, V.C." (Maud Diver).
"Tales of Terror and Mystery" (Sir A. Conan Doyle).

"Brushwood Boy and Maltese Cat" (R. Kipling).

"Short Story Writing" (C. R. Barrett).
"Outline of Science" (J. A. Thomson, Editor).

"Mordius & Co." (W. J. Locke).
"Jonah & Co." (Dornford Yates).

"Lady Bountiful" (G. A. Birmingham).
"Worst Journey in the World"
(Antarctic, 1910-13) (A. Cherry-Garrard).

#### Typewriting and Telephony

Hearty congratulations to-

E. J. Burley, J. Davies, and

E. R. Larcome, on passing the Typewriting Test.

Congratulations and best wishes to L. Heren, who has started work as telephonist at the Coast Guards, Victoria Street.

D. J. S.

#### Netting Notes

We have found yet one more use for nets, this being a carrier for the spare tyre always carried on cars. For strength, compactness and easy adjustment, a netted carrier to contain the lower half of the tyre, and fitted at each end with a metal ring which can be drawn close to the hub, is a most serviceable article and costs very little to make. The best material to use is thick tanned hemp, worked in straight netting on a 1½ inch mesh.

A second novelty which is a development from our well-known string container is a smaller bag to hold, instead of a halfpound ball of string, only a quarter-pound one. We are stocking this in white and a few useful colours in readiness for Xmas presents.

G. H. W.

#### Births

Archer.—To the wife of R. Archer, of Australia (temporarily in England), a son (Keith) on the 27th August.

Bannister.—On the 20th of September, a daughter, to the wife of J. Bannister, of Skelmersdale.

CAPLE.—To the wife of A. J. Caple, of Cardiff, a daughter (Mary Elizabeth Hamilton) on the 27th of July.

CAREY.—On the 19th of September, to the wife of M. Carey, of Tottenham, a daughter.

Collins.—To the wife of W. Collins, of Portugal, in July, a daughter.

Howell.—On the 3rd August, a son (John Charles) to the wife of L. Howell, of Haywards Heath.

Kidder.—On the 28th of August, a daughter (Una) to the wife of H. Kidger, of Nuneaton.

Jose.—On the 22nd of September, a daughter (Ivy) to the wife of W. C. Jose, of Newry.

Lincoln.—To the wife of J. Lincoln, of Sheffield, a son (Selwyn) on the 18th of September.

Purvies.—On the 5th of September, to the wife of D. A. Purvies, of South Bank, a son.

RAY.—To the wife of C. Ray, of Southend, a daughter, on the 7th of September. Wife and daughter both doing well.

Stew.—On the 5th of September, a son (Ronald) to the wife of F. Stew, of Tewkesbury.

Speed.—On the 2nd of September, a son (Richard Henry) to the wife of T. Speed, of Steeple Langford.

Skelly.—To the wife of T. Skelly, of Batley, a son (Norman) on the 29th of August.

Summers.—To the wife of P. Summers, of Scotland, a son (stillborn, on the 12th of September).

#### Marriages

Jarvis.—On the 20th of September, the marriage of A. Jarvis, of Coventry, was celebrated. (We regret that further details are not to hand.)

MILNER.—On September the 23rd, the marriage of T. Milner, of Liverpool, was celebrated. (We regret no further details have been received.)

THOMAS-UTTLEY.—On the 12th of September, at Nazebottom Baptist Chapel, Charlestown, near Todmorden, C. E. Thomas, of Todmorden, to Miss G. E. Uttley, also of Todmorden.

#### Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:-

Annis.—T. F. Annis, of Birmingham, who, on the 15th of August, lost his wife. Annis is left with four children, the eldest only 14.

Groves.—To Mr. & Mrs. A. F. Groves, of Sittingbourne, whose infant son, Arthur George, died on the 25th September, aged 7 months and 5 days.

Newton.—R. Newton, of Fordingbridge, who on the 30th of August lost his mother. She died in Sidmouth Lodge, aged 68.

Rouse.—Mrs. Rouse, wife of J. T. Rouse, who lost her sister in September.

Summers.—Mr. & Mrs. Summers, of Scotland, whose son was stillborn, 12th of September.

## Birmingham St. Dunstan's Sports'

#### Result of the Annual Walking Match

The Birmingham and District St. Dunstan's Sports Club's annual walk for soldiers blinded in the war took place recently. The walk was over a course of about 15 miles, the start and finish being at Handsworth. The competitors proceeded by way of Hamstead, Great Barr, Oueslett, on to Streetley, round by King's Vale, New Oscott, Perry Barr, and Wellington Road. Sir Whitworth Wallis was referee; Alderman T. H. Cartwright, Councillor J. Lane, Mr. R. Fairthorne, and Mr. W. H. S. Walker, judges; and Messrs. T. Birch and J. Taylor, timekeepers. Dr. Holmes was in attendance, and Miss Avis Hodgson and Mr. R. T. Cooling (hon. secretaries) were in charge of the arrangements.

A tea and concert for the soldiers followed the event, and Alderman Cartwright distributed the prizes. The following is the result:—

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A splendid worker on behalf of St. Dunstan's is A. Phillips, of Neath. It is not so very long since that this St. Dunstaner was mainly instrumental in organising a "Cameo" Day on behalf of St. Dunstan's funds, which realised a most satisfactory total. Phillips is very well known and highly popular in his own town, and this ensures interest and support for his efforts.

#### Frank Tinney at St. Dunstan's

An impromptu entertainment, which was given in the Lounge at Headquarters on the 7th October, gave the greatest pleasure to the men in residence and some of their friends. Arranged by the kindness of a friend of St. Dunstan's (who modestly desires to remain anonymous), and who has many friends in the dramatic and musical world, the entertainment opened with the irresistibly droll chatter and story telling of Frank Tinney, the famous American comedian, ably assisted by the almost equally famous "Ernest." Mr. Tinney kept his audience in roars throughout, and his modern version of "Hamlet" and "Othello" was the most quaintly humorous thing imaginable. Another welcome contributor to the programme was Mr. Ion Swinley, the Shakespearean actor, so well-known to "Old Vic" patrons. His rendering of some famous orations from Shakespeare was stirring to a degree and fairly "brought down the house." Another visitor who had a chat with many of the boys was the beautiful film artiste, Miss Julianne Johnstone, who plays opposite Mr. Douglas Fairbanks in his great film "The Thief of Bagdad." A vote of thanks to the artistes, proposed by Captain Fraser, was clamorously endorsed by the whole company present.

#### The Volunteer Tea Party

A particularly happy tea party was one held at "The Volunteer" in Upper Baker Street, and among those taking part were Miss Margaret Bannerman, from the cast of "Our Betters," which is now well on into its second year of success, the Baroness von Hutton, and Ion Swinley.

The St. Dunstaners present included W. Birch, G. Fallowfield, E. J. Williams, J. Meighen, W. E. Brooks, F. Pawley,

and E. Roberts.

Not only did Miss Bannerman give an impromptu recitation of a nameless little poem she had learnt as a child, but Ion Swinley thrilled everyone with Henry V.'s speech on the eve of Agincourt.

Another much appreciated item was a little storyette, told by the Baroness von

Hutton, concerning two Swedes conversing in English in a train.

One St. Dunstaner, who shall be nameless to spare his blushes, having taken part in an enthusiastic discussion about plays, told Miss Bannerman that he had a reputation for telling fortunes. She immediately asked for hers, and he rose to the occasion by foretelling "a long journey with a registered postcard at the end of it."

Everyone was interested when Mr. Ion Swinley described "The Little Piper," a play being produced at the Kingsway by the Old Pauline Dramatic Club and written by Mr. Swinley himself when on active service in France. "I'm having a terrible time learning my part," he confided to the amused guests. "You see, I wrote it for Leon Quartermaine and provided him with immense speeches, and now I've got to take the part myself... It's worse than Hamlet!"

#### More Demonstrators.

Yet more names must be added to the list of those who have been busy of late demonstrating the skill of St. Dunstaners. F. H. Trendall and G. W. Rickards, of Warwick, both went for this purpose to Moreton Paddox, where they not only had an enjoyable afternoon but sold most of the baskets, hammocks, &c., that they had taken with them. Quite a number of people crowded round, interested in the work being done before them, and already Trendall reports having received orders as a result of the demonstration.

Others have been at work at the Ideal Homes Exhibition at Swansea, including R. Warren and A. Evans. Among the interesting visitors who came to the St. Dunstan's stand here was a deputation from the Welch Regiment.

#### ANOTHER PRIZE WINNER.

We are glad to hear that A. G. Rogers, who lives near Biggleswade, carried off the first and second prizes for his Rhode Island Eggs at the Langford Show.

We regret that great pressure on our space prevents our printing the usual advertisements. Printed by
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