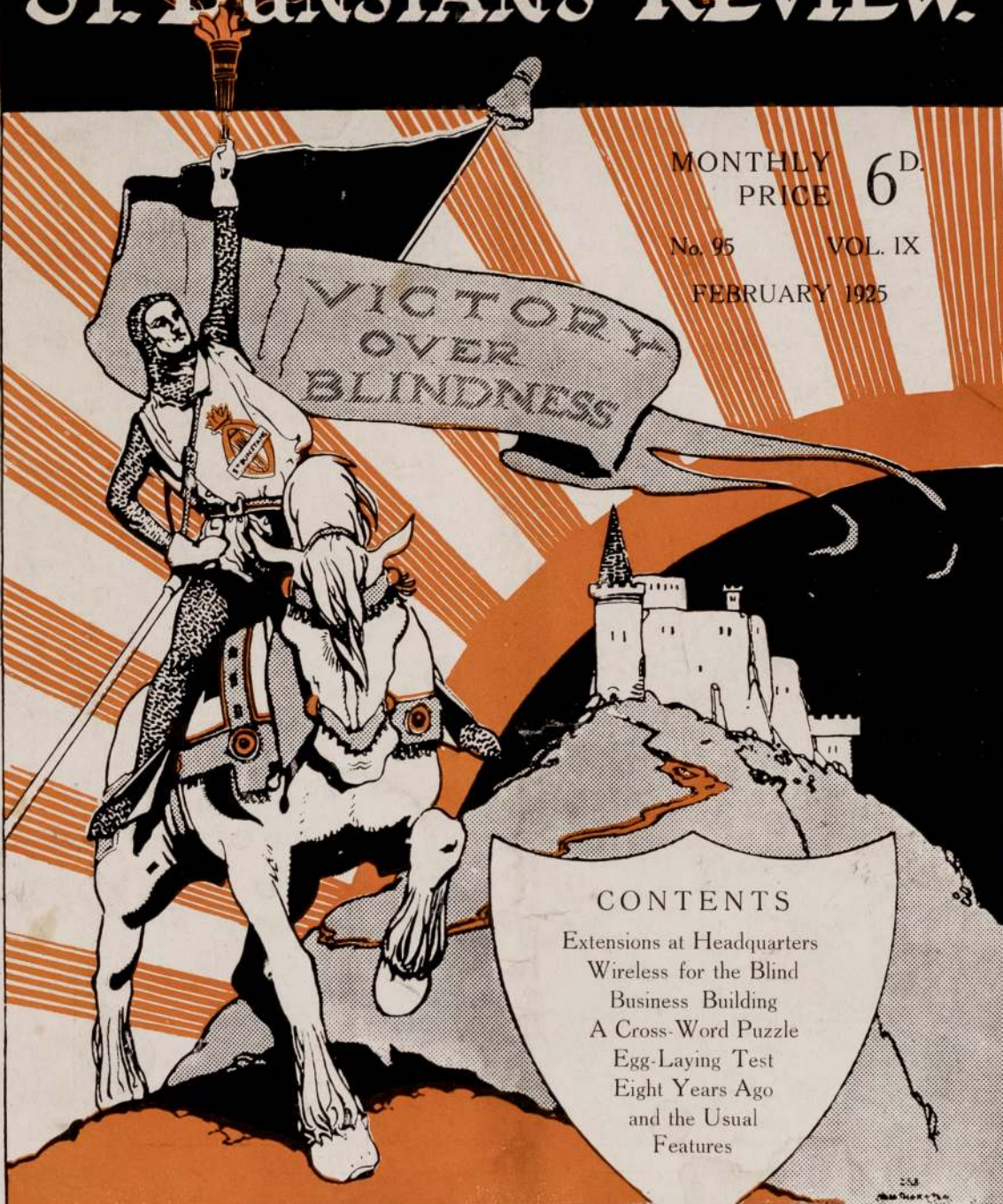


# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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

No. 95 VOL. IX

FEBRUARY 1925



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

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





THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AT ST. DUNSTAN'S

(Top) In the New Ward.

(Lower) In the Boot Repairing Shop

# St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 95.—VOLUME IX.

FEBRUARY 1925.

PRICE 6d.

[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN.]

## EDITORIAL NOTES

**T**HERE are many new faces to be seen in the Lounge, Workshops, and Wards at St. Dunstan's now. But already, in spite of the fact that many of us who are constantly seeing these faces are as yet unable to address their owners by name with entire certainty, there is no new spirit at St. Dunstan's. Just the same old spirit is as evident as ever—the spirit of cheery content in the present, and hope for the future. Surely that is the most wonderful of the many wonders that St. Dunstan's reveals as frequently to those of us who are in daily touch with it as to only occasional visitors. Go through the workshops at the busy hours and you will find the same good old jokes flying from bench to bench, and the same eager interest to master difficulties as those hives of industry have always known. Drop into the Lounge during the leisure hours and you will find Sisters busily taking dictation of the same happy letters to the men's home folk—the same good-humoured argument over everything from Government policies to the best lead at dominoes. Join in at physical jerks, rowing, walking, or any of the other outdoor activities, and you will find the new St. Dunstaner will be giving evidence of as keen a determination to beat his pal and to keep fit as any who have gone before him. Men may come and men may go, but the spirit of St. Dunstan's, a splendid and indefinable aura which seems distinct to the place and to all who dwell in it, remains undying always. That is the message we send to St. Dunstaners throughout the Empire, and it is a message which we are sure will bring every one of them the greatest personal satisfaction. There is no true St. Dunstaner who will not delight to know that his comrades of the War, who have suffered no less because their disability was so long in coming, have to-day been given the same advantages, and the same opportunities, which have made so vast a difference in his own life.

The writer of the very practical series of articles on "Business Building," urged in last month's issue, that St. Dunstaners should not lose sight of the fact that they are always personalities of deep interest to their fellow-countrymen. It is advice which we sincerely hope will be regarded. We are sure that our contributor had no more intention than we have ourselves of suggesting to St. Dunstaners that they should make any claim to preferential treatment or ask for special consideration because of their handicap. Indeed, we are confident that no such thought would ever enter their minds. But, on the other hand, every St. Dunstaner has the fullest right to keep always before him the indubitable fact that he has achieved a very great deal in winning victory over his blindness. His pride in that should be of real service to him throughout his life. It will give him confidence, manliness, and independence on many occasions when perhaps he might feel a doubt as to his capacity to shoulder some new burden—some increased responsibility. There is no buckler and shield against "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" which can compare with the calm and modest confidence born of the knowledge of a great victory won.



## Headquarters Extensions

### The Attorney-General Opens New Ward

AN occasion of very great interest not only to St. Dunstaners, but we may safely say to the whole Empire, was the formal opening by the Attorney-General, the Right. Hon. Sir Douglas Hogg, K.C., M.P., on the 19th January, of a new ward at our Headquarters.

Although in the memory of many of our readers there have been alterations and enlargements on a far greater scale than the ones under notice, we cannot think that any have had a wider import or deeper significance, and that this view has been universally shared is evidenced by the widespread attention that has been given the occasion in the columns of the Press. In our Editorial Notes last month we reviewed the causes which had made necessary these extensions, and we are sure we voiced the opinions of all St. Dunstaners when we said that every man throughout the Empire who wears our famous badge would find deep comfort and pleasure in the knowledge that St. Dunstan's labours were to see no pause while the need for them remained. The moving speeches made both by the Attorney-General and our own Chairman, Captain Fraser, expressed admirably the present need, and the way in which St. Dunstan's were fulfilling it.

Sir Douglas Hogg, who, it will be remembered, is the member for St. Marylebone, the Parliamentary Division in which St. Dunstan's is situate, was accompanied by his young son, Mr. Quentin Hogg, and was received on his arrival at Headquarters by Captain Fraser and the principal members of the Headquarters staff. The necessity for the appearance in Court that morning of Sir Douglas made time a matter of the moment, and a move was at once made to the new ward. Here we found present, standing with military precision at their own bedsides, the twenty-five men who occupy the ward, together with the sisters and V.A.D.'s in charge of it. A considerable number of visitors and

officials were also present, but the desire expressed by Sir Douglas Hogg to pay a visit afterwards to our workshops and classrooms made it impossible for all the men under training and the workers to hear the opening speech.

Captain Fraser briefly introduced the Attorney-General, and then Sir Douglas Hogg said: "Captain Fraser, ladies and gentlemen, this really is not a formal ceremony at all. Somehow formality and St. Dunstan's don't seem to go together. This is an informal meeting of people living in St. Dunstan's—those most familiar with the work carried on. But for the outside world who are not quite so much in touch with what is going on here, it is necessary and useful that something should be said. Everybody knows all over the country of the work that is being done at St. Dunstan's. It is a work for the caring and training of men who lost their sight in the Great War. What people do not realise is the fact that, unhappily, that class was not closed when the Great War came to an end. At St. Dunstan's we have our own Advisory Ophthalmic Board, which in each case, of its own expert knowledge, settles whether or not it could fairly be said that the loss of sight was due to the war. In the result, without any reflection upon the Ministry of Pensions or its necessarily strict rules, I believe it is to-day the fact that something over one hundred men have been admitted to St. Dunstan's as having lost their sight through the war, who, under the Ministry of Pensions Rules, would have been turned down and not been accepted. (Applause.) That means that from time to time there are still fresh cases claiming their right to share in the benefits of St. Dunstan's. Captain Fraser, your Chairman, tells me that since last year there are fifty per cent. more men in residence and under training than was the case more than a year ago. It is in order to meet the increased demands that extension of members involved that

it has become necessary to re-organise and extend and to open this new ward and to make alterations in the workshops, the lounge, and offices. To meet that larger demand, this new ward, with an accommodation of twenty-five beds, has been added. I am quite sure that everybody all over the country will cordially endorse the policy which the management are carrying out. Nobody would desire that the class for whom St. Dunstan's has been provided should be limited to those who lost their sight immediately following any hardships or accident, but that if anybody can be shown to have lost his sight through wounds or hardships incurred during the war, St. Dunstan's should be available for his care and settlement. (Hear, hear.) It is not only in St. Dunstan's that the work is being carried on. I am told there are over two thousand men in charge of the After-Care Organisation who have to be cared for, supplied with materials, have their produce marketed, their craftsmanship supervised, and be cared for so far as they need help. That work must go on so long as there are any ex-service men left to care for. It is for that reason that St. Dunstan's needs and claims the help of every patriotic Englishman who recognises the debt which the country owes to those who worked for it in the Great War. It is for that reason St. Dunstan's claims their continuous interest and support for the work which Sir Arthur Pearson so splendidly organised, the result of which is to be seen by the example of Captain Fraser, who has overcome his privation and infliction by being returned to represent St. Pancras in the House of Commons. Whatever our politics may be, I am sure everybody congratulates him on the splendid triumph he has achieved. (Applause.)

"It gives me great pleasure to be allowed to come here this morning and take part in this ceremony. We of the Borough of St. Marylebone are very proud to know that we have St. Dunstan's in the midst of our boundaries.

"On behalf of the management, I now declare this new ward open." (Applause.)

Captain Fraser, in moving a vote of thanks to the Attorney-General, said: "Before I ask you to thank Sir Douglas Hogg, I want to tell him two points which I think will interest him in regard to St. Dunstan's. These arise out of the need which St. Dunstan's has for appealing to the public in view of the expenditure to which we have been put and are likely to be put on account of these new men for whom we have to care. I think St. Dunstan's is commonly supposed to have very considerable reserves and assets. It is a fact that nine-tenths of our annual income has to be collected from voluntary sources. It is also the fact that St. Dunstan's never received any assistance from the State. I think that probably we are one of the very few great philanthropic organisations which has managed to come through the difficult time of the last three or four years and pay our way. But we have only done it at the expense of the resources we accumulated during the war, which we hoped would be of value to us in years to come. But we did carry through, and in that we are all the more proud of St. Dunstan's and of Sir Arthur Pearson who founded it. (Applause.)

"Another point is that St. Dunstan's is an extraordinarily sensitive barometer of conditions in the country as a whole, because such an organisation lives almost entirely upon the surplus which people with good intentions have available to give to good objects. When there is doubt as to what the future holds; when there is uncertainty from the political and economic point of view, it is such organisations as St. Dunstan's and the voluntary hospitals which are the first to suffer. This year, I am pleased to say, the conditions are considerably better. The change that has taken place has been extraordinary. I do not want to give the impression that we have all we require, but we are distinctly better off, and in that respect we can look to the future with increased confidence. Just at the time, after three years of very heavy spending of capital which put us in a baddish position, we find that the tide has turned. If it goes on and the public continue to respond in the way in which our more closely



associated subscribers have already subscribed this Christmas, I have no doubt we shall see our way through this year satisfactorily. Without spending as long time as I should upon this matter, I offer you, Sir Douglas, my very sincere thanks for coming here, in which members of our Committee and staff and those of our men who have had the privilege of hearing you speak, will all join." (Applause.)

After facilities had been given for the photographers to make pictorial records of the occasion, Sir Douglas chatted to many of the men in the ward. Then, accompanied by Captain Fraser, he made as extended a tour of the workshops and classrooms as the time at his disposal permitted. He evinced the keenest interest in every side of our work and talked to many of the men at the benches.

Sir Douglas expressed many times his great admiration of the skill shown by the men and the splendidly high quality of the work produced. He intimated his intention several times of coming to us again when he would be able to make a more detailed inspection of the methods employed and the work done. His visit throughout and his cheery and interested comments on all he saw gave the greatest pleasure, and we are quite sure everyone at Headquarters will look forward to the next visit of the member for our Division.

### News from Brighton

The Christmas festivities of 1924 at the Brighton Annexe will long be remembered by those resident there on that occasion. The lounge was tastefully decorated and the portrait of our late chief, Sir Arthur, was decorated with poppies and ivy, kindly made by Mr. and Mrs. Bray.

When the London fellows arrived about the 20th of December, the "'brick' was declared up," and from that moment and until their departure on the 12th of January the order of the day can only be described as one continuous round of merriment, and I feel justified in saying

that everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

May I mention here a special little word of praise for Matron, who had, with her usual forethought, mapped out the line of route which always proves so successful.

The new term began about the 13th of January, and our debates still prove an attractive item on Tuesday evenings. The debate on "Brotherhood" gave us all food for thought, and many sincere wishes were expressed that the bonds of brotherhood among all St. Dunstaners should become stronger and stronger as the years rolled by.

The physical culture class is proving a success, and the men, who enjoy these Swedish exercises, express themselves well satisfied with the result.

The Sunday evening concerts opened with renewed vigour, and the lounge, which is packed every Sunday evening with the boys and their friends, shows that the home talent is appreciated.

The orderlies, under the guidance of Mr. Hawketts, recently gave us a very successful evening which one and all enjoyed.

OLD SOLDIER.

### "St. Dunstan's"

*Written by Mr. A. D. Young, O.B.E., Engineer and Manager, the British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry, in whose employment are two blinded soldiers.*

Darkness, supreme, from morn till night.  
My God! Oh, for a fleeting sight  
Of Thine own earthly wonders,  
With lightning flash—resounding thunders!

Many who see sweet nature's beauty  
Fail to sense their gift of duty  
To those for whom the dawn of day  
Was for ever shattered in the fray.

Though unending night it is to be  
My thankfulness goes out to Thee,  
That I can still perceive the way  
Through hearing all things—night and day.

With sense of sound divinely blest,  
My hands crave for the daily test.  
Side by side with those who see,  
I recreate the man in me!

## Medical Thrills

*By a St. Dunstaner contributor, who desires to remain anonymous—possibly a wise decision, in view of future interviews he may have with our Medical Advisers.—ED.]*

The pluckiest thing that I ever did in my life—apart from tumbling over an orderly—was when I decided to take up sculling. I felt abnormally strong until the moment when I stood before those glass doors which lead to the Matron's "chemistified" realms for the first round with Colonel Bickerton.

The people who grumble at the cursory nature of the army examinations ought to spend an hour with Colonel Bickerton and Dr. Bridges. I had no idea before that my brain was so near to the fresh air. In fact I was surprised to hear that I had any. However, I received the information with satisfaction, and in a few minutes was engaged in a pleasant chat with the Colonel about the medical behaviour of our family. After a little coaxing I detailed my troubles. A BUNION. A HAMMER TOE. A FEW RHEUMATICS. NO WIND, AND A PLEASANT THIRST. A rather disappointing list the Colonel seemed to think, so he began to treat me like my wife does on pension day.

By this time he had dressed himself up in a style that would have cheered the most acrid pessimist—a very shiny disc round his head, fixed with a strap, and another tiny searchlight affair, that he used in conjunction with the disc. He advanced stealthily towards me, peered at my optic through a tiny hole in the disc, and for a few minutes we played "peep-bo." Then he switched off on to my nose and mouth, in an heroic endeavour to probe their hidden mysteries.

"I understand you are interested in sculling," he said.

"Yes," I replied. "Can you see that?" And I felt like a naughty boy when he turned away and said, "You drink a little?" What could I say?

After informing me that a blue light was white, and his four fingers was his fist, I felt that I had nothing left to hide and

consoled myself with the fact that away back in the ages people who uttered such things were relegated to the public incinerator. Then he jumped, so to speak, into my teeth, but the inspection was only momentary—he evidently viewed them with disfavour, just murmured "toothbrush," and advised me to close the aperture.

After another fruitless endeavour to discover in which direction the left and right ends of his eyebrows were situated, we gave it up and I wandered out into the lounge with the dulcet tones of the Matron's voice ringing in my ears, "Dr. Bridges, at ten o'clock in the morning, Sand Block."

At the appointed hour I presented myself, and in far less time than it takes to tell he was shaking little bits of my stomach. He told me to wave my arms, then seized them and waved them himself; told me to breathe deeply, and placed a trumpet against my floating rib, and listened for the echo. A clock on my stomach convinced him that my blood pressure was safe—then I re-clothed myself.

Dressing and undressing became a sort of reflex movement with me a few years ago. I had merely to look at a doctor and everything on me seemed to become loose. Therefore, when I passed the Matron on my way out this peculiarity reasserted itself, and my hand instinctively flew to my collar, but as nothing further happened, I continued my way and wondered whether they were all qualified as no one had said, "Say 99!" I wandered up to the ward with the weary feeling of a man after a hard day's work, but at any rate I knew there was nothing more serious than a little looseness, and I began to conjure up visions of victory, by at least half the length of the river Thames.

SANDBLOCK.





## NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

A St. DUNSTANER who never seems to find time hang heavily on his hands is A. Taylor, of Lye, and no wonder, for he has established a connection with some twenty different factories and makes clogs for them all! We know that both Taylor and his wife are indefatigable workers, but what they have done proves that they have initiative also.

\*\*\*

Another with the power of striking when the iron is hot is F. Spurgeon, of Halstead. Recently, it occurred to him that a good thing might be made by buying birds locally, fattening them up, and preparing them for the market. Unfortunately, lack of space prevents the trade being carried on in as large a way as Spurgeon would like, but he has proved it successful so far as he has gone.

\*\*\*

The friends of J. Collinson will be glad to know that he has just settled into small but comfortable premises in Southsea, and as the district is thickly populated is looking forward to becoming well known and building up a good trade. We send him all possible good wishes.

\*\*\*

A very unpleasant accident has befallen the elder boy of I. Boon, of Wilts. He was at work in the garden and accidentally pierced his foot with a fork. Blood poisoning set in and he had to be sent to hospital for anti-tetanus injections. We hope to hear good news shortly.

\*\*\*

Another who is in almost equal trouble is W. J. Wood, of Putney, for his wife is ill in bed and his small son, while playing with his scooter in the street, came into collision with a motor and was badly cut and bruised both on the face and arms. One can only be thankful that the calamity was not worse. Still, both Mrs. Wood and the boy are in the doctor's hands.

How many St. Dunstaners feel capable of attempting to make a motor car—even a model one? W. McCarthy, of Nuneaton, has made a really beautiful little car suitable for a child. It works with pedals and is finished with great attention to detail, being complete even to electric light and wind screen. It is a piece of work of which any man might be proud, and we hope to hear that arrangements have been made for its exhibition.

\*\*\*

It is some time since we have heard from T. M. Fisher, of Longforgan, so we are the more pleased to know that he is "jogging along in the old way" and the farm has done better than he expected. Fisher says that one of his aims in life is to keep St. Dunstan's flag flying at the top of the pole, and, knowing something of him and his courage, we feel sure that he will succeed.

\*\*\*

It is always well to have two strings to your bow, and W. Birchell, of St. Helens, says that two strings that pull remarkably well in double harness are joinery and a sweetstuff business. Oddly enough, the two never seem to "go slack" together.

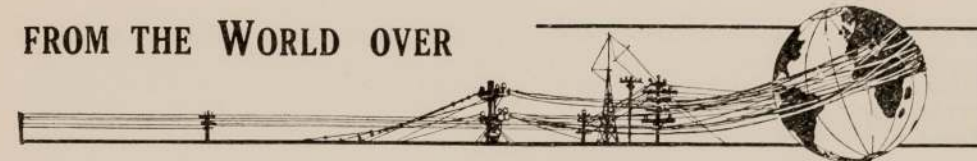
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Short time in the mines has affected J. Ham of Cardiff, we are sorry to hear; however, all that comes in he does thoroughly well, and is strengthening his connection with every piece of work he finishes. His consistent cheerfulness, even in the face of odds, should win him many friends, and we have every confidence in his future success.

\*\*\*

Good news comes from S. Holmes, of Ireland, who is making excellent progress. In the Christmas holidays alone he sold four trouser presses and quite a large number of trays. He is looking forward to another spurt with trouser presses in

## FROM THE WORLD OVER



the near future, as an exhibition of this branch of his work is to be arranged at the establishment of a leading Belfast tailor.

\*\*\*

Another contented man is B. Marsden, of Blackburn. His poultry are beginning to lay, the garden is in a promising condition considering the season, and he is anticipating a fine show of tulips and hyacinths.

\*\*\*

A very novel advertising scheme has just been tried by F. James, of Hove, and he says that already he notices a marked increase of trade. He has had his name and business printed on brightly coloured balloons and has given these away at local dances and socials. Congratulations to him on his enterprise.

\*\*\*

"Trade quite good, and I hope it will be better still soon," is the cheery news from A. Waite, of Stourbridge. There is every reason for his hope, too, as there is a strong rumour that the town is going to lay out a park near him and more than a rumour that a new secondary school is to be built in the vicinity. Both these developments should mean increase of trade to a man who knows how to take advantage of his opportunities, and we have no fear but that Waite will do his very best.

\*\*\*

Many letters containing good wishes for the new year have been filling St. Dunstan's mail bags the last few weeks, and among them have been some very interesting photographs. One of these, or rather two, were from T. W. Grove, of Botley, Oxford, who sent excellent views of the new poultry house he has just built. In one, his little daughter was standing in the doorway; in the other she peered through the wire netting. We congratulate Grove upon both his possessions.

A particularly busy man is R. Warren, of Swansea, for he says that he has found it necessary to put in overtime on several occasions of late. We are glad to hear that he is keeping fit in spite of long work hours; perhaps it is because he has an absorbing interest in wireless, having just become the possessor of a crystal set. Warren, like others, finds that radio leads to neglect of Braille, temporarily, at all events.

\*\*\*

W. Lowings', of Eastleigh, many friends will be glad to hear that he is well on the way to complete recovery again, and sends many cheery messages which show that the spirit is strong if the flesh is weak. He says that it is consideration for others that decided him not to "dodge the column" this time, the British Legion big drummer, for instance, has somewhat tender feet, and Lowings thought of his sufferings if compelled to take part in a funeral march over a long distance. "Also," says Lowings, "our churchyard is not very big, and I always did hate a crowd!"

\*\*\*

Another cheery letter comes from H. J. Morrison, of Melbourne—one full of memories of his time at St. Dunstan's. He has been busy making hammocks and string bags, and a few silk ones, but finds work on his own rather lonely. However, he belongs to a blinded soldiers' social club, and this brings him into touch with comrades who have the same interests; it meets once a month and gives him great pleasure.

\*\*\*

"It is quite surprising what a lot there is to do when one settles down into a new life," says G. H. Wootley, of Ampthill, Beds, and other St. Dunstaners will doubtless agree with him. Wootley's



friends will be glad to hear that everything promises to be quite satisfactory and that local orders for mats have been given to him already, so his time is fully occupied, because he has some poultry and a fairly large garden to attend to. The garden contains some fruit trees, and Wootley is hoping great things from them next season, particularly since they carried no great crops last year.

By the way, Wootley was one of the little band of St. Dunstaners honoured by being asked to lay a wreath on the local cenotaph on Armistice Day.

\*\*\*

Any man who finds himself with a few leisure hours might well follow the example of H. N. Mathews, of Wolverhampton, particularly if he happens to have a little daughter. Mathews is making a splendid doll's house for a small niece. He finds it a most fascinating piece of work.

\*\*\*

A Walsall man who takes a keen interest in all carpentering jobs is T. W. North. Nothing daunts him; he has just finished laying the floor of a bedroom, we hear, and has made an excellent job of it too.

\*\*\*

In Somerset, J. W. T. Cason is working away hard at mats and looking forward to receiving a number of local orders when he becomes known. Already he has discovered that he has some congenial neighbours, which makes things pleasant, and, too, there is another St. Dunstaner within visiting distance.

\*\*\*

It is good to hear that E. W. Jarman, of Barnstaple, is getting on well with the best doctors in the town and has recently had one or two particularly influential patients from whose recommendations great things might happen; this is more important because, while Jarman is holding his own well, he is faced with keen competition.

Comparatively little has been heard from our vocal members of late, but H. Harris tells us that he has been taking part in one or two local concerts in addition to spending strenuous hours over mats to fulfil local orders.

\*\*\*

One who could do with more local trade than he has at present, and is cudgelling his brains as to how to get it, is B. B. Bowering, of Bristol. We feel that it is simply a question of getting better known and that in the long run the pleasant and efficient way in which he tackles even the smallest and most uncongenial of repair jobs must tell. One never knows when such will lead to bigger things.

\*\*\*

In much the same position is F. Stew, of Glos, and he, too, is facing it in the same way—by welcoming every job that comes and doing it to the very best of his ability.

\*\*\*

His poultry farm occupies G. J. Smith, of Warwick, almost completely. He finds it keenly interesting and keeps everything in splendid order. Luckily, his ground is excellent and he is fortunate in having a useful barn at one end, to say nothing of a sure local market for all his eggs.

\*\*\*

G. Cole, of Birmingham, finds that mat making keeps him fully occupied at present, and he sometimes goes on working till 9 p.m. Luckily for his health, he believes in playing hard as well as working hard, and most week-ends find him off on his tandem.

\*\*\*

Another who has found a special opening for himself is B. E. Ingrey. He is teaching basket making at a local school and finds the work most interesting. An unanticipated pleasure in connection with this engagement is a motor ride, since the school being some distance off, a car is always sent for him, so he drives to his pupils in state.

## Wireless for the Blind

BY IAN FRASER AND OSWALD CARPENTER

### CHAPTER VI.

#### A CRYSTAL RECEIVER AND ONE STAGE AMPLIFIER.

THE most satisfactory method of increasing the responsiveness of the Crystal Receiver described in the preceding chapter is by the addition of a transformer and one valve arranged to magnify the rectified current before delivering it to the telephones.

A list of the items necessary to effect this is given below:—

- 1 Marconi "D.E.R." Valve.
- 1 Marconi "Ideal" Transformer, 6 to 1 ratio.
- 1 50-volt dry-cell Battery.
- 1 2-volt Accumulator of 40 ampere-hours (actual) capacity.
- 1 1½-volt dry Cell (of very small capacity).
- 1 4-pin Valve-holder.
- 1 single-pole single-throw Switch.

To arrange the circuit, first disconnect the telephones from the fixed-value condenser of the crystal receiver, then connect the crystal side of this condenser to the transformer terminal marked "O.P." and the other side of the condenser to the transformer terminal marked "I.P." Next examine the valve-holder: it will be found to contain four metal sockets arranged to receive the four prongs in the base of the valve. It will be observed that these prongs are not symmetrically disposed; three are grouped together in triangular fashion, and the fourth stands apart from the rest. This scheme reduces the risk of an incorrect engagement of the prongs and sockets which might result in damage to the valve. The socket which forms the apex of the triangle communicates with the grid of the valve and the two sockets below it (on the base line of the imaginary triangle) communicate with the two ends of the filament, the fourth

socket, the one standing apart from the rest, being allocated to the anode.

Now that the significance of the various sockets is understood, we will resume the task of wiring up the circuit. Run a lead from the transformer terminal marked "O.S." to the grid socket of the valve-holder, and another from the transformer terminal marked "I.S." to the negative pole of the single dry-cell. Connect the positive pole of this cell to the negative pole of the accumulator and run a lead from the latter point to one of the filament sockets of the valve-holder. To the other filament socket attach a lead running to one side of the single-pole switch, afterwards connecting the other side of the switch to the positive pole of the accumulator. At this juncture the valve should be inserted in the holder and the filament observed to glow when the switch is closed. This being established, remove the valve and connect the anode socket of the valve-holder to the unmarked pin of the telephones, attaching the remaining pin (marked +, the positive sign) to the positive pole of the 50-volt battery. The negative pole of this battery should then be connected to the negative pole of the accumulator. The circuit is now complete, and when the connections have been carefully checked the valve should be inserted in its holder. The apparatus is put into commission by closing the filament switch, and the method of operation is the exceedingly simple one outlined in connection with the unaided crystal receiver dealt with at the conclusion of the preceding chapter.

It may be useful to discuss the features of the circuit, particularly the transformer, since we have not previously dealt with the functioning of this important instrument.

If a wire is moved across a magnetic field an electromotive force is induced in that wire; conversely, if a wire is held stationary and the *strength of the magnetic*



field is varied, an electromotive force is again induced in the wire. The first-mentioned phenomenon is utilised in connection with direct and alternating current generating machines, and the latter is made use of in the transformer. A coil of wire is wound around an iron core and a second coil is wound over the first coil, or sometimes alongside it. One of these coils is termed the Primary Winding and the other coil the Secondary Winding. Now, when an electromotive force is supplied to the primary coil a magnetic field is induced in the iron core by the turns of wire constituting the coil. This induced magnetic field will embrace the turns of the secondary winding and an induced electromotive force is therefore set up in the secondary winding. The induced e.m.f. in the secondary lasts only so long as the current in the primary is varying, and thereby altering the strength of the induced magnetic field. If the primary winding has the same number of turns as the secondary winding the voltage across the secondary will be the same as that across the primary. Now, if the secondary winding has twice as many turns as the primary winding, then the voltage across the secondary winding will be twice that applied to the primary winding. It will be observed that the ratio of the voltage is proportional to the ratio of the number of turns on the primary and secondary.

From this it might appear that it is possible to draw from the secondary more power than is supplied to the primary, since Watts equal Volts times Amperes. This is, of course, not the case, any increase in the secondary voltage being accompanied by a corresponding decrease in the secondary current, and *vice versa*. When a transformer is arranged to provide increased current at the expense of voltage, the secondary coil is wound with fewer turns of wire than the primary, and the instrument is designated a step-down transformer. When increased voltage is the desideratum, the secondary coil comprises more turns of wire than the primary, the arrangement being termed a step-up transformer.

Now we are aware that the relay action

of the valve is dependent upon voltage changes at the grid. Since it is therefore a voltage-operated device it follows that the employment of a step-up transformer enables us very considerably to intensify the effect which the varying current provided by the crystal rectifier will exercise upon the note magnifying valve. In the circuit we have described, the ratio of transformation is 6 to 1, the secondary ("O.S.—I.S.") voltage being six times that applied to the primary ("O.P.—I.P.").

Whereas it is a comparatively easy matter to design a transformer which will deliver a secondary voltage six times greater than the primary voltage when dealing with current varying over a narrow range of frequencies, it is very difficult to design one which will give an unchanging step-up of six times when dealing with a wide range of frequencies. This is due to the fact that the effective step-up of a transformer also depends upon the Impedance of the circuit (that is, the total opposition to the varying current flow)—a factor which varies with the frequency.

Now, the frequencies of those pressure waves set up in air to which the human ear is responsive, range from 16 per second (the lowest note of an organ) to something like 18,000 per second (the "overtones" of a violin). Of these, from 30 to 10,000 per second are of practical importance. It will be clear that if any of these frequencies is unduly suppressed or accentuated at the transmitter or receiver, the character of the broadcast speech or music will not be faithfully reproduced; our transformer should therefore yield uniform voltage amplification over this range. At the present time the majority of transformers on the market are poorly designed, the indicated ratios being practically meaningless, inasmuch as the expected voltage amplification is only realised over a very limited and often badly-chosen range of frequencies. The particular make which we have specified is more expensive than the average, but it gives an unrivalled performance and the enhanced quality and amplification afforded by its employment makes the additional outlay well worth while. The

indicated ratio of 6 to 1 is suitable for use in conjunction with low-impedance crystals such as Radiocite, Hertzite Galena, &c.

Since the voltage communicated to the grid of the valve will be six times that applied to the primary of the transformer by the action of the crystal, and since the amplification factor of the "D.E.R." valve is nine, it follows that the total voltage amplification due to the introduction of the note magnifying stage will be six times nine, that is, 54 times. It must not be supposed that in consequence of this the eventual effect upon the ear will be 54 times greater than when the unaided crystal receiver was employed. There will be a substantial strengthening, however, and those who effected reception at comfortable telephone strength prior to the introduction of the note magnifying valve may now find it possible to successfully operate a small loud speaker. In this event the anode voltage should be raised from 50 to 80, and two dry cells (3 volts total) should be employed in place of the one connected between the secondary winding of the transformer and the negative pole of the accumulator. Those who carefully followed Chapter IV will realise that the function of the dry cell is to maintain the grid at a negative potential in order that grid current shall not flow and so cause distortion.

If the capacity of the 2-volt accumulator is not less than the recommended size of 40 ampere hours, it should, assuming three hours' use every day, require recharging once a fortnight. It will require more frequent recharging during the first few weeks of its employment. The cost of this process is in the neighbourhood of one shilling. The anode battery, if of a reliable make such as Siemens or Ever-ready, should give a year's service. When exhausted it is useless for it cannot be recharged; a new battery must therefore be purchased.

The two circuits which have been described are intended for the consideration of those who live near a broadcasting station and who desire to receive that station, and that station only, with the

maximum intensity consistent with the employment of simple apparatus. In both circuits the crystal rectifier is the arbiter of sensitivity and due to its Square Law of Rectification, described in Chapter IV, it will exhibit a marked loss of efficiency as the induced aerial current decreases. The operating range of both circuits is therefore distinctly limited.

The unaided crystal receiver cannot be recommended for use at a distance greater than 20 miles from a main station or 6 miles from a relay station. The range of the second arrangement, in which one stage of L.F. amplification is employed, will be some 30 miles and 10 miles respectively.

#### A ONE-VALVE RECEIVER.

Prospective licensees who live at greater distances, and also those who desire to receive the transmissions of more than one station, are advised to equip themselves initially with a one-valve receiver.

The simple circuit we are about to outline utilises the condenser and leak method of rectification and also embodies the principle of reaction. Both factors having been dealt with in Chapter IV, it will be remembered that this method of rectification permits the valve to simultaneously exercise its amplifying properties, while the reaction principle enables us to reinforce the current induced in the aerial and so to considerably increase its effect upon the valve. With these features at our disposal, it seems hardly necessary to point out that the *sensitivity* of this one-valve receiver will be much greater than that of either of the crystal circuits. We italicised "sensitivity" to emphasise the essential difference between that term and "audibility." The crystal and one stage amplifier will give greater *audibility*, that is, stronger signals, up to distances of the order of twelve miles from a main station—this in virtue of the 54 magnifications following upon the relatively efficient rectification by the crystal of the robust aerial current due to the close proximity of the transmitter. Beyond this distance, however, the rapid falling-off in the efficiency of rectification will cause the arrangement to yield lower audibility



than the one-valve receiver. The latter, in view of its amplification of the aerial current, will prove responsive to distant transmissions which the crystal (with its valve circuit amplifying the rectified current) is totally unable to detect. The average range of the one-valve receiver will be in the neighbourhood of 100 miles, that is to say five times that of the unaided crystal receiver and more than three times that of the crystal and one-stage amplifier.

In the assembly of the one-valve receiver the undermentioned components are necessary:—

- 1 Marconi "D.E.R." Valve.
- 1 adjustable Coil-holder (for two coils).
- 1 "S.2" plug-in Inductance Coil.
- 1 "S.3" plug-in Inductance Coil.
- 1 mounted Variable Condenser of .0005 mfd. capacity.
- 1 fixed-value (grid) Condenser of .00025 mfd. capacity.
- 1 fixed-value (bypass) Condenser of .001 mfd. capacity.
- 1 fixed-value Grid Leak of 1 megohm resistance.
- 1 pair of Telephones of 2,000 ohms total resistance (of reputable make, such as Brown's, Sterling's, or B.T.H.).
- 1 four-pin Valve-holder.
- 1 single-pole single-throw Switch.
- 1 50-volt high-tension dry-cell Battery.
- 1 2-volt Accumulator of 40 ampere hours (actual) capacity.

First examine the coil-holder. It will be found to include two ebonite blocks, each of which contains one plug and one socket, arranged to engage with a similar plug and socket in the base of each coil. Each block is wired to its own pair of terminals. The block which is movable with respect to the other should, together with its appropriate terminals, be used for the reaction coil, the fixed block and its terminals being allocated to the aerial coil.

Connect the aerial lead to one of the aerial coil terminals and to the fixed-plates side of the variable condenser, also to one side of the grid condenser. To the other side of the grid condenser run one lead to the grid socket of the valve-holder and one to one side of the grid leak. Next connect

the earth lead to the unoccupied aerial coil terminal and also to the moving-plates side of the variable condenser, running from thence to the negative terminal of the 2-volt accumulator. From the latter terminal run a lead to one of the filament sockets of the valve-holder, then connect the other filament socket to one side of the single-pole switch, afterwards running a lead from the other side of this switch to the positive terminal of the accumulator. Connect the unoccupied terminal of the grid leak to the negative terminal of the accumulator. Now insert the valve in its holder and ascertain that the filament glows when the switch is closed. This established, remove the valve. Next run a lead from the anode socket of the valve-holder to one of the reaction coil terminals, afterwards connecting the other reaction coil terminal to the unmarked pin of the telephones. The telephone pin marked with the positive sign should then be attached to the positive terminal of the 50-volt battery, the negative terminal of this battery afterwards being connected to the negative terminal of the accumulator. Next attach one side of the bypass condenser to each of the telephone pins. After having checked all connections, place the valve in its holder and insert the "S.2" coil in the aerial coil block and the "S.3" coil in the reaction coil block.

The circuit is now complete. The method of operation and further practical and theoretical details will be found in the next chapter.

### A Whist Winner

At a Whist Drive held recently at Lancing, A. W. Blaker obtained top score, thus securing the first prize. This was in the novel form of an "Empire Box of Groceries," to the value of £2 2s., and included fruit, mineral waters, and tinned meat from Australia; tea, jam and mangoes from India; salmon, meat, milk, flour and fruit from Canada; maize, rice and raisins from South Africa; sugar from the West Indies; and honey from New Zealand.

## After-Care Meetings

### CHESTER MEETING

A HAPPY gathering, if perhaps a smaller one than usual owing to illness, took place at Cottiers C. G. & Restaurant, 16 Foregate Street, Chester, on the 14th January.

Most of the Cheshire boys were present, but we had a good number from Wales also, as Chester is a convenient centre for most St. Dunstaners living in North Wales. In fact, it might almost have been called a "Welsh Meeting," for even the attractive doll in the guessing competition was christened "Gweneth." Mr. S. Wilding, of Winnington, was the winner, but being a bachelor, Gweneth became the treasured possession of the small niece who accompanied him. In another competition for the ladies, a cake was won by Mrs. H. Roberts, of Stalybridge.

Mr. Collis, of the "Duds" Concert Party (Liverpool), provided a very enjoyable entertainment under great difficulties—his accompanist being unable to come at the eleventh hour. Mr. G. Taylor's songs were very welcome and left a most cheering effect.

Captain Fraser had not forgotten to send his greetings and good wishes, and after Mr. Swain's short speech Mr. Warren, of Macclesfield, returned thanks in a few happily chosen words.

E. E. R.

### BURNLEY MEETING

Following on the Chester Meeting came Burnley on Thursday, 15th January, at the Empress Hotel. This was a most successful meeting in every sense of the word, as apparently everyone had come prepared to enjoy themselves.

Mr. C. E. Thomas, of Todmorden, came over expressly to sing, bringing with him Mr. Wright Sutcliffe (many will remember their amusing duet "Great Scott" at Manchester in October last). Mr. H. Edge's songs were very much appreciated, too—probably "In Old Madrid" most of

all. We were fortunate in having Mr. Simpson of Accrington as accompanist.

Mr. Swain, after reading Captain Fraser's message of welcome, spoke for a few minutes, and Mr. H. Edge then returned thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners present.

The Guessing Competitions followed after tea, and the winners were: Mr. A. Rawson (pork pie) and Mrs. Edmunds (cake).

E. E. R.

### PRESTON MEETING

The third and last meeting was at Preston on Friday, 16th January, at the Bull and Royal Hotel. Just under fifty sat down to tea, consequently it is not difficult to imagine that there were few, if any, dull moments.

Mr. Swain read out Captain Fraser's message to all present, and afterwards spoke for a short time about St. Dunstan's. There was a happy incident towards the close of the afternoon when Mr. W. Allen made a speech at some length, which must surely have been appreciated by all, more especially perhaps as Mr. Allen happened to be one of the two oldest St. Dunstaners at the meeting, having had nine years' experience of St. Dunstan's. He spoke impressively of the work of St. Dunstan's, both from its infancy and as it is carried on to-day, and was loudly applauded.

Messrs. Hever & Worsley's humorous entertainment was a distinct addition to the enjoyment of the afternoon, whilst the more serious side of the programme was supplied by Mr. Till, of Lancaster, who sang several songs, including "The Crown of the Year" and "The Border Ballad."

The Cake Guessing Competition was won by Mrs. Lupton, who guessed within 1 oz. of the correct weight, and a box of chocolates was won by Mr. Whiteside, of Lytham, who guessed the exact number attending the Preston meeting.

E. E. R.



## Business Building

A Short Series of Practical Articles for St. Dunstaner Craftsmen and Traders

*The first of these articles, published in last month's REVIEW, was entitled "How to Sell your Mats." It obviously aroused a considerable amount of interest, and some of the points raised by correspondents have been dealt with direct. Others, however, which are of general interest, are covered by our contributor in the second article of the series, which we publish below.*

### II. BASKETS AND JOINERY.

As I devoted a special article to our mat-makers last month, I should perhaps explain that I have a practical reason for linking our basket-makers and our joiners together while considering the most effective means of disposing of their respective productions, and that is the similarity of methods which will apply to the selling of both classes of goods. I mentioned in the first article of this series that I hoped that all St. Dunstaners would realise the opportunities of modifying and adapting suggestions given for any other occupation to that carried on by themselves, and with the repetition of this hope I will deal with some other ideas for business building in the two crafts mentioned.

The basket-maker (except possibly those specialising in the production of the more massive articles of their craft, such as laundry and dress hampers, dust-baskets, and so on), has two definite advantages over the mat-maker. These are the portability and the greater variety of their goods. These features must necessarily induce a far larger amount of what we may term—for want of a better word—casual trade, than in the case of mats, which cannot, generally speaking, be taken away by the shopping housewife, or are in demand so frequently. These remarks may seem to be very obvious to some of my readers, but they are emphasised with a definite purpose. That is to impress the necessity of giving, by means of constantly changing window display, the stimulant to frequent purchase. Just consider for a moment how many times a housewife will find herself in the position of having done more shopping than she had intended, and then finding herself

faced with the necessity of securing some receptacle for transporting them home. That alone must account for hundreds of thousands of the sales of shopping baskets every week.

Let us for a moment switch to a department of our joiners' activities, and see how the same idea could be applied there. A shop I frequently pass in my own town made the other day a special display of dainty photograph frames in all sizes, and in very attractive mouldings. At least a dozen out of perhaps a score shown in the window framed various subjects ranging from photographs and portraits to water colour sketches and colour reproductions. Two or three of the other frames had notices within them, and one at least induced a purchase on my part. It read: "Where is that photograph you received the other day? It is getting 'dog-earned' and spoilt. Let us frame it in this style." Another notice read: "Why not make a picture frieze of your kiddies' photographs round the nursery wall? Frames in this style will only cost you 3s. 6d., and they will form a charming decoration and a permanent record."

This is a display definitely designed to catch passing trade, and I am sure there are few St. Dunstaners who cannot adapt the idea outlined to their own activities. I have before pointed out what a very strong believer I am in nicely-written notices in shop window displays. Let your windows talk—not only by the attractiveness of the goods displayed, but by offering suggestions to those who view them. Here is one suggestion for a basketry window: "Why should your shopping basket be an ugly one, either in shape or colour? These are as strong and

far prettier than most you have seen. Buy yourself one to-day." Again, play can be made upon the quality of the material and the craftsman behind it, as, for example: "Every one of these baskets is made of specially grown and selected willow and cane by a war-blinded craftsman."

The ideas I put forward last month for utilising outdoor publicity by those mat-makers who did not actually possess a shop window can be taken to apply equally to our basket-makers and joiners. It must be a very quiet street indeed where some possible customers do not pass your house or workshop, and you should not lose this chance of sales by failing to exhibit at least one specimen of your craft. Again, the workshop or private house basket-maker can find even more easily than a mat-maker some good friend in the main street who will allow him the opportunity of showing one or two samples of his handiwork, with an advertising card beside them. One basket-maker I know has induced his grocer to let him have a dainty but capacious shopping basket, filled with various groceries on the counter. Tied on the handle is a notice reading: "This basket was made by a St. Dunstan's war-blinded craftsman. The price is . . . . ., and if you will leave an order at this counter a basket will be delivered at your house."

The keen business man must always be on the alert for seizing opportunities for special orders. His family should keep a close watch, for example, on the columns of the local paper, and I will give two instances of how these can produce useful sales. The first came under the heading of "Local Tenders Required," where a laundry firm asked for quotations for a certain shape and style of basket. That order was secured, I know, by a basket maker who followed up the announcement in the paper by a personal call, and so gained the interest of the director of the firm. In another case it was announced that the owner of a large house had promised to sell the fruit from one of his grape vines for the benefit of the local hospital to all applying at the gardener's lodge. His daughter conceived the idea

(or possibly followed the Hampton Court precedent), of selling the grapes in special baskets, and these were made by a local firm. A St. Dunstaner should have had that order most definitely, but he should have had the wit to see the opportunity and the energy to ask for it, even had he lived twenty miles away from that town.

Just one more example. A St. Dunstaner at the present moment is doing a very useful trade in wicker covers for a certain type of jar used by a local distillery. I do not know how that contract was secured, but I am quite prepared to think that it was entirely and solely through the enterprise of the St. Dunstaner himself.

I can visualise (but it must be remembered that I am writing as a publicity expert, and not as a basketmaking expert) many possible avenues for the expansion of local trade. What about pigeon carriers, for example? Your racing pigeon man is above all things a sportsman, and if I were a St. Dunstaner basket-maker, I think I would make it my business to become "Hail, fellow; well met!" with the pigeon-racing fraternity of my neighbourhood. From there, surely to goodness, as the Welshmen have it, it would not be a long step to becoming "Carrier maker by appointment" to the local pigeon club. Similarly, with a good many other branches of specialised basket work. I am quite aware that many of these may not be altogether within the capacity of some St. Dunstaners, but I am not prepared to admit that there is anything beyond their capacity if they care, and find it worth while to take it up.

Now, in case my joiner readers are beginning to feel neglected, let me try and give a few pointers for them. Joinery, as far as I understand it, embraces a very wide range of articles, and this in itself should give this branch of St. Dunstaner craftsmen an advantage over their comrades whose productions come within more standardised limits. I believe I am right in saying there are plenty of St. Dunstan's joiners who are fully capable of turning out anything in the joinery line ranging from a packing case to an expanding wardrobe, and although the more ambitious



and intricate productions of their skill may not be sufficiently often in demand to justify the expenditure of time and material they involve, there can be few avenues for sales expansion which they need fear to explore for lack of confidence to carry out resulting orders.

Here is one concrete example of how it is possible to create a new market with the aid of a little initiative and a certain amount of advertising. A joiner I know—he is not blinded, but is no better a craftsman than many of St. Dunstan's men—has built up quite a big local trade in "Our Boys' Home and School Store Chests. These are nothing more than substantially made plain deal boxes in three sizes. They are fitted with a strong lock and key, or, if desired, staple and padlock, and have a three-ply wood tray inside. The corners and sides are reinforced by iron angle pieces, there are two lifting handles of iron, and, most important of all, each box was supplied with any initials incised on the front or top. Let us consider why such a simple proposition as this achieved a demand with which this local joiner found it difficult to cope. His first step was the delivery of quite a cheap handbill, bearing a picture of the chest and worded something after this form: "Give your boy his own locker, whether at home or at school. Get him an 'Our Boys' School or Home Chest, designed and made by J. Blank, Smith Street, Blackton. When he is at home, he can keep his tools, wireless, sports apparatus, toys—everything—out of your way and ready whenever he wants them. When he is at school he will find a thousand uses for such a chest." These were distributed in likely residential areas, and during that period the joiner's window exhibited a specimen chest, filled with all the things beloved of boys, and with a similar notice boldly inscribed above it. A word as to the incised initials on the chest. These may present not much difficulty to most St. Dunstan joiners, but they could be replaced by initials painted on the wood, which any local sign writer would do for a very small sum on contract.

That is the sort of speciality which might well justify a small amount of local

press advertising, especially if it could be associated with some little news paragraph in the body of the paper, and as to this, do let me again beg my readers not to be over-modest in turning to account the interest in themselves which their fellow townsmen invariably have. I would like to see every St. Dunstaner who has produced some worthy specimen of his own craft have it delivered personally to the editor of his local paper with a letter asking the editor's acceptance of it as a specimen of a war-blinded man's work—just that and nothing more. There is no need to ask for a write-up in the paper, an advertisement, or anything of the kind. If I know anything about newspaper editors, the St. Dunstaner will get publicity in his local "Times" worth ten times as much to him as the cost of the article given. There is a human and news interest about such a gift which no editor worth his salt would fail to recognise.

I do not propose to repeat in each of these articles the advice I gave as to the importance of every St. Dunstaner whose business expansion is dependent upon trade with his fellow citizens, gaining as wide a circle of friends and acquaintances as possible. Without any necessity to be always asking for custom, there are endless opportunities when mixing with other people to secure orders for the goods one makes, and customers so obtained mean many other customers, provided the order is satisfactorily carried out and honest and good value given for the money spent.

#### A VERY MEAN THIEF.

Effecting an entry by means of a false key some thieves managed to steal several pounds worth of cigarettes and chocolate from the lock-up shop run by D. McLoughlin. Fellow St. Dunstan shopkeepers will share our indignation at this outrage.

#### ANOTHER HONOUR.

All sorts and shades of political opinion are to be found among St. Dunstan's battalions, so many will congratulate P. Donegan, of Folkestone, who has just been appointed Vice-Chairman to the Labour Party Organisation of the Parliamentary Borough of Hythe.



I FEAR that our Footballers have not been able to get into action so rapidly this term because we have had a difficulty over our goalkeeper. Goal-keeping is such an important position that it is useless having a man who is a dud, and, unfortunately, good keepers are not readily to be found. Unfortunately, Orderly Lomax, who has done such splendid service in time past, was unable to be spared, so Mr. Graves, of the Accounts Department, very kindly took his place. Once more our luck was out, for he met with a motor accident which has placed him in hospital. We are endeavouring to get somebody to take his place "between the sticks" for the time being, but I much fear that the temporary "goalie" will have a hot time when our men get their boots to the ball.

We have got eight teams in for this competition, and, as usual, are introduced to a number of wonderful and new titles. I am giving the names of the various members of the teams so that our readers may be able to know the "contents" of each title.

#### TEAMS.

<i>The Peachers</i>	<i>The Larkholmes</i>	<i>The Had-Welks</i>
Richardson.	Judd.	Kevill.
Williams, E.	Finkle.	Brooks.
Peach.	Fletcher.	Dawes.
Dolby.	Larkholme.	Welks.
Sturt.	Sheppard, F.	Hadfield.
<i>The Radios.</i>	<i>The Fairies.</i>	<i>The Birchers</i>
Aiken.	Mason.	Birch.
Taylor.	Williams, R. J.	Jones.
Prentie.	Fairfield.	Milligan.
Harkness.	Edwards, J.	Mordue.
Percival.	Bowring.	Coles.
<i>The Knight-Spears.</i>	<i>The Wanderers.</i>	
Shakespeare.	Edwards.	
Hill.	Fallowfield.	
Eason.	Tebbutt.	
Milne.	Boyce.	
Knight.	Sheppard, J.	

RESERVE (T.B.) Bray.

#### OLD BOYS' SPORTS.

Although our numbers are not tremendous each Tuesday, yet our enthusiasm is great. Every week a most

interesting and enjoyable evening is spent, and I only wish that some of the boys who have not already attended would come along and have a turn, I know they will enjoy it.

#### POINTS.

S. S.		T. B.	
Nicholls	.. 1,317½	Brown	.. 1,410
Henry	.. 1,192½	Downs	.. 1,345
Webster	.. 1,005½	James	.. 1,125
McFarlane	.. 975	Ashton	.. 420
Burran	.. 757½	Champriss	.. 280
Gover	.. 740		
Kerr	.. 525		

#### PRESENT BOYS' SPORTS.

Our sports have greatly benefited by our increased numbers, and I think that the new boys especially have done wonderfully well to take their part so successfully with the older boys. It is not easy to immediately get into the swing, and I can already see that there will be some excellent performances before the term is out. Fairfield has got an uncommonly good start in the T.B., but Finkle is only holding his own by the skin of his teeth.

#### POINTS.

T. B.		S. S.	
Fairfield	.. 355	Finkle	.. 277½
Peach	.. 265	Fallowfield	.. 237½
Edwards	.. 205	Brookes	.. 214½
Tebbutt	.. 125	Taylor	.. 185
Aitken	.. 70	F. Sheppard	.. 150
Fletcher	.. 60	Bowering	.. 145
Milligan	.. 25	Boyce	.. 130
Braye	.. 10	T. Sheppard	.. 125
Gallagher	.. 10	Knight	.. 110
		Harkness	.. 95
		Jones	.. 80
		Mordue	.. 80
		Williams	.. 55

#### SWIMMING.

May I remind all those who are interested in swimming that Instructor Jones is still running his classes at the Marylebone Baths, and he will be only too delighted to welcome any men who care to come along and have a "splash" with him.

J. E. W.

(A note on Walking appears on page 24.)

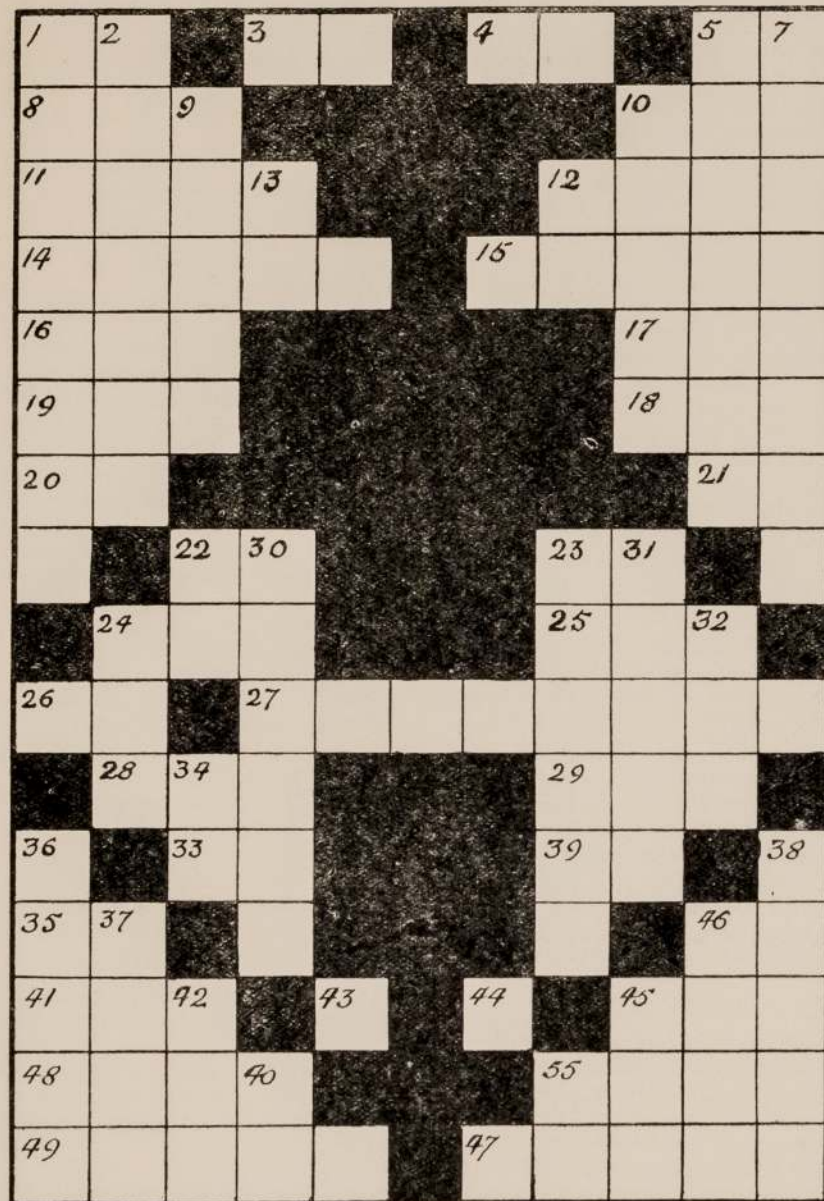


### St. Dunstan's Crossword Puzzle No. 1

Designed by Christine Kessell.

St. Dunstan's, too, has succumbed to the prevalent epidemic—no, not 'flu, but crosswords. We provide this month our

first supply of bacilli! What wives and families will say of us we dare not think about, and as to the Sisters and V.A.D.'s at Headquarters—well, they are, we believe, already getting inured to sudden queries like, "What is a four-lettered expletive beginning with 'd' and ending



with 'n'?" It is no use to answer such questions in a general way, and say "a cross word"; one must make up one's mind that the only way to shake off the inquirer is a solid half-hour with dictionaries and possibly our friend, Roget's "Thesaurus."

We do not claim that the puzzle we give this month will set the world on fire. It is a pristine effort by a lady member of Headquarters Staff, and, as such, we think it will be agreed is a very plucky undertaking. Really, however, unless the staff work at Headquarters is going to be seriously interfered with, we must make the

continuance of these puzzles contingent upon their being provided by our readers! As a slight incentive we offer a prize of 10s. for the best crossword designed and sent in to the Editor by the first post by 3rd March. In addition, we offer a prize of an Auto-Strop Safety Razor, in case, to the sender of the first correct solution to the problem given this month and opened by the Editor on the same morning. Do not wait till the last day to send in your solutions. They will all be carefully kept unopened until the morning of 3rd March. Members of St. Dunstan's staff are not eligible to compete.

#### Clues for the design on opposite page.

##### DOWN.

1. Our Beehive.
2. A black fibre material.
5. A beginning.
7. What athletes possess.
9. Poetic stories of great events.
10. To gather in quantities.
12. Two-thirds of all.
13. The beginning of effort.
22. First on all seas.
23. Power.
24. Behead destiny.
31. Repetition.
32. Part of a rope sailor boys hate.
34. Letters we all like to see on our examination papers.
36. A harbourage.
37. To possess.
38. A type of seasonable song.
40. Abbreviation for "correct."
42. Initials well known to After-Care men.
45. Most English summers.
49. The unladen weight of a vehicle.
55. The beginning of hope.

##### ACROSS.

1. All of us.
3. Initials of a well-known chairman.
4. Initials of a treasurer.
5. Part of the verb "to be."
8. A secretary's honour.

10. An insect noted for its industry.
11. Sometimes wire; sometimes hemp.
12. An Eastern potentate.
14. A tool used in mat-making.
15. In use at meal times.
16. As printed.
17. A Sunday subject.
18. Drooping.
19. Letters without envelopes.
20. A play now running in London.
21. A wireless term.
22. The God of Sun.
23. Our Chaplain's degree.
24. A beheaded member.
25. An advantage in wine.
26. An abbreviated godly person.
27. A man the Devil disliked.
28. The cause of our trouble.
29. To dispose of.
33. On every mail van.
35. Exclamation.
39. Not off.
41. A wine holder.
43. Me.
44. An article.
45. It gave St. Dunstan's birth.
46. A baby's thanks.
47. Open to all.
48. An endless period.
49. In great demand by birds.
55. Always modest.

#### ONE OF OUR SOUTH AFRICAN POULTRY FARMERS.

English poultry farmers will be interested in an item of news concerning the progress of W. T. Archibald, of Natal, who from last year's hatchings has succeeded in rearing 350 poulets. He is looking forward to a fine supply of eggs next year, and is hoping that his total will be something like 50,000.

#### A BAD LOSS.

Those who live on the upper floors of houses and are compelled to leave their perambulators downstairs will sympathise with Mr. and Mrs. Burrans, of London, W., for a sneak-thief made away with their baby carriage the other day. The matter is the more serious since the Burrans have three quite young children.



**Poultry Notes**  
**Results of Third Test Period**

Our Test Manager reports:—  
“ 2,845 eggs were recorded for the third period of the Test. This is an increase of 445 over the last period. The number of first grade eggs was 2,304, second grade 500, and third grade 41.

There has been a considerable improvement in egg size during the month, more particularly in the White Leghorn section.

The weight for first grade eggs is now 20zs.

The Rhode Island Reds have been laying better, having averaged nearly three eggs per bird more than last period. The following table shows the average production per bird in each section:—

Section 1	.. .. .	12.74
Section 2	.. .. .	12.35
Section 3	.. .. .	11.0
Section 4	.. .. .	9.05
Section 5	.. .. .	9.05

The average per bird for all sections was 11.8 eggs in the four weeks.

It is satisfactory to report that the cases of cold and roup mentioned in the last report are now completely cured, and the birds are mostly laying again. The general health of the birds is excellent. There have been only three cases of broodiness during the month.

Unfortunately there has been another death, ring No. 109, the cause of death being pneumonia.”  
J. T. B.

SECTION 1.—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Position	Owner	Eggs laid third period			Total	Total to date	Test value
		1	2	3			
1	Gibson, D. . . . .	53	13	4	70	242	209
2	Bulman, Mr. C. R. . . . .	66	18		84	183	166
3	Tindall, H. J. . . . .	67	5		72	163	162
4	Chaffin, A. . . . .	67	1		68	159	159
5	Ramsden, Mr. N. A. . . . .	67	14		81	160	159
6	Brown, C. H. . . . .	47	7		54	15e	150
7	Woodcock, W. J. . . . .	47	7		54	148	148
8	Coles, C. B. . . . .	46	5		51	154	147
9	Highet, A. . . . .	36	14	1	51	158	146
10	James, G. . . . .	43	8		51	135	135
11	Roach, D. . . . .	52			52	125	125
12	Gilhooly, F. . . . .	41	4		45	123	122
13	Johnson, L. . . . .	37			37	122	122
14	Coman, A. E. . . . .	57	3		60	113	113
15	Burgin, W. . . . .	35	6		41	115	113
16	Whittingslow, J. . . . .	20	20		40	119	113
17	Webb, W. . . . .	12	16	1	29	94	88
18	McIntosh, C. . . . .	20	3		23	78	77
19	Horsnell, N. . . . .	2	3		5	64	62

SECTION 2.—RHODE ISLAND REDS.

1	Trigg, A. E. . . . .	70	6		76	208	208
2	Eastham, T. . . . .	57	1		58	193	193
3	Condon, C. T. . . . .	46	6		52	193	193
4	Urry, A. . . . .	32	16		48	159	159
5	Melling, D. . . . .	57	1		58	150	150
6	Johnson, L. . . . .	54			54	139	139

7	Last, W. . . . .	39	19		58	136	136
8	McLaren, Mr. D. . . . .	46	2		48	129	129
9	Carlton, W. E. . . . .	46	4		50	122	122
10	Woodhouse, J. . . . .	41	4		45	122	122
11	Latham, G. . . . .	48	7		55	116	116
12	Ashwell, R. . . . .	28	19	3	50	123	114
13	Holmes, P. . . . .	52	3		55	113	113
14	Barnes, W. . . . .	59	10	2	77	114	112
15	Cork, W. F. . . . .	28	3		31	168	168
16	Hill, R. E. . . . .	42	1		43	107	107
17	Benning, A. . . . .	53	4		57	106	106
18	Heritage, W. G. . . . .	30	24	1	61	94	93
19	Lowrie, R. K. . . . .	33	4	1	38	91	90
20	Tebble, E. . . . .	12	18		30	85	85
21	Roberts, H. . . . .	40	5		45	81	81
22	Benson, J. . . . .	29	2	1	32	75	74
23	Emerton, T. D. . . . .	18	12		30	59	59
24	Foulkes, W. A. . . . .	4	40	12	57	127	58
25	Boyter, R. . . . .	38	1		39	47	47
26	Gwyn, I. . . . .	9	4		13	31	31

SECTION 3.—WHITE WYANDOTTES.

1	Carter, T. A. . . . .	65			65	194	193
2	Griffen, A. . . . .	47	2	1	50	166	165
3	Chaffin, A. . . . .	51	8		59	129	129
4	Chamberlain, T. W. . . . .	51	4		55	129	129
5	Knopp, H. A. . . . .	14	2		16	70	70
6	Lowrie, R. K. . . . .		11	8	19	56	40

SECTION 4.—ANY OTHER LIGHT BREED.

1	Capper, Mr. A. H. (La B.) . . . . .	49	8		57	160	169
2	Law, A. V. (La B.) . . . . .	16	35	1	52	153	120
3	Hesketh, F. V. (Anc.) . . . . .	22			22	103	103
4	Clark, T. A. (B. Leg.) . . . . .	37	1	1	39	74	73
5	Jackson, G. C. (Anc.) . . . . .	10	1		11	67	64

SECTION 5.—SINGLE BIRD.

1	Trigg, A. E. (R.I.R.) . . . . .	15			15	43	43
2	Capper, Mr. A. H. (R.I.R.) . . . . .	9			9	43	43
3	McLaren, Mr. D. (R.I.R.) . . . . .	20			20	38	38
4	Burgin, W. (R.I.R.) . . . . .	18	2		20	39	38
5	Boyter, R. (W.L.) . . . . .	8			8	38	36
6	Levett, J. (W.W.) . . . . .	2	12		14	48	34
7	Catlow, S. (W.W.) . . . . .	14	6		20	30	30
8	Roberts, H. (W.W.) . . . . .	5	8	1	14	30	29
9	Holmes, P. (W.W.) . . . . .	1	9		10	29	29
10	Woodhouse, J. (R.I.R.) . . . . .	1			1	23	23
11	Griffen, A. (W.W.) . . . . .	5	12	2	19	50	21
12	Gwyn, I. (W.W.) . . . . .	10	5		15	15	15
13	Last, W. (W.W.) . . . . .		5	1	6	5	5
14	Tindall, J. H. (R.I.R.) . . . . .	1			1	1	1

Third grade eggs do not score.

H. A. Knopp, of Worksop, has made quite a hit in some of the local shows, and sends us in quite a long list of successes:—

WORKSOP AND DISTRICT ANNUAL SHOW.

Utility Classes.

White Wyandotte cockerel—First with



Silver Rose Bowl for best in show and two Specials, also Second.  
 White Wyandotte pullet—Second.  
 Rhode Island Red cockerel—First and Special, and Second.  
 White Leghorn cockerel—First.  
 White Leghorn pullet—First with two Specials, and Second.  
 Light Sussex cockerel—Second.  
 Light Sussex pullet—Second and Third.

#### *Exhibition Classes.*

Rhode Island Red cockerel—First with Special and Second.  
 Rhode Island Red pullet—First and Special.  
 Light Sussex cockerel—First and Special.  
 Light Sussex pullet.—Second and Third.

#### *Utility Breeding Pens.*

First in Heavy breeds with Rhode Island Reds with Special.  
 First in Light breeds with White Leghorns with Special.

#### *Nottingham Open Show.*

Utility Rhode Island Red cockerel—Second.  
 White Wyandotte cockerel—V. H. C.

### Some Good Stories

J. M. Colley, of Luton, sends, with some very nice comments on the interest he always finds in reading *ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW*, a selection of humorous stories, which are so good that we are giving them a column all to themselves.

The patient rather fancied his many illnesses, and the Doctor calling on his morning visit was amazed to find him in the depths of despair.

"Ah, Doctor! you've come. I'm afraid nothing will cure me but a warmer climate."

"Hoots, man," said the doctor, "Haven't I been trying to save you from that for the last six months."

The vessel was sinking rapidly, and Jock and Sandy had begun to give up all hope of ever seeing Scotland again.

Jock began to pray: "Lord, thou dost ken I hae loosed the wee drappie, but if thou wilt deliver me—"

At this point he received a vigorous blow in the ribs, and heard a hoarse whisper: "Stop, man, stop; dinna commit yoursel' too far. I think I see the lifeboat."

Mr. Grimshaw considered himself an exceedingly well-preserved specimen of a moderately old man, but to his little granddaughter he appeared as ancient as anything she could imagine. "Grandpa," she said one day, "were you with Noah in the ark?" "Why, no, of course not, my dear."

"Then, Grandpa, why weren't you drowned?"

Teacher: "Can any boy tell me the earliest reference in history to a theatre?"

Young Highbrow: "Yes, teacher; we read in the Bible that Joseph was taken from the family circle and put into the pit."

Jock: "That's grand 'bacca ye're smokin', Sandy. What brand is it?"

Sandy: "I don't know. I didna ask him!"

Recent cablegrams refer to some disgraceful spectacles in New York. We know. We've seen the Americans wearing the same sort over here.—*Punch*.

#### BIRMINGHAM SPORTS CLUB.

The Birmingham Sports Club had its annual Christmas supper as usual, which was much enjoyed by all present. After supper Mr. Royle, of Toc H, brought in a concert party which made an instant success. In fact an unfortunate man who was lecturing in the next room sent in to ask if the enthusiasm could be made a little less evident as no one of his audience could hear a word that was being said!

Those present were: F. Brown, W. Castle, P. Cashmore, H. Cooke, W. Daintier, W. Hines, F. W. Kirkbright, W. Giles, G. Lilley, W. Moss, T. North, E. Read, T. Shaw, T. Shaylor, W. Trott, A. Taylor, G. Thomas, E. Varley, A. Waite, V. Wicken and H. Hughes.

### Workshop Notes

OUR Instructors have been very busy during the early part of the term, welcoming the new men who have been received at Headquarters, and putting them through the elementary part of their trades. We shall be able to speak definitely about the various individuals next month but we can already say that there is considerable promise of a further supply of good workmen from the newcomers, and we anticipate that they will make as good a use of their opportunities to acquire the various crafts as their predecessors have done. It is worthy of remark that a larger proportion of the new men have taken up Boot Repairing and Mat Making. The decision as to what trade a man should follow is, of course, made after very careful consideration of all the circumstances, but we might take the opportunity of pointing out that we regard Basket Making as one of the most satisfactory occupations for blind men, so that we may anticipate that our vacancies in this shop will soon be filled.

In the December number a very comprehensive report was given, mentioning nearly all the men under training, so that we need say little about particular individuals. Work has, of course, been going on on the same lines as before, and we will give more detailed references next month.

Mention may here be made of the work of G. Hadfield in the Boot Shop: he has been having useful experience and if he continues to take the same interest with which he commenced, he should turn out a good workman. C. Brammer has been continuing his course with P. Goulden at Bolton, mainly on Clogs, but keeping his hand in with Boots. This actual experience in a Boot Repairer's and Clogger's shop will prove immensely valuable to him, and we know that he has been enjoying his time there. During January, he was, unfortunately, unwell for some time, but we hope that by the time this is in print, he will be busy at work again. W. H. O.

### Below Zero

Among the overseas letters lately received is one from C. F. Hornsby, of Alberta, which gives such a vivid account of the weather experienced there of late that we feel it will be of general interest.

"According to the reports we have had of the weather on your side," he writes, "the weather man has not treated you any too well of late. I can assure you, however, that you have had nothing on us, for we have had one of the worst storms ever experienced in this country for many a long year, and it was the coldest month of December ever known. Practically the whole of the train service throughout the country has been disorganised. In many cases passenger trains were stalled in the snow drifts for 24 hours at a stretch. The mercury dropped to 48 degrees below zero! This, right here in Edmonton, and it stayed there, too, for almost a week, so you can be sure it was not a picnic. On the second morning of the storm our tram service went out of action owing to a breakdown at the power house. The wind was blowing a hurricane, and the mercury stood at 35 below zero. As there was no other means of transport I had to walk three miles to business and break a trail through 2½ feet of fresh snow. We arrived on time and without frost-bite! Perhaps I should have been wiser to stay at home, but I thought if my friend could do it I could."

We congratulate Hornsby on his "stick-to-it-ness." The walk must have been one requiring a lot of grit. His friends will be glad to hear that all is going well with him in a business way, and he is a very busy man, indeed.

We learn from an enthusiastic notice in the daily Press that F. Gallagher recently gave "a wonderful and interesting display of club-swinging which lasted for three-quarters of an hour." The performance was given with piano accompaniment and was much appreciated by a large audience of boys who would not rest content until Gallagher had promised to repeat his performance on another occasion.



### Deaths

We send our sympathy to:—

GREGORY.—Mr. and Mrs. Gregory, of Oldham, near Colchester, as Mrs. Gregory has lost her father, who had made his home with her for the last two years. He died on January the 6th after three weeks' illness.

HILL.—Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Hill, of Bristol, who on Christmas Eve lost their little son Frederick Arthur (aged 24 days) after only a few hours' illness.

SHERIDAN.—Mr. and Mrs. P. Sheridan, of Glasgow, who on the 16th of December lost their little son Richard, aged 3½ years, through pneumonia, after an illness lasting 44 days.

TUCKER.—Also to A. E. Tucker, of Bristol, who lost his father at the end of last year.

### Births

CHAVE.—On the 10th of January, to the wife of H. J. Chave, of St. Neots, a daughter (Betty).

DAVIES.—To the wife of W. Davies, of Blockley, a daughter, on the 19th of December 1924.

GUNN.—On the 4th of November a daughter (Nova Enid), to the wife of J. E. Gunn, of Gravesend.

JUBB.—To the wife of H. Jubb, of Bridlington, a daughter on the 7th of January.

MATTHEWS.—On the 19th December 1924 a son (Desmond Roy), to the wife of G. H. Matthews, of St. Helens. Mother and child both doing well.

MORTIMER.—On the 9th of January a daughter, to the wife of H. Mortimer, of Hull.

NORTHGREAVES.—On the 13th of January a son (Kenneth Roy), to the wife of H. Northgreaves, of Regent's Park, London, N.W.

PORTER.—On the 29th of December 1924 a son, to the wife of A. J. Porter, of Seven Kings.

SELBY.—On Sunday, the 21st of December, a daughter, to the wife of J. Selby of West Malling. Mother and child both doing well.

SIMPSON.—On January the 10th, to the wife of J. W. Simpson, of Leeds, a fine boy (Walter Kenneth).

STUBBS.—On 4th November 1924 a son, to the wife of J. Stubbs, of Liverpool.

### Braille Room Notes

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

J. Edwards.

W. J. H. Clamp.

V. S. C.

### Sports Notes—(Continued from page 17.)

#### WALKING.

May I ask all those who intend entering for the forthcoming Walk, which takes place at the Outer Circle on 14th March, to have their names in not later than the end of this month so that the handicaps can be made up. I would ask all competitors please to be at the Bungalow not later than 2.30 p.m., so that the start can be made at 3 o'clock sharp. We must keep strictly to our time-table, because it is unfair for the men who are ready to start to keep them hanging about in the cold while we are waiting for others.

I have had many requests for the S.S. men for a Walk on similar lines to the T.B., and we have thought that this event would be excellent for experimental purposes. We suggest, therefore, that an S.S. event shall be incorporated with the T.B., i.e. all start together but two sets of results will be taken—S.S. and T.B.

The S.S. men will not be handicapped, but as there are so many varieties of sight, I think it only fair that all should be bandaged. I would be glad, therefore, if all S.S. men who wish to enter will kindly do as the T.B. and let me have their names by the end of this month.

### Presentation to Capt. Fraser.

ON Thursday evening, the 22nd January, there took place at Headquarters a little ceremony which gave striking testimony of the high place Captain Fraser holds in the regard of the whole of the Headquarters staff. The occasion was the presentation to him of a handsomely bound Album containing practically all the Press references and pictures relating to his election campaign. The Album bears in gold lettering on the outside the inscription "To Captain Ian Fraser, C.B.E., M.P., General Election, 1924," and on the inside the following:

"Presented to Captain and Mrs. Ian Fraser, as a memento of Captain Fraser's first election to Parliament for the St. Pancras (North) Division of London, on October 29th, 1924.

"The cost of providing this Album has been met by a voluntary and equal contribution from every member of the Headquarters staff of St. Dunstan's, irrespective of their political opinions, and solely as a gesture of their goodwill to Captain and Mrs. Fraser."

At the end of the book are inscribed the names of the whole of the Headquarters staff.

The formal presentation was made by Mr. Barringer, who has been responsible for the organising of the idea. In asking Captain Fraser's acceptance of the Album, Mr. Barringer said: "This volume is not only the gift of those of us who share your political views—or some only of the members of the staff. It is the gift of every one of us who work with you at Headquarters. A gift to tell you now and to remind you always of our regard and admiration for you. That it is associated with your election to Parliament is, in a sense, only incidental. We want you to know that we would have paid you this tribute even had you not won your election. It would still have been, we are sure, a record of a gallant and clean fight."

"We hope that in years to come, and when perhaps you are holding high State Office, you and Mrs. Fraser will still value this modest but unanimous tribute from a

staff which will always wish you everything of happiness and prosperity." (Applause.)

Captain Fraser expressed his own and Mrs. Fraser's most grateful appreciation of the thoughtful and interesting memento and the spirit which had prompted its giving. He said that he would regard it always as one of his most treasured possessions. He added that he hoped he was not divulging a secret in telling his hearers that he had actually been in possession of this volume before the Christmas vacation—Mr. Barringer having loaned it to him before it was quite completed, in order that he might show it to his relations and friends during the holidays. He could assure the staff that it had proved of the greatest interest, and had saved him a great deal of personal narrative of his election experiences. Again he asked them all to accept his very sincere thanks, in which Mrs. Fraser joined him. (Applause.)

In an interesting letter to Headquarters T. W. Chamberlain, of Habrough, Lincs, tells us that his poultry are doing well and everything seems to be going along quite nicely with the farm. He goes on to say:—

"I read with interest the articles in THE REVIEW on "Wireless for the Blind," and I may say that a blind man can make a set equally as good as a sighted man, because I can prove that. I have fitted two crystal sets in the village I live in, one being for Stamp, who is another St. Dunstaner, and the other for a resident, and they are both satisfied. I not only make the set from the cabinet to drilling the panel myself, but also get and instal the set, and see to the erection of the aerials, and they are both highly satisfied with the results obtained. The station we get here is the relay station from Hull, and we are twelve miles away as the crow flies, and when I tell you I can use three sets of phones on my crystal set alone, you will understand that the set is not a dud, and that is why I say that a person who is blind must not think he is excluded from the fascinating hobby of wireless."



## Eight Years Ago

*Some interesting extracts from "St. Dunstan's Review" in 1917, which will offer opportunities of piquant comparison with to-day and some amusing reminders of old-time comrades and associations.*

### OUR V.C.

We welcome to St. Dunstan's Captain Angus Buchanan, V.C., M.C., Order of St. Vladimir, of the South Wales Borderers, who was blinded in Mesopotamia early in 1917. At Jesus College, Oxford, when war broke out, he received a commission in the South Wales Borderers, and was sent to the Dardanelles, where he was wounded and awarded the M.C. for conspicuous gallantry at Cape Helles. He subsequently rejoined his battalion in Mesopotamia, was wounded a second time, and was awarded the Order of St. Vladimir for his valuable services. After his sick leave in India he was sent to Kut, where, during an attack in which his company had advanced beyond the system of trenches, he personally brought in under heavy fire two officers who had been wounded and were lying in the open. In the evening of the day on which he won the Victoria Cross for this gallant action he was wounded by a shell which destroyed his sight.

### FROM PENSION OFFICE NOTES.

The Pensions Office having been started as a distinct branch of the work at St. Dunstan's, with an office all to itself, it has been suggested that a résumé of its doings will be of interest.

Like every other department, its growth has been wonderful and well sustained, as will be appreciated by the following figures. On the first pension day after the opening of the office—viz. the 14th March—152 ring papers were sent to the Post Office, and £238 7s. 11d. drawn, whereas this week 362 were sent and £635 5s. 1d. drawn. In other words, we are now dealing with pensions at the rate of over £33,000 per annum. It will be obvious that we cannot afford to let the grass grow under our feet if we are to have this sum checked

and ready for distribution by 4.30 on Wednesdays.

*(It is interesting to note that the Pensions Office since its inception has paid out by way of pensions nearly a quarter of a million pounds to date. Pensions are, of course, payable by St. Dunstan's to men in training only, and are repaid by the Ministry of Pensions.—ED.)*

### FROM NOTES BY SIR ARTHUR.

We are now welcoming a steady stream of men whose sight was injured in the early days of the war, and who were discharged from hospital apparently able to do without the assistance of St. Dunstan's, but who now find themselves with insufficient sight to enable them to carry on in the ordinary way. As I write these lines a terrific battle is raging in France, and one can only vaguely guess at the results which it and succeeding operations will have upon our organisation, but I feel confident that just as we have been able to provide for constantly increasing requirements in the past so we shall continue to find the necessary accommodation for all cases of blinded men, should the need for more room unfortunately arise.

*(The above extract will be of particular interest in view of the increased accommodation it has been found necessary to provide this term at Headquarters, and which is dealt with in another portion of this issue.—ED.)*

### FROM ROYAL VISITS TO ST. DUNSTAN'S.

On Wednesday, 27th March, we were honoured by a visit from our Gracious Patroness, Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, who was accompanied by Princess Victoria and the Grand Duchess George.

Her Majesty visited the Chapels, the Massage, Braille, Typing, and Netting Rooms, as well as the Workshops, and

expressed herself delighted with the interest the men displayed in their work, and with the general happiness of all whom she saw.

Her Majesty more than once remarked upon the astonishing way in which St. Dunstan's had grown since her last visit.

We are proud to record that Her Majesty has promised to visit the Bungalow and College Annexes at an early date.

The following day St. Dunstan's was again honoured by a royal visit. Her Majesty the Queen, Princess Mary, and Prince Henry, attended by Major Edward Seymour and the Lady Mary Trefusis, spent some two hours at the House, the College, and Bungalow Annexes. Her Majesty was unfortunately unable to see the men at work, as this had ceased at 12 o'clock that day for the Easter Holidays, but made some purchases at the string bag office. The Queen was greatly interested in the independent way in which St. Dunstaners get about the grounds of the Hostel.

She talked to several of the men and to members of the staff in all three buildings, and displayed particular interest in the household arrangements, which were minutely described to her.

*(Of course, St. Dunstan's has had the honour of many visits since from almost every member of our Royal Family, who have, from its earliest inception, taken the most kindly and gracious interest in everything to do with our work.—ED.)*

### FROM COUNTRY LIFE SECTION.

One or two men in air-raid districts write that they have had poor hatches of chickens, and wonder whether the gun fire, bombs, &c., have anything to do with it. There is no doubt whatever that hatches are affected by an air raid. When one considers that thunder will more often than not have a bad effect on eggs during a hatch it is easy to see that the sharp bang of a gun or explosion of a bomb must have the same effect and more so. Of course, St. Dunstan's is, so to speak, right in the barrage zone, and we have had most disappointing hatches.

## Learning Languages by Ear

Our attention has been drawn to a modern and very interesting method of acquiring fluency in foreign languages. The system embraces a course of thirty conversational lessons contained on fifteen double-sided roin. disc records, which fit any gramophone.

The records are supplied (by the Linguaphone Institute, 34 and 35 High Holborn, W.C.1), in French, Spanish, German, Italian and English (for foreign students).

It has been suggested that the system might prove of value to St. Dunstan's men, as it provides a means of learning a language without the aid of sight or book study.

We have received an explanatory booklet from the Linguaphone Institute, and feel that we cannot do better than quote from this as follows:—

"There are, for each language, 30 carefully graduated lessons, contained on 15 double-sided roin. records. Each side of the records contains one descriptive lesson, followed by conversational practice. The records have been prepared by native elocutionists, specially engaged for their purity of accent and good carrying voices. The French you hear is the purest Parisian. The Spanish is pure Castilian, spoken in a clear resonant voice by a Madrilenio. The charm of melodious Italian is conveyed to you in a rich baritone voice by a native Roman singer. The German you hear is the sonorous 'Hochdeutsch' of a Berliner."

"Each set of records speaks about 2,500 different words—a vocabulary sufficient for all practical purposes. The subjects treated form the ordinary facts of everyday life and therefore the mind is not overburdened by having to learn words which must be stored for occasional use only, but all you learn is of practical and daily use."

We would point out one valuable advantage of this method, and that is, the facility to repeat as many times as required any lessons in the course, and to extend the course over any desired



period. The set of records takes the place of a language teacher at your own home. You can command his services whenever you like, as often as you like. He is always there, ready to serve you. He never gets tired or impatient. At the end of a five hours' lesson—should you want one—his voice will be as resonant and his temper as even as at the beginning of that lesson. If you want him to repeat a certain word or sentence five, fifteen or fifty times, he will do so.

### Sir Oliver Lodge and the Theory of Vision

Radiation, said Sir Oliver Lodge, was purely a phenomenon of the ether. There was no mechanical connection between ether and matter. The only link between them lay in electricity and magnetism; but neither an electric charge nor a magnetic field generated radiation. There must be both—an electric and a magnetic field superposed at right angles to each other. Then they had radiation, travelling with the velocity of light, at right angles to both. Atoms, when jostled, not only emitted radiation, they emitted electrons. There was something in the retina of the human eye which responded in this way, flinging away electrons at characteristic speed when it felt luminous tremors, and it was to that strange and, at present, hardly accountable emission, that vision was due. He doubted if the electric tremors affected the nerves directly; they stimulated something specially adapted to respond to the vibrations. What stimulated the nerves was the shock of the electrons ejected by the atoms, which struck them with the speed of some thousand miles a second.

"This is the Theory of Vision," the speaker remarked, "which is in process of being born, and which, I feel sure, contains the clue that has to be worked out by physicists and physiologists in combination. The eye is like a receiving instrument for detecting radio waves of extremely short and definite length. It was the first wireless receiving set

employed by man. Vision is a photo-electric phenomenon. I make that rash statement, and say that the burden of proof, and especially the burden of dis-proof, rests upon future experimenters."

A Liverpool paper published an interesting photograph (which we regret we cannot reproduce) showing E. Roberts, of Towyn, Rhyl, standing with his little daughter before him and displaying two of the excellent baskets he makes. He looks splendidly well, and his string of medals are well in evidence.

We learn with interest that one of the solos and three of the carols sung at the Christmas services held at the Marlowes Baptist Chapel were by a St. Dunstaner. So far we have not been able to discover the composer's name.

We cull the following "Spoonerism" from "Under the Clock," the interesting chat column of the *Daily News* :—

I have purposely avoided any reference to the Hawke-Parkin controversy. I mention it now merely because it has produced a terrible tongue-twister. A friend of mine in conversation described Lord Hawke—or, rather, attempted to describe him—as "a particularly critical cricket critic." I would not recommend it as a fair test for drunkenness. On the contrary, if you get it right the first time at ordinary conversational speed I can hardly believe that you are sober. It was, however, an entirely sober and given-to-good-works individual who suddenly announced that if he didn't hurry he would be late for St. Winston's Dust-drive.

From F. H. Kirkbright, of South Yardley. All will be glad to hear that his new house is charming and almost in the country, being a couple of miles tram ride from his work. Kirkbright goes in and out by himself daily, and is looking forward to happy and busy hours in his garden when the weather improves.



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