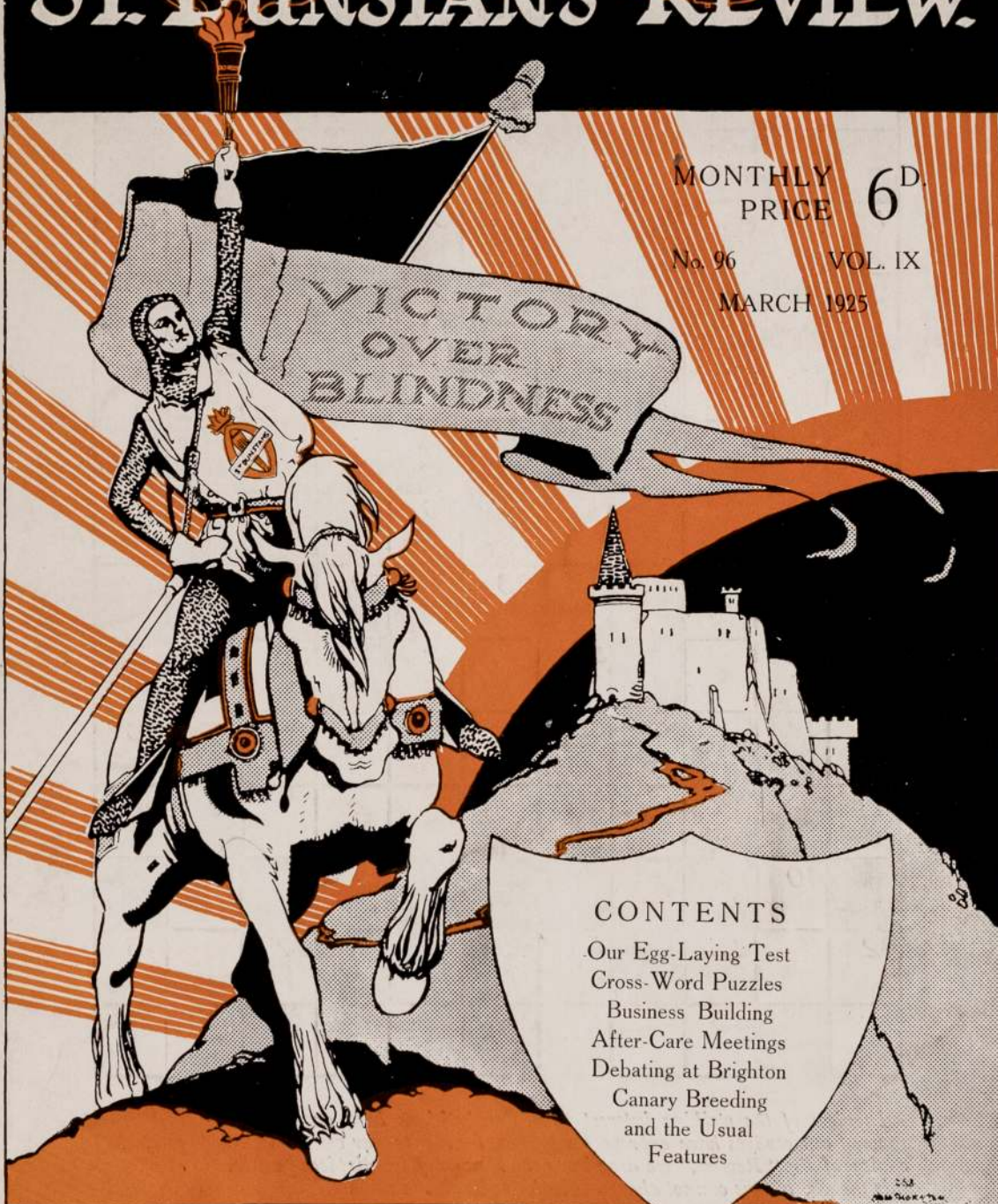


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

MONTHLY PRICE 6^D

No. 96 VOL. IX
MARCH 1925



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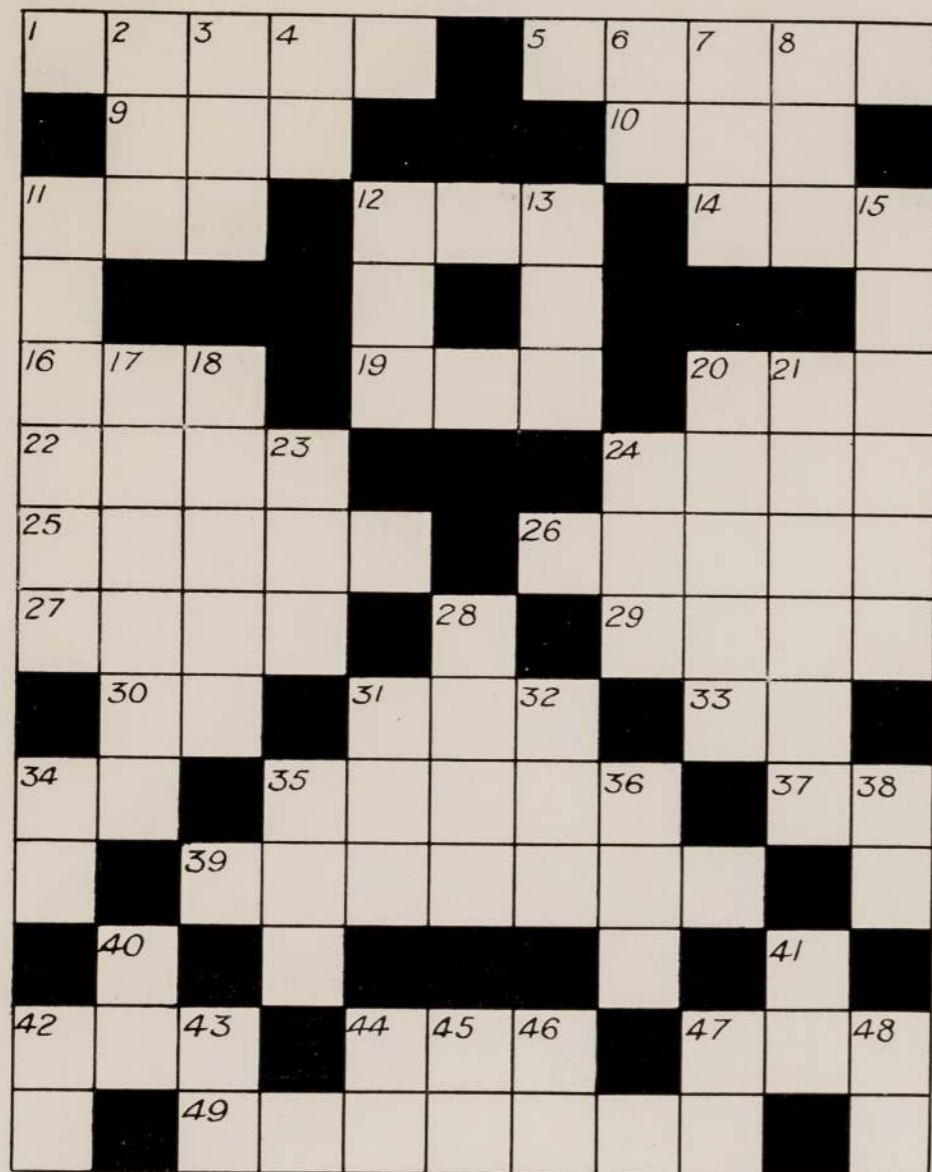
Our Egg-Laying Test
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Debating at Brighton
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Features

FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR

ST. DUNSTAN'S CROSS-WORD PUZZLE No. 2.

DESIGNED BY THOMAS FLOYD.

(For Clues see page 19.)



In view of the striking interest these Competitions have aroused, and also because some of our readers have expressed regret at having to tear out an inside page of their copies of the "Review," we are giving the honour of frontispiece position to our design this month, but we cannot always promise to be able to do this.

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 96.—VOLUME IX.

MARCH 1925.

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

EDITORIAL NOTES

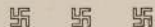
IN this issue we are particularly pleased to give our readers a most practical and interesting contribution on the subject of the breeding, rearing, and exhibition of canaries. Although we have no expert knowledge of this particular subject, we know that canary breeding is a hobby which has a very large number of followers throughout the country, and also that it is one which offers no small possibilities in the direction of profit-making when skilfully pursued. It is not so much this aspect of the hobby, however, which we think will appeal to St. Dunstaners, although it is not one to be overlooked—it is because one of their own comrades has the experience and ability to give them the lead on the subject that should gain their interest.

We shall be glad if the appearance of this series will stimulate other St. Dunstaners who have knowledge of and interest in other hobbies and pastimes to get into touch with us with a view to similar contributions to these pages. Incidentally, we may mention that we hope in the near future to have another St. Dunstaner contributor in the person of J. Foreman, of Beckenham, who has scored considerable success as a breeder of Pomeranian dogs. He gained, we understand, an important prize at Cruft's recently, the leading dog show of the year.



We wonder, if a referendum was taken among all St. Dunstaners as to what part of their training while at St. Dunstan's has brought them most pleasure, what would be the result of the vote? We refer, of course, to the recreative side of training only, for we are sure nothing can have brought more deep and abiding pleasure to all St. Dunstaners than the mastery acquired of profession, craft, or occupation, and the knowledge that victory has been won over the handicap of blindness. But the hours of play at St. Dunstan's, and, indeed, in all St. Dunstaners' lives after they have left us, occupy an important part in the sum total of their happiness, and that brings us back to the query propounded in our first sentence. Outdoor exercise claims, we know, a good portion of the leisure of St. Dunstaners everywhere. Braille, and the wonderful science of radio (which comes nearest to putting blinded men on a level with sighted folk) will, we are sure, secure many votes, as also would dancing, so universally followed by our men. But all things considered, we should personally be inclined to give premier place to music. The musicianly training acquired while at St. Dunstan's must not only have given endless hours of pleasure to St. Dunstaner instrumentalists or vocalists themselves, but it has the further claim to praise because many thousands of others have shared in that pleasure. The history of the Music Department of St. Dunstan's is really rather wonderful. We do not know how many hundreds of embryo Caruso's and Paderewski's have passed through our "Academy of Music," but we do know that among St. Dunstaners to-day a very large number of vocalists

and musicians have attained high skill at the musicianly arts. Hardly a month passes but we record in our columns some public entertainment at which St. Dunstaners have gained the hearty applause of concert audiences, while few of our own house entertainments are considered complete unless some of our own artistes are included in the programme. Yes, on the whole, we think our Music Department would stand a very good chance if a poll of popularity were taken.



Too Long at Earphones

Under the above heading there appeared in the "Evening Standard" recently a report of an interesting interview a representative of that journal had with Captain Fraser, who had been asked for his opinion on the recent criticisms of the quality of the British Broadcasting Company's programmes. We reprint Captain Fraser's comments below, and we think it will be of great interest not only to our own readers, but to listeners-in generally, if St. Dunstaner "radioists" would send in to the Editor their personal views on this very important matter.

Captain Ian Fraser, the blind M.P., who is also a very keen wireless enthusiast, had some very interesting comments to make on the recent criticisms of the B.B.C. programmes when asked for his opinion to-day by an *Evening Standard* representative.

"Although I have been rather too busy of late," he said, "to listen regularly, my feeling has been that as a rule the programmes are exceedingly good."

"Most people when they begin to listen seem to think that they must listen to everything, and inevitably when this happens there must be a certain amount of disappointment. It is a mistake to go on listening for hour after hour; there should be a little discrimination.

"The best plan is to study the programme and listen to the items that make a particular appeal, and shut off when there are items which do not. One might argue from that, of course, that it would be an advantage to have half a dozen different programmes available in the same area, but that is practically impossible.

"In any search for new items, I certainly think there would be a gain if certain parts of Parliamentary proceedings were broadcast. There are speeches like

those of the King, or those introducing the Budget, that are of great general interest, and should be broadcast."

When it is remembered that there are now 1,200,000 people who have taken out licences, and that this number has to be multiplied two or three times in order to arrive at the number of listeners, it can be understood that the matter is one of widespread interest.

The difficulty of producing programmes that will be satisfactory to all classes of listeners is a very real one, for items that might be regarded as excellent by some listeners would be quite unacceptable to others. The "highbrows" and the "low-brows" have all to be catered for.

Although many listeners are satisfied with the fare that is provided, there is no doubt at all that large numbers of people are expressing disappointment for various reasons.

Birmingham St. Dunstan's Sports Club

The January meeting of the Club was held at Queen's College, Paradise Street, at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 28th January. Those present included W. Castle, P. Cashmore, H. Cooke, W. Daintier, W. Hines, G. Lilley, and F. H. Kirkbright, E. Read, T. Shaw, T. North, G. Thomas, and V. Wicken, accompanied by their wives or escorts.

A domino drive of seven rounds was played after tea, the winner being T. North. W. Castle and W. Daintier cut for second place. At 8 o'clock Mr. Royle arrived with a Toc H. Concert Party, and we had a splendid concert. The Club is always delighted to meet Mr. Royle; in fact, as soon as he comes in the place seems to wake up. The concert went on till 9.15, so members must have been very late getting home.



Marriage of Miss G. H. Evers.

St. Dunstaners form Guard of Honour.

The marriage took place on February 11th of Miss Gladys Evers, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Edwin and Mrs. Evers, to Major Henry E. Hake, O.B.E., T.D., son of the late Rev. Hake and Mrs. Hake.

Miss Evers worked amongst us from 1916 until last year, and won the high regard and affection of all with whom she came in contact. Formerly assistant matron at the Bungalow, Miss Evers afterwards undertook work as a Social Visitor for the Midland area.

A party of St. Dunstaners formed a Guard of Honour at the wedding. The officiating clergy were the Rev. H. R. Evers (brother of the bride) and the Rev. J. E. T. Hughes (Rector of Radford Semele). The bride was given away by her brother Mr. K. S. Evers. The honeymoon is being spent in Cornwall.

St. Dunstan's was represented at the reception by Miss Hodgson and Mr. Swain, and the wedding presents included a beautiful silver photo frame inscribed "Presented by the Chairman and Executive Council of St. Dunstan's to Miss

Gladys Evers in recognition and deep appreciation of her devoted services to blinded soldiers and sailors, 1916-1924," while the men of Miss Evers' late After-Care area gave her a silver tea-pot, cream jug and sugar basin.

St. Dunstaners present at the wedding, in many cases accompanied by their wives, included G. T. Shaw and Mrs. Shaw, T. North and Mrs. North, E. Varley and Mrs. Varley (mother), V. Wicken, C. Grattidge, W. Trott and Mrs. Trott, W. Daintier and Mrs. Daintier, W. Castle and Mrs. Castle (mother), H. Hughes, G. Lilley and Mrs. Lilley, C. Brown and Mrs. Brown, H. Cook and Mrs. Cook, A. Taylor, E. Read, W. Hines and Mrs. Hines, G. Thomas and Mrs. Thomas, W. Giles, A. Cashmore and Mrs. Cashmore and Mrs. H. Kirkbright.

Tenth Anniversary Celebration

Will all After-Care St. Dunstaners resident in London please note that the usual dance celebrating the anniversary of the opening of St. Dunstan's (the Tenth) will be held at the Bungalow on Wednesday, 25th March, commencing at 8 p.m. All who are able to come will be very welcome.

E. M. C. B.

Defeating the Builders in Regent's Park

(Kindly contributed by Mr. Alex. H. Faulkner)

IN the course of a very interesting lecture which he gave in the Botanical Theatre, University College, Gower Street, W.C.1, on Monday, 2nd March, Mr. Percy Flemming, F.R.C.S., made several references to the history of what is now called Regent's Park.

It was in this region that Henry VIII developed a hunting park which was conveniently near to the City of London. Part of his royal plan was to drain the swamp which we moderns know as St. James's Park, and make it into a "nursery for deer," the idea being to take these creatures along to the open country and "hunt" them as soon as they were old enough to make good sport. Queen Elizabeth was no less keen than Henry himself upon the sport of deer hunting, and she is believed to have built several lodges in the park. Incidentally, her association with the place was for many years enshrined in the sign of the "Queen's Head and Artichoke," an inn near Clarence Gate, long since departed.

Mr. Flemming said that in ancient times these inn signs played the part of the modern illustrated paper, giving the people some notion of the appearance of famous folk; for this reason Elizabeth was very particular as to the quality of the portraiture when her own head was on the board, and she actually had a sort of Royal Commission that went about the country destroying inn-signs that did not flatter her.

James I, who was hard up, sold the Manor of Marylebone (which is near the present Marylebone Church) in 1610, but retained the Park. Even this went in the time of Charles I, who gave it away in payment of a debt for ammunition. Another change came with the accession to power of the Commonwealth, for the Commonwealth objected on principle to the sport still carried on in the Park—deer-hunting—so they took it away from

the man who had received it in payment of debt, and sold all the deer and, incidentally, the timber. When Charles II came along he obliterated this attempt at reform, giving the Park back to the man Charles I sold it to, although no more hunting took place, the whole region being let out in farms. For instance, there was a Park Farm near Clarence Gate. Ward has a very good painting of a farm in the Park as it was in 1807, a picture hidden away in the basement of the Tate Gallery, but well worth looking at.

Soon after 1807, however, changes began to be made. Before this date houses had not continued their advance north of Oxford Street, for the simple reason that Oxford Street, roughly, marks the boundary of the gravel soil—the clay of Regent's Park would not easily yield water supplies. But in 1809 the West Middlesex Waterworks came into existence and the chief bar to building was removed. Several alternatives were suggested. The Prince Regent, son of George III (who, of course, gives the Park its name) at one time thought of bringing his famous palace at Brighton up to London and planting it in the Park. Another proposal of his was to build a country retreat in the Park—that retreat which he afterwards put up at Virginia Water. It was to give direct access to this from his home at the old Carlton House (the columns of which now adorn the outside of the National Gallery, Trafalgar Square), that Nash was commissioned to plan and build Regent Street.

None of the Prince's suggestions came to anything, and it was next decided to build houses. A plan showing Regent's Park laid out in streets and houses actually survives. Strong opposition was forthcoming, especially in St. Pancras. One objector was a Mr. White, the agent of the Duke of Portland. The Duke did not wish to have his property ruined by

houses being erected in the open country to the north. Mr. White, however, based his objections on the grounds that the "poor of St. Pancras" ought not to be deprived of their open spaces. After much discussion, the Park was finally acquired for the public, Nash being entrusted with the work of laying it out. The Park was opened in the year of Queen Victoria's accession to the throne.

Mr. Flemming concluded his lecture by saying that most of the names of the gates and streets round the Park (such as York, Clarence, Albany, Chester, Augustus, Osna-burgh) are derived from the names and titles of the sons of George III.

With reference to the above, many of our readers will be interested in the following information as to changes recently made in the Regent's Park area, which we cull from the *St. Pancras Chronicle*.

REGENT'S PARK CHANGES.

Work has been going on steadily in Regent's Park during the past winter, and before long it is hoped that all traces of the war, in the shape of the huts, will have disappeared.

Over 150 men have been kept busy in carrying out several small, but interesting changes. The Aircraft sheds that used to stand near the present headquarters of St. Dunstan's, on the Inner Circle, have now gone, and the ground will soon be covered with grass again. In this south-west corner of the Park, too, several alterations are being made in the arrangement of the paths. At York Gate, for instance, a path at present leads into the Outer Circle, just west of the gate. Many children, it is found, run into the road at this point, which is rather dangerous, since motor-cars get up speed along the straight stretch of good road.

This path, therefore, which comes round from the southern edge of the lake from Clarence Gate, is to be diverted into the roadway just inside York Gate, where a keeper is usually on point duty. Several trees on the corner at York Gate are to be cleared away in order to make the exit

into the Outer Circle more safe. Meanwhile the diverted path will cross the roadway inside York Gate, and continue parallel with the Outer Circle fence in the direction of Cambridge Gate, thus making it possible to proceed straight to the flower garden without leaving the Park.

A change is also being made by the bandstand, near the Zoological Gardens. The crowd listening to the band, it is found, so congests the pathway that it is very difficult to walk past. A new path, therefore, is to follow a somewhat wider sweep into the Broad Walk.

Trees have been planted to cast a shade round the cricket pitches, an improvement which will no doubt greatly add to the pleasure of "looking on."

The Unwritten Page

The man but dreams
Who thinks that he may turn to greet
the morning,
For "daily from the east" our pathway
lies,
And yet it seems
We are too fearful of the kindly warning
Each sun at evening flashes as it dies.

The old desire
To be a child again, and greet the
morning
Fresh as a lark, was strong within my
breast;
Till from the spire
At evening came the curfew's kindly
warning,
And my desire was turned to thoughts
of rest.

These may not be,
The old delight, the wonder of the
morning.
The leaves are turned upon the golden
age.
And though to me
Their blots and errors are a bitter
warning,
Here's a clean quill for the unwritten
page.

C. R. A.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

A LETTER from W. Farnell, of Ontario, with its eloquent description of his new house, will stir many with a wish to migrate to a land where the phrase "shortage of homes" seems to mean nothing:—

"I have got nicely settled in a house of my own," he writes, "which has all the modern conveniences they put into houses in Canada. It is built on the square plan, so it only took six weeks to build. It has a large airy, light, dry basement where I have already fixed up a work-bench. Then there is a hall with a cupboard for coats, winding stairs, a dining-room, a best room and a kitchen—all down stairs; while upstairs there are three bedrooms as well as a trunk room and a bathroom with complete fixings. The house is heated by a large furnace in the basement, which also supplies us with hot water. We have electric light, gas and telephone. So far I have not done any work with the exception of putting up a few shelves, but I have got enough timber in to keep me busy through the winter. I am going to make screens to keep the flies out this summer, and as we have over twenty windows this alone will give me plenty to do for a time."

Another contented man, and one, too, who has just settled into a new home, is S. Jennings, of Northallerton. He says his wife and children have doubled their appetites since they moved into the country! Jennings has made an excellent start at getting things into order by white-washing all the outbuildings.

A piece of bad luck has overtaken W. Davies, of Salford. A fire started in his bedroom and destroyed most of the

contents of the room, including the bedding and a good deal of clothing. The catastrophe was bad, but it might have been so infinitely worse (when one thinks of the risk run by Mrs. Davies and her baby) that one can only be thankful things were as they were.

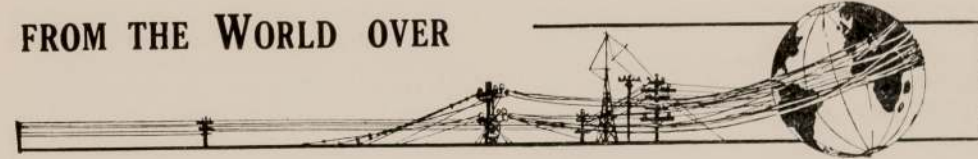
News of C. Wilshaw comes from Worthing, which district he likes very much, by the way. He is busy with local orders at the moment, and says he did very well at a bazaar a few weeks back where he sold every article he exhibited.

In a different direction G. Burnett, of Tunbridge Wells, has been employing his leisure hours to good effect by assiduously attending whist drives. At the last he carried off a first prize most remarkably well worth having, we hear, and this is not by any means the first he has won.

Repair work always comes in with a rush at the week-ends, according to G. Thomas, of Sparkhill, Birmingham, leaving him slack in the first few days. He is not an idle man even then, but devotes his attention to poultry, which he keeps in splendid order. His chickens are looking very healthy we are glad to note.

"A really excellent corn shop" is the frequent comment made on W. Castle's little business in Winson Green, Birmingham, and indeed he has built up the business in a way that would have done credit to any man, and he has every right to be proud of his success. The place is kept in such splendid order that Castle has absolutely no difficulty in finding what he wants with a minimum of delay.

FROM THE WORLD OVER



Everybody's sympathy will go to H. Hughes, of Birmingham, whose wife fainted when in her kitchen the other day. Unfortunately she struck the corner of the table in her fall and twisted her neck and arm badly. We are glad to be able to say that she is making a good recovery from the accident.

The friends of J. Petro, who has been staying in Wales for a short time, will be interested to hear that he is off to Australia again, and will be on the high seas by the time these lines appear in print. Mrs. Petro is taking a sister out with her.

We have pleasure in reporting yet another St. Dunstaner, namely, S. Jordan, of Leominster, or rather his wife and daughter, as prizewinner(s) at a fancy dress ball. They carried off two first prizes and are especially proud of the victory as both the costumes were home-made. The little girl took another prize at another dance, so the family is to be thoroughly congratulated.

The news from W. H. Hildick, of Shrewsbury, is scant of late, but at least it is encouraging. The poultry are doing well, he tells us, and the garden is flourishing; there are plenty of customers for vegetables.

In the business world W. J. Patter, of Gosport, is progressing surely. He and his wife have put unflagging effort into the working up of the place and are now reaping their reward and getting along comfortably.

In Southsea J. Collinson is working towards the success deserved by every steady and conscientious worker, and we have no doubt that when he has been a little longer in the district he will find himself with a wide circle of friends.

Many a man possessed of full sight would hesitate to grapple with a house full of children single handed, but T. Watmore, of Eastbourne, cheerily looked after five, to say nothing of doing most of the house work, when his wife was laid up a few weeks back. In his leisure moments he makes baskets, but, as he says, "there are not many leisure moments for anyone in a house where there are four babies under three and a half!"

"Everyone in the village is very friendly," reports G. Matthews, who has just settled into a new house at Paulerspury, Northants. Perhaps this is because Matthews has been doing a lot of singing in the district, which has brought him into touch with a number of people with interests similar to his own.

Another Northants man is P. Austin, of Higham Ferrers, and basketmakers will be interested to hear that as a result of a couple of experimental baskets, which he made and exhibited a short time ago, orders for fifteen more, like the specimen ones, came in with a rush.

From Bolton comes news of E. Tait. It is satisfactory indeed to know that with him "trade increases every week." He was runner-up, by the way, in a window dressing competition which was held

during carnival week in Bolton last summer, and although he lies low and says little we feel sure he is evolving plans for topping the list if fate gives him the opportunity again. Even in ordinary times his window looks exceedingly well, so we share his hopes. As a hobby Tait goes in for canary breeding, and he evidently attends to this as well as he does to his business, for he has carried off several prizes.

Another keen man of business is W. A. Underwood, of Northwich, who now has two shops, having opened the second last December. He has much to be proud of, for we hear from several sources that it is the smartest of its kind in Northwich.

In a different line, and one which also requires hard and steady work, is A. J. Holland, of Rushden, Northants. His farm is in splendid order and he works it practically single-handed. It is a good deal for him to manage and only his keenness enables him to make the success he is doing.

A few months ago mention was made of T. Parrish, of Wellingborough, Northants. His friends will be pleased to know that he is as enterprising as ever and is doing his level best in an attempt to solve the housing problem—he now has seven caravans full of people living on his land.

Spring is evidently in the air in Cornwall for S. Kemp, of Redruth, has already mapped out a summer campaign for himself and his eldest daughter. He is very busy on hammocks and rugs and intends to scour the country for customers when the better weather comes.

Another Cornwall man is J. Burley, of Perranwell, who is now hoping to do well with poultry if only he can get the piece of land for which he is negotiating. With that as an added interest he should indeed be happy in his spotless little home.

In Devon T. Rogers is working away steadily with enough orders in sight to give him a feeling of general satisfaction. His friends will be sorry to hear that he is in need of sympathy just now having suffered the loss of a nephew—a boy of fourteen, who was a splendid comrade and companion. He will be greatly missed by Rogers, in whose house the boy died with startling suddenness.

A man who believes in moving with the times is J. Whittingslow, of Kidderminster. He is always full of new ideas and takes a vivid interest in modern methods. He has just put up a chicken-house full of clever devices, including a central heating installation.

At High Wycombe J. A. Morton has just finished two houses, or rather three—one for himself, one for his mother, and one to sell. They are all well built and conveniently arranged, and both Morton and his wife have every reason to be proud of their achievement, for they have been unsparing in their study of trade papers, &c., in their effort to make a genuine success of their courageous undertaking.

Quite an exceptional run of work has come to W. Whiteside, of Lytham, of late, we are glad to hear, and "everything is going on well." Whiteside is yet another on the long list of St. Dunstaners blessed with helpful wives.

News of G. Price comes from Clacton-on-Sea. He is evidently looking forward to the summer season, for he is hard at work improving the amenities of his house and has just equipped it with a hot-water service. He has put in a boiler and carried the pipes through the house entirely on his own, and has done the job wonderfully well, too. He promises us further details later and we shall look forward to receiving these when he is less busy.

Knowing the pride our shopkeepers take in their windows we think many will be

interested to hear of the display A. E. Tucker, of Bristol, is making just now, for it seems to catch the eye of everyone going down the street. An attractive arrangement of mats and mat materials forms the background, while near the glass hang a couple of balls of yarn suspended by red tape!

Space is limited, so but a few words can be devoted to the remainder of those from whom interesting news has been received during the last few weeks. Among these is D. McCarthy now of Notting Hill. His friends will be interested to hear that he has quite decided to move to Salisbury. He has been fortunate enough to find a house there that will suit him; it is in lovely surroundings he says, and he hopes to take possession as soon as it is finished.

Another who has made a move is J. Buckle, of King's Lynn, who took possession of his new house on January the 29th and likes it very much. It is in quite a lively situation, being on the main road. Another of its attributes is a very nice show window wherein Buckle intends to make a fine display of his goods.

Yet other busy men on our long list are T. R. Beattie, of Crouch End, who seems to be making quite a speciality of cycle-baskets, by the way; W. Williamson, of Denton, who is a very keen worker and takes the deepest interest in his baskets; J. Wood, of Grange-over-Sands, who goes steadily on at boots and seldom finds himself with an idle hour; and W. J. Higginson, of Islington, who, according to well-founded rumour, is looking forward to being married at Easter. No doubt we shall be able to give further details later. Meanwhile Higginson is making some articles of furniture for his home, and making them very well too, we are glad to be able to say.

Mrs. Annie Higgins, mother of a St. Dunstaner now under training, in a letter

we have before us, gives some wonderfully interesting details of her long life. Mrs. Higgins is now eighty-four years of age, is a soldier's daughter and has been twice a soldier's widow. She was in India at the time of the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny in 1857, and describes vividly the dangers and hardships which the white residents were forced to undergo at this period in the history of our Indian Empire.

Too late for inclusion in our last issue, we received information of two entertainments which St. Dunstaners in residence enjoyed very much. The first was a dance got up for St. Dunstan's by Mr. Vick on 11th February at King Edward's Hall, Finchley, to which six of our men were invited. Murphy, as a Maori Chief of terrifying aspect, was awarded second prize for fancy costume. This proved to be a fine ham, which no doubt was fully appreciated by the prize winner's sturdy family. E. Williams, as a Mexican Cowboy, won fourth prize—a bottle of whisky and one of port. Whether or not Williams is a staunch teetotaler we cannot say, but the fact remains that he re-sold his prize for £1. A splendid supper was provided, and Miss Hamar Greenwood returned thanks in the name of St. Dunstan's.

The second entertainment was a concert given at Headquarters on the evening of the 12th February by a party brought by ex-Orderly J. T. Wood, who worked at St. Dunstan's for some years during the war. The excellent band of the First Cadet Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers (the Hampstead Prize Band), and some screaming stories told by the famous Scots comedian, Mr. Jock Miller, contributed to a splendid programme.

A. T. Brookes, of 153 Irving Road, Bournemouth, asks us to say that he has for sale a James Tandem Bicycle, complete with all accessories, in excellent condition. Also sidecar with windscreen, quite new, all three tyres Dunlop Magnum. Describing it as a real bargain, Brookes tells us he will accept £15, or nearest offer.

Poultry Notes

St. Dunstan's Egg Laying Test

We cull the following from the *National Poultry Journal* of the 27th ult.:

REGISTRATION OF LAYING TRIALS.

"The Laying Trials Committee under the National Poultry Council Scheme have approved for registration the following laying trials, viz.:-

"Harper-Adams Agricultural College, Lancashire Federation of U.P.S., Lancashire Utility Poultry Society, The National Laying Test, Bentley, St. Dunstan's Egg Laying Test.

and these are, therefore, the first to be so registered. The importance of such official recognition and approval from a national body should be appreciated by all competitors in these trials, as it constitutes a guarantee that the trials are well laid out and properly conducted."

Our egg laying contest finished on the 20th of last month. Some competitors evidently forgot about the test, and were late in sending crates for their birds, but after some delay all birds were returned to their owners on the 25th and 26th ult.

We are glad to know that some of the competitors fully realise the extra amount of work the test throws on our poultry staff at the farm, and letters of thanks for

the trouble we have taken are, indeed, much appreciated.

One competitor writes as follows:—

DEAR MR. THOMSON BROWN,

Birds arrived to-day, and I find all in good condition. May I thank you and the staff for seeing my birds through the test, and for bringing to a successful conclusion another St. Dunstan's Laying Test. Those of us whose birds have not laid as was first hoped none the less appreciate the work done at the test by all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

E. TEBBLE.

Other competitors in acknowledging receipt of their birds have remarked on their good condition, while many have not thought it worth while to send any acknowledgment.

We regret to have to mention that in typing the results of the third period for the February REVIEW, one or two mistakes were made in connection with the single bird section, but the test cards which have now been distributed give the correct results.

The final results are as follows:—

SECTION 1.—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Position	Owner	Eggs laid Grades			Total	Total to date	Test value
		1	2	3			
1	Gibson, Mr. D.	58	4	1	63	305	267
2	Chaffin, A.	63	4		67	226	226
3	Bulman, Mr. C. R.	56	18		74	259	222
4	Brown, C. H.	64	6		70	220	220
5	Ramsden, Mr. N. A.	36	23		59	218	216
6	Tindall, J. H.	39	14		53	215	215
7	Woodcock, W. J.	50	3		53	201	201
8	Highet, A.	40	14	2	56	214	186
9	Gilhooley, F.	54	9		63	185	185
10	James, G.	46	3		49	184	184

Continued on next page.

SECTION 1.—WHITE LEGHORNS—Continued.

Position	Owner	Eggs laid Grades			Total	Total to date	Test value
		1	2	3			
11	Johnson, L.	58	1		59	181	181
12	Coles, G. B.	32	6		38	192	179
13	Burgin, W.	62			62	175	175
14	Coman, A. E.	54	8		62	175	175
15	Whittingslow, J.	50	13	1	64	183	171
16	Roach, D.	38			38	163	163
17	Webb, W.	42	13		55	149	137
18	McIntosh, C.	23	9		32	109	109
19	Horsnell, N.	22	12		34	96	96

SECTION 2.—RHODE ISLAND REDS.

1	Trigg, A. E.	76	4		80	288	288
2	Eastham, T.	56	2	1	59	252	251
3	Condon, C. T.	24	1		25	218	218
4	Urry, A.	35	7	1	43	202	201
5	Johnson, L.	57	2		59	198	198
6	Last, W.	44	22		66	202	191
7	Carlton, W. E.	50	10		60	188	188
8	McLaren, Mr. D.	53	3		56	185	185
9	Melling, D.	31			31	181	181
10	Latham, G.	54	3		57	173	173
11	Woodhouse, J.	40	11		51	173	173
12	Holmes, P.	58	1		59	172	172
13	Barnes, W.	39	15		54	168	166
14	Lowrie, R. K.	58	1		59	150	149
15	Heritage, W. G.	35	21		56	150	149
16	Cork, W. F.	31	2		33	141	141
17	Benson, J.	55	6		61	136	135
18	Roberts, H.	48	5		53	134	134
19	Hill, R. E.	25	2		27	134	134
20	Benning, A.	24	3		27	133	133
21	Ashwell, R.	17	5		22	145	131
22	Tebble, E.	18	14	1	33	118	117
23	Boyter, R.	58	3		61	108	108
24	Emerton, T. D.	33	13		46	105	105
25	Foulkes, W. A.	10	41	10	61	188	68
26	Gwyn, I.	28	4	1	33	64	63

SECTION 3.—WHITE WYANDOTTES.

1	Carter, T. A.	58	1		59	252	252
2	Griffen, A.	61			61	226	226
3	Chamberlain, T.	60	13		73	202	202
4	Chaffin, A.	27	5		32	161	161
5	Knopp, H. A.	45	8		53	124	124
6	Lowrie, R. K.	2	22	3	27	83	55

SECTION 4.—ANY OTHER LIGHT BREED.

1	Capper, Mr. A. H. (La. Br.)	59	8		67	236	236
2	Hesketh, F. V. (Anc.)	36	3		39	142	142
3	Law, A. V. (La. Br.)	15	29	1	45	108	135
4	Clark, T. A. (B. L.)	43	2		45	118	118
5	Jackson, G. C. (Anc.)	35	9		44	108	108

SECTION 5.—SINGLE BIRD.

Position	Owner	Eggs laid Grades			Total	Total to date	Test value
		1	2	3			
1	Capper, Mr. A. H. (R. I. R.)	22			22	65	65
2	Burgin, W. (R. I. R.)	20			20	58	58
3	McLaren, Mr. D. (R. I. R.)	18			18	56	56
4	Woodhouse, J. (R. I. R.)	16			16	51	51
5	Boyter, R. (W. L.)	21	1		22	49	49
6	Trigg, A. E. (R. I. R.)					43	43
7	Roberts, H. (W. W.)	13	5		18	48	43
8	Levett, J. (W. W.)	10	10		20	76	43
9	Catlow, S. (W. W.)	13	9		22	43	40
10	Holmes, P. (W. W.)	7	3		10	39	36
11	Knopp, H. A. (W. W.)	2			2	36	36
12	Roach, C. (W. W.)	20	1		21	30	30
13	Griffen, A. (W. W.)	2	20	2	24	74	23
14	Gwyn, I. (W. W.)	6	1		7	22	22
15	Tindall, J. H. (R. I. R.)	20			20	21	21
16	Hill, R. E. (R. I. R.)	10			10	17	17
17	Last, W. (W. W.)	5	14		19	30	17
18	Hetherington, T. (R. I. R.)	10			10	10	10
19	Riddell, R. (W. W.)						

(Third grade eggs do not score.)

FINAL REPORT BY OUR TEST MANAGER.

The Fourth period of the test finished on the 20th February, 2,586 first grade eggs were recorded, 523 second grade, and 24 third grade, making a total of 3,133 for the period.

The average number of eggs laid per bird was 13, and the average per bird in each section was as follows:—

Section 1	13.57
Section 2	12.53
Section 3	12.62
Section 4	12.0
Section 5	14.79

The Rhode Island Red section is the only one not showing an increase on the previous month. Section 5 has done very well, showing an increase of over five eggs per bird. Section 4 has also pulled up considerably.

A summary of production for the four periods is given in the tables below. It will be seen that the White Leghorns are again ahead of the other breeds this year. Unfortunately, they have laid a high percentage of second grade eggs. White Leghorn breeders should take warning

and be most careful in the selection of breeding stock, or in a few years the breed will have the reputation for small eggs, which has been held by the White Wyandotte for many years. The latter breed, it is gratifying to note, has beaten all others for size of egg, having laid only 15 per cent. of second grade eggs throughout the test. I attribute this improvement to the care Wyandotte breeders have taken during the last few years to eliminate the small egg factor.

The percentages of second grade eggs for the four periods were as follows: Section 1, 20 per cent.; Section 2, 16 per cent.; Section 3, 15 per cent.; Section 4, 21 per cent.; and Section 5, 25 per cent.

A. Chaffin's pen of White Leghorns laid only 10 second grade eggs out of a total of 226. The late T. Eastham's pen of Rhode Island Reds laid only 5 second grade eggs out of a total of 251. Whilst Mr. A. H. Capper's Rhode Island Reds in the single bird section laid 65 eggs—all first grade.

Some excellent individual records have been put up, notably by Mr. D. Gibson's White Leghorn No. 33, which laid 83 eggs in the 16 weeks, T. Eastham's Rhode

Island Red No. 161, which laid 82 eggs, L. Johnson's Rhode Island Red No. 145, with a record of 80, A. E. Trigg's Rhode Island Red No. 180, with 79, T. A. Carter's White Wyandotte No. 210, with 79, A. Griffin's White Wyandotte No. 216, with 76, and Mr. A. H. Capper's La Bresse No. 252, with 76.

Only two birds have died during the test, both Rhode Island Reds, one from T. Eastham's pen, ring No. 163, and the other from W. F. Cork's pen, ring No. 109.

Except for a few cases of roup and colds, the health of the birds has been excellent throughout.

I should like to draw the attention of competitors to the importance of sending birds to a laying test in good condition. Quite a large proportion of the birds received last autumn were not fit to stand the strain of heavy winter egg production. A pullet that is expected to lay through the winter months must have a reserve of fat to draw on. If she has not this reserve of fat she may lay for a time, but will drop off at the first cold snap, and will probably remain out of production for a month or six weeks.

Average Number of Eggs Laid per Bird.

SECTION 1.—WHITE LEGHORNS (76 Birds competing).

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	Total	Average per bird
1st Period	510	252	32	794	10.44
2nd	653	187	7	847	11.15
3rd	815	147	6	968	12.74
4th	867	160	4	1,031	13.57
TOTAL	2,845	746	49	3,640	47.9

SECTION 2.—RHODE ISLAND REDS (104 Birds competing).

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	Total	Average per bird
1st Period	673	121	24	818	7.86
2nd	775	182	29	986	9.48
3rd	1,018	222	20	1,260	12.35
4th	1,063	201	14	1,278	12.53
TOTAL	3,529	726	87	4,342	42.22

SECTION 3.—WHITE WYANDOTTES (24 Birds competing).

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	Total	Average per bird
1st Period	191	55	3	249	10.37
2nd	200	31	4	235	9.79
3rd	228	27	9	264	11.0
4th	253	47	3	303	12.62
TOTAL	872	160	19	1,051	43.78

SECTION 4.—ANY OTHER LIGHT BREED (20 Birds competing).

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	Total	Average per bird
1st Period	184	50	4	238	11.9
2nd	118	29	—	147	7.35
3rd	134	45	2	181	9.05
4th	188	51	1	240	12.0
TOTAL	624	175	7	806	40.3

SECTION 5.—SINGLE BIRD (19 Birds competing).

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	Total	Average per bird
1st Period	86	32	1	119	6.26
2nd	147	38	—	185	9.74
3rd	109	59	4	172	9.05
4th	215	64	2	281	14.79
TOTAL	557	193	7	757	39.84

SUMMARY OF PRODUCTION FOR FOUR PERIODS.

	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	Total	Average per Bird
Section 1.—White Leghorns ..	2,845	746	49	3,640	47.9
.. 2.—Rhode Island Reds	3,529	726	87	4,342	42.22
.. 3.—White Wyandottes	872	160	19	1,051	43.78
.. 4.—Any other Light Breed	624	175	7	806	40.3
.. 5.—Single Bird	557	193	7	757	39.84
Unrecorded eggs	8,427	2,000	169	10,596	208
Grand Total				10,804	
Average per Bird					44.45

The Prize Awards

In accordance with the decision of the Test Committee, we hope to have the following prizes and awards distributed this month.

St. Dunstan's Challenge Cup for the best pen in test won by A. E. Trigg; score 288.

Section 1. White Leghorns.

First Prize.—Gold Medal, Mr. D. Gibson.
Second Prize.—Silver Medal, A. Chaffin.
Third Prize.—Bronze Medal, Mr. C. R. Bulman.

Certificate of Merit.—C. H. Brown.
Certificate of Merit.—Mr. N. A. Ramsden
Certificate of Merit.—J. H. Tindall.
Certificate of Merit.—W. J. Woodcock.

Section 2.—Rhode Island Reds.

First Prize.—Gold Medal, A. E. Trigg.
Second Prize.—Silver Medal, T. Eastham.
Third Prize.—Bronze Medal, C. T. Condon.

Certificate of Merit, A. Urry.

Section 3.—White Wyandottes.

First Prize.—Gold Medal, T. A. Carter.
Second Prize.—Silver Medal, A. Griffen.
Certificate of Merit, T. W. Chamberlain.

Section 4.—Any other Light Breed.

First Prize.—Gold Medal, Mr. A. H. Capper.
Second Prize.—Silver Medal, T. V. Hesketh.

Section 5.—Single Bird.

First Prize.—Gold Medal, Mr. A. H. Capper.
Second Prize.—Silver Medal, W. Burgin.
Third Prize.—Bronze Medal, Mr. D. McLaren.
Certificate of Merit, J. Woodhouse.

Special Prizes

Pair of Silver Spoons presented by The National Utility Poultry Society for the Light Breed Pen with the highest number of first grade eggs. Won by Mr. D. Gibson, score 217.

Pair of Silver Spoons, presented by The Scientific Poultry Breeders' Association for the Heavy Breed Pen with the highest number of first grade eggs. Won by A. E. Trigg, score 265.

And a No. 2 St. Dunstan's poultry house, presented by the staff at King's Langley for the individual bird with the highest number of first grade eggs in each section.

Section No. 1, won by Mr. D. Gibson, score 80.

Section No. 2, won by T. Eastham, score 81.

Section No. 3, won by T. A. Carter, score 79.

Section No. 4, won by Mr. A. H. Capper, score 75.

Section No. 5, won by Mr. A. H. Capper, score 65.

J.T.B.

A Generous Offer

We are sure some St. Dunstaner fathers will be interested in an exceedingly generous offer made to them by Mrs. Mary L. Cooker, of which we are asked to give particulars to our readers. We do not think we can give better details of Mrs. Cooker's offer than to quote from a letter from her, dated 2nd March, and sent to Headquarters. Mrs. Cooker writes:—

133 Neasden Lane,

N.W.10.

2nd March.

To The Secretary.

The teachers from the Maria Grey Training College use this as a Secondary Preparatory Practice School. If any children need special coaching in any subject they kindly arrange to give it. The time-table is arranged by Miss Price and the teachers, and Miss Price comes to inspect the work very frequently.

Next week it is to be my privilege to have one child as a daily pupil whose father was blinded in the war.

If among your patients or any late patients living within a convenient distance, there are those who, had they not been blinded, would have given their children a secondary education, I shall be pleased to have the children here without fees as daily pupils. Possibly the big schools have already provided for them; I do not know, but if I can do anything for the children of blinded men (soldiers or sailors) I am only too glad to have the opportunity. Having found one child, it came to me you might know of others.

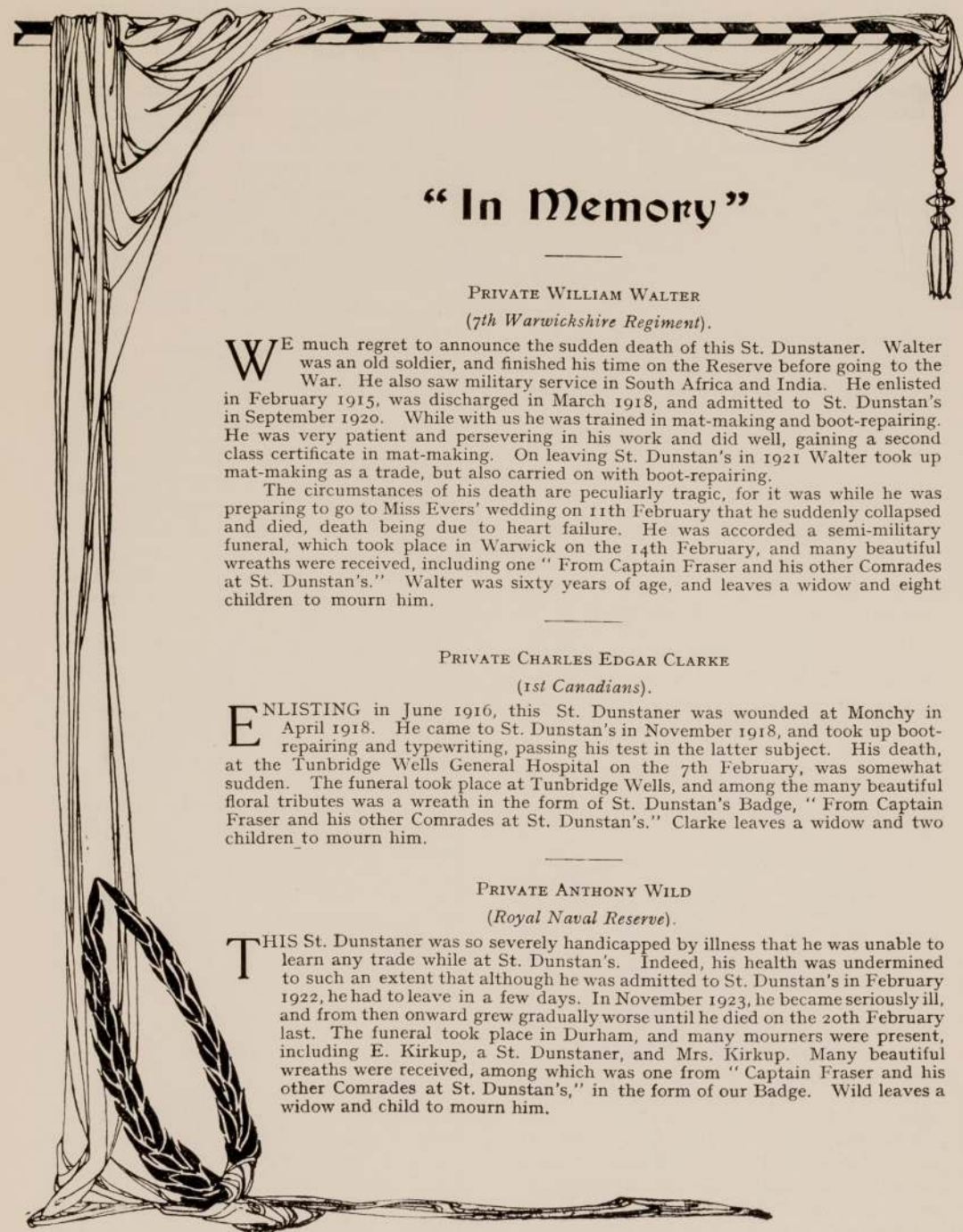
Yours faithfully,

(MRS.) MARY L. COOKER.

We would only add that Mrs. Cooker's Preparatory School is about two minutes from Neasden (Met.) Station, and that the hours are from 9.30 to 12 a.m. and, for children over seven, 2 to 3.30 p.m., while there is a weekly half-holiday on Friday.

Presentation to Sister Duley

The Lounge at Headquarters was once again the venue of a very pleasing ceremony just before the dinner hour on 4th March, the boys and V.A.D.'s assembling in force to witness the presentation to Sister Duley of a very fine eight-day travelling clock as a tangible memento of St. Dunstaners' appreciation of her ever willing service and interest in their welfare. Matron Power in a dainty little speech, brimful of affectionate recollections, punctuated with flashes of humour, showed in the strongest light that spirit of "camaraderie" which permeates life at St. Dunstan's. After the presentation the applause was deafening, and when it eventually subsided, Sister Duley, looking radiantly happy, responded in a few well and happily chosen words. She said that she would never forget numberless pleasant hours she had spent in St. Dunstan's, and the real friendship she had formed. The little ceremony closed with three hearty cheers called for by the Matron, and delivered with full force, and whatever the future may hold for Sister Duley, she has the assurance that the impression remains indelibly stamped on the memory of everyone who knew her that she is "One of the best." "SANDBLOCK."



"In Memory"

PRIVATE WILLIAM WALTER
(7th Warwickshire Regiment).

WE much regret to announce the sudden death of this St. Dunstaner. Walter was an old soldier, and finished his time on the Reserve before going to the War. He also saw military service in South Africa and India. He enlisted in February 1915, was discharged in March 1918, and admitted to St. Dunstan's in September 1920. While with us he was trained in mat-making and boot-repairing. He was very patient and persevering in his work and did well, gaining a second class certificate in mat-making. On leaving St. Dunstan's in 1921 Walter took up mat-making as a trade, but also carried on with boot-repairing.

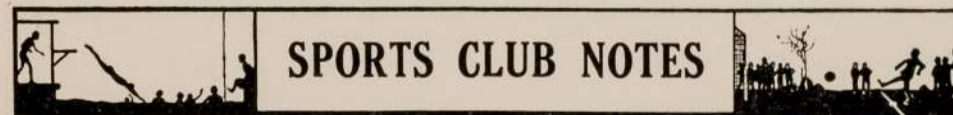
The circumstances of his death are peculiarly tragic, for it was while he was preparing to go to Miss Evers' wedding on 11th February that he suddenly collapsed and died, death being due to heart failure. He was accorded a semi-military funeral, which took place in Warwick on the 14th February, and many beautiful wreaths were received, including one "From Captain Fraser and his other Comrades at St. Dunstan's." Walter was sixty years of age, and leaves a widow and eight children to mourn him.

PRIVATE CHARLES EDGAR CLARKE
(1st Canadians).

ENLISTING in June 1916, this St. Dunstaner was wounded at Monchy in April 1918. He came to St. Dunstan's in November 1918, and took up boot-repairing and typewriting, passing his test in the latter subject. His death, at the Tunbridge Wells General Hospital on the 7th February, was somewhat sudden. The funeral took place at Tunbridge Wells, and among the many beautiful floral tributes was a wreath in the form of St. Dunstan's Badge, "From Captain Fraser and his other Comrades at St. Dunstan's." Clarke leaves a widow and two children to mourn him.

PRIVATE ANTHONY WILD
(Royal Naval Reserve).

THIS St. Dunstaner was so severely handicapped by illness that he was unable to learn any trade while at St. Dunstan's. Indeed, his health was undermined to such an extent that although he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in February 1922, he had to leave in a few days. In November 1923, he became seriously ill, and from then onward grew gradually worse until he died on the 20th February last. The funeral took place in Durham, and many mourners were present, including E. Kirkup, a St. Dunstaner, and Mrs. Kirkup. Many beautiful wreaths were received, among which was one from "Captain Fraser and his other Comrades at St. Dunstan's," in the form of our Badge. Wild leaves a widow and child to mourn him.



SPORTS CLUB NOTES

I WAS hoping that when we had secured our old friend Zipfel in goal again that our football troubles were over. First of all Mr. Graves, whom I am glad to say is recovering from his serious accident, was unable to play, and now Zipfel, in trying to save a hot shot with the tip of his finger, finds that for the time being that finger has been placed out of joint. We do hope that he will soon be quite fit again to give us the benefit of his ability in goal. The following matches have already been played, and I hope that next month we will be able to give the League Table:—

Feb. 12.—Larkholmes .. 5	Peachers .. 2
12.—Hadwelks .. 4	Radios .. 4
17.—Birchers .. 4	Fairies .. 3
17.—Wanderers .. 2	Knightspears 0
18.—Peachers .. 4	Hadwelks .. 3
18.—Radios .. 7	Larkholmes 5
19.—Knightspears 2	Fairies .. 1
19.—Wanderers .. 3	Birchers .. 1
20.—Radios .. 4	Peachers .. 3
20.—Hadwelks .. 3	Larkholmes 2
24.—Wanderers .. 4	Fairies .. 1
25.—Peachers .. 2	Birchers .. 1
Mar. 3.—Radios .. 7	Fairies .. 0
3.—Hadwelks .. 4	Knightspears 1
3.—Wanderers .. 6	Larkholmes 2

ROWING.

I am delighted to say that we have got authority to have our Regatta again at Putney and hope to go on similar lines to that of last year and have a good half-day's sport. May I suggest that all men who are able will get into training. Our Sports Sister, Miss Paterson, will be very pleased to hear from any men who desire any rowing practice, and she will endeavour to make all arrangements for those who give her due notice. I know that the men will understand that it is impossible for Miss Paterson, no matter how willing she is, to take a dozen men out in different boats at the same time, so please make your arrangements beforehand and get in as much practice as possible.

WALKING.

Judging by appearances our Outer Circle Walk, which is due for the 14th, is going to be a big one. Already we have 32 competitors, and as this includes the winners of Brighton, London and Provincial walks, there should be some good sport. I hope next month to be able to give a full account of the walk, together with the various times.

SWIMMING.

May I remind our old boys about Instructor Jones' classes which are being held at Marylebone Baths on Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 o'clock. We are experimenting with Captain Ollson's new invention—it is rather a wonderful Chin Float which enables men, without danger, to attempt certain strokes in swimming which formerly have been rather beyond them. Perhaps some of you may wish to see how this new invention helps you, so please come along and ask Mr. Jones about it.

OLD BOYS' SPORTS.

We are still keeping going enthusiastically each Tuesday evening, and the leaders are finding it rather more difficult to keep their positions. I expect that this competition will end shortly after Easter, and that we will start our Field Sports on Tuesday, 28th April, at 6.45 p.m. sharp. As our sportsmen know, this is generally arranged as a preliminary canter, so that we can start in deadly earnest the first Tuesday in May. We will do as we did last year and carry on each Tuesday, wet or fine. Of course when the ground is unfit we hold our competition in the Bungalow, but I sincerely hope, after all the rain we have had, and especially after all the various vocalists have told us, that "it ain't a gonna rain no mo," that we will be entitled to fine weather.

OLD BOYS' POINTS.

T. B.		S. S.	
Nicholls	1,667½	Brown	1,750
Henry	1,407½	James	1,645
Webster	1,360½	Downs	1,620
MacFarlane	1,230	Champness	480
Gover	1,060	Ashton	420
Burran	1,037½		
Kerr	525		
Millar	125		

PRESENT BOYS' SPORTS.

I hope I may congratulate our new boys, particularly on the remarkable way they have so quickly got into their sports stride. I think it is particularly encouraging to these boys to find that in spite of their handicap they are able to tackle sports again and to do so very successfully. Fairfield has kept well to the fore in the T.B. Section, whilst Finkle is still cleverly keeping his name at the head of the list. The following list of points will show how close the competition is:—

T. B.		S. S.	
Fairfield	655	Finkle	512½
Peach	450	Fallowfield	485
Edwards	370	Taylor	470
Tebbutt	315	Brookes	342
Milligan	190	J. Sheppard	295
Aitken	160	F. Sheppard	275
Fletcher	120	Bowring	275
Braye	25	Harkness	255
		Boyce	250
		Jones	180
		Knight	155
		Mordue	95
		Hill	65
		Williams	55
		Dolby	55

HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMPS.

A Holiday Sports Camp will be held again this year at CLOPTON, STRATFORD-ON-AVON, for a week, 29th June to 7th July. All men resident in the Midland area (i.e. Warwickshire, Worcester, Northants, Nottingham, Leicester, Derby, Stafford, and Shropshire) are invited to send in their names; if too many apply there may have to be a draw. Fee for the week inclusive, £1 7s. 6d.

HERTFORDSHIRE CAMP.

Another Camp will be held on the same lines at Little Gaddesden, Berkhamsted,

Herts, open to St. Dunstan's men in any part of the country who care to apply. Fee for week, £1 7s. 6d.

This Camp will start on Tuesday, 16th June, and end on 23rd June. Will anyone wishing for further information about either camp please apply to Miss Hodgson, Clopton, Stratford-on-Avon.

J. E. W.

Our Rhodes Scholar.

Widespread press publicity has been given to the splendid scholarship achievements of J. McDougall, and the following, which we cull from *The Times*, is typical of a great many newspaper references to McDougall's triumph:—

"A striking record of success, in spite of the handicap of blindness, is shown in the post-war life of Mr. Donald J. McDougall, who has been awarded a special Rhodes scholarship to cover two years at Oxford. Mr. McDougall, who was blinded by a bullet wound at Ypres in 1916, while serving with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, was trained at St. Dunstan's, in Regent's Park, and after passing with honours the final examination as a masseur, was appointed massage instructor at Pearson Hall, Toronto, the Canadian St. Dunstan's.

"Afterwards, while conducting a successful private massage establishment, he began in 1922 a course at Toronto University, leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In the spring examinations in 1923, at the end of his first year, he was first in his class with five first-class honours and one second. At the end of the second year, the spring of 1924, he stood head of his class again with all first-class honours, and is assured of receiving his degree at the end of this year's spring term. Mr. McDougall will probably proceed to England shortly after midsummer this year to take up his Rhodes Scholarship."

Past and present St. Dunstaners will, we are sure, be immensely proud of this fine achievement, and we shall look forward to a visit from McDougall when he arrives in the "Old Country."

Our Cross-Word Puzzle

It is as we had feared! The disease has taken a firm hold, and the sufferers now total a very large number of St. Dunstaners. We realise our responsibility, but candidly, we are more sinned against than sinning, for we held out for a long time against many beseeching letters to include cross-words in the REVIEW. We are quite prepared to admit that we were not entirely disinterested; in fact, self-protection was the first law we studied!

However, now we have capitulated, we are prepared to carry on in an heroic and self-sacrificing spirit, so that this month we are giving our readers a second brain-worrier. It is selected from the large number sent in—such a large number, indeed, that we are lost in admiration of the capabilities of our readers. Perhaps the warning we issued last month that a continuation of the puzzles would be dependent upon competitors' contributions has had something to do with this influx!

Just one point as to the designs sent in. These are carefully kept, and will be considered in competition with the new ones submitted each month. Thus, because a design does not win a prize one month, it does not follow that it may not be the best in the following month.

The prize of 10s. is awarded to the designer of the puzzle printed on our frontispiece this month, namely, Thomas Floyd, of 5 Brookdale Terrace, Teignmouth, Devon.

We offer the same prize of an Auto-Strop Safety Razor, in case, to the reader who sends in the first correct solution opened on 3rd April. The editor's decision is final, and members of the Headquarters staff are not eligible to compete.

The first correct solution of last month's puzzle opened by the Editor was from W. Strachan, of Campfield, Cadzow Street, Motherwell, to whom the prize offered has been forwarded. It will be of particular interest to know that,

although owing to an error, one of the clues (No. 30 Down) was omitted, this seemed to present little difficulty, to judge by the number of correct solutions sent in. Indeed, only one request was received for a description of this clue.

The correct solution of Cross-word Puzzle No. 1 is given below.

SOLUTION TO CROSS WORD PUZZLE No. 1.

Across: 1, We; 3, I.F.; 4, E.K.; 5, Is; 8, O.B.E.; 10, Ant; 11, Rope; 12, Amir; 14, Knife; 15, Plate; 16, Sic; 17, Sin; 18, Sag; 19, H. T.S.; 20, O.E. (Old English); 21, L.T.; 22, Ra; 23, M.A.; 24 (H)and; 25, Age; 26, St.; 27, Dunstans; 28, Eve; 29, Rid; 33, G.R.; 35, Ah!; 39, On; 41, Vat.; 43, I; 44, A; 45, War; 46, Ta; 47, Hotel; 48, Ever; 49, Nests; 55, Hero.

Down: 1, Workshop; 2 Ebonite; 5, Initial; 7, Strength; 9, Epics; 10, Amass; 12, Al; 13, Ef; 22, R.N.; 23, Matron; 24, (F)ate; 30, Adders; 31, Again; 32, End; 34, V.G.; 36, Haven; 37, Have; 38, Carol; 40, Rt.; 42, T.E.S.; 45, Wet; 46, Tare; 55, Ho.

Clues to Cross-Word Puzzle (No. 2)

Across Clues.

1. Girl's name.
5. Obsolete conveyance.
9. Silent assent.
10. Used in bricklaying.
11. Powerful Trade Union.
12. Purveyors of entertainment.
14. A small horse.
16. Accountancy abbreviation.
19. Initials of well-known slogan.
20. Three parts tall.
22. A single person or thing.
24. Wild animal.
25. A large gland.
26. Keeps on walking.
27. Truly.
29. In good order.
30. Associated with dates.
31. Electrical element.
33. An afterthought.
34. Very common in Wales.

35. Backwards as forwards.
37. Abbreviation in our Sports columns.
39. Our mainstay.
42. Associated with famous deceased statesman.
44. Of paramount importance to the blind.
47. Familiar to cricket followers.
49. Familiar water birds.

Down Clues.

2. South African animal.
3. Conjunction.
4. Journalistic abbreviation.
6. Query.
7. Spanish title.
8. Girl's name.
11. A small cloud.
12. Brand of cigarette.
13. Nursing qualification.
15. A brilliant assemblage.
17. A kingdom.
18. Had life.

20. Bulbous plant.
21. Among.
23. More than nine.
24. A sudden peevishness.
28. Common sense.
31. Familiar Christian name.
32. Solution to Clue 31 read backwards.
34. Wireless term.
35. Appertaining to a bishopric.
36. Help required.
38. A degree.
40. An animal.
41. At dances.
42. A qualified sailor.
43. London postal area.
44. To wit.
45. Indefinite article.
46. Initials of a regiment.
47. Literary abbreviation.
48. For Army defaulters.

Births—Deaths

Births

- BALLANTYNE.**—To the wife of J. Ballantyne, of Isleworth, a daughter, on the 27th of January.
- BOYTER.**—February the 10th, to the wife of R. Boyter, of Ancrum, a son.
- EVANS.**—On the 23rd of January, to the wife of J. Evans, of Walsall, a son.
- GRAHAM.**—On 30th January, a daughter, to the wife of R. Graham, of Holloway.
- GROVE.**—To the wife of T. W. Grove, of Oxford, a daughter, on the 20th of January.
- HALL.**—On the 22nd of January, a son (George Frederick), to the wife of G. F. Hall, of Nuneaton.
- HOLLINRAKE.**—On January the 12th, a daughter, to the wife of J. Hollinrake, of Billingham.
- PERRY.**—On the 21st of January, to the wife of G. Perry, of Wolverhampton, a daughter.
- PETERS.**—To the wife of W. Peters, of Liverpool, a daughter, on the 29th of January.
- SINGLETON.**—To the wife of A. H. Singleton, of Grantham, a son (Dennis Arnold), on the 18th of December 1924.

Deaths

This month we have to offer our sympathy to:—

- W. BRUCE**, of Embsey, near Skipton, who lost his mother on Saturday, 14th February.
- C. KNIGHT** (of Headquarters), who lost his father on 25th February after a long illness.
- H. A. PERRETT**, of Devizes, who lost his baby girl Mary Josephine (Josie) on 2nd March—only sixteen days old.
- H. SIDA**, of Odiham, who lost his wife on the 7th February. Sida is left with two small children, one a baby of seven months.
- P. J. VORLEY**, of Folkestone, who has lost his fiancée, concerning whom we insert a brief In Memoriam notice.
- J. WHITTINGHAM**, of Salford, who is feeling the death of his mother very keenly. She passed away on Saturday, the 24th January, under very sad circumstances.
- S. WILDING**, of Northwich, who on the 28th January lost his father after a long illness of 16 months.

IN MEMORIAM.

Miss Florrie Howe, aged 21 years, passed away 6th December 1924, after a long illness, bravely borne. The devoted fiancée of Percy Vorley. (Inserted by request.)

Business Building

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

III.—BOOT-REPAIRERS.

AT first sight, those of my readers who are not boot-repairers, and even some of those who are, may be inclined to ask how this craft can be dependent to any important degree upon publicity and display. I will reply by telling a small story founded on actual fact, and which has some appropriate application to the trade under discussion.

A certain man many, many years ago, rendered signal service to another who was, I believe, body-servant to a gentleman of position. The gentleman died—his body-servant died also; but before the latter passed away he wanted to pay some portion of the debt he owed his benefactor. So he left to him a sheet of paper upon which was written—a formula. This formula, to cut a long story short, described the composition of a boot-polish, and the man to whom it was left proceeded to manufacture it commercially—although not with great hope it would repay his time and money. But within a comparatively short time that boot polish was known throughout the civilised world. Now here is the crux of the story. It was so well known and the sales were so big that the company who now owned it felt that they could gain nothing further by advertising it. New boot polishes were invented *and advertised*, but still the old company stuck to their opinion. Then one day they awoke to the fact that the many new preparations had eaten up almost the whole of their home sales, and practically all their one-time enormous export trade. The subsequent history of that company and that polish will be known to many of my readers, but if it has pointed the moral I wanted, the story has served our purpose here.

St. Dunstaner boot-repairers are, as a matter of fact, probably better placed than some other of our craftsmen to profit by effective publicity. The great

majority have a shop window by which to attract attention, and I sincerely hope they are not content with filling it with odds and ends of leather, saucers of brads and nails, and the usual miscellanea of laces, grindery, &c. By all means exhibit your stock of grindery, or at least some of it, occasionally (I realise it means an excellent profit), but display it effectively. A bundle of laces heaped in a corner or stitched to a card, convey very little even with the pictorial or other show-cards issued by the makers. Emphasise the merit of those laces in some way—particularly their strength and durability. Suspend some heavy weight by one of them, and a notice something after this effect: "Do you know you exercise a rolb. pull on each end of your lace every time you fasten your boots? This lace is supporting 20lbs."

Advertise boot trees, polishes and other stock with the same regard to novelty. A pair of shoes, one with a tree inside and one without—one polished and the other not—with suitable wording, is a practical sales argument which will bring many new customers.

But after all, the boot-repairer's main business is to repair boots, and I maintain that every window of a St. Dunstaner boot-repairer should give practical evidence of his skill. Concentrate on one pair, or even one boot or shoe, and repair it and finish it to the utmost of your skill. Then display it really effectively on a nice sloping glass trestle, with a mirror beneath to show its finish, and its brother in the dilapidated state in which both were received. The contrast will tell its own tale without written notices, although you can add these if you want them.

St. Dunstaner boot repairers are, in fact, well looked after as regards window display accessories. I understand that Headquarters have for some time been

providing suitable posters, which can always be obtained from the visiting technical instructors. Small shelves in three tiers have also been supplied for the display of various articles, and it is interesting to note (and indeed, it might do no harm to window displays to mention the fact) that these are made by St. Dunstan's blinded joiners. A stock is available also at Headquarters of coloured transparencies of St. Dunstan's Badge with suitable wording, which can be attached to the window or glass door of the shop, and these I understand, are issued without charge.

We come now to other ways of securing new customers, particularly by means of printed matter, advertising, and so on. An attractively displayed handbill can always be made a good investment if care is taken in its distribution, and an occasional issue of a circular letter delivered in likely quarters is also to be recommended.

I strongly advise, as in other trades already dealt with, means being taken to keep in closest possible contact with sources of information as to the issue of tenders for boot-repairing at Poor Law, Orphan Schools, and other institutions. While tender prices are, we know, cut rather fine, there is the advantage to set against this of a regular inflow of work, but, of course, the individual boot-repairer must weigh first his output capacity, particularly where such work might be required within definite periods. I would add to these notes the suggestion that St. Dunstan's may find in many cases that if their application is effectively presented, a certain number of such contracts may come their way without too stern competition with other repairers.

I am not going to enter here, any more than I have done in previous articles, into the question of the quality of material or labour. I am fully confident that every St. Dunstaner has such pride in his own craft that he will always produce the very best that is in him, in the way of workmanship, while Headquarters can, we know, be trusted to provide everything desirable in the way of materials.

At the same time, I am sure my readers will not take it amiss if I emphasise once again that a new customer gained, as against an old one lost through dissatisfaction in any direction, is by no means a question of 1 equals 1. The one displeased customer is always a potential hindrance materially, and morally must have a bad effect on the craftsman's own pride of work. But we need not labour this point. If our boot-repairers do lose customers occasionally I am sure it is through means beyond their control, but even then I hope they will make sure that such a disaster (which is not too strong a word) cannot be overtaken in time.

Just as an outside adviser, and in no sense as a technical expert in boot-repairing, may I make one further suggestion? Durability of boot repairs is no doubt a very great matter, but almost equally as great in the opinion of most of us is that a repaired boot or shoe should show as little signs of the "doctor's" hand as is anyhow possible. I do not want to suggest that the waxing-iron and polisher is more important than good leather, but an extra five minutes spent on finish is well spent, particularly in the cultivation of a good-class trade.

Wireless for the Blind

We regret that owing to extreme pressure on the time this month of both Capt. Fraser and Mr. Carpenter, they have not been able to prepare the next instalment of the above series of articles. We shall, however, publish the next contribution in the April issue of the Review.

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NEWS FROM THE WORKSHOPS AND STORES

BOOT REPAIRING.

As indicated last month, a number of new men commenced learning this trade this year, and they are promising very well. W. A. Bowering is trying very hard, and can have the satisfaction of knowing that he is progressing. H. Jones is tackling the difficulty of rivet-driving rather better than at first. The ordinary difficulties of a beginner trouble J. Donnelly somewhat, but he is steadily overcoming them. The keen interest taken by J. Aitken is resulting in a useful advance, and J. Percival has made good progress for the time he has been at the work. The advance made by W. E. Brookes since the holidays has been good; he is quick, and his work is of a more uniform standard. W. J. H. Clamp gets through a good variety of work, and he is most painstaking. H. Finkle tackles any job that is put before him, and has a sound idea of the principles of repairing. We anticipate that he will do quite well. The clean shave which M. Mulvaney has gone in for has not affected his work at all; he seems, indeed, to be more persevering and persistent than ever, and thoroughly deserves the greater command he is now obtaining over all his jobs. F. J. Shepherd is another man who is very careful, and keeps going steadily, with the result that his standard of work is always uniform, and all his jobs bear close examination.

MAT-MAKING.

R. J. Williams is getting near the end of the Mat Course, which has included some designs, insertion borders, and lettered mats, in which the placing of the coloured fibre was well judged. Congratulations are also due to W. Shakspeare on the design mats which he has made during February. V. P. Mordue has made a satisfactory start.

BASKET-MAKING.

G. C. Peach has already had experience with some Barrels and Waste Papers, and

a first attempt at Square-work was really good for a start. At the Centre Cane table E. V. Dawes has, since our last report, made a number of Barrels, Waste Papers, Work-Baskets and Baby Baskets with continued success. He does his best, even when ill health makes working rather difficult, and we can congratulate him on the increase of self-confidence which he is attaining. A return to better health has also helped J. H. Mason, and the fresh interest which he so intelligently applies has been very evident in the work he has done this year. G. Fallowfield has also been broadening his experience, and undertaking fresh varieties of baskets. He is much keener than mustard, and will not be satisfied unless he understands the very last thing about the particular piece of work he is doing. J. R. Harkness has also been steadily extending his knowledge of work on Hampers, Centre Cane and Buff Barrels, Teapot Stands and Soiled Linens. We have hardly made sufficient reference to the work of F. J. Milligan; he evidently likes the work, and has made excellent use of the time he has spent in the shops, making an advance which is rather above the average. We consider that there is every prospect that he will prove to be an excellent basket-maker.

CHRISTMAS CALENDARS.

Preliminary Notice.

We have already received inquiries from several men as to whether the offer of Christmas Calendars to St. Dunstaners will be repeated next year. We should like all men to note that it is our intention to make a further issue next Christmas. The design used will be the same, so that photographic blocks already prepared can be again made use of. It has been very pleasing to hear from many quarters that these Calendars were so much appreciated and aroused a good deal of interest, so that we confidently expect that St. Dunstan's men will be able to

get in touch with an even larger range of customers by means of our next issue. Order forms and full particulars will be given later in the year.

STOCKTAKING.

This will be taking place as usual at the end of March, and we shall be glad if all men reading this notice will at once despatch any orders for raw material they are in need of so that they may be cleared up before the end of the month. Stocktaking will be done on Tuesday, the 31st March, and Wednesday, the 1st April, so that we cannot promise to despatch raw material on either of those days, or to make payments for finished goods. If, however, it is found possible to deal with any business on the Wednesday it will, of course, be got through.

BOOT SUNDRIES PRICE LIST.

A new issue of this list has just been prepared, and has been despatched to all boot repairers. We shall be glad if any man who has not received a copy will notify us. We may also mention, for the information of any shopkeepers who are selling boot polishes, laces, and rubber soles and heels, that they can obtain their supplies from these stores. These sundries bring in a considerable profit, and it is well worth while developing a trade in them.

W. H. O.

We cull the following, without comment, from the columns of a daily paper, merely asking, "What is the sound characteristic of a No. 2 'bus?"

"Here are two wagers recently won by St. Dunstan's men. One ex-corporal bet he would walk from Regent's Park to Smithfield without once asking the way. Down to Oxford Street was familiar ground, and then he knew he had simply to take a left turn and walk straight on until his stick showed that he came to steps—the steps from Holborn Viaduct to Farringdon Street and the Market. The other ex-service man undertook to go alone to Catford. "Walked to Baker Street," he explained, "and waited till a No. 2 'bus came along. Ask for it?—No. I can recognise No. 2's by the sound of their engines."

The Tottenham Garage Sports Club

Among the enjoyable events of the month was a dance given by the members of the Tottenham Garage Sports Club, to which a number of St. Dunstaners were invited. Among those able to accept the invitation were:—

J. Boyce, C. Knight, H. Finkle, E. Fairfield, G. A. Gaffney, C. Peach, W. Shakespeare, W. Stuart, J. H. Mason, J. L. Eason, J. R. Harkness, F. J. Shepherd, F. Milligan, J. Shepherd, and H. Jones.

The evening was a most splendid success in every way, and never a man lacked a partner.

A Clinic at Redhill

Those who knew W. Collins when he was in training will be interested to hear that he is well settled into his house at Redhill, and his clinic is particularly nicely fitted up. He has high hopes of success, for there seem good prospects for him, and everyone he has met in Redhill seems friendly.

To Would-be Tandem Riders

W. Daintier, of 3/123 Angelina Street, Birmingham, has decided to sell his tandem since he finds that riding it makes his head bad. He says it is in good repair, is fitted with lamps, and has never had a puncture. He asks £12 for it.

An After Care Loss

It is with much regret that we have to announce the resignation of Miss Roffe from the "After Care" staff at the end of this month for reasons of health. Miss Roffe came to St. Dunstan's in the very early days and was one of the first Social Visitors. She will be greatly missed by all the men in her area, who have so greatly appreciated the splendid work which she has done on their behalf, and will have the good wishes of all her friends and the hope that a less strenuous life will quickly restore her to health again.

After-Care Meetings

LEEDS

AT long last we have been able to hold After-Care reunions in Yorkshire again. In Leeds, on 5th February, at the Hotel Metropole, we had a very jolly gathering. Over 80 sat down to tea, and afterwards there was the usual speech making. After Mr. Swain had read a message of welcome from Captain Fraser, Mr. T. Cairns proposed a vote of thanks, which was promptly seconded by Mr. T. E. Skelly. We are grateful to Mr. Skelly, by the way, for his loyal interest in anything concerning St. Dunstan's.

To a greater extent than usual, perhaps, the humorous entertainment helped towards the success of the meeting. This was provided by Messrs. Cleary and Dumont. Mr. A. Turrell's songs, which included "The Trumpeter" and "Mate o' Mine," were greatly appreciated by all. Since the meeting a whisper has been heard to the effect that Mr. G. Webster was quite capable of contributing to the afternoon's entertainment—in fact one of his own pals gave him away. Of course, he was shy, but we hope he will overcome his shyness before the Leeds reunion next year.

In the competition a cake was won by Mrs. Hey, of Keighley, and Mr. H. Ferrand returned to Bradford in the company of "Norma," a very charming doll. E. E. R.

HULL

A happy reunion took place at Field's Octagon Café, Hull, on Thursday, 26th February. Mr. W. J. Parker came from Sheffield to entertain us, and Mr. P. Sparkes' recitations "The Colonel and the Orange Peel," "The Student," and "11.69 Express" were enthusiastically received. Elocutionists are now *always* entertaining, and consequently when a good one does come along the audience, like Oliver Twist, ask for more, so that we look forward to seeing Mr. Sparkes at the next Hull meeting.

Captain Fraser sent a message of cheer, and in reply to this and to Mr. Swain's short speech a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. P. Sparkes and seconded by Mr. W. Chamberlain, of Keelby. Members of the Café Orchestra very kindly played selections later in the afternoon, and arrived at a most opportune moment—the electricity supply in the city gave out, and consequently we listened to the music in the gathering gloom. I am sure everyone must have appreciated the gallant efforts of these gentlemen under such difficulties.

We were delighted to welcome Mrs. Evers of Cottingham, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Worthington, of York. Three very good friends to St. Dunstan's. The doll "Pauline" was drawn for and won by Baby Whitham. It was obvious that Pauline will have a capable and affectionate mother, and after her nerve-destroying journey to Hull she will require careful nursing for some time, as she was twice dropped by one who should have known better. Mrs. Dennison, of York, was the winner of the cake.

E. E. R.

SHEFFIELD

The last, though certainly not the least important Yorkshire reunion took place on Friday, 27th February, at the Exchange Restaurant, Sheffield. Judging by the applause, cheers, &c., everybody was in excellent form. If by chance there was an isolated case where this was not so, every credit is due to him or her for hiding their personal trouble so well and for entering into the spirit of jollity, for truly there were no dull moments.

I am sure Mr. C. Greaves would have been surprised had he heard the nice comments on his delightful little speech in reply to our chairman's message and Mr. Swain's address. One could not fail to recognise the sincerity prompting his words. Mr. W. Burgin ably seconded

this vote of thanks, and it must have been gratifying to Mr. Swain to note how clearly Mr. Burgin had grasped his remarks concerning St. Dunstan's generally. All must be indebted to this St. Dunstaner for the explicit way in which he enlarged upon Mr. Swain's remarks.

An enjoyable musical programme was provided by Mr. W. Parker (humorist), and equally enjoyable were the contributions of Messrs. C. Thomas, B. Inman, and E. Garthwaite (songs), and Mrs. Ling and Mr. H. E. Robinson (pianoforte solos).

A box of chocolates was won by Mr. T. Millward, who guessed the exact number of chocolates on the first layer, and "Jean" the doll, looking remarkably pretty in blue gown and bonnet, was won by Mrs. Oldfield. Two meat pies (kindly presented by the proprietors of the Exchange Restaurant) were given as consolation prizes to Messrs. Burgin and Lath, who guessed within two of the correct number in the chocolate box competition.

A promise is a promise, and we look forward to Yorkshire reunions "once a year" in future.

E. E. R.

St. Dunstaners will, we know, hear with regret that Miss Ayre has been ordered by her doctor a complete rest for a few weeks.

She is now in Italy and will not be returning until the first week in May.

Mr. T. E. Swain has made arrangements for special visits in all cases of emergency, so will the men in Miss Ayre's area write direct to him should they require such a visit during the next six weeks.

We all hope that Miss Ayre will return to her work thoroughly restored to health.

We regret to have to record the death of Mrs. E. A. Steel, the wife of E. Steel, a St. Dunstaner, of Budleigh Salterton, Devonshire. The funeral was attended by a large gathering of mourners, and many beautiful wreaths were received, including tributes from Mr. E. and Miss L. Steel, Captain Fraser and St. Dunstan's staff, and Miss Ayre.

Netting Notes

According to our usual custom at this time of the year, we have been advertising our nets and rugs, and have already obtained very encouraging results.

We are glad of this recurring opportunity to point out the superiority of our nets to any others on the market, because although being hand-made all our nets cost more than machine-made ones, yet in the long run they prove cheaper, because of their wonderful durability. Many of our customers have proved this for themselves, and as well as recommending our nets to their friends, write letters asking us to supply them with nets similar to those we sent many years ago. Such letters are valuable testimonials in themselves. As well as advertising, we are looking to all our netters to get active on our behalf in their own districts. Our nets can be honestly highly recommended, and as we now have very large stocks of tennis boundary netting and of fruit netting of all possible sizes, we can execute orders, however large, without delay.

The same remarks apply to the beautiful Turkey and Cable Rugs. In spite of the sharp advance in the price of wools, we have not raised our selling prices, so that these are exceedingly good value. We recommend that before buying materials themselves our rug workers should inquire as to whether we cannot perhaps supply them with made rugs from stock on more profitable terms than if they worked them themselves.

G. H. W.

Braille Room Notes

Our best congratulations to S. Dolby and T. Blackman, who have passed their Braille Reading Tests.

Telephony Notes

Our hearty congratulations to W. J. McQuirk on obtaining a post at the Labour Exchange, Fulham. He was three years in his last post, only leaving when the firm closed down.

V. S. C.

Debating at Brighton

A great feature of life at Brighton Annexe are the weekly debates, which take place on Tuesday evenings after supper.

Last week the subject, which, by the way, is chosen by the boys themselves, by means of suggestions in a box, was, "Is walking beneficial to the boys and is the Brighton walk in particular beneficial or not?"

The question was jointly debated, the opening remarks being made by myself, ably backed by A. Lenderyou and, of course, the reader will gather that we were wholly for this form of exercise. The main points that I made were that walking is the most practical sport that a blind man can undertake, particularly at Brighton, where the air is so beneficial if the full expansion of the lungs is maintained; and the necessary previous training that is undergone by a man who aspires to walk to Brighton must benefit the man, always providing that he be physically fit to undertake the strain; and, thirdly, that if a man keeps his body fit, he is surely more able to put up with his disability.

A vote being taken at the conclusion, was unanimous in support of my contention.

The debate yesterday was of a more controversial nature,

WHO IS THE GREATER ASSET TO THE STATE,
MARRIED MEN OR SINGLE?

There was a little contretemps at the start, as to who should open the debate, and it was eventually decided by the toss of a coin.

Harry Green, for the Single, having won the toss, Charlie Hudson was first put up as the advocate of the Married man; this rather took the wind out of Charlie, because he had been banking on pulling to pieces the argument of the Single men's champion, but he put up a good show and was followed by Green, who made out a good case for the Single man, his chief point being that the single man, being unencumbered with a family and its responsibilities, was more able to achieve

any ideal which he might set himself, and, secondly, that a Single man contributes more in the shape of direct taxation to the State.

A new boy contributed some very sensible remarks, Mr. Crook pointing out that a Married man received great inspiration from his wife, being happily married. I could not resist the temptation to butt in, and pointed out that the greatest ideal a man could have was the possession of a wife, and a family which should be an asset to the State, and that the man with a family had the well-being of the future generation in his hand, and, therefore, was without doubt the greatest asset of the two.

Several other boys, including old Tommy Rogers and W. H. Jones, ably expounded their views, and questions were answered.

I neatly "bought it" when Tommy Rogers asked how many men left famous sons behind; I hedged by asking how many have not, when a ready wit, quickly retorted, "well, they do not take them with them, do they?" A silent vote having been taken, the Married men had it by a sweeping majority, and, let me whisper this, a little bird told me that the Sisters were in favour of the Married.

I take it that, having come under the influence of the weaker(?) sex, the Married men are more docile and amenable than the single variety. Who knows?

W. J. LOWINGS.

A lady supporter of St. Dunstan's work, in sending her subscription to the REVIEW, says she would miss getting the REVIEW now, having taken it for so long, and she likes to read of our men's doings. Incidentally, she quotes the following amusing little story:—

The priest saw one of his parishioners going into the public house, and said to him, "Now, Luke, you are going in there and the devil is going in with you."

Luke: "It's not worth his while, Father, as I've only tuppence."

Canary Breeding

BY F. TAIT

We are glad to have induced F. Tait, of Bolton, to contribute a short series of articles on the above subject, in which he is recognised as an expert. We may mention that our contributor has had a most successful season, having secured prizes at the following amongst other shows: Bolton Open, Bradford International, and the Radcliffe Open.

In a covering letter sent with his first contribution, Tait says: "I hope my articles will be of some interest to all readers of the REVIEW, especially my old comrades. I, myself, find it a most delightful and interesting hobby, and would like to hear of some of the boys taking it up."

THE PURCHASE OF STOCK.

NOW that the tests are all over, the best advice that I can give to prospective buyers is to get in touch with some of their local breeders, who will supply them with the names of those breeders whose birds have figured consistently at the shows, and who are able to supply really good stock.

Another way is to obtain a catalogue of the various shows which contains the names and addresses of all exhibitors. The Secretary will always supply one at small cost. Having secured such addresses the selected breeders should be written to with a statement of the writer's requirements, and information obtained as to prices. These, it will be found, for birds of the best strain, are high, but I would strongly recommend the beginner to purchase the very best he can afford. I have found in the past that it does not pay to purchase mongrels, no matter in what kind of birds the fancier is interested. It must be remembered that it costs no more to keep a good bird than a bad one, whilst the owner of the former has always the satisfaction of knowing that he has something of interest and possibly of real value in the future. Pedigree will tell in the long run, and to put it bluntly the best are always cheapest.

I would like to lay some stress upon the importance of keeping to one strain. Don't buy a cock bird from one fancier and a hen from another to mate with him unless you are quite sure that both birds are of the same strain. The cocks will be purchased at face value, that is, on their show or song record. Deep songsters are the best, and you will be

able to use them as tutors or "school-masters" later on.

The hens should be unflighted birds, which means that they must bear the current year's closed ring, namely, N.4 or V.4. In the Roller Canary "Fancy" it is always said that the hens "carry the tours," and this being so they must be as carefully selected as the cocks. I have proved from personal experience that good hens paired with medium cocks produce better results than good cocks paired with medium hens. If you can possibly do so, endeavour to get young hens that have come from good feeding, and see that the call notes of the hens are deep and mellow, and not sharp and piercing.

Definite signs of health or disease can easily be detected. The breast of a bird should be fairly fleshy and plump. Dark coloured spots or patches on the abdomen are indicative of liver disease. Hens which have a broad and long abdomen are generally considered to be the most fruitful. Finally, see that the excreta should be firm and natural in colour, this being a certain indication of good health.

As the stock purchased now will be moulted, it is essential that the birds should be kept in proper condition until breeding time in April. The cocks should be kept separate and out of hearing of the hens. Their food should consist of rape, as a staple, half a tea-spoonful of canary seed two or three times a week, a small quantity of egg food twice a week, with green food (preferably sweet apple) once a week.

The hens must be kept in a flight cage in an out-building free from damp and

draught. The flight cage should be long and roomy, and fitted with only as many perches as will meet the requirements of the birds, the object of this being to provide the hens with as much space for exercise as possible. A room with a south aspect is preferable, so that the birds can get the benefit of as much sunlight as possible. An inch covering of rough cut pine sawdust on the flight cage floor should be laid, and this will require renewing twice a month or so. Grit ground, dried egg shells, and cuttle fish bone must be applied, and a bath given whenever the weather is suitable.

The hens should be fed liberally. I have previously given some details of this but may add that, in addition to the seed, soft food such as egg food or cod liver oil food may be given occasionally. A little bread and milk lightly sprinkled with "Maa See" is valuable and should be supplied to all stock now and again as a substitute for the egg food.

The temperature of the room in which the hens are housed should be kept, if possible, between 50° and 60° Fahrenheit. Draughts and dampness must be avoided at all costs. The provision of ample room for exercise and the supply of the food mentioned above should be all that is necessary for the health and well-being of the hens, and when kept under these conditions there will be no necessity for any extra feeding in order to bring them into breeding condition later on.

The beginner must not make the mistake of buying an equal number of both sexes. I would advise one cock with three hens, but always allowing for one in every three hens failing either by being infertile, sweeting, or bad feeders, I should advise the purchase of four hens to every cock. To beginners I recommend single breeding cages. I find an 18in. by 16in. by 9in. cage quite suitable. These may be either painted or distempered inside according to individual taste.

As in the Roller Fancy the earlier the birds are bred the sooner they become proficient in their song and consequently the better their chance of success at earlier contests; there is always a great

temptation to commence breeding operations as early as possible. This, however, is often a case of "more haste, less speed," for the earlier clutches of eggs are frequently found to be infertile. Thus the energy of the hen is wasted to no purpose. Therefore my final advice to all beginners is to postpone pairing up their birds until the next issue of the REVIEW is in their possession, when I will have more to say on this matter.

St. Dunstan's Singers

A party of St. Dunstaners singers, taken over to the High Road (Ilford) Baptist Football Club's annual supper and concert recently by Miss McCall and Miss Munro, scored a triumphant success. We cull the following from the *Ilford Record* of 6th March:—

"Supper over, the company adjourned to the concert hall upstairs, and here a further company had assembled to listen to and enjoy a capital concert, the club having been fortunate in securing the services of the St. Dunstan's singers.

"The programme opened with a concerted item entitled 'The Admiral's Broom' ably rendered by the St. Dunstan's singers. Other concerted items by them included 'Four Sea Chanties,' 'The Little Admiral,' and 'Jerusalem.'

"Miss Eva McCall, the leader of the singers, pleased her audience with 'For we'll go no more a-roving,' 'The Song of the Blackbird,' and 'She is far from the Land.' She also gave, in company with Mr. Archie Brown, two items, viz.: 'Two cautionary tales—and a moral,' entitled 'Rebecca' and 'Matilda.' Mr. Michael Doyle was heard to advantage in his rendering of 'The Vagabond' and other selections.

"At the conclusion of the concert, the Chairman said he wished to thank, on behalf of the club, Miss Eva McCall, who had not only given her services free but had made herself responsible for bringing the 'boys' from London.

"The rousing applause and the enthusiastic send-off that was given to the St. Dunstan's singers was an eloquent tribute to appreciation of their efforts on the part of the audience."

The Marsajer

The following amusing skit from our old St. Dunstaner contributor, "Third Reserve," will be of interest to our masseurs and to other St. Dunstaners who have escaped (this time) the quips of our author.

WHEN the missus 'ad finished what that marsajer 'ad written I says, "Wot does 'e know about Marsaj? Me an' Weezer were 'aving marsaj afore ever 'e 'ad started 'is trade." She says, "Tell 'em about it."

Me an' Weezer we come to St. Dunstan's the same morning. 'E 'adn't been baptized as Weezer then. 'Is name were 'Orace. They puts us in the quiet lounge afore the fire in a easy chair each. That were afore they built the stage over the fireplace. Arter that we 'ad to sit at a rage 'ater. Well! 'Orace fell asleep an' I was dreamin' about the grapes an' the oranges an' the peaches what a feller in 'orspital said growed in Regent's Park. 'E were a liar, I reckon, lestaways about the oranges an' the grapes. There was peaches, for President Wilson what 'ad some sight said so. 'E were a good feller, the President, an' 'e made as many notes as 'is American namesake only they was more useful. 'E always made a note of the looks of the new sisters an' 'e always passed 'is notes on to us what couldn't make any for ourselves. 'E always said the same thing to finish up except once. This is what 'e said: "She's a peach an' no mistake," an' then 'e would pause an' then add, "An' 'er bloom is natural." The time 'e didn't say that 'e says "Boys, I seen the new sister. She's a Canagin, Boys, I can't call 'er a peach (groans). Boys, there ain't no fruit on earth, no, nor the golden apples what grows in 'Eaven what I can compare 'er to. She's too beautiful an' my 'eart 'as been goin' pit-a-pat like a dead lamb's tail ever since I 'ad a look at 'er." Well, we was there when Auntie, what run the dispensary an' give you the physic an' the acid drops arter, comes along. I often 'ad a aspirin for my 'eadache 'cause I were fond of acid drops. Auntie, she says,

"This 'ere's the marsajer, 'e'll take you boys upstairs an' give you marsaj."

'E takes us up some steps an' says, "This 'ere's the sick room." There were a feller whistlin'. I says, "'E don't seem very sick." "'E ain't sick," says the marsajer, "'e's Bertie, the feller what 'as the fringes on 'is trousers." "Can't 'e 'ave them cut off," I asks, and then the two of them laughs an' Bertie says, "'E 'asn't 'eard that song yet." Bertie 'e goes out an' the marsajer starts business. "Let's 'ave a look at your 'ands," says 'e. 'E looks at 'Orace first an' says, "You're a 'ard case." Then 'e looks at me and 'e says, "You're two 'ard cases." "Look 'ere," I says, "My character's as good as 'is." "Oh," 'e says, "It were your 'ands I were referrin' to." I 'ad to polergize. 'E got 'ot water an' we soaked our 'ands. Then 'e says, "I'll do one o' yourn an' give you a breather while 'Orace 'as 'is little lot."

I stood it a while an' then it got too 'ot an' I let out a little one. 'E says "Naughty, naughty!" Then 'e 'urt some more an' I done better this time. 'E says "Can you keep that up." "Yes," I says, "If you do." "Good" says 'e, "we won't need no fire to 'eat the water arter this, your language ought to do the trick." Then 'e done 'Orace and when 'e 'urt 'im 'Orace says, "O-O-Oof-ter-weezer."

That marsajer nearly 'ad a fit. 'E says "Say that again." The next time 'e 'urt 'Orace says it again, and the marsajer 'e dips is 'and in the 'ot salt water an' 'e says, "I baptize you in the name of this marsaj room as Weezer an' from 'enceforth you shall be known as such." And it was so. Next day there were a 'Stralian sick, an' we cheered 'im up considerable. Wenever I performed 'e would sing out "Go it, old 'orse!" W'en Weezer

performed 'e nearly jumped out o' bed, but 'e soon lost interest at the same thing over again all the time an' started readin'.

I asked 'im what was the matter, an' 'e says "I lost me voice." "Get on," I says, "you found it when I was performin'." "I'll lose it again afore Auntie comes," 'e says with a laugh, an' sure enough 'e did. I've 'eard a week-old chicken what 'ad lost its mother an' eleven brothers an' sisters make a better pipe than 'e did w'en Auntie come. When Auntie 'ad went I says, "Wot are you readin'?" 'E says "St. Luke's Gospel. Mr. Tucker give it me." "An' you put it over Auntie like that," I says. 'E laughs an' says 'e'd be better for Jerry's wedding next week. They 'ad to make a proper marsaj room as we excited the sick men too much, so we got a place outside the front door. It 'ad a sink an' 'ot water to it an' I was scalded and Weezer were roasted in a sort o' oven what he called ragin' 'eat. It were a old-fashioned thing in the marsage world, for Daniel what you read about in the Bible 'ad treatment in one only they called it a burnin' firey furnace. Daniel's were a better machine than ours, cause one treatment made 'im all right, but Weezer weren't so fortunate. 'E 'ad a 'ard time, 'ad Weezer, but 'e never swore 'cept once an' that were not at the marsajer. 'E 'ad great provercation an' 'e knew that the sisters was abed. It were the night orderlies as was the trouble. Weezer slep' in five, which is next the dining-room. The orderlies was 'avin' 'igh jinks an' was playin' leap-frog over the tables. One clumsy brute 'it the table every time an' waked Weezer, so Weezer up an' arter them. 'E caught the clumsy one on the place where nature meant 'im to be 'it. It were more good luck than anything else that 'e were lying 'arf way across the table when Weezer used 'is stick. They all scaled for the braille room, an' Weezer arter them, but 'e 'adn't no luck, for 'e only 'ad one 'and what was any use. Every ten yards 'e 'ad to stop an' put 'is stick between 'is knees while 'e pulled 'is perjamers up 'cause 'e were frightened 'e would let them over 'is 'ips an' trip over 'em.

There was two blokes what 'ad their mouths shut by Fritz. They was 'ard cases. The marsajer tried to prize their mouths open with a wood lever, but 'e only loosed some teeth. Then 'e tried spinning tops. They was better. 'E got the grooves where the string goes between their teeth an' give the top a 'arf turn every two minutes. You should a 'eard them perform about the sisters what cut 'arf-inch slices of bread when they 'ad only a quarter inch 'tween their teeth. One o' them said 'e knew what bein' a mouse was 'cause 'e 'adn't done nothing but nibble since 'e was 'it. 'E said if it weren't for the milk 'e got 'e would be dead.

The other feller said 'e warn't so bad as that but it were bad enough. If this marsajer couldn't open 'is mouth wider 'e'd 'ave to bar plum jam for the rest of 'is natural. "What for," I asks. "Didn't you 'ear about it," says 'e. "No," says I. "Well, one o' them artneernoon sisters give me bread what 'ad plum jam on it last week at tea time. Its 'ard times, so I didn't object. Me bein' blind I couldn't see she 'ad left a stone in the jam. First bite I gets it 'arf way between my teeth an' I couldn't open my mouth to get it back. They sent for the marsajer an' 'is levers, but 'e 'adn't no luck an' then they sends for Doctor Bridges an' 'e 'ad to saw the stone in 'arf before 'e got it out. It were a awful sensation." We 'ad a quiet gentle feller what minded me of a old song.

"Oh, Mr. Porter, whatever shall I do, I wanted to go to Birmingham, you've taken me on to Crewe."

This feller were like that. If that marsajer tells 'im to put 'is foot down 'e ups an' lifts it up. 'E tried 'ard to do what 'e were told but it were 'ard work. Well, 'e were the only one as got 'is own back on that there marsajer. It 'appened this way. 'E 'ad 'is trousers off to give 'm a better chance to do what the marsajer wanted. The marsajer 'ad me boilin' 'in 'ot water an' Weezer in the ragin' 'eat an' them two with their tops in their mouths an' this feller were 'avin' 'is foot put down. The marsajer 'ad forced it down several times an' then 'e says,

"See if you 'ave the will power now." Then 'e yells out loud "Down," an' that poor bloke puts all 'is strength into it an' lifts 'is foot as 'igh as 'e can an' lands that marsajer on the nose with 'is big toe. The marsajer 'owled an the poor feller 'e 'owled too, 'cause 'e 'ad 'urt 'is toe. I 'owled an' Weezer 'owled 'cause we couldn't 'elp ourselves an' them poor chaps wot ad the tops made funny noises tryin' to 'owl. There were a feller what wouldn't be 'appy till 'e could wink with 'is glars eye. That marsajer 'e plays tiddlewinky with 'is eyelids for a long time till one day the feller come an' says 'e was cured. "Are you sure?" asks the marsajer. "Yes," says 'is nibs." I asked the barmaid for sars'prilla last night an' winked, an' she gave me beer. "You're cured, right enough," says the marsajer. The 'ardest case were a feller what were two 'ard cases as 'e were 'it in the same place in both shoulders. 'E were so modest, too; all 'e wanted were to put 'is collar on the button at the back o' 'is shirt neck. 'E couldn't lift 'is 'ands 'igh, an' 'ad to sit in a 'igh chair wot kiddies sits at table in. They got 'is chair cheap second-'and. It 'ad been built for twins but the little beggars 'ad 'it each other so savage with their spoons that they 'ad to be separated. 'E 'ad to bend 'is 'ead over 'is plate to feed 'imself. 'E were very proud that 'e could brush 'is front 'air 'isself if 'e bent as far forrard as 'e could. 'E were nearly the innercent cause of a riot in the braille room. 'Is typewriting teacher were a thoughtful girl, an' as there were no 'igh chair in the typing room she pinched two copies—six volumes—of the "Scarlet Pimpernel," which were the lesson book then, for 'im to sit on. If she 'ad pinched the same two copies every day it wouldn't 'ave been so bad, but she took the 'andiest every day. I couldn't feel the dots one day, but my teacher thought that my 'ands 'ad gone off again. The teachers knew it by 'eart so they didn't read it. It weren't till a good reader what 'ad nothing wrong with 'is 'ands failed that the teachers took notice. 'E told my teacher that she couldn't read it blindfolded, an' she put 'er 'andkerchief over 'er eyes an' what does 'e do but

turns over the pages an' she couldn't read it. Poor feller, 'e 'ad flattened the dots something awful. That girl 'ad a painful time when Miss Pain went on the war-path. A lady what 'eard the row got some carpet an' made one o' them foot-stools what they stuff with shavings for 'im. The trouble weren't over then, for the old chap what lit the fires for the poultry lectures 'ad used all the shavings. Mr. Playfoot what ran the poultry said 'e would stuff it with bran an' if it were missed 'e could say as the squirrels from the Zoo 'ad eat it. The poor chap wouldn't 'ave it, an' stood for a week while the shavings was bein' made. 'E might 'ave 'ad to stand longer if the joiners 'adn't been so sorry for 'im that they all joined the Boy Scouts and worked overtime till this their first good turn was finished.

The teacher stood all the time, too, an' some of us was so sorry for 'er that we offered to teach 'er braille, but she said she 'ad 'ad one lesson in braille and 'er brain couldn't stand no more. Marsaj! If I didn't know more about marsaj than that feller I should smile.

THIRD RESERVE.

A Useful Hint

We are always very glad indeed to receive practical hints culled from St. Dunstaners' own experience in any activity whether work, hobbies or play. Mr. A. H. Tuppen, of Portsmouth, sends to the Joinery Department, in the course of a recent letter, quite a useful suggestion which we print below:—

"I read an article in last month's REVIEW, referring to one of the men making a mat larger than the measurements given him. I am continually having the same sort of trouble with glass which I cut for windows. The cause of this trouble, I find, is that the measurements have been taken by a tape measure, which has a tendency to shrink, and therefore register more than the correct measurement, this might probably account for some mats being made larger than ordered. I do not think this is universally known and should, I think, be inserted in the REVIEW to prevent mistakes of this kind occurring."

Printed by
Gee & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.,
6, Kirby Street, London, E.C. 1.