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FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR





*Top.*—After-Care Meeting at Belfast.



*Bottom Left.*—After-Care Meeting at Bourne-mouth, under treatment by a St. Dunstan masseur.



*Bottom Right.*—Jack Hobbs, the famous batsman, with the famous batsman, under treatment by a St. Dunstan masseur.

PICTURES OF THE MONTH

# St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 98.—VOLUME IX.

MAY 1925.

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

## EDITORIAL NOTES

UNDER the presidency of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught a distinguished and representative company will attend on 18th May next a dinner at the Connaught Rooms, to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of the founding of St. Dunstan's. It must be an inspiring thought for every St. Dunstaner to know that the way in which they have won victory over their great handicap, and the manly and splendid way in which, in every part of the Empire, they are setting a new standard of achievement for those without sight, is to have tribute paid it by many great leaders in every phase of our national life. It is particularly gratifying also that this important gathering will be presided over by a member of the Royal Family who, a great soldier himself, has ever taken a deep interest in St. Dunstan's work. It is improbable that our date of going to press will permit of a detailed report of the dinner appearing before our next issue, but we are sure every St. Dunstaner will look with the greatest interest for the following morning's reports in the press of this notable event in our history and will listen-in, as suggested on page 3.

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In the issue of ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW immediately following the holding of our last London to Brighton walk, it was suggested in these notes that the time had come for very careful consideration as to the desirability of making this event of a character more in consonance with the athletic abilities of more St. Dunstaners than its present nature permits. While there can be nothing but admiration for the magnificent achievements of all who, from its inception, have competed in this walk, from winners down to those who gave of their best, whether able to finish or not, there is, we believe, a widespread feeling that it is possible to so modify the contest that it need lose nothing whatever of its sporting character or its interest to competitors, all St. Dunstaners, and the public alike, but will gain as a competitive event, and induce, as we have previously stated, a considerably increased number of St. Dunstaner walkers to enter. Speaking quite plainly, this walk has of late resolved itself into more of a procession than a race in the real sense of the term, so robbing it of much of its interest.

The suggestion has been made from many quarters that the length should be very drastically shortened, the starting point being from, say, Redhill or Reigate, and the finishing point, as before, at Brighton Aquarium. Quite apart from the considerations we have mentioned above, there are other practical factors strongly in favour of this course being taken, not the least of these being the simplification of the organising arrangements. It would be possible to make the time of starting much later in the morning and to finish earlier, while competitors would have the advantage of a good previous night's rest, and a return to their homes at a more reasonable time after so strenuous a day. We have reason to know that the police and traffic authorities, who are always so willingly helpful in this matter, would be greatly in favour of these modifications of the race.



We want it to be clearly understood, however, that Captain Fraser and all who are connected with the arrangements for this annual event are concerned only to make it of the greatest interest to St. Dunstaners themselves. They do not wish to dictate on the matter in any way whatever, and the especial object of these notes is to obtain from our readers everywhere personal views on the suggestion outlined. We ask our readers, therefore, to prove their interest in this important annual athletic event by making a special point of writing to the Editor and expressing an opinion for or against the proposed shortening of the course.

There is one more fact we would mention, which is that it has been decided that this contest should be definitely limited to totally blinded men only, which, we think it will be agreed, is the only possible and fair arrangement.



**The Gentle Art of Being  
Blind**

It must be the proverbial modesty of St. Dunstaners that prevents them from appearing in the pages of the REVIEW more frequently. I am not thinking of the Births and Marriages columns, but of articles on general topics. Certainly, such efforts seem to have been few and far between of late, and while we may all be painfully conscious of our literary shortcomings, many of us must have views on some subject or other that might be of interest which we could trust the editor to lick into printable shape. It is said that a certain class of individual rushes in where angels fear to tread, which must be the only excuse for these inconsequent notes.

With the tenth anniversary of St. Dunstan's in mind, I suppose we are all conscious of a feeling of pride in our humble association with such a splendid piece of work.

This is surely a very healthy and natural state of mind, but one wonders whether it is quite so good for us to be told so frequently what extraordinary fellows we are. It reminds one of that old gag of Carlton, the card manipulator, "Isn't he wonderful!" When some well-meaning person says to me: "I think you are wonderful," I do not feel particularly flattered, because I know I am not, and, what is more, I don't want to be. I would much prefer to be regarded as nothing more and nothing less than a normal individual. In the circumstances, that is compliment enough.

This is how I look at it. Most sighted people have certain disabilities whether they know it or not. Take sight, for instance; how many people who have eyes know how to use them? Some are colour-blind, many can only see at short distances, thousands cannot appreciate good pictures, have no taste for reading, see no beauty in the landscape or the glories of the sunset, and so on *ad lib.* If such people have good sense they do not go about moping over what they have not, but make the best of what they have, and so do we. If you say that they are unconscious of their disability and do not feel it, I reply that to a large extent the same is true of us. We certainly do not go about perpetually conscious of blindness; we have something better to think of, and the imagination becomes so vivid that the impression of seeing things is very real. And so, when the dear old ladies of either sex remark, "You are so wonderfully cheerful," I hope I make a suitable acknowledgment; but, privately, my comment is, "And why not?"

The other side of the medal was put to me a few days ago by a gentleman who had been listening to a representative from some blind institution or other, who had apparently painted the state of blindness in such glowing colours as to leave the impression that the only way to be really happy in life is to be without physical sight. That is going to the other extreme with a vengeance. Nobody wants to pretend that the gentle art of being blind gracefully is a constant picnic—the boot is bound to pinch in places—but that is surely true of life in general. Please do not write that down as pessimism; I simply mean that a St. Dunstaner has

as good chances of being happy and successful as the rest of humanity if his only handicap is blindness. The ideal that Sir Arthur used to set before us in the old days was normality, and, as usual, he was splendidly right.

Whenever I hear that oft-repeated phrase, beloved of the preacher and orator who wishes to suggest the most miserable and wretched of mankind, "the maimed, the halt and the blind," I hardly know whether to be annoyed or amused. It only needs the addition of the words "the daft" to complete the doleful picture that many people seem to carry in their minds. At all events, I do not care to be placed in such company, and pity, whether by word, tone, or gesture, is the very last thing that any of us want.

Of course, the useful phrase I have quoted was invented by somebody who had not the advantage of knowing a St. Dunstaner. The general public still have queer ideas about our capabilities, and it is a slow process educating them to appreciate what we can do. I have mentioned in these pages before the case of the gentleman who asked, in tones of incredulity, whether I could lace up my own boots. I also heard it said a few days ago, in connection with Broadcast plays, that listening to them was like being a blind man at a theatre. If that meant

anything it was intended to suggest that it was absurd for him to be found in such a place. Many of us can testify to the enjoyment and instruction we have received from the theatre, and it is my experience that we often catch many points that are entirely missed by the ordinary listener. All of which shows that in spite of the humble frame of mind in which I commenced these observations, we have not such a bad opinion of ourselves, after all.

S. A. C.

### "A Knight of Merit"

We are interested to note that J. Davis, of Willesden, who belongs to the Sir Harry Ebbut Lodge, is to be raised to the 3rd degree, which is known in the Order as a "Knight of Merit." The ceremony will probably have taken place before these lines appear.

### Another Accident Victim

Friends of J. E. Brown, of Sudbury, will be sorry to hear that his little girl was knocked down by a motor-car, and rather badly injured in March last. She went to the local hospital, and we are glad to be able to report that she is making excellent progress—no bones broken or fractured, merely badly shaken and suffering from shock. She is at home again.

## ATTENTION!

Be sure to listen in on the wireless from 8.55 to 9.30 on the evening of Monday, 18th May. You will hear speeches broadcast from a dinner which is being attended by subscribers to and influential supporters of St. Dunstan's to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of our foundation. The object of the dinner is to secure publicity for St. Dunstan's needs, and this is why the speeches are broadcast and representatives of the newspapers are being invited. Be sure to listen in on your own set, or if you have not got one, ask a neighbour to let you come in for the evening. The following are the speeches you will hear:—

- 8.55. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, proposing the toast of "St. Dunstan's."
- 9. 9. Reply by Captain Ian Fraser.
- 9.16. Lord Desborough, proposing the toast of "The Founder." This toast will be drunk in silence, and there will be no reply.
- 9.24. Admiral Lord Jellicoe, proposing the toast of "St. Dunstan's throughout the Empire."



## A Sketch of my Journey up the Mighty Amazon River

By LADY (ARTHUR) PEARSON

*We are very glad to be able to publish the following extremely interesting article. Our President writes with graphic pen of a travel tour which must, indeed, have been a most delightful experience.*

I HAVE always been curiously attracted by what I have heard and read about the great Rio Amazonas, and the vast area of unexplored swamps and virgin forests through which the mighty waters of this river and its many tributaries flow, so that when I embarked last year on R.M.S. "Hildebrand" (the Booth Line 7,000 ton liner) and set out on my journey from Liverpool to Manaus, the little Brazilian township which lies one thousand miles up the Amazon, you may imagine how eagerly I looked forward to my adventures.

I must say at once that in beauty and interest my voyage of exploration far surpassed my wildest dreams. It is possible to read about an unknown land and, if the author has power over words, to get a very clear mental picture of something which may be quite outside personal experience, but if ever there is an opportunity of seeing this unknown land, how weak and ineffectual that mental picture seems.

Para was the first South American port we touched, and after the fogs and smokiness of Liverpool it was like a new world. It is a city of wide clean streets, some flanked by palm trees over sixty feet high, others overshadowed by giant mangoes which interlace their branches overhead and form an arch of greenery. These avenidas are most beautiful, and the shade they afford is very welcome, for in Brazil the sun is a force and not, as with us, a mere lighting effect. The climate, however, is never really oppressive, the temperature in the shade varies between 75 degrees and 80 degrees Fahrenheit, which is very moderate for a tropical region. The Amazon lies only about 85 miles south of the equator, and is often called by travellers the "visible equator."

I was sorry to leave Para, but when our boat entered "the Narrows" I forgot my regrets in the wonder of tropical scenery which revealed itself on either bank of these channels. In the delta of the Amazon there are countless islands which are separated from each other by narrow channels. As the "Hildebrand" threaded its way along these tortuous streams the forest seemed to close down upon us, and sometimes the palms, like giant ferns, threw their beautiful fronds across the deck. I leant over the rail and saw through dense masses of undergrowth into the forest itself. This was my first introduction to the Amazonian "matto," and the grandeur of the scene was almost overpowering.

Perhaps some of you will visualise a brilliance of varied colours under the refracted rays of sunlight; giant orchids spotted with purple and flame, and to the unaccustomed eye almost savage in their loveliness, drooping from the trees in the glorious sunlight; majestic arum lilies standing sentinel over bushes of brilliantly coloured caladieums; flowers, unknown and superb, rioting in the dark undergrowth. I looked for some such picture, and though, here and there, where the sunlight could penetrate, I was not disappointed, I found that for the most part the Amazonian forest is sombre and terrible. The trees thrust up bleached stems towards the light, and round their trunks cling enormous parasites, at death grips with the tree in the frightful struggle for existence which is the tragedy of all tropical life. Nature here is a spendthrift with her own children, and death and decay are the fate of all but the strongest.

None who has not actually experienced it can imagine the overpowering effect which a tropical forest has on the senses.

Everything is so still, and this stillness is so pregnant with all that is terrifying and unknown. Here man is of little account and is less fitted for survival than the smallest ant or the most fragile butterfly. In the forest there is always that ominous lull which seems to presage some vast convulsion of nature, and in these dark caverns of foliage the spirit of the explorer is almost annihilated by the consciousness that here, close at hand and all round, are forces at work of which he can know nothing. Tennyson might well have stood in some forest of the Amazon when he said: "I see nature red in tooth and claw." There is blood and calamity and horror and unspeakable beauty in these 'green mansions,' and a silence that is made more intense by the occasional scream of a parakeet or the jabber-jabber of a monkey.

The people of the forest are the most charming grown-up children, and though at first I think they were a little frightened of me, we were soon on the best of terms. The Indians live a very healthy, simple, out-of-door life. They are extremely courteous and hospitable—"nature's gentlemen" in the true sense of that often abused term. They are not particularly energetic, and, indeed, I think they would be rather foolish if they were, for nature is so lavish with her gifts that here Adam's curse can hardly be said to operate.

The Indians for the most part have not come into contact with Christian missionaries and follow their ancient religious customs, but the half-breeds, of Mexican, West African and Brazilian stock, are nearly all good Catholics, and even the most humble of them will have a shrine to the Blessed Virgin. At Para a great festa is held every autumn, and thousands of natives of every description flock into the city and walk barefoot through the paved streets. Many of them carry wax models of different parts of the human body which may have been attacked by disease. These effigies are deposited in the church of Our Lady of Nazareth, and later the models are melted down, and the wax used for votive candles in the service of the Basilica. The festa lasts for about a fortnight, and the temporal

power offers a counter attraction in the form of booths and cinemas.

Before we left the Narrows behind us and steamed into the clearer reaches of the Amazon, I deserted the "Hildebrand" for a few hours and set out in a dug-out with an Indian family party—father, mother and baby. I was rather anxious about the baby. Nobody seemed to take much notice of him, and I was afraid that before very long he would be "man overboard" and food for the crocodiles. As a matter of fact, fathers and mothers in Amazonia do not worry very much about their offspring, and in spite of crocodiles and alligators from the very first, the children are water babies as much as land babies, and frequently learn to swim before they can walk. Sometimes when the river rises, the waves lap round the foot of the native barraccas, which are built on piles some ten feet off the ground. At such times the poor babies are in constant danger. They will play round the steps of their homes, and to a hungry crocodile they are an irresistible bait. The water covers his approach, and in a snap of cruel jaws, baby meets his death.

I must tell you about the wonderful Victoria Regia water lilies I saw on this voyage. The flowers are as big as large cauliflowers, and the petals, shading from oyster to a delicate pink, harbour innumerable insects. Like everything else in the forest, they are armed by nature against attack, and are cruel as well as beautiful. The leaves spread over the surface and are sometimes as much as six feet in diameter, but though all is fair on the surface, underneath they are armed with long sharp spikes, and if you try to pull them up you will regret it.

The flora and fauna of the forest are not so kindly-disposed as the people. Parrots sit high up in the trees, and jabber and shriek at each other, especially at day-break, and the monkeys join hands and spring from branch to branch. They reminded me of Kipling's "Bandar Log":

Here we go in a flung festoon,  
Half way up to the jealous moon;  
Don't you envy our pranceful bands,  
Don't you wish you had extra hands?



The egret, the parrot and the brilliantly hued macaws flash like streaks of light through the forest, and iridescent blue and yellow butterflies move in clouds between the columns of towering trees. Their wing span is about five inches, and, when furred, they are indistinguishable from the background.

America is one of the youngest continents, and her huge tracts of land in the tropical belt harbour none of the larger animals which haunt similar regions in Africa and Asia. You will meet no lions and tigers, rhinos and hippos here. No scientist has ever dug up the bones of a brontosaurus or a pterodactyl in the swamps of South America. Animal life is here in plenty, but in its less overpowering, though not less destructive, forms. The swarms of ants which I saw in the forest filled me with disgust and, even more than the snakes, fear; they are so prolific, so full of energy, so indomitable. I remember I once read a story of Mr. Wells in which he described the domination of America, and eventually I believe of the world, by these untiring and extraordinarily intelligent insects. This story is only a Wellsian nightmare, but in the swamps of South America it is all too credible. Fortunately, I am not alone in my enmity to these creatures. They have innumerable foes in the forest, and the most formidable of these is the ant-eater, who scoops them up on a prehensile tongue and devours them.

Though the larger mammals are not to be found in South America, snakes are there in great variety, and one species at least will attack at sight. This is the cascavalle, a very deadly reptile. It will dart at its victim, pierce through the flesh to vein or artery, and inject its poison into the blood. If the unfortunate man has no serum with him he will be dead within an hour.

I met one man who had a terrible experience with this snake. He was miles from medical assistance when he was attacked, and he was carrying no anti-toxin of any sort with him. The snake bit the calf of his leg, and the man, in a desperate

but successful effort to save his life, took out his knife and cut the flesh away to the bone.

The Amazon is a rich recruiting ground for the National Snake Farm at Sao Paulo. The snakes are packed up and sent down to the farm, where they are dealt with by the research students. Their poison is extracted and a serum prepared which is invaluable as an anti-toxin.

When the "Hildebrand" reached Manaus I had many further opportunities of exploring into the depths of the forest. The town itself owes its existence to the rubber trade, and is the collecting centre for that district. It is one thousand miles up the Amazon and right in the very heart of the continent. The quay where the rubber is loaded and unloaded has been built by expert engineers with a view to circumventing the difficult conditions which prevail on the Amazon, which, during the rainy season from December to June, rises as much as forty feet. Thus it has been necessary to build the harbour of Manaus on pontoons which, of course, rise with the water. The town itself lies back from the river on much higher ground. When the river is up thousands of miles of forest land are submerged, and I have myself been rowed out on to this waste of waters and seen trees standing some fifteen feet out of the river while below the keel of the boat, thirty feet down, I could distinguish dense masses of undergrowth.

Manaus stands at the junction of the Rio Negro and the Rio Solimoes. The waters of the former are, as its name implies, black, and those of the latter yellow. For quite a long distance from the junction each river keeps its distinctive colour, and it is very interesting to see black and yellow racing side by side but refusing to mix their deposits.

All too soon I had to say good-bye to Manaus and embark once more on the "Hildebrand" for Para and home. We steamed down the river, past Itacoatiara, at the junction of the Rio Madeira, Guropa, on the Rio Xingi, the Ilha to Mutamquara, many hamlets and settlements, and thousands of islands. As the mighty tributaries poured their waters

into the main stream, the Amazon forced its banks further and further apart, until the racing, foaming river might well have been the open sea. And so at last we came to anchor once again at Para (Belem, as the Brazilians call it). A few days to take farewell of my friends and lay in a stock of more delightful memories, and my adventure was over.

I had the happiest possible time in Brazil, and I am very grateful to her generous-hearted people for their hospitality. No people better than the Brazilians understand how to make the stranger feel at home; they are so kindly, courteous, and good humoured. After the hurry and indifference of London, their friendliness is as welcome as their wonderful sunshine. I hope that one day I shall see them and their beautiful country again.

### London to Brighton Relay Race

I expect our leading sportsmen have by now learned the result of the London-Brighton relay race which was organised by the "News of the World" and held on the 18th of April. It might be interesting to know that a very enjoyable day was spent by six—nay, seven, for Bill Tovell was with us—who followed the runners to Brighton.

From my point of view the start was not a very good one for the competitors, the roads being very slippery by the over night and early morning rain. Nevertheless, at eleven o'clock the eighteen No. 1's made a start, and Blewitt soon made the pace good and hot, whilst J. Absolom, of the Cambridge Harriers, followed him closely behind. Meanwhile, our little party stopped and gave the runners a good send-off at the different changing posts, and everything seemed all right until we had travelled about twenty-five miles, and then—Billy Birch who had made an acquaintance last October, assisted by his brother guardsman, made further acquaintances. Off we went again, however, and it was seen as we passed the runners that Cpl. Cotterell, of the Signal Corps, was heading towards the front rank men. A little further along and the car

stops again. "What's this stop for?" asked one. "Don't know," said his comrade; "petrol, I think." I am sure I could not say myself what it was, whether the engine needed oil or petrol—but it was a sure sign the riders needed a little reviving, for we soon found ourselves safely in the "George" at Crawley, and after taking our lunch we set out again towards Brighton. At the seventh changing post we met there an old pal of ours, "Joe Binks," who had a very busy day of it. Meanwhile, the Birchfield Harriers kept their lead with their runners running fairly easy; in this race also the Highgate and South London Harriers made a splendid spurt, and the outstanding feature of the whole contest was the brilliant finish of the South London Harriers, who came in second, and the terrible collapse of the Signal Corps, who had held on the second place so well up to within six miles of Brighton.

At the Pavilion high tea was served, and the medals were awarded the winning teams, with a set of medals awarded to the Signal Corps team as being the best but unplaced team.

And now we started back towards London. Darkness fell very rapidly and nothing could be heard but the striking of matches by Billy Birch, who was unsuccessfully trying to light his pipe; then suddenly the car came to a standstill. "Hello!" shouted somebody. "What's this? Lights out?" "No," answered someone, "it's liver dry," and we all walked into the "George" again. Things were very quiet at first; we were telling our experience whilst in the army, until Mr. Goodwin (Sam) got to his feet and, in breathless silence, he related a thrilling tale from "real life," with every dramatic detail—the horrors of it all! it was his great experience whilst "dodging wives." It was all told in the real dramatic manner until he came to dodging the sixteenth wife, and while dodging the sixteenth wife he collided with a glass of beer amid rousing cheers. I don't think I need say anything more than that we had a very enjoyable day, thanks to Mr. Joe Binks and "The News of the World."

G. FALLOWFIELD.





## NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

NO St. Dunstaner seems to have had much difficulty in deciding how his birthday gift was to be spent. A. J. F. Jolly, of E. Ham, was one of the many who planned to enjoy an Easter Monday excursion on it. W. C. Ward, of St. Leonards, decided that a good way of celebrating the opening of St. Dunstan's would be to plant two apple trees—we hope the fruit therefrom will be both sweet and plentiful. E. Watson, of Deal, selected as his memento a bedroom clock. "Its tick will always remind us, if we want reminding, of St. Dunstan's and the man to whom we owe so much," he writes.

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T. Till, of Lancaster, is putting his pound towards the hoard for his wireless set. A. T. Brooks, of Bournemouth, is one of several who are purchasing memorial standard rose trees "as a lasting reminder of a happy occasion." Yet another, J. W. Porter, of Peckham Rye, intends to expend his sovereign in tobacco, "so that when smoking in solitary hours I can mentally visualise Sir Arthur in the smoky wreath of it!"

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"It does not seem ten years," writes W. Lingard, of Writtle, "since I first entered St. Dunstan's, the time has passed so quickly since I took up poultry farming. Attending to my poultry passes away a good many hours daily, and the active life keeps one fit and well. What with my poultry and my garden, where I grow all my green food for my rabbits and chickens, I am never idle."

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It is good news to hear from G. B. Swanston, of Lockerbie, that he is getting along well with business and has never yet been short of work. "At present I am particularly busy," he tells us, "but must write to wish St. Dunstan's 'Many Happy Returns of the Day,' I am framing

pictures and also making trouser presses and various other articles."

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Another well occupied man is W. C. Stamp, of Keelby. "As a boot repairer and mat-maker I always have a job on hand," he tells us. "I have done quite a lot of repairs at different times and find I have used something like 35 cwts. of fibre for mats, to say nothing of sinnet and coloured fibre. At the moment I have 13 mats on the order list. String bags were once a craze here, and I think I have made and sold such a quantity of these as would run into four figures."

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From Derbyshire comes word of W. H. Wright: "You will be glad to hear that everything is going on well," he writes. "The poultry are first class, and the hatching season is doing well; we have some remarkably fine chicks."

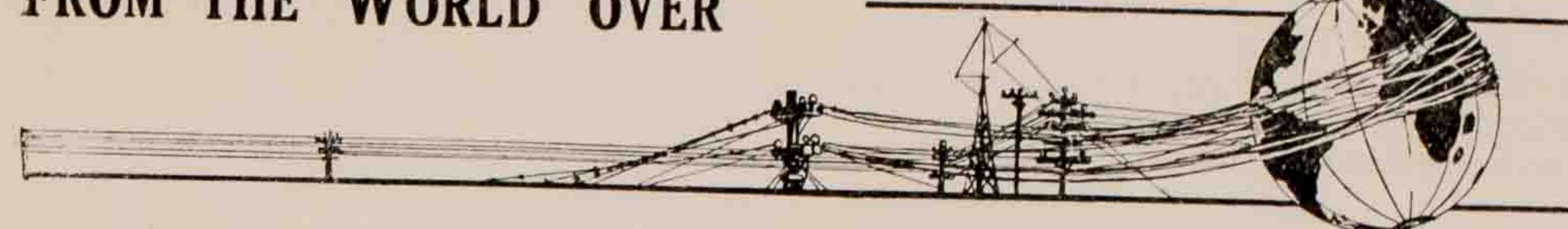
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Although H. E. Raymond has only been at St. Annes-on-Sea a year, he feels himself established and declares that he has done far better than he hoped in so short a time, "and," he adds, "my success I owe entirely to the training I received at St. Dunstan's. . . . I can only show my thanks by making a success of my business, and this I am trying hard to do." And we don't doubt that he will succeed, training counts for a good deal, we know, but grit, perseverance, and the "will to win" are every bit as essential.

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Seven months ago F. Ashworth settled down at Gorleston-on-Sea and is now getting used to the place and making friends. "We have made a much better start in business than we expected," he writes. "I have done quite a lot of basket-work, considering the district, and have also sold a number of tea trays. We are looking forward to doing really well

## FROM THE WORLD OVER



in the summer, since we are near the sea and bandstand."

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Yet another who is doing "all right" is J. Brodie, of Berwick-on-Tweed; he has been making a number of motor mats, a branch of work he finds particularly interesting.

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It is seven years since W. Read, of Framlingham, left St. Dunstan's, and yet he says, "When I look back it seems like yesterday. I often wish I could have that time over again, for although I was blind, I can truthfully say it was the happiest time I have had in all my life."

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Not quite so old a St. Dunstaner is E. Gregory, now settled near Colchester, for he reminds us that "it is five years since I left the dear old college and nearly three since I settled here. I am looking forward to a successful season with the hatching, and so far have had excellent results despite the cold wet weather, not having lost a single chick."

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In reminiscent vein, too, is W. Robinson, of Lincs, who tells us that he will always think with pride of the day when he entered St. Dunstan's, having come by 'bus from Chelsea to start a new career "which I am proud to say has been one of success."

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Both R. K. Lowrie and his wife (of Shreding Green) say they are finding plenty to do these days with their chickens. The hens are laying well, and they have a good market for the eggs, we are glad to hear, particularly as they give the credit for this to St. Dunstan's almanac! We ourselves think that while this, no doubt, helped, a goodly measure of the progress made is due to the keen and steady work of this persevering couple.

Already many messages are reaching us from St. Dunstaners who are looking forward to Wembley. They will not have long to wait now. C. F. Spiers, of Oxford, is one of the keenest. His friends will be glad to hear that his little girl is much better, by the way. Others who hope to work at St. Dunstan's kiosk are J. S. Bailey, of Ramsgate, and F. Polley, of Brixton.

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An interesting letter reaches us from H. Roberts, of Stalybridge:—

"I am progressing well on my poultry farm," he writes, "and have now been on my own for three years. I have 137 head of poultry which are doing very well. . . . I had some bad luck with my chickens this year, however, and lost about two hundred, but I think we are over the worst since the weather has improved. I have about 70 chickens now, and hope to hatch more before it is too late. Of course, this is the busiest time of the year for us poultry farmers, but plenty of work keeps one fit."

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In yet another line and country S. Holmes, of Belfast, is doing well, having sold seven trouser presses in a week. What is more important still is that his health is good.

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A novel occupation has been found for himself by W. Priest, of Kenton, Devon, and we commend it to any man with idle hours on his hands—it is knitting. Priest has already become quite an adept.

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With A. E. Coman, of Dunswell, near Hull, things are going well on his farm and among the poultry; in 24 days he had 1,200 eggs. He has hatched 200 chickens this year and expects another 150 almost at once, so, as other poultry farmers will realise, he is very busy—there are a few spare hours occasionally,



though, and these Coman fills up with mat making. He must be most successful at this kind of work, for he has had orders from as far as Bradford, where customers have proved most appreciative.

The little grocery store run by H. Edge and his wife at Burnley is holding its own gallantly, despite competition, and doing a steady trade. Edge, himself, has not been well of late, but still finds energy for mats when business is slack.

Very little information has come from S. Chambers recently, but we are looking forward to hearing good news from him as to his progress in the near future. His new house is a nice one and in an excellent position.

The lock-up shop of E. Varley, of Handsworth, Birmingham, is also in what should prove an excellent position for a boot repairer. It faces two roads and he puts bends of leather outside to catch the eyes of pedestrians—which it seems to do effectually, judging from the supply of work we hear he had on hand recently.

Not very many St. Dunstaners go in for dog-breeding, but, of the few, J. Foreman, of Beckenham, is one. He has a fine lot of puppies coming on; let those who want dogs please note.

A very cheery St. Dunstaner is J. W. Whitham, of Dunswell. He is always bright and hard at work.

The same might be said of A. Urry, of Dunswell, a most industrious basket worker with a particularly nice little home of his own, by the way.

Cold weather caused A. Sutton, of Madeley, to lose 18 of his chicks, but his remaining poultry look most flourishing. The family are very happy in their new home, we are glad to know, and the garden is already getting ship-shape. The anniversary fruit trees will be a great feature.

A very nasty accident befell J. O'Kelly on Boat Race day. Somehow, in the excitement of the moment, he became separated from his wife and brother-in-law in the crowd and stepped backwards into the river. Fortunately, the brother-in-law saw what had happened and jumped in after Kelly, but it was some time before he was rescued. He must have had a terrible shock, and a minor trouble was that his clothes were considerably torn, as rescuers used a boat hook with great energy! O'Kelly is going about his work with his usual courage and makes as light as possible of what was, after all, a very narrow escape from disaster.

The newspaper business run by C. Grattidge, in Small Heath, near Birmingham, is growing yet more flourishing, and he has added a small Ford to his "fleet," which formerly consisted of a motor cycle and side car. He is quite a family man now, as he has a brother in partnership and a brother-in-law and sister to live with him. The shop looks fine, we hear, beautifully kept and excellently arranged.

We regret to have to say that yet another St. Dunstaner has suffered at the hands of a thief. R. Newton, of Stuckton, has had 32 fine young pullets stolen.

Another name to be added to our list of pigeon-breeders is that of S. Burdis, of Burnley. He finds his birds most interesting.

A very welcome gift has just been made to W. T. Monaghan, of Birkenhead, and one which should do much to help him towards success—it is a Kiosk, and Monaghan hopes to do business there with sweets, &c. The result can hardly fail to be good for the little shop run by Monaghan and his wife always looks well with its carefully chosen stock. For relaxation the Monaghans have their tandem cycle, and they make good use of it, too, often going over to St. Helen's, where dwells a friend and fellow St. Dunstaner.

Another tandem enthusiast is A. Hinton, of Newtown, Malvern, who goes far afield with his son and enjoys it immensely. From a work point of view, Hinton is fortunate, too, for he usually has enough boot repairing on hand to keep him well occupied. He is always very keen on his garden work, too.

Brief mention must be made of J. Hollinrake, of Billingshurst, who has joined our wireless band and is enjoying the first thrills in connection with a new 4-valve set (his new baby is looking bonny, we hear); of W. Allen, of Darwen, who has found a considerable local trade for string bags this year; of J. Orrell, of Wigan, whose busy fingers have made many a mat for the Wigan Coal & Iron Co.; of F. Marsden, of Blackburn, whose birds are laying a steady 100-120 eggs a day—his tomato plants and sweet peas are doing nicely by the way; of B. Hamilton (near Brandon), who is looking well, his friends will be glad to note. His poultry are evidently workers, for Hamilton says he is now supplying a London dairy with 1,500 eggs a week. His own birds do not quite fill the bill, despite their efforts, so Hamilton collects from neighbours.

Owing to the fact that the mines in his district are idle, T. Allen, of Hetton-le-Hole, is not quite so busy as he would like to be. We hope that this means there will be a rush of work for him later on, when things improve.

In Witton-le-Wear M. W. Brown is doing quite well with his pigs.

From Padiham comes word of C. Ross, for whom a patron secured an order for twelve wool rugs. Ross has gone at the commission with energy, and the speed at which he works is really marvellous, we hear.

The news from C. E. Gill, of Teddington, is good so far as business is concerned, but he was down with that very unpleasant thing, ptomaine poisoning, a few weeks back.

T. Batt, of Bristol, is turning out work in good style. A. Tucker, of Bristol, is working up to good standard.

S. Durrant, of Pilford Bottom, Wimborne, has recently been doing quite a good trade in mat and basket sales.

F. V. Bond, of Bath, is doing excellent work in rivetting and shaping.

F. G. Braithwaite, of Guildford, was a stand holder at a trade exhibition from 23rd to 28th March. He succeeded in making a large number of sales, and anticipates some benefit for some months to come, as it was particularly successful from an advertisement point of view. Braithwaite was congratulated by the editors of two local papers on the appearance of his stand.

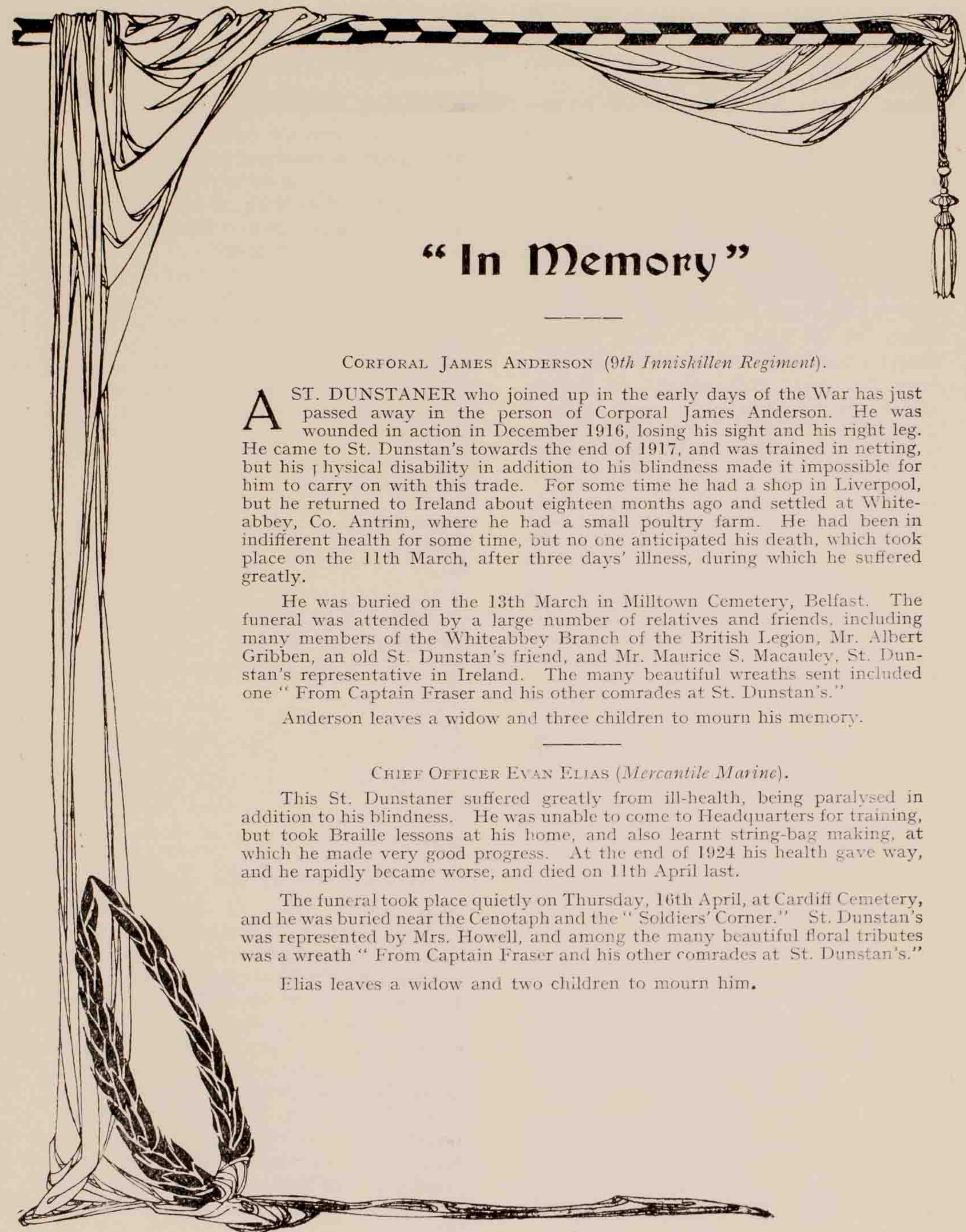
The friends of Bowles, of Liverpool, will be sorry to hear that his baby is now lying very ill—wasting after a bad attack of pneumonia. Mrs. Bowles is nursing her little one day and night. She is naturally very anxious, particularly as only a few weeks ago the daughter passed away.

Another family in sore trouble is that of G. Spires, of Malvern. Their little granddaughter died on the 15th of March, of appendicitis, after only three days' illness. The death came as a great shock.

### "A Feature of the Evening"

The North Lambeth British Legion organised a fancy-dress carnival at Prince's Hall, Kennington, a week or so back, and according to the local press "a feature of the evening" was the apparently unexpected appearance of a contingent of St. Dunstaners. They created an impression by the vim with which they danced! One of them was presented with a fine box of chocolates by the daughter of the Mayor of Lambeth, who won it as a prize, but we cannot give the name of the lucky recipient, or of the other eleven who, we feel confident, helped to make the evening a success.





## "In Memory"

CORPORAL JAMES ANDERSON (*9th Inniskillen Regiment*).

A ST. DUNSTANER who joined up in the early days of the War has just passed away in the person of Corporal James Anderson. He was wounded in action in December 1916, losing his sight and his right leg. He came to St. Dunstan's towards the end of 1917, and was trained in netting, but his physical disability in addition to his blindness made it impossible for him to carry on with this trade. For some time he had a shop in Liverpool, but he returned to Ireland about eighteen months ago and settled at Whiteabbey, Co. Antrim, where he had a small poultry farm. He had been in indifferent health for some time, but no one anticipated his death, which took place on the 11th March, after three days' illness, during which he suffered greatly.

He was buried on the 13th March in Milltown Cemetery, Belfast. The funeral was attended by a large number of relatives and friends, including many members of the Whiteabbey Branch of the British Legion, Mr. Albert Gribben, an old St. Dunstan's friend, and Mr. Maurice S. Macauley, St. Dunstan's representative in Ireland. The many beautiful wreaths sent included one "From Captain Fraser and his other comrades at St. Dunstan's."

Anderson leaves a widow and three children to mourn his memory.

CHIEF OFFICER EVAN ELIAS (*Mercantile Marine*).

This St. Dunstaner suffered greatly from ill-health, being paralysed in addition to his blindness. He was unable to come to Headquarters for training, but took Braille lessons at his home, and also learnt string-bag making, at which he made very good progress. At the end of 1924 his health gave way, and he rapidly became worse, and died on 11th April last.

The funeral took place quietly on Thursday, 16th April, at Cardiff Cemetery, and he was buried near the Cenotaph and the "Soldiers' Corner." St. Dunstan's was represented by Mrs. Howell, and among the many beautiful floral tributes was a wreath "From Captain Fraser and his other comrades at St. Dunstan's."

Elias leaves a widow and two children to mourn him.



## NEWS FROM THE WORKSHOPS AND STORES

### BOOT REPAIRING

E. Milne has had rather hard luck, as far as health is concerned, but since he came back at the end of March he has been tackling the usual beginner's difficulties, and trying very hard. H. Jones is, of course, further advanced, and has been making improvement with his marking and riveting. When this trouble is over he will be able to give himself more satisfaction with his jobs. G. Hadfield is good with his marking and riveting, and, during the last month, has made marked improvement with his finishing. M. Mulvaney is always on the spot, and, with the exception of shaping, does not have much difficulty. The very careful attention he gives makes him more confident each day, and he is working on quite the right lines. R. Archer continues to do most careful and thorough work, making the most of every opportunity he has to gain knowledge, and putting it into practice. W. E. Brooks has also been making good improvement with the trade generally; all his work is of an even standard, and he is anxious to acquire a complete knowledge. During the last month, having undertaken hand-sewing with quite satisfactory results, H. Finkle and W. J. H. Clamp have started to work half time in the mat shop, both of them having advanced so far with their boot repairing that they felt they could spare some time to tackle the other trade.

### MATS

H. Bray is doing useful work; he places his thrums well, and his cutting is good, though there is a little tendency to get the mats too thick. He has also done well with his bordering. We are pleased to note that F. Gallagher is making progress, though rather slowly, and is trying hard, and his cheerful voice keeps the other boys alive. A. Wilkes is also now getting some good results from the time he has put in, and has been tackling some 5-diamond and lettered mats. His cutting and

thrumming have been good for some time, but he must avoid a tendency to round off his mats at the corners when bordering. With attention to some details, his work could be classed as good.

### BASKETS

S. Goodwin has been having a refresher course, sticking to his work in his old steady style. He has made waste-paper baskets, barrels, and some square-arms. H. C. Bayer is still in the elementary stages, and has been on barrels. His work during April has shown a steady improvement, and if he keeps this up he should do well. A. Gaffney has also been doing barrels and waste-papers; he found a number of difficulties at first but the improvement he made during April has evidently aroused his interest. Soon after he commenced his course, W. Stuart lost considerable time through illness; he has, consequently, only got through barrels and waste-papers; his work on waste-papers during April has shown progress. C. Peach is getting much more control over his rods, and, consequently, as he feels that he is becoming a basket-maker, he is getting settled down, and there is every indication that he will do well. The standard reached by J. R. Harkness for his period of training is quite satisfactory. He has recently been doing oval boat baskets, some picnics, barrels, and square arms. During this year W. Judd has made waste-papers, cycle baskets, hampers, picnics, and square-arms, and latterly boat baskets and 3-cornered linens. This range of work is very useful, but he still finds difficulty in various points, particularly in regard to the carrying of his stakes. J. H. Mason had some good practice on oval bottoms, both in making boat-shaped arm baskets and oval clothes baskets; some square-arm baskets also came out very well, and his general improvement with the work is marked. F. J. Milligan had a good spell on



3-cornered linens, with excellent results; he has since made barrels and picnics. The work he does is right, and there is every indication that he will prove a capable man. The way in which E. V. Dawes has advanced during the last month is really remarkable, and his work on pail baskets, oval boat baskets, oval trays, has exceeded what we expected of him.

W. Murphy has completed his course, finishing up with some three-cornered soiled linens, one of which was distinctly good. He also had some useful practice with repairs. We shall miss his cheery presence in the workshops, and would like

to assure him of the good wishes of all who knew him at St. Dunstan's.

#### JOINERY

A. S. Dolby has completed a very satisfactory elementary course, and is now making his tool chest. We are pleased to welcome back R. Watt, after an absence owing to sickness. He has made a good sample of an oak tray, and is now doing a trouser press, in his usual steady, industrious style. G. Hill found more than the usual difficulties at the beginning, but has shown interest and perseverance, with the result that the last month has shown valuable improvement. We hope that he will still continue to advance with this trade. W. H. O.

### Births—Marriages—Deaths

#### Births

ALLEN.—On the 2nd of March, to the wife of W. Allen, of Darwen, a son (Thomas).

BOORMAN.—On March the 16th, to the wife of H. G. Boorman, of West Kensington, a daughter.

DAVIES.—To the wife of J. Davies, of Wrexham, twin girls (May and Doris), on the 20th of March.

GROVES.—On the 9th of March, a son (Alfred Arthur Edward), to the wife of A. F. Groves, of Sittingbourne.

HERITAGE.—On the 14th of March, a son, to the wife of W. G. Heritage, of Banbury.

HODKIN.—On the 7th of March, a daughter to the wife of J. W. Hodkin, of Shaldon.

KENNY.—To the wife of J. Kenny, of Cork, on the 22nd of March, a son (stillborn).

McMAHON.—On March the 7th, a daughter, to the wife of F. McMahon, of Salford.

MITCHELL.—To the wife of J. Mitchell, of Leith, a son, on the 6th of April. Both doing well.

NEWELL.—On the 21st of March, to the wife of C. R. Newell, of Cheltenham, a daughter.

NEWTON.—On the 2nd April, to the wife of R. A. Newton, of Fordingbridge, a son (Esdail Ian).

ROBERTS.—On March the 6th, to the wife of W. J. Roberts, of Westcliffe, a daughter.

SHEPHERD.—On the 9th April, to the wife of T. Shepherd, of Leighton Buzzard, a son.

SMITH.—On the 11th April, to the wife of S. C. Smith, of Derby, a daughter.

THORPE.—On the 13th April, to the wife of W. H. Thorpe, of West Perry, a son (Raymond Henry).

TRENDELL.—At Bury St. Edmunds, to the wife of F. G. Trendell, a son, on 1st March.

VAUGHAN RUSSELL.—On the 15th of February, to the wife of C. G. Vaughan Russell, of Chiswick, a daughter.

WHITELAM.—On March the 10th, to the wife of J. S. Whitelam, of Westcliffe-on-Sea, twin sons.

#### Marriages

KELLY—WALES.—On the 14th of February, quietly, at Stratford, Stephen Alphonso Kelly, of 602 High Road, Leytonstone, to Miss Edith Wales, of Kensal Rise.

LOVERIDGE—DREWITT.—On Thursday, the 2nd of April, a marriage took place at St. John's Church, Finsbury Park, N.4, between Arthur George Loveridge and Miss Yvonne Maude Drewitt.

#### Deaths

There is a long list of those who need our sympathy this month:

BATTEN.—S. Batten, who lives near Martock, has lost his little son.

BURNETT.—On the 14th of April, the mother of W. J. Burnett, of Exeter, passed peacefully away.

CASHMORE.—On the 2nd of April, P. Cashmore, of Birmingham, lost his father very suddenly from pleurisy and pneumonia. He was 61 years of age.

CRABTREE.—The baby of Mrs. and F. Crabtree died after barely 20 hours of life.

FITTON.—Mr. and Mrs. E. Fitton, of Ashton-under-Lyne, have just lost their baby, aged five months.

MEADER.—The little son of F. Meader, of East Barnet, died on the 15th of April, aged two years.

McNICHOLLS.—The father of J. McNicholls of Manchester, died on the 16th of April after a short and painful illness.

MOORCROFT.—On the 31st of March, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Moorcroft, of Liverpool, died after a long and trying illness of over four years. She passed away in her sleep.

MOORE.—The father of T. W. Moore, of Manchester, died after only a day's illness. It is barely eleven months since he lost his mother.

OAKES.—On the 21st of March, after a long illness, the mother of S. Oakes passed away. She was 77 years of age.

WEEKES.—On the 6th of March, Mr. and Mrs. H. Weekes, of Bristol, lost their little son, aged seven years.

#### Braille Room Notes

Our best congratulations to—

R. J. Williams,

who has passed his Braille Writing Test, and to

G. Crook,

on passing his Reading Test.

#### Typewriting Notes

We heartily congratulate—

C. Knight,

W. J. Fletcher,

W. Bowring,

J. Percival,

who have passed their Typewriting Tests.

#### Telephony Notes

Hearty congratulations to J. Edwards, who has started work at Trinity House as Telephonist; also W. Birch, who has been placed as Telephonist at C. B. Wardman & Co., Great Portland Street; J. Meighen has started at Lloyd's Registry of Shipping, Fenchurch Street, and F. Peckham, permanently started at Shell Mex.

These four men have our very best wishes.

V. S. C.

Messrs. Vick and Morgan, of Barnet, who have acted as hosts to St. Dunstaners on many previous occasions, gave another of their attractive entertainments at Finchley since we last went to press. Most of the guests merely enjoyed a capital concert and a capital tea, but the St. Dunstaners remained to a very late hour and had a most pleasurable dance. Practically every man in residence went.

St. Dunstaners who are thinking of spending their holidays on the bracing East Coast will like to know that I. Corns has taken a boarding house at 61 Regent Road, Great Yarmouth, and will give special terms to our men and their families. The house has a sea view and trams pass the door.



## After-Care Meetings

### BELFAST

*2nd April 1925*

The first Irish After-Care Re-union was held in Thompson's Restaurant, Donegall Place, Belfast, on Thursday, the 2nd April, when every St. Dunstaner in Northern Ireland was present. The number was not large, certainly, but what was wanting numerically was amply compensated for by the enthusiasm of those who attended.

Before lunch, to which 27 sat down and did full justice, a photograph was taken for the local press. Mr. T. E. Swain then read out the names of St. Dunstaners present. Many hearty greetings were exchanged and hands shot out in all directions, sometimes to the danger of Messrs. Thompson's table glasses, which fortunately however, escaped serious injury.

After lunch Mr. M. S. Macauley extended a warm welcome to Mr. Swain for venturing across to Ireland on the eve of a general election in order to preside at the re-union, and also to Miss E. E. Rush, who had come to Belfast to act as hostess. That, he said, was the first Irish re-union. Let them hope it would be the forerunner of many more. It was also Mr. Swain's first visit to Ireland, but he was sure, if they treated him well, he would come back again. Mr. Swain, in the course of a capital speech which was listened to intently, said how happy he was to be present that day. He was delighted to welcome them all and to see them looking so well. His visit to Ireland, in spite of the way in which Mr. Macauley had rushed him around, had far exceeded his expectations, and he promised, if possible, to hold a meeting in Ireland every year. Mr. Swain then read a message to the boys from our Chairman Captain Fraser, in which he wished them every success in their various occupations and all happiness, and stated how proud he was that the little band of St. Dunstaners in Ireland was keeping the flag of the hostel flying.

Mr. Swain expressed the pleasure they all felt that afternoon at having with them Mrs. Taylor, formerly Matron at the Blackheath Annexe, and her sister, Miss Gregg, who for a long time had been a V.A.D. at headquarters.

In making reference to our Irish representative, Mr. Swain congratulated the boys on having such a splendid friend in Mr. Macauley, whose generous and untiring efforts on their behalf must have endeared him to one and all of them, and he expressed the sincere hope that St. Dunstan's would not lose his valued services for a very long time to come. Judging by the enthusiastic response to these remarks, it was easy to gather that Mr. Macauley has the wholehearted confidence and affection he surely deserves.

A vote of thanks to Captain Fraser for his message, and to Mr. Swain, was proposed by Mr. Joseph Boyce. Mr. Albert Gribben, who seconded, made feeling reference to the loss which they had sustained through the death of Sir Arthur. He said they were proud of their new Chief, that they now had only him to look to and they would be glad to respond to anything he might tell them to do. Making grateful mention of Mr. Macauley's work, Mr. Gribben said: "He is our leading light through rough and smooth."

During the afternoon a most enjoyable programme was provided by Miss Erskine, who told stories of the North of Ireland; Mr. Jack Chambers, whose songs were greatly enjoyed, and Mr. S. A. Bulloch, who gave two short but capital readings. Mrs. Norman Macauley, L.R.A.M., very kindly acted as accompanist. Miss Erskine's stories provoked so much laughter that McGee, of Moville, threatened to have hysterics, but those sitting near him were so overcome themselves that they were unable to help him.

In the competitions, Boyce guessed the weight of the pie to within an ounce

There was a tie between Brockerton, of Coleraine, and McGee of Moville, for guessing the number of cigarettes in a box. Thanks to the generosity of Miss Erskine, who had brought along a box of cigarettes, it was not necessary to divide the prize; both received a box.

Afternoon tea having been served, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the ladies and gentlemen who had given such a fine entertainment. Even in Ireland, trains—or at least some of them—will not wait, so good-byes were said and the first Irish re-union came to an end amid unanimous expressions of satisfaction and pleasure, and the hope that not a year would be allowed to pass in which another was not held.

### BOURNEMOUTH

*30th April 1925*

While the weather was treating people in other parts of the country to snow-storms, heavy rain and thunder, the men of West Hants and Dorset met in fine weather at the Gervis Hall Restaurant, which overlooks the lovely public gardens now ablaze with blossom.

After hearty friendly greetings were exchanged, 60 sat down to a capital meat tea, at the close of which Mr. Swain addressed the men in a speech of welcome, reminding them that he had kept his promise in holding another meeting there within twelve months; he further assured them that these meetings should be annual affairs. He gave them a message from Captain Fraser, who regretted his inability to be with them. A hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was sent to Captain Fraser through Mr. Swain for his kind message.

Tea was followed by an excellent concert given by the Courtier Concert Party, of which Mr. Rhodes Fawcett (a St. Dunstaner) is a member. A splendid programme was given which was greatly enjoyed, and we were glad to welcome two other St. Dunstaners, Mr. J. Smith and Mr. J. Bulley, who contributed songs.

While this concert was in progress, Mr. Swain held his usual private reception, and Miss Page went noiselessly among the audience, inducing them to guess the weight of her cake and the

number of cigarettes in her packet. The result of this was rather curious, Mrs. Condon winning the cake and her husband the cigarettes. Mrs. Condon very kindly, because of this double win, passed the cake on to Mrs. Benwell, who was next in the running. We were pleased to welcome Miss Cameron, an old St. Dunstan's worker, amongst us again.

A flashlight photo of the men was taken for the Press, and after many expressing the wish that it would not be long before another meeting was held, the National Anthem was sung. T. H. M.

### PORTSMOUTH

*22nd April 1925*

A brilliant, sunshiny day greeted the men of East and South Hants as they assembled at Madden's Hotel, Station Road, Portsmouth, for their annual social gathering.

At 2.30 p.m. they began to arrive, and friendly greetings and the renewal of old friendships were the order until tea demanded their attention. About 60 sat down to a meat tea and enjoyed it.

At the close of tea Mr. Swain addressed the men in a cheery and humorous speech. He said what pleasure it gave him to meet them all, and he hoped these meetings would become a sort of family gathering in which they would get to know each other better and also to know him more. He gave a message from Captain Fraser, who said how sorry he was to be unable to be with them, but he sent his best wishes and hoped they would have a happy time. Mr. Swain was asked to convey a unanimous and hearty vote of thanks to Captain Fraser for his kind message.

Tea was followed by a concert. Mr. G. Dennis had very kindly secured the services of several artistes who willingly gave their services. They gave a delightful entertainment which was greatly enjoyed, and were augmented by several of our own men, namely—Mr. G. Dennis (comic), Mr. W. Lowings, Mr. F. W. Matthews, Mr. J. Cooney, and Mr. A. Knotwell. Their songs were much appreciated.

Guessing the weight of the cake was won by Mrs. Boorman, of Ropley, and the



cigarettes by Mr. J. Patter, of Gosport. It leaked out that this was the 37th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Knotwell's wedding, and it was thought a fitting occasion to present them with an iced cake in memory of the happy event. This was done by Mr. and Mrs. Martin, with the hearty congratulations of all present.

During the concert the usual private interviews took place. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Dennis and the artistes was proposed by Mr. Swain and heartily acclaimed, the singing of the National Anthem then brought to a close what had proved to be a very happy afternoon. We were very pleased to welcome Miss Page, of the "After-Care," amongst us. She was untiring in her efforts to make all happy.

T. H. M.

## NORWICH

17th April

On Friday, 17th April, the re-union of the Norfolk and Suffolk men took place, at the School of Music Hall, Norwich.

If possible, this meeting was an even greater success than last year. To begin with, we were lucky in having a larger hall offered to us, and then most of the Suffolk boys were able to join us this time, owing to arrangements being made for those who could not come by train to travel by bus. I fear there were many early starts, as distances in both counties are considerable, but all looked cheery and bright on their arrival, and showed little sign of the wear and tear which they must have received on the road.

About 70 sat down to tea, after which Mr. Swain made a happy little speech. Mr. B. Hamilton wittily replied, and sent a warm message of thanks to Captain Fraser, which was seconded by Mr. G. W. R. Wright.

The entertainment was a great success, as not only were we fortunate in again obtaining Mr. Lamb's services as comedian but there was also much local talent. Mr. H. Holman sang us two songs, also Mr. Wright, and, last but not least, Mr. W. Cubitt sang several times.

Mr. B. Hamilton contributed some very clever and amusing recitations and sketches which were greatly appreciated, judging

by the roars of laughter which followed them.

To our great delight, the large St. Dunstan's cake was won by the little daughter of Mr. C. H. Smith, of Bury St. Edmunds, and we hope it amply compensated her mother for being unable to attend the re-union.

The equally large pork pie also went to Bury St. Edmunds, being won by Mr. T. G. Trendell.

Up to the time of going to press, both families appear to be in their usual health, so we conclude the cake and pie were of exceptionally high quality!

Thus ended a very happy meeting, and we all took our departure unanimous on one point, that St. Dunstan's yearly re-unions are the most enjoyable functions which ever come our way, and ought to be held twice yearly, instead of only once.

L. B. W.

The following is personally vouched for by one of our Settlement representatives. He was recently accompanying one of the men to view a property. Sitting opposite in the 'bus was a portly Jew who was evidently suffering from an affection of one of his eyes. Noticing the St. Dunstaner, who had a shade over one eye Abe inquired if he knew Dr. Smith, of Harley Street, as he was sure he could afford relief if any man could. The settlement representative explained that unfortunately his friend had no eyes to ask Dr. Smith's opinion about. "Oh, my Gott in heaven, and was it the War?" exclaimed Abe, and continued explanations of sympathy to his journey's end. As he was about to alight, Abe pressed a two-shilling piece into the St. Dunstaner's hand, and on the latter protesting that he was not on show or asking for alms, Abe, with a wave of his hand, said: "Never mind, old chap, I'll get that two bob out of someone before the day is out."

## Wireless for the Blind

The next article of this series will be published in our June issue.



OUR After-Care Sports ended rather sensationally, because Henry, who was occupying second place, unfortunately put his knee out in jumping and could not complete his jumps, with the result that Webster takes second place by half point. I do not think I have ever seen such a close finish. We offer our hearty congratulations to those who are taking the leading places in their respective sections. They have shown, not only athletic ability, but great enthusiasm.

T. B.		S. S.	
Nicholls	.. 1,980	Brown	.. 2,09
Webster	.. 1,675½	James	.. 2,015
Henry	.. 1,675	Downs	.. 1,875
McFarlane	.. 1,495	Champness	.. 480
Burran	.. 1,267½	Ashton	.. 420
Gover	.. 1,060		
Kerr	.. 525		
Miller	.. 125		

We are all hoping that by the time these notes are in print that our summer sports will have started. I do hope that any boys who are interested will come and join us, because I know that they will enjoy the experience.

## FOOTBALL

Our footballers do not observe football seasons, and although everybody else is trying to play cricket, we are keeping on with our soccer matches. Already some new names have appeared amongst our team titles, and we are looking forward to a very interesting term's sport.

TEAMS.		
<i>Annis Rovers</i>	<i>Saints</i>	<i>Larkholmes</i>
Peach.	Fason.	S. Aiken.
Mason.	Fletcher.	Prentie.
Annis.	Gaffney.	Jones.
H. Sheppard.	Dolby.	Harkness.
R. J. Williams.	Brooks.	Phelps.
Hadfield.	Bay.	Larkholmes.
<i>Rackabites</i>	<i>Foresters</i>	<i>Vickers</i>
J. Aiken.	Tebbutt.	Edwards.
Bray.	Dawes.	Judd.
S. Williams.	Bowring.	Boyce.
Vernon.	Briggs.	Knight.
Rickerby.	F. Sheppard.	Hill.
Milne.	S. Foster.	Crooke.

*Wanderers*  
Milligan.  
Phillips.  
Fallowfield.  
E. Williams.  
Newman.  
Mordue.

*Welkies*  
Healey.  
Bootle.  
Stuart.  
Finkle.  
Taylor.  
Welks.

## ROWING

It is very encouraging to know that so many are taking such an interest in this section of sport, and our Sports Sister is already endeavouring to get more assistance from the capable ladies at Bedford College.

Although I cannot give many details as yet, we are hopeful that we will be able to hold our Regatta on Friday, 10th July, commencing at 2 o'clock. If nothing unforeseen occurs, we will hold to this date.

The programme will be on the lines of last year's and will be published in next month's REVIEW.

## RUNNING

I hope next month to be able to give an account of the three-mile running race which will be held on the 16th inst. round the Outer Circle. I do not anticipate more than about ten starters, but the event should prove very interesting from an experimental point of view.

## BOXING

We were very glad to have the opportunity of attending the big boxing tournament at the Albert Hall on Thursday, 30th April, and most grateful for all the kindness that was shown to us there.

It was also exceedingly kind of Superintendent Phillips, of Albany Street Police Station, to invite us round to the Police Minstrel Concert on 24th April, and also to a dance which he organised. I can assure the Superintendent that we do not mind being in the hands of the police when they look after us so well.

J. E. W.



## Dog Breeding for Profit

By J. A. FOREMAN.

*Here is another practical article from a St. Dunstaner who has had wide experience on this subject.*

THE primary advice in dog breeding is to "go steady," it being an occupation which demands the utmost patience, especially with the breed I specialise in, namely, Pomeranians.

To command good prices a breeder must be able to produce a distinguished pedigree to any dog he has to offer. Therefore the first thing to do is to obtain one or two bitches from well-known kennels and from parents who have established a name for themselves in the show ring.

It is inadvisable and often impossible, from the point of view of expense, to purchase a stud dog, therefore, the services of a good one must be procured, the fee for which is usually about two guineas. The wisdom of this step is illustrated by my own experience, since I have bred a dog which I consider has a future as a sire. This opinion was backed up recently when I obtained a third prize at Crufts with Gold Firefly, an orange puppy, the sire being Champion Gold Sun of Sunbright, the mother being one of my own bitches purchased from the Sunbright kennels.

### KENNELS AND GENERAL TREATMENT.

Naturally toy dogs cannot be kennelled in the same way as larger and hardier breeds. At the same time they should not be coddled.

My own winter quarters are situated in a well-lighted semi-basement, the floor of cement sloping towards a drain in the centre which facilitates cleaning down. Around the walls are the pens constructed of fine meshed wire netting, and each containing a box for sleeping. The floors of the pens are covered with old cork lino nailed on battens so that a current of air passes underneath.

The steps leading into this basement have been taken away and a slope constructed leading to a patch of grass

whereon the dogs may scamper to their heart's delight. The reason for this alteration will be seen when the tiny bones of a Pom are taken into consideration. A fracture caused by a fall may easily lead to the dog having to be destroyed, with the consequent financial loss to the owner, even assuming the limb is set by a vet. it does not always follow that the operation will be successful or that some disfigurement will not result.

The kennel room is fitted with a slow combustion stove which requires little attention and gives just the requisite heat for the winter months, besides being useful for burning up old bedding and other rubbish. I am now constructing summer quarters which consist of a long shed with divisions, built against a south wall and giving access to the grass plot referred to.

### BREEDING.

When puppies are expected the mother should be kept in a kennel by herself and a good bed prepared in the sleeping apartment. In the first litter it is not an unusual occurrence for several if not all of the puppies to be born dead or to only survive a short time. Such an occurrence naturally checks one's ardour, dashing as it does one's hope of securing a possible champion who will in his day recoup us for the initial outlay on the venture. Generally speaking, however, nature can generally be left to look after the actual breeding of the puppies without any undue interference from us. With a little common sense coupled with cleanliness this part of our subject may have no terror for us.

### FEEDING.

It is, of course, far better to underfeed than overfeed the dogs especially for show work. Some breeders pin their faith to one meal per day, but my own dogs are fed twice a day (morning and evening). A Pom is naturally a dainty feeding

dog with delicate digestive organs. It therefore follows that the stomach should not be overloaded. Further with an evening meal the dog will be more contented, and not keep the neighbourhood awake with those doleful howls we sometimes hear and which plainly show that he is miserable and hungry.

As to the nature of the foods, I have found my dogs to thrive on a diet composed of rice, two parts, and meat, one part. The meat is boiled well and the rice is then boiled (but not so as the result is a soft mass) in the liquor from the meat. The latter can always be obtained from the local butcher as dogs' meat, also any scraps left over from the table can be incorporated. Once a week I buy a cod's head which is boiled and mixed with the rice as with the meat. To give variety and to strengthen the jaws I make occasional use of small dog biscuits—ovals. Such a diet as described is easily digested and is far cheaper than the exclusive use of proprietary foods.

For puppies my motto is "little and often" and I usually feed them four or five times per day, starting from the fifth week from birth. At the sixth week they are taken away from their mother and placed with other youngsters in a pen by themselves. I always contrive to let them have their exercise apart from the adults as it is quite easy for the youngster to sustain injury in the rough and tumble which usually occurs at such times.

### MEDICINE AND GENERAL TREATMENT.

A popular fallacy is that toy dogs suffer from worms, with their distressing effects, more than other breeds. As the recognised cures for this complaint usually contain an opiate, an overdose might easily prove injurious, if not fatal.

One common cure amongst some of the old dog breeders is a piece of tobacco made into a pill and forced down the dog's throat. From my own experience I would say: "Don't try it on toys." I almost lost a dog by trying this experiment. If you are in doubt as to whether your dog has worms and in the absence of any definite evidence of same, consult

a good vet., which advice will be found the cheapest in the long run. If you have evidence my advice is not to buy any of the much advertised proprietary remedies which are expensive and often only composed of the simplest ingredients. I have found a capsule composed of areca nut and liquorice powder to be most effective. These can be made up by any chemist in five and ten-grain capsules, being the dose for dogs up to four pounds, and over that weight respectively.

Teething in puppies is a fruitful source of trouble. Particular attention should be paid to this matter. In the case of show dogs a well formed mouth being a strong point with judges. It follows, therefore, that ragged, uneven teeth mean a ragged outline of the dog's head. The baby teeth should be all out by the time the puppy is eight months' old. If not a visit to a vet. is advisable, who will extract them so as to allow the adult teeth to grow evenly. The teeth should be brushed often, and any tartar removed by rubbing with a slice of raw apple.

Distemper is also a very dangerous complaint; not so much from the disease itself, but from the complications which are liable to follow, such as a form of rickets, chronic cough, &c. The popular idea is that like measles in human beings all dogs are bound to contract it. This is not the case, but in the event of the disease making its appearance the sufferer should be isolated at once, kept warm, and away from draughts. The symptoms of distemper may be described as lassitude, running at eyes and nose. The animal will seek to avoid the light and will creep into any dark corner if off his chain. One of the best remedies I know are Bob Martin's distemper powders. These given in conjunction with castor oil and followed by a course of condition powders will usually bring the dog round. The discharge from the eyes should be cleared away and an attempt to stimulate the appetite with a few tit bits made. Do not give meat in any quantity. On recovery the kennel should be thoroughly disinfected. Owners of dogs suffering from skin diseases who allow their animals to run loose should be prosecuted. Mange



and even eczema are irritating complaints to the dog, let alone the risk that his master runs of contracting the same. As the object of this article is not to produce a sort of medical dictionary I shall not attempt further to describe the many ills that a dog is heir to, but shall content myself with advising all owners to treat their animals in the same way as they would their own complaints to a great extent.

#### SHOWING AND SALE.

Different judges have their own idea as to the correct "trim" for a show dog. For example, a Sealyham terrier has to be plucked here and the fur allowed to grow there in order to conform to the prevailing fashion. The chief points in a Pom are a short back, small ears set together, and a good tail. The "trim" is not so important owing to the nature of the fur, which is naturally bushy. In brushing the dog this should always be towards the head, using a pneumatic hair brush. All dead hair should be pulled out. Too much washing is inadvisable, as it takes away the natural oil in the coat and further tends to make it brittle.

The main object next to sales is, of course, the winning of prizes, therefore if you think you have a champion, try him out at a local show. A list of these events are published from time to time in the various papers connected with the business. My own decision to exhibit at ruffs may seem to be a trifle ambitious, but I had every confidence in my dog and am naturally very pleased with the result of my first venture in the show ring.

The sale of dogs to private individuals is, of course, a very profitable side of the business, and some very good prices can be obtained when the right market is discovered. Another source of revenue is stud fees, which vary. I would like to give a word of warning as to the sale of puppies by a beginner. The initial expenses being heavy, the breeder seeks to recoup himself by selling his first litters at what he imagines are good prices. A famous general once said that every British soldier had a field marshal's baton in his knapsack, and the same

theory applies to this subject. The writer knows of a case where a dealer purchased a puppy for ten pounds, and knowing a market promptly sold it for £150 the same day. It will therefore be seen that the slogan I quoted at the commencement of my article, "go steady," is applicable all through, and with experience combine all the essentials to success in this fascinating and interesting hobby.

#### HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP

Little Gaddesden, Berkhamsted, Herts.

As announced in the last REVIEW, there will be a Holiday Sports Camp at Little Gaddesden from 15th to 22nd June. Fee for the week £1 7s. 6d. A number of entries have been received, but there are still some vacancies, so if anyone who has not made his plans for the summer would still like to apply, will he send in his application as soon as possible to Miss Hodgson, Clopton, Stratford-on-Avon. If wet, accommodation will be provided for sleeping in the house. Halton Flying Camp are lending beds and bedding and arranging a ten-mile walk on Saturday, 20th June, and giving everyone tea at the camp.

#### A BARNET AFFAIR

A group of St. Dunstaners, including E. W. Dawes, E. R. Larcombe, E. Williams, W. Murphy, W. Stuart, and J. H. Mason helped to supply what the local press described as "a most enjoyable programme at an entertainment arranged by the Remembrance Committee of the Barnet Branch of the British Legion on the 10th of April. We are glad to know that the effort was appreciated, for "the hall was filled to its doors."

E Bond, of 32 Salisbury Road, Larkhall, Bath, writes:—

"I have a Juvenile side-car for sale, perfectly new and not soiled, suitable for tandem or ladies' or gent's cycle. I would sell it for £4 and pay carriage to any part of England.

## Canary Breeding

By F. TAIT

*We publish below the third article received from our contributor on this very interesting and profitable hobby.*

Now that we expect warmer weather this will necessitate increasing attention to cleanliness. Fanciers who neglect to take this precaution will breed more disease and red mite than birds. I recommend sawdust as cage flooring. This I find absorbs all moisture, and keeps the birds much cleaner than sand. But on no account should you overlook to place a shallow dish of gritty sand and crushed dried egg-shells in the cage. In order to prevent an invasion of red mite use a solution of camphor and methylated spirits (1 ounce camphor dissolved in a half-pint of the spirits). With this paint the ends of perches and crevices of cages about once a fortnight. This simple precaution will generally keep the red mite at bay.

Clean out cages weekly, but special care should be taken with cages that contain nervous or sitting hens, merely cleaning out any accumulation or refuse as quietly as possible. Later on when the youngsters are about a week old she will have lost all her nervousness, and her cage may be more thoroughly cleaned out.

At about the age of five to seven days old the youngsters should be rung with the official closed ring issued by the Federation Clubs. To obtain these it is necessary to become a member of a Roller Club. The proper ringing method is as follows: take the young bird in the left hand, and after drawing the three front toes together as closely as possible, slip the ring over these three toes, and push it gently back over the hind claw, which should be pressed back against the bird's leg. The back claw is then drawn back into position, thus leaving the ring on the bird's leg, well over the foot. The ring may be placed on either leg. It is

advisable to ring the bird at night. After ringing look at the young birds for a day or two in case the hen might have removed the rings. In conjunction with the ringing of the young birds another important matter must be mentioned, and that is the proper and systematic keeping of a stock or pedigree record. This should be kept by every breeder. The stock register or stud book enables a fancier to establish in a few moments the exact manner in which every bird in his room is bred. Enter in it the ring numbers of each pair mated, the date of pairing, number of eggs laid and hatched, the ring number of each young bird, particulars of any sickness, late moult or any other matter concerning the progress and welfare of all birds. Such a record is as interesting as it is useful, and the information it contains will form the basis for one's bird each season.

At about three weeks' old the youngsters will leave the nest, and every inducement should be offered to entice them to feed so that they may be removed from the breeding cage to their flight as soon as possible. Place in the cage along with egg-food a shallow dish of hemp, canary and rape seed crushed, with a little Quaker oats.

*A St. Dunstaner radio enthusiast, T. W. Chamberlain, of Keelby, Lincs., writes to Captain Fraser:—*

DEAR SIR,—I know you will be interested in my success at the Hull Wireless Exhibition. I am pleased to be able to tell you I carried away the Silver Medal, the third prize for complete receiving sets made by amateur constructors. The set I made was a crystal set, and the circuit was practically the same as the one in the January Number of THE REVIEW, excepting the plug in coil. The coil I use is a tapped spider-web coil which, I may say, I wind and tap myself.

I am pleased to tell you I am keeping in the best of health, and everything seems to be going along quite nicely.



The following is a copy of Miss Hodgson's report on the *Birmingham St. Dunstan's Club* :—

On Wednesday, 1st April, the Club met for the last time this season at Queen's College. There was not a very large attendance, as several of the club members were at Brighton and others down with the 'flu.

Miss Berkeley (ex-College Sister) attended this meeting; it is the first time she has been to the Club, and many of her old friends were delighted she was able to come.

Mrs. Berners Lee (better known as Miss Gray to the old Bungalow boys) also came to the meeting. She is living in Birmingham, and has most good-naturedly undertaken to look after the distribution of theatre tickets, as Mrs. Hillman has left. It was a pleasure to have Miss Nelson at the meeting; she was quite a stranger.

Basket Ball is becoming quite popular, and several members are getting very hot stuff at it. Prizes were awarded for this, points counting for the two occasions we have had this game, the winners were A. Taylor (first), 45 points; W. Castle (second), 40 points. S.S. Section: P. Cashmore (first), 45 points; G. Thomas (second), 25 points.

We were hoping for a concert party from Toc. H. which was very late coming, so we had to organise a knock-up concert among ourselves while we were waiting, but when they did at last arrive they were so good it quite made up for waiting.

*Present—*

W. Castle.	T. Shaw.
P. Cashmore.	G. Thomas.
W. Dainter.	E. Varley.
H. F. Kirkbright.	A. Taylor.
T. North.	V. Wicken.
C. Grattidge.	

An announcement with regard to our "Hobby" Competition will appear in next month's issue.

*St. Dunstaners will be interested to read the following little notice, which appears in the St. Andrew's Parish Magazine, Waltham-stow, recently :—*

ST. DUNSTAN'S.

On Tuesday, 17th March, we had a visit from some of St. Dunstan's men—Messrs. John Greig, H. Costigan, J. Odell, and Raymond Cowley. They were supported by Miss Dorothy Moss, Messrs. S. C. Draper (violinist), and S. A. McAdam (Westminster Choir). The accompanist was Mr. F. J. Davey.

By common consent it was one of the best concerts we have had at St. Andrew's. All the artists were very good, and Raymond Cowley was very funny in his humorous entertainment; Mr. McAdam, of Westminster Choir, was very fine in his rendering of the "Floral Dance" and his other songs. But there wasn't a weak spot in the programme. We are especially grateful to the friends who came to support the St. Dunstan's men. Miss Osborne accompanied for Mr. S. Draper.

After expenses have been met any balance will be given to St. Dunstan's.

### Our Crosswords

Either enthusiasm for this form of competition has as suddenly died out as it arose—at least among St. Dunstaners—or we set too difficult a poser last month. In any event, not a single correct solution has been received, and we shall wait for requests from our readers for further puzzles before publishing another.

#### AN OLD STORY REVISED

An eccentric old man died and left £1,000 apiece to three friends, on condition that they each put £5 into his coffin.

The first friend was an Englishman. He put £5 in gold into his coffin.

The second was a Scotsman. He took out the gold and put in £10 in notes.

The third was a Welshman. He took out the £10 in notes and put in his cheque for £15.

Alas for the Welshman. The undertaker was a Jew.



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