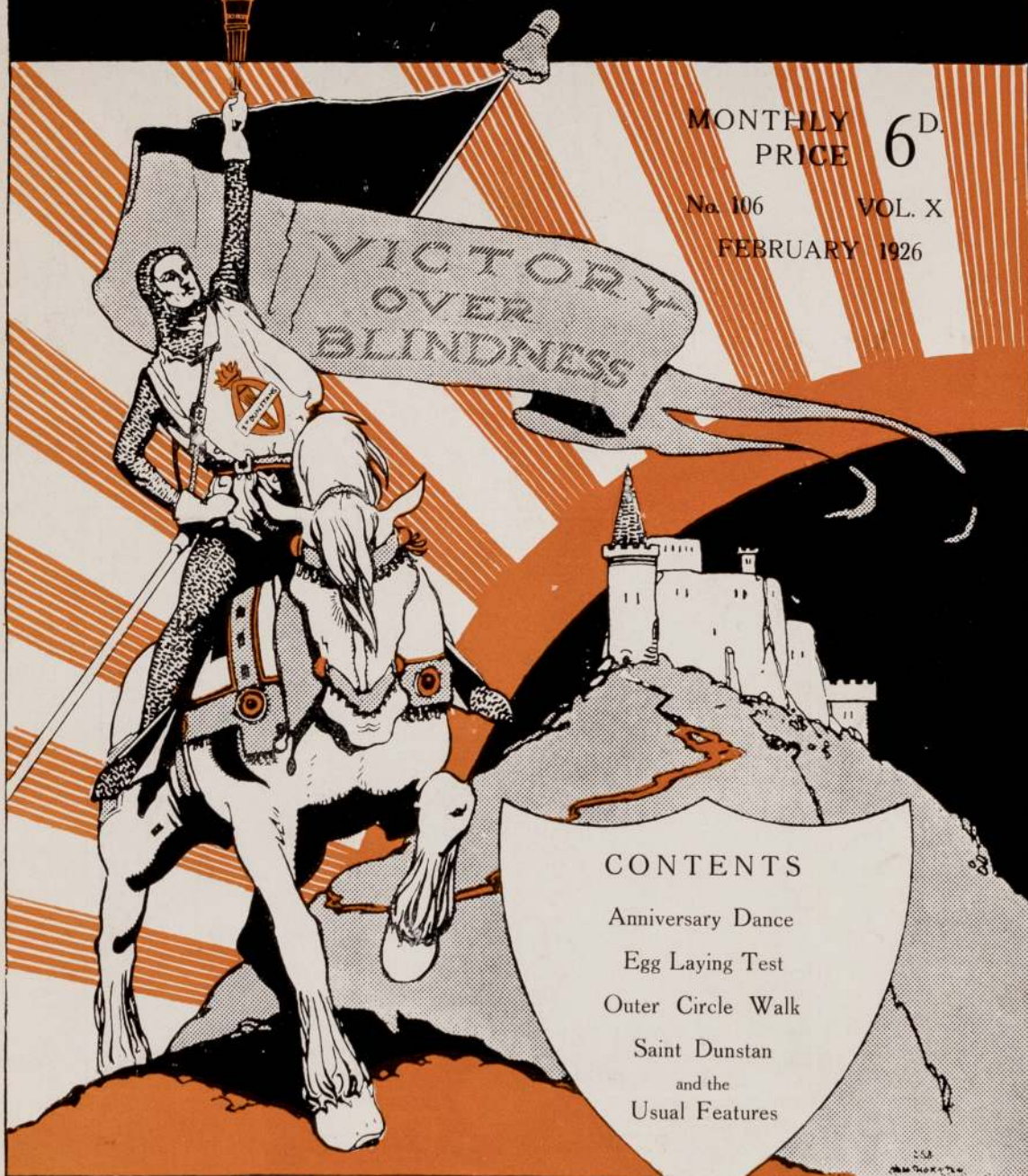


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

MONTHLY PRICE 6^{D.}

No. 106 VOL. X

FEBRUARY 1926



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Saint Dunstan

and the

Usual Features

FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR

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



PICTURES OF THE MONTH

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Below—A Game of Whist

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 106.—VOLUME X.

FEBRUARY, 1926.

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

EDITORIAL

The New Pensions Act.

WE understand that there has been a wonderful response to the circular letter issued to all St. Dunstaners by Captain Fraser with regard to the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Pensions Act, which was fully reviewed in our Editorial last month. Already many hundreds of applications are being rapidly dealt with, and more are continuing to arrive with every post. Our readers will not need us to point out that a very considerable amount of work at Headquarters is necessary before a man is accepted as a contributor under the Act, but we have personal knowledge that the officials dealing with this matter are working at high pressure to keep pace with correspondence, inquiries, and the necessary arrangements.

Following a speech made by Captain Fraser at Headquarters on the subject of the Act, a question was asked as to whether St. Dunstan's would continue to pay Maternity Grant in the event of a man getting a similar grant from the Government under the new Pensions Scheme. Captain Fraser replied that it was not St. Dunstan's intention to interfere in any way with the regular grants, pensions, or allowances it makes should a man decide to contribute to the new Pensions Scheme and thereby obtain additional allowances. For example, the Maternity Grant will continue to be paid by St. Dunstan's irrespective of whether a man does or does not get a maternity grant under the Pensions Act. Similarly, if a St. Dunstan's man should die and leave a widow with two children, all three of whom are eligible for allowances under the Widows' and Orphans' Sections of the Pensions Act, this would make no difference to the allowances the widow might be drawing from St. Dunstan's Children's Fund after her husband's death.

We think this pronouncement may be regarded as typical of the keen desire of St. Dunstan's to ensure that its men and their dependants shall secure every possible advantage the new Act offers irrespective of such other advantages as they may already be obtaining from St. Dunstan's direct. We hope in our next issue to be able to give some definite figures as to the numbers of men already enrolled, and possibly to quote for general information some of the questions asked as to the Act and the replies given thereto. Meanwhile, we cannot, in our readers' interests, too strongly urge any St. Dunstaner who may not yet have taken up the matter with Headquarters to do so without further delay. It is said that "opportunity knocks once in a lifetime at every man's door," and this new Act and St. Dunstan's generous offer in connection with it certainly provide a very outstanding opportunity.

St. Dunstan

FROM time to time brief notices in connection with our Patron Saint have appeared in these columns, but the following article provides perhaps the fullest and most authoritative history of St. Dunstan's life which we have yet had. It reaches us from Miss Ayre, who has made close historical research into the subject.—(E.D.)

Probably all St. Dunstaners know that the use of the name St. Dunstan in connection with the training of War-blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen simply comes from the fact that the house so generously lent by Mr. Otto Kahn bore the name. The mansion was given that title by the builder of it in Regency days, the Marquis of Hertford, from the clock which he obtained from St. Dunstan's Church in the City.

But how much do any of us know of St. Dunstan himself? A little study brings to light some quite interesting facts about the Saint which readers of the REVIEW may care to hear.

Dunstan was the son of a West Saxon noble called Heorstan, and was born on his estate near Glastonbury in 924. (By a strange coincidence, Sir Arthur Pearson's birthplace was in the same neighbourhood.)

Glastonbury Abbey was then a seat of learning, and Dunstan was sent there for his education. As he grew older he spent much of his time at Court, as he was nearly related to the Royal line. Dunstan appears to have been a dreamy, book-loving youth and not over popular at that time with his young companions. His claim to have seen visions, and possibly an adventure, when he returned unharmed from walking in his sleep over the main roof of the Abbey at Glastonbury, were made the foundation for an accusation of being a wizard, and Dunstan was expelled from the Court for a time. It was at this time that he made his monastic vows and built himself a cell at Glastonbury. As the cell was only 5 feet by 2½ feet, and Dunstan

used it for living, praying and working in, he must have been somewhat cramped for space, especially as his work was mainly iron work, for which the cell contained a small forge. (I fancy few St. Dunstaners would care to work in so small a space!) The English monks were particularly good at metal work, and Dunstan seems to have excelled at it. He is reported to have made, probably later in his career, two big bells for Abingdon Church, and many crosses, censers, &c., for Glastonbury. He also spent much time in playing the harp. The charge against Dunstan was soon forgiven, and in 945, at the early age of twenty-one, he was made Abbot of Glastonbury by the King. Young as he was, Dunstan seems to have been quite capable of filling the post, and he at once set about the reform of the Abbey, turning it from a secular to a monastic community. Paying a great deal of attention to the educational side of the place, under his rule Glastonbury Abbey became a very famous school.

During the reign of the next King, Dunstan became even more powerful at Court. The King was sickly and much of the ruling of the kingdom was done by Dunstan and the Queen Mother.

Dunstan appears to have been straight and true as well as clever, and had the courage of his convictions. The King having committed a sin, Dunstan reprimanded him in no uncertain terms, and the monarch, in a rage, outlawed him (it is said that one of the punishments mentioned was the putting out of his eyes), and Dunstan fled to Flanders for safety. The banishment lasted less than two years, but Dunstan (in true St. Dunstan's spirit) made the best of the matter and spent the time of banishment in learning the arts and crafts in which the French monks excelled, and also the Benedictine rule. On the new King coming to the throne, Dunstan was recalled to England, and was soon made Bishop of both London and Worcester, while in a very short time he was advanced to be Archbishop of Canterbury.

From his own family estates Dunstan was a wealthy man, and his wide knowledge and his money seem to have been

ERRATUM.

Anniversary Dance.

27th March should read Friday, 26th March.

NSTAN'S REVIEW

Anniversary Dance

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

WE are asked to notify our readers that in view of the desire to ensure that the attendance at this year's Anniversary Dance, which takes place on the evening of 27th March next, shall not exceed a limit which will give dancing and social comfort to all, admission will be by ticket only, each man to invite only one lady. Application for these tickets should be made as early as possible to Matron at Headquarters, and they must be given up at the door on entry.

While it is hoped that many St. Dunstaners living outside London may be able to attend, it is regretted that the extreme pressure on accommodation at Headquarters renders it impossible to make arrangements for putting up any men for the night of the dance.

Kaiser Question Competition

THE entries received for this Competition were not up to the standard—either in quality or quantity—that we expected. Whether it was that Captain Fraser had in his own interesting article "stolen the thunder" of further pertinent interrogatories to the "All-Highest" we cannot say, but the fact remains that the competition was not so popular as many others we have had. The prize of £1 rs. offered by the Editor of the *Weekly Dispatch* has been awarded to J. Watson, 28 Gertrude Street, Grasswell, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, whose question is:—

"Did the valiant 'Contemptible Army' upset all your calculations, and, with your present knowledge, would you have viewed the forces of the British Empire with such contempt?"

Our second prize of 15s. is awarded to A. Hutcheon, St. Dunstan's, Bieldside, Aberdeen, whose question reads as follows:—

"Did you think the only way of hitting Britain was indirectly through the Balkans when, following on the slaughter of many Armenians by the Turks in 1896, you sent the following telegram to the Sultan of Turkey: 'You must always look upon me as a friend of the Turks?'"

spent in helping all schools of learning and for the general good of the whole country. A great deal of the peaceful welding together of the different peoples of England, particularly the Danes, seems to have been directly due to his influence and work. In fact, his interests were extremely wide, even going as far as to try and find a check on the brawling over drinking which sometimes took place at the feasts of the time. Dunstan invented a method of employing pegs in the drinking bowls. Two men generally shared a bowl, and these pegs at regular intervals down the inside of the bowls served as marks to make sure that no man took more than his fair share. The saying "a peg too low" survives to this day.

Dunstan died in 988, and is buried in Canterbury Cathedral. His fame and his work for England, especially in bringing together the Danes and English, appear to have been recognised, and in 1017 King Canute ordered St. Dunstan's Day, 19th May, to be kept as a solemn mass day.

T.O.T. Band Concert

OUR very good friends of the Underground Railways' Military Band, otherwise known as the T.O.T., gave a most enjoyable concert on Thursday, 30th January.

The Lounge was filled to overflowing by the boys and their lady friends, and the various items in the programme were very much appreciated and heartily applauded.

In thanking the band for their delightful entertainment our Chairman, Captain Fraser, announced that the T.O.T. had most generously offered to promote a concert in aid of St. Dunstan's to be held at Central Hall, Westminster, on 22nd March, and he wished them all success in the undertaking.

The enjoyment of the evening was enhanced by the provision of excellent refreshments for all, made possible by the generosity of Mrs. Keith, who never forgets her old friends at St. Dunstan's.

M. P.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

FRIENDS will be glad to know that H. Raymond, of St. Annes-on-Sea, is looking very much better and is succeeding in putting on weight. Trade is "fine," and he has a number of orders on hand for "wireless cabinets," which he finds a most interesting branch of work. He says that he is often steadily occupied for a good twelve hours a day, and is contemplating employing an assistant if things continue as prosperous much longer. We congratulate Raymond upon the energy he is putting into his business; he has done well indeed.

The boot trade has not been in the most prosperous of states in Yeovil of late, according to R. Chaplin, but now it seems to have taken a decided turn for the better. He has had a rush of repairs in, and has without doubt secured a number of new customers. In leisure moments Chaplin has been turning his attention to mats, and finds that running the two branches of work is helpful to him, no doubt on account of the change of occupation. Chaplin is one of the many St. Dunstaners who enjoy the talks that reach him by wireless. He wants to know who, however disgruntled, could fail to have been fascinated by the lecture on Captain Scott's South Pole Expedition heard not so long since?

For the fourth year F. J. Westaway, of Yeovil, is on the Council of the British Legion. We share his pleasure in his success.

Another credit to St. Dunstan's is F. R. Aubrey, of Bristol, who is busy as usual with mats, and putting excellent work into them, too. The new home is a great happiness, we are glad to know, and the baby is really a lovely child; we

are sure he will develop into a splendid young son.

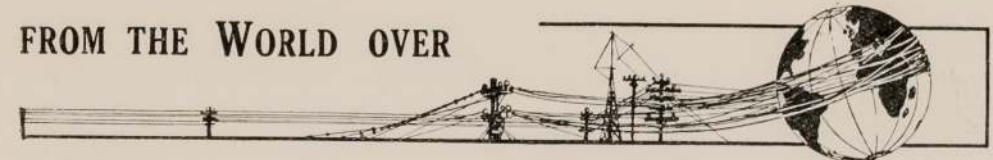
From Verwood comes word of F. Gilhooly, who has succeeded in building up quite a good mat connection in the district. As usual, he is both enterprising and energetic, and is putting up a new hut for a shop where he intends to sell cigarettes. He meets a number of people, which is good for general trade, as three times a week he goes round the village selling tea and herb medicines. His children, like so many others, have been ill, having contracted whooping cough, but they are well on the way to complete recovery, we are glad to note.

Friends of F. R. Reason, of Bridport, will be glad to hear that he has been in much better health of late. He is getting a fair number of orders for his mats, and is fortunate in having a patroness who invited him to send some of his work to an exhibition she was organising; this helped him a good deal.

Some three weeks ago A. G. Briggs, of Norwich, opened a shop (his trades are boots and mats), and is doing quite well. His main concern is how to obtain more advertisement, but good work brings that and each satisfied customer makes a volunteer canvasser.

The bad weather of recent weeks has been trying for S. Robinson, of Norwich, and has kept him back from his outdoor work, which worries him, we know, for he likes to go "full steam ahead." Now that the year has turned it cannot be very long before we get longer days and more sun, so we are in no doubt that he will soon be looking up old friends and making new ones on his daily rounds.

FROM THE WORLD OVER



Another Norwich man, W. J. Hare, says that he has now got his new workshop into order and has plenty of work with the variety that his three lines—boots, mats and nets—gives to him.

While speaking of net-makers and nets we may mention that A. G. Wise, of Great Ryburgh, Fakenham, made a net some years ago with the warps of mat material. It has been in constant use over his poultry run ever since it was made, and shows no sign of wear. The benefit of it is that it does not sag in wet weather nor tighten up in dry. Perhaps other St. Dunstaners might like to copy his notion.

Among those lucky enough to have secured a new house in these difficult times is J. B. Hart, of Cardiff, and both he and Mrs. Hart are delighted with the result of their move. Hart hopes to get to work soon and we look to hear word of his progress within the next few months. We know he will put his back into anything he undertakes.

Friends of W. J. Gilbert, of Barnstable, will be glad to hear that he is getting on well after his serious attack that occasioned immediate hospital treatment. All his family were very anxious about him at first, but from the moment when he sent for his "pipe and baccy"—when one of the sons rushed up with these necessities in record time—they felt that the worst was over. No doubt that by the time these lines appear Gilbert will be safely back with his wife and sons. He is a fortunate man to have such a family.

An order for a very large rug from a very large house reached T. J. Floyd, of Teignmouth, not long since, which pleased

him greatly; and no wonder, for such an order is often the prelude to others. Floyd is another of the many who find constant joy in wireless, and the very small boy—who is getting on splendidly—is only a little less enthusiastic a listener than his father.

As keen as ever at helping forward all schemes that will benefit St. Dunstaners and keep them in the public eye is A. J. Caple, of Cardiff, who plays a big part in local whist drives, we hear. He is finding work slacker than it ought to be, but is still regular in his attendance at the Seaman's Hospital, where, we are sure, his ministrations are much appreciated.

Here is a tip for other St. Dunstaners—turn your doctor into a customer! F. Ralph, of Purley, has just contrived to do this by securing an order from his doctor for a wireless cabinet. We are sure that he put his very best work into the execution of this commission.

Upholstering is the latest thing to which C. Maker, of Tavistock, Devon, has been turning his hand. He has re-covered a couch and made an extremely good job of it, too, from all accounts. He has made a wonderful recovery from his recent illness, we are glad to know.

After various losses, the remaining poultry belonging to A. Lane, of Bow, Devon, is doing well, and his pigs, too, are most satisfactory. He must be a busy man indeed, for in addition to this livestock he owns a cow.

"Quite as much occupied as ever" is the news that reaches us concerning yet another Devon man, G. H. Gilpin, of Thorverton.

The same might be said of W. C. Carnell, of Bampton, who contrives to secure customers for all the mats he can make. Perhaps the fact that he always sets to work to find out exactly what his customer wants before beginning has something to do with his success. His poultry are doing well, and as for his turkeys, they were a sheer triumph, for, as Carnell himself puts it, "hatched in April and at Christmas one weighed 28 lbs."

Mats keep G. H. Wootley fairly busy, but any spare time he can find he devotes to poultry. His birds look splendidly healthy.

In Bedford W. V. Sargent has a nice little joinery shop, and as a side line at Christmas he took on the selling of calendars. It was a good idea, because it brought a number of people into his shop who might never have entered it otherwise. We hope he will find that he has an increase in his circle of customers as a result of his initiative.

A man who always seems to have at least some repairs ahead of him is A. Hinton, of Newtown, Malvern, and in addition he contrives to secure a number of local orders for mats. His workshop, by the way, is always kept in most excellent order, so much so that it is a pleasure to see it.

A pleasant order for a number of baskets for a bazaar has just reached H. Smith, of Stalybridge. We congratulate him upon the commission, and hope that it will bring him in a wide advertisement.

Russian boots are beginning to come in for repairs in various parts of the country. Both C. A. Luker, of Wandsworth, and H. A. Baker, Clapham Common, say that they have had a number of pairs through their hands!

A man who contrives to find time for pleasure—or, rather, exercise as well as business—is A. Taylor, of Lye. He has been doing quite a brisk trade in new boots of late and has a number of orders for clogs. Taylor dressed his shop up for Christmas, and it is still looking very smart, we hear, with its new window fittings, &c. Despite his rush of work, he has found leisure in which to partition off his other window, where he shows leathers, laces, &c., and has made a remarkably good job of it too. Taylor is one of our athletes, and says that he intends to enter for every walk this year, so others must look to their laurels.

Contented and independent as ever is J. Whittingslow, who refuses to grow worried even when disasters occur. For instance, a recent gale brought down one of his runs, but instead of fuming, Whittingslow found consolation in the fact that the others had withstood the wind's attack!

Another who knows how to make the best of things is F. Handley, of Derby. He always seems to have repairs on hand and is contemplating developing his business and stocking up with new boots and shoes. We wish him all possible success if he carries his scheme through.

In Belfast, A. Gribben has now set up his workshop, and hopes to start work next week. All St. Dunstaners will join with us in offering him good wishes.

Another Irishman, J. Brockerton, of Coleraine, sends word that he is "as busy as usual." Indeed, he always seems to have a number of local orders on hand and never has enough spare time for all he wants to do. Of late he has been making alterations in his poultry farm and changing the position of his runs. His birds have done very well this winter, we are glad to know.

Everyone who knows G. F. Furniss, of Tenge Bridge, Bolton, will be glad to hear

that his change to Brighton did him an immense amount of good and he feels himself quite a different man. Trade, too, is satisfactory, and his Christmas "side line" of a Chocolate Club turned out a brilliant success.

Poultry is occupying W. Burgin, of Thurgoland, near Sheffield, and he is much amused to find that the neighbours are beginning to regard him as a kind of "poultry expert." They frequently apply to him for advice when anything goes wrong with their birds.

Another man busy with his birds is W. Woodcock, of Rickling Green, Essex. He is in for his most strenuous time, as he has just started his incubators. Woodcock has had a good deal of worry of late, we are sorry to hear. His brother-in-law was knocked down by a motor-car just before Christmas and died later from his injuries. The widow and her two children are staying with Woodcock for the present.

News in Brief

Trade in the fish-shop kept by H. R. Exall, of Peckham, is steadily improving, and his health is excellent.

At Ashford, where G. Polley has his home, snow fell so heavily during our last bout of wintry weather that Polley and his family were nearly snowed up! He has been basket-making under difficulties.

Another who is quite well and working away with his usual steadiness is E. T. Humphries, of Swindon. He says he is always busy.

G. H. Barrett is settling into his new shop in the Old Kent Road, and is hoping to do well with boots. We offer him good wishes and trust he will have all the success he anticipates—and more.

In East Denton J. Simpson has just started with poultry, and has been exceedingly busy getting everything shipshape. Good luck to him.

Two Holloway men, T. Baker and A. Jordan, are doing fairly well in their respective lines of joinery and mats. Trade in both lines should show signs of progress shortly, when the spring-cleaning epidemic begins.

The health of J. A. Garbutt, of Stockton, is excellent, his friends will be glad to know, and he is getting on well at his job.

Poultry is keeping A. Smith, of Elwick, busy at present. Last summer he did well with his café. We hope he will have a record season in 1926.

Another poultry man is J. D. Cockerill, of Laindon. He has just moved into a new house, and is anticipating excellent results, since both house and land are infinitely more convenient than the last. Cockerill himself is looking very well, we hear, although his children have been ailing.

Many of our young St. Dunstaners have been suffering health troubles of late, among them the children of Mr. and Mrs. Hollins, of Middlesboro', who have had record "whoops." The young family of Mr. and Mrs. Hicks, of Purley, has been down with chicken-pox, while the baby had bronchial pneumonia, being very ill indeed. Two of the children of R. Graham, of Holloway, were in the same predicament, while the young Megsons, of Clanfield, and Pearl, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Yarwood, of Ardwick, have all been down with the measles, as has also the small boy of Mr. and Mrs. Hammett, of Clanfield.

Poultry occupies A. Highet, of Stewarston, J. McAvoy, of Mauchline, and D. Livingstone of the same locality. The two last, at least, go in for mats as a side-line, as their friends will remember.

The same occupations keep A. Jarvis, of Bordon, happy and contented. He has improved his place amazingly of late, we hear.

We are glad to note that W. H. Byrd, of Bridgwater, has made splendid progress with centre-cane work during the last few weeks.

W. H. Conlon, of Kirkintulloch, still continues in excellent health, and is doing well at his work with the L.N.E.R. We send him congratulations.

Poultry Notes

St. Dunstan's Winter Egg Laying Test

RECOGNISED BY THE NATIONAL POULTRY COUNCIL

THE third period of twenty-eight days ended on the 23rd January. There has been an improvement in egg production, the average per bird being 11.3 against 8.06 for the previous period.

The total number of eggs laid was 2,431; of these 1,842 were first grade, 539 second grade, and 8 third grade, with 42 unrecorded.

Twenty-two per cent. of the total eggs were second grade.

The usual table is given below, showing the number of first, second and third grade eggs laid by each section, together with the average number of eggs laid per bird for the third period.

Sixteen birds have laid twenty eggs or over during the twenty-eight days. Two birds have been broody—Rings Nos. 10 and 22. One death has occurred—Ring No. 254, in Section 5; cause of death

was ruptured oviduct followed by peritonitis.

The weather during the period under review has been very changeable. The earlier part of the month was decidedly milder, and egg production was improving steadily, when another cold spell, with a considerable fall of snow, came along, necessitating the confinement of the birds to their houses, and a consequent drop in eggs.

Three birds have been in hospital with colds, and there has been some trouble with colds in the pens. These, however, were not of a serious nature, although they were somewhat difficult to get rid of.

At the close of the period we were completely free from colds, with the general health of the birds excellent.

The results of the leading pens are given in the following tables:—

G. G.

SECTION ONE.—RHODE ISLAND REDS.—Four Birds competing

Position	Owner	Eggs laid 3rd Period. Grades			Total all Grades	Eggs laid to date. Grades			Total all Grades	Test value
		1	2	3		1	2	3		
1	Bisset, L. A.	60	6	—	66	168	14	—	182	182
2	Condon, C. T.	60	6	—	66	141	33	—	174	174
3	Tindall, J. H.	57	17	—	74	106	58	2	166	164
4	Coman, A. E.	52	7	—	59	134	18	—	152	152
5	Lea, J. H.	29	12	—	41	101	44	—	145	145
6	Nelson, H.	32	11	—	43	91	34	—	125	125
7	Hill, R. E.	55	2	—	57	106	11	—	117	117
8	Holmes, P.	46	3	—	49	102	9	—	111	111
9	Emerton, T. D.	48	13	—	61	82	27	—	109	109
10	Carlton, W. E.	55	2	—	57	93	14	—	107	107

SECTION TWO.—ANY OTHER HEAVY BREED.—Four Birds competing

1	Maclean, D.	31	11	—	42	119	20	—	139	139
2	Ashwell, R.	34	17	—	51	78	51	4	133	129
3	Bulley, F. E. C.	38	16	—	54	91	31	—	122	122
4	Carter, T. A.	28	34	—	62	64	53	1	118	117

SECTION THREE.—WHITE LEGHORNS.—Four Birds competing

1	Tindall, J. H.	33	18	1	52	97	58	13	168	155
2	Bulman, C. R.	56	7	—	63	134	20	—	154	154
3	Lowrie, R. K.	44	19	—	63	99	40	1	140	139
4	Roach, D.	56	4	—	60	123	12	—	135	135
5	Knopp, H. A.	52	2	—	54	107	21	1	129	128
6	Ramsden, N.	35	—	—	35	116	11	1	128	127
7	Brown, C. H.	45	1	—	46	103	4	—	107	107
8	Horsnell, N.	34	24	—	58	63	44	3	110	107
9	Highet, A.	37	16	1	54	62	32	4	98	94

SECTION FOUR.—HEAVY BREED.—Single Bird

1	Urry, A.	20	1	—	21	43	14	—	57	57
2	Bisset, L. A.	18	—	—	18	51	—	1	52	51
3	Bulman, C.	12	7	—	19	27	19	—	46	42
4	Coman, A. E.	12	—	—	12	41	—	—	41	41
5	Maclaren, D.	18	—	—	18	37	—	—	37	37
6	Burgin, W.	2	2	—	4	32	5	—	37	37
7	Carter, T. A.	—	21	—	21	21	30	—	57	36
8	Chaffin, A.	4	—	—	4	34	—	—	34	34
9	Webb, W.	5	—	—	5	30	2	—	32	32
10	Knopp, H. A.	14	—	1	15	29	1	1	31	30

SECTION FIVE.—LIGHT BREED.—Single Bird

1	Holmes, P.	16	—	—	16	39	—	—	39	39
2	Woodhouse, J.	13	—	—	13	34	—	—	34	34
3	Nolan, J.	12	—	—	12	33	—	—	33	33
4	Chaffin, A.	15	2	—	17	31	2	—	33	33
5	Gregory, E.	20	—	—	20	29	—	—	29	29

Section	No. of Birds	Number of eggs. Grades			Total	Average No. laid per bird
		1	2	3		
1 Rhode Island Reds	84	829	193	2	1,024	12.24
2 A.O. Heavy Breed	28	176	125	3	304	10.86
3 White Leghorns	72	564	170	2	736	10.22
4 Single Heavy Breed	18	150	37	1	194	10.78
5 Single Light Breed	13	117	14	—	131	10.08
		1,842	539	8	2,389	
		Unrecorded			42	
					2,431	11.3

Trade, according to H. McAteer, of Belfast, is not to be called exactly brisk, but considering the state of unemployment in the City he thinks he has his share of luck. He is in very good health, which is another thing for which he is thankful.

T. Rogers, of Kingsbridge, has decided that as the boot trade in his district seems to have slack seasons, he will equip himself with a side-line, and has elected to learn mat-making. We hope he will find the work of real interest and that it may double his circle of customers.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM.

To the EDITOR of "ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,"

HEADQUARTERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S WORK, INNER CIRCLE,

REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, N.W.1.

Please send me the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for { *one year*
six months } for

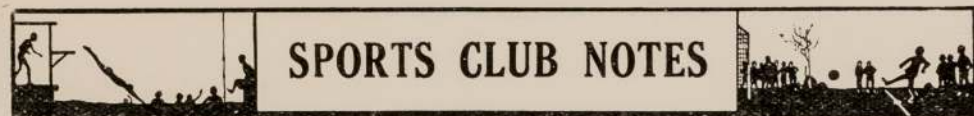
which I enclose { *7s. 6d.*
3s. 9d.

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.....

N.B.—Please strike out the period and charge not required.



OUR After-Care Sports are going along with a right good swing, and our numbers are keeping up wonderfully well week after week. Each point counts, and woe betide our statistical expert, Miss Stacey, if she makes a mistake in her point statistics. Fleming, known to everybody as "Tiny," has climbed to the top, but his lead is precarious, being only five points in front of MacFarlane and Brown. It is splendid to find such enthusiasm and it looks very likely that the championship will be an open thing right until the last day.

POINTS

Fleming ..	800	Henry ..	765
MacFarlane ..	795	Ashton ..	495
Brown ..	780	Burran ..	475
Cookson ..	775	Prior ..	395
Nichols ..	685	Chambers ..	310
Thompson ..	685	Gamble ..	290
Webster ..	685	Bartlett ..	135
Kerr ..	680	Downs ..	135

FOOTBALL

We are in the midst of another football season, and already some very exciting matches have been witnessed. We are grateful to Mr. Martin for again taking his place in goal, and I am sure that he can bear out the shooting ability of the boys.

The following results will give an idea of how we are going along.

Jan.			
27th.	Rackabites .. 3	Allrights .. 1	
	Peachers .. 4	Bowerings .. 3	
28th.	Wireless .. 9	Spurs .. 2	
	Didos .. 7	United .. 3	
Feb.			
1st.	Allrights .. 4	Peachers .. 1	
	Rackabites .. 5	Bowerings .. 4	
2nd.	Wireless .. 5	United .. 3	
	Didos .. 5	Spurs .. 5	
3rd.	Allrights .. 3	Bowerings .. 3	
	Rackabites .. 6	Peachers .. 1	
4th.	Didos .. 4	Wireless .. 3	
	United .. 2	Spurs .. 1	

ROWING

Our rowing is certainly going strong, and many men are putting in all the time possible on the lake in preparation for the regatta. I also understand, to ensure

their entry in good time, one or two have already entered for certain of the regatta races.

It is more than kind of the ladies of Bedford College to keep coming to our assistance in the early mornings and we trust they will accept this expression of our gratitude.

PHYSICAL JERKS

Instructor Tovell has his hands full in the early morning, and an exceedingly large percentage of the men are regularly turning out. I am very glad that they are keeping up this excellent and, shall I say, necessary branch of athletics. I know that they will find it of incalculable value.

PRESENT BOYS' SPORTS

Here again we can report very satisfactory progress. As the following list shows, our numbers are exceedingly good, and we heartily congratulate the new boys upon their keenness and also upon their progress in such a short time. Peach is already on top of the T.B. section, whilst Stock and Craddock are ahead in the S.S.

T.B.		S.S.	
Peach ..	115	Stock ..	85
Tetley ..	70	Craddock ..	70
Day ..	50	Rickaby ..	60
Haugh ..	45	Moore ..	55
Bull ..	45	Cole ..	45
Wayne ..	35	Parrick ..	45
Boyter ..	30	Bedford ..	40
Cook ..	25	Eden ..	30
Aitken ..	10	Naman ..	30
Radley ..	10	Jones ..	30
		Williams ..	30
		Parke ..	25
		Squire ..	25
		Muncaster ..	20
		Comley ..	20
		Crook ..	15
		Buchanan ..	15
		Bowering ..	15

WALKING

SIX MILE OUTER CIRCLE WALK

Our big walk on Saturday, 6th February, was certainly one of the most successful we have had. First of

all we had a record entry, and then also had the joy of competing against sighted competitors from such famous clubs as the Polytechnic and the Queen's Park Harriers. Altogether we were holding five races, handicap events for T.B. and S.S. and Novices—T.B. and S.S.—and also a team race where our first four men in of each handicap section counted.

Luckily, we were saved from rain, for just as the walk had finished the rain began to tumble down. We were sorry that Captain Fraser was prevented from coming, but it was a real pleasure to have Lady (Arthur) Pearson with us. Although she had a very busy day, she came up, and not only gave all the competitors a very cheery and encouraging speech and started all the various races, but she did a round of the Circle to see how we were going along. We are very grateful indeed to her for her goodness.

We started the races in sections, as there were too many to go all at once. The T.B.'s of the Seniors led off, and Ingram at once set the pace. It was a splendid race all through, with the leader keeping his place, closely followed by Castle, Birch and Boorman. Ingram eventually arrived home in the glorious time of 51.42, a really great performance, and well ahead of Castle, who showed splendid form with 54.2, and Birch eighteen seconds later. Mr. Handicap, of course, altered the final positions, giving Boorman, Lender-you and Northgreaves the first three places. These walkers deserve our very hearty congratulations for very plucky walking. Boorman was particularly good.

The S.S. Seniors was also a fine race, with Archie Brown ahead practically all the way. Comley and Trott also did exceedingly well in completing the course in 51.0 and 51.11 respectively. Comley's improvement, for a comparatively new walker, is extraordinary. Brown completed the course in our record time of 49.48, a remarkable time when it is noted that only two of our sighted friends beat it.

The handicap placed Giles, Fleming and Comley in the first three positions, and this result should prove very encouraging.

The Novices races were also good. Taylor did uncommonly well to complete

the course in 55.3, whilst Nicholls and Trigg showed excellent form in 56.20 and 56.52.

In the S.S., Gover lead the way with 55.11, with Cashmore 55.26 and Ashton 56.55, all very good performances. On the whole the results speak well for our "walking future"; if the men would train carefully and faithfully I can see some big races later on. However, it will be a nice preparatory trip for the twelve miles on March 20th.

THE TEAM RACE.

The Team Race was a very near thing. The Polytechnic did the best time, but our handicap pulled us through; yet it is a very encouraging thing to run such a fine team to a five minutes' handicap and beat them. This is what our S.S. team did, and we are proud of them.

After the race we refreshed ourselves with tea and cake, and the opportunity was taken to thank those who had so willingly helped to give us such a good day. The ladies who had looked after our tea, the guides who had given up their afternoon for our benefit, the time-keepers, Mr. Donoghue and Mr. Gordon Brown, the walking judge, Mr. Barman, of Finchley Harriers, and everybody else. Miss Hamar Greenwood most charmingly presented the prizes, and I am sure the value of the prize is enhanced by such sweet kindness. Our thanks are also due to the Polytechnic and Queen's Park Harriers for sending teams and particularly to Mr. Donoghue for all he did for us. He not only helped in the actual race, but framed our handicap and provided medals for the winning team. So a very enjoyable day ended, and we are looking forward to the next.

Will all those who intend entering for the 12 miles' handicap on March 20th please send in their names *not later* than 1st March? I feel sure that all will understand that names cannot be accepted at the last moment. Handicapping and guide arrangements must be made well ahead.

The complete times and placings are tabulated overleaf.

J. E. W.

RESULTS

OUTER CIRCLE WALK.—6th February 1926

HANDICAP EVENT

T.B. SECTION

Order	Name	Escort	1st Round		2nd Round		Total		H'cap	Net	Order of Finish
			m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	Allowance	Time	
1	Boorman, H.	Mr. Frankeiss	27 52	28 18	56 10	5 45	50 25	4			
2	Lenderyou, F.	Edgley	28 59	29 7	58 6	7 30	50 36	5			
3	Northgreaves, H.	Crerar	30 13	32 18	62 31	11 15	51 6	8			
4	Ingram, J.	Burnett	25 40	26 2	51 42	—	51 42	1			
5	Gamble, S.	Lockett	30 22	31 10	61 32	9 45	51 47	7			
6	Castle, W. S.	Morgan	26 50	27 12	54 2	2 0	52 2	2			
7	Rhodes, F.	Smith	31 17	32 31	63 48	11 30	52 18	10			
8	Birch, W.	Travell	27 26	26 54	54 20	2 0	52 20	3			
9	Lowings, W.	Peacock	29 5	30 39	59 44	6 45	52 59	6			
10	Webster, S.	Chalk	31 55	33 35	65 30	12 0	53 30	11			
11	Peach, C.	Pruce	31 0	32 44	63 44	10 0	53 44	9			

S.S. SECTION

1	Giles, H.	Crear	27 34	29 21	56 55	10 0	46 55	5
2	Fleming, J.	Hodgkins	25 16	29 22	54 38	6 30	48 8	4
3	Comley, R.	Bentley	24 20	26 40	51 0	1 30	49 30	2
4	Brown, A.	Stone	24 4	25 44	49 48	—	49 48	1
5	Trott, W.	Atkinson	24 25	26 46	51 11	—	51 11	3
6	Bedford, W.	Nesbitt	29 10	32 0	61 10	7 45	53 25	6

OUTER CIRCLE WALK.—6th February 1926

NOVICES

T.B. SECTION

Order	Name	Escort	Time		Total
			1st R'nd	2nd R'nd	
1	A. Taylor	Mr. Livermore	27 2	28 1	55 3
2	W. Nicholls	Stupples	27 59	28 21	56 20
3	A. Trigg	Jordan	28 33	28 19	56 52
4	H. Kerr	Fitzgerald	30 52	30 13	61 5
5	R. Boyter	Bailey	31 46	30 17	62 3
6	H. Tomkinson	Goom	31 1	32 3	63 4
7	J. MacFarlane	Wicks	31 17	31 54	63 11
8	T. North	Hulse	32 19	33 27	65 46
9	J. Moellar	Camp	32 30	33 33	66 9
10	W. Shakespeare	Crerar	34 24	34 52	69 16

S.S. SECTION

1	H. Gover	Saffery	27 15	27 56	55 11
2	T. Cashmore	Chapman	28 1	27 25	55 26
3	P. Ashton	Kempton	28 39	28 16	56 55
4	W. Roberts	Hyde	30 15	30 40	60 55
5	J. Cookson	Stone	31 16	29 48	61 4
6	J. Bentley	Bentley	33 59	32 29	66 28

News from the Workshops

MATS

C. H. STOCK has shown an evident interest in mat-making, and has made a decided advance before going to King's Langley to commence his Poultry Course. Since our last report, V. P. Mordue has continued to get through a very useful amount of work in quite good style. In addition to plain mats, he has made several with diamond and insertion borders, and others with letters, and all in very good style indeed. S. Aitken has also been having experience with five-diamond mats. He places his thrums well and his cutting is good. G. Hadfield has also made a good start in this work, and gives every indication of proving a good mat-maker.

BOOT SHOP

J. T. Davies has completed his Revision Course on Boot Repairing, and has now gone to Bolton to join the little family of Cloggers, of which J. Eccleston is one. This latter man has, unfortunately, been having illness at home, but since the middle of January he has been doing some good work on re-clogging, and is settling down well.

BASKETS

We were glad to welcome back J. Donnelly, after his rather lengthy absence, on account of illness, at the end of last term. He is to be congratulated on the ready way in which he took up his work again, having apparently forgotten nothing of the details. He has been having a good try at oval work since Christmas. R. Boyter continues to make very good use of his time, getting through several three-cornered soiled linens last term, and also some teapot stands, flower baskets, barrels and workbaskets in quite good style. J. R. Harkness has also been continuing steadily and satisfactorily with varied work, including some hampers and workbaskets, as well as barrels and soiled linens. C. Peach has also done round soiled linens and workbaskets, but has found oval work a bit of a difficulty.

W. H. O.

TEAM RACE

1ST.—ST. DUNSTAN'S S.S.

	m.	s.
Brown	49	48
Comley	51	0
Trott	51	11
Fleming	54	38
<hr/>		
Less Handicap	206	37
	5	0
<hr/>		
	201	37

2ND.—POLYTECHNIC HARRIERS

	m.	s.
R. H. Cook	48	28
A. Webb	50	1
H. R. Martin	51	17
P. A. Kelly	52	21
<hr/>		
Scratch	202	7

3RD.—QUEEN'S PARK HARRIERS

	m.	s.
Lloyd	48	16
Rippon	51	15
Morley	53	17
Shaw	53	17
<hr/>		
Less Handicap	206	5
	2	0
<hr/>		
	204	5

4TH.—ST. DUNSTAN'S T.B.

	m.	s.
Ingram	51	42
Castle	54	2
Birch	54	20
Boorman	56	10
<hr/>		
Less Handicap	216	14
	12	0
<hr/>		
	204	14

W. H. Collins, of Baldock, is now more busy with mats, which he is making in good style. E. J. Thompson, of Letchworth, is yet another of our mat-makers who takes pleasure in his work. He has just finished two "specials," which aroused a good deal of interest. His sideline is nets. W. R. Dunning, of Brockley Rise, has had the good fortune to receive a wireless set as a present from a doctor who lives not far distant; naturally it is giving him an immense amount of pleasure, especially during his recent illness.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE JAMES DOWNIE
(2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles)

DEEP and widespread regret will be felt, not only by all St. Dunstaners, but by the great circle of friends he had made, at the death of this fine type of Overseas St. Dunstaner. Downie, who was born in Glasgow, went to British Columbia over twenty years ago. He enlisted for active service early in 1916, and served during the war with the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles. He was severely wounded at Passchendaele on the 20th October 1917, losing the sight of both eyes. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in May 1918, and took a full course of training as poultry farmer and netter. He carried on very successfully on his return to Abbotsford, B.C., and was in every way an excellent St. Dunstaner. His kindly, jovial disposition and his wholehearted activities on behalf of others will make him missed by a host of friends. Downie returned to England as recently as last year in order to be present at the sixtieth anniversary of his parents' wedding. He then had the opportunity of meeting many of his old comrades, and making the acquaintance of later St. Dunstaners.

Downie died at the Shaughnessy Military Hospital on 15th December from pneumonia following an operation. The funeral was a most impressive ceremony, and was attended by one of the largest gatherings ever assembled at Abbotsford for a like occasion. Members of the Great War Veterans' Association, in which organisation Downie took prominent part, attended in a body and formed a guard of honour on either side of the entrance gates and also formed a square at the graveside. The Sir Arthur Pearson Club was represented by Mr. E. Beckham, of Vancouver, and at the conclusion of the interment each soldier present passed by the grave, dropping a poppy on to the casket. Many beautiful floral tributes were received.

Downie leaves a widow and two children to mourn the memory of a husband and father who lived his life bravely and hopefully to the end.

(A personal tribute from a friend appears on page 17.)

SERGEANT JOHN MITCHELL
(12th Northumberland Fusiliers)

We much regret to record the death of this St. Dunstaner who took active part, since he himself was totally blinded by a bomb in the Battle of the Somme, in telling the public of the widespread work undertaken by our organisation. Mitchell, who enlisted early in September 1914, was discharged from the Army three years later. He did not actually come to the Hostel until 1922, but previous to that had received a good deal of care and attention from St. Dunstan's. He passed his Typewriting Test, and after leaving the Hostel did, as stated, a considerable amount of propaganda work for St. Dunstan's. Although a man of great energy, his health was never very robust, and for some time before his death he had had to undergo various courses of treatment. Eventually he returned home, but in spite of the splendid way in which he was nursed by his wife, he grew gradually worse and died on the 21st December from tuberculosis of the lungs. The funeral took place in Harrogate, on the 24th December, and many beautiful wreaths were received, including one from St. Dunstan's in the form of our badge. Sergeant Mitchell leaves a widow, a son, and a daughter.

SAPPER WALKER WRAY
(Royal Engineers)

Wray was another St. Dunstaner whose state of health did not permit him to take full advantage of the opportunities St. Dunstan's affords. In spite of this, everything possible was done for him, both by St. Dunstan's and by the devoted nursing of his daughter, Mrs. Matthews, with whom he lived. In October last Wray became very seriously ill, and died on the 11th. The funeral took place at Leeds.

SAPPER THOMAS LEWIS EVANS
(Royal Engineers—Naval Division)

Enlisting in December, 1915, this St. Dunstaner was discharged from the Army two years later, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in December of the following year. While with us he was trained in boot-repairing, and made good progress with this trade. After leaving, he also learnt a little mat-making, but was considerably handicapped in his work owing to ill-health. Growing gradually weaker he died on the 16th January at the age of forty-five years.

The funeral took place at Smithdown Road Cemetery, Liverpool, on the 19th January. Among the many beautiful wreaths received was one from "Captain Fraser and his other Comrades at St. Dunstan's," in the form of a large cushion of white chrysanthemums with "St. Dunstan's" worked across in red carnations. Evans leaves a widow and four children.

Births

DOLBY.—On the 26th of December, a little son, born to the wife of A. S. Dolby, of Wood Green.

HALL.—To the wife of E. Hall, of Steven-ton, a little son (Alfred Harvey Daniel), born the 22nd November.

HARRISON.—On the 26th November, to the wife of F. C. Harrison, of Leyton-stow, a girl.

PEARCE.—On the 29th of December, a boy, to the wife of H. A. T. Pearce, of Reading.

PETTIT.—On the 2nd February, to the wife of D. Pettit, of Northampton, a daughter.

PORTER.—To the wife of H. F. Porter, of Southampton, a daughter, born the 29th December.

ROSE.—On the 1st January, New Year's Day, at Longniddry, Scotland, a son, to the wife of J. D. Rose.

Deaths

We send our sympathy to:—

DAKIN.—H. Dakin, of Peckham, who lost his mother on the 30th of December. She was taken ill very suddenly about the middle of the month.

FEARN.—E. Fearn, of Moira, whose little son (Francis) died on the 22nd January.

GODING.—W. Goding, of Leicester, whose eldest brother passed away on the 26th of December after a long and painful illness.

PEARCE.—H. A. T. Pearce, of Reading, whose little daughter died on the 30th December. The child was only three years of age and had suffered from bronchitis.

SMITH.—A. Smith, of Harlesden, whose mother died suddenly at the beginning of the New Year.

SHURROCK.—W. Shurrock, of Barnsley, who lost his baby daughter on the 23rd January.

TIBBS.—G. Tibbs, of Kentish Town, whose mother died on her birthday (Christmas Day), aged 85, after a short illness.

YARE.—J. Yare, of Liverpool, who has recently lost his mother.

Departmental Notes

NETTING NOTES

In response to an increasing demand for $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch mesh fruit nets, we have started placing orders for this finer work with some of our regular After-Care netters, and hope soon to accumulate some useful sections in readiness for strawberry time. We have, of course, very good stocks of 1-inch mesh fruit netting, and we have opened our usual spring advertising campaign rather earlier this year. We wish that owners of small gardens who perhaps possess only a few isolated strawberries or currant bushes could realise that it would be well worth while to protect them from the birds. Our nets last many seasons, and can be sent out fitted with draw-cords for single bushes. So many garden lovers are fond of the wild song birds, but are inclined to think that the establishment of friendly relations with them means the sacrifice of their small fruit. Why do they not use our netting and so enjoy the company of their feathered friends without the loss of their fruit?

G. H. W.

BRAILLE NOTES

Hearty congratulations to A. A. Hillier, E. T. Squires, and T. A. Williams on passing their Reading Test.

TYPEWRITING NOTES

Our best wishes to A. A. Hillier, C. H. Stock, G. Naman, and T. Williams on passing their Typewriting Test.

The girls of the Stradbroke School, Great Yarmouth, have kindly presented three new books to the St. Dunstan's Braille Library: "Monsieur de Rochefort," by H. de Vere Stacpoole; "Under the Red Robe," by Weyman; "The Man with the Club Foot," by Valentine.

M. H. R.

After-Care Meetings and News

PRESTON RE-UNION MEETING

A VERY delightful gathering assembled at the Bull and Royal Hotel, Preston, on Friday, 15th January. Well over fifty sat down to a wonderful tea, to which everyone did full justice.

Mr. Swain, in his usual cheery speech, welcomed all present in Captain Fraser's name. For himself, he said how pleased he was to meet so many old friends, and only hoped that they derived as much real pleasure out of the meetings as he did. He also reminded them that on the following Monday he was commencing his eighth year at St. Dunstan's.

Sergeant Kirkby, in a charming little speech, proposed a vote of thanks to Captain Fraser and Mr. Swain for the meeting, and R. Wooldridge seconded, saying how important he considered the re-unions were to enable St. Dunstaners to keep in personal touch with Headquarters. W. Allen also seconded, making special reference to our late Chief, Sir Arthur.

A splendid entertainment was given, and our thanks are due to Mrs. Stanbridge and Mr. Herbert Gunson, who sang several duets. Special mention must be made of their rendering of "The Key of Heaven"; and T. Till charmed everyone with "The Italian Love Song." Messrs. Mansley and Hever caused much laughter with their humorous items.

The competitions were won by Mrs. Campbell and W. Alston.

P. F.

BURNLEY RE-UNION MEETING

The Burnley meeting was held on exactly the same day as last year (14th January), and again at the Empress Hotel. In spite of the wintry weather—snow was falling fast—there was a record attendance.

After photographs were taken for the Press we all sat down to a splendid tea, at which everyone appeared to be talking of old St. Dunstan's days, and much

merriment was caused by J. T. Flannery's amusing remarks on life in general.

Mr. Swain, after giving Captain Fraser's message of welcome, spoke for some fifteen minutes on matters of interest to the men, and referred at some length to the new Pensions Act.

J. T. Flannery returned thanks on behalf of all present, and was seconded by F. Openshaw.

Mr. Wright Sutcliffe and Mr. Simpson again entertained us, and C. E. Thomas and H. Edge delighted everyone with their songs.

The winners of the competitions were Mrs. Openshaw and Mr. Burdis.

P. F.

Blind Wireless Expert

A writer in the *Yorkshire Observer* comments as follows on blind radiosts:—

Listening-in is undoubtedly a source of much enjoyment to the blind, who, though their contentment with their lot is very often exemplary to those more fortunate, have found in radio a welcome addition to the limited amenities of their lives.

But not many blind persons, I should imagine, interest themselves in their receivers so much as a man I met in a shop the other day (writes a correspondent). He was buying some radio coils in order to "get" Daventry, and, though sightless, he was familiar with all the different forms and makes.

He ran his sensitive fingers over them, commenting on the quality of the binding of this and the comparative size of that. From his conversation it was quite evident that the arrangement and the working of the "innards" (his own word) were no mystery to him.

Of course many St. Dunstaners (we had almost said *most*) who make a hobby of wireless have probably as sound a knowledge of the technique of the science and the construction of apparatus as any sighted radiosts. An outstanding example is our own Chairman, whose knowledge in such directions has given him a front rank place among wireless amateurs.

The Other Fellow

By E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

IT is extraordinary to see the number of people who go about grumbling at their own job and envying the job the other fellow has.

"Ah!" they say, "if only I had his chances!" You know the type of man I mean, don't you? He always wants what he hasn't got and is always wanting to be where he isn't.

The curious thing is that while you are saying this about the other fellow's job, he is saying exactly the same thing about yours.

You are both of you making the same mistake. You are both looking at your own jobs in terms of their disadvantages, and looking only at the advantages of the job belonging to the other fellow.

If you don't see the opportunities that your own job holds it is because you fail to recognise opportunity under its disguise of hard work.

If the other fellow is making good it is because he is cheerfully shouldering responsibility and working hard.

If he is forging ahead it is because he is busy making opportunities instead of sitting down and waiting for them to come to him.

There's nothing wrong with your job, my friend. The trouble is with yourself. If you worked half as hard at your job as you work at envying other people, your employer would be getting something like value for his money.

And you yourself would be getting satisfaction from your work instead of irritation.

Never mind the other fellow. He's got plenty of worries and irritations, even though you can't see them.

You have just the same opportunities as he has—if you take the trouble to look for them.

FOR SALE

PIANO-PLAYER, with Organ Attachment, in rosewood case (equal to new). Cost price £40; willing to sell £35 or nearest offer.—Mrs. Dawson, 45 The Crescent, Moulscombe, Brighton.

THE following tribute to James Downie, whose death is reported in another portion of this issue, appears in *The Abbotsford, Sumas and Matsqui News*, British Columbia:—

"JIMMIE"

(A TRIBUTE FROM HUNTINGDON)

Light has gone from Abbotsford. Its streets and its gatherings have less radiance.

The very rays of heaven have lost in cheer and comfort since Jimmie left.

He, to whom the sun brought no beams and the lighted lamp of evening no consolation, is now known to have been the truest light-bearer we had.

How we depended on the tap of his stick, on the sound of his voice!

How proud was each one of us when, having spoken, Jimmie recognised our voice, and hailed us as a friend! We would rather be intimate with Jimmie than with the biggest man in town, whoever he be.

How mean to feel now that we depended on Jimmie to brighten our concerts and meetings; that when we were tongue-stuck and clumsy Jimmie had to make the speech for us! We stood behind Jimmie, of course—and let him stand for the renown of the village.

Abbotsford will be honoured for ever because Jimmie lived here. We might have done more for him, so it seems now. Our only worthiness in his memory is that we loved him.

He was the optimist of the village. Petty troubles, depressions, temporary sicknesses paled before the brightness of Jimmie's blind smile. We dare not grumble in his presence; we could not parade our misery before his great affliction. So we smiled with him, brightened by the tonic of his great spirit.

Our meetings will be darker for his absence—but more so if we forget him.

It would spoil that bliss which is now his reward if he knew that his example of cheer had faded into oblivion. He would have us "carry on" as he had done, not worrying over the things we had missed and lost, but rejoicing over every small comfort that remains.

He showed how small are any of these pleasures we think essential. What mattered sightless eyes if the heart was full of light—if brightness beamed from the soul?

Jimmie brought more light into our lives than any visitant we remember. It would pain him to think he had cast a gloom over this Christmas—his first in the Light in which we all see light. The least homage we can pay to his memory is to live as worthily as he believed us to be. He saw no faults in us; he looked for no meanness. He could see all the good in us, and he believed more than we revealed. His reward is with him, in the light and radiance of his own clear spirit.

The glories of a better world are only the expansion of that radiance he possessed—"the light that never was on land or sea."

News from Brighton

TWENTY-FOUR of the men from our Brighton Annexe were the guests on the 13th January of the Kingston Buci Church Communicants' Guild and Bible Class.

The party, which was in charge of Messrs. G. E. Parsifal and A. Collier, assisted by Messrs. B. Martle and L. Chatfield (members of the Guild), made the journey to Kingston Hall in a South-down car, and on arrival were welcomed by the Guild and Bible Class members. At five o'clock they partook of a delightful tea, after which a conversazione took place, whilst preparations were made for the excellent concert which followed, the guests being supplied with cigarettes.

The Rev. Sydney Swann (Rector) and his wife, Lady Bagot, paid a much-appreciated visit.

At the close of the concert the artists were warmly thanked, our party of St. Dunstaners giving them three hearty cheers. A happy evening closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

On Sunday evening, 31st January, St. Dunstaners staying at the Brighton Annexe were entertained by a party organised by the R.A.O.B. (Grand Lodge of England). The party, consisting of members of the order and certain lady friends, was under the management of Bro. Sid Lynn, who, in his usual cheery manner, saw that the programme ran through without the slightest hitch, every item receiving the usual hearty appreciation. Bro. George Turner (I.P.P.G.P.), at whose instigation the party had been formed, was also present.

Hearty thanks were expressed on behalf of the Matron (Miss Thellusson) and the men by two St. Dunstaner brothers of the order now in residence at the Annexe.

In a letter to the Editor, written from Brighton, G. Fallowfield sends us along some excellent stories, of which we regret we have only space to quote two:—

An American was visiting London, and had started out with a friend in the bright sunshine, but the day changed and it was now raining. "Say, pard," said the American, "don't you think the weather very changeable here?"

His English friend eyed him and replied: "No, I don't. If it was changeable we'd have changed it years ago."

The American, feeling a little stung, remarked: "The trains are not very quick here. I have been in 'em over in the States when they did a hundred miles an hour."

"Well," returned the Englishman, "that's nothing; I came up this morning with an American who had a third-class ticket, and he did the journey in a *second*."

"Eyes of the B.B.C."

CHART RECORDS OF OSCILLATION

A small room on the top floor of the London offices of the British Broadcasting Company contains so many charts and diagrams that it is now the "eyes of the B.B.C." It is here that the interests of listeners are watched in many ways.

An official can tell at a glance from these charts which part of London is suffering most severely from oscillation. He can also see which stations of the B.B.C. are suffering from foreign interference.

The latest addition is the "black list" regarding oscillation in London. Every complaint received from a district is marked on one of the charts, and when a district is shown to be seriously affected steps are taken to find the offender, so as to warn him of the harm being done to others.

On another chart every reported case of foreign interference is entered against the English station concerned, with the name of the foreign station and certain technical details. This chart enables England to be kept free from severe jamming. When any station accumulates a large number of interference reports, the information is collated. If the position is serious the matter is reported to the International Wireless Bureau, Geneva, whose wave-length adjustment usually stops the trouble.

Library for the Blind

We take the following from the "South African Nation":—

A NATIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND.

A noble service to the blind has been rendered by Miss J. E. Wood and those who have been associated with her in establishing the recently opened South African Library for the Blind at Grahams-town. The Library, which is the first of its kind in this country, has been brought into being as a result of the untiring, voluntary work carried on by Miss Wood and her friends since 1914. Progress has been slow and public recognition has not been as generous as the cause deserved, but at last the courageous pioneers are able to see a tangible reward for their perseverance and self-sacrificing labours.

The library is a National Library with volumes in Braille adapted for both Afrikaans and English readers, and its services will be available to blind persons throughout the country. The demands on the Library already require an issue of some 500 books a month and as the total collection at present only numbers 1,000 volumes, it will be seen that the need for extension is urgent. We hope that public authorities and the public at large will help to make this possible.

On the occasion of the official opening of the Library, Mr. Advocate Bowen, M.P.C., made a suggestion which we can cordially endorse. He expressed the hope that an incentive would now be provided for the creation of a National Institute having for its object the education and vocational training of all blind persons so that they may be fitted for useful occupations.

NEED FOR SPECIAL TRAINING.

The Union Government having taken over the responsibility for vocational training, the time is ripe for action in this respect. The work of St. Dunstan's

and of the special training institutions for the blind in Europe and America has sufficiently proved that there are a number of occupations for which blind persons can be fitted and at comparatively small expense to the community. To leave them in compulsory idleness is to deprive the country of valuable citizens and to inflict needless and cruel suffering upon those who should command our sympathy and all the help we can afford.

Walking Handicap for Northern St. Dunstaners

The North Manchester Harriers and A.C. are promoting a 4½ miles' Road Walking Handicap for the boys in the north, to take place from the Club's headquarters, Red Lion Hotel, Blackley, Manchester, on Saturday, 17th April 1926, at 2.45 p.m. Prizes will be given according to the number of competitors who enter. It is hoped that a good entry will be received for this walk, as the short distance should attract competitors who would not attempt the longer distances. Walking escorts will be provided. Entries should be sent to W. M. Slack, 129 Wernbury Street, Harpurhey, Manchester, not later than Saturday, 10th April.

Chapel Services at St. Dunstan's

I am sure that many of our Old Boys who used to attend our old chapel services so regularly will be interested to know that since last summer we have been holding services in the quiet lounge at Headquarters on Tuesdays at 5.15 p.m. These services have been very encouraging in every way, for not only has our service room been crowded to the doors, but the boys have shown such keenness that it has been a real joy to take part. Sister Grey has been most helpful in looking after the musical arrangements, whilst of course Sister Reynolds and Sister Berry have been supporting the work with their usual enthusiasm.

I feel it is nice for the men who have left to know this, and also to realise that they are being remembered in our prayers at Headquarters.

J. E. W.

THE following, which appeared in a recent issue of the *Birmingham Post*, suggests to us that the Board of Guardians in question could not have come into contact with the many St. Dunstaners who take part in public and civic life:—

BLIND PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE

A London Board of Guardians recently submitted a curious question for the decision of the Minister of Health. They asked whether they might incur the expense of printing notes of meetings, agenda, and so forth in Braille type for the benefit of a blind member of their board. The department could find no precedent for putting such a charge on the rates, and made inquiries from other Boards of Guardians and similar bodies as to their procedure in a like case. These inquiries revealed the extent to which blind people now share in public life, and how little they are handicapped by their disability in conducting useful business. In no case had it been found necessary to have papers printed in Braille. Blind members of boards, councils and committees, it appears, invariably master the contents of preliminary documents before attending meetings, and because of that higher concentration which the loss of one faculty often develops they often show a better grasp of a subject than sighted colleagues. The Board of Guardians who raised the question have been informed that the proposed expenditure on Braille printing cannot be allowed. It is, of course, not necessary.

G. Fallowfield, of Codicote, Herts, writes to us strongly approving of the advice given in our last issue for our men not to undertake orders for the making of bird-netting for trapping wild birds.

At the same time, Fallowfield, who obviously has very definite and sincere views on the whole subject of keeping

wild beasts in captivity or hunting them, makes a strong plea for the suppression of all these practices. "Personally," he says, "I do not hold with the trapping of any bird or animal, nor do I hold with the hunting of large or small game; but if we are going to stop the schoolboy trapping his bird, let us stop everything in the way of hunting and trapping."

Mr. and Mrs. Westwood, of Middleborough, are now comfortably settled in their own little home, and both are looking much better for the change.

Another recent removal is G. W. H. Wright, of Norwich. He has been in his new abode some eight months, and is now thoroughly accustomed to his surroundings. His trade is baskets.

Baskets, too, keep S. Goodman, of Luton, busy. He always seems able to secure a reasonable amount of work, which, no doubt, helps him to keep so fit.

Among our shopkeepers we must mention J. W. Yarwood, of Ardwick, and C. Molloy, of Wigan. Their window displays are a credit to them.

Dog lovers will be interested to hear that J. Foreman, of Beckenham, intends exhibiting at Cruft's Show this month. We wish him all success.

FOR SALE

A 1926 TANDEM BICYCLE, lady front-22-inch frame, 24-inch wheels, plated rims fitted with extra heavy Dunlop cord tyres, front and back rim brakes, light rear carrier. Condition as new; only ridden ten miles. Built by Chater-Lea. Bargain at £15.—Apply After-Care Department.

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