St. Dunstan's Review.

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TAXI-DRIVERS.

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

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[Free to St. Dunstan's Men.

EDITORIAL

E know that all our readers will make every allowance for any shortcomings either in the standard of production or in the date of issue of this month's Review. Indeed, at the moment of writing, we are not even sure that we shall be able to print this month's Review at all. At the same time, we know that all St. Dunstaners would regret a breakage in the continuity with which our little house magazine has been issued for so many years, and we are making every effort to publish short of calling for the service of labour which

might be required for other more essential needs in this time of emergency.

While we have no intention of reviewing in any but general aspects the situation in which the country is placed at present, it may be of interest to notice briefly some of the ways in which the general strike has affected the personnel of our own Organisation and their work. On another page of this issue will be found a report of a short address made by our Chairman to the members of the Executive and Administrative Staff at Headquarters, and the men at present in residence. It outlines in clear, concise and moderate fashion the attitude of the Executive, and as such was a greatly helpful lead at a time when quite naturally a good deal of speculation and anxiety was in the minds of all. Since that address was given splendid evidence has been forthcoming of the success and pluck with which everyone at St. Dunstan's has faced the situation. Difficulties of transport for both men and staff have been dealt with smoothly and effectively, and the inevitable interference with postal, telephone and telegraph services, so important in the conduct of an Organisation such as St. Dunstan's, have not been allowed to materially affect the continuance of our work.

From reports which have reached Headquarters from St. Dunstaners in various parts of the country it is evident, too, that our men everywhere are behaving exactly as everyone would expect them to do, and that is taking as full a share as they are able of the responsibilities with which we are all faced. Whatever may be the eventual outcome of the present conflict, it can at least be said that St. Dunstan's and its men "carried on" according to the traditions of which we are so justly proud.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION (ON TOUR)

St. Dunstaners should note that the British Empire Exhibition (On Tour) will visit the following towns on the following dates: The Public Hall, Preston, from 4th to 20th May; The Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, from 24th May to 12th June; The Winter Gardens, Southport, from 17th June to 29th June.

St. Dunstan's and the Strike The Chairman's Address

N Monday, 3rd May, the eve of the General Strike, Captain Fraser addressed a full gathering of the staff and the men in residence at Headquarters. Captain Fraser said:—

"I won't keep you more than a minute or two. I feel it is my duty just to say a word or two to the men, and there are also one or two things I want to say to

the staff as a whole.

First of all, as regards the men. It seems probable that there will be a general stoppage of work in a very large number of trades to-night, and some of you may be perhaps wondering about your people at home, especially those who are receiving allowances from St. Dunstan's, so that I may tell you that we have made arrangements already to forward to all the wives of St. Dunstaners who are receiving allowances from St. Dunstan's four weeks' money in advance. The post will be operating as usual to-day, so I think there is no doubt that these remittances will be received to-morrow or the next day, so that the money will be there, and your people will be able to avoid any anxiety in that respect. (Cheers.)

"Then as regards your work here. I feel that it is our duty so far as we can to carry on with our work in as normal a way as possible. We must not lose time in your training, as time is important, at least from your point of view, and I feel that organisations like St. Dunstan's which are carrying on the ordinary business of the country, should do their best in spite of difficulties to carry on. (Hear, hear.) That being so, training and the re-education which goes on here will continue normally so far as this is possible. That depends primarily on our being able to get the staff here. We are utilising our own transport to make sure that so far as possible the staff of the workshops will be present.

"As regards the staff generally. I am sure you will realise what is your duty

in a time of emergency like this. I do not want to enter into the merits of the dispute, for we, collectively at any rate, have no interest in the matter. But perhaps some individual members of the staff may be thinking of the question of volunteer service, than I ask them to bear these considerations in mind—that they are here at St. Dunstans rendering a national service, and it is a primary duty to continue that if they can get here. We will make such arrangements as we can to pick up the heads of departments at central points. I do not for a moment suggest that any members of the staff are not essential, but some work simply must go on, and others, although important, need not go on from day to day. As time goes on we shall see which members of the staff can get here and which cannot, and in cases of the latter we shall, of course, be pleased to release them if they desire to render National service in their own localities. But for the moment I feel that perhaps it may be helpful if I just say this one word urging you all to face the difficulties which may arise, and probably will arise, as stoically and as graciously as you can, and suggest to you that whatever feeling may be in your minds as to the necessity for joining up with the one or other service. your first duty lies here. And I know that I shall have your full co-operation.' (Applause.)

After the strike had continued for a few days, the following notice was posted by the Chairman:—

Inquiries have reached me from individuals desiring to know what would be their position in relation to the Council of St. Dunstan's if they desire to join up as Special Constables, or in any other whole or part-time work on behalf of the Government. Notice is hereby given, that in general I shall be pleased to arrange for leave of absence for Members of the Staff who desire to volunteer in this way. Application for permission should however, be made to the Head of the Department concerned, who will refer such applications to me.

IAN FRASER.

Jolly Outing for the Brighton Annexe Men

E print, by the courtesy of the Editor of the Sussex Daily News (who has also loaned us the picture which appears as our frontispiece), the following report of a splendid outing organised for our men at the Brighton Annexe by the Brighton Station taxicab drivers.

The call of St. Dunstan's reached the ears of the taxicab men of Brighton Station some time ago, and yesterday taxicab men in cars drove up to St. Dunstan's Homeat Kemp Town and picked up 50 sightless men who were driven to the Chinese Gardens at Hurstpierpoint. The blinded men made a pathetic picture as they were ushered into the cars under the careful guidance of the taxicab men and various attendants, but every face showed full appreciation of the kindly act of giving them an afternoon's outing.

The St. Dunstan's boys were keenly disappointed that their beloved Commandant Matron, Miss A. Thellusson, could not spare the time to accompany them, but they received her sincere good wishes for a successful day.

Mr. A. E. Thornton was the organiser of the event, and he, with the help of various other taxicab men, had collected a good sum, assisted by a few tradesmen in the vicinity of the station.

Before the cars left for Hurst, Miss Thellusson personally thanked all the drivers for their splendid effort.

Each of the blinded men received a gay buttonhole given by Messrs, E. W. Bunney and Son, Prince Albert Street.

The boys were in a very happy mood upon their arrival at the Chinese Gardens. There were many comments upon the fine ride they had been given, and the "comedians" of the party caused considerable amusement by mimicking the ducks that were gathered around on the lawn. After being taken around the gardens, the party sat down to tea in the hall attached to the hotel, the arrangements having been made by Mr. and Mrs. H. L. V. Pearn, the host and hostess,

who spared no pains to make their guests comfortable. Mr. Wally Cornwall (pianist) and Mr. Pearce (banjoist) did a great deal to stir up that "happy feeling," and the popular songs upon being played were taken up with tremendous zest. Those who sang "on their own" were Mrs. Botting and the following St. Dunstan's men—Messrs. Mitchell, Dawes, Robins, Colman, Brooks, and "Sammy" Cowen; and also Drivers E. Hennessy, A. G. Thornton, and B. Smith.

Later a guessing competition was held, prizes being won by Mr. Robins, Mr. Gransby and Mr. Hillier.

In a brief speech at the tea table. Mr. Thornton said it gave his colleagues and himself the greatest pleasure to give the boys an outing-boys who may have fought beside them in France and on the other fronts. It was only right that old comrades should do something to brighten the lives of those on whom the effects of the late war had fallen heavily (applause). Mr. Thornton thanked his co-drivers for their enthusiastic cooperation, Mr. and Mrs. Pearn for their excellent arrangements for tea, and Messrs. E. W. Bunney and Son, of Prince Albert Street, Brighton, for supplying the floral buttonholes for the boys (applause).

Mr. Bolton, of St. Dunstans, voiced the thanks of his fellow comrades for the outing, after which hearty cheers were given for the taxicab men. The singing of "For they are jolly good fellows" followed,

In addition to Mr. Thornton, the drivers who were present were:—Messrs. Davey, Davis, Blackmer, Smith, Bowley, Johnstone, Beard, Walters, Dorrell, and S. Feest. They helped to "pilot" the boys about, together with Sisters Cohn and O. Riley and two orderlies form the Home, and Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Kirkby (wives of two of the party). The cigarettes handed round were particularly appreciated. Two happy hours were spent at the gardens, the party leaving about seven.

The boys were received home safely, and there was no mistaking the warmth of feeling in their thanks to the taxicabmen.

NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

THE new house on the Sherwood Estate (Nottingham) that A. W. Ballard was lucky enough to get is proving a great success, and he is now at work. He has been busy putting up new shelves and has already found some customers for boot repairing, so prospects look good. Friends who remember Ballard's liking for all water sports will be pleased to hear that he has now been passed for rowing and is looking forward to putting in some pleasant and strenuous hours on the Trent this summer.

妈 妈 妈

Poultry and mats are keeping W. Millar, of Surbiton, busy, and he has a number of healthy young chicks which make considerable demands upon his time and attention. His fruit trees promise an excellent crop, we hear.

An excellent order has just come the way of A. Stevens, of Wokingham; indeed, such a good one that he decided to postpone a visit to Brighton in order to fulfil it. Among other pieces of work that Stevens has put through of late is a bath chair—quite a difficult job, and one of which he has every reason to be proud. He is finding local shows of all kinds prove an excellent advertisement, and has made up his mind to attend everyone within a reasonable radius in the future. Other St. Dunstaners may like to try his methods.

165 165 155

A very busy man is B. Martin, of Bray, who has planted half an acre of potatoes single handed. He is also fattening up a couple of young pigs for sale and is working away at baskets in any odd moments that may intervene between his other occupations.

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"Trade champion" is the report from H. Roberts, of Stalybridge. He is not only running his own poultry farm, but one for a departed neighbour whereon there are about 80 birds.

紧 纸 第

Baskets keep E. P. Horan, of Sandymount, very steadily employed, and he is finding his new workshop very satisfactory. The same may be said of Bell of the same locality. In Seven Kings, Essex, A. J. Porter is busy at the same trade, while A. J. F. Jolly is working away in East Ham.

据 號 號

A streak of bad luck has come the way of W. D. Alexander, of Dalbeatie, for, having started poultry again, he lost all his first lot of chickens from pneumonia. It is a bad loss of course, but we feel sure Alexander has plenty of Scotch grit, so will merely buckle to with renewed vigour.

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A. Benning, of Great Pinley, is doing much better with his chicks now and we congratulate him.

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The same remark applies to J. Cox, of Felling-on-Tyne, who is now getting excellent results.

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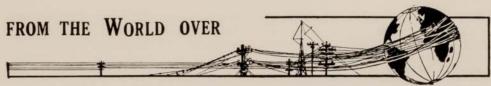
G. W. Sewell, at present of Stafford, is moving to Yorkshire, and is taking plenty of enthusiasm with him, which will doubtless help him over the difficulties one inevitably meets when starting a poultry farm.

III III III

Another poultry man is P. Holmes, of Woburn, who says his chickens keep him continually employed.

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One who combines baskets with poultry is W. A. Foulkes, of Bow Brickhill,



Bletchley. His farm, by the way, is in a delightful spot.

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W. McLurg, of Whithorn, is still working on a farm, and J. Triggs, of Billinghurst, is hoping for similar kind of employment. He is at present digging his new garden, but took time off to enter for a local walk, in which, we are glad to hear, he came in third. There are two more events for which he hopes to enter, and we trust he will do even better in these.

M M M

Another keen gardener is J. Ballantyne, of Isleworth. He has recently moved into a new house and has been busy lending a hand with the papering and painting, besides getting the garden into order. He is looking forward to a fine display of flowers in the immediate future.

At Pendleton, G. Gillibrand and his wife have also been courageously tackling their own decorating and with excellent results.

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P. Brelsford, of Hucknall, Notts, has now succeeded in getting his garden into as excellent shape as has Ballantyne.

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No special news has come from A. V. Clay, of Nottingham, of late, but at least we can say that he is as well and cheery as usual.

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From Closeburn comes word from J. Duff, to the effect that he is getting all the repair work he cares to tackle, and has, in addition, a fair number of orders for mats.

56 M 56

Mats are keeping R. Baker, of Chopwell, employed, likewise W. Shurrock, of Barnsley, and L. Joyce, of Sandymount, who, by the way, has a splendid new workshop. The same may be said of W. Jones, of West Croydon, whose new hut is most conveniently situated. While speaking of mat makers, mention must be made of A. Forster, of Warrington, who has been keeping at his work most steadily for the last two years, and is much to be congratulated.

M M M

Orders for netting have been coming in to H. Wood, of Rugby, particularly in the string bag line, and W. Wright, of Dukinfield, has just secured a commission for a fruit net. H. Palmer, of Norwood, is yet another of our netters from whom good reports continue to be received.

頭 蝪 賑

Not many of our St. Dunstaner's have gone in for bees up to date, so there should be the more interest in hearing that S. K. Jerome, of Hurn, near Christchurch, has started in this line; it should be a paying proposition. Last year Jerome went in for turkeys it will be remembered, but he has decided that his place is somewhat too bleak for him to repeat the venture.

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An order for three mats from the local gasworks has just been received by H. Hague, of Ashton-under-Lyne.

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W. Trott, of Birmingham, is looking very well on his walking training, and feeling so fit that he has decided to enter for the walk every year. Another who is interested in walking is J. Salt, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and J. H. Whitten can be mentioned as a third. He is a keen entrant for the Outer Circle as many will remember.

We are interested to learn from A. C. Evans, of Newport, Mon., that he ascribes

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the considerable increase of orders which he has had recently to his issue of St. Dunstan's Calendars. Among those orders were nine work-baskets to one person, which were to be sent away to Hull. Evans' other activities include wireless, and he is also an active member of the committee working on behalf of ex-Service men in his area.

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Boots and clogs employ W. H. Gordon, of Oldham, who, with his brother, is doing his level best to work up a steady business. We feel sure they will succeed; good work tells and courtesy pays.

场 场 场

At Deal, E. W. Savage is building up a good practice chiefly among the visitors who crowd the place in summer. He is unsparing in his efforts to do his work well, and, as a result, has had the reward of appreciative patients.

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Another Deal man is E. Watson, whose family, by the way, has just recovered from influenza. His various efforts are making him better known, and he is thinking about setting up a window display again. We wish him all possible luck.

品 当 场

"Everything going on quite satisfactorily" is the excellent news from R. Giffan, of Crewe.

馬 器 器

Friends of W. Alston, of Preston, will be glad to know that he is much better since his visit to Brighton, which, it appears, did him a lot of good. He is continuing with the three lines, boots, clogs, and mats, and is much more comfortable now that he has settled into a home of his own instead of lodgings.

H H H

A new occupation is giving J. T. Briggs, of Sheffield, plenty to think about; he has just begun to make gaiters and woollen caps, and finds both provide interesting work. We hope the sale for these will prove excellent.

Another to whom a visit to Brighton has proved beneficial is A. Ulyatt, of Southwell. He makes the most of all the fine weather and is spending a goodly number of hours out of doors. His special companion is a neighbour's small boy, and there is frequently loud wailing when this escort is returned to his mother!

蜗 矫 蚜

Orders for mats have been coming in to E. Swingler, of Tuxford, near Newark, and also some for repairs, amongst these one so large that it has taxed even his powers of work.

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The same occupation is absorbing A. Smith, of Retford. He is proving very keen on the specimen ones upon which he is working at present. If he can find suitable accommodation Smith has ideas for poultry and pigs.

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"Shopping Week" in Retford "boosted" trade a good deal, to the profit of F. D. Tomlinson, who seized the opportunity to take a stall in the market for the week. We congratulate him on his initiative and hope that he has gained some lasting publicity for himself.

ME 525 155

A poultryman whose stock is increasing is H. Knopp, of Worksop. He already has some 700 chicks and is anticipating having at least a thousand before the end of the season.

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What about a column of "Our Memoirs" for the Review, written by St. Dunstaners? Will not E. Clarke, of Edwinstone, lead off with a paragraph or so? Everyone finds his tales of "St. Dunstan Days" good to listen to, we know. Let him put them into type while memory is green. His shop in the shed is doing well, we are glad to know, and he has now started on a daily newspaper round which brings him in contact with a number of people which should be good for trade. He makes a daily journey by omnibus to fetch his "literature."

A nice order for baskets has come the way of H. Smith, of Stalybridge—he has just sold a full four dozen to the Congregational bazaar.

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Good weather is not an advantage to everyone. J. S. Lever, of Pendleton, says that it has made clogging decidedly slack. He has taken advantage of this slackness to get his workshop into splendid order however, and is now ready for anything that may come his way.

馬 馬 野

Among our telephonists, J. Davies should be mentioned. He is hard at work in Coventry on a very big board and grappling with the difficulties it presents in his usual energetic manner, memorising names, &c. There is small doubt but that he will make a success of his work.

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It is pleasant to know that Mr. and Mrs. Davies are at last settled into a capital house, where they should be most happy and comfortable. Congratulations to them.

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Another fortunate man is J. Griffiths, also of Coventry, inasmuch as he, too, has now secured excellent accommodation, a house in an exceedingly nice position too. The family looks better for the change already.

SF SF SF

Baskets and his market stall keep J. R. Brown, of Nuneaton, continually busy, and he always contrives to have an excellent stock on view.

妈 妈 妈

As usual, W. McCarthy (also of Nuneaton) is busy, cheerful, and full of new ideas. He and a couple of friends have organised a jazz-band (McCarthy made his own drum, by the way), have arranged fancy costumes for themselves, and secured some engagements. Later, they hope to enter for a jazz-band competition. May they carry off the first prize and likewise a "special."

A short time ago G. F. Hall, of Bedworth, conceived the idea of running men to and from the pits in his car. He started up with a passenger list of fourteen and the number has increased to forty. The venture promises to be yet more successful in the immediate future, since a rival is giving up, and Hall has every expectation of "inheriting" that clientele.

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The many who know W. Shakespeare will be pleased to hear that he is now settled in Birmingham and is working away at his mats with a will. We wish him luck, and feel confident that he will do his part towards finding it.

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"Three weeks' work in sight," says W. H. Whiteside, of Lytham, who, by the way, has had a long and steady spell of orders-indeed, he has been kept busy all through the winter. He could hardly have stood the unceasing occupation if he had not made it a regular thing to take a good walk every day. One of his favourite outings is to go over his old postal round—seven miles! Whiteside takes a great pride in his work, we know, so are doubly pleased to hear of the pleasant little compliment recently paid him at a whist drive, when a lady insisted on having a basket he had made instead of the official first prize!

55 UF 56

The news from C. H. Brown, of Bretby Village, is exceedingly good. He has just succeeded in getting possession of a cottage just across the road from his farm. We congratulate him on having a home of his own, and one in so useful a location. The farm is flourishing, his chickens are hatching out well, and his ducks, we hear, are noticeably "succulent" in appearance.

55 55 55

Not very long since a friend presented W. C. Smith, of Melbourne, with an addition to his wireless set. In return Smith sent this friend a small tray—the tray has been admired by everyone who has seen it, and in such a thorough fashion that Smith finds himself with quite a

rush of orders. Smith is one of our most enthusiastic pedestrians, by the way, and scorns an omnibus even after a walk of five or six miles. His seven-year-old son makes a famous escort, he says, and promises to be as ardent a walker as his father.

M M M

Friends of J. Cooney, of Worthing, will be sorry to hear that he has had septic poisoning. He is, however, well on the way to recovery now and will be up and about, we hope, before these lines appear in print.

蜗 蛎 簖

E. T. Humphries, of Swindon, has discovered that there is a certain kind of basket he can make and sell cheaper than if he bought it wholesale from a basket factory to sell again. How's that for competition?

Brief Notes

Friends of G. Swindell, who remember how ill he has been this winter, will be glad to know that he is now putting on weight and is looking much better.

"Very well indeed" is the health report from W. Higginson, of London, N., who is also contriving to find a reasonable amount of work for himself.

The same news may be recorded of T. W. Collyer, of Kelveden Hatch, Essex.

Ear-phone testing is still the work at which R. P. Coles, of Harlesden, is occupied.

There has been no falling off in trade so far as W. B. Kirkup, of Durham, is concerned.

V. P. Mordue is looking forward to starting work, so we hope we shall soon have further news to record in his direction.

W. Nelson, of Newcastle, finds that "home repairs" take all his time at present. When he gets through these we shall doubtless have good news to give concerning his progress.

W. Bamber is one of the many beginning to plan his summer holiday. He hopes to go abroad with a friend. Trays have been keeping him busy of late, and he has found quite a good local sale for those he has made.

Holiday Sports Camp

The dates for the Holiday Sports Camp at Little Gaddesden, Berkhampstead, Hertfordshire, have now been finally fixed for 21st to the 28th June. Halton Camp have promised equipment and entertainment after the walk. They are also providing escorts, and it will therefore not be necessary for men coming especially for the walk to bring their own escort. Any of the boys' wives who come down to the camp and stay in the village will be most welcome in the garden and at all entertainments and sports held in the camp or village, but owing to the fact that the number of cars available is limited, it is impossible to provide transport for expeditions, such as going to the river or for the walk. Men intending joining the camp should send in their names as soon as possible to Miss A. Hodgson, at Clopton, Stratford-on-Avon. The closing date for entries is 5th June, and the fee for the week is £1 7s. 6d.

To most of us, the thought of summer includes holidays, but to G. Lawty, of Bridlington, in common with many other St. Dunstaners at the seaside, it means increased work. Each season, hitherto, has meant development for him, and his preparations are complete for a further advance this year. He finds a ready sale for the many requirements in connection with footwear that people forget to bring with them on holiday, and has given so much satisfaction to some visitors that they save up their boot repairs and bring them with them. Altogether, the season means a very strenuous time, as, very wisely. Lawty's chief consideration is the regular care for the needs of his customers who are with him all the year round. If anyone wants to see a well-run business, and boot repairs turned out in first-class style, we recommend a call on G. Lawty, of Bridlington.

Heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Scott upon the arrival of a pair of bonny twin daughters on 28th April. We are glad to learn that both mother and babes are progressing splendidly.

After-Care Meetings

BOURNEMOUTH MEETING

A very enjoyable After-Care Meeting was held at Gervis Hall, Bournemouth, on 29th April. Although all we hoped to see did not turn up, there were sixty-two St. Dunstaners and their wives or escorts present.

After an excellent tea, Mr. Swain addressed the meeting, and read a message from Captain Fraser wishing everyone a good time and regretting he was unable to join them. Mr. Swain's next task, which he said was an exceedingly pleasant one, was to welcome our old friends Mr. and Mrs. Martin. The enthusiasm which greeted this showed what a real pleasure it was. Mr. Martin then spoke a few words expressing Mrs. Martin's and his own delight to be amongst us once more, and mentioned that before long he hoped, with his doctor's permission, to be able to take up some of his work again.

J. W. Clare then proposed a vote of thanks to Captain Fraser, which he asked Mr. Swain to convey, and this was ably seconded by J. Godwin.

The "Courtiers" Concert Party entertained as last year, and their songs, duets and monologues were greatly enjoyed. We were, however, sorry to find that one of our own men, C. Fawcett—who is a member of the party—was unable to come along, although he had a very good reason for not doing so—that of having such a tremendous amount of work.

The competition set us thinking once more, as we all had to guess the number of beans in a bag. After various guesses were made, it was found that T. Condon and A. Seal were the winners for the men's section, both having named the same number, and Mrs. Chalk won the ladies' prize, being only seven out in her guess.

We were all extremely sorry when we had to part, the afternoon having gone far too quickly.

A. K. R.

NORWICH RE-UNION

On Friday, 9th April, a particularly successful After-Care Meeting was held at the School of Music, Norwich.

After greetings had been exchanged by all old friends, over seventy visitors sat down to an excellent tea, great justice being done to the various tempting dishes, as many of the men left home at an early hour to be there in time.

Captain Fraser sent a message of welcome and regretted he was unable to be present, and Mr. Swain in the course of his cheery speech mentioned that since the last meeting, exactly twelve months ago, he had held Re-unions all over England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. J. W. Shread proposed a very hearty vote of thanks in which he mentioned how much they all looked forward to these meetings. A. G. Wise ably seconded it.

Mr. Lamb again came along and entertained us with his usual success. We also had songs and choruses from Messrs. Chettleborough, Pointer, and Cubbitt—the latter being one of the boys, had a splendid reception, and was encored each time he sang. The competition was entered into by everyone, the winners being W. Cubbitt and Mrs. Daniels, the booby prizes going to Holman and Mrs. Wright.

We all missed the cheery presence of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, who sent a wire saying 'flu prevented them from coming, and wishing the meeting every success.

As 6 o'clock approached good-byes were said, and the meeting ended with "God Save the King." E. A. S.

PORTSMOUTH MEETING

The Portsmouth Re-union was held again at Madden's Hotel on 21st April. Like last year, the weather was exceedingly kind to us, and it was a great pleasure to see the splendid number who came along. In all there were seventy-two St. Dunstaners with their wives or escorts present, in spite of the fact that a few were unable to attend.

A good tea and talk were enjoyed before Mr. Swain addressed the meeting. After reading a message from Captain Fraser wishing us all good luck, Mr. Swain went on to say that he wondered if it had occurred to us that it was twelve months since our last meeting. There was then the pleasant task of welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Martin in the name of all present, and the applause which followed was sufficient proof of the delight it was to everyone to see them again and to hear of the good recovery Mr. Martin was making.

Mr. Martin thanked all for the very kind way in which he and his wife had been received, and he could only say how delighted they both were to be amongst the men again, and that before long he hoped to be well enough to visit that part of his area nearest Winchester.

G. Dennis proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Swain asking him to convey to Captain Fraser the appreciation of the meeting for his message of welcome, and this was seconded by W. S. Horsley.

During the afternoon Mr. Swain held personal interviews with those who wished to avail themselves of the opportunity, and an excellent concert was arranged by G. Dennis, assisted by W. S. Horsley, F. W. Matthews, and several blinded civilian artistes.

The guessing of the number of beans in a bag caused some excitement, and the prizes eventually were won by Mrs. Yarrow and J. Levett.

We were very sorry to part when six o'clock came, and someone was heard to remark that he wished the meeting had only just begun.

A. K. R.

BIRMINGHAM ST. DUNSTAN'S SPORTS CLUB

A meeting of the Club was held at the Farcroft Hotel, Birmingham, on 7th April. After tea the members gave a hearty welcome to Miss Hodgson on her return from Australia, and presented her with an attache case as a token of their gratitude for all the work she had done for the club. The members of Toc H. gave a very enjoyable concert as a wind-up to the meeting.

A DELIGHTFUL DANCE

On Thursday, 15th April, a most successful dance, organised by Miss Barbara Lester, took place at the Bungalow. For the enlightenment of Old Boys, it should perhaps be explained that Miss Lester is an indefatigable organiser of entertainments provided by the Alan Adair Wounded Fund, and that she has an especially warm interest in St. Dunstaners.

Miss Lester undertook with remarkable success the stupendous task of providing one hundred fair partners for her guests.

The evening went with a swing, and several novelty dances were introduced, prizes being awarded to the lucky winners. Thompson, McLean, and Winter found themselves in the limelight at the appropriate moment in the "Spot Light" numbers. Good fortune attended Boyce, Bowring and Squires in the "Lucky Number" items, and Williams, Aitken and Cook were favoured partners in the "Mysterious Lady" dances.

Miss Lester was supported by Mr. Sherry, another enthusiastic supporter of the Adair Fund Entertainments, who fulfilled most ably the role of M.C.

Towards the end of a most enjoyable evening a halt was called for a distribution of prizes. These were presented by Matron, who afterwards, in a fitting little speech, thanked Miss Lester and her willing helpers on behalf of the men present. The feeling of the gathering was evidenced by the enthusiastic cheers which followed.

J. V. H.

Royal Honours

A worthy competitor with W.H.Farr, of Windsor, to whose orders from members of the Royal Family we made reference last month, is W. Dimond, of East Grinstead, who reminds us that he has had the honour of supplying five Royal Residences with mats and wool-rugs, namely Marlborough House, St. James's Palace, Buckingham Palace, Curzon House, Mayfair, and Princess Christian's House. Both these St. Dunstaners have created records of which any craftsman would be proud.



NEWS FROM THE WORKSHOPS

AND STORES



BOOT SHOP

A. Massey is struggling with the usual beginner's difficulties, but his work is showing improvement, and the interest he is taking in it ought to help him along quickly. The great pains which R. E. Muncaster has always taken with his work is now bringing him good results, his marking and rivetting having reached a good level. Finishing is his weak point, but he is trying very hard to improve this. C. Short goes steadily onwards; he is getting better edges, and finishing has shown improvement. He does useful jobs, but should pay more attention to the details of the work. Very satisfactory progress is also being made by W. H. Bedford; he carries on quite on his own, and tackles all kinds of jobs in the right way; there is every prospect of his making a satisfactory boot repairer. F. Craddock has also been progressing in quite the right fashion; he gets on well with any type of job, works independently, obtains good edges, and a clean finish. Special mention can be made of a pair of heels cut down to fit a smaller shoe, which were particularly well done. H. Jones puts in a good amount of time; his work varies somewhat, sometimes being quite good, but at others only moderate. In the Mat Shop he has got hold of the placing of his thrums well, and his cutting is on the right lines; the shape and bordering, however, want attention. The improvement we remarked upon in the work of W. A. Bowering has been maintained. He has made nice progress, too, in the Mat Shop in all parts of the work, his last job being a five-diamond mat. Very satisfactory progress indeed is also being made by G. Parrick; he thinks out things for himself, and generally arrives at the right conclusion. He has also been making his own threads and doing some hand sewing, with satisfactory results.

MAT SHOP

W. Moore is making good progress, having completed quite a run of fivediamond mats, judging his fibre well, and reaching a good standard in other parts of the work. He should prove a good man. Since our last reference, C. H. Stock has completed his Poultry Course at King's Langley, and also his Poultry Joinery work. His thrumming and cutting is good, and his Test Mat was of a satisfactory quality. S. Aitken has been working steadily, in the right style, and has been gaining experience in the use of coloured fibre. He keeps a good shape, and thrums well. O. Cole has been making Sinnets, some lettered mats, and a kneeler; one No. 4 "Use Me" was practically a perfect mat, and we like the style of his work altogether. J. Foster has completed his course of training, his stock work reaching a satisfactory standard.

BASKET SHOP

S. W. Wain is very patient and persevering, and has done better since he has been at the centre cane table. His last 6 in. barrel was certainly the best that he has done. G. W. Savory has been making barrels and waste papers, but has been rather hindered by illness. H. J. Fleming has also done barrels, waste papers, and pail baskets. At present he is not getting his work as neat as it should be, but we feel that he will overcome this shortly. E. B. Parke is taking an intelligent interest in his work, and is getting on very nicely. His experience with round soiled linens has been useful, and he has recently made some good barrels. During this year, A. Gaffney has been doing barrels and waste papers, and has also made a square-arm basket and some seagrass stools. He is not making the progress we expected. A small flowerbasket, with a round bottom and flowed out to an oval shape, made by H. C. Bayer,

was a very sound piece of work. During April, also, he had a good run on baskets for his stock, which can be classed as good. Soiled linens, barrels and hampers have been occupying C. Peach; the work shows that if he gave it his full attention he could make as good a basket as most men, but there is generally some point which keeps the work from being good. During the last three months very marked advance has been evident in the work of H. A. Russell; he has got through a good deal, changing from one article to another and maintaining a good standard right through. We offer him our congratulations. Our good wishes and congratulations also go to W. Stuart, who has completed his course and left the shops. He has done really well, tackling new jobs intelligently and getting good results. He learns by his mistakes, and has shown a keen desire to turn out good work. We anticipate that he will maintain his high standard and advance even further. Congratulations and good wishes also to I. H. Mason; he has settled comfortably in Bognor, and will soon, we anticipate, be a distinguished citizen. People in that town who require a sound and artistic piece of work will, we trust, give him the necessary patronage.

IOINERS' SHOP

After completing his bedstead, J. B. Boyce made a curb, and is having further experience with a trousers press, trays, and a book trough. G. E. Crook has been steadily, but surely, advancing, an oak octagonal table, picture frame, and a small deed box have been giving him useful experience, after the trays and stepladder which he made earlier in the year. G. Newman has also been doing work of a similar character, his most successful job being a square occasional table in oak, with turned legs, the workmanship of which was quite good. W. H. O.

St. Dunstaner Weight-Lifter

The weight-lifting feats of G. Brown, of Erith, have probably established a record among blind athletes. The following are some details:—

Club Medal for deal lift, right hand, of 371 lbs.

B.A. Weight-Lifters' Association Medal for two hands, clean lift and jerk of 200 lbs.

"Bovril" Medal, two hands snatch of 160 lbs.

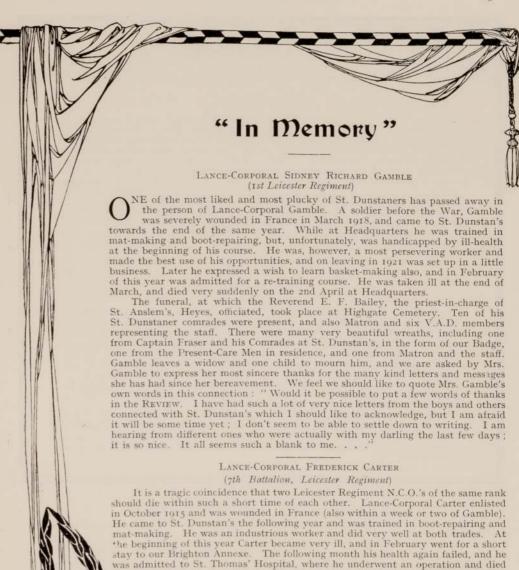
We learn that Brown can take a rod of mild steel, 18 ins. long by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. wide and $\frac{3}{8}$ in. thick, and bring the ends together in the shape of a magnet. Altogether, Brown is a St. Dunstaner we would sooner have on our side than against us, when muscular strength was needed!

A "Striking" Change!

The Inner Circle, that usually immaculate loop of roadway surrounding Head-quarters, is at the time of writing a great motor bus garage. The vari-coloured vehicles—L.G.O.'s and privately owned also—stand side by side in serried ranks. At about twenty-yard intervals all round the pathways are enormous tanks of petrol with pump-fillers attached, and smaller tanks of lubricating oil adjoining each. Special constables and park-keepers guard every entrance to the Circle, and the special passes which everyone having business therein have to carry have constantly to be produced for inspection.

The rapidity with which the Circle discharges and re-parks the motor-buses each morning and evening is fine tribute to the skill of the "plus-foured" and "Oxford-bagged" volunteer drivers' handling of the great vehicles in a roadway whichdoesnot permit of much manœuvring.

His many friends at St. Dunstan's and elsewhere will be glad to hear that I. Sheehy, of Dover, has, after serving two years as a representative of Disabled Men on the Isle of Thanet and Dover War Pensions Committee, been again re-appointed by the Minister of Pensions for a further period of three years. In notifying Sheehy of this appointment, the Minister of Pensions says that he desires to convey personally, on behalf of the ex-service community in the Isle of Thanet area, his sincere thanks for the services Sheehy has rendered to them. We offer our hearty congratulations to this St. Dunstaner, and are sure that he will add to the high reputation he already holds.



the following day, 23rd March. Before the loss of his sight in 1918, Carter had

Carter is survived by a widow and three children.

previously been wounded two years before, and in all he had no fewer than nine operations, all of which he bore with the greatest fortitude.

a large gathering of relatives and friends at the graveside, including many

local ex-Service men. The numerous beautiful floral tributes included a wreath from Captain Fraser and his other Comrades at St. Dunstan's.

The funeral took place at Hinckley on the 28th of March. There was

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

"In Memory"

Gunner R. J. Sanders (Royal Field Artillery)

It is all too often that in our tributes on this page we have to record the severe handicapping of St. Dunstaners' activities by reason of the impairment their wounds and service caused to their physical health. Gunner Sanders was another who, in spite of pluck and perseverance, could not take the fullest advantage of the opportunities our Organisation offers. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1924, and was trained in netting. He made good progress, but in February of this year suddenly became very ill, and in spite of the devoted way in which he was nursed by his wife, he grew worse, and died on the 8th March after about ten days' illness.

At the funeral at Sheffield, which took place on the 12th March, there were many beautiful wreaths, including one from Captain Fraser and his other Comrades at St. Dunstan's, composed of laurels with our Torch made up of red roses, with "St. Dunstan's" written on white satin ribbon. Sanders leaves a widow to mourn him

PRIVATE JACK SEARLE (25th Royal Fusiliers)

Enlisting in 1915, Private Searle contracted malaria in German East Africa. Discharged in 1917, he came to St. Dunstan's in 1922. Formerly manager of a furnishing firm, he desired only to gain confidence and grow accustomed to blindness, so that he could make a fresh start with a few special lines of his own, and canvass for orders. Later on, however, he also took up wool rug-making, but was unable to do much work owing to constant ill-health. Towards the end of last year he gradually became weaker, and in March last was taken seriously ill. Although everything possible was done for him, and he was nursed devotedly by his wife (who is also totally blind) and his cousin, Sanders died on the 21st March, after considerable suffering.

The Reverend Lang, of St. Thomas', conducted the funeral service in Blackpool Cemetery on the 24th March, and St. Dunstan's, who were represented by Mr. Fairclough, added to the many beautiful wreaths one from "Captain Fraser and his other Comrades at St. Dunstan's." We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs Searle.

$Manchester\ Walk\ Result\ (see also page\ 20)$

			Start	Hand		Escort				
					m, s.	m.	S.			
ıst	W. C. Scott		400		3 30	39	58	Mr. L. Stewart		
2nd	J. Salt				7 30	41	33	" J. Hopkins		
2nd 3rd 4th 5th	H. Birley			- 22	0 30	42	30	,, E. Venables		
4th	W. Duxbury			***	5 0	4.3	27	,, T. A. Carr		
5th W. Joyce		4.4	7 0	44	03	,, G. Curran				
5th	J. Worthington			Scratch	45	36	,, J. Tempest			
7th	F. McMahon		27.50		6 0	49	25	., J. E. Swales		

1st Prize, Walnut Mantle Clock. 2nd Prize, Oak Biscuit Barrel. 3rd Prize, Large E.P.N.S. Glass Fruit Dish. Consolation Prize, Honey Dish.

R. C.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES



REGATTA

I am setting forth herewith a programme for our next Regatta, which is due to take place on Wednesday, 14th July, commencing at 1.30 p.m. sharp. We are purposely fixing an earlier time because this year there are more "fours" than usual taking part, and if we are to finish in sufficient time to enable us to attend our Dinner in the evening. it will be essential to start early. May I specially ask those old boys who are taking part to make a great effort to be at Putney in good time. We will, of course, keep to last year's rules that men may only enter for two events, and that if there are insufficient entries for any one event, it will be joined to another, I am again venturing to suggest a Veterans' event. Unfortunately last year the Veterans were conspicuous by their absence. but I do sincerely hope that they will take advantage of this opportunity. May I ask specially if all those who intend entering will let me know not later than 26th June, in good time to make the various arrangements connected with the Regatta.

REGATTA PROGRAMME

T Single Sculls Present Roys

~~	MANAGER			WINDSONNE STORY OF THE STORY
2.		737		,, ,, S.S.
3.	**	**		Old Boys T.B.
4-	44	44	200	,, ,, S.S.
5.	411	31	1.0	Veterans (open to mer
				over 45)
6.	Double	e Sculls		Present Boys Open
7.	Pair C	199		Old Boys "
8.	Pair C	ars	0.4	Open (at least one T.B
				in a boat)
9.	One-A	rmed Pa	irs	Open

10. Open Fours ... (At least two T.B.'s) RUNNING

There are a number of our athletes who are anxious to have another three miles' race round the Outer Circle. The race will, therefore, be arranged to take place at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 19th June. There will be separate races, of course, for T.B. and S.S., and entries must be received no later than 12th June.

BRIGHTON WALK

We have been unfortunate in having to alter our dates, but I have just been told that the tentative date was quite impossible owing to the fact that the Polytechnic Athletic Club are holding their Marathon and Sports on that day.

We are being compelled, therefore, to hold our Walk on 5th June, starting from Westminster at 5 a.m. The eight men who have duly qualified are:—Ingram, Castle, Lowings, Lenderyou, Birch, Johns, Northgreaves and Taylor.

OUALIFYING WALK

Our 21 Miles' Brighton Qualifying Race took place on Saturday, 17th April. I must say that we seem fated to get exceedingly bad conditions for this event. To attempt this race in the face of a cold north-east wind and heavy rain, intermingled with hailstorms, requires some pluck and, to quote the words of a spectator, "these lads have hearts of lions." The twelve competitors lined up with their escorts, to be started by Mr. E. Kessell. Ingram quickly took the lead, followed by Castle, Johns and Lowings. At three miles his time was 26 minutes 57 seconds. Taylor and Lenderyou had several fine tussles, and Birch was walking well within himself. A brand new enthusiast in Gunner Bates was the surprise. Walking with a good and easy style, he looked like staving for ever, but bad luck overtook him and he had to retire with very bad feet at 12 miles. Boorman hereabouts was having trouble with a sprained ankle, and at 15 miles "bang went a familiar Brighton road face.' Moeller retired at this stage, his trouble was brought about by walking in flatsoled tennis shoes. At 16 miles Northgreaves slipped and twisted his knee, but very pluckily continued and managed to qualify. The Business Houses were holding their 7 Miles' Championship on the same road, so we had a very good

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ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

opportunity of comparing our boys' style, &c. I must say that the comparison was very favourable. Ingram, still walking well, won in 3 hours 19 minutes 10 seconds. The eight competitors who completed the course under four hours fifteen minutes, that being the qualifying time set by Mr. Donoghue, are eligible to compete for the Brighton Walk.

In conjunction with this race, we had a 15 Mile S.S. race. A. Brown won in 2 hours 11 minutes 55 seconds from W. Trott, 2 hours 20 minutes 44 seconds, Fallowfield third in 2 hours 21 minutes 20 seconds, and Giles, Read and Whitten finished in this order. I notice that Brown was walking in the Polytechnic colours, which club he has recently joined—he will be an acquisition to their walking section.

Miss Greenwood, in her inimitable manner presented the prizes, and in a very sincere and prettily worded speech, thanked Mr. Kessell for coming all the way from Kingston to act as Starter, the ladies for so kindly preparing and serving tea, Mr. Donogue, Q.P.H., and Miss Airs for time-keeping—this task on such a day is no sinecure—the escorts and last, but not least, the competitors themselves, for providing such a fine sporting event, and all others who had assisted in making this walk so successful.

Then three real hearty St. Dunstan's cheers and the rafters of the Bungalow seemed to say "those jolly old sportsmen are here again."

Regret was expressed for the unavoidable absence of Captain Williams, he being confined to his bed with a severe chill.

SWIMMING

Will the men please note that with the advent of May Swimming Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8 o'clock, and also Instructor Jones is most kindly arranging an extra class on Friday evenings at 6 o'clock. I do hope that the men will respond.

AFTER-CARE SPORTS

I think it can be said of the Winter Sports which we have just completed that they have been the best we have had so far. Nicholls has splendidly topped the list with just 5 points from Tiny Fleming. I think that everybody will agree that this is a remarkable performance. MacFarlane, who is third in the general list with Brown and Henry 15 points behind. Cookson did exceedingly well to secure 1,325 points. May we congratulate all our sportsmen upon their enthusiasm in turning up so regularly and upon the success that has attended their efforts.

POINTS

			72.22.2		
Nichols		1405	Webster	4.4	1240
Fleming	**	1400	Kerr	100	1005
MacFarlane	***	1360	Burran	1414	930
Brown	***	1345	Ashton	**	805
Henry		1345	Prior	3.4	765
Cookson	404	1325	Chambers	14.4	495
Gover	474	1315	Bartlett	12/04	135
Thompson		1260	Downs	**	135

We have already started our Summer Sports, but unfortunately we were compelled to be indoors because of the weather. May I say once more that any new sportsmen will be most welcome.

FOOTBALL

As usual we have just got to say that our Football Competition is in full swing. Once again we have eight teams, and I am giving herewith the names so that our readers may be able to follow up the doings of the team they fancy.

FOOTBALL COMPETITION

Rackabites	Wanderer	s City
Wooldridge.	Aitken.	Healey.
Phillips.	Cook.	Haugh.
Moore.	Comley.	Bayer.
Rickaby.	Bedford.	Parkes.
Parrick.	Boyce.	Massey.
Bentley.	Williams.	Miles.
Taffies	Wireless	Thistles
Edwards.	Tetley.	Milligan.
Fletcher.	Aves.	Fleming.
Buchanan.	Squires.	Foster.
C. H. Cook.	Wilcox.	Short.
Jones.	Eden.	Isaacs.
Stock.	Baxter.	Saunders.
Bowering:	ş.	Spurs
Clover.		Peach.
Gaffney.		Day.
Bowering	t.	Namen.
Dunks.	849.	Turrell.
A. Crook		Craddock.
Cole.		Hayter.
	erve (T.B.)	Savory
2000		Smith

LEAGUE MATCHES

I think that we have had a record season as far as attendances at the various league matches are concerned. The Arsenal, Chelsea and Fulham clubs have been most generous in granting us free admittance week after week, and I trust that the Directors and Secretaries of these clubs will accept the warm thanks of all St. Dunstaners. They can feel that they have given much pleasure and

great happiness to many football enthusiasts who perhaps once felt that they would never have the privilege of attending matches again. I know that in one particular instance when it was a real joy for one of our boys who had previously played for Middlesbrough, a first league team, and who met again at the Chelsea ground some of his old friends and had the opportunity of once again treading the football pitch and also of getting into the real football atmosphere.

RESULTS
21 MILES' QUALIFYING WALK—17TH APRIL 1926

No.	Name	Escort	Rounds																	
	Traine.	LSCOLL	īst		2nd		3rd			4th			5th			6th		7th		
	J. Ingram W. S. Castle W. J. Lowings P. Johns A. Taylor F. Lenderyou W. Birch H. Northgreaves H. Boorman E. Bates J. Moeller T. North	" Simpkins " Smith " Shore " Pruce " Chalk		m. s 26 5: 27 56 30 2: 30 4 29 2: 30 1 29 4 30 4 29 2: 30 4 29 2: 30 4 29 2: 30 4	7 0 6 1 6 0 1 1 2 0 4 1 5 1	54 56 0 2 59 0 59 4 59 1	3 30 30 19 44 6 30 31 35 9	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	21 24 31 33 30 31 29 39 30 32	22 4 3 50 10 23 59 15 6	I I 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	48 57 1 5 1 5 0 24 5 4	58 25 40 26 36 20 54 40 15 50 23	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	18 29 33 36 35 39 37 4 41	50 15 25 22 32 14 19 45 36	2 48 3 I 3 5 3 7 3 9 3 14 3 13 3 40	16 23 7 16 25 8 25 5	3 19 3 34 3 36 3 37 3 43 3 57 4 13	9 10 4 33 5 1. 7 9 8 3. 7 17 7 4.
1 2 3 4 5 6	A. Brown W. Trott G. Fallowfield H. Giles Reed W. Whitten W. J. Roberts T. Cashmore	Mr. Winter ,, Moger ,, Deamer ,, Jordan ,, Roberts ,, Wiltshire ,, Double ,, Morley		24 I 24 I 26 2 26 5 3I 4 33 26 3 31 3	40 40 60 71 21	51 54 55 4 7 55	19 39 29 41 4	IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII	20 20 24 35 43 25	23 37 56 31 25 0	I I I 2 2	50 49 55 11 22	5 ² 54 17 33 55	2 2 2 3	20 21 29 47	44 20 49 40 15	**		\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	

WIRELESS FOR ST. DUNSTANERS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

We have much pleasure in announcing that the Council of St. Dunstan's have decided to present to all St. Dunstaners a Marconiphone "Baby" Crystal Wireless Set with two pairs of headphones and aerial and earth equipment. This equipment will enable all our men and their vives and children to listen-into one of the B.B.C. stations.

Some men already have a wireless set, but are in need of accessories. These will be provided, if possible, instead of the above, but not exceeding in wholesale value 33/-

All applications should be sent to—Mr. A. E. Howlett, Wireless Engineer, St. Dunstan's Headquarters,

Inner Circle, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

Space does not permit a more detailed notice, but the matter will be dealt with at length in next month's issue.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

Births-Marriages-Deaths

Births

ALEXANDER.—On the 30th of March, a son (Duncan) to the wife of W. Alexander, of Dalbeatie.

BATCHELOR.—On the 3rd of April, to the wife of J. Batchelor, of Tooting, twin daughters.

CLARKE.—On the 18th of March, a son to the wife of W. Clarke, of Bermondsey.

HALL.—On the 19th of April, to the wife of A. W. Hall, of Sydenham, a son (Frank William).

Hollins.—On the 25th of April, to the wife of G. Hollins, of Middlesbrough, a son (Malcolm Evelyn).

Palmer.—On the 7th of April, to the wife of H. Palmer, of Upper Norwood, a son (George Robert Herbert). Mother and child both doing well.

Scott.—On the 1st April, to the wife of W. Clifford Scott, twin daughters.

SHEPPARD.—On the 5th of April, to the wife of C. Sheppard, of Warminster, a daughter.

Swayne.—On 14th March, a son (Jack Ernest), to the wife of E. Swayne, of Waltham Cross.

Marriages

Greaves, J. Greaves, of Shaw, near Oldham, was married on Easter Saturday, 3rd April.

Holmes.—J. G. Holmes, of West Kensington, to Miss Eleanor Dains, of Brentwood, at Warley Church, Brentwood, Essex.

We send congratulations and good wishes to both the happy couples.

Deaths

This month we must offer sympathy to the following:—

Anker.—M. O. Anker, of Ealing, who has just lost his father. The shock has been considerable since Anker saw his father at Easter, when he seemed quite well.

GRAY.—A. Te Gray, of Dalston, who recently lost his mother.

Hague.—H. Hague, of Ashton-under-Lyne, who lost his father after only a week's illness, on 1st March, after an attack of bronchial pneumonia.

Higgins.—J. D. Higgins, of Vauxhall, whose mother died on the 15th of Ianuary last.

LEE.—To Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lee, of Sacriston, whose little daughter Evelyn. aged five years, died on the 20th of March.

TROTT.—W. Trott, of Birmingham, whose father died on the 8th of April, aged

WERNHAM.—Mr. and Mrs. Wernham, of Bracknell, as both have lost their mother within a week of one another. The mother of A. H. Wernham was 83.

Wright.—G. Wright, of Norwich, who lost his father on the 12th of May.

Braille Notes

Hearty congratulations to G. Naman, H. Buchanan, C. Peach, G. Wilkins, and C. H. Stock on passing the reading test, and to T. A. Williams, James Attrell, F. Milligan, and Vincent Baxter on passing the writing test.

Typewriting Notes

Very many congratulations to J. Dunks, T. H. Miles, G. W. Savory, R. Muncaster, A. Massey, C. H. Cook, E. G. Wilcocks and T. Gregory on passing their typewriting tests.

Miss Reynolds is extremely sorry that the names of R. W. R. Thompson and O. Cole were omitted from the list of those who passed the typewriting test very successfully in March. Many congratulations to them.

In acknowledging receipt of the prize awarded her little son in our Overseas' Babies Competition, we regret to learn from Mrs. Nava, of Johannesburg, that her husband is in hospital. His many friends will hope he is by now making good progress.

Wireless and the Blind

By NINA STEPHENSON-BROWNE

TO no section of the community does wireless make a greater appeal than to the blind. Listening-in brings into greater prominence the faculty of hearing. For the time being sight is left aside and hearing and visualisation takes its place.

In no other amusement can the blind find themselves on such an equal footing with their sighted fellows. The blind are always "listening-in." To them the world is a vast broadcasting station from which, by the ear alone, they are constantly receiving impressions.

To listen-in to the best advantage, one requires to keep one's mind as isolated as possible from outside disturbances. Listening with the eyes closed helps to eliminate outside influences, and also makes it easier for the listener to visualise the doings which are being broadcasted.

Those whose eyes are always closed are able to catch and interpret delicate nuances of sound which sighted peoplehandicapped by sight-fail to catch. Accustomed as they are to interpreting sounds they have an advantage over sighted people by their quickness in receiving impressions by the ear alone. In speaking to the blind one learns to convey by the tones of the voice what to the sighted listener is shown by gesture or facial expression. The intimate tones and graduations of the voice make a deeper appeal to the blind than it would to a sighted person, who depends as much on expression and gesture for the speaker's meaning as on the spoken word.

In the wireless world we are all sightless. Eyesight is useless, hearing is everything. Those whose lives are lived in darkness become our equals—nay, our superiors. We grope in their world of sound, as they grope in our world of sight. We learn from them a lesson in the power of aural interpretation of which we never even dreamed.

Many of the blind possess in a remarkable degree the power of visualisation.

This applies more especially to those who have lost their sight in early or later life, and whose minds are stored with pictures of what they once saw. The varied sounds of the countryside, the whisper of the breeze in the trees, the rippling brook, the surge of the waves on the rocky shore. even the roar and clangour of a busy city. all these sounds bring to their mental sight pictures to lighten their darkness. Therefore in wireless they have no difficulty in visualising and enjoying the programme. The magnificent and thunderous harmony of the organ, the variety and witchery of the orchestra, the magic spell of instrument or voice-all comes home to the sightless listener in a way sighted people can scarcely realise, bringing to him untold joy and delight.

The blind have many unoccupied hours. Hours which to the sighted can be spent in some trifling employment or amusement must, perforce, be spent by him in idleness and reflection. Wireless comes to them as a blessing, filling many a lonely hour with its speech and song.

One and all will endorse the aspiration of the Chairman of St. Dunstan's, Captain Ian Fraser, who said in a recent speech that he hoped that the time was not far distant when every blind person will have his wireless set. Thus wireless will not only provide instruction and recreation to those who inhabit the "kingdom of the blind," but will give to the sightless listener a strong and lasting link with the world of sight.

FOR SALE

Good Cross (healthy) Dog. A splendid guard and a very good lead. Will sell cheap to any St. Dunstaner.—Enquiries and offers should be addressed to Mrs. T. Carter, 25 New Street, Hinckley.

WADDISER AND WALCH, 54 Keswick Street, off Central Drive, Blackpool.—Apartments and Board. Home comforts,

Walking Handicap for Northern St. Dunstaners

We have received from Mr. W. M. Slack, the Honorary Secretary of the North Manchester Harriers and Athletic Club, who so kindly organised the event, the following report of the result of the 4½ Miles' Walking Handicap for Northern St. Dunstaners. We congratulate all competitors on their excellent showing under very adverse conditions.

The 4½ Miles' Walking Handicap promoted for Northern St. Dunstaners by the North Manchester Harriers and Athletic Club was held from the Club's Headquarters, Red Lion Hotel, Blackley, Manchester, on Saturday, 17th April. Eight entries were received for the race, and, under wretched weather conditions, seven competitors and their escorts, who were provided by the promoting Club, faced the starter and time-keeper, Mr. W. M. Slack.

Although the handicap did not work out as well as expected, it was not too bad considering that no times for this distance were available to the handicapper, and it is hoped that the next handicap framed will work out better now that more times are to hand.

The table of results and times accomplished appears on page 14.

In her book, "Memories and Reflections," Lady Troubridge, among many other interesting reminiscences, writes as follows:—

The hospital I visited was St. Mark's, Chelsea, and it was there the blind men were brought before being taken to St. Dunstan's. It was here I began to see the scope of Sir Arthur Pearson's wonderful work. Sitting by a blinded boy the day after he came in, I said encouragingly:—

"You will soon be able to go to Sir Arthur Pearson."

To which he answered at once: "Sir Arthur has been to me."

"But you only came in last night!"

"I know. He came this morning." And he showed me the "blind" watch which Sir Arthur had presented to him, a silver one with raised hands by which it was quite easy to tell the time.

What a marvellous thing for this one man to have been able to make his terrible misfortune—the worst misfortune life had to offer—into a source of unimaginable comfort and hope, and even happiness, to thousands and thousands.

The following are the words of a song which has been composed by R. J. Vine, of Ewhurst. We hope to hear in due course that the song has been published and has scored a real success.

COME UP!

Up on the hill, where the breeze is ever free, Fragrant and keen, with a freshness of the sea; There, 'neath the pine, 'mid the grass and the heather,

Dreaming I lie in the bright sunny weather.

Glorious the sky with the radiant sun ashine, Perfum'd the air with a thousand scents divine; Birds calling clear, with a sweet and joyous trill; Nature is king; holding sway o'er the hill.

Stay not below, where the mist enshrouds the

Come on the hill and refresh your mind anew; Come on the hill, and leave behind all sadness, Here reigneth peace undisturb'd, joy and gladness.

R. J. VINE.

A man struck a match to see if the petrol tank of his motor-car was empty.—
It wasn't!

A man patted a strange bulldog on the head to see if it was affectionate.—It wasn't!

A man speeded up his motor to see if he could beat the train at a level crossing.—
He couldn't!

A man touched an electric wire to see if it was charged.—It was!

A man took whisky to see if it interfered with his ability to drive his motor-car.—
It did!

READY FOR ANYTHING

A weary-looking man who had been seeking work for a long time happened to see a huge police advertisement headed: "Murderer Wanted."

"Well," he said, scratching his head, "it's better'n nothing, anyhow. I'm going in to ask for the job!"

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