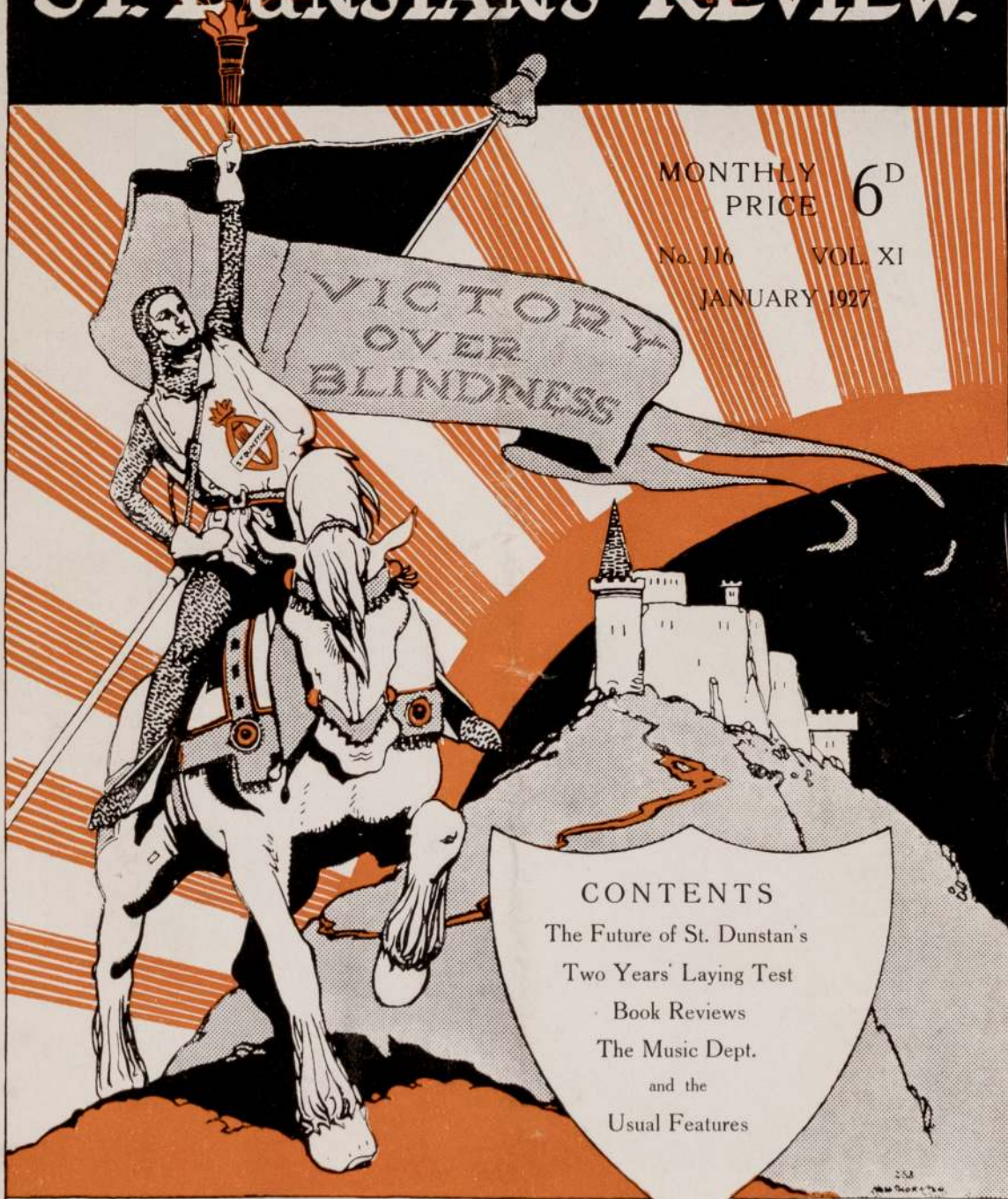


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

MONTHLY PRICE 6^D

No. 116 VOL. XI
JANUARY 1927



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FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR



"In Memory"
 The delegation of Officers, Men and Staff with the wreath laid on Sir Arthur's Tomb
 on the anniversary of his death last month

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 116.—VOLUME XI.

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN.]

EDITORIAL NOTES

WE think that an interesting contrast is provided by two books dealing with the lives of blind men which are reviewed on another page. Although one is the true life story of a great public man, and the other, presumably, only a creation of the author's imagination, yet it seems to us that there is a moral to be drawn from a comparison between the two works. In "A Beacon for the Blind," the life of Henry Fawcett, the blind Postmaster-General, we have the inspiring record of a man who refused to be daunted by the coming of blindness almost at the outset of his career, and, indeed, went forward from triumph to triumph to reach eventually one of the most important executive positions in the Government. The other book, "Blindness," tells the story of a young man blinded by accident, and although not a great span of his after-life is dealt with, there is nothing but self-pity, bitter cynicism, and a carping criticism of those about him in the way in which he meets his misfortune. True, the novel ends up with the coming of some spiritual vision which brings to the blind man hope and the desire to build life anew, but one cannot feel high confidence in the lasting victory over his handicap of such a character as the author of this book portrays. It is the greater encouragement, therefore, for us to remember that once again truth has beaten fiction, and that against the one poor child of an author's creation we can all put so many real men who have been on their feet again and ready to fight life's battle to the finish almost before the first number of the "count out" has been called.



How many of us fully realise the great part in our content with life which the following of our many hobbies plays? Their illimitable variety is in itself proof of the appeal to our fancy which these little by-ways off life's regular road of toil make, and who can forecast the trend of that appeal? We find a great statesman rioting in every spare moment in the rearing of pigs; an Admiral of the Fleet prouder of his collection of butterflies than of his battle honours; a postman devoting his scanty leisure to painting pictures, and the joy of a professional boxer the working of wool samplers! And so with all of us—our daily work *may* be a constant pleasure; our hobby *always is*. Oh! yes, we all know that counsel of perfection "make your work your hobby," but we are not all perfect and the truant spirit that lurks in most of us often makes what we *have* to do less delightful than what we *want* to do. We can pick our hobby—we cannot always choose our work.

The hobbies of our St. Dunstaners are many and varied—music, gardening, canary breeding, chess, writing—the list must be a very long one, and each man will hold a strong brief for his own. We will give prizes of £1, 10s., and 5s., for the three best answers to the question "What is *your* hobby and why?" Entries to the Editor, to arrive not later than 10th February next.

The Future of St. Dunstan's Some Changes which will Consolidate our Position

By CAPTAIN IAN FRASER

FOR some years it has been clearly recognised that the first stage in the care of blinded soldiers, namely, training, must come to an end within a measurable time. At the date of the Armistice 1,405 blinded soldiers, sailors, or airmen had been admitted to St. Dunstan's for training, and since that date up to the present time a further 751, whose eyesight has deteriorated as a result of War Service, have been added to our ranks. Some two years ago we foresaw the diminution in numbers, and in order to avoid having to carry on our training establishment for a considerable time with a small number of men, we took steps to secure information about all those cases of defective eyesight of which we had knowledge, or about which we could hear. As a result the number of men increased rapidly for a time, and we had to utilise every available bed, and temporarily to reopen the Bungalow as a dormitory. Now, however, this has ceased to be necessary, and we are reduced to some 76 men under training.

For some years yet there may be a few cases of men whose circumstances have been peculiar, and who may still come within the objects of St. Dunstan's and require to be admitted and trained, but we have now reached a stage when the elaborate training arrangements initiated to deal with large numbers would be out of all proportion to our needs. The Council of St. Dunstan's has, during the past year, had this matter constantly under consideration, and we have, after much thought and investigation, decided that the best interests of St. Dunstan's as a whole will be served by closing down the whole of our training organisation in London at the end of August next, and making arrangements for a small number of training places to be reserved in a building which we shall probably have to erect in the grounds of the Brighton Annexe. With few exceptions, the men at present under training will have com-

pleted their course, and it would be a waste of funds to continue to maintain in London training workshops and a hostel with the attendant staff, though, of course, our Headquarters for After-Care administration will remain in London. The few men still requiring training can be housed at the Brighton Annexe at small extra cost, and only a limited staff will be required to deal with them. There will be no diminution in the number of beds available for convalescent and holiday men at the Brighton Annexe, for we have under consideration a scheme whereby further accommodation will be provided for permanently disabled and sick men.

It follows from the above—that the second phase of St. Dunstan's care of its men, namely settlement, will be brought to a conclusion at about the same time, for when settlements have been secured for the men in training and for that small number of men whose final settlement has not yet been effected, the need for an elaborate Settlement Office with representatives all over the country will cease. All this means that during 1927 a very important change in the general structure of St. Dunstan's administration is to take place. For all practical purposes St. Dunstan's will cease to be a training establishment; settlement will have been completed, and there will remain only After-Care to be continued and carried on. The completion of this work of After-Care cannot be visualised, for it will continue throughout the lifetime of our blinded soldiers and sailors, and only the youngest amongst us will see the end. Possibly fifty years hence there will still be an organisation of some sort, caring for a few remaining veterans of the Great War, but what it will be like it would be waste of time to imagine.

This much is certain, that the change indicated in this article was inevitable, and is one which, while it will be a cause

of regret to those who have seen the Training and Settlement Organisation created and built up, must nevertheless be also a matter for general satisfaction amongst St. Dunstaners. Not only satisfaction because an important part of the great work will have been virtually completed, but also because the very completion of that part of the work and the termination of the expenditure which it involved is a very considerable factor in guaranteeing the financial position of St. Dunstan's for the future.

We are now for the first time in the history of St. Dunstan's approaching a position when we shall know the magnitude of our problem, and shall be able to calculate with some degree of accuracy what funds are required to guarantee for the rest of our men's lives that all the various benefits which they enjoy shall continue. The Council of St. Dunstan's is determined that nothing with which it is in their power to deal shall stand in the way of the fulfilment of the oft-repeated statement that St. Dunstan's will continue to look after the interests of all its men for the rest of their lives, and that all the general and particular benefits which are at present enjoyed will be continued without alteration in principle.

The closing down of training and settlement involves the loss by St. Dunstan's of a large number of members of the staff, some of whom have been associated with the place for ten years or more, a necessity which is bound to cause universal regret. At the moment, however, it is too early to deal specifically with this, and some of the other questions which will arise, and which are now receiving our serious consideration, but in later issues of the REVIEW further information will be given as it becomes available.

St. Dunstaners may rest assured that the changes referred to in this article will in no way affect their interests adversely. Indeed, our After-Care Organisation will emerge in stronger and more permanent shape, and the usual benefits which it will continue to confer will be rendered more secure.

At a whist drive held recently at the United Services Club, St. Sidwell's,

Exeter, in aid of St. Dunstan's funds, W. J. Burnett presented the prizes, and in a brief address spoke on the work of St. Dunstan's.

New Netting Superintendent

We have pleasure in announcing that Miss Hilda Warren has accepted the post of Head of our Netting Department. This is a cause of great satisfaction, for Miss Warren has not only personally known a large number of our men but has, during many years of service in various capacities at St. Dunstan's, earned a large measure of goodwill from both St. Dunstaners and members of the staff with whom she has come into contact.

Miss Warren joined our staff as a V.A.D. in October 1918, and after working in the wards, lounge, dining-rooms, &c., took charge of Inquiry Office, first at the House and afterwards at the Bungalow, superintending also the V.A.D. and relatives' houses in Bentinck and Titchfield Terraces until the end of 1923. Since then Miss Warren has been a mainstay in many emergencies, coming to our assistance at many times when voluntary help was needed and more recently has given valuable temporary assistance in the Netting Room.

So far as netting and wool rug workers are concerned no change in the arrangements for dealing with their work is contemplated, but some reorganisation of the Department itself has taken place with a view to improving its administration and co-ordinating its work with our Sales and other Departments. We are sure our readers will wish Miss Warren the greatest success in the responsible task which she has undertaken. All communications in connection with netting matters should, in future, be addressed personally to Miss Warren at Headquarters.

A mean theft of some cigarettes from the tobacco kiosk of H. Crane, of Croydon, had a sequel in the Croydon Police Court, when a man named Harold was fined £5 and placed on probation for two years. Harold's father said that he had lost three sons in the war, and he would rather follow this son to the grave than to the Police Court on such a charge.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

A FAIR number of repairs come the way of A. Allen, of Ashcroft, Alton, Stoke-on-Trent, and he contrives also to sell an appreciable quantity of leather, nails, &c., which keeps him busy. He is amazed, on reckoning up, to realise that nine years have slipped away since he was wounded. According to him the time has passed "wonderfully quickly." It would be rather interesting to have a column or so as to what other St. Dunstaners feel about this. For them, has time since the loss of sight passed slowly, or quickly, and does it go more or less rapidly as the years increase?

What about gramophone cabinets? G. Price, of Clacton-on-sea, has made a fine one of oak. It is beautifully finished and he has every reason to be proud of it. Others who possess these pleasure-giving contraptions may like to manufacture something in the same line in their leisure hours.

In Ramsey, C. Norman is keeping a remarkably nice-looking little shop and working away on boots and mats. He is meditating as to how his trade may be increased in the coming year. We hope he is making full use of St. Dunstan's calendar blotters in this connection.

All will be glad to hear that S. C. Loram is decidedly better in health since his stay at Torquay. The treatment there was evidently just what was needed. Loram is hoping to be lucky enough to obtain a Council house very shortly. His small boy has made splendid progress since his operation.

One of our most industrious mat workers is H. Kidger, of Bridgnorth. He seems to be very happily situated and has made a number of friends in the locality.

Repair work interests R. B. Blackshaw, of Stoke-on-Trent. He is a very keen

worker and does well everything that comes his way. His health is good, friends will be glad to hear.

Another "live man" is A. Taylor, of Stourbridge. He has secured some good orders for clogs, and finds that he has little time for repair work, so busy is he in making.

One of our basket makers in Evesham is J. Dennick. He always seems happy and contented and perhaps for this reason has many friends. One has papered his house for him recently as a kind of "Christmas gift," while another never fails to collect any baskets that may need sending off by rail. Dennick is to be congratulated.

"All's well" with G. H. Matthews, of St. Helens, and he is very busy indeed with boots and clogs. The drapery shop has done fairly well.

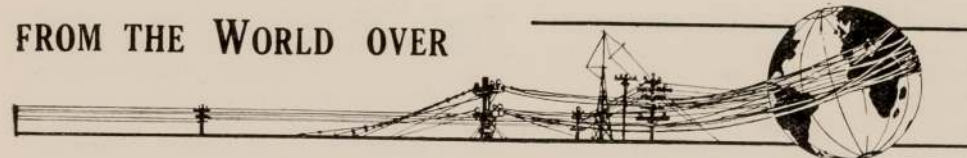
Another St. Helens man is J. Smith, and he too reports that the drapery trade is not particularly brisk at present, doubtless owing to the after effects of the long strike. Like Matthews, Smith is anticipating better business in the New Year. Smith has not much idle time for he lends valuable assistance to his father who runs a billiard hall.

What with re-handling baskets and re-seating chairs C. E. Thomas, of Todmorden keeps fully employed. He has also a stall at the market and reports it is "holding its own" despite the general quietness of trade.

One of our telephonists, J. McNicholls, of Ardwick, Manchester, reports that all is going well with him, and he is in good health.

Among our joiners mention should be made of W. H. Farr, of Windsor, who finds

FROM THE WORLD OVER



he has just about as much work as he can get through. His family is well and finding life interesting.

Not far distant from the above is E. J. Harlow, of Eton, who is in the picture-frame line and says that trade keeps steady. His district is not one where there is a great increase for Christmas on account of the school holidays, which take customers away.

G. Fallowfield, of Codicote, has been fortunate enough to find a valuable friend through whom a number of orders have come. As a result Fallowfield's ambition has been kindled and he is planning the making of some fancy baskets. He has also received orders for a couple of hammocks, but these are not to be delivered until the spring.

Another basket maker is P. M. Austin, of Higham Ferrers, N'hants, and he is getting a goodly number of orders. His window is most attractively set out with some of his baskets which have been lined by his clever-fingered wife. We hope that many a husband will decide to secure one of these as a gift for his own helpmeet.

Mats have been keeping W. Wells, of Wellingboro', N'hants, busy. He has had a stroke of bad luck inasmuch as a rat ate his whole family of baby ducklings—a tragedy indeed! Wells pluckily hatched out another sitting, but only succeeded in rearing a couple. His pullets are laying well we are glad to know.

That indefatigable St. Dunstan, T. Parrish, of Wellingboro', is as busy as ever what with sawing wood and outdoor jobs of every kind. He is eagerly looking forward to the spring so that he can get on with his bungalow. The latest purchase

is a Morris car which Parrish expects will bring him both pleasure and profit.

The refreshment shop kept by T. Ashe, of Sunbury, is doing well despite the wintry weather and his chickens are looking remarkably fit. Ashe has been extra busy of late helping a man to put up a fence round his garden.

Everyone will be glad to hear that F. G. Holman, of Thetford, is said to be looking very much better for his holiday at Brighton. He is planning great things to do in the immediate future.

F. Tait, whose interesting articles on the breeding of canaries appeared in THE REVIEW a short time back, has now been elected President of the Bolton Club, and we tender him our congratulations. He has received some very nice notices in the local press. He won fourth prize at Blackpool with his singing birds at the last contest.

In our REVIEW notes, frequent mention is made of the splendid wives possessed by many of our St. Dunstaners, and sometimes an appreciation of sisters creeps in, but up to the present mothers have been rather overlooked. We have every intention of making amends for this in the future and will begin by congratulating C. Williams on the excellent choice he made in this respect! In any way she can Mrs. Williams is always willing to "lend a hand" even to the extent of helping Williams to distemper the living-room—and a fine job they have made of it, we hear.

We offer good wishes to R. E. Hill, of Tideswell Buxton, who is hoping great things from the entries he has made for the laying test. Hill is as happy and contented as usual and is looking forward to working in his garden again when the weather

News of St. Dunstaners—continued.
grows warmer. Last year his efforts were most successful and he had a splendid lot of vegetables all through the season.

Another Derbyshire man is H. Hurst, of Longstone. He has a few head of poultry and finds the birds a great interest. His young daughter is doing very well at school we hear.

Brief Notes

There is good news from G. H. Phillips, of Bolton, in that his health is much better than formerly and he is able to commence mat making.

H. Nelson, of Durham, has decided to devote most of his energies to gardening, so is giving up poultry except for about 30 head.

In Houghton-le-Spring J. Watson, whose health is fair, is doing well with poultry and expects to do better when he can get more eggs.

T. Allen is finding the boot trade somewhat slack so is filling in spare time at his mat frame. Other busy mat-makers are W. Walker, of Sherburn Hill, J. Wishart, of West Stanley, and J. Worthington, of Stockport.

Joinery is the occupation of G. Newman, of Ilford, Essex. His shop is a very nice one and is always smartly kept.

Baskets and woollies are the alternative handicrafts of I. H. Poole, of the Isle of Wight, and F. Kneller, of Southampton.

C. H. Cornwell, of Ipswich, is keeping very fit, and the same may be said of his wife and the baby girl. Cornwell, as his friends will remember, is a maker of wool rugs.

Poultry is proving a remunerative occupation for B. Hamilton, of Brandon, and H. S. Eames is keeping well and happy in Hurst, Twyford.

In Bury St. Edmunds C. H. Smith is keeping the pot boiling with the dual

trades of mat-making and boot repairing. When one is "down" the other is usually "up"! With baskets G. Brown, of Northumberland Heath, Erith, is going along satisfactorily, while not far distant R. Barber, of Plumstead Common, combines the making of baskets with wool rugs—he has had to drop the former temporarily, we are sorry to learn, owing to trouble with his hand. We trust that by the time these lines appear he will be in a full flow of activity again.

"Trade is a bit better than it was" is the experience of F. C. Fleetwood, of W. Dulwich, who runs a tobacco and sweetstuff shop. He hopes to make top-speed progress now that the long lingering coal strike is really at an end.

The new house of C. A. Hancock, in West Drayton Green, is in a nice airy position and he is quite settled in, just in time to catch the spurt of trade in baskets that usually comes at the turn of the year.

The news from N. McDonald is scant but good of its kind. His health is fair and he is still at work at the furniture factory. As for W. H. Conlon, of Kirkintulloch, he is getting along satisfactorily at his job with the L.N.E.R., while J. J. Steel, of Rosyth, is working away at mats as steadily as ever.

All will be sorry to hear that J. Bannister, of Skelmersdale, has been laid up with that exceedingly painful complaint rheumatic gout. He has, of course, been unable to do his usual amount of work so has found his wireless a constant source of joy. His wife has proved herself a splendid nurse.

Householders will sympathise with F. P. Best, Edgbaston, who has just had the unpleasant experience of a burst waterpipe between his front gate and the house. An expensive operation to repair.

Our Devonshire St. Dunstaners are progressing as favourably as usual. W.

Tout, of St. Thomas, secured a nice number of joinery orders for Christmas, while C. Short is busy with boots and reports his new workshop as a great success.

A very busy man is S. Holmes, of Belfast, and when he gets through the work now on hand he has an order promised for two big bookcases that should keep him going for some time. Another Belfast man is R. Hanna, who has been keeping wonderfully well of late and getting out for a walk nearly every day. His friends may hope to see him at the Annexe again shortly.

In Scaldwell, N'Hants, C. Chapman seems as happy and contented as usual, while at Rushden (also N'hants) A. Holland is engrossed with his poultry which seem laying as well or better than usual. Holland seems to have had a record in Braille watches for he reports that his has gone steadily for three years without going wrong or losing a minute! Can anyone beat this?

V. Wicken, of Bordesley Green East, Birmingham, is getting along with mats, and finds that he likes making them. A. Keep, of Forest Gate, has secured a "special order" in this line which should occupy him for some time. W. Rushen is supplying those in the neighbourhood of Witham, Essex, with these household essentials. Mats and poultry give E. Greenword, of Chaseside, Enfield, little leisure, and G. H. Wiltshire, of Muswell Hill, finds, like many another St. Dunstaner, that mats and boots form a good working team. In Balham, W. Cox devotes himself to the first mentioned trade (one of his daughters is to be married shortly by the way, and we take this opportunity of sending her good wishes). And a new recruit to the band is J. Davidson, of Kilrea, he has just had his frame fixed and has only been delayed starting by the dangerous illness of his mother.

F. Gallagher has been putting in a steady spell of work on rabbit nets, but has been temporarily disabled for this

work by an injured finger which turned septic.

Friends who remember the enthusiastic way in which O. Cole grappled with difficulties encountered during training will be interested to know that he is searching for a suitable settling spot in N. Devon and is contemplating Appledore if a good workshop and house can be located.

M. J. Printie is getting on well with his telephony in Edinburgh. In Stewarton, A. Highet is doing well with poultry and the same may be said of J. McAvoy, of Mauchline, since his birds are laying freely.

W. J. Bowers is running a newsagency in Hounslow, and in "off" hours employs himself in making rugs. In Laindon, J. D. Cockerill is working very hard and is exceedingly well in health.

Cane-basket work is proving as interesting an occupation as K. C. Gatrell, of Wandsworth, S.W., hoped. Another basket maker is A. W. Vaughan, of West Croydon. He is happy and cheery as ever.

F. Green, of Sunderland, is getting along satisfactorily.

In West Kensington, M. Westwick is keeping very well and is fairly busy with massage. In Atherton, J. Horridge is hoping for a distinct improvement in his business (musical instruments) as a result of the cessation of the strike and the long evenings of winter.

T. Baker, of Holloway, has been very busy with Christmas orders in the joinery line. G. Matthews is working up a fair local trade for baskets in Petersfield, and A. Waite is just settling down in the same line at Broughton, N'Hants, and, although he has not yet moved into his new house and started work, has secured some advance orders.

"What is your Hobby?"

(See page 1.)

Poultry Notes

Two Years' Laying Test

Officially Recognised by the National Poultry Council

Report for First Period, 7th November to 4th December 1926

THE results for the first period of the Two Years' Test must be considered highly satisfactory. The total number of eggs laid was 584, or an average of nearly 13 eggs per bird. Special attention should be drawn to C. T. Condon's pen of Rhode Island Reds with the fine average of 21 eggs per bird in 28 days.

The one regrettable feature of this month's results is the high percentage of second and third grade eggs laid by the White Leghorns and White Wyandottes. The former amounted to 45 per cent. of seconds and thirds and the latter 44 per

cent., whilst the Rhode Island Reds gave only 5 per cent. and the White Bresse a little over 10 per cent. There has been no sickness during the month and the birds are in excellent health. They are also maintaining good bodily condition in spite of the heavy egg yield.

The figures given in the Table of Results show the eggs laid by the five pullets in each pen, but it should be understood that the awards at the end of the first year and final awards at the end of the Test will be given for the best four birds. In other words the reserve bird will be the one with the lowest record.

TABLE OF PRODUCTION AND BREED AVERAGES

	No. of Birds	Eggs Laid Grades			Totals	Average per Bird
		1	2	3		
White Leghorns	15	91	65	10	166	11.07
Rhode Island Reds	20	326	18	—	344	17.20
White Wyandottes	5	24	9	10	43	8.60
White Bresse	5	26	2	1	29	5.80
Unrecorded		1	1	—	2	
Totals		468	95	21	584	12.95

RESULTS FOR FIRST PERIOD. Any Breed (4 pullets and 1 reserve)

Pen No.	Owner	Breed	Grades			Total
			1	2	3	
1	Tindall, J. H.	White Leghorn	47	17	1	65
2	Bulman, C. R.	White Leghorn	13	29	9	51
3	Gibson, D.	White Leghorn	31	19	—	50
4	Condon, C. T.	Rhode Island Red	96	9	—	105
5	Trigg, A. E.	Rhode Island Red	80	4	—	84
6	Bisset, L. A.	Rhode Island Red	83	3	—	86
7	Capper, A. H.	White Bresse	26	2	1	29
8	Bulley, F. E. C.	Rhode Island Red	67	2	—	69
9	Maclean, D.	White Wyandotte	24	9	10	43

FOURTH TEST

Report for Second Period, 29th November to 26th December 1926

The results for the second period of our Test show a very satisfactory improvement on that of the first period.

4,147 eggs were produced and it will be seen by the Production Table below that this is equal to an average of 13.69 eggs

per bird. 69.69 per cent. of the eggs were first grade, 27.99 per cent. second grade, and 2.31 per cent. third grade.

The White Leghorns and White Wyandottes must again take responsibility for a large percentage of the small eggs. In justice to the other breeds and to many of the pens of Leghorns and Wyandottes, it should be pointed out that a large majority of the small eggs come from a small minority of the pens. For example: three pens with a total of 324 eggs have laid 275 seconds and thirds.

It is encouraging to note that towards the close of the period there was a very definite improvement in egg size and it is confidently hoped that this improvement will continue for the remainder of the Test.

The weather during the period under

review has, on the whole, not been unfavourable to egg production, although we have experienced some severe frosts.

There is one death to report. Mr. C. R. Newell's White Leghorn pullet, ring No. 75 in Section 1. The cause of death was "A broken egg in the oviduct." The general health of the birds has been excellent.

The winners of the monthly sittings of eggs are as follows:—

Sec. 1. W. A. Foulkes	Sec. 5. A. Chaffin
" 2. H. Sims	" 5. C. H. Brown
" 3. G. C. Jackson	" 5A. D. Maclean
" 4. A. W. Sutton	" 6. A. Chaffin

The above should apply to the superintendent stating the breed desired and the date on which they wish the eggs dispatched.

TABLE OF PRODUCTION

Sec.	Breed	No. of Birds	Eggs laid Grades			Total	Average per Bird
			1	2	3		
1	White Leghorns	87	735	434	63	1,232	14.16
2	Rhode Island Reds	108	1,165	285	6	1,456	13.48
3	White Wyandottes	24	171	106	1	278	11.58
4	Any Other Breed	24	229	74	4	307	12.70
5	Single Heavy Breed	18	148	75	9	232	12.88
5A	Single R.I. Reds	19	216	56	—	272	14.31
6	Single Light Breed	22	146	86	8	240	10.81
	Unrecorded	302	2,810	1,116	91	4,017	
			80	45	5	130	
	Totals		2,890	1,161	96	4,147	13.69

SUMMARY OF LEADING PENS

AT END OF SECOND PERIOD SECTION 1.—WHITE LEGHORNS (4 PULLETS)

Pen No.	Owner	Breed	Total Eggs	Test Value	Temporary Position
14	Foulkes, W. A.	—	140	140	1
16	Brown, C. H.	—	126	126	2
22	Cockerill, J. D.	—	124	124	3
4	Hamilton, B.	—	118	116	4

SECTION 2.—RHODE ISLAND REDS (4 PULLETS)

27	Tebble, E.	—	152	151	1
30	Simms, H.	—	150	150	2
36	Woodcock, W. J.	—	142	142	3
44	Lea, J. H.	—	141	141	4

(Continued on next page.)

SECTION 3.—WHITE WYANDOTTES (4 PULLETS)

Pen No.	Owner	Breed	Total Eggs	Test Value	Temporary Position
53	Jackson, G. C.	—	97	97	1
51	Holmes, P.	—	87	87	2
50	Ashwell, R.	—	80	80	3

SECTION 4.—ANY OTHER BREED (4 PULLETS)

57	Sutton, A. W.	Buff Rocks	133	132	1
60	Hill, R. E.	Red Leghorns	107	107	2
56	Coates, T.	Light Sussex	99	99	3

SECTION 5.—SINGLE BIRD, ANY HEAVY BREED

	Brown, C. H.	White Wyandotte	39	39	1
	Sutton, A. W.	Buff Rock	37	37	2
	Chaffin, A.	White Wyandotte	35	35	3

SECTION 5A.—SINGLE BIRD, RHODE ISLAND RED

	Maclean, D.	—	35	35	1
	Catlow, S.	—	34	34	2
	Lea, J. H.	—	30	33	3
	Hamilton, B.	—	33	33	3

SUMMARY OF LEADING PENS

AT END OF FIRST PERIOD

SECTION 6.—SINGLE BIRD, ANY LIGHT BREED

	Chaffin, A.	White Leghorn	37	37	1
	Brown, C. H.	White Leghorn	28	28	2
	Livingstone, D.	White Leghorn	27	27	3
	Capper, A. H.	White Bresse	40	27	3

G. G.

Our Orators

Further to our Editorial Notes last month on the subject of invitations to St. Dunstaners to give addresses on the work of our Organisation, we are glad to hear that J. W. Spink, of Boxmoor, scored a great success on an occasion of the kind. In a letter, Spink says:—

"The talk was certainly very well received, and greatly applauded at the finish. I say 'at the finish' advisedly, because it was my full intention not to go beyond a matter of ten minutes or so. Realising, however, how wonderfully interested my audience were as I dealt with the work of St. Dunstan's, and how very successful had been the results therefrom,

my ten minutes drifted into just over an hour. When I began to apologise for keeping the audience so long they wanted more, and to top a very happy and successful evening I was given no less than five invitations out to tea at the conclusion of the talk. I have, since getting these invitations, completed the whole five, but, unfortunately for the wife and I, they were all immediately after Christmas, the result being that we could not do justice to the teas (next Christmas I shall positively refuse any invitations to tea unless they are dated before Christmas!)."

Spink concludes his letter by sending good wishes to all his old comrades for the new year.

After-Care Re-unions

Exeter

THE Exeter After-Care Meeting was held on Friday, 10th December, and was a very jolly affair. By the kindness of the Rector and churchwardens we were once more given the use of Holy Trinity Hall, and as we numbered well over a hundred we were glad of the space of this ideal building. There were a few absences through illness, but as we were welcoming several new members the meeting was as large as ever.

Our kind friends, the Misses Stewart, once more came in and gave much pleasure by their piano and violin playing, and later in the afternoon we had an excellent Devonshire recitation from Mr. Stoneham, this quite naturally led into the singing of "Widdecombe Fair." Several members of the Exeter "Toc H" came in during the afternoon and we were glad to have the Rector with us for a short time. It was nice, too, having Miss Brandt with us, so many west-country St. Dunstaners are glad to hear that she has come to live in Exeter. Competitions were as popular as ever; "putting the tail on the donkey" was won by A. Day, of Shaldon, and the ladies' competition by Mrs. Foster, of Plymouth. The cake was won by A. Rogers, of Kingsbridge, the pie competition resulted in four of the ladies guessing the same weight, they decided to draw for it, and Mrs. T. Mardon won.

After tea Mr. Swain talked to the men for some fifteen minutes, giving them the latest news from Headquarters, also a cheery message from Captain Fraser. T. Floyd, of Teignmouth, replied in a delightfully worded speech. Floyd said that he was sure he was voicing the feelings of all his fellow St. Dunstaners in the west country in sending a message of most grateful thanks to Captain Fraser and the Council of St. Dunstan's for the many benefits received by the men during the past year. In particular, he would like to mention the excellent arrangements made to enable St. Dunstaners to join the new insurance scheme, the much

appreciated gift of wireless sets, and Captain Fraser's bill for free wireless licences. In connection with the latter Floyd made a most happy suggestion, namely that when the time came that without this concession of free licences, St. Dunstaners would have been obliged to renew their licences, all who could should send just a tiny gift to Mr. Kessell, at St. Dunstan's, for the Fresh Air Fund, thus marking their own good fortune by contributing to a fund which was the first of Sir Arthur's plans for helping others, and, as all knew, always very near his heart. The hearty applause at the end of Floyd's speech showed how much the other St. Dunstaners present were in accord with his idea.

One afternoon is not long in which to exchange news of the happenings of a year, but from the cheery sound of conversation everyone was doing their best in this direction and we parted with happy plans for our next merry meeting in Exeter.

D. I. M. A.

Bristol

The Bristol meeting on 4th December was, as usual, a very cheery affair. A few St. Dunstaners were unfortunately prevented by illness from being present, but there was a very good muster and over a hundred sat down to tea.

Captain Fraser's message and Mr. Swain's speech were greeted with much applause from the happy throng round the tables and all united in sending a very hearty vote of thanks to Canon Haigh for his kindness in once again lending the St. Paul's Lecture Hall. The conversation at times almost drowned the sound of the piano, but at an After-Care meeting conversation is the important thing, and if it can be accompanied, but not checked, by the cheerful sound of music, so much the better!

The iced cake and a large pie made their progress round the hall for weight guessing, the cake being won by Bryer, of Yate, and the pie halved by Mrs. Bowering and H.

Perrett's escort, they having guessed equally.

F. Aubrey, of Bristol, appears to have a talent for placing the tail in the correct position on the donkey, he won this competition with an excellent score.

All too soon another Bristol meeting was over, but already we are busy planning for next year.

Worshipful Company of Basket-makers, City of London

The following awards were secured by St. Dunstaners in the recent basketwork examination for 1926 of the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers. We heartily congratulate all participants upon their Success.—ED.

BASKETWORK EXAMINATION 1926 SECTION B. (SEMI-SIGHTED JOURNEYMEN)

CLASS 2

(GENERAL BASKET WORK—SQUARE)
Second Class Certificates

F. J. Brown, 27 Percy Road, Greet, Birmingham.

CLASS 3

(GENERAL BASKET WORK—ROUND AND OVAL)

Third Class Certificates

E. W. Martin, 36 Summerhill Road, Phillip Lane, Tottenham, N.

CLASS 4

(FANCY BASKET WORK)
Second Class Certificate

E. Varley, 101 Roslyn Road, Tottenham, N.
S. Goodman, 43 May Street, Luton, Beds.

Third Class Certificates

J. Marriott, 6 Townsend, Soham, Cambs.
G. Eades, 28 Connaught Road, Reading, Berks.

SECTION C. (BLIND JOURNEYMEN)

CLASS 4

(FANCY BASKET WORK)
First Class Certificates

H. Bridgman, 2 Fleet Street, Derby.

Second Class Certificates

A. Waite, 5 Cransley Road, Broughton, Nr. Kettering.

Third Class Certificates

W. J. Wood, 27 Glendarvon Street, Putney, S.W.

J. Thornton, 78 Bayham Street, Camden Town, N.W.

A. J. F. Jolly, 47 Brighton Road, East Ham.

R. Barber, 64 Flaxton Road, Plumstead Common.

C. L. Singleton, 95 Monega Road, Katherine Road, East Ham.

Births

ALLEN.—On the 10th of December, a daughter was born to the wife of W. Allen, of Darwen.

BATTEN.—To the wife of S. Batten, of Martock, a son on the 26th of November.

COATES.—On Tuesday, 30th November, a son to the wife of H. T. Coates, of New Longton, Nr. Preston.

CURNOW.—To the wife of J. Curnow, of Troon, a daughter on the 13th of December.

DEVLIN.—On the 26th of November, to the wife of T. Devlin, of St. Helens, a son (Henry).

MCCARTHY.—To the wife of D. McCarthy, of Breamore, Salisbury, on the 8th of December, a daughter.

THOMPSON.—A son, to the wife of H. Thompson, of Clapton, on the 11th of November.

WESTELL.—On the 12th of November, to the wife of W. A. Westell, of Liverpool, a daughter (Jean Mabel).

WILLIAMS.—On the 18th of December to the wife of E. Williams, of Shipley, a son.

Deaths

We send our sympathy to:—

DOUGLAS, G. L., of Finsbury Park, who lost his father very suddenly on the 23rd of November.

ECCLESTON, J., of Leigh, whose wife died on the 22nd November after a long and trying illness.

ROBERTSON, R., of Clinkerstone, whose father died in November.

ADVERTISEMENT

For Sale

Alsation puppies, born 3rd December, by Cies, of Brogborough, Sire Hemphwaite Wisdom. Parents winners of many prizes. Colour: wolf grey and sable, also black and tan. Bitches £5 5s.; dogs £6 6s. All strong healthy puppies. Will make excellent companions and are easily trained. Address—Alan S. Emerson, Blue Pale Farm, Copford, Nr. Colchester.



"In Memory"

SERGEANT GEORGE WOODBURN
(Royal Field Artillery)

IT is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of Sergeant Woodburn on 3rd January, when, while crossing a street in Kilmarnock (where he lived), he was knocked down by a corporation omnibus and instantly killed.

Before the War Woodburn was a member of the local battery of the Ayr and Galloway Artillery Volunteers. The Battery served in Egypt for two years, and was subsequently transferred to France. While there Woodburn was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and acted as Bombing Instructor. During an engagement at Ypres he received wounds which resulted in the total loss of his sight. He came to St. Dunstan's in October 1918, and was trained in boot-repairing and mat-making. Proving a most persevering and industrious worker, he did well at both trades, and on leaving in 1920 he set up a flourishing business at Kilmarnock. Woodburn's father was devoted to him and helped greatly in his work. Woodburn was of a bright and cheerful disposition and was a great favourite with a wide circle of friends.

Impressive scenes were witnessed at the funeral, which took place at Kilmarnock Cemetery on 6th January and was of a semi-military character. A firing party of twelve men from the R.S.F. headed the cortege, and the pallbearers, chiefly non-commissioned officers of the 316th Battery R.A., walked alongside the hearse. The coffin was covered with the Union Jack, and among the many beautiful wreaths received was one from the Royal Artillery (316th Battery). The service was conducted by the Rev. D. P. Howie, M.A., Laigh Kirk, and after the firing of three volleys over the grave, the solemn ceremony concluded with the sounding of the Last Post.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Mr. Woodburn, Senior, whose grief is all the more poignant on account of the fact that he lost two other sons during the war. One of these, John Woodburn, who served with the Royal Scots Fusiliers, was reported missing in France, and the other, Robert Duncan Woodburn, who was an artificer in the Royal Navy, was so severely wounded that he died in Hassler Hospital, Gosport.



SPORTS CLUB NOTES

UNIVERSITY RUGBY MATCH

Twickenham—14th December 1926
Once again Mr. Comber, of Pembroke College, Cambridge, very kindly sent us tickets for the 'Varsity Rugby Match at Twickenham on 14th December, and as far as St. Dunstan's was concerned, the cheering started directly we left the Lodge Gates, and continued till our return, even the voice of Instructor Tovell was lost before the roar of—Oxford, Cambridge. In spite of the fact that Sisters Stacey and Morgan supported the Dark Blues they lost, but everyone had to own that the Cambridge men were faster and infinitely better at passing, though Oxford were wonderful tacklers. The enthusiasm on such a day as this is not easily forgotten, only one thing was missing, and that was "hot dogs," which one was not permitted to devour in the fashionable private coach from Headquarters.

PRESENT CARE SPORTS

Congratulations to the winners in the T.B. and S.S. sections, who seem to have retained the lead throughout. Some of the "Also-rans" showed lack of enthusiasm towards the end of the term, which tended to give the winners an easier time than formerly. I trust that next term a high standard of attendance will be upheld by all.

CHRISTMAS TERM RESULTS

T.B.		S.S.	
1. McDonald .. 862½	1. Crook, A. .. 920		
2. Chamberlain .. 745	2. Barnes .. 750		
3. Cook, R. .. 710	3. Buchanan .. 595		
4. Gaffney .. 465	4. Massey .. 560		
5. Barnes, W. .. 412½	5. Wilkie .. 385		
6. Robinson .. 235	6. Parks .. 290		
7. Edwards, D. .. 205	7. Isaac .. 275		
8. Clover, A. .. 80	8. Moore .. 220		
9. Pimm .. 15	9. Edwards, H. J. .. 165		
	10. Thomas .. 90		

AFTER CARE SPORTS

The After Care Sports have still some months to run before the close of the Winter Term. We notice that Fleming

retains the lead and that McFarlane, Webster and Thompson are fighting close behind. I'm glad to see the points working so well, and all smile whether they work hard and secure a point or not, and the attendance seems very regular. I hope to welcome more After Care sportsmen after Christmas—"The more, the merrier" should be our cry.

POINTS			
1. Fleming .. 76	9. Prior .. 40		
2. McFarlane .. 67	10. Burren .. 42		
3. Webster .. 61	11. Kerr .. 34		
4. Thompson .. 60	12. Gover .. 26		
5. Henry .. 57	13. Martin .. 19		
6. Windle .. 48	14. Ashton .. 7		
7. Cookson .. 44	15. Nichols .. 6		
8. Roden .. 43	16. Taylor .. 5		

FOOTBALL LEAGUE RESULTS

The weather at the latter end of the term was far from kind to our goal scorers, and some felt they were putting the weight instead of merely propelling a football! The Rackerbites showed their true worth right through and only lost two matches, and drew one, so I think we all feel that they earned the cup. I should like to put in a special word of thanks to Mr. Martin for his great kindness in keeping the goal—not a pleasant task in the winter mud—let us show our appreciation, boys, with the usual cheers!

CHRISTMAS TERM—FOOTBALL RESULTS LEAGUE TABLE

Team	W	L	D	Goals		Total
				F	A	
Rackerbites ..	13	2	1	104	61	27
Spurs ..	9	5	2	74	52	20
Savouries ..	8	5	3	71	67	19
United ..	7	4	5	63	71	19
Rangers ..	6	7	3	68	70	15
Millwall ..	4	7	5	70	78	13
Dunkans ..	3	8	5	77	88	13
Wanderers ..	4	8	4	65	78	12
Redheads ..	3	10	3	58	92	9

GOAL SCORERS

We see our friend "Jumbo" Chamberlain just managed to win the prize for the highest goal scorer amongst the T.B. men; weight must tell! Parrick, though unable

to hear the cries of the goalkeeper, managed to win the S.S. Prize, and we congratulate them both, and trust their boots are none the worse.

T.B.		S.S.	
Chamberlain .. 18	Parrick .. 29		
Crook, A. P. .. 17	Barnes, W. S. .. 27		
Edwards, D. .. 17	Namen .. 25		
McGloin .. 16	Buchanan .. 24		
Pimm .. 16	Eden .. 23		
Gregory .. 16	Cook, C. H. .. 19		
McDonald .. 14	Crook, G. .. 17		
Fleming .. 12	Rickerby .. 16		
Redhead .. 11	Comley .. 15		
Phillips .. 11	Haytor .. 15		
Day .. 11	Head .. 14		
Robinson .. 10	Massey .. 13		
Tompkinson .. 10	Craddock .. 13		
Mason .. 10	Bedford .. 12		
Kenward .. 9	Wilcox .. 12		
Clarke, S. .. 9	Saunders .. 12		
Clover .. 8	Dunks .. 11		
Barnes, W. .. 8	Miles .. 10		
Stevenson .. 8	Baxter .. 9		
Leman .. 7	Parks .. 9		
Cook, R. .. 6	Jones .. 8		
Gale .. 6	Wilkie .. 7		
Alexander .. 5	Isaacs .. 7		
Powell .. 4	Squires .. 7		
Gaffney .. 4	Brewer .. 7		
Sambo .. 3	Smith, F. E. .. 4		
Seal .. 3	Edwards, H. .. 3		
Haugh .. 1	Bentley .. 3		
Savory .. 1	Thomas .. 2		
Woodridge .. 1	Ballard .. 1		
Aitkin .. 1	Moore .. 1		

Now that we have started on the New Year we trust that the Jerks party and the rowing will receive enthusiastic followers. Everyone makes good resolutions each 1st January, may early rising be one of every Present Care reader and sportsman.

Boxing

On Monday, 3rd January, a party of our "Boys" attended the National Sporting Club, the occasion being the Annual Stable Lads' Tournament. The weights ranged from 4 st. 7 lbs. to 8 st., and as usual the competitors were very keen and some splendid contests were witnessed and thoroughly enjoyed by our party. On being "called to the bar" we met many old friends, including Lord Tweedmouth. His Lordship must be Jock McFarlane's definition of a gentleman. He said "No, certainly not; this one's with me." Jimmy Wilde, as usual, was busy signing our programmes and autograph books, and smilingly told us he had put on three

stone to his once massive frame of 7 st. 12 lbs. Mr. Eugene Corri, the world-famous referee, was just as vivacious as ever. Really, this event is just wonderful. The organisation, the stable boys (who, if they ride as well as they box, will all be cracks), and the sporting fraternity one meets on this occasion, are all of the best
W. T.

Sports Meeting

Our sports meeting was held at the Bungalow on Tuesday, 11th inst., and there was a fairly good attendance of our sportsmen. The first point brought forward was the Brighton Walk. In view of the fact that only three replies supporting the walk had been received, Captain Fraser naturally felt that such an undertaking could not be wisely attempted without better backing, and that a shorter walk should be arranged in which T.B. and S.S. could take part, for separate prizes, of course. The meeting felt that this was the only course, and it was therefore suggested that a 25 miles scratch walk, to take place outside London, if possible, should replace the usual 21 miles preliminary walk on 30th April. We are hoping that a well-known club will be able to invite us to have the walk on their course, and to give more complete details in our next REVIEW. I feel perfectly sure that this is a very wise step, and that we will have a much greater entry.

It was also mentioned that we hoped, by the kind permission of the Chairman and the Council, to hold our Regatta as usual, and also to organise a sports afternoon in June.

Sports Sister gave us some particulars regarding the suggested Shield Race at Birmingham on 7th May, and it was pointed out that this date was too close to that of the big walk. An endeavour will be made to rearrange the Birmingham date, but if this is found impossible must just do our best to fit in.

SOMETHING WRONG SOMEWHERE

"Hallo, old man! How are you getting on in your garden?"

"Splendidly! I lifted my first lot of potatoes yesterday. They were peaches!"

BOOK REVIEWS

"Blindness"

By HENRY GREEN.

(J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., 7s. 6d. net)

This is a first novel, written, the publishers state, "by a very young man." More by way of comment than in criticism, one might fairly say that the information given as to the youthfulness of the author, whether intended to disarm or to impress the reviewer, is as immaterial as it is superfluous. In our view a book issued for sale to the public must be judged solely on its merits, and not on the age of its author. Indeed, to be quite candid, "Blindness" gives obvious evidence of the immaturity of its author. The action of the book is disjointed and jerky, while but few of the characters portrayed ring really true to life. Despite this, however, it is in many ways an arresting book, at times analysing with poignant insight the emotions of a blinded man, and containing many vividly beautiful descriptive passages. In Part I we are given the schoolboy diary of John Haye, aged seventeen, who most men will regard as a neurotic and ill-balanced young prig. Then, while travelling in a train he is blinded by a stone thrown through the window by a child, and it is from that moment that the book begins to grip. The irritating diarist plan of writing ends, and we are told of the first despairing revolt against this blow of fate; of the bitter cynicism and morbidity which follow; and Haye's gnawing impatience at the helplessness of those about him to realise his need of inspiration and encouragement. "Why was he always treated as a baby? Oh! how they loved it, now that he was helpless!" From the narrow life of the village he goes to London, but finds himself no nearer making a career or even wanting to do so. The book ends on a brighter but rather unconvincing note. Haye has "some sort of fit," as he himself describes it, but the effect is to bring him to a state of mind where hope and the desire to live and to do something worth while in the world is re-born. "Blindness," in spite of many flashes of cleverness and the revelation of its author's undeniable descriptive powers, is neither a pleasant or inspiring book to read.

"A Beacon for the Blind"

Being the life of Henry Fawcett, the blind Postmaster-General. By WINIFRED HOLT. (Constable & Co., 2s. 6d.)

In view of the fact that there have been Braille Editions available for some years

past, not only of Miss Holt's book but of the two other well-known biographies of Henry Fawcett, namely Sir Leslie Stephen's master biography and the shorter work by A. F. Robertson, it is probable that many St. Dunstaners will be familiar in broad outline at least with the story of the life of this great blind man. For those, however, who may not yet have given themselves the pleasure of reading how the son of a draper's assistant (afterwards Mayor of Salisbury), in spite of being blinded in his early manhood, became a great figure in our national life, we may briefly outline his wonderful career. Henry Fawcett was born in 1833, and was just twenty-five when, out shooting with his father, the latter, suffering from incipient cataract of the eye, did not see his son, and fired at a partridge which rose suddenly.

Stray shot penetrated both his son's eyes and blinded him instantly. Before that time Henry Fawcett had been having trouble with his eyes, and, indeed, had, at his physician's injunction, to largely give up his reading and study after leaving Cambridge. Possibly this deprivation accounted in some degree for the splendid courage and philosophy with which Henry Fawcett met the entire loss of his eyesight. He was never known, to the day of his death, to complain, and he used to say that blindness was "not a tragedy but an inconvenience." He told his friends that he intended to live to be ninety, and to relish every day of his life. His ingenuity in studying out scientific management of all the little problems of daily routine was marvellously practical and, at times, almost comic. For example, he had all his clothes carefully and legibly labelled with numbers, placed so as not to show during wear. In this way his garments might easily be identified by anyone not familiar with his wardrobe. Then he would call to his family or an aide-de-camp in this wise: "I must dress quickly. Please help. Coat 1, vest 6, collar 1, trousers 3, shoes and socks 12 and 13."

Always devoted to outdoor exercise, he continued his walking, fishing and climbing, and, indeed, was a much better fisherman than are many sighted people. When he began to pick up the threads of life again, he planned to continue reading for the bar, but eventually decided that not law but Parliament should be his goal. While waiting to achieve this ambition he was far from idle and political economy particularly fascinated him. In 1863 his "Manual of Political

Economy" appeared, and its splendid reception opened the way for Fawcett to succeed to the Professorship of Political Economy at Cambridge. His friends were among the greatest men of the day. Three of them at least, Darwin, Mill, and Thackeray, gave new life to widely different callings, and it was owing to the last named that Fawcett was later enthusiastically elected a member of the Reform Club.

His political ambition still to the forefront, Fawcett contested in succession Southwark, Cambridge, and Brighton, only to be defeated each time. For a second time he fought the latter-named constituency and in 1865 was elected one of the Liberal Members of the division.

We are exceeding our space and can only skim but lightly over the wonderful triumphs of Fawcett's political career. At the General Election in 1868 he was again returned for his constituency, and in Gladstone's Parliament rapidly made an ever growing name for himself. He did great work in preserving public rights to the commons ground of London, in the formation of the Thames Conservancy, and in Indian affairs. In and out of Parliament several times, we come at last to 1880, when Gladstone offered Henry Fawcett the Postmaster-Generalship, but without a seat in the Cabinet. His work in his great executive position is a matter of history, and it only remains to add that Henry Fawcett's death in 1884 was as brave and as noble as his wonderful life had been.

Vale! a valid and a valiant man!
Ampler horizons and serener air
Await the fighter of so good a fight.

A St. Dunstan's Wedding

The marriage of A. E. Clewlow to Miss A. M. Peters, O.B.E., whose engagement was announced in a recent issue of the REVIEW, took place at Brighton on Monday, 27th December. Several factors have contributed to make this one of the most interesting of the many romances connected with St. Dunstan's. It is certainly the only marriage in which both parties have been trained at St. Dunstan's, the bride being the only woman recruit to the Organisation. The circumstances under which Miss Peters lost her sight have been detailed previously in our pages.

The ceremony took place at St. George's Church, Kempton, and was conducted by Canon Dawson, assisted by the Revs. S. L. Dixon and H. H. Jones. The church was crowded with St. Dunstaners and their relatives and members of the general public. The whole service, which was fully choral, was carried through without the slightest hitch, despite the handicap of the principal participants. The bride, who was given away by her father, Mr. F. W. Peters, made a dainty picture in ivory charmeuse with a Brussels lace veil. She wore silver shoes, and a coronet of heather and orange blossom. The sheaf of lilies which she carried was a present from Miss A. Thellusson, O.B.E., the Matron of our Brighton Annexe. The bride's attendants were the Misses Nellie and Ivy Peters (sisters), Miss L. Bax and Master David Peters (nephew). A large crowd awaited the wedding party as they left the church. A bodyguard was formed by St. Dunstaners, who made an archway with their walking sticks and cheered lustily when their colleagues passed beneath.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at Mutton's Restaurant, King's Road, Brighton. Among the many presents were a silver tea-pot, sugar basin and milk jug from St. Dunstan's.

Upon their return from the honeymoon Mr. and Mrs. Clewlow will take up their residence at Portslade, where Clewlow will carry on his occupation of a joiner.

All St. Dunstaners will wish the happy pair a long and prosperous future.

To ST. DUNSTAN'S

On behalf of my wife and myself, I wish to convey our heartfelt thanks for the great reception given us by St. Dunstan's on the occasion of our marriage. I cannot find words to express my gratitude—the easiest way is to thank you all.

I take this opportunity to thank also all those who kindly sent us telegrams and letters of congratulation and good wishes for our future.

With our best wishes to St. Dunstan's for now and all times,

Yours sincerely,

A. E. CLEWLOW.

The Music Department

THE following diary record of the activities of the Music Department gives such splendid evidence of energy and versatility that we publish it in full. We would only add that we tender our heartiest congratulations to Mrs. Brancker and her ever-willing helpers upon the success won by the department in the past year.

ST. DUNSTAN'S BAND ENGAGEMENTS

Imperial Hotel, Russell Square; Australia House; Ladies' Imperial Club (every Tuesday afternoon); Ministry of Pensions; Peter Robinson's Staff Dance; Hyde Park Hotel. Also private dances at Bedford, Lewes, and Worplesdon, and at Acton, Paddington, Lambeth, Balham, and Hackney Baths. Broadcast from London 22nd November. Numerous other engagements, chiefly for the small band.

INDIVIDUAL ST. DUNSTANERS

Nuyens.—Several private solo engagements.

Hunt.—Broadcast solos from London, 8th and 22nd November.

Costigan.—Engagements at Regent and Strand Palaces and Corner House. Broadcast from London 22nd November and from Aberdeen and Glasgow during the Christmas holidays.

M. Doyle.—Several private engagements
McFarlane.—Masonic Dinner, Hammer-smith.

Naman.—Talbot Restaurant, &c.

ST. DUNSTAN'S CHOIR

Concerts at Walthamstow; Star and Garter, Richmond; Mildmay Missions Hospital; Old Devonshire Regimental Association, &c.

CONCERT PARTIES

Wormwood Scrubbs Prison; "St. David's Home," Ealing (arranged by Roden, Fleming and others).

MUSIC STAFF PARTY

On 8th December. The usual palmists, drawing for presents, &c., and concert given by Miss Dorothy Silk, Miss Marie Wilson, Mr. Sumner Austin (of the Old Vic.), Mr. Ben Lawes, Mr. George Reeves, and the St. Dunstan's Choir. A splendid

concert. Miss Dorothy Silk's exquisite singing will probably remain longest in one's memory.

BREAK-UP CONCERT

At St. John's Lodge on 10th December. Given by men in training only. Jazz Band (mandolines, &c.), composed of Captain Crowe and Messrs. G. Crook, A. V. Crook, Mason, Isaac, Macdonald, Parrick, Parke and Naman.

LECTURE DEMONSTRATION

At the Bungalow on 13th December. Given by Mr. Plunkett Greene, assisted by Miss Sybil Eaton (violin) and Mr. S. Liddle (piano). A very delightful and instructive lecture for singers.

POETIC CORRESPONDENCE

An amusing correspondence in verse followed the receipt (by mistake) by R. C. Botly, of Surbiton, of an application for ground-rent from his landlords (a large firm of solicitors). Being in holiday mood, Botly returned their demand with the following attached:—

Dear Sirs,

The note I am returning

Arrived on Christmas Day;

But you will find on reference

It is not time to pay.

But if you will return it

In March when really due,

I'll send you then a cheque along

(Or else an I O U).

By return post the solicitors replied:—

The errors of the mighty

Are seldom, and but few;

And you have been unlucky

That one should come to you.

But we'll return the notice,

When comes next Ladyday,

And hope (instead of I O U)

You'll have the means to pay.

Although Botly admits that the joke goes against him, we congratulate him on his facility for versifying, and hope for some contributions from his pen in the near future.

Braille Notes

We heartily congratulate W. A. Mugeridge on passing the Reading Test.

Typewriting Notes

Many congratulations to S. W. Wain on passing the Typewriting Test. M. H. R.

Christmas at Brighton

OWING to the untiring efforts of the whole staff, from the Matron down, Christmas 1926 will long be remembered by the boys who came down for the festive season to the Brighton Annexe. Nothing had been omitted which might add to their enjoyment. The lounges, dining room and conservatory had been beautifully decorated and many were the expressions of admiration uttered by the visitors who came in during the day to see the house.

There was the usual Christmas fare for dinner, and when the several heads of St. Dunstan's had been toasted, which, by the way, necessitated a double dose of wine, all adjourned to the lounge, in order to draw for a huge stocking which was won by Griffiths, who found it full of useful things. One special feature of the festivities was a large Christmas tree which was loaded with presents, each gift bearing a number, its corresponding number being placed in a bag and as each man drew out a number he was handed a present with the duplicate number affixed to it. Among the prizes may be mentioned such acceptable gifts as half-crowns, socks, ties, handkerchiefs, &c. &c. This brought back to the boys their youthful enjoyment of Christmases of other days.

St. Dunstan's has been the medium of many romances, but I doubt if any has ever caused so much public interest as the wedding of Miss Peters and A. Clewlow, which took place at St. George's Church, Kemptown, on Monday, the 27th December. There was a large congregation, and the police on duty outside the church were kept busy directing the traffic.

On New Year's Eve a fancy dress dance was held and the lounge and conservatory presented a gay scene with the many different costumes of the dancers. Mrs. Cobb, who judged the various costumes, found much difficulty at arriving at her decision, but at length the prizes went to J. Walne (Cowboy), 1st; T. Rogers (Dutchman), 2nd; and A. Hillier (Gondolier), 3rd. In the ladies' section, Lilly (Lavender Girl) was 1st and Miss Doyle

(Irish Colleen) obtained the second prize. Dancing continued until midnight, when all joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne," after which cheers were given for the Matron and the staff, together with the band, when, with one more dance, came to an end a most enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

The Church of England services at our own chapel are much appreciated by the boys, and Canon Dawson, of Brighton College, who takes the services, always has an enthusiastic congregation.

OBSERVER.

St. Dunstan's and the Royal Tour

The following telegram was sent from St. Dunstan's to their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of York, on the occasion of their Australasian Tour:—

"Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of York, H.M.S. 'Renown,' Portsmouth.

"The blinded officers and men of St. Dunstan's ask the Duke and Duchess of York to accept best wishes for pleasant and successful voyage. We hope our comrades in Australia and New Zealand will, as was the case with the Prince of Wales, have honour of participating in welcome from ex-service men.

"IAN FRASER, *Chairman,*
"St. Dunstan's."

We print below the telegram received at Headquarters in reply:—

"Please express to Blinded Officers and Men of St. Dunstan's our very grateful thanks for kind and welcome telegram of good wishes."

"ALBERT and ELIZABETH."

Pat Newland (Silver Fairy) and Peggy Newland (Scrap Book) won prizes for the prettiest and most picturesque costumes respectively at the Annual Fancy Dress Party for children which took place at Hever recently. Lady Violet Astor presented the prizes. We congratulate the Newland kiddies—and their mother—on their success.

Manchester St. Dunstaners Sports' Club

THE Christmas meeting was a very cheery affair; the only sad thing being that so few men came (only about 25 men were present). However, with wives and helpers, our number was made up to 54.

We started off with tea, at which each man was given a number—twelve of which were lucky—and carried with them a prize. After tea Mr. Bosworth, of Toc H., entertained us at the piano, during which a photograph was taken. And then we had a dance. The dance band from the Piccadilly Restaurant very kindly came and played for us—an action which was very much appreciated by the troops.

For many of them it was the first time they had danced since leaving St. Dunstan's. At first several people said they could not dance, but by the end of the evening most of them had taken "the floor." During the intervals of dancing we were entertained by Mr. Battersby on the cornet, and Mr. Frederick recited.

There were one or two competitions, McMahan being very lucky in winning a doll and a beautiful Christmas cake.

The next meeting will be on 26th January at the Y.M.C.A. at 4 o'clock.

Just a word or two about the club. I am sure there are more men in Manchester who could come to the meetings. The attendance at the first meeting was excellent, but the last two have proved disappointing. I know that for some men who came to the first meeting the railway fares proved too much, but there are men living in Manchester who could so very easily come.

I want the club to grow, and that cannot be done unless everyone does their bit and backs it up, instead of leaving it to someone else. So please come along and help to make the club the success it should be.

Here is my address for those who wanted it: "The House," Theobald Road, Bowdon, Cheshire.

KATHARINE IRVINE.

Miss Nina Stephenson Browne, that ever kindly friend of St. Dunstan's in Ireland, sends us the following moving little sketch, which appeared in *John O'London's Weekly* some time since over the signature of "Stephen Crane."

THE CLEARING

It hung in an ill-lit corner of a provincial gallery—the unpretentious gallery of a little French town—a brilliant little study in oils, doomed to languish in semi-darkness.

Its title, "La Clairere," and the painter's name obscured and forgotten. The brilliant sunlight of early morning playing on the silver leaves of a clump of birch trees, a light, warm haze hovering over the flowers, and tall grasses which carpeted the clearing; small, exquisitely blue butterflies poised above the wild thyme.

Outside, the night was falling slowly, but here, in the twilight, I felt the exhilaration of dawn.

We moved up into the trenches the next morning; I lost my sight in the subsequent attack.

Night has fallen, but I still see the clearing in the wood, the shimmering silvery leaves, and blue butterflies, exquisitely small, flitting from flower to flower. Outside, over the Thames, a cold, grey fog is rising, but I can feel the warmth of autumn sunshine and smell the wild thyme.

R. Macdonald makes the suggestion that a box should be placed in the Lounge at Headquarters for the reception of all silver paper and tin foil which Present-Care men and visitors to Headquarters may be able to collect, and that the results should be periodically sent to one of the hospitals.

We have submitted the suggestion to Matron, who informs us that the box will be in position in the Lounge before these notes are read.

[We regret that "Workshop Notes" are unavoidably held over.—ED.]



(Top) Christmas Decorations at the Brighton Annexe
(Bottom) A Romantic Wedding—Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Clewlow

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