

# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

MONTHLY PRICE 6<sup>D</sup>

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**FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR**

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



"WIRELESS PROGRAMME BALLOT" ENTRY FORM

My forecast of the popular order of interest is:—

**B**

**A**

My own choice of the most interesting item in the list is:—

1. SYMPHONY CONCERTS	
2. CHAMBER MUSIC	
3. LIGHT ORCHESTRAL MUSIC	
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13. TALK—SCIENTIFIC AND INFORMATIVE	
14. TALK—TOPICAL, SPORT AND NEWS	
15. READINGS AND RECITATIONS	
16. OUTSIDE BROADCASTS Features which cannot be performed in the Studio.	

No.

I have read the rules and enclose this entry for the Wireless Ballot.

Name

Address

# St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 117.—VOLUME XI.

FEBRUARY, 1927.

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

## EDITORIAL NOTES

### Our "Wireless Programme Ballot"

NO doubt many of our readers have seen, and are probably entering for, the Broadcasting Ballot at present running in the *London Daily Mail*. Substantial cash prizes are offered therein to the competitors who most nearly forecast the order of popularity (as decided by the result of the ballot) of sixteen different types of programme items. Obviously, the result of the ballot will provide valuable suggestions to those responsible for arranging the programmes of the British Broadcasting Corporation, and at the same time gives listeners the most effective opportunity of making known their individual tastes. In view of the universal interest taken in wireless by St. Dunstaners and the equal opportunity they all have of entering a competition on these lines, we have decided to run a similar type of ballot in connection with the REVIEW, and confined solely to St. Dunstaners.

We therefore offer a *First Prize of £10*, a *Second of £2 10s.*, and a *Third of £1* to the St. Dunstaners forecasting most correctly, in the order of merit, the trend of popular taste as regards the arranging of the wireless programmes for one evening. We have given careful thought as to the lines upon which to frame this ballot, but have decided in view of all circumstances that we should be best serving the end we have in view by using precisely the same formula for the voting as in the *Daily Mail* competition. Accordingly, on the page facing these notes will be found what is practically a reproduction of the *Daily Mail* Ballot Entry Form, while the rules, also framed very much on the lines of our great contemporary, will be found printed below. They should be carefully studied, and a special note made of the closing date, namely 28th February 1927.

We may add that several factors have contributed to our decision to provide this competition for St. Dunstaners, but the principal reason is that we feel that our men are in a position to give an uniquely interesting opinion upon a matter in which, after perhaps eight or ten years of blindness, they are eminently fitted to judge. We cannot but think that the result of this ballot must have an interest to the great body of wireless users quite apart from our own men, and while we do not venture to make any promises, we have some hopes that if a really representative response is made by entries in this competition, there may be some prospect of our getting the British Broadcasting Corporation to broadcast a programme on the lines indicated by the winning coupon, as they have promised to do in the case of the *Daily Mail*. However, apart from this, we believe this ballot will make keen appeal to the interest of every St. Dunstaner.



## RULES FOR "WIRELESS PROGRAMME BALLOT"

In the left-hand half of the entry forms are sixteen numbered items. Pick out the item which is most interesting to you and place its number in the blank space marked No. . . . . at the top of the right-hand half of the form.

Next go through the list of items once more and renumber them (in the blank squares) in what you think will prove their order of popularity, putting a (1) against the item you consider most popular, and so on to (16) against the least popular. This renumbering will become your forecast for competition purposes. The competition is explained in detail in the rules below.

1. On the entry form below are set out sixteen important types of programme items. Choose the one which you personally like best and record your vote for it by writing its distinguishing number in the voting space "A" provided.

2. Next, in spaces under "B" number the sixteen items in the order in which you think they will come out according to total "A" votes of others. Put the figure 1 against the item which you think will get the most votes, 2 against the item which you think will get the second largest number of votes, and so on up to 16.

3. The competitor whose list in the space under "B" agrees or most nearly agrees with the order of popularity as disclosed by the total "personal choices" recorded in "A" will be awarded the first prize of £500 irrespective of what he himself has voted for in space "A." The next nearest will receive the second prize of £100, and the next the third prize of £50.

4. Should several forecasts have an equal number of correctly placed items the one whose correct items are in the higher positions will win.

5. In the event of a tie or ties the right is reserved to divide the prizes.

6. Only one Entry Form can be received from each individual St. Dunstan, and all entries must be made only on the Form printed in this issue of ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

7. Envelopes, which should be closed and bear a 1½d. stamp, should be addressed: "Wireless Ballot," St. Dunstan's Review, Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

8. Entry Forms should be sent in as early as possible, but none will be considered which arrive at this office later than 28th February next.

9. No correspondence can be entered into with regard to the Ballot, and the published decision of the Editor of ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW must be regarded as final.



## Special Notice—Albert Hall Concerts

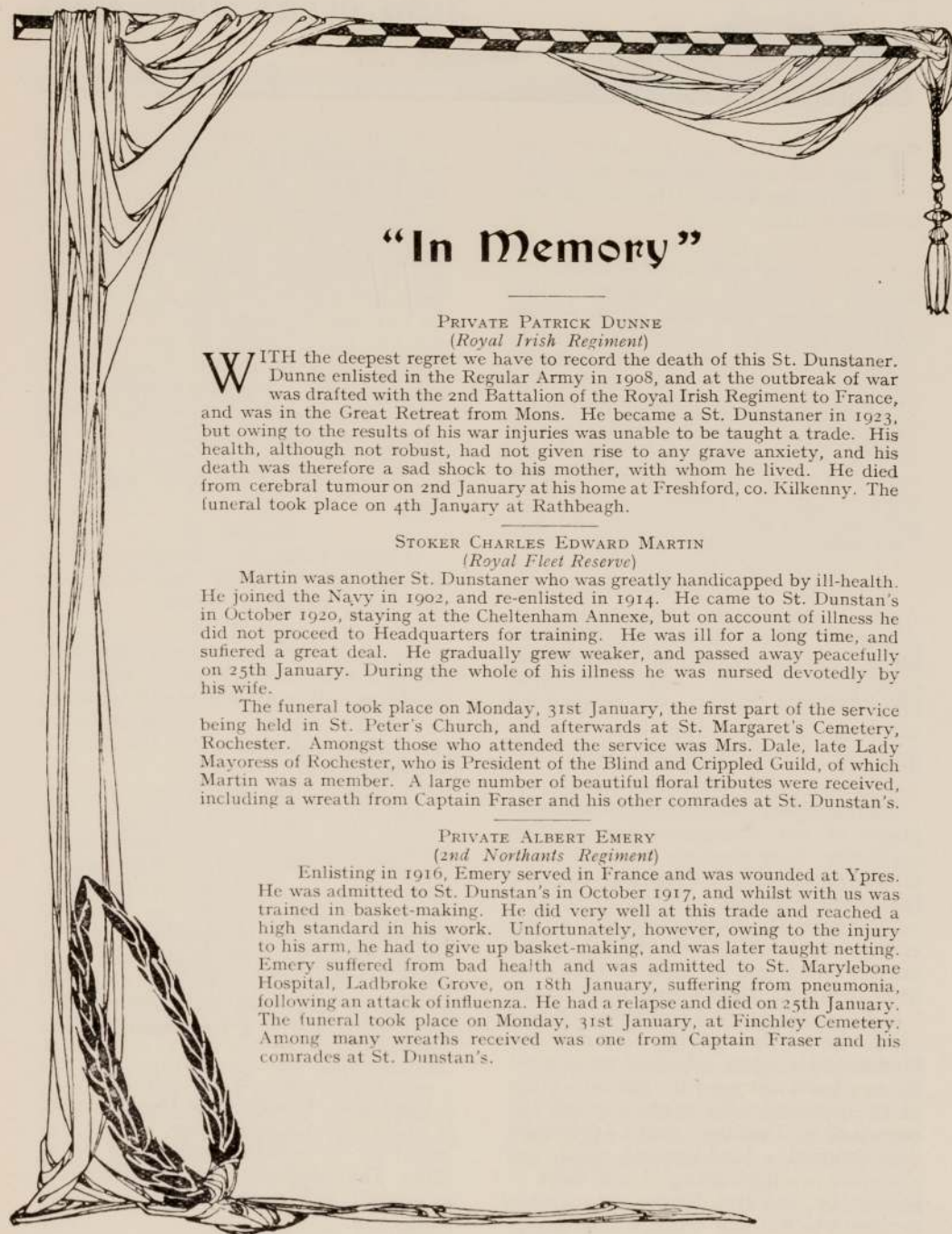
By the gracious permission of His Majesty the King, the Royal box at the Albert Hall can be used by St. Dunstan's men on Sunday afternoons. As St. Dunstan's has also a small box for its use, and several stall holders are kind enough to send along tickets from time to time, the King's box is kept for the special use of After-Care men resident in and around London.

Tickets are sent each week to those men who apply either by letter or by telephone, but my attention is constantly being drawn to the fact that a great many men who apply do not use these tickets. On the 6th inst. a very popular concert was given, Mr. John McCormack being

the attraction, and so many tickets were applied for that I was obliged to refuse several men who applied late, having already issued tickets for 24, this being the total seating capacity of the box. I am informed that only ten seats were occupied; many men who would have thoroughly enjoyed the concert had been refused tickets!

I hope that in future men will only apply for tickets who are as certain as it is humanly possible to be that they will be able to use them, in order to avoid giving disappointment to so many of their comrades.

E. M. CHADWICK BATES.



## "In Memory"

PRIVATE PATRICK DUNNE  
(Royal Irish Regiment)

WITH the deepest regret we have to record the death of this St. Dunstan. Dunne enlisted in the Regular Army in 1908, and at the outbreak of war was drafted with the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment to France, and was in the Great Retreat from Mons. He became a St. Dunstan in 1923, but owing to the results of his war injuries was unable to be taught a trade. His health, although not robust, had not given rise to any grave anxiety, and his death was therefore a sad shock to his mother, with whom he lived. He died from cerebral tumour on 2nd January at his home at Freshford, co. Kilkenny. The funeral took place on 4th January at Rathbeagh.

STOKER CHARLES EDWARD MARTIN  
(Royal Fleet Reserve)

Martin was another St. Dunstan who was greatly handicapped by ill-health. He joined the Navy in 1902, and re-enlisted in 1914. He came to St. Dunstan's in October 1920, staying at the Cheltenham Annexe, but on account of illness he did not proceed to Headquarters for training. He was ill for a long time, and suffered a great deal. He gradually grew weaker, and passed away peacefully on 25th January. During the whole of his illness he was nursed devotedly by his wife.

The funeral took place on Monday, 31st January, the first part of the service being held in St. Peter's Church, and afterwards at St. Margaret's Cemetery, Rochester. Amongst those who attended the service was Mrs. Dale, late Lady Mayoress of Rochester, who is President of the Blind and Crippled Guild, of which Martin was a member. A large number of beautiful floral tributes were received, including a wreath from Captain Fraser and his other comrades at St. Dunstan's.

PRIVATE ALBERT EMERY  
(2nd Northants Regiment)

Enlisting in 1916, Emery served in France and was wounded at Ypres. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in October 1917, and whilst with us was trained in basket-making. He did very well at this trade and reached a high standard in his work. Unfortunately, however, owing to the injury to his arm, he had to give up basket-making, and was later taught netting. Emery suffered from bad health and was admitted to St. Marylebone Hospital, Ladbroke Grove, on 18th January, suffering from pneumonia, following an attack of influenza. He had a relapse and died on 25th January. The funeral took place on Monday, 31st January, at Finchley Cemetery. Among many wreaths received was one from Captain Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.





## NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

THIS month Captain Fraser's post-bag has contained some particularly interesting letters. Here is one from an Exeter man:—

"... I am pleased to say that I am well and happy and am still taking the keenest interest in my joinery, taking pains to ensure that each article I make will pass the closest inspection. I know by doing this I am not only helping myself but also keeping alive the good work of St. Dunstan's. I have nothing to complain about this year so far as orders are concerned, having done well before the industrial unrest, and am pleased with my share of Christmas orders. My two little daughters are well and happy, also Mrs. Tout, who joins me with all good wishes."

It is good to know, too, that M. O. Anker is doing well in his business at Ealing. "Since leaving St. Dunstan's seven years ago," he writes, "my aim has been to establish a successful business here, and I am glad to say that, with the aid of the various departments at headquarters, I have succeeded in doing this."

Many recipients of the Christmas photograph of our Chairman have written expressing their pleasure in it, and also for the Government's Christmas gift of a free wireless licence.

"I should also like to take this opportunity of thanking you for the keen interest which you continue to take in us boys," writes J. McDonough, of Hastings, "and especially for all you have done for us in the wireless world. Through the kindness of a friend, who had made a set for me, I did not need to take advantage of the generous offer made through the council of St. Dunstan's, but I applied for and obtained a loud speaker which has given me much pleasure. I also hope to benefit by the free licence when mine expires, which it will do in a few days."

We are glad to hear so frequently of the keen interest St. Dunstaners take in the REVIEW. An Irish St. Dunstaner writes that, thanks to the REVIEW, there is nothing happens at St. Dunstan's but he hears of it. E. Sayers, of Canterbury, says that his wife opens it as soon as it comes and that he gives her no peace until she has read it through to the last page, and not many months go by without a mention being made in it of some of the boys he knows. Sayers is keeping in fair health and is another of the band who is anticipating pleasure from his new wireless set. This should be erected and in working order before these lines appear in print.

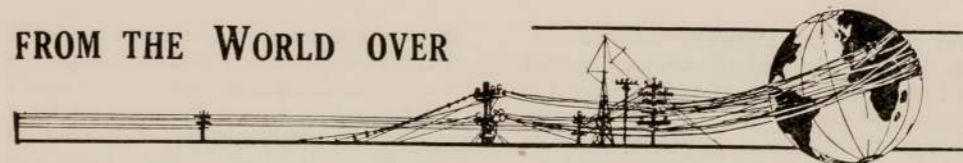
At Ponders' End H. E. Sorrell is keeping the flag flying and getting along very nicely with his little business.

Not many men take a ten-miles walk a day, but of the few is G. Lyttle, of Co. Cavan. His other hobby is wireless; he usually spends a couple of hours every night listening in to the London programme.

"We can hear both London and Daventry as if they were next door," writes W. H. Wright, from Barlborough, concerning the reception of broadcast concerts, "and it gives me hours of pleasure. You will be pleased to hear we are doing fine with the poultry and with the two calves also. We are averaging 40 eggs a day from 60 pullets, and I don't think that's a bad record for this time of year."

Christmas brought all the trade to E. A. West, of King's Lynn, that he had hoped for, he actually sold out of everything. The shop looks fresh and interesting as a result, as it has had to be completely re-stocked.

## FROM THE WORLD OVER



In Dersingham H. A. Wagg is very busy and is in decidedly better health, we are glad to say. He has had a stroke of luck inasmuch as his son has obtained work on the Sandringham estate—for the winter at all events. He is full of hope as to future developments, and we trust that these may be very good.

"A nice number of local orders in for mats," says A. E. Tucker, of St. James', Bristol. He is as busy and cheery as ever, his friends will be glad to know.

News from J. Lawlor, of Dublin, B. Martin, of Bray, and P. McGloin, of Sligo, is brief but satisfactory. The first is keeping well and finding that his active family gives him plenty of practise in boot-repairing. Martin has disposed of his fine porker to excellent profit, and, being in capital health, is devoting his attention to baskets. McGloin, too, is in good form and is looking forward to getting to work when a shed has been fixed up as a workshop.

H. Jubb, of Crowmoor, Shrewsbury, has put his garden into excellent order and has planted a small orchard that should give him both pleasure, interest, and fruit in the coming years. Good progress has been made with poultry too.

As we mentioned briefly last month, H. Bridgman, of Derby, was awarded a first-class certificate at the Basket Makers' Exhibition in London, which is a splendid thing to win as all basket-makers will appreciate. The certificate has been framed and is displayed in the shop-window. Bridgman feels that it has helped him a good deal locally. It led to a deal of publicity in the local papers too, which is always valuable.

"Still doing well, although perhaps not quite so busy as a week or so back,"

says L. Howell, of Hayward's Heath. Perhaps an occasional lull is an advantage, at present, since it gives Howell some time to devote to his new little son, "a splendid boy," we hear.

J. A. Garbutt, of Stockton, is getting on well at his employment. H. Palmer, of West Hartlepool, is securing some local orders and is in good health. "Poultry laying well," says A. Smith, of Elwick, and the same news comes from C. Roach, of Darlington, and T. Carter, of the same district, who fills in any leisure hours he may find at his mat frame.

H. Hotson, of Stanwick Park, has been laid up for a few weeks as the result of a slight accident, but is confident that his holiday at Brighton will set him up again.

Friends will be glad to hear that A. G. Wise is going through the winter well and of late has kept in much better health than usual. His trades are boots and mats.

"All well" is the clean bill of health reported by G. Kilsby, of Golders Green, C. Davey, of Sawbridgeworth, and F. A. Rhodes, of Islington.

Much the same news comes from T. Condon, of Worthing, except that he adds details concerning his poultry which are "flourishing."

Another who is well and cheery is E. S. Hayter, of Kingston-on-Thames.

After his holiday at Brighton, E. Tatton has gone back to work with enthusiasm and, as a preliminary, has put in some busy hours tidying up his workshop and arranging everything just as it should be.

"There is plenty to do when one moves into a new house," says H. Jacklin, of



**News of St. Dunstaners—continued**

Patcham, sagely, and all who have moved will agree with him. It is surprising the number of things that need doing—and usually all at once. The new home is called "Arcadia," and we hope will fully justify its name.

Another St. Dunstaner on the move is R. A. Barbour, of Brighton. His new abode, too, is full of promise, particularly as there is an excellent workshop already in being.

Friends of J. Davidson, of Kilrea, will be glad to know that his mother who, last month, was not expected to live for more than a day or so, has made a splendid recovery, despite her seventy-six summers. Indeed, she is now so well that she thinks nothing of going out after peat!

What with a thriving coal trade as well as a plentiful supply of customers for fruit, W. J. Hopper, of Bridlington, is a busy man; needless to say he is in excellent spirits.

Another man in the best of health is H. McAteer, of Belfast. Times are bad, but all the same his sweets and toys sell well—so well that he has been able to invest in a fine pair of automatic scales.

How many St. Dunstaners went in for lotteries this Christmas—and of those how many won! A lucky man is H. W. Hale, of Croydon, for his wife drew a couple of nice ducks in such a venture!

News comes that G. Perry, of Wolverhampton, has executed the local orders that have come his way in so satisfactory a manner that one firm has promised him "repeats." Friends will be glad to hear that the baby, who has been very ill indeed, is making a splendid recovery.

All will be sorry to know that H. A. Critchell, of Hockley, had a very unpleasant accident a week or so back. He fell downstairs, fractured some of his ribs, and cut his head so badly that ten stitches were necessary. Luckily, Mrs. Critchell is

an excellent nurse, so we have no doubt that a record recovery will be made.

The poultry season promises to be a good one, according to C. R. Newell, of Cheltenham, and he is having a very busy time among his birds. We wish him all good luck, and feel confident that he will get a fair return for all the steady work he is putting in.

With local orders, the supplying of a slate club, and the purchase of a number of baskets by a traveller, J. Hindley, of Manchester, has been doing very well of late.

"In good health, as usual," is the brief but satisfactory item of news from A. Massey, another Manchester man, who, by the way, takes round a well-equipped hawker's cart, since he likes an out-of-door life.

Another who is doing well is J. Smith, of St. Helen's. He seems to be building up a useful local trade for "kneelers."

Wireless has come as a blessing to C. Molloy, of Wigan, as to many another St. Dunstaner. It has rekindled his interest in music to such a degree that he is thinking of taking some more singing lessons.

"All well," says T. Eaton, of Liverpool, whose health has decidedly improved of late, we are glad to know.

"Trade somewhat quiet," writes J. A. Dunlop, of Penicuik, but the little shop looks so well that we feel sure it will command more business in the near future.

J. Kennedy, of Barnhill, is another who says general trade is somewhat quiet—doubtless it is the lull after Christmas, but despite this he has a few orders in hand.

In Longforgan T. M. Fisher is doing well with poultry. In Castleton, W. Mackay reports success with his motor-hiring during the past season and he is looking

**Brighton**

Our Annexe has many friends, and not least among them is the Brighton and Hove section of the "Cheerful Sparrows." Formed less than a year ago by Mr. M. Woolley and his brother, it has already distributed among charitable institutions and individual cases of want a sum of over £3,000. Their motto is surely: "Double your own pleasures by sharing them with others," and this is further evidenced by the manner in which they entertained, on Thursday, 20th January, about 40 St. Dunstaners to dinner and a concert.

About 7 p.m. a motor coach, kindly lent by the Southdown Motor Co., augmented by the private cars sent by the "Cheerful Sparrows," conveyed the boys to the Grand Hotel, where they enjoyed a fine dinner to the accompaniment of lively jazz music provided by Chatfield's Orchestra.

Mr. M. Woolley, in a very warm manner, welcomed the guests, and Lady Eva de Paravicini, who was also present as President of the Ladies' Section, added her words of welcome to us. Mr. Sheehy responded on behalf of the boys with a few well-chosen words.

A concert followed, contributed by Mesdames M. Foskett, E. Baldwin, and V. Gough, Councillor W. Steers, and Messrs. W. J. Lane and Harry Searle, the accompanist being Miss Rake. Each guest was handed cigarettes, provided by Mr. Bateman, of the Portland Hotel, and a cigar, these latter being given by Major Maitland.

The singing of the National Anthem brought to a close a most enjoyable evening.

**SAFETY FIRST**

E. J. Thompson, of Letchworth, has evolved a good idea for self-protection when on the road at night. He has bought two red lens cycle lights and has attached them to a belt, with one of the lights in front and one behind. Since wearing this belt, Thompson says he feels much safer. Other St. Dunstaners might like to copy the idea.

forward to still brisker custom in the coming summer. J. Kirkham, of Waltham Chase, is at work on baskets and has his workshop most comfortably fixed up now.

"Boot trade certainly looking up a bit," reports F. Cooper, of Fareham, and we are glad to know it. The same report comes from W. Farmery, of Waltham Chase.

Although we have no doubt that most St. Dunstaners are no whit behind the writer of these verses in admiration of their helpmeets, it is not every wife who can boast a husband able to voice that admiration so adroitly:—

**MY WIFE**

Who is it darns the holey sock  
And mends the jersey sleeve and frock?  
Who is it makes a fancy dress  
And wears it rather more or less  
To match the shingle in her tress?  
My wife.

Who is it puts the kids to bed,  
And strokes and slaps each curly head?  
Who is it counts them one by one,  
And when at last the tally's done,  
Joins with them in their childish fun?  
My wife.

Who is it reads the football news,  
And favours me with forecast views?  
Who enters every "competish,"  
And fills in coupons with a swish,  
Quick to obey my lordly wish?  
My wife.

Who is it wears a patent shoe  
On dainty foot, size number two?  
Who is it pushes me about  
And tells me I'm a lazy lout,  
Which keeps me up to scratch, no doubt?  
My wife.

Who is it guides my erring hand  
And tells me when to sit or stand?  
Who is it tends my every care,  
And soothes me with a patience rare,  
In fact, my angel everywhere?  
My wife.

R. J. VINE.

**AN INTERESTING APPOINTMENT**

All who know Arthur Kauffman will be interested to hear that he has been appointed choirmaster at the Shaar Zion Synagogue in Notre Dame de Grace, Montreal. Congratulations to him on this triumph.



## The Art of Public Speaking

By EDITH GREGG

[The Editorial note in the December issue concerning public speaking and the number of invitations which are extended to individual St. Dunstaners to give addresses on the work of the organisation has evidently aroused considerable interest. We have had a number of letters on the subject and are glad to be able to publish hereunder a practical and helpful little article most kindly forwarded us by Miss Edith Gregg, whom many will remember as a former V.A.D. at St. Dunstan's for three years, and the chairman of the popular St. Dunstan's Debating Society. Miss Gregg has done a lot of public speaking herself, and her article will, we are sure, be a helpful contribution. We may add that there is just a possibility that we may be able to follow up this article in a future issue by one from Captain Fraser.—ED.]

THE first thing to remember when starting to learn something about speaking in public is that it is a study which may be of the greatest service to you in your career in life, quite apart from the question of whether you intend to take up public or platform work to any large extent or not. Learning the art of successful public speaking also teaches you to *think* clearly, and to "state a case" in the best and most effective way, and there are endless opportunities in life when these powers will be most useful. Your employer is much more likely, for instance, to consider the question of your promotion if you can give him proofs of your quick and intelligent thinking powers, and also state your case for the aforesaid promotion clearly and effectively. So, a little time and application given to the great art of learning to express yourself in public in a clear, logical and interesting way, will be time well and profitably spent.

The first thought that springs into your mind at this stage will most probably be "Oh, I should be far too nervous to attempt to speak in public!" Now this is a thought which requires to be driven forth, expelled summarily, and supplanted promptly by the more courageous and undaunted one of—"But at any rate I shall make a good try"—and a courageous beginning is half the battle.

Remember that almost every public speaker has suffered from nervousness at the start—many continue to do so even with years of experience behind them—

and then take your courage in both hands and, having learnt something about *how* to speak, and got a clear idea in your own mind of what you intend to say, grasp the earliest opportunity of speaking that comes your way, and the first plunge is taken.

After that each successive effort will cost you less anxiety, until the happy day arrives when you can look forward to making your speech, not with shaking limbs and tingling nerves, but with unruffled composure and a modest anticipation of success.

Don't forget that if you *do* break down a little at your first attempt, it is not vital—your life does not depend on it—and you are only doing what many great men have done before you. The great Disraeli himself is reported to have broken down in the middle of his first speech in Parliament, and we see no trace of his career having suffered in consequence. So, as I said, take every chance that comes your way of "saying a few words," remembering that a mere handful of words, well chosen, well spoken, and full of real interest, are worth more than a speech thrice as long, of dull matter, badly delivered. This is almost a truism, but like many truisms, worth making a note of.

The subject of platform deportment, stance, &c., is rather apt to be overlooked on taking up the study of public speaking, and yet it is a very important one in its way. Our speaker should remind himself that every eye in the room is more or less

focussed for the time being on him, and consequently dress, stance, movements, all need careful attention. Women speakers, of course, will hardly need reminding that they should try to look as pleasant and attractive on a platform as possible! It is a good plan to *try* to look as if you were really enjoying your position, however much a beating heart may assert the contrary!

When the moment arrives, and your name is called by the chairman, rise slowly and calmly to your feet, take a long and quiet breath (deep breathing for speakers is highly important, and should be regularly practised) make a short pause, and then begin your remarks. Avoid, as far as you possibly can, any appearance of hurry or "fluster" at the start—it spoils the effect of your opening words.

In speaking, the head should be kept well up, otherwise you will not be heard by your audience in the back rows, and I might add here, that *nothing* upsets the temper of an audience more quickly than inability to hear the speaker. Chest should be well expanded, and your eyes looking towards the back of the room—where you trust your voice is also going! Your hands will probably feel rather a trial, a trifle large and too much in evidence somehow. But something must be done about them—they cannot be allowed to hang, limp and purposeless, at your side! No, the proper place for them is lightly clasped in front of the body, with an allowable alternative of (for men only, of course) behind the back. I *don't* think they should be allowed to find their way into your pockets—such platform licence is only tolerable in stars of the very highest magnitude, who are, in fact, a law unto themselves!

The pace of your speech is important. It should be approximately about half the speed of ordinary conversation. Anything quicker loses its power and clearness, and has an irritating effect on the audience. Gesture should be used sparingly, and with the greatest discrimination—I have known many good speeches quite spoiled by the wearisome repetition of meaningless gestures. Unless they add

*power* to the point you are making, by absolute spontaneousness, leave them out. But a moment will come in your speech when you feel *impelled* to make a gesture and that gesture is almost sure to be an addition worth making to the spoken word. Speak slowly, distinctly, at times forcefully, using just as much voice as you find necessary to carry to the back of the hall, and you will then have made a satisfactory and promising beginning in the great art of successful public speaking.

### Some Hints for our Joiners

Be aware of the spring winds which act as wonderful servants in the hands of an alert craftsman, but these winds cause considerable trouble and damage to timbers of all kinds if not properly stored and cared for.

Hard woods are better laid flat with sticks between at equal distance. Soft woods standing in a rack so that the atmosphere circulates all round them, but protect all from direct winds and sun rays and so save splitting.

Mouldings should be kept tied in bundles and stood perfectly erect in a well ventilated position, but not in a wind.

Wood planes should be wiped over each week with linseed oil, especially at each end. This helps to resist casting. When left resting on a bench let the front of the plane rest on a lath so that the air can get all round. E. H. A.

### REPEAT ORDERS

The very best evidence that a customer is pleased is, of course, renewal orders, and A. Sterno, of Bath, has every reason to be proud of his record in this respect. One of his customers in Bath went to live in North Wales, and from there moved again to Cowes, but from both places she regularly sends her boot repairs to Sterno. This is not the only customer who sticks so closely to this St. Dunstaner, for we have seen the large collection of letters from all over England and also from Ireland and Scotland, sending orders and congratulations on the work done.



## Wireless News of the Month

FROM the first moment Captain Fraser's Bill for providing free licences for blind persons was introduced it received striking and universal sympathy. Since it became law overwhelming evidence has been forthcoming to show how greatly the concession has been appreciated by those whom it was designed to help. From all parts of the country, indeed one may say from all over the world, our Chairman has had congratulations and grateful thanks for his energetic and successful sponsoring of this most excellent and beneficial measure. Limitations of space prevent our quoting a tithe of these, but a few extracts are given below from letters received from St. Dunstaners. In addition, members of the general public, representatives of organisations working on behalf of the blind, and many blind users of wireless sets themselves have sent their thanks and congratulations. For example, the General Superintendent of the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind, who is Registration Officer for issuing free wireless licences, says: "I am sure it will interest you to know that during the past fortnight we have issued close on seven hundred certificates in this area."

It has just been announced also that nearly 700 licences had been issued in the London area before the end of January. That the Act has had beneficial effects beyond wireless is shown by a statement made at a conference at Bristol of Associations for the Blind that, owing to applications for free wireless licences, 20 fresh cases of blind people at present unregistered had been found in one area.

We published last month a little poem sent by a bedridden blind man as proof of his thanks for the concession which the Act gives, while almost every newspaper, both at home and abroad, has paid tribute to the pleasure it will bring to so many thousands of people. Here are some St. Dunstaners' views on the subject:

From J. A. Bocking, of Oldham:—

"Praise is due to you for so promptly seizing the opportunity to introduce the Bill, and I hear the public on all sides expressing their pleasure that the Bill has been made law."

From W. J. Boardman, of Liverpool:—

"Please allow me to congratulate you on your great success in getting this Bill through. May every success and prosperity be yours in any attempt you may make for the good of the blind, and especially St. Dunstaners."

From W. E. Brooks, of Bournemouth:—

"In common with the many others indebted to your efforts, I also heartily thank you for your letter *re* the procedure for obtaining a free wireless licence, and much appreciate the facilities given for doing so."

From F. Bully, of Romsey, Hants:—

"First of all I must congratulate you on your success in carrying the Wireless Licence Act through for the blind. It is a very great boon indeed. As it was rather a big thing, and when one considers the great number there are, still more is due to your indomitable spirit and courage to see the thing through. I am sure we could not have had a better spokesman."

From A. Dembenski, of Cheltenham:—

"... another great thing is the way in which you have got the free licences not only for St. Dunstaners but *all* the blind."

From P. Alvey, of Byfleet, Surrey:—

"We have, of course, been reading with great interest about your very successful Bill, and I am very pleased to hear it went through in such a splendid manner. . . . Apart from St. Dunstaners, I am sure the civilian blind will bless you for what you have done for them. I expect many of them are not too well provided for, and this little action is most acceptable."

From F. J. Guiseley, of Cleckheaton:—

"I should like to offer you my heartiest congratulations on behalf of the passing of the Wireless Bill for the Blind. I am sure it will be a great boon to many of us."

From R. H. Cook, of Wallasey:—

"The Blind Wireless Bill which is now in force will doubtless be a blessing to all blind, especially the very poor who could not have the pleasure of listening in on account of the yearly licence. We are all greatly indebted to you for this splendid gift."

From J. H. Debnam, of Holywell,

N. Wales:—

"We have to thank you for our free wireless licence, which commences this month. We have a one-valve set, and find it a great pleasure during the dark evenings."

As far as we can hear the Bill is working well all over Britain. There has, however, been a hitch in Northern Ireland, for here their system of caring for the blind has not developed sufficiently for a register to exist, and without a register, apparently, the Bill, as drafted, cannot operate. We think this is, however, a detail which will be overcome shortly. Captain Fraser is already in touch with the Ministry of Health in London, who are dealing with the matter.

Captain Fraser has communicated with the Finance Minister of the Irish Free State, calling his attention to the Act, and asking his Government to consider whether or not it would be possible to extend its facilities to blind people in that Dominion. This, of course, will be a matter exclusively for the Southern Irish Parliament, and we can exercise no influence there, but must hope that the example of Great Britain will be followed. Communications of a similar sort have also been sent to our representatives in the various Dominions, in the hope that they will be able to effect similar legislation there.

In view of the Wireless Programme Ballot we announce in this month's issue, particular interest attaches to a letter received from G. E. Crook, of Tatsfield. After offering Captain Fraser congratulations on his appointment as Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the British Broadcasting Corporation, Crook says: "I see that already criticism of the new B.B.C. is taking shape, and your Committee will doubtless be inundated with advice. Personally, I will content myself with saying that I hope the country listeners, of whom many thousands cannot attend night schools or lectures, will still have some few talks of a serious nature such as are now given, for while many want to be amused, some of us do not want amusement all the evening and every evening."

In an interview with the *Sunday Times* Captain Fraser advances a most interesting theory as to why "talks" are

apparently unpopular with the masses, and at the same time, according to B.B.C. statements, are more in demand than ever from a section of their listeners. We have not space to quote the whole of the article, but the following extract deals with this particular point:—

"When some four years ago the broadcasting of news was being discussed, I wrote an article expressing the view that so unaccustomed were we as a people to reading aloud it would take a considerable time before we would learn to assimilate even simple information orally given.

Even public speakers unconsciously realise the limitations of their audience in this respect, and repeat and emphasise a point to ensure that it goes home. Listening is an acquired taste, and this might be a justification for exhorting those who, at present, say they dislike talks, to try again, and the B.B.C. not to go too far in the direction of lessening the amount of serious matter in their programmes."

We publish below the results of the Wireless Raffle conducted by F. A. Rhodes, of 11 Holford Square, W.C.1.

*Wireless Raffle, drawn at St. Dunstan's Bungalow.*

*First Prize.*—J. W. Whittingslow, Heath, field, Lea Bank Avenue, Kidderminster (Wireless Set).

*Second Prize.*—M. Crinks, Radnor Road, Bristol (£1 note).

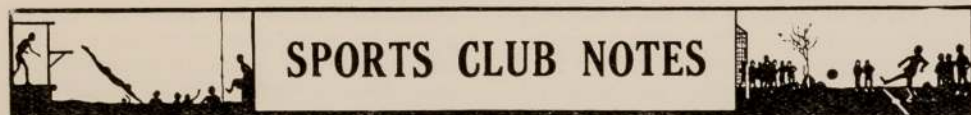
*Third Prize.*—J. H. Robinson, 24 Ridley Street, Felling-on-Tyne (£1 note).

*Fourth Prize.*—Miss Heaton, Poplars, Warrington, Lancashire (Walking Stick).

*Fifth Prize.*—Mrs. Flemmins, 43 Park Road, London, W. (Walking Stick).

T. Thorpe, of Darwen, is one of our most consistent matmakers; he always maintains a very high standard of workmanship, and his work has given great satisfaction to various local bodies and clubs. He has also done very well with motor-car mats.





## SPORTS CLUB NOTES

### PRESENT CARE SPORTS

WE are glad to see the newcomers are such enthusiastic and merry sportsmen—the Bungalow on a Saturday morning is anything but quiet, and I think everyone enjoys the short time spent there. As points have only been counted for two Saturdays, there is no great difference between the various positions, and if the numbers keep up, the leaders will have a struggle to retain their places—good luck to all.

POINTS	
T.B.	S.S.
1. Robinson .. 170	1. Crook, A. .. 210
2. McDonald .. 145	2. Eden .. 155
3. Vaughan .. 140	3. Moore, J. .. 120
4. Weedall .. 125	4. Raine .. 115
5. Alexander .. 110	5. Wilkie .. 105
6. Chamberlain .. 85	6. Jarman .. 60
7. McLean .. 75	7. Isaac .. 35
8. Bullock .. 55	
9. Day .. 49	
10. Burridge .. 20	

### AFTER CARE SPORTS

Illness has kept one or two away on Tuesday evenings, but as soon as the better weather comes along I hope we shall see a few more additions to our numbers.

POINTS	
1. Fleming .. 84	9. Cookson .. 48
2. Webster .. 82	10. Prior .. 40
3. McFarlane .. 75	11. Kerr .. 34
4. Thompson .. 73	12. Gover .. 26
5. Henry .. 69	13. Martin .. 19
6. Windle .. 63	14. Ashton .. 7
7. Roden .. 55	15. Nichols .. 6
8. Burran .. 53	16. Taylor .. 5

### FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Some new names are to be seen on the table this term; may they live up to their titles! For the first few days of term too many of the footballers were ill, and when they returned to health the weather treated us badly, and so the competition, until the ground is dry, remains a formidable list on paper, and no one gains or loses a point.

### FOOTBALL TEAMS, JANUARY 1927

<i>The Wireless</i>	<i>The Redheads</i>	<i>The Jocks</i>
Alexander	Redhead	McDonald
McLean	Peach	Tompkinson
Phillips	Fleming	Kenward
Eden	Barnes	Isaacs
Raine	Brewer	Wilcox
<i>The Sparklers</i>	<i>The Spurs</i>	<i>The Wanderers</i>
Gregory	S. Clarke	Robinson
Wise	Day	Gale
Vaughan	Weedall	Pimm
A. Crook	Clarke	Mamin
Moore	Head	Jarmen
<i>The Merrybrights</i>	<i>Reserves</i>	
Chamberlain	T.B.—Sambo	
Mason	S.S.—Cook, Squires, Dunks,	
Hurst	Bentley	
Thomas		
Wilkie		

### WALKING

In spite of the 'flu there is a good entry for the 12-mile sealed handicap walk on the outer circle on 12th February, and now we pray for a day similar to the 6-mile. The 15-mile sealed handicap outer circle walk will be on 19th March. Entries must be sent in before 26th February, the closing date.

### ROWING

Our 16 friends from Bedford College have once again come to our assistance and are welcomed back by all; they are such a jolly crew of coxes!

### JERKS

"The more we are together, the merrier we'll be," seems to be true of the "Jerks" party, which chants its way round the park in the early mornings, and there is a rumour that it is going to have its own drums and bagpipes! No one will be able to hear the sea lions then!

### BOXING

Once again Superintendent Bacchus, of the "B" Division of Metropolitan Police, invited a party of our boys to attend a boxing tournament held at the Holborn Stadium. We had a really enjoyable evening, and witnessed some splendid contests, and met several of the police walkers, who have assisted us from time to time.

J. E. W.

## My Hobby—and Why?

A Little Competition which has proved very Popular

QUITE candidly we must admit to a certain measure of surprise at the large number of entries received for this little Competition. Of course, everyone has a particularly soft spot in their hearts for their hobby—that occupation for mind and body which one chooses for oneself and *wants* to do, as distinct from the daily work that one *has* to do. That is not to say, of course, that many of us do not make our daily work our hobby, but even then we dare to suggest that such happy folk can yet find a special appeal, a sense of truant joy in doing something which pleases them, independently of its profit or loss to their material position.

Nevertheless, the outstanding feature of the large number of letters contributed for this competition is the obviously sincere evidence they give that the writers find most interesting those hobbies or pastimes which combine business with pleasure. Thus, gardening takes an easy first place in the popularity of our men's hobbies, where, quite candidly, we should have expected such a pursuit as wireless to be triumphant.

The work of adjudication has proved far from easy, particularly as in judging we did not consider that we should take into consideration literary merit in the entries made. After careful consideration we have decided that the first prize should go to S. K. Jerome, of "Lone Pine," Hurn, nr. Christchurch, Hants, for his description of his own hobby—"Bee-keeping." The second prize is awarded to R. Warren, of Waunarwydd Road, Sketty, Swansea, who selected "Gardening," and the third prize to T. Floyd, of 5 Brookdale Terrace, Teignmouth, Devon, who writes on "Wireless." Highly commended are the contributions of F. J. W. Westaway, of Yeovil (Executive Work in the British Legion); G. Matthews, of Petersfield (Singing); R. E. Larkham, of London (Elocution); A. H. Luker, of Oxford (Gardening); H. Taylor,

of Chesterfield (Wireless); and J. D. Waldin, of Winchester (Boot-repairing).

We append hereto the prize-winning contributions, somewhat condensed by space limitations, and hope next month to print some of the other entries submitted. The prizes will be forwarded to the winners when this issue goes to Press and we should, in conclusion, like to heartily congratulate all entrants upon the exceedingly high level maintained in their letters.

### BEE-KEEPING—1ST PRIZE

My hobby is bee-keeping, and although this may seem at first glance to be rather outside the sphere of the average St. Dunstaner, I should like to prove that, provided he has a good "off-sider" (like I have in my wife who is as enthusiastic as I am myself), it is not so very difficult after all. Three years ago I had only one hive; I now have 25, three of which I bought from another bee-keeper, the rest are all from the original stock. With luck I hope to double this number again this year. I do all the manipulating of the bees myself, and never wear gloves—but my wife has to tell me how the bees are looking, if the queen is laying or not, how much brood there is, which frames contain brood and which honey, &c.—but I can tell if the hive is strong, also if they have much honey by the weight of the frames in my hands; and by putting my ear to the hives I can tell if all is well with them by the noise they are making, the contented humming roar of a healthy happy hive is unmistakable to those who know them. I can also tell if they are preparing to swarm by listening in the same way to catch the quaint little piping note of the young princesses in their cells; they pipe incessantly for a day or two before they emerge from the queen cells, and the old queen swarms. I often get stings, but as they don't affect me in the least it is a case of "Love's labour lost" on the part of the bees.

And now as to "why" I took up this hobby; there are several reasons. First I think was when I found I could no longer afford to keep poultry for a hobby—the dealers at our local market are known amongst ourselves as "The orty Thieves," and live well up to their reputation—I cast about me for some hobby, preferably a paying one, which would not prove such a little gold mine to these "philanthropists"! Gardening was partly ruled out on account of the fact that, having settled on the middle of a heather moor, I soon discovered that heather, though



very beautiful in itself, is a selfish plant, and will not allow anything to grow either with it or after it, unless a small fortune is spent on lime and fertilisers, so it occurred to me to make the best of a bad bargain and get what I could out of the heather. I soon discovered that heather contains an almost inexhaustible supply of nectar from July to September, which my bees soon got busy upon. Last season they produced nearly half a ton of honey. Another reason for choosing this hobby, and perhaps the strongest of all, was because I knew a good deal about bees to start with. When I was a boy in good old Aussie my father kept several hives of bees, and I was his, rather unwilling, assistant; still, he taught me all about the management of an apiary, and I am benefiting now by what I learned then, for as far as I can tell by the books we read on bees now, things have altered very little since those days. Our great enemy is disease, and I have burnt to-day one of my strongest stocks of bees, with all their frames, honey, brood foundation and quilts, a matter of about £4 in value, because I suspect this stock of Isle of Wight disease, which would run through the whole apiary in a very short time if not checked at the outset. There is no cure at present for this disease, so this very drastic treatment has to be resorted to, and to anyone who loves his bees as I do it is a very sad day's work.

S. K. JEROME.

## GARDENING—2ND PRIZE

As we go through life day by day so we go through our daily round of work. But how glad most of us feel when the working hours draw to an end, and we turn our attention to a more enjoyable kind of work, namely our favourite pursuit.

My hobby is gardening, and the first and chief reason why I chose this particular hobby is that I love the work. When I was a mere child I remember watching and trying to help my father to take care of the large garden which adjoins our house. It was with great boyish pride and interest that I used to watch the various plants and vegetables growing.

As I got older so my interest in gardening grew, and I think a strong reason for this was that I am a lover of Nature and all her wonderful works. I can well remember that my favourite subject in school was Nature Study, and my favourite poet is Wordsworth, for he is the nature poet.

A gardener of necessity has to spend a good share of his life out of doors, and this is very beneficial to the health. The knowledge of this adds to the delight I take in my hobby. And indeed, my health owes a lot to the open air.

The variety in the work of the garden makes monotony impossible; and if there is anything I loathe it is monotony. One day I am doing this work, another day I am doing something else. There is rough and dainty work to be done. All the former would not suit me, neither would all the latter. But a mixture of the two seems to fit in with my inclinations.

What a delightful feeling goes through my body when I give up my basket-making to attend to my hobby. After sitting down for hours on end, how fine it is to have a break and to be doing a totally different kind of work. To be in the open air again, and to use my muscles once more, makes me feel a different being altogether. "Why," I sometimes murmur to myself, "it is good to be alive; I feel ten years younger amongst the things in the garden." Yes, every tree and little plant in the garden to me is a friend. When I see them thriving I thrill with joy, but when I see some of them damaged by an animal or broken down by a storm I feel quite upset.

And sometimes I wonder why I love this hobby so. When I realise that it brings romance and pleasure into my life, makes my body healthy, keeps my mind fresh and sweet, and links me very closely to wonderful Nature, I am indeed a happy man.

R. WARREN.

## WIRELESS—3RD PRIZE

It is a simple matter for me to state that wireless is my hobby, but it would involve many sentences to detail all the manifold reasons why I have welcomed the advent of wireless broadcasting with open arms—or perhaps I should have said with open ears. There are some hobbies which are such almost entirely because they offer the chance of lucrative remuneration to the participants; wireless needs to offer no such bait.

The technical side of wireless provides unlimited interest, and with the assistance of friends I pass many hours in studying governing principles and experimenting with different circuit arrangements, &c., all of which stimulates my imagination. The amount of experimenting which I can do unaided is, of course, limited, but after all, what better than sharing a hobby with a companion?

And when I tire of technicalities my wireless set serves me well, and to one not specially gifted with accomplishments, wireless programmes embody many pastimes, listening to music and to drama, the reading of fiction, attendance at lectures, interest in topical events, and even attendance at football matches. I offer no apology for making use of an oft-repeated expression and saying that wireless is a great leveller. It enables the blind and the sighted to start on equal terms, as neither can see those performing. The interest created does not cease when the announcer says "Good-night everybody"; it has only just begun. It is necessary for all to think of something or other, and we must all have topics for our conversation. Listening in provides food for thought. If you are keen on reading you may perhaps drop across somebody who has just read the same book and who remembers sufficient of it to hold some sort of discussion with you—you may not. It is no difficult task in these days, on the other hand, to find listeners-in among my friends and those I meet, and wireless provides us with an abundance of topics for conversation in

discussing the subjects heard during the last day or so. I find wireless keeps me posted with up-to-date information which I could not easily obtain in a form suitable for reading myself. It enables me to hear the voices of prominent people in all spheres of life, and in this connection I am looking forward to the time when I shall listen in to Parliamentary debates. What diversion there is, too, in trying to visualise the speaker or artist by the sound of his voice, and then seeing how far out one has been when the photographs appear in the *Radio Times*.

Again, there is the fascination of tuning-in Continental stations, with its element of uncertainty as to what I may happen upon, according to whether conditions are favourable or otherwise; while how interesting it is to compare the tastes of one country with those of another, and there is opportunity of studying the psychology of a nation by its programmes.

For all these reasons and many others I find wireless the one pastime which has held the field for the last three years, and which now attracts me more than ever.

THOMAS FLOYD.

## After-Care Re-unions

## Burnley

The annual re-union of St. Dunstaners in the Burnley and Nelson district was held on Thursday, 13th January, at the Empress Hotel, Burnley.

An excellent tea was provided, at the end of which Mr. Swain expressed his pleasure at meeting the Lancashire men again, paying high tribute to the wives for looking after their husbands so well and helping them over the little difficulties which must inevitably crop up.

The meeting on this occasion was rather smaller than usual owing to illness prevalent in the district.

Mr. Worsley, of Preston, was the entertainer and his humorous songs were very much appreciated. Songs were also given by H. Edge, of Worsthorne, and C. E. Thomas, of Todmorden, both tenors acquitting themselves admirably. Mr. Simpson, of Nelson, made an excellent accompanist.

The winners of the guessing competitions were:—Mrs. Openshaw, R. Dunn and R. Shaw.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent and the men showed their appreciation in the real Lancashire style by cheering and singing "He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

P. F.

## Preston

There was a fairly large gathering of St. Dunstaners and their wives on Friday, 14th January, at The Bull and Royal Hotel, Preston; illness again unfortunately preventing several from attending,

Full justice was done to a most excellent tea, after which Mr. Swain gave a message of welcome from Captain Fraser, and in his speech spoke highly of the Lancashire men and the splendid way they lived and carried on their work.

W. Allen, of Darwen, in proposing a vote of thanks, waxed eloquent on all that St. Dunstan's had done for the men, and J. Wood, of Grange over Sands, ably seconded.

The social side of the meeting was much enjoyed. Mr. Worsley, of Preston, and his party were the entertainers for the afternoon, all of whom were consistently excellent. J. Walch contributed several songs which were very much appreciated, amongst the number being "My Old Shako," "The Stoker," and "The Egg."

In the guessing competition the following were successful:—W. Alston, of Preston, Mrs. Brooks, of Ulverston, H. Kay, of Blackburn, W. Allen, of Darwen, and T. Brewer, of Hesketh Bank.

It should be mentioned that Mr. Pettit, the manager of the Hotel, knew our late chief personally and takes a keen interest in all local St. Dunstaners and their various enterprises.

P. F.

## ADVERTISEMENT

## FOR SALE

"JAMES" Tandem, has hardly been used, fitted with magnum tyres and all accessories. The only reason for selling is that the owner has no one to ride with him. Price asked £12 (twelve pounds), carriage paid to destination.—Address, F. Bond, 32 Salisbury Road, Larkhall, Bath, Somerset.



**Poultry Notes**

**Two Years' Laying Test**

*Officially Recognised by the National Poultry Council*

**Report for Second Period, 5th December 1926 to 1st January 1927**

EGG production during the second period has shown a steady increase, with a total of 643 eggs against 584 for the previous period. The average, it will be noted, is over 14 eggs per bird. The percentage of first grade eggs is 76.67, and that for second grade 22.39, whilst the thirds amount to .93 per cent.

With one or two exceptions we have been successful in avoiding the neck moult, although, owing to the very forward condition of most of the pullets on arrival at the test, this seemed almost inevitable. The majority of the birds are in thoroughly good bodily condition, but a few have lost weight owing to heavy egg production. It is of more than passing interest to note that these are small undersized birds, which although they possess the factor for heavy egg laying, are unable to consume sufficient food to maintain good

bodily condition and at the same time produce a large number of eggs. This is surely further evidence of the fact that a good layer must be a well developed specimen of her breed, or she will fail when put to the test.

The general health of the flock remains good and we have not had the slightest signs of disease or cold.

Mr. Condon's pen is again doing remarkably well and has practically come up to last month's standard of 21 eggs per bird.

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			Total	Average per Bird
		1	2	3		
White Leghorns .. .. .	15	126	77	6	209	13.93
Rhode Island Reds .. .. .	20	297	49	—	337	16.85
White Wyandottes .. .. .	5	28	12	—	40	8.00
White Bresse .. .. .	5	39	14	—	53	10.60
Unrecorded .. .. .	—	3	1	—	4	—
Totals .. .. .		493	144	6	643	14.28

**TWO YEARS' LAYING TEST**  
Any Breed (Four Pullets and One Reserve)

Pen No.	Owner and Breed	Eggs Laid 2nd Period Grades			Total	Eggs Laid To Date Grades			Total
		1	2	3		1	2	3	
1	Tindall, J. H. .. .. . (White Leghorn)	57	13	—	70	104	30	1	135
2	Bulman, C. R. .. .. . (White Leghorn)	26	47	6	79	39	76	15	130
3	Gibson, D. D. .. .. . (White Leghorn)	43	17	—	60	74	36	—	110

(Continued on next page)

4	Condon, C. T. .. .. . (Rhode Island Red)	83	21	—	104	179	30	—	209
5	Trigg, A. E. .. .. . (Rhode Island Red)	74	10	—	84	154	14	—	168
6	Bisset, L. A. .. .. . (Rhode Island Red)	73	5	—	78	156	8	—	164
7	Capper, A. H. .. .. . (White Bresse)	39	14	—	53	65	16	1	82
8	Bulley, F. E. C. .. .. . (Rhode Island Red)	67	4	—	71	134	6	—	140
9	Maclean, D. .. .. . (White Wyandotte)	28	12	—	40	52	21	10	83

**FOURTH TEST**

**Report for Third Period, 27th December 1926 to 24th January 1927**

There has been a further improvement in egg production with the very satisfactory total of 4,254 eggs.

This is equal to an average of 14.13 eggs per bird. Egg size has also much improved. The percentage of first, second and third grade eggs being 74.77, 23.90 and 1.3 respectively.

Weather conditions were somewhat severe towards the close of the period, when we experienced a heavy fall of snow. During this time the birds were confined to their houses and egg production fell off. The lowest daily collection was 126 eggs on the 23rd January, against 178 on the 12th January.

The health of the birds has been excellent throughout the period, but a general tendency to lose condition was noted. With heavy egg production this was expected and every effort made to avoid a loss of bodily weight.

One bird has died during the period: H. Irish's Rhode Island Red pullet, Ring No. 186, in Section 2, the cause of death being due to rupture of the oviduct and escape of egg material into the abdominal cavity.

Competition for the cup is now getting keen, and whether it will go to Section 1, 2 or 4 is a matter for close speculation. The test values of the leading pens in these Sections are as follows: Section 1, 210; Section 2, 220; Section 4, 229.

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

Sec. 1. Hamilton, B.	Sec. 5. Chaffin, A.
.. 1. Foulkes, W. A.	.. 5. Brown, C. H.
.. 2. Hamilton, B.	.. 5A. Jackson, G. C.
.. 3. Jackson, G. C.	.. 5A. Stacy, G. C.
.. 4. Sutton, A. W.	.. 6. Chaffin, A.

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 Third Period Grades			Total	Average per Bird
			1	2	3		
1	White Leghorns .. .. .	87	788	383	37	1,208	13.88
2	Rhode Island Reds .. .. .	107	1,270	261	8	1,539	14.38
3	White Wyandottes .. .. .	24	210	89	4	393	12.63
4	Any Other Breed .. .. .	24	313	58	3	374	15.57
5	Single Heavy Breed .. .. .	18	147	56	3	206	11.44
5A	Single Rhode Island Reds .. .. .	19	207	62	—	269	14.15
6	Single Light Breed .. .. .	22	185	77	—	262	11.91
	Unrecorded .. .. .	301	3,120	986	55	4,161	
			61	31	1	93	
	Totals .. .. .		3,181	1,017	56	4,254	14.13



SUMMARY OF LEADING PENS  
AT END OF THIRD PERIOD  
SECTION 1.—WHITE LEGHORNS (4 pullets)

Pen No.	Owner	Breed	Total Eggs	Test Value	Temporary Position
14	Foulkes, W. A. .. ..		211	210	1
22	Cockerill, J. D. .. ..		190	190	2
16	Brown, C. H. .. ..		187	187	3
4	Hamilton, B. .. ..		191	187	3
SECTION 2.—RHODE ISLAND REDS (4 Pullets)					
30	Sims, H. .. ..		222	220	1
27	Tebble, E. .. ..		213	212	2
44	Lea, J. H. .. ..		211	211	3
35	Bisset, L. A. .. ..		195	195	4
SECTION 3.—WHITE WYANDOTTES (4 Pullets)					
53	Jackson, G. C. .. ..		174	174	1
51	Holmes, P. .. ..		132	132	2
50	Ashwell, R. .. ..		127	123	3
SECTION 4.—ANY OTHER BREED (4 Pullets)					
57	Sutton, A. W. .. ..	Buff Rocks .. ..	230	229	1
56	Coates, T. .. ..	Light Sussex .. ..	172	172	2
59	Jackson, G. C. .. ..	Ancona .. ..	155	155	3
SECTION 5.—SINGLE BIRD, ANY HEAVY BREED					
	Brown, C. H. .. ..	White Wyandotte .. ..	59	59	1
	Chaffin, A. .. ..	White Wyandotte .. ..	55	55	2
	Sutton, A. W. .. ..	Buff Rocks .. ..	53	53	3
SECTION 5A.—SINGLE BIRD, RHODE ISLAND REDS					
	Maclean, D. .. ..		52	52	1
	Catlow, S. .. ..		51	51	2
	Hamilton, B. .. ..		50	50	3
SECTION 6.—SINGLE BIRD, ANY LIGHT BREED					
	Chaffin, A. .. ..	White Leghorn .. ..	56	56	1
	Livingstone, D. .. ..	White Leghorn .. ..	40	40	2
	Brown, C. H. .. ..	White Leghorn .. ..	40	40	2
	Hamilton, B. .. ..	White Leghorn .. ..	39	39	3

### Braille Watch Records

There are two responses to our inquiry as to whether anyone could beat A. Hollands' record of his Braille watch having gone steadily for three years without repair or losing a minute. Firstly, A. Sterno, of Bath, says that his watch went perfectly without attention for four and a half years before he accidentally dropped it and so damaged the main-spring. He still has the same watch, which is keeping splendid time after repair at headquarters. The second challenger is T. North, of Walsall, whose Braille watch was given to him at St. Mark's Hospital, Chelsea, in July 1918. He has only had it repaired once, and that was when he broke the mainspring through

overwinding. It is quite four and a half years ago since it was mended, and he has had no trouble with it since, and it has always kept splendid time. Are there any other challengers? Whether or not, it seems adequately proved that our Braille watches are really reliable and hardwearing timekeepers.

A St. Dunstaner, who desires to remain anonymous, has sent Mr. Kessell £5 for the Fresh Air Fund, with the request that he will invest it and regard the interest therefrom as an annual donation.

If worrying won't end it  
If worrying don't mend it—Try smiling

## Workshop Notes

### BASKET SHOP

OUR congratulations to A. W. Pimm on account of the success he is gaining, in spite of his extra disability. He is doing remarkably well on the whole, and during the latter part of last term was tackling plaited borders with increasing success. E. E. Kenward improved on his barrel baskets, both in centre cane and willow, and will, we hope, be making still further progress this term. The patience and perseverance of S. W. Wain is bringing him greater confidence and success, his siding particularly showing improvement, and we should like to congratulate him on the advance he has made. In spite of ill-health, A. Hughes has been carrying on; after a try at dog-beds, he spent most of his time on barrels, and in December tackled some square arms. Since our last reference E. B. Parke did some soiled linens, waste papers, barrels and work-baskets. He also took his poultry course at King's Langley and has now gone home to get his chickens on the run, when he proposes to return to complete his basket course. T. Gregory has been doing some square work, and still finds a difficulty all round. There was a marked improvement, however, in some barrels that he did in November. C. E. Maker has been doing a variety of work in centre cane; he is getting a good general idea, making a really fine attempt with a shopping basket with scalloped top. As soon as he improves on his finishing, we feel that he will turn out some useful work. A. P. Crook has done a good deal of work of all kinds, and has been coming on quite nicely. An oval bag basket, with wood base, recently completed, was a good specimen.

The following men completed their courses at Christmas. D. T. Edwards benefited a good deal by his experience in the shops, giving special attention to work that he will be likely to get locally. We shall miss him very much, as he was always of such a cheery disposition. W. Rickaby made a decided improvement all

round on his barrels and waste papers. A. Gaffney seemed to take a greater interest in hamper work than any other, and we hear from him that he has already commenced in his workshop, and has been ordering some material. P. McGloin revised all his work and made a decided improvement with each article. We expect to hear that he will soon be extremely busy in Sligo.

### BOOT SHOP

C. W. Wise is very persevering, and works full time, making steady progress, especially with his marking and riveting. T. Peach has been doing well; he still has occasional trouble with his rivets turning over, but he is going along steadily and loses no time. E. A. Alexander has been making very fair progress with the trade generally for a beginner. P. W. Powell has been having experience with children's boots, and has also been doing some quarter-rubbers. His marking and riveting is fairly good, and finishing shows improvement. W. L. Redhead has been doing very well indeed; he is getting his edges much squarer and has also made great improvement in the shaping of his heels, which gave him some difficulty. He is taking the greatest pains with his work. A. J. Head also puts in a good deal of extra time; he seems to have inherited some skill from his father, and gets his work a very good shape, with nice, square edges. He is striving hard to gain as much knowledge of the trade as possible. J. W. Thom left us to return to Australia in November. He made extremely good use of the short time he had in the shops, and we anticipate that he will do some useful work with the trade.

The following men completed their course at Christmas. J. Eccleston has terminated the course in clog instruction he was receiving under P. Goulden at Bolton, and has already made a start with the occupation, which should prove useful to him in his particular district. R. W. Comley is always keen; his relatives, who are also connected with the trade, should give him every assistance. His test mat was first-class, and he did some other good work while making his stock. H. Jones gained a very useful knowledge of the



trade, and tackled his work in the right style. His steady perseverance ought to serve him well. In the mat shop he also did some useful work. E. S. Hayter was always keen on becoming quite efficient, and he did very reliable work on repairs sent in by other St. Dunstan's men. His knowledge of the work is distinctly good, and he maintained a uniform standard. G. Parrick covered a very full range of work, and there is very little that he cannot undertake. He can be relied upon to turn out a sound job, and did some excellent hand-sewn work. In the mat shop, he also did remarkably well, several of his mats during the last two months reaching a very high standard. D. J. Thomas completed his course in boots and mats early in February; he was keen every moment of his time, and was always anxious to receive criticism of his work. We feel confident that he will be able to work up a very sound business, and we congratulate him sincerely on what he got through.

#### MAT SHOP

E. J. Squires has been placing his thrums and cutting well, but is rather weak with his bordering. In the boot shop he continues to progress satisfactorily.

The following men completed their course at Christmas. W. Moore has a good knowledge of the work, which never presented any real difficulty to him. The mats he has made during the last five months have all been of a first-class quality. R. Cook also reached a satisfactory standard during the whole term. B. Toole showed considerable signs of improvement in various parts of his work during the last two months.

#### JOINERY SHOP

T. W. Chamberlain made a creditable tool chest, and followed it with a meat safe, oak tray and coffee-pot stand, and a kitchen table. G. E. Crook left us in November, having covered a good range of work. He has a natural aptitude and will, we estimate, produce quite good work. Mr. Le Bas returned for a refresher course of three months, making some stools which were the object of facetious comment by various friends; judging from

their remarks, he will be providing all the dairymaids in his vicinity with these articles. S. Aves left the Joinery Shop early in February having got through quite a varied course. He was extremely interested in everything he did, and was most painstaking. We look forward to seeing some nice samples of work from him in future.

W. H. O.

### Departmental Notes

#### Netting Notes

We have had a very busy but cheery month in the netting room, with a good many new pupils. Congratulations are due to T. Vaughan, J. W. Bullock, W. S. Weedall, G. Brewer, and T. Jarman for passing their string bag test, and J. Moore, A. W. Pimm and G. Brewer for finishing their two rugs.

W. L. Redhead and E. Daniels have made great progress with rugs, though they have only had a short time in which to learn the art of making them.

We were pleased when one of the men this term chose a wool rug for his prize for braille; he has gained something that will be very useful as well as ornamental, and I hope some of the other men will do the same when their turn comes and buy rugs from us.

We are looking forward to a very busy spring and already have one or two large orders for golf and fruit nets.

K. H. W.

#### Braille Notes

We heartily congratulate C. H. Cook, Harry Tomkinson, T. Bentley, and G. Parrick on passing the Braille Writing Test.

#### Typewriting Notes

Many congratulations to E. Alexander and T. Scott on passing the Typewriting Test.

#### Telephony

Many congratulations to H. Buchanan on obtaining a post as telephonist to British Red Cross Headquarters, Berkley Street, and to R. E. Naman, to Messrs. Crittall, Braintree, Essex. M. H. R.

## Births—Marriages—Deaths

### Births

BROOKES.—On New Year's Day, to the wife of W. E. Brookes, of Southampton, a son (Cyril Victor).

BRYER.—To the wife of E. E. Bryer, of Yate, a son (Charles Edward), on the 9th of January.

DENNISON.—On 31st December, to the wife of C. Dennison, of York, a daughter.

GAFFNEY.—On the 8th of January, a daughter to the wife of A. Gaffney, of Salford.

JEFFRIES.—On the 30th December, to the wife of C. G. Jeffries, of Enfield, a daughter.

LAKER.—On the 3rd January, to the wife of E. J. Laker, of Haverhill, a daughter.

LOVETT.—To the wife of G. W. Lovett, of Melplash, a daughter (Doreen Bertha), on the 31st of December last.

MOORE.—On the 18th of December, to the wife of W. Moore, of 8 Groby Road, Audenshaw, Manchester, a little son (George Clifford).

OLDFIELD.—On the 16th of January, to the wife of A. Oldfield, of Sheffield, a son (Tom).

SHURROCK.—To the wife of W. Shurrock, of Wombswell, Barnsley, a son (James), on the 30th of December.

THOMAS.—On the 17th December, a daughter (Brenda), to the wife of C. E. Thomas, of Todmorden.

WORGAN.—On the 15th of December, to the wife of G. Worgan, of Commercial Street, Cinderford, a little son (Edward).

### Marriages

SNEDDON-WHEELER.—On the 15th of January, A. Sneddon, of Lanark, to Miss Ethel Wheeler at St. Clements' Church, Leigh-on-Sea.

WATSON-LOWTHER.—On the 18th of December, at St. Cuthbert's Church, Gateshead, William Wyndam Watson, to Beatrice Lowther.

(The honeymoon, we understand, was spent at the home of another St. Dunstaner, Stibbles, of Pitlochrie.)

### Deaths

This month we have to offer sympathy to:—

BROADLEY.—Mr. and Mrs. Broadley, of Maryhill, Glasgow, in that on the 8th of January they lost their little daughter, Laura. The child was only four years old.

FLEETWOOD.—Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Fleetwood, of West Dulwich, as, on the 5th of January, Mrs. Fleetwood lost her father, after a sad and anxious time.

HILL.—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Hill, of Salisbury. Their baby son, Norman John, died on the 4th of January of bronchial pneumonia and convulsions.

MACAULEY.—To Mr. J. W. Macauley, of Manchester, who lost his mother on the 2nd of January. She died quite suddenly after only a week's illness.

MCDOWELL.—Mr. and Mrs. H. McDowell, of Droitwich, who lost their little son on 17th January.

ORVIS.—Mrs. Orvis, of W. Kensington Park Road. She lost her little daughter on 3rd December of pneumonia, following on Bright's disease.

PALMER.—Mr. and Mrs. H. Palmer, of Upper Norwood. Their baby son died on the 13th of January, at Guy's Hospital, after a long and painful illness. The funeral was at Mitcham Cemetery on the 18th.

STEW.—F. Stew, of Tewkesbury, whose mother died on the 16th of January. She was buried at Cheltenham Cemetery.

WILLIAMS.—On Saturday, the 17th of December, the father of Mr. R. J. Williams, of Andover, died at Ashford, Middlesex.

#### A CHRISTENING CORRECTION

We have been asked to correct a notice in a recent issue where it was stated that the little daughter of J. H. Lynch was christened at Fulham. The ceremony took place at St. Martins-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square.



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