

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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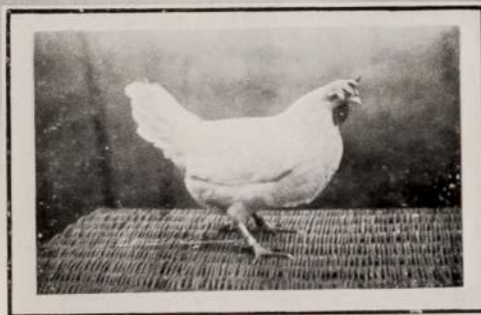
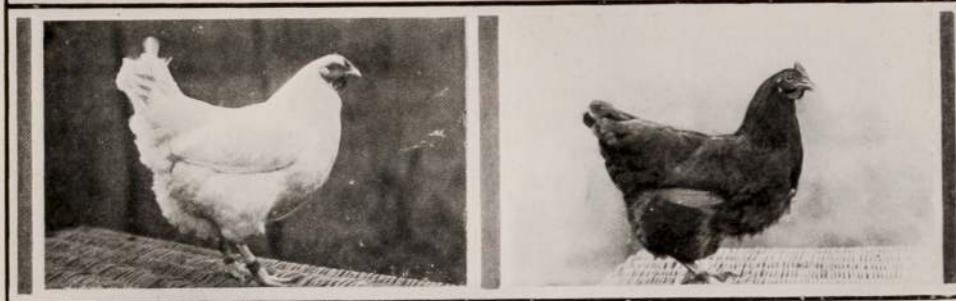
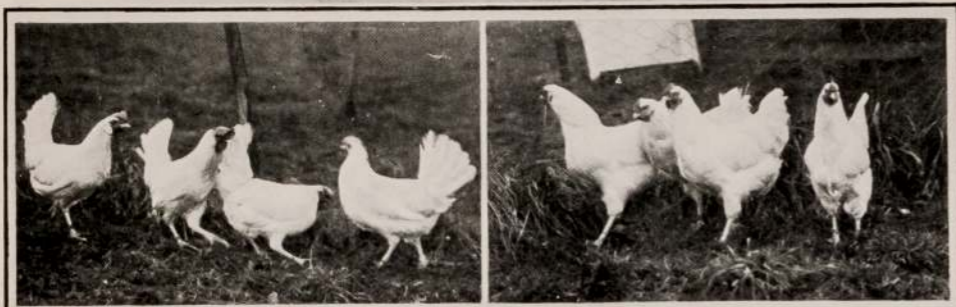
APRIL 1927



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FOR THE AMUSEMENT & INTEREST OF MEN BLINDED IN THE WAR



SOME ST. DUNSTAN'S PRIZE-WINNING PULLETS

Top—A. W. Sutton's pen of 4 Buff Rocks. *Top left*—J. D. Cockerill's pen of White Leghorns. *Top right*—G. C. Jackson's pen of White Wyandottes. *Bottom left*—C. H. Brown's White Wyandotte Pullet. *Bottom right*—S. Catlow's Rhode Island Red Pullet. *Bottom*—A. Chaffin's White Leghorn Pullet.

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 119.—VOLUME XI.

APRIL, 1927.

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

EDITORIAL NOTES

ON another page of this issue will be found the Final Results of the St. Dunstan's Egg-Laying Test, and reference thereto will prove what splendid reason there is for congratulations being extended to all concerned, both organisers and competitors. There can be no doubt of the high practical value to our poultry farmers of these Tests; indeed, it is not too much to claim that the experience they have brought has had much to do with the success St. Dunstaners are gaining in an occupation which, though healthy and interesting, demands very expert selection and care for stock, special organising ability, and unlimited hard work. Thus, not only competitors and the prize winners benefit, but all who are engaged in poultry farming.



How deep and abiding are the friendships made between St. Dunstaners, and which have their birth during the sojourn of training, is evidenced at every re-union of our men, whether at those held at Headquarters or the many which take place during the year in the various provincial centres. Almost the first inquiries one hears at these gatherings are whether Tom or Jack or Pat, as the case may be, is present. Then there is the hearty handshake, the reminiscences of old times spent in workshops or classrooms, and the sincere inquiries as to present health and prosperity. We know, too, that not only personal meetings are relied upon, or are necessary, to keep alive the fires of friendship, but letters are constantly passing between St. Dunstaners all over the Empire, and hardly a single letter is received at Headquarters which does not send good wishes to the writer's St. Dunstaner friends. We are glad to think also that the REVIEW acts as a valuable means of liaison for such messages, for this spirit of real comradeship has ever been, and will always remain, one of the secure foundations upon which the wonderful success of St. Dunstan's and its men's happiness and content has been built. The many appreciations received of the broadcasting of our Community Singing at the Anniversary Gathering last month all strike the same note of pleasure at hearing again the actual voices of old friends in the old surroundings. While it is but natural that there should exist a deep sense of brotherhood among men who have all made the same sacrifice and who have all learned among one another and by each other's example how readily their handicap may be overcome, yet it is good to know that there is something in these friendships between St. Dunstaners which survives through all the minor attritions and the major trials of life's daily round.

St. Dunstan's Twelfth Anniversary
Community Singing at Annual Gathering

THE opinion we ventured to express in our last issue that the innovation of community singing at St. Dunstan's birthday dance and party would be a success has been very fully justified. Never have we known this annual gathering to go from first to last with such verve and jollity. Guests were beginning to arrive even before the hour of opening, and within a very short time the large company present were fully occupying the dancing space. It was without doubt one of the most representative assemblies of St. Dunstaners and their lady friends which we have had at the Bungalow for some years past.

Captain and Mrs. Fraser arrived some time before the time fixed for the broadcast of the community singing, and when, on the tip-toe of expectation, the whole company gathered round the band platform immediately in front of the microphones which were installed, wonderful silence was preserved while Captain Fraser stood, watch in hand, awaiting the signal to introduce our company to the millions who were listening-in. He said:—

"Ladies and gentlemen, it is our practice at St. Dunstan's to organise a great re-union party each year on 25th March to celebrate the foundation of St. Dunstan's. This is the night of our twelfth birthday. There are present some four or five hundred blinded soldiers and sailors who are still in training at St. Dunstan's or have come up for the evening with their wives and friends from their homes in London and the Home Counties. We send our greetings to our blinded comrades at our Brighton Convalescent Annexe, and all over England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, who will be listening to us to-night.

"To amuse ourselves and, we hope, to amuse you, we are going to sing some good old English tunes and old soldier songs for half-an-hour.

"Nothing is here for tears; there is no re-union in all England which is cheerier or happier than this one at St. Dunstan's. May I hope that during the half hour that follows every listener in the land may catch something of the spirit of St. Dunstan's, which has enabled our blinded soldiers to pack up their troubles and smile at their difficulties."

Then Mr. John Goss, the famous baritone, who conducted throughout with splendid skill and animation, explained briefly what he wanted his "choir" to do. We led off with that heartening chorus from which Captain Fraser had quoted—"Pack up your Troubles." From the first words the whole company entered into the full spirit of the singing with excellent time and tone, and with the most obvious enjoyment of the proceedings. It is impossible to say that any one song of the programme was rendered better than another where all were so good, but we seemed to hear a special vigour and "abandon" in the male voices when the old army songs, "One Man went to Mow" (*ad lib.*), the classic "Tipperary," and "Pack up your Troubles" were sung. In some of the other songs the beautifully pure baritone solos of Mr. Goss made most effective contrast with the fuller chorus singing, often, by the way, admirably harmonised. Reports from every quarter show that the broadcast reception was exceptionally good, and elsewhere will be found a few of the many letters we have received from St. Dunstaners who were listening-in.

After the singing, dancing was continued with added zest until refreshment time came, and then during a short interval Captain Fraser expressed the pleasure it gave him to welcome once again so many St. Dunstaners and their friends, many of whom had come long distances to be present at this annual re-union. He was sure that all had enjoyed immensely the

novelty of community singing, and in that connection he paid tribute to the efficiency and initiative which Mr. Kessell had shown in the arrangements, and to the valuable and generous help afforded by the *Daily Express*, and their splendid conductor that night, Mr. John Goss. (Loud applause.)

Dancing was then resumed, and went on to a late hour. There were many old friends and helpers of St. Dunstan's present, including two members of the Executive Council, Miss Hamar Greenwood and Lieut.-Colonel Eric Ball.

In conclusion, we think we might again venture a small prophecy to the effect that St. Dunstan's gatherings will, whether broadcast or not, have some more community singing.

Among many appreciations we have received from all parts mention may be made of the letter from W. Tout, of Exeter, who says: "Many thanks for the kindly greetings received by radio on Friday last. Wireless has brought many happy hours into my life, but I can truly say that nothing has given me more pleasure than the jolly half-an-hour's singing which was sent out from the Bungalow. It brought very vividly to my mind the happy hours which I have spent at the Bungalow, and I still count them as being the happiest of my life. The singing as it came through to me was perfect, and I should like to add that the cornet made a splendid accompaniment. I think the idea of broadcasting this item is a splendid one, for not only must it have given pleasure to listening St. Dunstaners, but it also gave many thousands of listeners the opportunity of hearing for themselves something of that cheery spirit with which we are all so proud to associate the good work of St. Dunstan's."

A. Rowe, of Burslem, writes: "My wife and myself were very delighted with the broadcasting of community singing last night. It reminded me of old times, and just for half-an-hour I felt I was back in the Bungalow. I know you will appreciate a line to know how we enjoyed it. What a splendid thing the wireless is!"

Another who was delighted with the broadcast was W. Ward, of Liverpool, who says: "As I had the pleasure of listening-in to your concert of community singing last night, please allow me to congratulate you on the success of your venture. This is the first time I have had the opportunity of listening-in to your concerts, and I may say that I thoroughly enjoyed the programme. The rendering of 'Pack up your Troubles,' 'There is a Tavern,' and 'Loch Lomond' appealed to me especially."

St. Dunstan's old friend, Colonel Barnett Anley, writes from Woking to Captain Fraser, saying how much he enjoyed listening-in. "It was," he writes, "my 85th birthday, and I was immensely 'fetched' at your telling us that it was also St. Dunstan's birthday." Colonel Anley adds that the many letters of congratulation he received included one from Boardman, our St. Dunstaner who was in the Cheltenham Annexe. We are sure the Colonel's many friends will be glad to hear news of him again, and will wish him "very many happy returns."

W. T. Harris, of Grantham, writing in Braille, says that the broadcasting from the Bungalow was like being there himself; it was so clear. He hopes it will become an annual event, with the addition of a few dance tunes—we imagine that is the general wish.

Mrs. Crawford, the wife of James Crawford, of Battle, sends a most interesting letter: "I feel I must write to tell you of a very strange and beautiful coincidence during the community singing at St. Dunstan's on 25th March. We were sitting with our loud speaker, and there was a terrible hailstorm and the wind raging outside. Just as the men commenced singing 'Pack up your Troubles' a nightingale flew close to our verandah and sang the whole time—he practically finished with the men (only during the one song), and never sang again during the evening or, so far, since. It seemed almost supernatural, but pathetically sweet. Perhaps I felt it all the more because my husband, who is at the moment enjoying the wonderful care at

the Brighton Annexe, had asked me to be sure and listen."

L. Jackson, of Rock Ferry, writes to say how delighted he was to hear the boys singing. It came over as clear as a bell. "These little events," he adds, "bring St. Dunstan's very near to us chaps living so far away, and revive many happy memories, so please get as many of these broadcasts as possible, for I am sure all St. Dunstaners appreciate them." Jackson, however, had had a pretty stiff time of it of late, since he opened his new shop. He has just finished up a rather bad year by having his wife laid up for three weeks. However, with typical cheeriness, he says there is always something bright coming along, and adds the interesting news that he has been elected Master of his Lodge and is to be installed on the 28th April. He believes it is a record in Masonry for a blind man to be installed Master of a Lodge, and he is the first St. Dunstaner to receive this honour. We send him our heartiest congratulations.

Mrs. Morris, of Pontypridd, also write to say that she and her husband heard every word of the broadcast quite distinctly.

Anniversary Celebrations at Brighton

Anniversary Day at Brighton was a great success. There was the usual bumper of port wine at dinner, when the memory of our late chief was toasted, together with the health of Captain and Mrs. Ian Fraser and Mrs. Bates, and in addition, as the Matron so aptly put it, we toasted the finest institution which the world has ever known, for it not only cares for the men but also for their wives and children. All this created much enthusiasm and voiced the sentiments of each one of us. For after twelve years of work after its inception and eight since the Armistice, this great organisation still continues its course, as some refreshing river carrying help to those of its members who, for the time being, through ill-health, bad luck, or some other adverse circumstance, are for the present "up against it."

In the evening there was a dance, in the middle of which the boys and their

friends had the pleasure of hearing Captain Fraser speak through the wireless from Regents Park. The applause given to his remarks in London could be heard distinctly and the appreciation was echoed by us all at Brighton, where the dancers were congregated. This was followed by community singing, the boys of the Annexe taking their share. During the singing each of us was given a card which entitled him to a chance of a prize. The guest of the evening was the Mayoress of Brighton, who later distributed the prizes to the boys who held the duplicates to those which were in the sealed envelope and which numbers were called out by the Mayoress. The following boys held the duplicate cards respectively:—1st, Calvert; 2nd, Gleeson; 3rd, Byrd, and 4th, Warren.

Shortly after supper the Mayor, who had been attending another social function, arrived and was loudly cheered. In a short speech he thanked St. Dunstan's on behalf of the Mayoress and himself for the invitation sent to them to be present on this occasion and impressed upon the boys that Brighton was with them right through, with their troubles and their aspirations, and in conclusion, wished them all the success they deserved.

The spot dance, which was a later feature, was won by Orderly Passiful and his wife. At the end of the evening cheers were called for our Matron, and the Mayoress and the Mayor, which met with a hearty response. If smiling faces are the outward expression of perfect enjoyment, then everyone must have enjoyed the Anniversary Day of 1927 to the full.

"OBSERVER."

The Trade Exhibition, in Margate, brought many orders to G. A. Millen, of Birchington, and he has also had excellent results from getting into touch with some of the hotels. Another good "advertisement" was obtained when a shop in Margate was lent to him for a short time. What with this business success and the approach of spring together, Millen has decided to purchase a tandem bicycle. We hope he will get even more pleasure from it than he expects.

Present Care Concert

It was St. Patrick's Day—an excellent excuse for a really merry evening. The legendary English reserve was slipped on one side, and everyone let themselves go with tune and song, and felt full of good cheer.

The Band commenced the programme in good style, ably assisted by Miss Bennett, of Bedford College. Was it intent that the sequence of songs of Phillips, Mason, Mullins, and McDonald ran as follows:—"Why Don't My Dreams Come True," "Little Irish Girl," "Daddy's Trip to Heaven," "If I Might Come to You." One might almost think so, considering how full of humorous sketches the evening really was. Following Mullins' many tales, Chamberlain and Orderly Nesbitt soon had the audience singing whilst they played a Mandoline-banjo duet—and then Jock Isaac brought the first half of the programme to a close with a touch of his usual merry humour.

It was now that the Father of the Present Care—Daddy Wain—making the following little speech, presented Matron with a beautiful basket of flowers, including, of course, a huge bunch of shamrock, tied with the Irish colour:—

"Dear Matron,—Your kindly cheerful tact has won the hearts of the Present Care Boys. I say this with the knowledge that there are thousands of Boys who have passed through St. Dunstan's living not only in the British Isles, but also in the far distant Dominions of the British Empire, who would re-echo this. I feel it a great honour that the Boys have entrusted me to express their good wishes. I fear they are inadequately expressed—but sincere and heartfelt. We hope that your future efforts will be crowned with success at all times. On behalf of the Present Care Boys, kindly accept this token of respect and esteem."

Matron replied by thanking one and all for the very touching presentation, which had come as a real surprise to her, and saying that she felt almost too moved to express her feelings in words.

Crook and the Band gave further selections and then followed songs from

our old friends—Capt. Crowe, Wooldridge, and McLean, and finally the music ended with the lusty Froth Blowers' Anthem—but that as you all know is not "lights out," but the call for refreshment—and so refreshment was speedily dispensed by many, and enjoyed by all. One felt that at this concert everyone's respect and love for Matron was most lustily expressed.

More Braille Watch Records

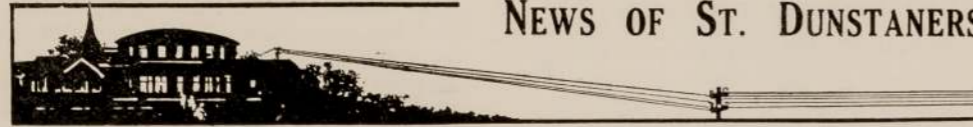
Our paragraphs as to the wonderful qualities of the braille watches supplied to St. Dunstaners seem to have aroused widespread interest. Six more tributes reached us this month:—G. H. Matthews, of Haydock, received his in 1918, and this is the first time it has needed any repair. R. K. Lowrie, of Southwick, has had his watch for ten years. The watch of A. Rowe, of Burslem, was given him at St. Mark's, Chelsea, in March 1916. In 1923, thinking it might be beyond repair, he applied for a new one, but the repairs being effected, he still wears his old watch and it keeps splendid time. Another watch presented at St. Mark's Hospital in 1916, was to A. H. Ackland, of North Kensington. This has only needed repair twice, and is still going strong. C. R. Gray, of West Croydon, still uses his old watch given to him in 1917. It keeps excellent time, and has been out of action only once—on account of a broken spring.

D. McCarthy, of Wood Green, Salisbury, has had his watch since before Xmas 1915. It served him well for over ten years without attention, and after coming to headquarters last year for overhauling, now goes as well as ever.

In acknowledging the receipt of a prize in the Wireless Ballot, W. England says:—

"Incidentally, may I mention here that my wireless set (a gift from St. Dunstan's) has proved a thousand blessings to me this winter, as living in the country and not knowing many people here, I really don't know how I would have passed the long winter evenings without it."

NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS



A PORTSLADE man with a "record" Braille watch is R. K. Lowrie, he has had his for ten years and it is still "going strong and quite reliably!"

Another Portslade man is A. E. Clewlow, who has been so busy settling into his new house that he has had little time for trays. He has every intention of making up for lost time when he starts however, and has been considering the breeding of bull-dogs as a paying sideline and hobby.

The usual enemy "flu" has laid many low again this month, but in almost every case it is in retreat. F. T. Hill, of Clifton, Bristol, and his wife have both had it, as have Mr. and Mrs. Gilks, of Malvern, who had a particularly long attack and was obliged to spend some three weeks in bed.

"Ninety young chickens already hatched out" is the news from J. H. Lea, of Mancetter, Warwickshire, who is looking remarkably well and contented we are glad to hear.

A stroke of bad luck has come the way of G. F. Hall, of Nuneaton, again. His car was standing in the road when a 'bus ran into it and broke the back axle; it will hardly be a reliable car in which to carry a load of men ever again, so the loss is serious.

Baskets keep F. J. Brown, of Birmingham, very steadily employed and he has been making some noticeably large ones of late. Hampers are becoming quite a speciality with him. A. T. Coulson, of Withernwick, is as cheery and contented as usual and we offer him our congratulations on the quality of his centre-cane work, and the local sales he is securing.

T. Cheshire, of Studham, has been doing very well with fibre mats of late and says he is glad that he took them up.

Among recent "removals" J. T. Rouse, of Leighton Buzzard, should be mentioned. He is settled into his new house which is far more central, and Rouse is busy with mats and nets.

The breeding of bantams is proving a most interesting hobby according to J. Duff, of Closeburn, and he has carried off quite a number of prizes at various shows of late.

Poultry keep busy G. McIntosh, of Terregles, W. McLurg, of Withorn, and W. D. Alexander, of Dalbeattie, the latter is hoping to increase his stock considerably this year.

Church Hill, Bodiam, is where A. F. Groves has found a new home and it is a lovely spot. He is giving a good deal of attention to the garden just now and in a few weeks time it should begin to offer him a good reward for his exertions.

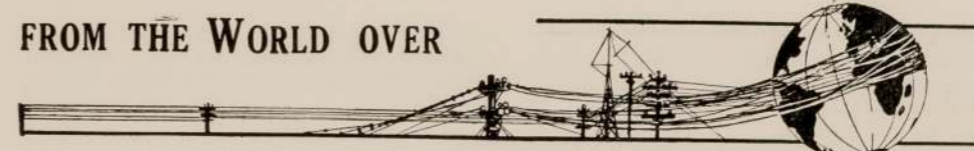
A fine new shed is the latest possession of T. Bowen, of Llanelly, S. Wales. We hope it will attract many customers for his excellent work, for we know what a real interest Bowen takes in the netting at which he is an expert. The family have made an excellent recovery from the ravages of the "flu."

Another Wales man is J. E. Davies, of Llandyssul, who as we write is just off to King's Langley to acquire further knowledge concerning poultry. We feel sure he will make first rate use of all he learns.

A nice steady amount of work seems to come the way of E. D. Evans, of Carmarthen. He always seems busy with a comfortable supply of boots and shoes awaiting attention.

D. O. Evans, of Llansamlet, is also fortunate in local orders; his speciality is basket making.

FROM THE WORLD OVER



What with boots as a trade and his allotment⁴ as a valuable hobby, W. H. Foxon, of Acton Vale, is a busy man. He has been planting early potatoes of late (we wish him a record crop) and contrived to keep cheery even when his wife was down with "flu"—says he was too busy to be anything else with her to nurse and household affairs to attend to! Congratulations to him on his house-keeping abilities.

News from H. A. Perrett, of Devizes, is rare, therefore we are sorry to have to say that he has been suffering from an acute attack of rheumatic fever. We and all his friends are glad to know that the corner is turned. We hope recovery will be rapid.

Four goats, two beautiful Airedales and some flourishing poultry comprise the assortment of livestock owned by W. A. Burtenshaw, of Lyneham.

A "first certificate" was gained at the Swindon Arts and Crafts Exhibition for mats exhibited by F. G. Teagle. Two were sold and we hope with Teagle that the advertisement he has gained will lead to further orders.

Things seem very slow in Cardiff as the result of the strike, but all the same work is beginning to come in "splendidly" according to D. J. Thomas, of Mynachdy, and he has had a good deal of praise for the jobs he has tackled. Before these lines appear in print we hope he will have got his shed up and everything shipshape.

Pillion riding must require some nerve both on the part of the pillion rider and the driver of the motor-cycle. A. Hinton will soon be able to give us a first hand account of "My first ride," for his son has just invested in one of these fiery steeds and Hinton is looking forward to exploring the country-side.

In Billesley, Birmingham, G. E. Bate-man has his workshop fixed up and has already started work and had a call from the technical visitor. We hope that he will have completed quite a number of C. Cane Trays before these lines appear in print and send him our best wishes. May he receive more orders than he can fulfil!

Wireless is proving a boon to A. E. Thompson, of Summer Lane, Birmingham, who is unable to work on account of ill-health. He listens in all day long, and it proves a fine distraction from his anxiety about his mother who is eighty years of age and has been ill for some time.

A. Webb, also of Birmingham, is another enthusiast in the same line. He finds a veritable thrill in the descriptions of the football matches and when he listens-in on these occasions counts it next best to being able to play again.

A local order for a large mat with a coloured border has just come the way of J. Evans of Walsall. He is setting to work on it with the determination to make it a work of art.

T. W. North, of the same district, has also been lucky as he has received a fine commission for a golf net.

A very musical life is being lived at present by D. S. H. Wood, of Rugby, for he is not only doing a good deal of singing himself at various socials, but is the possessor of a particularly good wireless set and never fails to "listen-in" to the best items.

We regret that owing to great pressure on our space this month (even our back cover carries news!) many items of interest have had to be held over.—ED.

News of St. Dunstaners—continued.

Considering the length of time he has been in Newport Pagnell, G. Hadfield thinks he has done well, so has every hope that he is now firmly established. The appearance of the shop has been greatly improved by a new door and this too should help trade.

A recent holiday at Brighton has made W. J. H. Clamp, of Wolverton, feel a different man, his friends will be glad to hear. He is now at home again with plenty of work in sight.

New houses are being built near R. Comley, of Cadbury Heath, Bristol, so he will probably be getting a fine lot of boot repairs since he has already made a very good start. The extension of the district should create a demand for mats also. We feel confident that Comley's prospects are excellent since we know that he intends to work steadily and do the best that is in him.

One of the few men who have escaped "flu" is A. E. Tucker, of St. James', Bristol. He is lucky indeed, and not only with health but with orders. Such a number came in at Christmas that he has been kept busy ever since.

The usual cheery news comes from J. Bannister, of Skelmersdale, "Could not be doing better under the circumstances"; Bannister is full of pluck, we know, and his niece is carrying on with true St. Dunstan's spirit. The children are keeping "fine" under her care.

Despite the fact that A. Campbell, of Mill Hill, Blackburn, does not enjoy robust health he carries on steadily with his netting and makes a mat every now and then for a change, so he is always employed. We congratulate him on his happy home.

A man who stands high on our list of "best mat-makers" is T. Thorpe, of Darwen. He takes a real interest in his work and is unflagging in his industry.

"All in the pink" says W. Allen, of Darwen, who is busy as usual on wool rugs. His rate of speed is high—higher indeed than of many a man who has the use of both hands.

"More orders for day-old chicks than I am able to supply," says W. E. Carlton, of Thanet, and poultry doing well generally. He has been handicapped by the fact that his wife and children were both ill at once but have pulled through well.

Brief Notes

Mats have been keeping J. D. Higgins of South Lambeth, fairly busy and he was much annoyed at having to lay himself off recently as he had strained a tendon in his hand. Others working hard at mats are J. J. Steele, J. W. Broadbent and P. Sheridan, all of Rosyth, and A. E. Wilkins, of North Frattton, who in addition has a tea round. C. F. Spiers, of Friars Entry, Oxford, seems to find a steady sale for his wares in the same line, E. Sheppard, of Bellingham, is pegging away and getting a reasonable number of orders and the same might be said of A. Cook, of Kings' Thorpe Hollow, Northampton, M. Hutchinson, of East Ham, A. Impey, of Dunstable, A. E. Moore, of Walthamstow, and J. Lomas, of the same district. In Ireland, T. McCann, of Ballinary, is out to create a demand by the excellence of his work and we hope he will succeed as he deserves.

Friends of Berry, of Belfast, will be glad to know that he is now in better health than he has been for years. He says work has made a new man of him. He has been able to sell practically everything he has made locally so far and seems to be building up a clientele of regular customers, congratulations to him.

W. C. Jose, of Newry, is also going on well and is working steadily at netting. He hopes to go over to Falmouth again this summer.

It is not every boot repairer who can claim that he "mends for the Lady Mayoress," but this honour has fallen to

Gribben, of Belfast, and we can imagine the pride and care with which he devoted himself to making a super-excellent joy of her ladyship's shoes!

How many wireless poles came down in the last high wind? C. G. Clarke, of Wells, Somerset, is one of the sufferers. His snapped in half and Clarke was in consternation since broadcasting is a perpetual joy to him. He has had his set fixed in his hut and with this, a good fire in his stove and a well-filled pipe, counts himself a happy man, even on the roughest of nights.

W. Murray, of Hawick, has been having a very busy time with repairs as the mills usually get their skips repaired in the spring and early summer.

D. Gibson, of Ancrum, has done so well with his poultry that he has laid aside basket-making for the time at all events, finding he has no time for the two pursuits. Poultry too is proving of value to R. Riddell, of Bonjedward. He says also that he has both repaired and sold more boots this past year than in any other twelvemonth.

Others who are making headway with poultry are F. Crabtree, of Scarborough, and W. Woodcock, of Rickling Green, Essex.

A new side line has been taken up by C. M. Burke, of Fulham. He has been buying and selling celery, but says he has hardly been at it long enough to report on the venture as a success as yet. The profits are not large so everything depends upon the quantity he sells—and the taste of the people in the district!

Joinery has been keeping G. E. Crook, of Tatsfield, Surrey, busy. He has a remarkably nice workshop we hear and is as well and cheery as usual. Another of our joiners is G. C. Shields, of Brixton, but he has not yet become established since his move from Southend. We hope great things for him later. In the same

line is D. Ironside, of Dalmuir, who is finding customers for his trays in Edinburgh, and hoping that each one sold will be seen and admired by other possible customers.

At "The Blackbirds"

A most enjoyable afternoon was spent on 15th March, when 48 St. Dunstaners, accompanied by 8 members of the staff, were present by the invitation of Mr. C. B. Cochran at the matinee of "The Blackbirds" at The Pavilion. An excellent tea was served during the interval, and after D. McLean had presented Miss Florence Mills, the leading lady, with a bouquet, a photograph of the group was taken on the stage. The men present were delighted with the entertainment, and were loud in praise of the most excellent and considerate arrangements made by Mr. Smart, who was in charge for Mr. Cochran.

Holiday Sports Camps

It has been decided to hold the Stratford-on-Avon Camp again this year at Clifford Chambers, two miles from Stratford, 13th to 21st June. June 20th there will be the Annual Regatta on the Avon.

The date of the Little Gaddesden Camp is fixed for 22nd June to 29th June. The camp is five miles from Berkhamstead and 28 from London. Miss Talbot is again inviting us to her house and grounds, and she has kindly undertaken to do all the organising beforehand, as I shall be in camp at Stratford.

There will be a 9 mile walk to Halton Regatta, we hope, at Marlow, and all the usual features; all that is needed is a good number in camp to make things go and the camp pay.

Fees for the week at both camps, 27s. 6d. Intending campers are responsible for their own railway fares, though it may be possible to arrange transport free of charge from London.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are coming this year. My address is Clopton, Stratford-on-Avon.

SISTER HODGSON.

Poultry Notes

Winter Egg Laying Test—Fourth Test

Officially Recognised by the National Poultry Council

Four Periods of four weeks each, 1st November, 1926 to 20th February 1927

FINAL REPORT AND LIST OF AWARDS

THE total production during the 112 days of the Test amounts to 15,716 eggs. This is a daily average of a little over 140 eggs from the 303 competing birds, and is equal to a daily percentage production of 46.31 eggs.

The percentages of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade eggs work out as follows: 72.98, 25.03, and 1.99 respectively.

For the information of the owners we give overleaf a list of birds which have been broody, and it will be seen that three were broody on two occasions each. The egg records are given as a matter of interest, and as such it is worth noting that 9 out of the 12 laid from 50 to 61 eggs each during the test, two 43 eggs each, and one 39 eggs. Broodiness does not appear to indicate a poor layer.

It is very satisfactory to record that 159 birds laid 50 eggs or over during the competition.

The highest individual record was put up by A. W. Sutton's Buff Rock pullet No. 243 in pen 57, with a total of 95 eggs. Eighty of these were 1st grade and 15 2nd grade. As layers of 1st grade eggs, Sutton's pullet No. 242 with 84 to its credit, Jackson's No. 130 with 82, and Tebble's No. 110 also with 82 are worthy of comment.

The Committee wishes to take this opportunity of congratulating the winners of the various prizes, and in doing so would like to emphasise the very satisfactory nature of the results of the Test as a whole. An average production over a period of 16 weeks of nearly 52 eggs per bird is indeed cause for congratulation to all concerned. This high attainment makes it abundantly clear that St. Dunstan's poultry farmers have very considerably improved the quality of their stock during the last few years. That greater interest

is being taken in the breeding of high fecund birds, and in the feeding and management of growing pullets generally, is obvious to all who have watched closely the progress of our poultry farmers.

Will successful competitors please note that there are alternative prizes to those mentioned, full details of which will be found in the particulars and schedule of prizes sent out before the commencement of the Test.

Awards

St. Dunstan's Silver Challenge Cup, presented for best pen in Test, has been won by A. W. Sutton, Parkside, Madeley, with a pen of 4 Buff Rock pullets in Section 4. Test value of eggs, 310.

Section 1.—White Leghorns (4 pullets)

First Prize.—Gold Medal and Poultry House, won by J. D. Cockerill, Basildon Road, Laindon. Test value of eggs 260.

Second Prize.—Silver Medal and Broody Coop, won by W. A. Foulkes, Bow Brickhill, Bletchley. Test value of eggs, 248.

Third Prize.—Bronze Medal and Dry-mash Hopper, won by C. H. Brown, Bretby Village, near Burton-on-Trent. Test value of eggs, 245.

Fourth Prize.—Dry-mash Hopper, won by J. R. Smith, Bockhampton, Lambourn. Test value of eggs, 234.

Special Prize of a Pair of Silver Spoons or a Poultry House, presented for the pen which laid the highest number of first grade eggs. Won by J. D. Cockerill, Basildon Road, Laindon. 242 first grade.

Awards of Merit, presented to the under-mentioned for pens with test values of 200 eggs and over. Smith, J.R., 234; Hamilton, B., 215; Newell, C. R., 200.

Section 2.—Rhode Island Reds (4 pullets)

First Prize.—Gold Medal and Poultry House won by H. Sims, Worting, Basingstoke. Test value of eggs, 292.

Second Prize.—Silver Medal and Broody Coop, won by J. H. Lea, Mancetter, near Atherstone. Test value of eggs, 274.

Third Prize.—Bronze Medal and Dry-mash Hopper, won by E. Tebble, Needham, Harleston. Test value of eggs, 268.

Fourth Prize.—Dry-mash Hopper, won by L. A. Bissett, Catisfield Lane, Fareham. Test value of eggs, 254.

Special Prize of a Pair of Silver Spoons or a Poultry House, presented for the pen laying the highest number of first-grade eggs. Won by J. H. Lea, Mancetter, near Atherstone. 250 first grades.

Awards of Merit, presented to the under-mentioned for pens with test values of 200 eggs and over.

L. A. Bissett, 254; J. R. Smith, 233; A. E. Trigg, 210; G. C. Jackson, 251; W. Burgin, 217; A. E. Coman, 209; B. Hamilton, 248; W. J. Woodcock, 215; W. E. Emerton, 209; D. McLaren, 239; C. T. Condon, 210.

Section 3.—White Wyandottes (4 pullets)

First Prize.—Gold Medal and Poultry House, won by G. C. Jackson, Kingsnorth, Ashford. Test value of eggs, 243.

Second Prize.—Silver Medal and Broody Coop, won by P. Holmes, Pinfold Lodge, Woburn. Test value of eggs, 200.

Third Prize.—Bronze Medal and Dry-mash Hopper, won by R. Ashwell, Cheadle Hume, near Stockport. Test value of eggs, 171.

Special Prize of a Pair of Silver Spoons or a Poultry House, presented for the pen laying the highest number of first-grade eggs. Won by G. C. Jackson, Kingsnorth, Ashford, 191 first grade.

Section 4.—Any other Breed (4 pullets)

First Prize.—Gold Medal and Poultry House, won by A. W. Sutton, Parkside, Madeley, with a pen of 4 Buff Rock pullets. Test value of eggs, 310.

Second Prize.—Silver Medal and Broody Coop, won by G. C. Jackson, Kingsnorth, Ashford, with a pen of 4 Ancona pullets. Test value of eggs, 213.

Third Prize.—Bronze Medal and Dry-mash Hopper, won by T. Coates, Hutton, near Preston, with a pen of 4 Light Sussex pullets. Test value of eggs, 210.

Special Prize of a Pair of Silver Spoons or a Poultry House, presented for the Pen

laying the highest number of first-grade eggs. Won by A. W. Sutton, Parkside, Madeley. 255 first grade.

Section 5.—Single Bird, any Heavy Breed

First Prize.—Gold Medal and 1 cwt. Laying Meal, won by C. H. Brown, Bretby Village, near Burton-on-Trent, with a White Wyandotte pullet. Test value of eggs, 80.

Second Prize.—Silver Medal and ½ cwt. Laying Meal, won by C. McIntosh, Terregles, Dumfries, with a White Wyandotte pullet. Test value of eggs, 71.

Third Prize.—Bronze Medal and 28 lbs. Laying Meal, won by A. Chaffin, South Street, Leighton Buzzard, with a White Wyandotte pullet. Test value of eggs, 70.

Fourth Prize.—28 lbs. Laying Meal, won by A. W. Sutton, Parkside, Madeley, with a Buff Rock pullet. Test value of eggs, 67.

Special Prize of One Silver Spoon or a Wheelbarrow, presented for the pen laying the highest number of first-grade eggs. Won by C. McIntosh, Terregles, Dumfries. 68 first grade.

Awards of Merit, presented to the under-mentioned for pens with test values of 50 eggs and over: A. W. Sutton, 67; F. E. C. Bulley, 58; G. James, 54.

Section 5a.—Single Rhode Island Red

First Prize.—Gold Medal and 1 cwt. Laying Meal, won by S. Catlow, 32 Wenning Street, Nelson. Test value of eggs, 69.

Second Prize.—Silver Medal and ½ cwt. Laying Meal, won by G. C. Jackson, Kingsnorth, Ashford. Test value of eggs, 68.

Third Prize (equal).—Bronze Medal and 28 lbs. Laying Meal, won by W. E. Emerton, Tebworth, near Leighton Buzzard. Test value of eggs, 58.

Bronze Medal and 28 lbs. Laying Meal, won by B. Hamilton, Brookville, Brandon. Test value of eggs, 58.

Special Prize of One Silver Spoon or a Wheelbarrow, presented for the pen laying the highest number of first grade eggs. Won by G. C. Jackson, Kingsnorth, Ashford. 67 first grade.

Awards of Merit, presented to the under-mentioned for pens with test values of 50 eggs and over: D. Maclean, 57; L. A. Bissett, 54; J. H. Lea, 51.

Section 6.—Single Bird, any Light Breed

First Prize.—Gold Medal and 1 cwt. Laying Meal, won by A. Chaffin, South Street, Leighton Buzzard, with a White Leghorn pullet. Test value of eggs, 75.

Second Prize.—Silver Medal and ½ cwt. Laying Meal, won by C. H. Brown, Bretby Village, near Burton-on-Trent, with a White Leghorn pullet. Test value of eggs, 59.

Third Prize.—Bronze Medal and 28 lbs. Laying Meal, won by B. Hamilton, Brookville, Brandon, with a White Leghorn pullet. Test value of eggs, 57.

Special Prize of One Silver Spoon or a Wheelbarrow, presented for the pen laying the highest number of first-grade eggs. Won by A. Chaffin, South Street, Leighton Buzzard. 63 first grade.

TABLE OF PRODUCTION FOR FOUR PERIODS

Sec.	Breed	No. of Birds	Eggs laid in 112 Days			Total	Average per bird
			1	2	3		
1	White Leghorns	88	2,835	1,404	179	4,418	50.20
2	Rhode Island Reds	108	4,681	1,939	31	5,751	53.25
3	White Wyandottes	24	776	323	9	1,108	46.16
4	Any Other Breed	24	932	265	30	1,227	51.17
5	Single Heavy Breed	18	604	257	36	897	49.83
5a	Single R.I. Reds	19	733	228	4	965	50.78
6	Single Light Breed	22	641	272	12	925	42.05
	Unrecorded	*303	11,202	3,788	301	15,291	
			268	146	11	425	
	Totals		11,470	3,934	312	15,716	51.87

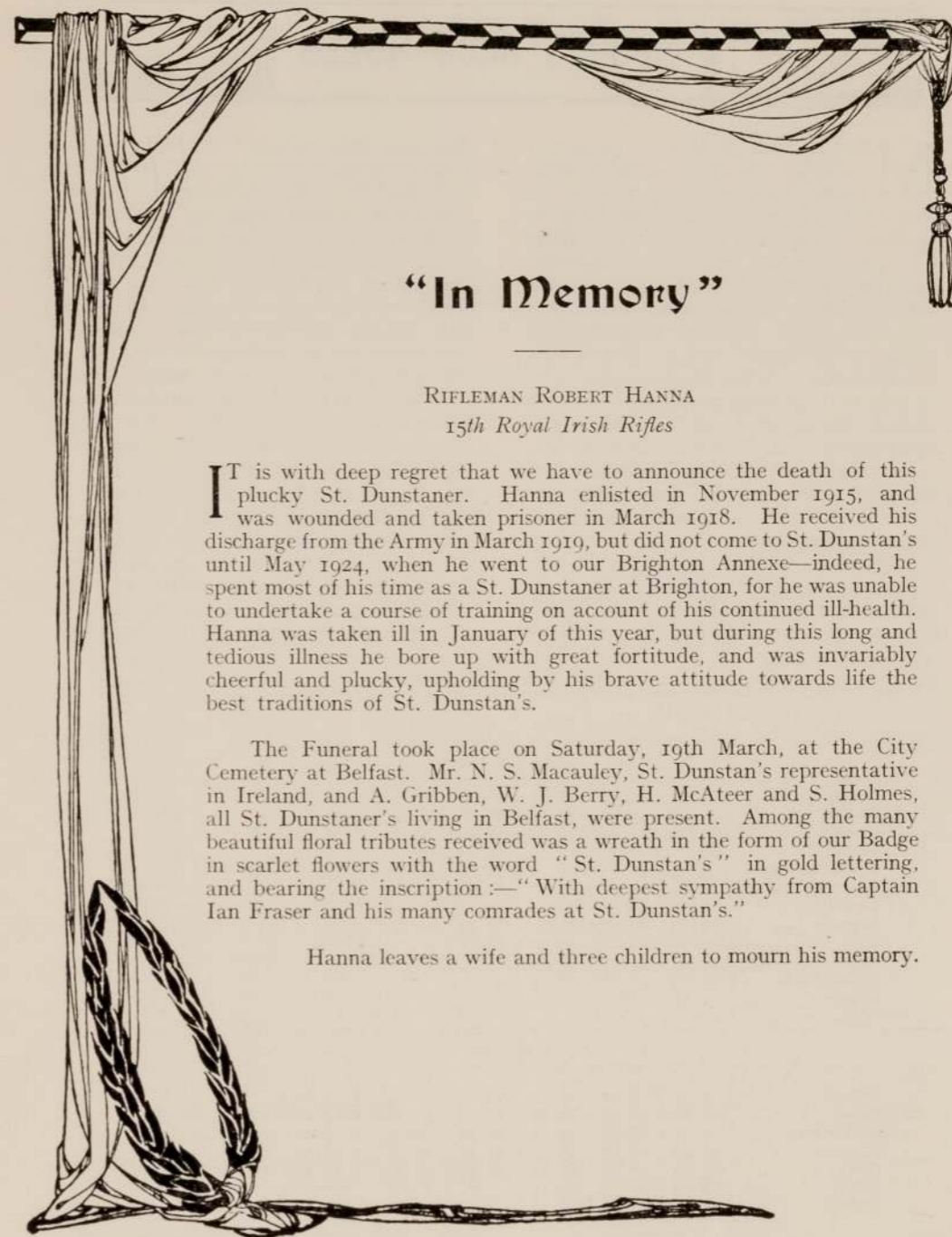
*Dead birds included.

BIRDS BROODY

Ring No.	Breed	Owner	Period	Egg Record
89	Rhode Island Red	Condon, C. T.	1st	51
138	"	Smith, J. R.	"	59
215	White Wyandotte	Holmes, P.	"	50
174	Rhode Island Red	Chaffin, A.	2nd	53
181	"	Tindall, J. H.	"	54
121	"	Sims, H.	"	57
89	"	Condon, C. T.	3rd	51
175	"	Chaffin, A.	"	43
181	"	Tindall, J. H.	"	54
203	Light Sussex	Bulley, F. E. C.	"	39
260	Rhode Island Red	Bulman, C. R.	"	43
265	"	Bissett, L. A.	"	54
121	"	Sims, H.	4th	57
169	"	Emerton, W. E.	"	60
248	White Bresse	Capper, A. H.	"	61

DEATHS

Ring No.	Breed	Owner	Period
264	Rhode Island Red	Capper, A. H.	1st
75	White Leghorn	Newell, C. R.	2nd
186	Rhode Island Red	Irish, H.	3rd
29	White Leghorn	Harris, F. J.	4th
210	White Wyandotte	Gifford, R.	"



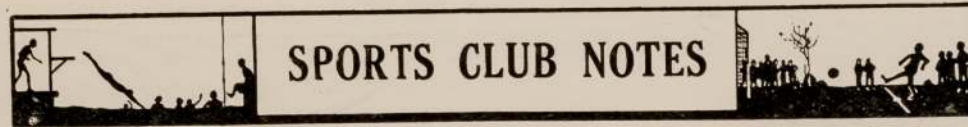
“In Memory”

RIFLEMAN ROBERT HANNA
15th Royal Irish Rifles

IT is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of this plucky St. Dunstaner. Hanna enlisted in November 1915, and was wounded and taken prisoner in March 1918. He received his discharge from the Army in March 1919, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until May 1924, when he went to our Brighton Annexe—indeed, he spent most of his time as a St. Dunstaner at Brighton, for he was unable to undertake a course of training on account of his continued ill-health. Hanna was taken ill in January of this year, but during this long and tedious illness he bore up with great fortitude, and was invariably cheerful and plucky, upholding by his brave attitude towards life the best traditions of St. Dunstan's.

The Funeral took place on Saturday, 19th March, at the City Cemetery at Belfast. Mr. N. S. Macauley, St. Dunstan's representative in Ireland, and A. Gribben, W. J. Berry, H. McAteer and S. Holmes, all St. Dunstaner's living in Belfast, were present. Among the many beautiful floral tributes received was a wreath in the form of our Badge in scarlet flowers with the word “St. Dunstan's” in gold lettering, and bearing the inscription:—“With deepest sympathy from Captain Ian Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.”

Hanna leaves a wife and three children to mourn his memory.



MARCH 19th proved to be a very warm afternoon, nevertheless some really good walking was to be seen on the outer circle, when we held our 15 Mile Sealed Handicap Walk. There was quite a crowd to witness the event, including Princess Elizabeth, who was held up while Capt. Fraser started the T.B. race. The winning man in each section—P. Holmes and A. Brown—at last managed to defeat Mr. Donoghue, and so won the handicap prizes, which shows how extremely well they walked—well done Holmes! A. Chiverton, of Eastleigh, now recovered from "flu," won the 2nd handicap prize and F. Rhodes the 3rd in the T.B. section, the latter showed great improvement; the same must be said of A. Benning, of Birmingham, who won a bronze medal for third best time, J. Ingram having won the second medal. One notices those that have had training—

Boorman was certainly happier over his fourth round than on the last walk.

In the S.S. section, A. Brown once again created a record, and G. Fallowfield made the second fastest time of the afternoon, and though he came in second, he was placed third in the handicap, while Read, of Birmingham, coming in third, was placed second in the handicap. One was sorry to see some of our friends fall out, when they were making good time, but one hopes to see all do well at Maidenhead on 30th April. Once again one would like to thank Miss Greenwood for her kindness in presenting the prizes, and to second her words of thanks to the handicapper, timekeeper and judges, not forgetting the guides, who have been such kind friends to us on so many occasions, and also the ladies who so efficiently made, and served the tea—a very welcome conclusion to the afternoon.

RESULTS—T.B. SECTION

Pl.	Name	1st Round m. s.	2nd Round m. s.	3rd Round m. s.	4th Round m. s.	5th Round m. s.	Time h. m. s.	Handicap m. s.	Net Time h. m. s.	Ord. Finish
1	Holmes ...	27 56	29 13	25 41	28 45	28 52	2 22 27	5 0	2 17 27	1
2	Chiverton ...	30 40	31 22	31 22	33 39	33 27	2 49 36	22 0	2 18 36	8
3	Rhodes ...	29 2	31 13	30 10	33 10	33 50	2 37 25	18 0	2 19 25	6
4	Benning ...	29 1	30 1	28 8	29 44	29 46	2 26 40	7 0	2 19 40	3
5	Lenderyou ...	30 15	31 17	31 3	34 15	32 11	2 39 1	17 0	2 22 1	7
6	Boorman ...	28 40	30 6	28 15	29 48	30 39	2 27 19	5 0	2 22 19	4
7	Lowings ...	27 30	30 3	29 5	30 8	30 58	2 27 50	5 30	2 22 20	5
8	Ingram ...	27 26	29 37	27 17	28 51	29 56	2 23 7	—	2 23 7	2
	Kerr ...	30 9	31 11	29 20	32 20	—	—	—	—	—
	Bates ...	29 53	31 42	31 0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Shakespeare ...	31 29	33 50	35 7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Moellar ...	29 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

S.S. SECTION

1	Brown ...	24 34	25 34	25 7	25 17	26 54	2 7 26	—	2 7 26	1
2	Read ...	28 48	28 33	28 44	30 5	31 30	2 27 46	20 0	2 7 46	3
3	Fallowfield ...	26 54	25 52	27 24	29 19	29 7	2 18 36	7 30	2 11 6	2
4	Roberts ...	27 29	28 16	30 50	33 20	31 28	2 31 23	15 0	2 16 23	5
5	Giles ...	27 16	29 10	29 44	31 37	31 39	2 29 26	12 30	2 16 50	4
	Gover ...	26 55	27 33	29 12	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Varley ...	28 36	28 43	32 31	—	—	—	—	—	—

ROWING

In spite of the fact that Bedford College have just commenced their Easter Vacation, and we lose their valuable assistance, yet other coxes have gallantly come forward to fill up the breach—Miss Wren, better known as our old friend "Dick" of the College days, Sister Peacock, and Monty Brooke—so there is still encouragement to get up in the morning, and we are truly grateful to our friendly band of helpers.

JERKS

Instructor Tovell sets the example in physical jerks by heaving the sleepy ones out of bed at 7 o'clock in the morning—but it is strange how quickly the lads become chatty—almost second nature—one heave, and the air is rent! It is lovely to get up in the morning!

PRESENT CARE SPORTS

It is unfortunate that so few really get a full term on sports, so many have to leave and then the new ones start at a disadvantage, but it gives them exercise and an idea of the future. Crook has beaten his own record on the double jump, having now reached 15ft. 10in.—he will soon be taking a job instructing the young kangaroos at the Zoo. Robinson is a certain first in the T.B. section, while Alexander and Vaughan are fighting for second place. In the S.S. section Crook and Eden have a good lead, whilst Wilkie and Moore fight for 3rd position.

POINTS

T.B.		S.S.	
1. Robinson ...	705	1. Crook ...	890
2. Alexander ...	535	2. Eden ...	715
3. Vaughan ...	530	3. Wilkie ...	580
4. Weedall ...	515	3. Moore ...	580
5. McDonald ...	437½	5. Raine ...	270
6. Chamberlain ...	302½	6. Monaghan ...	185
7. Day ...	300	7. Riley ...	180
8. McLean ...	270	8. Brewer ...	165
9. Bullock ...	250	9. Jarman ...	160
10. Burrige ...	165	10. Isaac ...	125
11. Peeling ...	145	11. Barnes ...	105
12. Tennyson ...	140	12. Clarke, F. J. ...	50
13. Sambo ...	30	13. Rock ...	35

AFTER CARE SPORTS

The winter term will conclude on Tuesday, 12th April, and the summer term will commence on 3rd May, when it is hoped that many more may take the opportunity and rejoin the sports.

There is not much between the first two at the top of the list, even after so many weeks, and it is once again most interesting to note that the T.B. are well to the fore.

POINTS

22nd MARCH 1927

1. Fleming ...	149	8. Cookson ...	64
2. McFarlane ...	145	8. Prior ...	64
3. Webster ...	136	10. Windle ...	63
4. Thompson ...	128	11. Gover ...	27
5. Henry ...	127	12. Ashton ...	12
6. Burran ...	105	13. Taylor ...	7
7. Roden ...	98		

SPORTS MEETING

There will be a sports meeting at the Bungalow on Tuesday, 26th April, at 7 p.m., to discuss the following points:—

1. Summer Sports.
2. Birmingham Run.
3. General Sports Team for Shield Competition.
4. Four for Shield Competition.

It is hoped that as many as possible will be present.

SPORTSMEN'S CONCERT

On Thursday, 26th May, at 8 p.m., the St. Dunstan's Sportsmen in the London area are giving a concert to their many helpers from the athletic world, and hope in this way to express their gratitude for the many kindnesses they have received.

SPORTS' DAY

It is proposed to hold some general sports' competitions open to all St. Dunstaners, and their wives and children, on Saturday, 11th June, commencing at 2.15 pm., on our Sports' Ground near the lake, Regents Park.

PROPOSED RACES

1. Children's Race.—Handicapped according to age.
 - (a) Boys and Girls under 7.
 - (b) Boys' Handicap Race between 7 and 14.
 - (c) Girls' Handicap Race between 7 and 14.
2. Wives' Race.—No age limit.
3. Wheelbarrow Race.—For St. Dunstaners and their wives or lady friends.
4. Shield Events and Open Events.
 - (a) Single jump.
 - (b) Treble jump.
 - (c) Throwing the cricket ball.
 - (d) Putting the weight.

- (e) Goal shooting (for team only).
 (f) Sprint (not included in Shield Competition).

The above will be in two sections, T.B. and S.S., open to After and Present Care, the teams entering last in each event. The Present Care will challenge the team competitors in the Shield Competition.

One competitor may not take more than two prizes in the Open Events.

Will those wishing to enter please send in their entries before 28th May, no late entries can be accepted—at the same time please say how many tea tickets you require, so that we may know how many to expect. (Only one ticket per person.)

The Sports' Office reserve the right to alter any of the above programme should it be found necessary. G. J. S.

Birmingham St. Dunstan's Sports Club

I am afraid it is some time since I have sent anything along to the REVIEW about the club, but this only means that I have been lazy, not that the club has been any less active.

Since November the club has held five socials at Queen's College. At the January social Toc. H. arranged a splendid concert and the club invited all the friends who had helped in the various sporting events to come to the concert. In December, 22 members were entertained at an ex-service dinner given by the Alexandra Musical Society. The club has sent six members to the 6, 12 and 15 mile walks respectively. The last club meeting was held at Queen's College on 30th March, and we were all delighted to have Miss Stacey with us for the evening.

Mr. Swain sent a telegram wishing all the members luck; his kind thought was much appreciated by all those present.

A general meeting of the club members was held during the evening; the half-yearly accounts were discussed, and arrangements for Camp and the Sports day to be held on 21st May, at the Mitchells and Butler Football Ground, City Road, Smethwick, 2.30 p.m., at which the Inter-Club Challenge Shield running contest will take place and several other events for non-team members. Tea will be served to all

St. Dunstaners and their wives present; sixpence will be charged for admission to the ground to help the club funds.

It is hoped all St. Dunstaners in the neighbourhood, whether club members or not, will make an effort to come.

After the meeting the members competed in a domino drive, E. Read being the winner. Miss Edwards most kindly brought some friends and gave us a most enjoyable little concert assisted by some friends from Toc. H.

SISTER HODGSON.

Manchester Club

I cannot say at present when or where the May meeting will be held. I am hoping that we may be lent the Y.M.C.A. ground at Alexandra Park, but I shall have full details for all at the meeting next week.

Mr. Bertram Hes, the manager of the Hippodrome (Oxford Road), has very kindly offered to give free tickets for the Monday and Tuesday afternoon performances to all St. Dunstaners. Those wanting tickets must apply to me for a "pass," and please write in good time and not leave it to the last minute. The pass will be for yourself and an escort.

KATHARINE IRVINE.

A most enjoyable evening was spent in the large concert room of the London and North Western Hotel at Salford (by kind permission of the proprietor) on 10th March, when some fifteen artists gave an excellent entertainment in aid of St. Dunstan's Manchester and Salford Sports Club. E. Pannifer, of Salford, worked very hard in connection with the event, and is to be congratulated upon the great success it must have been, as the place was packed to overflowing and even necessitated a "sing-song" downstairs as well. Just before the close all the St. Dunstaners present assembled on the stage, and a vote of thanks proposed by J. Percival and seconded by E. Pannifer was most heartily cheered. Much regret was expressed by the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Katharine Irvine, the popular and ever-energetic honorary secretary of the club.



NEWS FROM THE WORKSHOPS AND STORES

BASKETS

D. McLEAN returned to headquarters this term for a course of basketwork; he has already had some instruction in barrels, waste papers, and square-arms, as he is anxious to get as wide an experience as possible. He had some difficulty with his staking and upsetting, but has now improved considerably with this. T. Vaughan made a nice advance with his barrels, and has started quite well with plaited borders on waste paper baskets. J. Wilkie is doing very well, and is showing a keen interest, getting through quite a good variety of work. He is finding some difficulty with soiled linen baskets, but is making a real attempt, and we feel that he should progress in the right way. H. E. Robinson's work varies somewhat; some workbaskets, teapot stands and barrels were quite good, but he did not do so well with some waste papers, not having complete control of his stakes. Bad health is a serious hindrance to G. H. Phillips, but he has been working very conscientiously on some letter baskets, and will, we hope, soon master these. A. P. Crook has continued with a varied assortment of work; during the earlier part of the term, his finishing-off might have been better, but he was working rather too quickly. Recent articles, however, give evidence of much more care. B. J. Day has done some good work with oval clothes baskets, square-arm, and corner linens, finishing up with a dog bed. He was not so successful when tackling small centre cane jobs, and we think he will find the bigger work more within his scope.

BOOTS

A very remarkable start has been made by A. Tennison; his first job was amazingly good, and all the evidence up to date indicates that he will make a consistent and capable workman. R. E. Muncaster has been giving his full time to boots this term; his chief difficulty has been with

his finishing, but we are glad to say that this is showing some improvement. His marking and riveting is always good, but he should give more attention to the way the work should be done rather than to getting the job through as quickly as possible. E. J. Squires left us at the end of March; he had a good experience with all classes of boots, and tackled his repairs, in the right way. We wish him every success, and feel that, with care and attention, he will be able to overcome the initial difficulties of starting up in the trade, and carry on satisfactorily. He has a good idea of matwork also, placing his thrums and cutting quite well.

MATS

E. C. Brewer has not quite enough confidence in himself, and made very slow progress at the beginning of the term. He got on better during March. The fact that he places his thrums well is a good beginning, and we are now looking forward to him overcoming his other difficulties. W. H. Reid also does fairly well on his framework, and with further experience will, we trust, get on nicely.

TO MAT MAKERS

Mat makers will remember that they are advised to moisten their yarn somewhat, as this separates the fibres after they are cut, and helps to give a closer surface to the mat. Most of the men judge this pretty correctly, but we are constantly getting mats in, which are soaking wet. It will be realised that it is very difficult indeed to dry a mat when the moisture is right through it, and we have had mats in store for weeks, and they have still been moist. It is also possible when mats, which are not sufficiently dry, are stacked together, that a rot will set in, perishing the warps, and so causing the mats to fall to pieces. Mat makers are, therefore, asked to give the matter very special attention. The suggestion made in "Notes on

Mat making" is that when using six ends to a thrum, three should be damp, and three dry, and this is quite a good plan. If possible, when unwinding their hanks into heaps, men might sprinkle each heap with water, and leave it till the next day, when it will be found that the moisture is equally distributed. It is not a good plan to ball up the yarn and to soak the balls in a tank, or hold them under a tap, and work the yarn in a wet state. It is certainly better to have the mats too dry than too wet. W. H. O.

Departmental Notes

Netting Notes

Another cheery month has passed in the netting room.

There has been quite a boom in "hammock sales," so I hope it means a "tip" for a nice sunny summer with more orders to come.

We are also specialising in Raffia ball containers, the result being "all sold out" at the Ideal Home Exhibition.

Congratulations are due to J. Peeling, W. Riley and "Sambo" for passing their bag test, also to H. Gale for making two nice rugs.

A. Pimm has mastered great difficulties and is doing very well with his netting. T. Gregory has made a beautiful orange swing.

We congratulate F. J. Clarke who has finished his course in the netting room and has become an excellent netter.

K. H. W.

Braille Notes

We heartily congratulate E. G. Wilcocks on passing the Reading Test and T. Miles on passing the Writing Test.

Typewriting Notes

Many congratulations to E. E. Kenward, W. S. Weedall, and A. Hughes on passing the Typewriting Test. M. H. R.

Mr. Kessell tells us that among contributions received for the Fresh Air Fund is 2s. 6d. from A. Non, who says that he is able to do this as he has now no wireless licence to pay for—tribute both

to our chairman's efforts and to A. Non's thought for the kiddies.

News from Brighton

THERE was a large and appreciative audience in the Big Lounge at the Brighton Annexe on Saturday, 5th March, when Captain Fraser spoke for more than an hour to us on the arrangement and procedure in the House of Commons. Our chairman drew a vivid picture of the arrangement of the members' seats, the duties of the speaker (who really did a minimum of speaking), the work of the clerks, and the obligations of the Serjeant-at-Arms, the manner in which voting was carried out, which, by the way, some would think a trifle complicated, but which is a sure prevention against abuse, and finally brought his address to a close by asking the boys to put to him any questions they might wish to make on the subject. Space forbids mention of more than two. They were:—"What is the Woolsack?" Captain Fraser explained that the Woolsack really is a sack of wool and is a term handed down from ancient times when the seats were very hard and the Lord Chancellor, by virtue of his office, had a sack of wool, upon which he sat; to-day it is but a cushion. Another question was:—"What is a Private Member's Bill?" The reply came that it was one which any individual member may introduce, perhaps in connection with his own particular constituency.

J. Sheehy then thanked Captain Fraser on behalf of the boys, adding that we, as blind comrades, felt proud of him for having got one bill through and the promise of the Chancellor's consideration of another, when he was, comparatively speaking, a new member of Parliament. Sheehy added the hope, which met with much applause, that, before the termination of his Parliamentary career, Captain Fraser would occupy one of the highest positions in the House. This was seconded by H. Varley, who spoke of the entertainment and edification which had been received by the talk.

Captain Fraser then replied, paying a tribute to the oratorical powers of Sheehy

and promised to talk to us at some future date on the subject of some of the great personalities in the House. Needless to say we are eagerly looking forward to his next talk.

The Prince of Wales' Visit to Brighton

HIS CHAT WITH ST. DUNSTANERS

On the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales to Brighton recently, his list of engagements was unfortunately too heavy to permit of his including our Annexe in his "tour," but Matron received invitations from the Dome and the British Legion for the boys to be present when His Royal Highness paid his visits to those two places. Matron accepted both invitations, sending one party to the British Legion and herself escorting the boys who went to the Dome. The Prince, with a cheery word, shook hands with each man, and two specially interesting incidents followed. The first was when J. Sheehy informed him that he remembered the Prince being received into the Grenadier Guards in 1914, and the second was when Sergt. R. W. Horsley greatly amused His Royal Highness by asking him if he could tell him the winner of the Grand National. With a smile, the Prince shook his head. "That is very difficult," he said, "I cannot tell you, but perhaps—'Thrown In.'" That the Royal tip was not successful in the big race does not affect the fact that the recipient is naturally very proud of his unique experience.

Births

CAREY.—To the wife of M. Carey, of Tottenham, a son on the 14th of March.

COLLEY.—On the 11th of March twin sons to the wife of J. M. Colley, of Luton. (The elder boy, George Buchan, is going on well, but the younger child, John McLean, died on the 17th.)

FEARN.—To the wife of E. Fearn, of Moira, a son on the 9th of March.

GLOVER.—On the 2nd of March, a daughter to the wife of F. Glover, of Neasden.

KEMP.—On the 22nd of March, to the wife of S. N. Kemp, of Redruth, Cornwall, a son.

ROGERS.—To the wife of A. G. Rogers, of Biggleswade, a son on the 9th of March.

ROYLANCE.—A daughter (Ivy) to the wife of J. W. Roylance, of Atherton, on the 1st of March.

SMITH.—On the 26th of February, a son (Lawrence William) to the wife of G. J. Smith, of Fenny Compton.

Deaths

This month there is a long list of those to whom sympathy must be sent.

ABBEY.—On the 9th inst. Mr. and Mrs. Abbey, of Lightwater, lost their little daughter.

COLLEY.—The younger son (John McLean) born to Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Colley, of Luton, on the 11th of March died on the 17th.

HARLOW.—On the 18th of March E. J. Harlow, of Eton, lost his mother.

HISCOCK.—Word has come from J. J. Hiscock to say that his uncle and other relatives were killed in the Cwm Colliery explosion on the 28th of February. Perhaps it will be possible to give further details later.

JUDD.—Within three weeks W. Judd, of Chiswick, has lost his elder brother, aged thirty-eight, and his little niece.

LAWLOR.—On the 25th of February Mr. and Mrs. Lawlor, of Dublin, lost their baby daughter of bronchial pneumonia following on whooping cough.

MORTIMER.—On the 8th of March, Mr. and Mrs. H. Mortimer, of Hull, lost their little daughter after a month's suffering from bronchial pneumonia.

WENBORN.—On the 10th of March, F. W. Wenborn, of Dover, lost his brother Reginald. Death was due to consumption caused by poison gas during active service in France. He was only 30 years of age.

WISE.—On the 12th of March, A. G. Wise, of Gt. Ryburgh, Norfolk, lost his father, William Wise, who was in his eighty-second year.

After-Care Re-unions

HULL

ALTHOUGH in actual number the smallest of the three Re-unions held in Yorkshire last month, the meeting at the York Hotel, Hull, on Wednesday, 2nd February, was proclaimed to be an outstanding success. The attendance numbered about 65, and we make regretful mention of those who were unable to join us owing to sickness and of Mr. and Mrs. Hopper in particular who were both "flu victims" and very ill at the time. (We are since glad to learn that they have made a good recovery although a slow one.)

P. Sparkes proposed a very nice vote of thanks and was ably seconded by A. Urry. To the artistes who provided such an excellent entertainment we owe a big "thank-you"—all three were volunteers from Grimsby, namely Miss Bertha Graves, Mr. Grundy and Mr. P. Sparkes. Then there was a guessing competition in the form of a bean bag and prizes were awarded to the following:—Ladies, first prize, Miss Dee, Hull; second prize, Mrs. Robinson, Wootton, Lincs. Men, first prize, E. Baron, Bridlington; second prize, Tindall, Scarborough'.

A special welcome was extended by all present to the deputy Lord Mayor and his amusing little speech was enthusiastically received. Councillor F. Wokes was another welcome visitor and undertook to distribute the prizes.

A Hull Re-union always seems to have a special significance if only because it embraces such a representative area—our guests coming from Bridlington, Scarborough—thus affording perhaps greater possibilities in the direction of renewing acquaintances. E. E. R.

SHEFFIELD

On Thursday, 3rd February, the Sheffield Re-union at T. & J. Roberts' Cafe, broke all previous records and one or two tables represented the proverbial tin of sardines. Our united thanks are due to the manageress (Miss Lowe) and her very efficient staff

for their untiring efforts and a delightful meal.

A delightful programme was arranged by Mr. Copley and his accompanist (of B.B.C. fame), also Mr. Rex Leslie (baritone), E. Garthwaite and Mrs. Ling.

The prizes as a result of the guessing competition were awarded as follows:—Ladies, first prize, Mrs. Amos, Sheffield; second prize, Mrs. Strutt, Sheffield. Men, first prize, E. Herring, Sheffield; second, prize, B. Jarvill, Doncaster.

We now have all the proof necessary surely that Sheffield is capable of "holding its own" where Re-unions are concerned and so for the future we shall not "trouble" to go to Leeds!

Following Mr. Swain's speech, C. Greaves proposed a vote of thanks and was seconded by T. Burgin. E. E. R.

LEEDS

At the Masonic, Hall, Leeds, on Friday, 4th February, we held the largest 1927 Yorkshire Re-union, when well over 100 took lunch. We were very happy to extend a special welcome to Canon Mitchell, whose very human little speech not only delighted but thoroughly entertained us all. His presence added considerably to our enjoyment and we echo his own expressed wish that next year will find him again our guest.

Mr. Swain had something to say too and we congratulate H. Ferrand on the vote of thanks he proposed on behalf of his comrades and which everyone must have been astonished to learn was his "maiden speech." It is a pity such a gift has been neglected for so long!

A musical programme was arranged by Miss Hardy, Messrs. Harold Harrison, Rex Leslie, S. Wright and A. Turrell.

T. Hardy has reason to feel proud of a sister who at the age of 17 years possesses a contralto voice of considerable promise. We hope very much that Miss Hardy will sing for us again next year.

Prizewinners in the guessing competition were:—Ladies, first prize, Mrs. Bruce, Skipton; second prize, Mrs. Guisley, Cleckheaton. Men, first prize, W. Anderson, Steeton; second prize, E. Hey, Keighley.

This terminates our Yorkshire Meetings for yet another year, but with the traditional St. Dunstan's optimism we look forward to a repetition during 1928, and if Mr. Swain cares to consider *two* meetings per year so much the better. E. E. R.

HASTINGS

The weather was exceptionally kind to us when we held our Annual Re-union at the Grand Restaurant, Hastings, on Thursday, 3rd March, for although it was somewhat cold, the sun favoured us all the time.

Owing to the fact that many St. Dunstaners have moved into the surrounding districts, the meeting was the largest ever held at Hastings. Accommodation was taxed to the utmost and if the attendances go on increasing we shall have to find a larger room another year.

An excellent tea was provided, after which Mr. Swain gave the men Captain Fraser's message to them, and also expressed his pleasure at seeing them again. He made a special point of reminding them how splendidly their wives looked after them and helped them in various little difficulties which were bound to crop up.

A vote of thanks was put forward by J. E. Plunkett and was ably seconded by R. Newman. The latter said how pleased they were to have free wireless licences, and hoped that they would adopt the suggestion made at the Exeter Meeting by T. Floyd to send a small contribution to Mr. Kessell for the Fresh Air Fund, which was the first of Sir Arthur Pearson's plans for assisting others.

Miss Langham, of St. Leonards, very kindly arranged the entertainment for us, which was greatly appreciated, and songs were also rendered by J. E. Plunkett, H. J. Harris and G. Brooks—J. Jones delighted us once again with a recitation. Unfortunately, R. Newman did not bring his music along with him, and as nobody present was clever enough to accompany him without this, he was unable to add

his songs to the programme. We hope he will bring his music with him next time.

The bean bag competition was won by A. Sneddon and Mrs. Attrell won the ladies' prize. The booby prizes went to F. W. Tarry and Mrs. McDonough.

We were most disappointed Miss Brown could not be present owing to her absence abroad. She very kindly sent a cake for a weight-guessing competition, which was won by Mrs. Smith, of Eccles. A. K. R.

CANTERBURY

The fifth Annual Re-union held at Gaywood's Cafe, Canterbury, on Friday, 11th March, was a big success in spite of the fact that several were unable to attend owing to illness.

About sixty St. Dunstaners and their wives sat down to an excellent tea, after which Mr. Swain delivered Captain Fraser's message, and went on to say in his speech that he wondered how many remembered St. Dunstan's when it first started in the little red house in the Bayswater Road.

A. Bennett in proposing a vote of thanks asked Mr. Swain to convey their appreciation to Captain Fraser for all he had done and was continuing to do for them. He further stated that Mr. Swain's speech particularly appealed to him as it was so true to his life. He added that when St. Dunstan's first opened in the Bayswater Road he was the postman who delivered letters there twice daily, and little did he think that he would eventually become a St. Dunstaner. He also referred to Selby, who was sitting next to him at the time, as one of the original St. Dunstaners in the Bayswater Road house.

Bennett also emphasised the importance of the meetings, pointing out what pleasure they gave to the men and their families, and stating that it was the explicit desire of their late Chief—Sir Arthur Pearson—that they should meet together once a year and discuss how they were getting on, and he considered these meetings were a very big asset and bond of union between the man and headquarters. J. S. Bailey, of Ramsgate, seconded in a very able manner.

We were once more indebted to Mr. Gaywood for providing us with such a splendid entertainment, which was very

greatly enjoyed and appreciated by one and all, and, of course, we could not resist having one or two dances during the afternoon.

Whilst the concert was in progress, Mr. Swain interviewed each man personally, and also the competitions were in full progress. The prizes were won by A. Dean and Mrs. Bailey, the booby prizes being taken by W. E. Carlton and Mrs. Moore.

Before the meeting ended by the singing of the National Anthem, Mr. Swain thanked Mr. Gaywood, on behalf of St. Dunstan's and the St. Dunstaners present, for so kindly arranging the concert, and also asked the artistes to accept our thanks for coming along.

A. K. R.

BEDFORD

A very successful Re-union was held at Bedford on Thursday, 17th March, when over eighty sat down to an excellent tea.

The message that Captain Fraser sent to all present was much appreciated, and during the course of Mr. Swain's speech he mentioned what great pleasure it gave him to meet so many old friends once again. P. Holmes, in a few well-spoken words, proposed a vote of thanks and A. Chaffin seconded. H. Chave said that he would very much like a message to be conveyed to Captain Fraser thanking him for getting the free wireless licence bill through Parliament.

During the concert which Mrs. Shepherd very kindly arranged for us, Mr. Swain interviewed all St. Dunstaners who wished to speak to him personally, and between the musical items we had some dancing.

We were very pleased to welcome again Miss Hipwell and Miss Cameron who came along to help and to renew their friendship with old college friends.

The bean bag competition caused a lot of fun; many and varied were the numbers guessed.

The afternoon went all too quickly for us, and judging by the remarks overheard at parting, all are hoping to meet again at the Bedford Re-union in 1928! The meeting came to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

E. A. S.

READING

The Reading Re-union was held on the 24th March, again at the Central Cafe. It was slightly smaller than last year owing to the prevalence of "flu," but nearly seventy sat down to tea.

Everyone was delighted that Sister Gray was able to come along again and talk over the good old times we had at headquarters whilst in training.

Before commencing his speech, Mr. Swain conveyed to those present Captain Fraser's message of welcome and good cheer, and then he went on to say how pleased he was to find the spirit of St. Dunstan's still prevailing amongst the men. D. McLean proposed a hearty vote of thanks and stated that he was sure he was speaking for one and all when he said how much the meetings were looked forward to and appreciated. This was ably seconded by R. J. Vine.

Mr. Hives entertained us greatly with his humorous songs and sketches, and whilst the concert was in progress, Mr. Swain had a personal chat with each St. Dunstaner, and also the competitions were in full swing. The winners of the latter were as follows:—G. F. Smith, of Guildford, whose prize was a walking stick, and Mrs. G. Brown, who was presented with an umbrella. The booby prizes were awarded to W. J. Galloway and Mrs. Humphries.

We had such a lot to talk over, especially the community singing from the Bungalow which was to take place the following day and which we were all going to listen-in to, that six o'clock came round much too soon.

After Mr. Swain had thanked Mr. Hives, and the National Anthem had been sung, the meeting was brought to an end.

NO 'FLU AND NO FLAT

In a humorous message to us, A. G. Peckham, of Fulham, whom we congratulated last month on being one of the few who have escaped influenza so far, tells us that he has not yet been successful in obtaining a flat. We commiserate, but we wonder if anyone will exchange the flat for the 'flu!