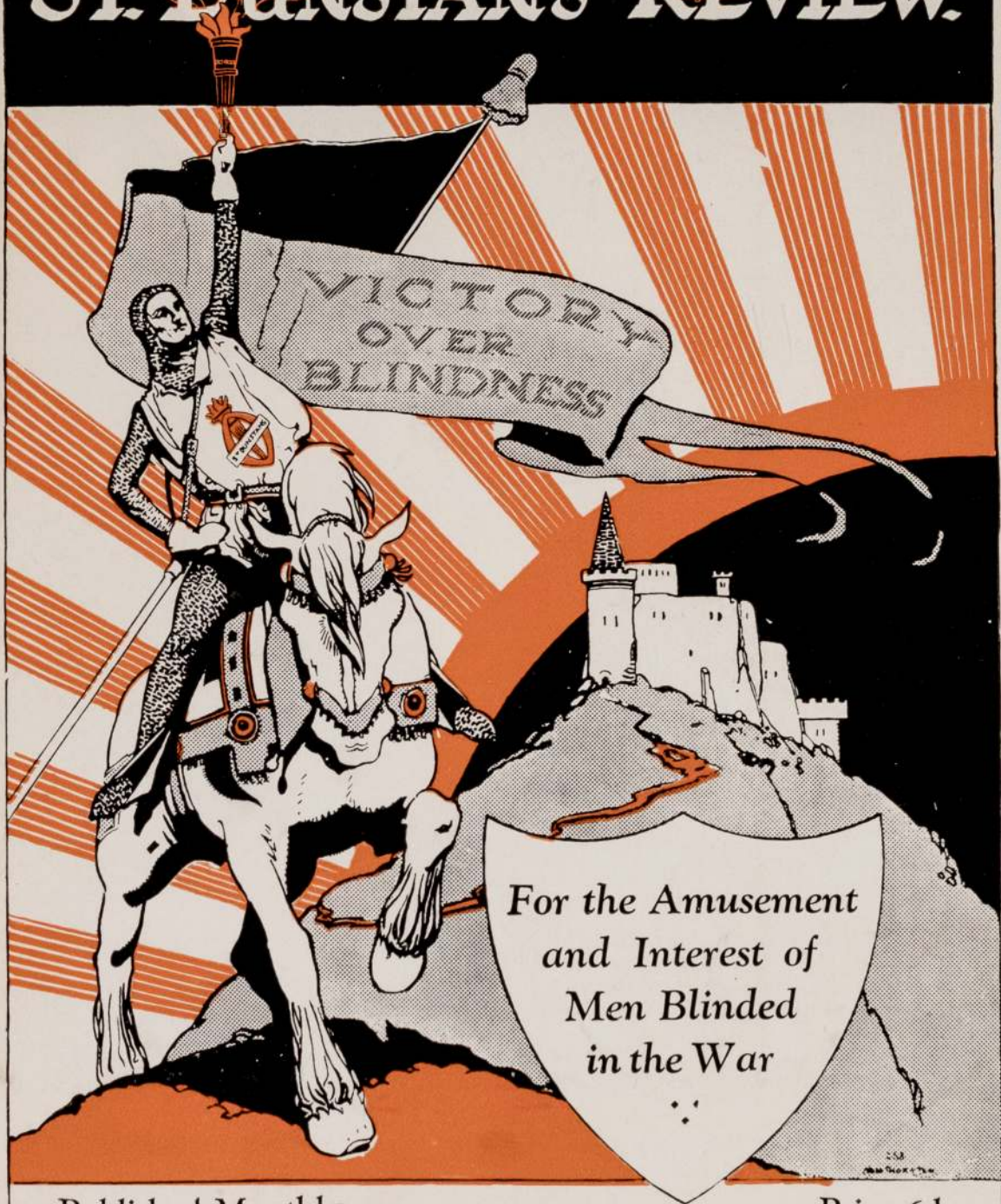


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW



Published Monthly

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St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

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EDITORIAL NOTES

ONE of the most pleasant features of all the gatherings of St. Dunstaners is the certainty of finding many old friends who have close associations with the work of past years, but who in the lapse of time or by reason of other calls of social or business life, can only occasionally come and renew the friendships formed in the work and play with which they gave such willing and cheery help. There is probably no organisation which, in comparison with its size, has enlisted such vast numbers of voluntary helpers for its works. Women and men in almost every walk of life, many snatching time, where possible, from the closely-filled hours of busy lives, have found the keenest pleasure and interest in their activities amongst the men and staff of St. Dunstan's. They would, indeed, be the first to deny that they were deserving of thanks from anyone for these labours of love, and watching the happy greetings between many of these kindly friends and "their boys" at the anniversary dance recently, we feel we are taking a considerable risk in venturing to say on behalf of St. Dunstaners generally how deeply we all appreciate the enduring quality of these friendships made, and the help given in the past, and how great a part they must play in the maintenance of the Empire-wide brotherhood of St. Dunstan's.

On another page of this issue will be found the names of those St. Dunstaners who have been successful in the ballot held to determine who shall form the St. Dunstan's contingent to accompany the British Legion pilgrimage to the battlefields of Flanders. From the large number of applications sent in we are aware how widespread is the desire to make this re-visit to the scenes so deeply graven in the memories of those who fought and suffered there. And yet in this eagerness we personally find cause for wonder. We can understand and deeply sympathise with the desire of those whose loved ones fell and "are at last at rest" over there, but, for ourselves, we have no wish to ever see or tread again the ground which, however changed, however softened may be its aspect to-day, must yet ever be the scene of things and horrors of which one seeks for no visual reminder. Not long since we were holiday-making within the borders of Belgium and were within a few hours run of the battlefields of the Ypres salient. But no one of our holiday hours were spent in that direction. With the reservation we have made in regard to those who make this visit to the resting-place of their kin, we confess again that we are unable to understand the appeal which this pilgrimage makes.

British Legion Battlefield Pilgrimage

Two hundred and sixty-two applications were received from St. Dunstaners wishing to participate in this, and as a result of the ballot which has been drawn, referred to in the notice which appeared in the January number of the REVIEW, the following officer and men will form the St. Dunstan's contingent :—

G. Braithwaite, of Guildford.
J. R. Brown, of Nuneaton.
A. Gribben, of Belfast.
W. Harris (Captain), of Oxford.
S. Kelly, of Leytonstone.
H. Perrett, of Devizes.
S. C. Smith, of Derby.
J. Stibbles, of Pitlochry.
W. Tremble, of Knaresborough.

Any St. Dunstaners wishing to join in this pilgrimage and who are not making their own arrangements regarding escorts can, if they wish, join the St. Dunstan's party, but must let Mr. Swain know before the 5th of May in order that he may make the necessary arrangements with the British Legion. The cost to each man will be £4 5s.

E. M. C. B.

Easter at Brighton

The Easter holidays were again favoured with glorious sunny weather, which enabled the men who came to the annexe for their holiday, to spend it in the open air. The usual holiday spirit prevailed. On Saturday, several of the boys went to the theatres, whilst a party of thirty-two motored over to the Plumpton Races. Although they in no way lowered the banking accounts of the "bookies," everyone voted it a splendid afternoon's sport. In the evening there was a pleasant little dance.

On Sunday, there being plenty of local talent at the annexe there was an "all-star" concert, the accompanist being that very good friend and expert pianist, Mr. Dicker.

On Monday there was a splendid supper and dance, the big lounge and conservatory being crowded. Dancing continued until eleven o'clock, when cheers were given for the Matron and staff. Thus ended a very happy holiday, which left all the

boys full of regret that it was over and awaiting with keen anticipation the opportunity to revisit this house of hospitality.

OBSERVER.

A St. Dunstaner Honoured

Rather late we fear the news comes to us of another public honour done to a St. Dunstaner. Ex-Bombardier A. Pink performed the ceremony of unveiling a War Memorial Tablet erected on the wall of the Drill Hall at Governor's Green by the old comrades of the No. 4 Company Hampshire R.G.A. (T.) to the memory of those of the company who gave their lives during the Great War. Naturally enough, Pink was very pleased and touched, particularly as his people all live in Portsmouth.

The F.A.F.'s Friends

George E. Crook, of Herne Bay writes to Mr. Kessell :—

"I think the idea of one of the boys to celebrate the first free wireless licence by sending eight poor children for a day in the country an excellent one.

"I have pleasure in enclosing P.O. value ros. for this purpose and hope that quite a number of children will reap benefit from our benefit under Captain Fraser's Bill."

Another to follow Crook's kindly example is B. E. F. Humphries, of Brixham, who remarks what a constant source of enjoyment wireless is to him.

Mrs. Beckham, the wife of E. Beckham, of Vancouver, B.C., has not been blessed with the best of health for some time past, and indeed has had to undergo two operations. We are glad to hear now, however, that she is getting on well. Beckham tells us that the basket business has been rather quiet of late, but he has hopes of it bucking up soon, as they expect quite a number of newcomers. Our correspondent, after paying a flattering tribute to the pleasure he and his wife derive from the REVIEW each month, concludes by wishing all his old comrades and those connected with St. Dunstan's the best of good wishes, which we heartily reciprocate on their behalf.

Thirteenth Anniversary Dance A Merry Meeting at a New Place

ONE of the events of the year most eagerly looked forward to is the annual dance, timed to correspond as nearly as conditions will allow with the anniversary of the opening of St. Dunstan's. The old Bungalow, the scene of so many of these gatherings, not being available this year, the St. Marylebone Hall, Marylebone Road, was engaged for the occasion, and although no doubt some of the guests missed the old familiar surroundings, there was certainly no fault to be found with the accommodation provided this year, or the excellent arrangements made by Matron and her willing staff of helpers.

Dancing had been going on merrily for some time before a halt was called for a photograph to be taken, and shortly afterwards Captain Fraser and Mrs. Fraser came along. After an interval to deal with the particularly appetising "eats" and drinks provided, our Chairman in a brief speech gave hearty welcome to all his old comrades and their friends. He was glad, he said, to be able to tell them all once again that the flag of St. Dunstan's was still flying proudly, and, he added, with the continuance of the loyalty and devotion they had always shown, he had the utmost confidence that he would be able to give them the same cheery report for many years to come. Referring in semi-humorous vein to the fact that an actuarial report recently made had estimated that in twenty years' time 1,322 St. Dunstaners would still be living, and that in forty years' time there would still be 445 "alive and kicking" (although, he added, amidst general laughter, they would all be round about sixty-five), Captain Fraser emphasised how heavy St. Dunstan's financial burden must continue to be for so many years to come. Nevertheless, he gave them the assurance that with the support and goodwill of the people of the Empire which they had enjoyed over since their foundation, St. Dunstan's would see that our war-blinded men received every jot and tittle of

the benefits and consideration to which all were agreed they were entitled. (Applause.)

Captain Fraser expressed his pleasure at seeing among their guests that night so many real good friends of St. Dunstan's, and while it was impossible for him to mention all by name, he did feel that they would like to welcome especially Mr. Vick and Mr. Judd, both of whom had given so much of their time and energies to our Organisation. (Applause.)

He concluded by paying tribute to the work of Matron and the staff and thanks to the band for their admirable contribution to the enjoyment of the evening.

Afterwards our Chairman and Mrs. Fraser made opportunity to greet personally practically every St. Dunstaner present, and then joined until a late hour in the dancing.

Forthcoming Marriage

Many of our St. Dunstaners will be interested to hear the news that Miss Violet Preston, the youngest daughter of the late Mr. W. T. Preston and Mrs. Preston, of 2 Palace Place Mansions, Kensington Court, W.8, has become engaged to Captain Cyril G. Lloyd (late 1st East Riding of Yorkshire Yeomanry), eldest son of the late Major H. J. G. Lloyd and the late Mrs. Lloyd, of Byams, Marchwood, Hants. Miss Preston was connected for some years with St. Dunstan's work, and was a great favourite with the officers and men. She visited daily the wards at the Second London Hospital, to which St. Dunstaners were sent from the various centres of war, for four years, and was escort from time to time at the officers' quarters for two or three years afterwards. All who knew Miss Preston will join with us in wishing her and her fiancé the very best of good fortune and happiness in the future.

FOR SALE

Tandem bicycle in excellent condition. £6, carriage paid. Apply, N. McLeod Steel, 107 St. Marychurch Road, Torquay, Devon.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

HOW many clog-makers have thought of running "clog clubs"? J. Eccleston, of Leigh, has had this brilliant idea and finds that it brings him a steady weekly order. Anyone with a relation or friend in a mill or works where clogs are worn ought to be able to develop the scheme. In addition, Eccleston makes up and sells some dozen pairs on an average every week, so he is a busy man.

Considering the number of boot factories there are in Cadbury Heath, or rather Bristol, R. W. Comley is fortunate in that he gets a fair amount of boot work. In addition he pegs away at his mat frame. We know that he takes great pride in both his crafts, hence his success.

"All's well," says A. Prettyjohn, of "St. Stephens," Winton. He has little spare time at present since he is preparing for some exhibitions of work. We trust he will carry off many prizes and shall look forward to hearing the details of the result of his efforts with much interest.

A fair amount of trade is coming the way of J. Patter, of Gosport, and J. Brett, of Aldershot, both of whom run general shops.

W. Agate, of Alton, finds time for nothing else but boots and contrives to get in a reasonable amount of repair work. It is satisfactory to know, as St. Dunstaners have proved over and over again, that given good work and courtesy customers have a trick of multiplying once they start coming.

The Dorking Festival is to be in April, and R. Vine is busy practising. He sings tenor in the Ewhurst Choral Society and also in the church choir, so puts in a good many hours at his music. His craft, as friends will remember, is basketry and he

has had several orders for luncheon baskets of late, a sign that the season of "the open road" is beginning.

Local orders have been keeping G. F. Payne, of Crow End, Cambs., very fully occupied of late.

An excellent start has been made by W. Rickaby, of Becontree, and he is now comfortably settled into his new house.

What with mats, boots and wool rugs, A. E. Sherwood, of Reading, has few idle hours, particularly of late when some local orders for large mats have come his way.

"Doing very nicely," says H. T. Coates, of New Longton, Preston; this is in connection with his poultry. An additional interest to life is given by some calves; Coates has three which should be ready for sale about June or July. We hope he will secure record prices.

In Stockton, J. A. Garbutt, is getting on as well as ever with his job.

In North Ormsby, L. A. Wilson, despite considerable opposition, is we understand making headway with his firewood factory.

Both poultry and mats are proving a success in the capable hands of T. Carter, of Darlington. His health too is good, we are glad to hear.

Those who are going to Brighton after Easter may look forward to seeing R. Viner, of Penhow, Mon., if all goes as he hopes. Like many another he has felt the strain of the long winter and is hoping for sunshine. His poultry have been doing well. Viner is lucky in having an able assistant in the way of a father-in-law who has returned to the district after a voyage to California and usually finds time to lend

FROM THE WORLD OVER



a helping hand when required. We hear there is to be a marriage in the Viner family shortly and hope for a paragraph from the principals suitable for insertion in THE REVIEW.

Two St. Dunstaners who take a particularly keen interest in public affairs are A. C. Evans, of Newport, Mon., and A. Bundy, of Gloucester. Both are members of the British Legion and pay particular attention to Labour Exchange developments. We congratulate them both on the excellent service they are doing in their respective districts.

Motor-cycling in such a duchy as Cornwall must be fascinating. We wonder if S. N. Kemp has any record of the number of miles he and his family have travelled during the last few months. As he has a side car attached to the motor-cycle, which is ridden by a son, and a pillion as well, Kemp usually starts off in trio formation.

"Warmer weather, please," is the demand made on St. Dunstan's by A. Gribben, of Belfast. His garden is ready for his potatoes and he requires sunshine! May he have had a sufficiency before these lines appear in print. While waiting for Sol, Gribben goes cheerily on at boot-repairing.

Twelve pairs of boots sent in for repair every week seems a good average for J. Wood, of Grange-over Sands, for this is in addition to his clogging and mat making. He has made a remarkably fine mat for the Congregational Church of late, by the way. Wood is another who undertakes public work and in this connection has been asked to make a speech at a local whist drive. This kind of thing not only adds to the general interest of life, but in addition tends to extend one's circle of friends—and customers!

"Going on champion," says T. Kinder with his usual cheery optimism. He is another of the little group of St. Dunstaners who find singing birds and pigeons have a very decided fascination.

Friends will be glad to know that R. Gibbons, of Stockport, is in excellent health at present. His home is looking remarkably well as it has all been repaired.

A particularly nice work-shop is possessed by A. Dembenski. He has every reason to be proud of it. We wish him success with the mat-making to which he has been devoting himself of late.

Yet another of our public-spirited St. Dunstaners is G. Price, of Clacton-on-Sea. He has been appointed secretary of the Ratepayers Association so was particularly busy during the recent election.

Everyone will be glad to know that A. L. Isaac, of Robroyston, has made an excellent recovery and there is no longer any fear of permanent injury as a result of his accident.

With sports meetings to provide pleasant interludes, J. H. New, of Wolverhampton, is a busy man, and is most ingenious at thinking out new avenues through which he may get orders from the local factories for his clogs.

Another particularly popular man is T. Johnson, of the same district. He cannot put in long hours at his mat frame but he takes a real pride in all he does. We congratulate him, too, on his work-shop, for we know how keen he has been to have his own.

All St. Dunstaners who enjoy listening-in should see to it that their sets are in

order on the 2nd of May, for that is the date at which D. McLoughlin, of Dublin, will be broadcasting from Dublin Station according to the last arrangement. We hope he will feel that he makes a great success over the microphone.

We feel sure that one of the appreciative audience will be W. Dacey, of Waterford, for he rarely misses anything good on the wireless; indeed he was keen enough to listen-in to the Tunney-Dempsey fight and thrilled to every blow given, for Dacey is a born fighter himself and no wonder, for he comes of war-stock. His grandfather was a soldier, and his father was killed at Inkerman. The new generation is as vigorous, for Dacey lost three nephews in the Great War. Although wanting some birthdays yet before 70, Dacey has just welcomed his 29th grandchild.

Another of our Irish group who is in excellent form is J. Murray, of Kilkenny. Quite a number of orders for mats have come his way of late.

One of A. R. Spence's little daughters had a narrow escape from serious injury, if not worse, the other day, being knocked down by a motor. As it happens the worst trouble is "shock" and bruises; not a single bone was broken. The child has mended up well we are glad to say, but such accidents are very frightening for the parents.

Everything goes on well with A. Head, of Plymouth, who when work does not come in fast enough to please him goes out to see it, and rarely comes back empty-handed. He finds it a good idea to carry along a capacious bag when he delivers a completed job—for customers can often be persuaded to hand over some repair work that they had thought could "wait awhile," until Head appeared with his persuasive tongue and promise of good workmanship.

Those who were with C. F. Vigar, of Devon, at Brighton will be glad to know that he finds himself much the better for his holiday and has been able to start wool-rug making with energy.

Brief Notes

Basket work should go well as a sideline to tobacco selling, according to J. Collinson, of Southsea. Good luck to him in his new venture.

"All's well," says, T. Wall, of Portsmouth, and the same message comes from A. Kean, of South Hayling.

In Willesden, F. Champriss is doing fairly well with baskets, and preparing for the time when trade will be better. Much the same might be said of J. Davies, of Wembley, who makes mats, although he has had a good deal of trouble with rheumatism lately. W. Shute, of Braintree, is working away steadily as a joiner. Bell, of Sandymount, is in his usual excellent form, and is adding to his reputation as a basket maker.

The recent spell of fine weather has been much appreciated by our gardeners, among them A. W. Cima, of Wraybury, Bucks, who has got his front garden into excellent shape and is now devoting time and attention to the back part. We hope he will have an extra fine showing this year.

Was any other St. Dunstaner lucky enough to hear D. M. McLean, of Brimpton, preach when he came up to London for this purpose early in March? We are sure any who could took advantage of the opportunity.

J. H. Twigg, of Little Broughton, is doing well with his poultry; G. B. Swanston of Lockerbie, has been very busy this last six months; W. W. Watson is bent on making a success with his birds despite the fact that his land is not in an ideal situation, being some distance from his house. Another who is doing well in the same line is E. H. Carpenter, of Kings Langley.

News of A. Ashley, of High St., Borough, is scant, but the little there is good, both as regards health and trade.

"All right and can't grumble," says P. Bolton, of Heaton Moor, Cheshire. He is "carrying on" remarkably well.

The Chairman's Notes

IN my notes last month I raised the rather interesting question whether or not blind people slept particularly badly. I have had a few letters and comments upon these notes, but not enough to form any general conclusion. One correspondent, W. Tout, of Exeter, agrees with the view I tentatively put forward that the absence of the soothing effect of darkness upon the eyes might be a cause. He sleeps, he says, for only four or five hours a night, and a blind friend of his does the same. Both are vigorous men, who take a good deal of exercise, and neither seems to suffer. Another correspondent, G. Fallowfield, of Leytonstone, tells me I ought to take more exercise. I agree with him, but it is not so easy as it sounds. Indeed, getting enough exercise is probably one of the blind man's most difficult problems, but I am certain that we ought all of us to pay as much attention as possible to this matter, as unless we do we shall not retain good health.

The subject of insomnia leads me to make a remark about Braille. Leading a very busy life, I do not find much time to read Braille, nor many lonely hours in which I need such a diversion. But some little time ago I decided to have a book by my bedside in case I could not sleep. When I was at St. Dunstan's as a pupil I read Braille tolerably well, as many of us did, but thereafter I only used the system for keeping notes of appointments which I had to attend, or of agendas for committee meetings, &c. When I started reading Braille again I was astonished to find that though I had not done it for some years I had not lost any of the rather moderate speed which I had attained in the early days. The few hours' reading which I have done during the last few months has curiously enough led to quite an astonishing increase in my speed, and I find myself wanting to read Braille—a thing which I never could have imagined possible ten years ago. I wonder how many of my St.

Dunstan's friends have had a similar experience? I would urge those who have perhaps dropped the subject for some little time to have another shot at it; they will find it very well worth while.

A friend in the blind world whom I met the other day asked me if I thought Braille or wireless was the more important to the blind. This is rather a difficult question to answer. I suppose that for those who have been blind since infancy Braille must be considered of primary importance, for it is through this means and this means alone that elementary education is possible. To us, probably, wireless comes first. It is not possible, however, to listen for very many hours at a time without getting tired. At least I find this so, and valuable as wireless is, I do not think we should let it be the cause of neglecting Braille reading.

St. Dunstaners are, I think, fairly well acquainted by now with the alterations which we have been making in our Headquarters establishment. The reduction in the number of men still requiring training rendered the cost of keeping up so large a place as St. John's Lodge, in Regent's Park, unjustifiable, and we were fortunately able to accommodate the remaining trainees at Brighton. This part of the change-over was effected some months ago, and Brighton has, I am glad to say, been working well under the new arrangement. The little workshop, giving accommodation for a small number of craftsmen at Brighton, is a most convenient place and the trainees in residence there are I gather comfortable and pleased with their surroundings. The alterations included the provision of extra beds, so that the same number has been kept available for convalescent cases amongst the "after-care" men, as heretofore.

We have just completed the final transfer of the administrative offices from the building of St. John's Lodge to the old workshops in the grounds. It has been difficult to fit the departments in with

enough and suitable accommodation, but we have overcome these difficulties and on the whole it can be said that St. Dunstan's has a very good, efficient block of administrative offices. St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, remains our address—a very important point considering that subscribers to our funds all over the world have known of St. Dunstan's existence in Regent's Park ever since the early days of 1915. The arrangements we have made for giving up the building of St. John's Lodge are very satisfactory, and we can congratulate ourselves upon having placed our organisation in a position in which it can go on without any detrimental effects upon its efficiency, while at the same time we have saved a great deal of expense in the matter of rent, rates and taxes, overhead charges, &c. We are just on the point of concluding arrangements with the Crown, who are our landlords, for the granting of a suitable lease for the ground upon which the converted workshops stand, and for giving up the old lease of the main buildings. These latter have been entirely vacated and closed down, except that I have made temporary arrangements to continue to inhabit for a few months the separate flat which I have lived in for the past seven or eight years. Instead of renting this from St. Dunstan's as I have done in the past, I have become temporarily the direct tenant of the Crown. This is a great convenience to me while I make more permanent arrangements to live elsewhere, and it is an advantage to St. Dunstan's also as it enables me to be on the spot and devote a good deal more time to my work than if I were living some distance away.

Our new technical headquarters, at Raglan Street, Kentish Town Road, is now in full working order, and I hope that any slight inconvenience or delay which took place in the delivery of raw materials, or settlement of accounts for finished goods, &c., during the change over process will have been excused. You cannot move a complicated machine like St. Dunstan's over a week-end without upsetting its adjustment and it takes a little time for everything to settle down again. We can certainly congratulate ourselves upon having come to arrangements which are

financially and administratively sound and advantageous, and the staff of St. Dunstan's gave, as they always do, praiseworthy service in the very complicated matters of the move itself, and those which arose out of it.

Ian Frazer

Births

- GROVE.—On the 22nd of February, to the wife of T. W. Grove of Botley, a son.
 KELLY.—To the wife of S. Kelly, of Leytonstone, a son on the 14th of March.
 McCARTHY.—On the 7th March, to the wife of W. F. McCarthy, of Nuneaton, a son (Michael).
 MORTON.—On the 28th of February, to the wife of C. Morton, of Rotherham, a son.
 PRINTIE.—On the 8th of March, to the wife of M. Printie, of Edinburgh, a son.
 SEWELL.—A son, to the wife of W. G. Sewell, of Masham, on the 6th of March.
 SHIELDS.—To the wife of G. C. Shields, of Rochford, a son (Jacob) on the 14th of January.
 TATTON.—On the 12th of March, to the wife of E. Tatton, of Sedgley, Staffs, a son.

Deaths

This month we have to offer sympathy to only two St. Dunstaners:—To H. Faulkner, of Nottingham, who lost his wife on the 27th of February. She had been ill for about 18 months, suffering from bronchitis, and died very suddenly of heart failure.

To Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Kemp, of Redruth, who lost their baby son Humphrey on the 3rd of March. The child had celebrated his first birthday on the 22nd of February; he died from pneumonia.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Furnished bedroom, temporary, with use of sitting room if required, country and sea, six miles from Portsmouth. For particulars apply, Mrs. Anderson, 5 Alverstone Terrace, White Hart Lane, Porchester, Hants.

Chater Lea 1926 tandem. Perfect running order. Fitted extra rear brake, Lucas gas lamp, bell, and strong rear carrier. Price £10. Carriage paid.—Address, I. H. Poole, St. Lucia, Kingston Road, East Cowes, Isle of Wight.

Departmental Notes

Netting Notes

We are hoping April is going to be a good month this year with plenty of sunshine, so that people will want to order hammocks, tennis nets, &c., for the summer, as so many of the men have become such splendid netters now.

Rugs of course will be a little in abeyance as the summer arrives, but I wish to congratulate the rug makers as a whole on their excellent work.

The new men are being well grounded at Brighton under Miss Morris's care.

Congratulations are also due to G. Lamb, S. Bakewell and S. A. Worlidge for passing their string bag tests and obtaining frames and certificates.

S. Lamb, S. Worlidge, S. Bakewell, and F. Williams sent up nice rugs to be lined.

A. Kimber, A. C. Brignall and S. Worlidge are getting on well with rug making, while J. Jackson, A. C. Matthews, F. Williams and T. Gidney are making good progress with netting.

H. Read and J. Bullock have just finished their course and have both become first-class netters. H. Read found netting very difficult at first but has mastered the work splendidly. H. W.

Braille Notes

We heartily congratulate J. Bullock, A. Alexander, A. Tennison, and G. Johnson on passing the Braille Reading Test, and T. Marsden the Braille Writing Test.

Typewriting Notes

Many congratulations to F. Williams, T. Gidney, and T. Scotland on passing the Typewriting Test. M. H. R.

Telephony

Heartly congratulations to P. Johns who has started at Sheepbridge Colliery, Chesterfield. We wish him every success. M. B. M.

To Joiners, Cabinet Makers and Picture Framers

It is not necessary to inform wood-working craftsmen that their tools must

be constantly and properly sharpened but there are some who have not yet realised how important this is if one is to produce the desired finish with the minimum of labour. To these I would emphasise the fact that unless the tools are in good condition and sharp they cannot expect to produce good workmanship. Saws should have frequent attention and set and sharpened by a reliable firm who should be asked to set the saw fine, as very little clearance is required. Trimmer blades should be kept very sharp and with a thin edge. When sharpening keep the same bevel as the grinders produced, then when turning the fash keep the iron perfectly flat on the stone. This also applies to the sharpening of plane irons and chisels. The object for stropping the iron on the hand is to bend backwards and forwards the fash, until it is broken off, just as if breaking a piece of tin by bending first one way and then the other. Oilstones should be kept clean and flat. Should they become hollow then rub them down on a flat slab of stone on which some water and a dusting of fine sand has been sprinkled. It does pay to sharpen the tools often. It never pays to use dull tools. Planes and chisels for use on rough work can have a shorter bevel when sharpening; this will give a stronger edge. A thin edge is all that is necessary for the general purposes of a St. Dunstan's joiner, his timber and woods being highly selected and dry. E. H. A.

P. Heath, of Upper Lambourne, is keeping very fit. E. C. Wheeler contrives to obtain a fine number of local orders for his baskets. Other basket makers who must be mentioned are W. J. Roberts, of West-cliff-on-Sea, A. J. F. Jolly, of East Ham, J. Donnelly, of Forrest Hall, and S. M. Brydson, of Gateside, Trency; both the latter have taken up centre cane work and are finding it interesting.

The coal business has slackened off for a bit, according to D. Makin, but as against that, there is a spurt in his alternative work, the market garden, so the two combine well.



SPORTS CLUB NOTES

THE winter term will conclude on Tuesday, 17th April, and the summer term will commence on 2nd May in Regent's Park, when it is hoped that we will have a large gathering for Sports on Tuesday evenings.

The winter term will now soon be over, and every good wish goes to the winners and all the rest who have competed so gallantly in the various events.

POINTS—3RD APRIL 1928

1. Fleming .. 155	13. Brooke .. 54
2. McFarlane .. 154	14. Johns .. 39
3. Deegan .. 151	15. Matthewman .. 32
4. Nichols .. 139	16. Burran .. 29
5. Crook .. 130	17. Hughes .. 23
6. Webster .. 120	18. Coles .. 19
7. Scott .. 90	19. Hallam .. 18
8. Martin .. 87	20. Gover .. 14
9. Henry .. 84	21. Ruddock .. 14
10. Prior .. 78	22. Ashton .. 11
11. Wiltshire .. 71	23. Champniss .. 9
12. Roden .. 55	24. Riley .. 5

SPORTS MEETING

There will be a *Sports Meeting* at Headquarters on Tuesday, 24th April, at 7 p.m., to discuss the following points:—

1. Summer Sports.
2. Regatta.
3. General sports team for Shield Competition.

It is hoped that all those who are interested in sports will attend. L. W.

SPORTS DAY

It is proposed to hold the General Sports Day on Saturday, 23rd June, on the Sports Ground, Regent's Park, commencing at 2 p.m. Competitions are open to all St. Dunstaners and their wives and children.

PROPOSED RACES

1. *Children's Race.*
 - (a) Boys and girls under 7, distance 40 yards. Handicap 5 yards for each year.
 - (b) Boys' handicap race between 7 and 14, distance 60 yards. Handicap 2 yards for each year.

(c) Girls' handicap race between 7 and 14, distance 60 yards. Handicap 2 yards for each year.

2. *Wives Race.*
3. *Wheelbarrow or Cigarette Race.*
4. *Sprint.*
Seventy-five yards open event.
5. *Open and Shield Events.*
 - (a) Single jump.
 - (b) Treble jump.
 - (c) Throwing the cricket ball.
 - (d) Putting the weight.

The above will be in two sections, T.B. and S.S.

One competitor may not take more than two prizes in the open events.

Will all those wishing to enter please send in their entries to me as early as possible and in any case not later than 9th June, 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.) Will you also kindly state the names and ages of your children you enter.

The sports office reserve the right to alter any of the above programme should it be found necessary. L. WOOLRYCH.

ROWING

Will all those who would like to go rowing on the Lake kindly get in touch with the sports office, stating the times and days they would like to row? L. W.

POLICE MINSTRELS CONCERT

We were again privileged to attend a performance of the above at the Bedford Palace. We sincerely thank Supt. Anniss and his courteous officers for their kind thought in inviting us.

BOXING

A very enjoyable evening was spent at the Royal Albert Hall on Thursday, 22nd March. The Amateur Championships were down for decision and some very fine contests were witnessed.

FOOTBALL

The London Telephone Trainees' Team engaged the Brighton Trainees on the Brighton College Ground. The heavy rain did not deter Matron Thellusson and a large party of sisters and boys from attending as spectators. Good shooting was the order of the day and the goalkeeper, Orderly Budgeon, had no chance with the shots that beat him. London won a very sporting match by 12 goals to 9.

London	Brighton
Wiltshire .. 6	Marsden .. 2
Webster .. 4	Tennison .. 4
Matthewman .. 1	Alexander .. 0
Brooke .. 1	Burdiss .. 3

CHELSEA v. MANCHESTER CITY

A great crowd of our boys gathered together for this match at Stamford Bridge. May I say that the officials of both Chelsea and the Arsenal greatly appreciate the loyal support given by St. Dunstaners, just as we greatly appreciate also their continued kindness and courtesy to us.

15 MILE WALK

What a contrast in the weather from that experienced on the occasion of the nine-mile walk! The conditions were perfect. Prior to the race Billy Shakespeare on behalf of the competitors presented Matron Power with a basket of shamrock and primroses adorned with green silk ribbon. In the course of a very apt little speech he mentioned that Matron had been like a mother to hundreds of the boys. The presentation came as a great surprise to Matron and she was greatly touched and thanked the boys for their kindly words and thought. Captain Fraser got the 17 T.B.'s away to a fine start. Castle took the lead followed by Benning, Lowings, and Bates. This order was maintained at three miles. At six miles it would have been hard to pick the winners. Holmes, Lowings, Birch, Bates, Thompson and Kerr were all going strong. Meanwhile the S.S. section were well on the way. Brown, Gover, Ashton, Giles, Fallowfield, Roberts, Read, Gidney and Whitton in this order. The positions had now changed in the T.B. class. Holmes taking the lead, Lowings, who had been going splendidly, dropped back slightly and, towards the end, Birch

walking more like his old self came through but could not quite get the measure of Holmes, who won in 2hrs. 27mins. 47secs., with Benning third.

Brown won the S.S. race in 2hrs. 14mins. 6secs. from Ashton in 2hrs. 19mins. 23secs. followed by Fallowfield third, who has improved a great deal. Gover had a little bad luck when going strong. Giles walked well but gradually slowed down. Gidney put up a good performance in completing the course in this his first race.

(Table of times on next page)

After the race Captain Fraser thanked the officials, the handicapper, Mr. Donoghue, timekeeper, Mr. Organ, judges, Messrs. Parson, Evans and Fish, the escorts, the generous prize givers and Mr. O'Connor, the ladies who helped to supply the tea and who had all contributed to make this event so successful. Miss Greenwood presented the prizes with a little word of congratulation to each of the winners. The prizes were given by the London Shipping Athletic Club; medals for scratch race by St. Dunstan's; the novice prize won by Gidney was kindly given by Mr. Parsons; a gold medal for each section for style kindly given by Mr. O'Connor and won by Birch and Brown respectively.

At the conclusion, on behalf of the walking section of St. Dunstan's, Archie Brown presented Mr. Donoghue with a gold-mounted inscribed fountain pen, and thanked him for all the good and unbiased work he had put in on behalf of the cause. Replying, Mr. Donoghue said: "He was literally dumbstruck by the sudden and unexpected presentation and gave sincere thanks for such a pleasing, useful and splendid gift." Continuing, he said, "After all no sportsman could help being anxious to assist when they see the enthusiasm and keenness for sport shown by the St. Dunstan's boys." W. A. T.

CORRECTION

FOOTBALL COMPETITION

The analysis in P. John's football points in the February issue should read:—

P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.
12	5	4	3	26	22	13

15 Mile Sealed Handicap Outer Circle Walk

17TH MARCH 1928
RESULTS—T.B. SECTION

Pl.	Name	1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round	4th Round	5th Round	Time	Handicap	Net Time	Ord. Fin.
		m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.	
1	Birch ..	31 50	29 5	28 12	27 58	31 6	2 28 11	4 30	2 23 41	2
2	Benning ..	30 5	28 30	28 46	29 4	32 25	2 28 50	3 45	2 25 5	3
3	Castle ..	30 5	28 29	28 46	29 6	34 54	2 31 20	6 0	2 25 20	4
4	Thompson ..	32 51	28 49	28 57	29 3	31 46	2 31 26	5 0	2 26 26	5
5	Rhodes ..	32 55	30 52	32 8	33 3	37 37	2 46 35	20 0	2 26 35	9
6	Holmes ..	31 22	28 38	28 10	28 12	31 25	2 27 47	Scr.	2 27 47	1
7	Lowings ..	30 6	28 42	29 28	32 29	36 25	2 37 10	9 0	2 28 10	8
8	Boorman ..	32 5	29 21	29 1	29 35	34 18	2 34 20	4 0	2 30 20	7
9	Bates ..	31 23	28 36	28 27	29 59	33 45	2 32 10	1 30	2 30 40	6
10	Burran ..	35 30	33 7	33 2	32 46	36 27	2 50 52	20 0	2 30 52	11
11	Shakespeare ..	34 47	33 18	33 25	35 0	40 30	2 57 0	23 0	2 34 0	13
12	Chiverton ..	34 29	32 4	32 26	34 34	41 32	2 54 5	19 45	2 34 20	12
13	Lenderyou ..	32 51	29 1	32 31	35 13	40 59	2 50 35	10 0	2 40 35	10
	Kerr ..	32 6	29 35	28 11	33 8	—	—	—	—	—
	Taylor ..	34 45	33 53	33 22	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Moeller ..	33 19	32 32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Perry ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

S.S. SECTION

1	Fallowfield ..	29 0	27 1	28 9	28 20	30 29	2 22 59	11 0	2 11 59	3
2	Giles ..	28 13	26 37	27 55	30 30	33 33	2 26 48	14 0	2 12 48	4
3	Read ..	30 47	27 18	28 0	32 6	37 12	2 35 23	22 0	2 13 23	6
4	Whitten ..	35 45	34 37	32 43	32 1	33 31	2 58 37	45 0	2 13 37	8
5	Ashton ..	28 10	26 33	26 17	27 25	30 58	2 19 23	5 15	2 13 58	2
6	Brown ..	28 4	25 52	25 19	26 0	28 51	2 14 6	Scr.	2 14 6	1
7	Gover ..	28 5	25 52	26 6	35 17	33 48	2 29 8	3 30	2 25 38	5
8	Gidney ..	33 45	33 24	32 41	35 15	36 3	2 51 8	24 0	2 27 8	7
9	Roberts ..	29 1	27 28	29 21	—	—	—	—	—	—

Manchester Sports' Club Meeting

THIS meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A. on 14th March, about 40 being present. After tea, the company were entertained by Mrs. Crighton with songs at the piano. This lady has a true Margaret Cooper style, and was later joined by Mr. Pearson, and they were really clever and funny. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Belle Vue on 11th April, and carry out a sports' programme. The track is available there every Wednesday afternoon for training purposes, with our friend Mr. Cooksey in attendance.

Mr. Slack, 129 Wembrey Street, Harpurhey, Manchester, has kindly promised to act as Hon. Sec., and form a committee

for the big sports' day at Fallowfield on 12th May. The proposed events are as follows, and will you kindly send your entries to Mr. Slack not later than 1st May.

EVENTS

Cricket Ball, T.B. Club members.
Single Jump, T.B.
Double Jump, S.S.
Throwing Football, S.S.
Putting the weight, T.B. and S.S. (open).
Ladies' 75 yards Race. (Wives or escorts of St. Dunstaners.)
Push Ball Match between Shield Teams (Manchester, Birmingham and London).
Open events for sighted competitors.

The running races in connection with the Shield Competition will be held in conjunction with the above.

News from the Workshops

BOOT SHOP

$\frac{1}{4}$ Mile S.S. (Manchester, Birmingham and London)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ „ S.S. (Manchester, Birmingham and London)
1 „ T.B. (Manchester, Birmingham and London)
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles T.B. (Manchester, Birmingham and London).
One competitor from each Club to run in the above.
W. A. T.

Birmingham Sports' Club Notes

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT

The Shield Running Competition and Sports Day is in Manchester on Saturday, 12th May. I hope to try and arrange an excursion party from Liverpool, and also an outing in Liverpool sometime quite soon. I should like to have some sports and rowing in Liverpool if possible. Any suggestions from men in that district would be welcome.

BRISTOL AND BATH AREAS

Colonel Foxcroft, M.P., and his sisters, of "Hinton Chester House," Nr. Bath, have kindly invited all St. Dunstaners in the neighbourhood to tea on Saturday, 12th May. Miss Skrine, who some of you know in camp, and Toc H. are arranging transport to and from Hinton. Cars will pick up men and wives from Bristol district at the G.W.R. Station at Bristol at 2 o'clock. Men and wives from Bath district will meet cars at 2.30 p.m. at Bath Station. The cars will take the parties back in good time for evening trains. Notices are being sent to all men in or very near Bath and Bristol, but should any others care to join, will they send in their names before 1st May to Miss Hodgson, Clopton, Stratford-on-Avon? It is a nice drive to Hinton, which has a charming garden. It is hoped to arrange some sports before tea and afterwards an entertainment.

CAMP

Little Gaddesden Camp, Nr. Berkhamstead, is fixed for the week from Monday, 2nd to 9th July. The camp fee is 27s. 6d. for the week, exclusive of beer and cigarettes. Campers are responsible for their own fare to and from Berkhamstead. We hope this year to have an entirely new programme, including, if possible, more expeditions.
A. HODGSON.

BASKET SHOP

R. A. Barbour has got well away, having already worked on waste papers, round-arm baskets, barrels and square-arms. His main difficulty is with staking and bordering. J. Bullock has continued with teapot stands, barrels, tea trays, flower pot baskets, and has also done some oval work. His work ranges from good to very good. A. Brignall had some difficulty with the bottoms of his baskets at the commencement of the term. He still has some

trouble in memorising the various strokes, but he works tightly, and reaches a fairly good standard. Scotland's representative, J. Duff, will do well, he gets on with the job, and makes a strong basket. As soon as he becomes quite clear on various technical points, he will be a sound man. He has already got through a good range, including round-arms, square-arms, barrels, dog beds, and has just made a start on soiled linens. A Kimber has been doing barrels and waste papers; he has improved steadily, but finds difficulty in the working of his rods, particularly when plaiting. J. Mullen, in spite of a bad touch and ill-health, has stuck to his job well, doing teapot-stands, trays, barrels, and some waste papers. He is to be congratulated on his results. A. W. Pimm has had a bad set-back, owing to illness during March, he has, however, got going again, and turned out some remarkably good work, flower-pot baskets, trays, barrels and some very nice oval flower baskets. A. C. Matthews also lost time through ill-health in February, during March he did some barrels, but spent most of his time on soiled linens, getting hold of the work extremely well. H. Read was also not very fit at the beginning of the term; he got fairly good results on some barrels and round-arms, and, during the end of March, has been having a little experience with centre cane on trays and teapot stands. He is getting hold of the plait border very nicely. Though a new man, A. Kitson has put in a good month's work, notwithstanding his additional disability. W. H. O.

St. Dunstan's Singers

Our readers will be interested to know that the St. Dunstan's singers participated in the Guildhouse Musical Festival on March 23rd and took the 1st prize for their section—male voice choirs. They had to sing two shanties "Rio Grande" and "Johnny Comes Down to Hilo," in four part harmony, and Mr. Charles Kennedy Scott was the judge. In his summing up he said that all the choirs were good, but that one reached a standard of excellence, and that this was the "St. Dunstan's Singers," and he gave them ninety marks, the maximum being one hundred.

The criticism which the singers were given afterwards ran as follows:—"Sung with nice rich tone which blended admirably, the shanty man had a resonant musical free voice and very good diction—the singing and ensemble were excellent—the high tenors did well, altogether a pleasing and satisfactory performance."

M. Burran was the shanty man and the rest of the singers are J. R. Lynch, F. A. Rhodes, W. B. Riley, C. Singleton, W. Henry, S. Webster, W. Pearce, A. Peckham, H. Gover, G. A. Brown, and A. Osmond.

As they took first place the singers sang at the big festival on the 24th March at the Imperial Institute, when M. Burran was also presented with the Honours Certificate for the singers by Sir Henry Hadow, C.B.E. Miss Munro, of course, as usual be accompanied.

Beginning with Bee-Keeping

By HERBERT MACE, F.E.S.

Although bees, almost unnoticed by the average person, start work before the month of March, it is not till now that they are abroad in earnest, the blossoming of fruit trees, plums, currants, gooseberries, and pears calling them forth in the strongest numbers they can muster.

This is the moment for the new bee-keeper to make a start by buying a complete "stock" of bees. It is best to get it from an established firm, which will give a guarantee that it is free from Foul Brood or Bee Pest.

A stock is usually sent out on eight combs in a travelling box; before it comes the bee-keeper should have a frame hive ready and get a smoker and veil. The hive should be put in the position assigned to it—a sunny spot sheltered from the wind. The entrance should face south, so that it gets all the sun, and the hive must be firm and level.

When the box of bees arrives it should be placed beside the hive, facing the same way, and if the weather is cold or wet left there till things improve, something being put over it to keep off rain. The little piece of zinc in front should be pushed

aside, so that the bees may fly if they wish.

On the first warm day the combs must be transferred to the new hive. The screws which fasten down the lid should all be taken out and a puff or two of smoke blown into the box. The bees buzz loudly for a few moments and settle down to a gentle purr, which shows that they are filling themselves with honey. In about two minutes they will be too happy to sting, so the lid may be safely lifted. Of course, the beginner should wear the veil, as it gives more confidence, but it *must* be securely tucked in round the neck, for it is better to be without a veil than to have a frantic bee shut in beneath one.

The roof and quilts are taken off the hive and the frames of foundation removed for the time being. The combs are then carefully lifted out of the box, beginning at one side. A comb must be held by the projecting ends, and should be lifted so that both sides come up together, other-

wise it may stick and jar the bees, which should always be handled as gently as possible. Roughness will incite the most amiable bees to anger.

As each comb is lifted it is put into the new hive, the first close up to the side, the others touching at the "metal ends," and all in exactly the same order as in the box. If every comb is well covered with bees one frame of foundation may be put against the last and then the loose board put right against it. The quilts are laid over, the calico one first, all nicely smoothed down, and after the roof has been put on and the entrance opened about three inches the hive may be left alone for a fortnight, with the certainty that it will be able to look after itself.

At the end of that time a peep at the new frame will show whether it is occupied or not. If so, another frame should be put in and after that, one will probably be needed every week till the brood box is full.

After-Care Meetings

BEDFORD

A VERY enjoyable meeting was held at Dujons Café, Bedford, on the 15th March when over 80 made the most of an excellent tea, after which Mr. Swain mentioned that he was going to cut out his usual speech as Captain Fraser was coming along to the Re-union to have a talk with them.

There was a general stir of excitement until our chairman arrived and he was greeted with hearty cheers. He spoke to us for about half an hour dealing chiefly with St. Dunstan's affairs. Time did not permit Captain Fraser to have a talk to each man personally, but he asked all present whether they had any questions to ask. After the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow," Captain Fraser had to leave hurriedly to catch his train back to town.

A vote of thanks to the chairman was put up by J. Colley, and seconded by P. Holmes.

After tea, Mrs. Shepherd's Orchestra and

a concert arranged by her were very much appreciated, and we also had a few dances. D. T. Edwards and A. G. Rogers added to the enjoyment of the entertainment by playing duets on the cornet and trombone. Perhaps it would be better to say that it was a trio as Edwards is particularly clever in playing the piano with one hand and the cornet with the other, by no means an easy feat.

We were all delighted to have Miss Cameron with us once more, and were sorry to think Miss Hipwell was unable to come along.

In the competition, J. Colley and G. Hadfield drew for the 1st prize, and on tossing for it, Colley won a case of silver spoons. The ladies' 1st prize went to Mrs. Brogan and the 2nd to Mrs. Leeks, whilst the 2nd prize for St. Dunstaners was won by T. Peach.

At the end of the meeting, the National Anthem was sung.

E. A. S.

READING

Over ninety St. Dunstaners, their wives or escorts, from the Berks and Oxon districts met at the Central Café, Reading, on the 22nd March.

In spite of the inclement weather, nearly everyone was well on time as it had been noised abroad that Captain and Mrs. Fraser would be present at the meeting.

Our chairman arrived just about 2.30 p.m., and having addressed the company, saying how pleased he was to be with them on the occasion of their annual re-union, he went round and shook hands with one and all. Unfortunately, he could not stay with us all the time, but before he left for London D. McLean very ably proposed a vote of thanks for his comrades, and was seconded by J. R. Smith.

Another feature of the meeting was the fact that two very old friends of St. Dunstaners were able to come along, namely Miss Davies and Miss Bamberger, and both of them were in very great demand by their numerous acquaintances.

The Café Orchestra kindly gave us their services before and during tea, and afterwards, whilst each man was having a personal interview with Mr. Swain, we had an excellent entertainment and dance.

A meeting would not be complete without a competition, and the winners—to whom Miss Davies presented the prizes—were as follows: Mrs. Wilkins and Mrs. Hermon, G. Wilkins and H. A. T. Pearce.

The happy afternoon came to an end at six o'clock, although a few who had awkward journeys to fit in had to leave a little earlier.

E. A. S.

HASTINGS

The Hastings meeting this year was held at the Metropole Assembly Rooms, owing to our having outgrown the accommodation at the Grand Hotel.

The meeting was one of the best ever held in that town. Certainly there was an atmosphere of cheeriness throughout the whole afternoon, and there were very few who were invited and could not turn up.

We were delighted to have so many of our old friends with us once again, including Miss Taylor, Miss Tickell, Miss Davies, Miss Bamberger, Miss Brown and others, and, naturally, we were kept busy talking over the "good old days."

The tea was an excellent one, and after Mr. Swain had given Captain Fraser's message, he addressed the meeting mentioning that he had entered upon his tenth year at St. Dunstan's and had made a large number of very true friends amongst the men and their wives. The vote of thanks was ably proposed by L. Howell and seconded by J. Plunkett.

A most enjoyable concert followed which was provided through the kindness of Major Dyer and his friends. J. McDonough played his pipes, and H. Harris, L. Howell and G. Brooks contributed songs to the entertainment, which were very much appreciated.

The prizes for the guessing competition were won by Mrs. Howell and Mrs. Potter, W. E. Bamber and J. Attrell.

All those who wished to have a personal interview with Mr. Swain did so, and a thoroughly successful Re-union came to an end by the singing of the National Anthem.

A. K. R.

CANTERBURY

The Canterbury Re-union was again held at Gaywood's Café on the 9th March, and in spite of a snowy day very few were prevented from attending. Over sixty St. Dunstaners and their wives or escorts sat down to enjoy the usual excellent tea.

Mr. Swain's speech was listened to with much interest, especially the long message from Captain Fraser, and a vote of thanks was put up by A. Bennett and seconded by W. Carlton.

A delightful concert was provided by Mr. Gaywood, the artistes including several who had entertained us at previous meetings in this city.

Everyone was delighted to welcome Mrs. Broughton, who kindly presented the prizes for the guessing competitions, which were won by Mrs. Maskell, Mrs. Carlton and Mrs. Bailey, the men's prizes being taken by A. Dean (who by a strange coincidence won the 1st prize last year) and G. Millen.

Before breaking up, we had one or two dances and then we all had to trek our way homewards hoping to meet again about the same time next year, and in the same place.

A. K. R.

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