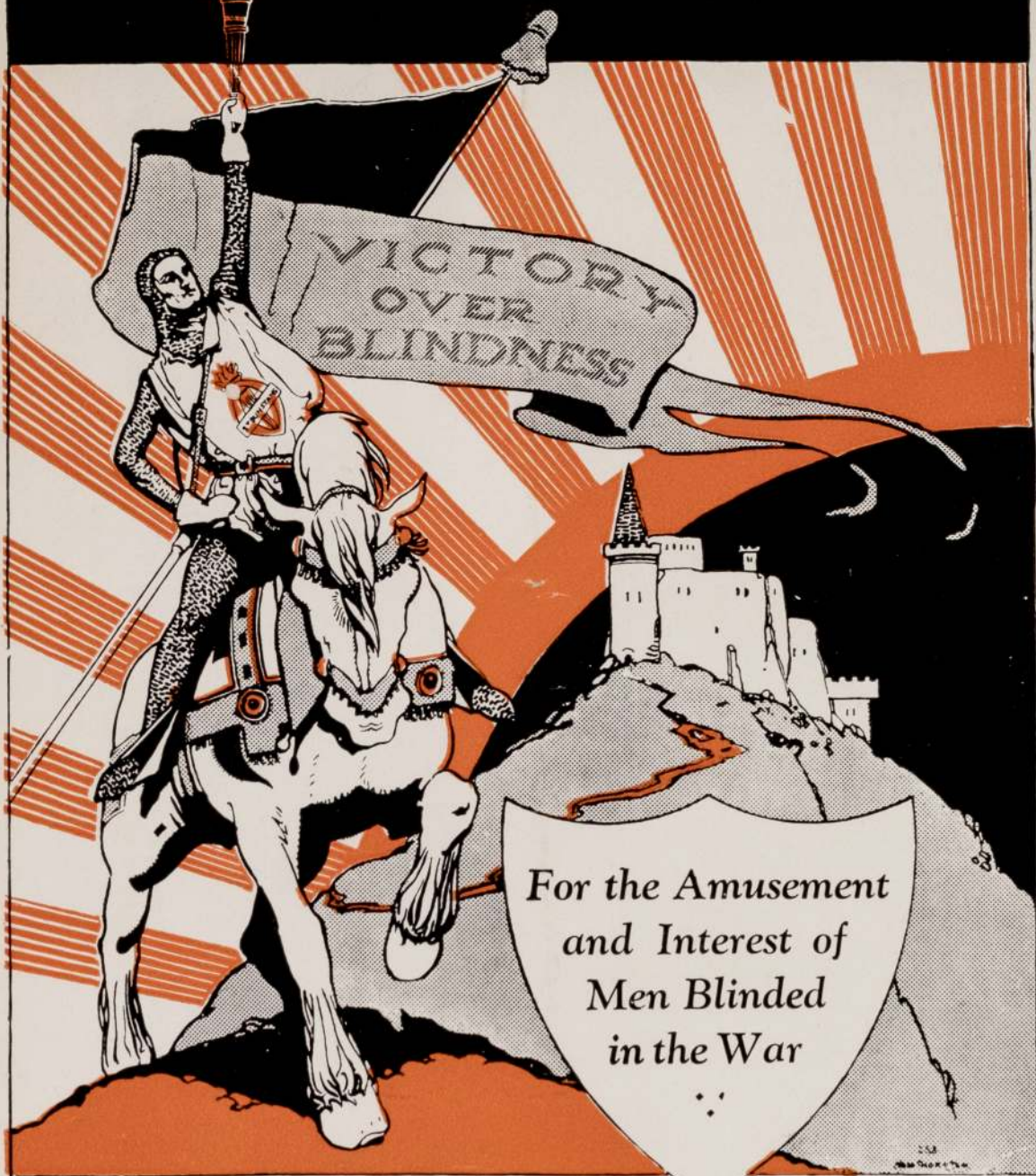


# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW



Published Monthly

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# St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY PERRY BARRINGER

No. 132.—VOLUME XII. [NEW SERIES]

JUNE 1928.

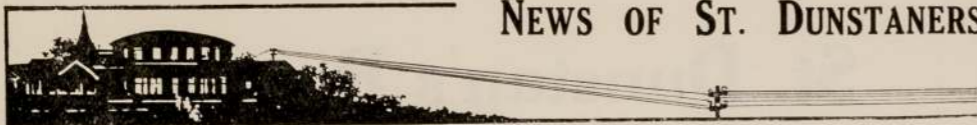
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## EDITORIAL NOTES

ELSEWHERE in this issue we advise our readers of an attempt put forward at the Delegates' Conference of the Scottish branches of the British Legion held at Dumfries in the early part of this month, to prevent those branches helping St. Dunstan's in collecting funds, and the result of the steps taken to counter the proposal—steps which we are glad to be able to report proved entirely successful. In the article dealing with this matter we express our own and, we think, the view of every St. Dunstaner, upon the subject. But our reference to it in these Notes has another purpose. It is our privilege once again to offer congratulations to the men of St. Dunstan's—this time our Scottish St. Dunstaners—upon the splendid willingness to help which they displayed in this emergency. One and all who contributed assistance have been thanked personally by our Chairman, but we feel that no thought of thanks or of self entered into the minds of these comrades of ours when they took up arms in defence of the rights and privileges of the Organisation in which we all find so great a pride. Many times before the officers and men of St. Dunstan's have shown a unity and solidarity which ever since its foundation has drawn every man of St. Dunstan's into a brotherhood which in its unselfishness, its loyalty and patriotism, and in its endurance, is probably without parallel throughout the world. So long as that spirit obtains—though counties, countries and seas divide St. Dunstaners now, the bonds seem to strengthen as the years go on—so long, we say, as this comradeship exists, the work of St. Dunstan's will go forward proudly and efficiently to its final consummation.

The sad news which we record in another part of this issue of the death of Captain Stuart Palmer will come as a great blow not only to those St. Dunstaners in Scotland and Northern England with whom his work for some years past has been so closely identified, but to the very wide circle of friends he had made everywhere. The passing of this gallant gentleman brings home to us again with renewed force the realisation of how great a part in the widespread work of St. Dunstan's has been contributed by those who have devoted every thought and action of their lives for years past to the furtherance of the welfare of our men and their families.

## NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS



QUITE a variety of work comes the way of A. Law, of Bishop's Cleeve, Cheltenham, and, luckily, he is one who is never afraid to tackle a new job. He has made successfully such things as fowl houses and dog-kennels. We hear that most appreciative remarks have been made by the purchasers and their friends who have been surprised that even a St. Dunstaner could be capable of such excellent workmanship. Law can do everything himself, but when a "rush" is on, he has a most capable assistant in his young son, who is as energetic and keen as his father.

Another particularly busy man is W. Howes, of Tormartin, Glos. His fowls are laying well, and in addition he has several lots of young chickens needing constant attention, and some rabbits. His "wireless" came to an untimely end a few weeks ago, when an excited dog contrived to involve himself in its intricacies, so cutting off an excellent concert!

An exhibitor whose wares met with high praise at a recent Arts and Crafts Exhibition in Devizes is H. E. Hill of that district. They were spoken of most highly and Hill wisely decided to exhibit also at Trowbridge.

Not many people have been suffering from a shortage of water of late, but C. Sheppard, of Warminster, has recently had trouble with his well which has necessitated inconvenient repairs. He and Mrs. Shepard have determined that if repairs were to be executed outside, the interior of their establishment should have its share of attention, and have been doing papering and painting, with excellent results we hear.

A donkey is D. McCarthy's latest acquisition and he is looking forward to an appreciable saving in shoe leather, for the roads round about Breamore are very rough.

Friends will be glad to hear that T. Shaylor, of South Yardley, has improved in health and is taking great pleasure in his new home.

Trade in general is somewhat slack in Wigston Magna, Leicestershire, but O. Windridge is carrying on well.

A nasty accident befell G. Lilley, of Acock's Green, Birmingham, a few weeks ago when he slipped and fell, breaking a rib which punctured the lung. We are glad to say that he is mending now.

The new home in Tiptree, Essex, into which W. Raine has settled bids fair to prove a success, and Raine is looking forward to doing well with both poultry and mats.

An active interest in spring cleaning has been taken by D. G. Morgan, of Tredegar, and he has been doing his full share in necessary repairs. Among other things he has made a most excellent door, of which he has every reason to be proud; it is a fine piece of work.

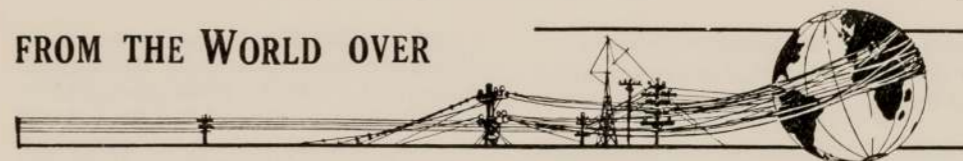
Five prizes have been carried off at the local sports club by J. Salt, of Ashton-under-Lyne. We send him hearty congratulations on his prowess. He must be a fit man indeed to have achieved such a record.

Baskets have been keeping J. V. Tweedie, of Wimbledon, particularly busy of late, for he has been doing his share of those made to carry the crop from the famous Hampton Court vine.

As usual the news from our Irish St. Dunstaners is cheery.

As for T. McCann, he is pegging away as steadily as ever in Ballynary, but is considering a move into Belfast where H. McAteer's shop seems to be thriving.

## FROM THE WORLD OVER



For all round energy E. Clarke, of Edwinstowe, Notts., should be hard to beat. He still has his paper round and is looking forward to opening his "shanty" shop again this summer. He puts in spare time at various kinds of "odd jobs," including wood chopping. Not long since he chopped one of his fingers really badly, but utterly declined to let such a minor accident interfere with his activities! Those who enjoyed his cheery company at Brighton (where he managed to get around by himself in a remarkable way) will not be surprised.

W. Anderson, of Steeton, is looking forward to a move into a particularly nice house which he hopes to make into an ideal home. If Anderson carries out half the improvements he has in mind he will have few leisure hours for some time to come.

Another steady working man is W. Bruce, of Skipton, and his friends will be glad to know that he is as well as ever.

Boots keep A. Welland, of Bramley, going so busily that he rarely has a slack time. There must be something in the Surrey air that makes people active walkers, for another boot man, F. G. Braithwaite, in the same neighbourhood, is never without orders for repairs.

All's well with J. Boon, of Whitbourne, Worcester, who enjoys his basket work and pegs along industriously.

"If the new boot trade, is somewhat quiet," says D. Marshall, of Market Drayton, cheerily, "repairs are active enough, so there's nothing to grumble at, is there?"

Another Market Drayton man—J. Nolan of Hinstock—who goes in for poultry, has been experimenting with geese. We shall be glad to hear whether he considers them worth going in for as a regular side line.

The swine fever embargo has been lifted, so Nolan is looking forward to some trade development.

A few local mat orders and a fair number of boot repairs have been coming in for R. Edwards, of Hereford, who has settled in well in the district and is already winning golden opinions for St. Dunstan's by the excellent work he does and his cheery outlook on the world in general.

Garden enthusiasts have been rejoicing that the season beloved of all out-door spirits is upon us and all have been putting in happy and energetic hours with the spade. A. H. Luker, of Boars Hill, Oxford, by the way, wants to know if any other St. Dunstaner succeeded in growing enough potatoes last year to last until the new supply was ready. He did!

Another who has got his garden into excellent shape is E. Lupton, of Weeton, nr. Kirkham. It looked beautiful in the fruit blossom season, we hear.

It seems that the prize crop of loganberries this year is to be grown by F. G. Smith, of Stoughton. The bushes are full of promise.

"Alive and kicking, work pretty good," says L. Straw, of Nottingham, and many a St. Dunstaner will say that the brief message is what he himself will have to send when next he writes to Headquarters.

In the joinery line mention must be made specially of W. Ward, of St. Leonards, for besides orders in general lines, he has boldly accepted two "specials"—one for a pair of steps and another for an easel. Good luck to him in both his interesting ventures.

J. Davies has few leisure moments at present, for in addition to poultry he has gone in for cows and is a busy man indeed. All look flourishing and he has several hatchings of chickens in an advanced state

**News of St. Dunstaners—continued.**

for the season. The garden too is repaying him for the steady work he has put into it.

Quite a fair number of boot repairs still come to E. D. Evans, of Carmarthen, and this is a feather in his cap, for several other boot repairers have started up in his immediate neighbourhood of late.

Netting is keeping T. Bowen, of Llanely, as busy as ever, busier in fact, for he received a "rush" order a short time ago and tackled it like a man. His shed is always most excellently kept, with everything in its place, and in the "off" hours from netting, Bowen takes in repair work.

Another netting man whose excellent work should be mentioned is G. Brewer, of Helston; he can always be relied upon to put through anything wanted in a hurry.

Trade has improved immensely according to R. B. Blackshaw, of Abbey Hulton, since he moved into his new house with which he is delighted. The garden is a joy already.

"Ever so fair," is the cheery message from J. W. Kerr, of Widnes, who is working away at mats as usual.

As for A. Forster, of Warrington, everyone who has seen him recently has noted his improvement in health. He is another of our mat makers and one who finds an endless delight in wireless.

"No trouble in selling all the eggs we have," says J. Selby contentedly; he never has to seek for customers, as these come to the door eagerly taking all they can buy.

A wardrobe and a large china-cupboard are among the fine pieces of work just finished by T. W. Groves, of Botley, Oxford. Nothing like courage!

**Brief Notes**

R. Popple, of Llandebie, is working away busily at mats and, in off hours, lending a hand in the garden with most successful results.

Others still busily increasing the supply of these necessities are, M. Mulvany, of Gateshead, P. Brown, of Knaphill, Surrey, who, by the way has just had the pleasure of seeing a daughter on a visit from New Zealand; G. Parrick, of Manor Park, who divides his time between mats and boots, as does W. Farmery, of Waltham Chase, E. J. Hall, of Bishops Waltham, F. Cooper, of Fareham, E. E. Bryer, of Yate, Glos., W. Walters, whose latest baby is such a fine specimen of a boy that we feel sure it will carry off first prize at any baby show, and G. H. Wiltshire, of Muswell Hill, all of whom are making good progress.

E. Swingler, of Tuxford, finds an interest in lending a hand in the neighbouring fields when local labour is short, which is excellent exercise and helps him to keep well. Baskets keep T. R. Beattie, of Crouch End, going as usual; T. Baker, of Holloway, is doing fairly well with joinery and looking forward to the summer like everyone else; H. A. Russell, of Peckham, has started work and hopes to be able to supply the neighbourhood with trays and tea-pot stands; E. W. Martin is very busy with rubbish and brick baskets, which are quite a speciality with him, and J. Hodkin, of Shaldon, Teignmouth, is preparing for the advent of summer visitors, and hoping that they may have an appreciative eye for his weavings.

"All's well," with C. Herring, of Sheffield, and the same may be said of W. McCarthy, of Attleborough, Nuneaton, with whom trade is good and the new baby a child for any father to be proud of.

A pleasant number of local orders have come the way of A. Back, of Shaldon, Teignmouth, of late; J. Kennedy, of Barnhill, has enough work in hand to keep him steadily employed for some time. The boot trade is improving in Tweedmouth, according to R. Young; R. Boyter succeeds in making quite a number of sales locally at Cupar; and T. Fisher is doing well with his poultry at Longforan.

At Cherry Tree Farm, Mancetter, near Atherstone, J. H. Lea is getting along well

with poultry and pigs; H. A. Mann gets a number of local orders for baskets in Nottingham, and V. A. Clay, of the same district, is well, cheerful and steadily at work on mats.

In Redhill, W. Collins is making progress and becoming known to a wider and wider circle of massage patients mainly by the recommendation of one grateful person to another.

The good weather has had pronounced effect as concerns the takings of the sweet and tobacco shop run by P. G. Alvey, of Byfleet; may the summer be a long one. H. Ollington finds himself busy in Earlsfield; H. Colville, of Palmers Green, says that all is well with him, and J. Thornton, of Camden Town, is making progress and keeps in good health; J. Pugh, of Islington, also is well and finds a steady sale for his wares; trade is good in Wellingborough, according to G. C. Craddock.

E. T. Boden, of Walworth, is devoting his time to netting; N. McDonald of Glasgow, goes to work at a furniture factory five days in the week; J. Broadley and L. Forrester of the same city continue in good health; W. Murray, of Hawick, has had a very busy time of late and is not altogether sorry that things have slackened up a bit; D. Gibson, of Hariettsfield is doing well with his poultry and also with egg-production and hatching.

Walthamstow seems appreciative of C. H. Cook's joinery, as does Chelmsford of picture framing done by T. Kent. J. Kirkham continues with basket work in Swanmore and is rejoicing because the repairs to his workshop are finished and he can call his kingdom his own again, and A. T. Iddiols, of Queens Park, is yet another contributing to the nation's supply of useful wares, while J. W. March, of Sunderland, hopes to add his quota so soon as he has settled down in his new premises.

C. Hainsworth, of Beeston, is as busy and cheery as usual.

**Clogging Material**

Owing to the development in his own business, "Percy" Goulden, of Bolton, who has hitherto been dealing with orders from St. Dunstan's men for clog leather, soles, irons, &c., is unable to continue to do this. We all very much appreciate what "Percy" has done for us in the past, and we know that he would not separate himself from St. Dunstan's, in any respect, if he could possibly avoid it. Whilst thanking him for his many kindnesses, we should like to take the opportunity of congratulating him on the steady development of his business.

Clogging material varies so much in different localities that many of the men have found it advantageous to purchase locally, and the men in the Midlands will no doubt be able, with Mr. Hodgkinson's advice, to meet all their requirements in this way. Some of the Lancashire men however, may like to purchase from some central wholesaler and we suggest that if this is the case, they should send their orders to Mr. Bowden, at his private address, 1 Hodson Street, Caroline Street, Wigan, Lancs., who will have them executed by Messrs. Ainsworth & Sons, leather merchants, The Wiend, Wigan.

**Births**

- CRABTREE.—On the 23rd of April, to the wife of F. Crabtree, of Scarborough, a daughter.
- DODDS.—On the 20th of April, to the wife of R. Dodds, of Cattal, a daughter (Margaret Eileen).
- MUIR.—On 3rd May, to the wife of W. Muir, of Leeds, a daughter (Anita Monica Beryl).
- PLUNKETT.—To the wife of J. E. Plunkett, of St. Leonard's-on-Sea, a daughter on the 27th of April.
- WALTERS.—On the 11th of April, to the wife of W. Walters, of Plymouth, a son (William Ernest).

**Deaths**

This month we have to offer sympathy to:—Mrs. F. Johnson, of Derby, who lost her father on the 30th of April; and to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Spink, of Boxmoor, whose little son died on the 18th of May.

## ST. DUNSTANERS IN ARMS

### A Scottish Attempt to Hamper our Work

#### Our Men in Defence of our Rights

A SPLENDID manifestation of the loyalty and the desire to help our Organisation which animates every St. Dunstaner has just been provided. Towards the end of last month information was conveyed to St. Dunstan's Headquarters that at the British Legion Delegates' Conference to be held at Dumfries, the Edinburgh delegates proposed to move a resolution urging all British Legion branches in Scotland to give primary consideration to the funds of Newington House, Edinburgh, the Scottish institution for blinded soldiers and sailors, in the matter of organising flag days, whist drives, money collections, &c. In view of the fact that St. Dunstan's has under its care a considerably larger number of men of Scottish nationality (about seventy of whom actually reside in Scotland) than Newington House, we felt it our duty to take every means possible to ensure that this resolution was withdrawn or defeated.

Our readers will be aware that St. Dunstan's has always had high consideration and regard for the excellent work which has been done at Newington House. But it was necessary to have regard also to our own widespread work for Scottish St. Dunstaners. We have had in the past the most ample evidence given us that the people of Scotland are very anxious to give their quota to the work of St. Dunstan's generally, and particularly to have the opportunity, whenever possible, of helping Scottish St. Dunstaners. These men enjoy the full benefits of St. Dunstan's in exactly the same measure as men in England, Wales, or Ireland, and the benefits of St. Dunstan's are the most generous that have been put at the disposal of any section of disabled men. Our collections in Scotland are organised, and always have been, on a purely voluntary basis, and as a matter of fact, we do not receive from the Northern Kingdom as much as we spend on our Scottish beneficiaries. In these circumstances, it seemed to St.

Dunstan's regrettable that an exaggerated demonstration of the Scottish national spirit should lead to the attempt expressed by the resolution to prejudice St. Dunstan's chance of support from Legion branches throughout Scotland, many of which have supported us year after year, while many St. Dunstaner Scottish blinded soldiers are members of the British Legion branches. It is felt that such branches should have the discretion to help Newington House or St. Dunstan's or both, without dictation from Edinburgh. On wider grounds, it is also undesirable for local patriotism to be stressed too much in matters affecting the welfare of ex-service men as a whole.

A meeting, therefore, was immediately called by our chairman, Captain Fraser, of the officials and heads of departments concerned. Amongst other steps to be taken to combat the passing of this resolution, it was decided to enlist the help of St. Dunstaners resident in Scotland, particularly those who might, as delegates or otherwise, have opportunity to put their views before the Conference. A letter was written to about sixty St. Dunstaners living in Scotland, explaining the position and asking them to take such action as was within their power. In addition, a telegram (the Conference was to take place within two days) was sent to Lieut. Frederick Martin, the St. Dunstan's officer who in the last Parliament was the Member for East Aberdeenshire. The chairman also wrote to Lord Glentanar, the chairman of the Conference, to General John Charteris, the Member for Parliament for Dumfries, who is a personal friend of his, and to Lady Haig, who has always been most keenly interested in the welfare of St. Dunstan's. Captain Fraser also sent a copy of his letter to the chairman of the Conference, with a covering note, to the London editors of all the Scottish newspapers.

A wire was received in reply from Lieut.

Martin stating that he had secured his credentials, and would at once travel to Dumfries to attend the Conference. Information has since reached us that a considerable number of St. Dunstaners to whom Captain Fraser's letter had been addressed also put forward every possible effort, local and otherwise, to help. Strong representations were made to their Legion branches by personal interview and by letters.

It is unnecessary to detail here the other measures taken, but it is exceedingly gratifying to be able to record that the resolution was withdrawn. Probably this was due in part to the steps taken at Headquarters, and to the influence of our Scottish St. Dunstaners, but we have sufficient faith in the Scottish people and the fairmindedness of our friends in the British Legion, to believe that the resolution had but little chance of being carried in any event.

It should be added that as a reply to the widespread publication of Captain Fraser's letter in the Scottish newspapers, Doctor Burns, the head of Newington House, issued a lengthy statement to the Press, in which he stated, *inter alia*, that although the Committee of Management of Newington House were not aware of this motion, they were not surprised, and claimed that the public in Scotland was against all money being diverted to London. He states also that Newington House have long been aware of the erroneous impression prevailing in the minds of

(We have received the following letter from two Scottish St. Dunstaners in reference to the above matter, which we gladly publish, as we feel the suggestion made therein will willingly be carried out by every St. Dunstaner, not only in Scotland, but throughout the Empire.—ED.)

To the Editor,  
"ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW."

DEAR SIR,

As two Scottish St. Dunstaners we desire to make a suggestion to help Captain Fraser and St. Dunstan's in a difficulty he has had in Scotland, that every Scottish St. Dunstaner should, as a duty to himself and to St. Dunstan's, make known the fact that he is a St. Dunstaner by wearing his badge continually and impressing on his friends and acquaintances the fact that St. Dunstan's requires continued support if his standard of living is to be maintained.

(Sgd.) JOHN W. BROADBENT,  
J. J. STEEL,

(Scottish Rifles and Highland Light Infantry.)

Rosyth.

## The Chairman's Notes

### My Motor Accident

RETURNING from the House of Commons in the early hours of the morning my car collided with another and was badly smashed up. Fortunately, I was only shaken and momentarily stunned. Beyond a bruise or two I suffered no ill effects whatever. I desire to acknowledge the many messages and inquiries I have received, and to tell my friends how grateful I am for them.

### Noise

I recently raised in the House of Commons the question is there not too much noise in the modern world, and asked the Government to inquire into this matter and see if many needless noises could not be prevented or forbidden. The Ministry of Health replied that they did not think that any useful purpose would be served by such an inquiry at the present time. This is, of course, the usual formula for putting off a matter which they are too busy to deal with, and there is no doubt that no Government will deal with the subject unless and until public opinion is enlightened and demands that something should be done. Industrial research has shown that in factories the efficiency and health of the workers are enormously improved by the elimination of noise, and that the cost of making machinery and processes more quiet is amply repaid in the long run. The noises of civilisation,—motor-cars, motor cycles, trams, road-mending drills which sound like machine guns, &c.—increase and multiply every year, and there are thousands of offices in London alone in which it is extremely difficult to work with comfort and efficiency; there are hundreds of schoolrooms in which there is so much traffic noise audible that the teacher has the utmost difficulty in holding the attention of the class. Do not all these noises impose a strain upon us which must insidiously affect our nerves and decrease our efficiency as well as our contentment? I have been surprised to notice how widespread has been the interest in this ques-

tion. Leading articles and notices have appeared in newspapers all over the country, and I have had letters from numbers of people whom I have never heard of before. I did not raise the subject from the point of view of the blind man at all, nor have those who have shown themselves interested in the subject been blind persons. But it is probably because I am blind that I happen to have thought and read about the subject, and raised it. I wonder how many readers of the REVIEW have ever asked themselves the question, almost an absurd question some will think, "Will my ears wear out?" I have sometimes thought on these lines—we used to have two channels whereby vibrations carrying information went to the brain, namely the eyes and the ears. We now only have one, and it is one which we use intensely all day long. Moreover, the ears do not rest at night in the same way as the eyes do, for the eyes get closed up to exclude light, whereas the ears remain open and though their sensibility is dulled, presumably they are still working and using up energy. When I have been doing a lot of listening to speeches and traffic, and the noises of everyday life I have no doubt whatever that my mind gets tired, and one's natural inclination is to seek quiet. I wonder if this is purely mental fatigue, or if in fact the ears really get tired of listening in the same way that the eyes get tired of looking at bright objects for a long time.

### Flying

My sister's husband is a squadron leader in the Royal Air Force; this leads to my being not a little interested in the Air Force and its doings, and in flying itself. I was visiting Salisbury the other day to attend a dance in aid of St. Dunstan's, which my sister had organised, and it occurred to me to take this opportunity of satisfying a desire which I had long felt to go for a good flight. I had never been off the ground in the days when I could see, and had only been up for two or three

minutes once seven or eight years ago. I accordingly got permission from the Secretary of State for Air, and my brother-in-law arranged for a competent young pilot at Salisbury to take me up in a Bristol Fighter on the Saturday morning. A letter from my insurance company, to whom I had communicated my intention, assuring me that I was covered in case I got killed, the fact that I had to sign a paper indemnifying the Air Ministry against any claim whatsoever in case I was killed or damaged and the fact that I had to fly at a particular time in the morning in order that the doctor might be present on the ground, all contributed to surround this harmless adventure with an air of extreme danger and apprehension. The flight was, however, quite uneventful, though extremely interesting, and it lasted for about half an hour. I was very struck with the stability of the modern aeroplane; when we got up to about two thousand feet, the pilot shut off the engine, and in comparative quiet explained to me where we were, and what we were doing. Apart from the gale of wind due to our own speed, which blew so hard that I felt that my face was being flattened out, I might have been standing on the top of a mountain, so steady and apparently solid was the aeroplane. Then the pilot told me he was going to open some slots in the wings—a new British invention this, which contributed enormously towards the safety of flying. He moved a lever, and our speed slackened until we were going not more than thirty-five or forty miles an hour, and still the machine was as stable and steady as a rock. We sunk slowly down, with the engine still off, the pilot telling me that we were now at one thousand five hundred feet, now one thousand, now at seven-fifty, now at five hundred feet. Then he put his engine on again and we rose to a greater height in order that he might demonstrate some turns and twists. I never felt any motion in the aeroplane which was more severe or upsetting than one would feel in a car going fairly fast round a corner or suddenly over the crest of a little road bridge. In the Bristol Fighter I sat behind the pilot in a sort of cockpit of my own, with one little seat and plenty of room to move around. The gunwale or ledge of the machine came

a little above my waist as I stood up, and there was a big iron ring all round me, some three feet in diameter, round which a machine gun could be swung to shoot in all directions. I had a kind of harness on me like some women put on pet dogs, and about where my tail ought to be was an iron hook fastened to the floor of the machine by a chain. This chain was about two feet long, so that I could stand up and move around. The point of the harness, my pilot said, was to prevent the passenger falling out, should we meet a bad air bump, or to keep the gunner in his place in case the aeroplane had to loop the loop or do some other stunt to get out of the way of the enemy. The only shock I experienced at all was when we landed. It was a calm day, with no wind to run into, and consequently the machine had to descend at about sixty miles an hour, and when we met the land there was quite a severe bump of the under carriage. This being extremely well sprung, the shock was hardly felt in the machine itself, though the noise was considerable. Altogether a very interesting experience, which has left me with a feeling that I wish I was the Prince of Wales, and could order out my own Bristol Fighter to take me to after-care meetings all over the country.

### Empire Contributions

I was going through some figures the other day relating to St. Dunstan's income from various sources and noticed with interest from what a wide field donations and subscriptions come. Quite a generous measure of support is received from English people in South America and India and the East, for example, and the other day I wrote what I hope were suitably charming letters to an officer in Iraq and to a group of ex-service men in Burma who sent us donations. St. Dunstan's is truly an Empire organisation in its work, and its support comes from almost every part of the Empire. As times goes on it will be necessary for income of this kind to be stimulated and encouraged, for it does not get easier as the years pass to finance St. Dunstan's from generous people in the home country alone.

Ian Frazer

## After-Care Meetings

### DUBLIN RE-UNION

THE After-Care Re-union for men in the Dublin area was held at Jury's Hotel, Dublin, on Thursday, 17th May. There was a large attendance of the men and their wives and after luncheon Mr. Swain read a message to the men from Captain Fraser, and spoke to them about matters affecting their welfare, after which he proceeded to interview the men.

The winners of the Bean Guessing Competition were J. Goodison, of Sandymount, and Mrs. Moore, of Dublin. The booby prizes went to Mr. and Mrs. O'Hara, of Clara.

Miss Muriel Loughbridge entertained the men to some quaint old street songs that were formerly sung at fairs in Ireland, which the men greatly appreciated. Miss Loughbridge had also brought with her a number of ladies and gentlemen who entertained with song and story. D. J. McLoughlin and J. Moore contributed items that were very warmly received. The ladies of Jury's Orchestra very kindly gave up their tea interval and played to the men during their tea.

J. Murray, of Kilkenny, returned thanks for the men, saying how much they had enjoyed the meeting and how they looked forward to the Re-unions.

Mr. Swain thanked the ladies and gentlemen who came to entertain the men and a most enjoyable meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem. N. S. M.

### BELFAST RE-UNION

The Belfast After-Care Re-union was held in Thompson's Restaurant on Friday, 18th May, when we had practically a full muster of the Northern Irish men present.

Lady Turner, J.P., Lady Mayoress of Belfast, and her daughter, were the guests of honour, and before luncheon W. J. Berry, of Belfast, presented the Lady Mayoress with a bouquet of roses. Lady Turner said she was pleased to be present again at the Re-union and to see the men looking so well and so happy and gave them her very best wishes.

After lunch, Mr. Swain read a message from Capt. Fraser and spoke to the men before proceeding to interviews.

During the afternoon a number of ladies who had done good work for the cause of St. Dunstan's came to the meeting, and were unanimous in expressing their wonder at the jollity and good humour of the Belfast men.

Mrs. Norman Macauley, L.R.A.M., had provided an excellent programme of music for the afternoon, and Miss Carrodus Taylor (cello), Miss Ellie Turner, Miss Mary Johnston, and Mr. James Newel were much appreciated. Miss Jeannie Erskine and Miss Anna Warnock gave several Irish duologues that were rapturously received, Miss Erskine's line that "A weight o' larnin' only keeps a man down" nearly brought the house down!

Mrs. Boyce won the cake that Lady Turner presented for competition by guessing its weight, Whiteside, of Portadown, won the walking-stick for the Bean Guessing Competition, and Miss Reid, of Belfast, won the umbrella for the ladies' prize. The booby prizes were won by Gallagher, of Straban, and his little daughter.

"Quite the best meeting we have ever had in Belfast" seems to be the universal opinion of the men, and of Gribben and McCann who proposed and seconded the vote of thanks. N. S. M.

### BOURNEMOUTH RE-UNION

Slightly different alterations were made as regards the Bournemouth Re-union this year. Firstly, it was held at Holy Trinity Church Hall—this being a larger room than the one in which the meeting took place last year.

Secondly, as Captain and Mrs. Fraser were able to be present from 12.30 p.m. until about half-past three, we had a luncheon and buffet tea instead of a high tea as in previous years.

Needless to say we were all delighted to have our Chairman and his wife with us, and after we had partaken of a good lunch,

## Brighton News

The boys who spent Whitsun at the Brighton Annexe made the most of their holiday, enjoying the dances, walks, theatres and other pleasures provided for their entertainment. A delightful afternoon was passed by a char-a-banc drive to the famous Sussex beauty spot, Wannock Glen, where the party sat down to an excellent tea, the drive taking them through lovely country—the birds, the scent of flowers and the country air, made one realise something of the great poet's feelings when he wrote the lines "I know a bank whereon the wild thyme grows." An event which created much friendly rivalry was a sports contest between a team representing London and one representing Brighton, the London boys taking the jumping and the Brighton team the football match and the tug-of-war, thus winning the contest. It was all very pleasant and the sun continued to pour upon us those health-giving rays which change the pale complexion of the town and city dweller into the ruddy healthy one of those who live by the sea. Our boys were not slow in taking advantage of the Greater Brighton celebrations, and many were the parties which attended the band performances, the procession of decorated cars and other attractions. A large party drove down to Preston Park in order to give the Duke and Duchess of York a welcome when they visited the town to fulfil local public engagements. On Wednesday night three char-a-bancs, loaded with our boys and their friends, joined the procession of cars parading the town and for two hours the escorts were kept busy describing the decorations and the wonderful electric light designs which illuminated the promenade and town, to say nothing of the fireworks which made such wonderful colour effects over the sea.

One must not omit to mention the excitement caused by the draw for the 22 places allotted to our boys for the enclosure at Epsom on Derby Day.

Troubles come to all men; but those who are looking for them will have the largest share.

Captain Fraser spoke to us at some length about the various activities at St. Dunstan's. He invited any man who wished to do so to ask him questions with regard to our Organisation, and one or two queries were put to him. A. Brooks, of Bourne-mouth, proposed a vote of thanks to Captain Fraser in a very enthusiastic manner, and this was seconded by J. Jerome, of Hurn.

Mention must here be made of the very graceful way in which little Marie McCarthy presented Mrs. Fraser with a bouquet of roses whilst the votes of thanks were in progress.

Time did not permit Captain Fraser to have a personal interview with all, although most, if not all, were able to give him a friendly handshake.

After he had left, Mr. Swain had a private talk with all who wished to see him, and during this time an excellent concert was taking place, organised by Miss Court. The party included C. R. Fawcett who delighted us with his songs.

The competitions resulted as follows:—First ladies' prize was won by Mrs. Fawcett, and the second by Mrs. Brooks, whilst R. Newton and J. Jerome tied for the men's prizes. They, therefore, agreed to draw for same with the result that Newton proved the winner of the first prize and Jerome the second.

The meeting came to a close about 5 p.m. and the children were, we think, hoping for one more paddle before returning home. A.K.R.

### Braille Notes

We heartily congratulate J. Bullock on passing the Braille Writing Test, and A. E. Matthews on passing the Braille Reading Test.

### Typewriting Notes

Many congratulations to R. Berry, S. Worlidge, A. Anderson, G. Taylor, A. Armstrong on passing the Typewriting Test. M. H. R.

### Telephony

Hearty congratulations to G. Webster, who has obtained a position at the Guildhall, Hull, and is giving every satisfaction; also to G. Kilsby, who has started work again at the Board of Trade, Mark Lane. M. B. M.



## ROWING

SO far rowing is going well, and I am sure that those men who are rowing regularly in the early mornings, and who live near enough to take advantage of the kindness of the Bedford College coxes are already reaping the benefit.

Tuesdays before sports is a busy time on the lake with doubles, pair oars, and fours; all are busy training for the Regatta.

## SPORTS

All are working hard at sports and the standard is becoming so high that it will soon be difficult to break previous records. This month F. Winter has broken the record of the throwing of the cricket ball by throwing it 65 yds., and Birchall made a very good treble jump of 25 ft.

We only hope that all will be feeling as strong on the sports day on Saturday, 23rd June.

## SPORTS POINTS

POINTS	
1. Birchall .. 27	8. Prior .. 7
2. McSteel .. 24	.. Matthewman .. 7
3. Scott .. 16	.. Fleming .. 7
4. Crook .. 10	.. Henry .. 7
5. Meighan .. 9	.. Martin .. 7
6. McFarlane .. 8	13. Winter .. 6
.. Nichols .. 8	14. Webster .. 5
	15. Burran .. 2

## SHIELD POINTS

The position at the moment is as follows—Birmingham and London tie with fifteen points each, Manchester, six.

## REGATTA

The date of the Regatta is *Tuesday, 17th July* commencing at 1.30 p.m. sharp.

Will all those who intend entering please let me know not later than 30th June, so that the necessary arrangements can be made?

We will adhere to last year's rules, that men may enter for two events only, excluding of course, the Shield Events, and there must be sufficient entries for each event to warrant a race.

## PROGRAMME

- 1.—Single Sculls; Present Care (T.B.)
- 2.—Single Sculls; Present Care (S.S.)
- 3.—Single Sculls; Old Boys (T.B.)
- 4.—Single Sculls; Old Boys (S.S.)
- 5.—Single Sculls; Veterans over 45.
- 6.—Double Sculls Open (at least one T.B. in a boat).
- 7.—Pair Oars Open (at least one T.B. in a boat).
- 8.—Pair Oars; one-armed.
- 9.—Open Fours (at least 2 T.B.'s in a boat).
- 10.—Shield Event; Pair Oar (1 T.B. and 1 S.S.).
- 11.—Shield Event; Doubles Sculls (1 T.B. and 1 S.S.).  
L. W.

## Manchester St. Dunstan's Sports Club

The sports held at Manchester Athletic Club's Ground, Fallowfield, on Saturday, 12th May, were a great success. The weather was kind, and we had a good attendance. Forty-five boys competed in the various events—thirty from Manchester, ten from Birmingham, and five from London. The Wesley Hall Prize Band, conducted by Mr. W. C. Colman, gave a very fine musical concert during the afternoon. The competitors showed great keenness, and now that Manchester have made a proper start, we all feel sure that they will show great improvement. The wives deserve credit and congratulations for their enthusiasm and sporting spirit.

In conjunction with the Club Field Events the Shield Track Running Races were decided between the teams of Manchester, Birmingham and London.

Mrs. Bates came up from London, and was busily engaged conversing with all the boys and their families, and also in presenting the prizes. Sisters Hodgson, Woolrych, Bamberger and Nelson had a very lively afternoon, fulfilling various offices.

The open events for sighted competitors

produced very good entries. We had a half-mile school relay race, two mile inter-club walking team race, one and a half mile youths team race (69 entries) and two miles junior harrier team race (96 entries).

In the Push Ball Match between the Shield teams, Birmingham beat London first and then went on to oust Manchester. This event caused quite a lot of hard work for the competitors, and great amusement for the spectators. Sister Hodgson, Mr. Slack, and his committee, who organised this meeting, are to be most heartily congratulated upon their splendid efforts, and we most sincerely thank them. Our thanks are also tendered to the Manchester Athletic Club for the use of the ground, to Toc H., to the stewards and programme sellers, to the ladies of the British Red Cross and Women's League of Help for all the hard work in supplying teas, &c., to the conductor and members of the band, to the donors of prizes, and all who helped toward the success of this gathering.

## RESULTS

## QUARTER MILE

1st ..	W. T. Scott
2nd ..	P. Cashmore
3rd ..	J. Yarwood

Won by 10 yds. Time 62 1/5 secs.

## HALF MILE

1st ..	F. Matthewman
2nd ..	W. Trott
3rd ..	H. Birley

Won by 12 yds. Time 2 mins. 28 1/5 secs.

## ONE MILE

1st ..	W. Riley
2nd ..	A. Benning
3rd ..	J. Worthington

Won by 50 yds. Time 5 mins. 45 4/5 secs.

## THROWING THE FOOTBALL (Open)

	yds.
1st ..	F. Matthewman .. 30 1/2
2nd ..	J. Greaves .. 28
3rd ..	McSteel .. 27

## THREE JUMPS (Open)

	ft. in.
1st ..	F. Matthewman .. 25 1
2nd ..	McSteel .. 24 2
3rd ..	Birley .. 23 9

## THROWING THE CRICKET BALL (Manchester T.B.)

	yds.
1st ..	J. Booth .. 48
2nd ..	J. Robinson .. 44 1/2

## THROWING THE FOOTBALL (Manchester S.S.)

	yds.
1st ..	Birley .. 29
2nd ..	J. Yarwood .. 25

## SINGLE JUMP (Manchester T.B.)

	ft. ins.
1st ..	J. Greaves .. 7 8 1/2
2nd ..	J. Booth .. 7 6

## DOUBLE JUMP (Manchester S.S.)

	ft. ins.
1st ..	Birley .. 15 11 1/2
2nd ..	J. Yarwood .. 14 1 1/2

PUTTING THE WEIGHT (Open)  
(Manchester and District)

	ft. ins.
1st ..	J. Robinson .. 28 9
2nd ..	W. Moore .. 26 0

In this event, the special prize, awarded by Mrs. Bates, for veterans, was won by Chambers (19 ft. 9 in.s.).

## PUSH BALL

Birmingham v. London—Birmingham	1 goal
Birmingham v. Manchester—	1 "

## LADIES' EGG AND SPOON RACE

1st ..	Mrs. Duxbury
2nd ..	Gillibrand
3rd ..	Whittingham

W. T.

## FUTURE DATES

Sister Hodgson has been able, through the generosity of the Manchester Y.M.C.A., to procure the loan of their Sports Ground at Alexandra Park on the following dates: 13th June, 4th July, 1st August, 5th September, at 3 p.m. Will all Manchester and district boys make a note of this? A hearty welcome awaits both new and old members at these gatherings.

The next meeting will be held on 27th June at the Y.M.C.A., Alexandra Park, 3 p.m. sharp. I have had to fix the meeting a week early as the following Wednesday both Instructor Tovell and I will be in camp.

Please note sculling practices take place each Tuesday and Thursday on Plattfields Lake. Miss Coverdale of the Red Cross meets the tram outside the park at Dickenson Road stop just before 6 o'clock. I hope more men will make an effort to come as Miss Coverdale is giving up a lot of time to coxing, and it will give her more encouragement.

The club members are working hard at sculling for the Putney Regatta, 17th July. There will be heats rowed at Boggart Hole Clough to decide who goes to represent the Club, probably on Wednesday, 27th June after the sports meeting at Alexandra Park. I hope a good number will turn up to try their luck.

Any one wanting half-price passes for sculling at Plattfields, Boggart Hole Clough,



or Heaton Park, please write to me. Boats are paid for by the Club on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Plattfields. Please notesports meetings and tea at Alexandra Park, Y.M.C.A. Ground, Wednesdays 1st August and 4th September 3 to 6 p.m. Please come punctually as we have to leave by 6 p.m.

#### NOTTINGHAM AND DISTRICT

Mrs. Carlin has again invited us all to tea on Thursday 27th June. The B.R.C.S. are kindly arranging cars to drive us over. I must know numbers as soon as possible, so let me know as soon as you get the REVIEW.

Any men in the district will be welcomed with their wives; everyone will of course be responsible for their own fares. Please be at Trinity Square, Nottingham, at 2 p.m.

#### BIRMINGHAM

The Walking Race is fixed for 25th August, start 2.30 sharp, Farcroft Hotel, Rookery Road, Handsworth, Birmingham; distance 14 miles—*entries close 1st August.*  
A. H.

#### HOLIDAY CAMP

The camp will be held at Little Gaddesden House, 2nd July to 9th, by kind invitation of Miss B. Talbot who is undertaking all arrangements. It is hoped to have a char-a-banc and go for several expeditions during the week. Camp fee £1 7s. 6d. Campers please don't forget to bring knife, fork, spoon, towel and soap.

Walking Race to Halton, Saturday 7th July, entries finally close 25th June; it does make it much easier for me if I know as soon as possible who is coming as I really have quite a number of entries.

#### GOOD CONCERTINA WANTED

Has any St. Dunstaner (or friend of St. Dunstan's) got a good English made concertina of which he wishes to dispose? A. Rowe, of 72 Dartmouth St., Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, is a good performer and cannot get half-tones on his present instrument, hence his desire for a better one.

#### ADVERTISEMENT

BRIGHTON.—Comfortable apartments. Highly recommended. Ten minutes from St. Dunstan's Annexe. Moderate terms.—Address, A. A. Hillier, Laurel House, 25 Sutherland Road, Kempdown, Brighton.

### News from the Workshops

#### BOOTS

JACKSON has made general and steady progress since he has been all day in the shop; there is improvement in his marking and riveting, and he is getting better edges. G. Taylor has made a little improvement all round, but he still finds difficulty with his marking and riveting. For a beginner, W. Armstrong has been making steady improvement, and F. Williams has reached a fair standard with his marking and riveting. T. E. Gidney is still very keen, and is gaining useful experience in all parts of the work. E. A. Alexander and A. A. Tennison have completed their course of training; the latter man has gained considerably in speed, without letting the quality of his work suffer.

#### BASKETS

A. C. Brignal has progressed from barrels to waste papers, but is still lacking in confidence, which naturally slows up his work. H. B. Read is a good tryer, and though his work varies somewhat, he is beginning to manage the bottoms and staking much better. One seven inch barrel was very nice all through. A. Kitson is getting out of his difficulties, and is, generally speaking, better all-round, though he is still finding trouble in the starting and finishing of the plait borders on trays and teapot stands. During the last month, R. A. Barbour has been doing hampers, and heavy work seems to suit him much better. An 11 inch soiled-linen basket made by A. C. Matthews was very nice; he seems to have taken a fancy to this type of basket, which he would find quite a good line to develop. J. Mullen was not very well before he left, but we feel that, with his wife's assistance, he will be able to carry on quite useful work. J. W. Bullock got through a good amount of work, completing his course, and we feel confident that he will do quite well. A. W. Pimm also covered a good range in his stock baskets; he has reached a first-class level, in spite of his disability.

#### TO BASKET MAKERS

No doubt our basket makers are aware that willow rods, when received from the grower, are tied up in "bolts," the average weight of which, in all buff rods, is 14 lbs. In white, "tacks" usually weigh about 16 lbs., "short small" about 22 lbs., and "long small" about 28 lbs. The majority of our basket makers now use fairly regular quantities of certain materials, and I should be glad if they would, in future, order one "bolt" of each of the sizes they need. They would not, of course, be able to do this in the case of "Middleborough" or "Threepenny" It is not desirable for a man to overload himself with material, but on the other hand, it is quite a good plan to have a varied assortment of rods in stock, so as to be able to select the right material for a job. Another advantage of having a good stock is that in the event of transport difficulties, a man is not kept waiting for lack of material.

In addition to ordering material in "bolts," we should like every basket maker to make each order he sends as large as possible; a considerable saving in carriage would thus be effected. Some men have been ordering weekly, or fortnightly, whereas, if they could send us one order a month, the same quantity of material would be conveyed at a much lower cost. It would also save time in the stores, as when the "bolts" have to be broken up, the quantity weighed, and tied up again, naturally, a good deal of time is taken up. If each man will be kind enough to fall in with these suggestions, the total saving to St. Dunstan's will be considerable.

A very large number of St. Dunstan's men will desire to be associated with us in all good wishes to Mr. Whitfield, who trained so many of the men in the boot shop, and whose engagement with St. Dunstan's terminated this Whitsuntide. He himself has said that he felt that his work had come to an end when the training at headquarters ceased, but he remained on the staff for a little while longer to cover our move to the new stores. We valued him, of course, in the first place, on account of his skill; he was certainly a first-class craftsman, and showed this, not

only by the work that he turned out, but also by his readiness to examine any suggestion that was made concerning the work, and his adaptability when taking on such a new job as instructing blind men. These qualities were, of course, appreciated mainly by the men under his instruction, but any one who came in touch with "Whitty," will never forget his readiness to do anything in his power, his natural modesty, and his unfailing courtesy. We trust that his memories of St. Dunstan's in his well-earned retirement, will be as pleasing to him as our recollections of himself. The members of the staff at the stores, presented him with a barometer as a parting gift, though we understand that whenever he wants to go fishing, nothing a barometer can say will stop him.

W. H. O.

#### Netting Notes

Summer seems to be here, and though there has not been much sun, the birds are busy, which is a good thing for the netting department, as it means good orders for fruit netting. We have been able to keep the men very busy so far, and the staff have been working at a great pace joining nets together as soon as they arrive. The men at Brighton are busy as usual. A. C. Brignall, A. Kimber, W. Markwich, Colonel Weston, are doing well with rugs. C. Land, who has returned from King's Langley, has made a good beginning at netting. F. Williams has nearly finished his course, and has done well. C. White has had to leave to go to King's Langley. S. Millis and F. Reynolds have had a "refresher" course and Millis has now returned to his home.

Our congratulations were offered to S. Clarke, while he was under training, on the excellent results he obtained, in spite of his disabled hand. We should now like to continue them, not only upon the fact that he is maintaining his high standard of work, but also upon the way in which he is disposing of his goods, though he is situated in a small village. With the aid of his sister, he has got in touch with customers in Reading, twelve miles away, and during the past year, has disposed of £47 worth of his own baskets, trays, &c.

## "In Memory"

### Death of Captain Stuart Palmer

HIS LONG AND SPLENDID WORK FOR SCOTTISH AND NORTHERN ST. DUNSTANERS

The news of Captain Stuart Palmer's death must have been a great shock and cause of grief to those who knew him so well and to whom he had been a good friend and adviser for so many years. His death was comparatively sudden—he had been ill only a week and the news of his death immediately followed a notification of an attack of influenza, not at all an alarming notification, so we were not prepared for the sad news.

Captain Palmer had arrived at a hotel in Carlisle on visits to St. Dunstaners in Cumberland when he was taken ill. He had every care and attention from the kindly manageress and her staff, but had to be removed to a nursing home a few days later when his illness assumed an alarming aspect and he died a few hours afterwards. Unfortunately, this happened on the Friday previous to Whitsun Monday, so the news did not reach Headquarters until the following Tuesday morning, after the funeral had taken place.

G. B. Swanston, of Lockerbie, had, however, been in correspondence with Captain Palmer and heard of his death. He immediately made arrangements with W. McLean, of Ruthwell, to represent St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstaners at the funeral. We at Headquarters are very appreciative of the prompt action taken, and are happy to feel that two of the St. Dunstaners for whom Captain Palmer worked so devotedly were able to pay this tribute of affection and respect for him.

We shall all miss him very much. Early in 1917 Sir Arthur Pearson, when engaging Captain Palmer to look after those of his St. Dunstan's family so far away from Headquarters, felt happy in his choice and in the feeling that however big would grow the then comparatively small number of Scotsmen settled, the right man was there to advise and arrange settlements, &c. This feeling has been confirmed as the years have rolled on, and Captain Palmer's replacement will be difficult. Fortunately, Settlements, on which a great deal of his time has been successfully spent, are now few and far between, owing to the reduction of men in training.

Several letters have been received from St. Dunstaners who have heard of Captain Palmer's passing, all expressing grief, and some suggesting that those St. Dunstaners resident in the area covered by Captain Palmer be asked to contribute towards some kind of memorial as a mark of affection and respect. The following is an extract from a letter from C. McIntosh, of Dumfries:—

"Is there any movement on foot for Scots St. Dunstaners to contribute towards some kind of memorial to a gentleman who, for these last ten years or so, has so wholeheartedly and sympathetically worked in our behalf? I am sure none of our men North of the Tweed would fail to respond to such a proposal."

We feel that, if this idea makes general appeal, a collection should be organised from Headquarters, that Captain Palmer's sister, Mrs. Poole, who has been in touch with us, should be consulted in the matter, and that an amount should be fixed as a maximum subscription. Will any St. Dunstaner who has any suggestions to make write to Mrs. Bates. These will then receive careful consideration and the result will be announced in the next issue of the REVIEW.

All at Headquarters who have been associated with Captain Palmer in his work, and whose affection he has won, offer sincere condolences to his relatives and to those for whom he worked so well, who will feel his loss so keenly.

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