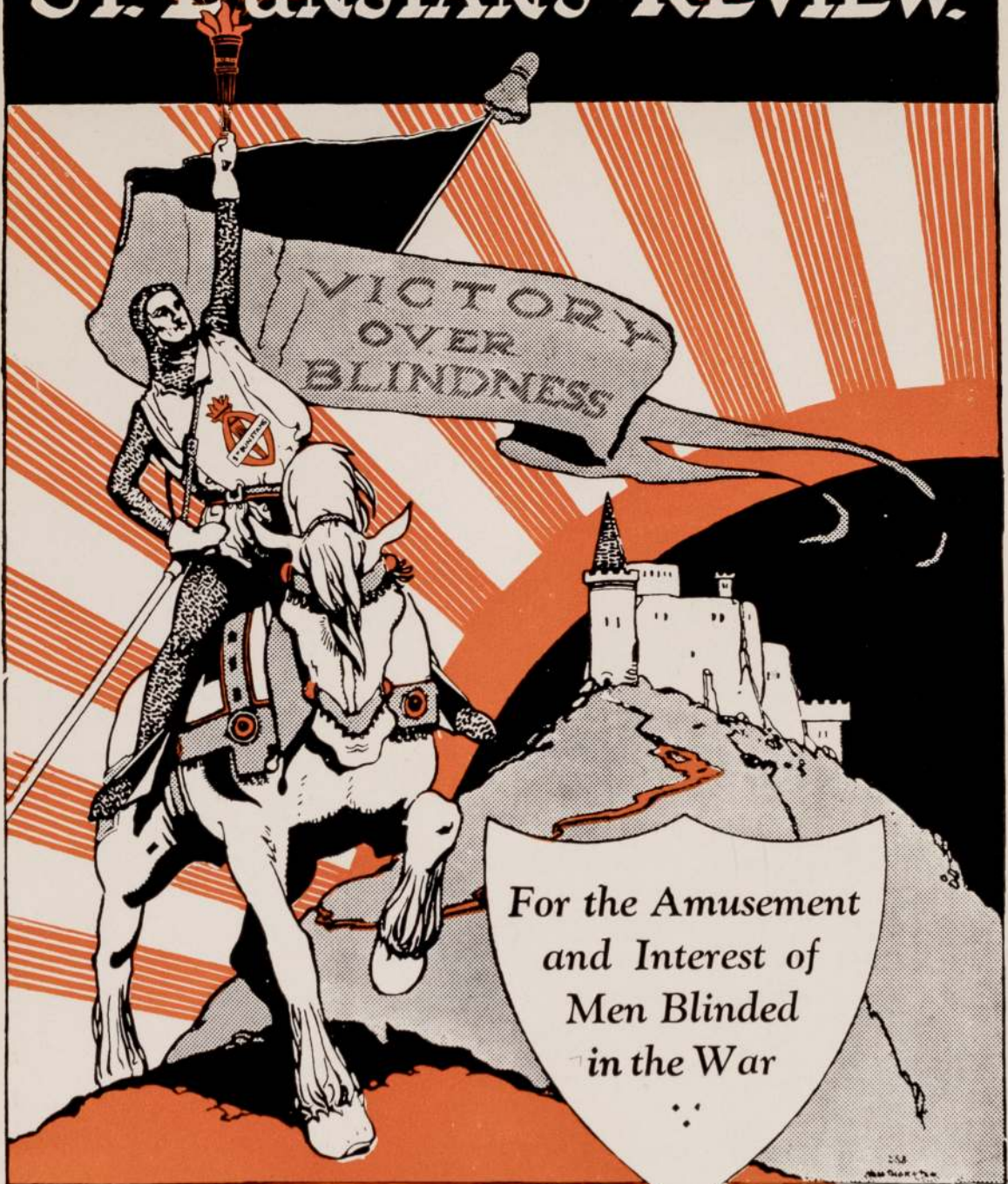


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW



Published Monthly

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ST. DUNSTAN'S FOR BLINDED SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN (IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE BRITISH LEGION)
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St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

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November 11th

AS in past years, in fact, ever since its unveiling, St. Dunstan's was permitted to send a wreath deputation to the Cenotaph. The rendezvous was Wellington Barracks, for it is from there that all the forces and ex-Service men's and women's columns which form the Guard of Honour around the world-renowned shrine move off. Our party (as good soldiers always are) were early on parade. A few thousands were already assembled, but there was no commotion—everyone has learned to marshal in perfect order. Old friends were met who inquired after many of the boys who have been on this parade on other occasions. Our column marched off behind the Coldstream Guards' Band. The streets were lined on either side with scores of thousands of spectators; the sun shone brightly as our contingent took up its position. What a scene! Simplicity as the centre piece, surrounded by the pillars of the Empire. His Majesty the King stepped forward and placed his wreath at the foot of the Cenotaph—stepped back and saluted. Then the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, followed by the Prime Minister. Big Ben warned the assembly that the eleventh hour was approaching. Boom! that was the maroon. What a space of time seemed those two minutes! And what a number of thoughts can pass through one's mind in this stillness! After the completion of the service, the Last Post, and the Reveille, St. Dunstan's wreath was placed in position by Captain Fraser and Hugh Stayt. Then came the march back to barracks. "Old Army, eyes left!" to the Cenotaph—"eyes front!" Then "Tipperary." The boys sang and there was clapping and a few throaty cheers. "Well done, boys," and similar words came from either side. Before dismissing the parade, Admiral of the Fleet Earl Jellicoe spoke a few kindly words, as did Colonel J. Brown, Chairman of the British Legion.

The men who formed the deputation, which as stated was headed by Captain Fraser, were D. Chappel, A. Craigie, H. Stayt, A. Iddiols, P. P. Jones, A. Rhees, J. Mellor, L. Johns, D. Ironside, and N. Downs.

St. Dunstan's Singers at the Albert Hall

Presented to His Royal Highness

THIS year's Remembrance Festival will stand out in the annals of St. Dunstan's history. Although in past years a number of St. Dunstan's men have been present at the gathering, upon this occasion St. Dunstan's choir had the great honour of being included in the programme and they acquitted themselves with great success. Their item immediately followed the Prince of Wales's speech, and the singers received a tremendous ovation when they took up their position on the platform. "The Soldiers' Chorus" was sung, and afterwards "Jerusalem" in response to the demand for an encore. At the conclusion of their turn they received a tumultuous burst of appreciative applause, particularly from the St. Dunstaners who sat just above them. With a soldier-like "right turn" and with hands on each other's shoulders, they marched off the stage with true military precision.

Just before his speech, the Prince of Wales, with his usual interest in St. Dunstan's, made his way to the Artistes' Room, where Miss McCall, Miss Monroe, and each of the singers individually were presented to His Royal Highness, who remained talking with them for about ten minutes.

It is a great thing to the credit of the St. Dunstan's Singers that they should be invited to sing before the greatest of all gatherings of ex-Service men. St. Dunstaners, and all connected with St. Dunstan's, are very proud of this fact, and also that having had the opportunity of showing what they can do, they acquitted themselves so creditably. It must be a source of great satisfaction to Miss McCall and Mrs. Brancker.

The men who formed the singers' party were M. Burran, C. Thomas, F. Rhodes, J. W. Baxter, W. Henry, C. Singleton, A. Peckham, J. Pearce, S. Webster, H. Gover, A. J. Osmond, A. Brown.

November 12th

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL ARMISTICE DANCE took place on Wednesday, 12th November 1930, at the St. Marylebone Hall, and was as popular as ever, something like four hundred St. Dunstaners, wives, and guests being present. Everybody was in high spirits, and old friends made the most of their opportunity to have a talk.

Captain Fraser in a short address made touching reference to our late Chief, Sir Arthur Pearson, and to Miss Power, remarking that everybody knew of the wonderful work they had both done in their own sphere for St. Dunstaners. He welcomed Lady Pearson, President of St. Dunstan's, whose presence brought forth hearty cheers. Referring to Miss Thelluson, he said how pleased everybody was to have her present that evening as hostess. This again led to loud cheering. Lady Pearson, replying to the welcome, wished all St. Dunstaners good luck and called upon the assembly to give three cheers for Captain Fraser, which request was responded to very heartily. Then followed an innovation and a surprise in the form of the Roosters' Concert Party. Directly their cock-crowing chorus sounded from the platform, it was realised that there was much merriment in store for half an hour, and this proved to be the case. Everybody seemed thoroughly to enjoy the songs, choruses, and old regimental quips and jests, and all voted the show well worth the necessary break in the proceedings. In addition to the London boys, there were many from the home counties, and a welcome sprinkling from further afield. St. Dunstan's Band provided the music,

visiting V.A.D.'s and orderlies from Brighton and the London V.A.D.'s attended to the distribution of refreshments, and a very happy evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem at 11.30.

Brighton News

Our Armistice celebrations commenced on Sunday, 9th November, when a large party of our men assisted at the British Legion Memorial Service, held in the Savoy Picture Palace. Songs were rendered by the King's Cliff Quartette, whilst the singing of "Land of Hope and Glory," by Mdme. Wellard, stirred to its very depths the huge audience which packed this new super cinema. Musical items were contributed by the Police Band and the cinema organist.

At a quarter to eleven on Armistice Day, we all gathered in the big lounge, where Matron conducted a very impressive and simple service. Just before eleven the wireless was turned on to enable us to observe the Two Minutes' Silence with the rest of the world. At the conclusion of the service from Whitehall we all formed up outside the house and, with an escort of police, kindly sent by the Chief Constable of Brighton, we marched to the Brighton Cenotaph. The honour of placing the floral tribute on the Memorial fell to W. Berry and G. Brewer.

After dinner we had the pleasure of Sir Cooper-Rawson's company who, for about half an hour, kept us roaring with laughter, at some of his best stories. An impromptu concert was then carried on until it was time for us to go to the Savoy, as guests of the management, to witness

a film of Count McCormack—"Song of my Heart." This was a real treat and much enjoyed by everyone of us.

In the evening there was Community Singing at the Hove Town Hall. Our men thoroughly enjoyed the singing of the old marching songs.

There was also a service at St. George's Church, which Matron and a good number of the men attended.

A Unique Experience

(Below we give an interesting account of a Fête de France held at Brighton recently; it is written by the St. Dunstaner who, with his wife, played a part in helping to make it a success.)

"It was the privilege of my wife and myself to give what help we could at the Fête de France which was held at The Dome, Corn Exchange, and Pavilion, Brighton, on 7th, 8th and 9th October. This Fête, which was a wonderful piece of organisation, had for its aim and object the raising of £5,000 in aid of the Eye Hospital Building Fund. Practically all the workers wore French costume and threw themselves heart and soul into the fray. Results were excellent, and at 4.0 p.m. on the closing day it was estimated that the greater part of the desired amount had been raised. But this is by the way, as no doubt many will have read the various accounts in the daily press. What I really want to do is to give our little experience.

My wife and I were down on the programme as "The Blind Beggars" and our job was to beg from rich and poor alike. We were dressed as poor French beggars, with the usual tin cup, and I wore a card across my chest bearing the words "Ayez pitié d'un pauvre aveugle" (otherwise "have pity on the poor blind"), and as beggars usually do, sang a little French song, "La Pantin." People appeared to think I was simply acting the part of a blind man and many amusing remarks came our way, such as "Isn't it a good get-up?" "You could almost believe he really *was* blind," &c. Things grew slightly awkward when the French visitors came along and addressed us in their own language, but when we explained that our French was very limited they laughed and

paid up liberally. One lady seemed to have serious doubts about our honesty—asked if I was sure the money I was taking was for the hospital and not for myself, and if the medals I was wearing really belonged to me and were genuine and so forth. She was so insistent that I was obliged to apply to a constable who was standing near by to set her fears at rest, whereupon she walked sheepishly away. I must hasten, however, to add that on the whole everyone was very kind and gave what they could spare.

In conclusion I would say that, although begging may seem an easy way of amassing money, our recent experience satisfied us that it is simpler to remain at home and "make shavings," which is my usual occupation. However, we enjoyed the Fête thoroughly and our little effort brought in £11 12s. 2d." T. EATON.

Netting Room Notes

We have all been very busy at Raglan Street, preparing for the Soldiers' Exhibition at the Imperial Institute which began on 8th November. Last year St. Dunstan's stall was a great success, and we are hoping for large orders this year too, especially for rugs.

Any time the men have any new ideas for rugs we are always glad to have them. We thank F. Thompson for having sent us a very pretty one to see.

The netting room at Brighton seems full again after the holidays. W. Lacy, N. Rand, T. Warren, J. Yuile, S. Cole, T. Millard, and H. Young having passed their bag tests are all working well at rugs. W. McCarthy, W. Hodgman, and T. Bloomfield are busy at netting. I saw a very nice hammock being made there one day lately. K. H. W.

Matron Power

The nephews and nieces of Miss Power, O.B.E., Matron of St. Dunstan's, have written to thank the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of St. Dunstan's very sincerely for their appreciation and kind sympathy shown in their sad bereavement.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

HARDLY a month goes by without the fine craftsmanship of some St. Dunstaner receiving public recognition. This remark is occasioned by the success of J. Buckle, of Grimston, King's Lynn, who at a recent exhibition secured the second prize for his seagrass stool as well as a certificate for his tea trays. Congratulations to him on the double success.

Quite a number of nice orders were received by W. T. E. Collins, of Cowes, as a result of the last Arts and Crafts Exhibition and we hope the same excellent developments will take place after this year's show, for which we hear Collins has been working hard.

Various alterations and improvements have been made by A. Bundy, of Gloucester, and he has been very busy rearranging his shop as a consequence. We hope his tobacco trade will flourish and are glad to be able to say that his health is very good at present.

Cheerful letters continue to reach D. Livingstone, of Mauchline, from his sailor son, who is now heading for India. Livingstone himself has been busy writing a pamphlet on "Health." He is a firm believer in the beneficent effects of plenty of fresh air.

R. Gifford, of Linlithgow, is rearing a few fine geese for Christmas; already they promise to be succulent morsels.

"All's well" is the news from S. W. Wain, of Derby; his work keeps him occupied and happy and he now has five grandchildren. Does he head the list in this respect we wonder? It would be quite interesting to know.

F. Bulley, of Crampmoor, Romsey, has been taking advantage of St. Luke's

summer to get out of doors as much as possible. He and his wife (with the baby in a basket behind them) have been making some fine cycling excursions on their tandem.

W. H. Wright, of Verwood, intends to make his garden his trade as well as his hobby; he is always busy in it and looking back over the first year's work considers that it has well repaid him for his efforts.

Stool-making has been occupying J. A. Dunlop, of Bonnyrigg; he is very keen on this work and finds it interesting. A number of orders have come his way already and he is hoping for more for Christmas, which we have no doubt he will get, for an enterprising and courteous firm has given him window space for a display—and this at a particularly important time of year.

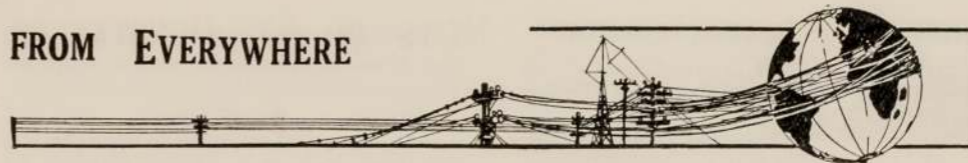
The summer fête organised by the British Legion brought a considerable amount of grist to the mill of A. B. Tanner, of St. Ives, who found there appreciative customers for his well-made baskets. He has a delightful and well-kept home and those who wish to go to this part of Cornwall for their holidays would do well to communicate with Mrs. Tanner; she likes to make her guests comfortable.

E. J. Burley, of Redruth, another of our Cornish men, reports steady progress. He has some nice local orders for his mats and his poultry continue to do well.

In these days of many moves it is quite amazing to find anyone settled in one house for any appreciable length of time and F. D. Tomlinson, of Retford, Notts., must have set up a record. He has been twelve years in his present home and has no wish to leave it!

If anyone wants a new amusement let

FROM EVERYWHERE



him try quoits, says W. H. Harding, of Finsbury Park Road! He has been having a deal of fun playing with his little daughter and suggests that other St. Dunstaners should see if they cannot become as skilful as he—anyway they will get some amusement out of their efforts.

G. E. Crook, of Herne Bay, has been making some particularly nice trays with finger-holes instead of handles and these have gone off quite well locally we are glad to hear.

If the wife of any joiner St. Dunstaner wants a really nice Christmas present from her husband she should tell him of what A. A. Hillier, of Brighton, has been doing. He has made Mrs. Hillier a delightful wooden fender for the sitting-room; it is admired by everyone who sees it.

Determined to have outdoor work, C. Brooks, of Brenchley, took on an extra allotment during a spell when he had no poultry and has made a real success of it, as also he has with his garden.

As reported in the REVIEW, the *Yorkshire Post* contained a nice "write-up" about W. Gill and his work a short time ago, and one of the results has been the receipt of a charming letter from a lady with an order for a trousers-press for her husband's birthday!

A. Oldfield, of Sheffield, is in much better health of late, perhaps owing to the steady work he has put into his garden, in which he has grown some really beautiful chrysanthemums. In addition he has had a fine crop of tomatoes, for which he found a ready sale in the shop. We are not surprised, for there is a vast difference between the flavour of the genuine fresh English tomato and the foreign variety.

Scottish people are wise enough to take time by the forelock and see to it that their boots and shoes are in good order for the coming winter before the damp weather sets in, so K. Howes, of Montrose, has been exceedingly busy since he returned home. No wonder he makes a success of life, for he never lets a customer leave him in a discontented frame of mind and thinks nothing of putting in as much "overtime" as may be necessary to finish up an urgent order.

The new house in Sutton-in-Ashfield into which J. E. Langham has settled is a great improvement on the old; he has a fine garden and wonders have been done in it already; the family hope to make quite a good thing out of garden produce next season.

A number of mat orders have been coming to E. Brockie, of Torphins, all through the season, so he is now hard at it building up his stock again.

Friends will be glad to hear that R. J. Williams, of Southwick, did well at the Hove Flower Show and hopes to get into the November Chrysanthemum Show at Brighton. Williams's garden is a constant interest to him and he now has a greenhouse, which should be a blessing to him in the cold days coming.

By an odd coincidence two St. Dunstaners have discovered themselves to be near neighbours. Their sons happened to be at the same school and by sheer luck made friends; one invited the other to his home, knowing nothing of him but his name, when each was amazed to find that the other's father was a St. Dunstaner.

"All going well," reports F. Guiseley, of Harden. Since leaving Cleckheaton both Guiseley and his wife have put on weight and the small boy has strengthened up

News of St. Dunstaners—continued.

amazingly. It is a busy family, for Guiseley is running two stalls in Bingley market each week.

The little son of S. P. Peacey, of Oxford, had a wonderful escape from a tragic accident a few weeks ago. He fell on some railings one of which pierced his neck but by sheer miracle just missed the root of his tongue.

A. Hinton, of Malvern, seems to have a genius for making the best of life. If boot repairs come in he does them—failing these he works in his garden or turns to his poultry, and when there is literally nothing more wanting attention in these two lines, or weather drives him indoors, he sits down cheerily at his mat frame!

String-bags continue to interest J. Owens, of Ayr—and no wonder, for they are captivating as well as useful articles.

A. Hight, another Ayrshire man, had a fine holiday on Loch Tay not so very long ago and is still looking well as a result; his poultry continue to make good progress.

Three-pence cannot be considered an excessive price for a canary! The daughter of W. Chapple, of Bush Hill Park, won one at a fair for this surprising price and her father has made it a splendid cage. On the whole, however, Chapple says that he prefers heavy work and is never happier than when he is planing stout boards.

It is early in the year to have flood trouble, so everyone will be ready with their sympathy for T. Gidney, of Stoke Newington, whose house has suffered this disaster. Gidney is doing very well at his work we are glad to know, and is one of the most respected men in the district.

A curious and most unpleasant accident befell W. J. Gilbert, of Barnstaple, a week or so back. While travelling on the usual weekly round to customers, the wheel flew off his trap which gave way—but by sheer good luck Gilbert did *not* go rolling

in the mud and, happily, was unhurt. All the same it must have been a very unpleasant moment.

T. Vaughan, of Vennyfach, near Brecon, has been making a gallant attempt to grow a black rose. He has not succeeded as yet (good luck to him next season), but has produced the largest parsnips, beans, &c., in the neighbourhood! The garden has been a picture by all accounts and Vaughan has every reason to be proud of the result of his exertions.

Mats, fowls, and ducks have been keeping S. J. Jordan, of Leominster, Herefordshire, fairly occupied, but we think the joy of his heart is his two-year-old grandson—a splendid little fellow and full of life.

Our Irish St. Dunstaners are still "going strong." B. Martin, of Bray, who is ever ready to strike out in fresh directions, is going to have a shot at making some wine-bottle baskets, for which he has had an inquiry. He is very cheerful and well, and has put on a number of pounds in weight of late.

H. Reid, of Belfast, is in good form and is much interested in rug work; his health is noticeably better now that he has something to do.

J. Lawlor, of Dublin, is in great form and J. Goodison, of Sandymount, is pretty fit and busy securing orders for his mats. R. Bell, of the same district, is as cheery as usual and busy with baskets.

Rugs keep busy J. Darbison, of Nenagh, who is finding a deal of pleasure in his gramophone; M. Manning (Charleville) is also in good form and is looking forward to starting work so soon as his workshop has been erected. P. Kennedy, of Thurles, is wonderfully well and we take this opportunity of congratulating him upon his little daughter's success, as she has carried off a scholarship.

A lamp standard which has won a great deal of admiration has just been

News of St. Dunstaners—continued.

completed by S. Holmes, of Belfast; it looks as if further orders will follow.

Brief Notes

All goes well with G. Craddock, of Wellingborough, both in his health and work. J. Thornton, of Camden Town, continues to do fairly well with his baskets despite severe foreign competition. Hop picking gave H. J. Harris, of Loose, an enjoyable three weeks of open-air life. C. Brooks, of Brenchley, Nr. Maidstone, is in good health and has just started poultry work again.

The news from C. F. Spiers, of Oxford, is to the point; everything is going well and he has a few local orders on hand.

All's well too with A. T. Hazel, of Wimbledon, and the new Miss Hazel is a great success we hear; A. Dolby is very pleased with his new house in Wood Green; J. Pease, of Stanningley, keeps to his job remarkably well; H. Hague, of Ashton-under-Lyne, is busy and happy; T. Kent, of Chelmsford, who is in good health, is doing fairly well with picture-framing and selling St. Dunstan's baskets, and the same may be said of W. Lingard, of Writtle, and J. Billington, of Chelmsford.

In Whitehill, Bordon, A. Jarvis goes on steadily; W. H. Allen, of Devonport, has a nice little workshop near the ferry where he keeps busy with mats; as does C. Davey, in Sawbridgeworth.

Bishops Stortford continues to appreciate the baskets made by C. E. Beck; poultry keep E. H. Carpenter, of Bellair, King's Langley, busy, and J. W. Spink employs himself with his joinery in Boxmoor, Herts.

D. Gibson, of Rosyth, is intending to apply to the Board of Agriculture for a small holding, which should give him plenty to do.

Quite a number of nice local orders have been secured by H. Wignell, of Market Harborough.

C. V. Smith, of Desford, is going on cheerily, as is W. J. Bowers, of Hounslow; F. Fishwick, of St. Helens, is keeping well and happy, and T. Kinder, of the same locality, is making a job of a pigeon house.

A new interest has been found by F. E. Parker, of Fareham—he is starting organ lessons.

D. McLean, of Reading, has no spare moments at present since he is studying for another theological examination.

In Southport, W. Smith is steadily building up a good connection. "O.K.," says R. C. Botley, who is looking remarkably sunburnt still—the after-effects of a late holiday. J. E. Gunn, of Gravesend, and H. Wilkins, of the same district, are keeping well, as too is A. W. Cima, of Wraysbury, Bucks., who is very busy tidying up his garden for the winter.

J. W. Yarwood, of Didsbury, is doing fairly well at the shop; W. Murphy, of Queen's Drive, Liverpool, is very pleased with his new house and looks forward to doing well at work so soon as his hut is fixed; W. T. Scott, of Moss Side, Manchester, is doing quite well and has made a fine recovery from pneumonia, as all his friends will be glad to know.

T. W. Moore, of Miles Platting, Manchester, is taking real pleasure in his work and both A. Taylor, of Stanway (near Colchester), and C. Peach, of Copford, are doing fairly well in their respective ways—mats and poultry. J. Batchelor, of Tooting Grove, ought to be congratulated on his children, who have greatly improved their surroundings by converting a rubbish dump into a nice little garden.

Young St. Dunstaners

As usual nowadays, a number of young St. Dunstaners have been earning distinction, and of these we will begin with the most youthful:—

Baby Jean, the small daughter of W. Shurrock, of Chilton, Thame, has carried off second prize at a local baby show (and we are not surprised to hear it!).

Lilian, daughter of J. Bentley, of New Southgate, captured a silver cup (1st prize) in a swimming gala at the Aldgate Baths recently—67 yards scratch. She also took second prize, 33 yards, and this was a morocco case containing tortoiseshell brushes, mirror, &c.

Terrence, aged 13, the son of I. Davidson, of Bradford, Manchester, has won a scholarship and is now attending a High School, where he will remain until he is 17.

The eldest son of W. Duxbury, who is 15½, has just matriculated. He is now attending the North Manchester High School and expects to become a chemist or else a teacher.

Arthur, son of A. Lenderyou, has secured a scholarship which will carry him to a Secondary School.

T. Pannifer, of Weaste, Manchester, sends word that his daughter is doing well at college.

The daughter of W. R. Dunning, of Forest Hill, has been giving her father a very interesting account of Belgium as she has seen it on a school holiday. The two elder sons of C. Sheppard, of Crockerton, Warminster, turned a fortnight of their summer holiday to good account by attending a County Council class in butter and cheese making!

A Young St. Dunstaner wants a Post

Does any poultry-keeping St. Dunstaner require the services of a boy interested in such work? The son of E. Greenwood, of 4 Halifax Road, Enfield, has now left school and desires a post of the kind.

An Approaching Marriage

Word has reached us that W. J. Hare, of Norwich, is to be married on 25th November at St. Paul's Church, Gloucester, to Miss Bundy, sister of the well-known St. Dunstaner, A. Bundy, of Gloucester. We hope to be able to give further particulars of the ceremony in the next number of the REVIEW.

Births

CURNOW.—To the wife of J. Curnow, of Troon, Cornwall, on the 6th October, a son.

DEVLIN.—On the 10th October, to the wife of T. Devlin, of St. Helens, Lancs., a daughter. (See deaths column.)

MILLWARD.—On 2nd October, a daughter, to the wife of W. Millward, of Stratford-on-Avon.

Marriages

ADAMS-FRITH.—On the 14th October, at Alder Grove Wesleyan Chapel, Doncaster, A. Adams, of Balby, Doncaster, to Miss Mary Frith. The bride was married from the home of her sister, and the best man was the bridegroom's son, Mr. G. W. Adams. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. Phillips Cape. Miss E. M. Wills played the organ, and the hymn, "O, Perfect Love" was sung. Mr. and Mrs. Adams are spending their honeymoon at Rawtenshaw, near Bolton, Lancs.

GRATTIDGE-BURFORD.—At Holy Trinity Church, Bordesley, Birmingham, on the 20th September, C. H. Grattidge, of Birmingham, to Miss Florence Hester Burford. Two St. Dunstaners—E. A. Cole and V. Wicken—were among the wedding guests.

WILTSHIRE-CONNOR.—On the 26th July last, at the Walworth Wesleyan Church, A. J. Wiltshire, to Miss Edith Connor. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Butterworth.

The following is an extract from the *Sunday Express* :—

THE PRIDE OF THE BLIND

Drummer N. Downs, of the 1st Loyal North Lancs Regiment, and now of St. Dunstan's, insists that he is not really blind although he cannot see at all. He refuses to wear his "blind man's badge," and walks boldly through traffic, trusting to "blind man's luck." A smartly trotting tandem turnout missed him by inches in Regent's Park yesterday.

The driver swore, not knowing Drummer Downs was blind, and the proud ex-soldier, after making a suitable reply, resumed his stroll.

Query: What did Drummer Downs say to the driver?

SPECIAL NOTICE

Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson

OUR readers are specially asked to note that the Memorial Service to our late Chief, Sir Arthur Pearson, will be held in the Lounge at St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, at 6.15 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, 9th December.

As in past years, a deputation of St. Dunstaners will proceed to Hampstead Cemetery from Headquarters in the morning to lay a wreath on Sir Arthur's grave. St. Dunstaners are reminded that subscriptions towards the wreath, which should not exceed more than one shilling, should be sent to Mrs. Bates' office.

Sir Arthur's Memory

A ST. DUNSTAN'S VETERAN TALKS OF OLD TIMES AND OUR LATE CHIEF

The following appeared in a recent issue of one of the leading Canadian daily papers and will be read with interest by all St. Dunstaners.

"Canada will never forget the late Sir Arthur Pearson and his work for the blind," declared J. Harvey Lynes, of Toronto, the first president of the Sir Arthur Pearson Club of Blinded Soldiers and Sailors in an interview. Mr. Lynes, whose sight was destroyed completely in the war, came to Montreal last week as a delegate to the convention of the Amputations Association of the Great War.

"Mr. Lynes knew Sir Arthur Pearson intimately, and he characterised him as the greatest exponent of service work the world has ever known.

KEEP TRADITIONS

"It was to keep alive the traditions he established," he said, "that shortly after his death we decided to form a club in Canada. We have a Dominion-wide membership. It is not a very large one, and every year we hold a re-union at our headquarters in Toronto. We have sporting events, and we are well provided with books for we are allowed to use the library of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

"A lot of the men are good bridge players. I was playing myself last night and we were 1,200 up."

As he spoke Mr. Lynes produced a pack of cards for use by the sightless. He demonstrated that a player could arrange his cards in a calm unhurried way without giving any clue to opponents who may have their sight of the worth of his hand.

DETERMINED OPTIMIST

Mr. Lynes is a determined optimist. "Sir Arthur Pearson once told me," he said, "that in the reproof of chance lies the proof of man. Sir Arthur gave us a wonderful opportunity. He did not throw men into one common melting pot. He interviewed them before they went to St. Dunstan's. He got to know of what a man was capable and what were his likes and dislikes.

"We all received individual tuition. Each man had his own instructor, although at one time there were 2,000 in the home."

Mr. Lynes is in the employ of the Government visiting disabled ex-Servicemen. This experience has shown him how they feel in these days of peace eleven years after the war ended.

"We all know that the war brought a lot of suffering," he remarked, "but the last man to complain is the disabled man. We know that good has followed evil. The League of Nations is a wonderful thing. Intolerance caused most wars and we are learning to be tolerant. We are learning to trust. More and more there is a tendency to resort to the round table conference instead of piling up armaments."

Sports Club Notes

St. Dunstan's Swimming Gala

THE Annual Gala was held on Wednesday, 29th October, at St. Marylebone Baths. There was a very good entry for the events. In the T.B. Breast-stroke Handicap, the heat winners served up a very exciting final, one yard separating all four. The final of the Two Lengths S.S. Handicap was also a very close race. Both these finishes paid the handicapper, Instructor Jones, a great compliment. The plunging was also very good, as the appended results show.

There were insufficient entries in the Novices' Race, so that event was merged into the others.

We are extremely grateful and extend our sincere thanks to the Bath Committee, and Mr. Ellis, the Bath Superintendent, who so kindly give us free entrée and every courtesy, not only on the occasion of our Gala, but throughout the year; to Mr. Whur, of Paddington, Mr. Waite, of Walham Green, and our Mr. Chapple, for the splendid prizes which they gave; to Mr. Mappin for judging; and to Mr. Whur again for his kindness in judging, and afterwards presenting the prizes.

J. Mellor thanked all the various helpers in a very neat little speech. Mr. Whur, replying, said that, as an old athlete, he was only too happy to be of some service, and assured us that he had been most interested and hoped to be present at some future sporting event.

RESULTS

T.B. BREAST-STROKE HANDICAP

Heat 1		Heat 2	
Go at		Go at	
F. Rhodes .. 6	J. McFarlane .. 1	F. O'Kelly .. 4	T. E. Clarke .. 4
D. Ironside .. 5	H. Stayt .. 5		
Winner: F. Rhodes	Winners: H. Stayt and J. McFarlane (dead-heat).		

Heat 3

Go at	
M. Burran .. 2	
H. Kerr .. 4	
H. V. Thompson .. 5	

Winner: M. Burran

(First in each heat for Final.)

FINAL

1st, H. Stayt .. 6 ins.
2nd, J. McFarlane .. 1 ft.
3rd, F. Rhodes .. 1 ft.

Prizes: 1st, Canteen of Cutlery; 2nd, Clock; 3rd, Pipe.

TWO LENGTHS S.S. HANDICAP

Heat 1		Heat 2	
Go at		Go at	
N. Downs .. 6	W. Scott .. 5	J. Mellor .. 7	C. Thompson .. 8
A. Peckham .. 8	F. Rodwell .. 8		
1st, A. Peckham	1st, F. Rodwell		
2nd, N. Downs	2nd, C. Thompson		

(First two in each heat for Final.)

FINAL

1st, F. Rodwell .. ½ yd.
2nd, A. Peckham .. ½ yd.
3rd, N. Downs ..

Prizes: 1st, Canteen of Cutlery; 2nd, Clock; 3rd, Preserve Jar.

PLUNGING

Name	Fl. ins.
J. McFarlane (1st)	44 9
J. Mellor (2nd)	40 5
H. Stayt (3rd)	36 5
M. Burran	36 3
F. Rhodes	34 6
D. Ironside	34 5
T. E. Clarke	33 10
H. V. Thompson	30 3
A. Peckham	29 4
W. Scott	28 5
C. F. Thompson	26 0
F. O' Kelly	25 10

Prizes: 1st, Case of pipes; 2nd, Cuff links and studs; 3rd, Automatic lighter.

SPORTS POINTS

4TH NOVEMBER

W. Birchall .. 59	F. Winter .. 28
F. Rodwell .. 54	W. Scott .. 18
G. Fallowfield } .. 41	D. Ironside } .. 14
F. Coates } .. 36	A. Brown } .. 11
S. Dyer .. 36	A. Wiltshire .. 11
G. Wheeler .. 31	B. Ingrey .. 8
H. Prior } .. 29	F. Rhodes .. 6
P. Martin } .. 29	A. Crooke .. 4

MUCH APPLAUSE

We hear that a very hearty welcome was accorded to Mr. F. Ogg, the popular St. Dunstan's baritone, when he sang last month at the Hove Town Hall. His performance was noticed in the *Sussex Daily News* as well as the *Brighton Evening Argus*.

"In Memory"

FIRST CLASS PETTY OFFICER G. H. WILTSHIRE
(Royal Navy)

IT is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of G. H. Wiltshire. He had been in poor health for some time and was admitted to the North Middlesex Hospital in July of this year, where he remained about six or seven weeks. After his discharge he appeared to be a little better, but unfortunately he was taken ill again last month and had to return to hospital, where he died on the 28th October.

Wiltshire was trained at St. Dunstan's in boot repairing and mat making, and opened a small shop at Muswell Hill. In spite of his indifferent health, he worked very hard and made a great success of his business.

The funeral took place on the 31st October at East Finchley Cemetery, the service being held in St. Andrew's Church, and among the many floral tributes received was one in the form of our badge from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our sympathy to Wiltshire's wife and his son and daughters.

This month we have a long list of those in need of sympathy in bereavement.

ADAMSON.—To J. D. Adamson, of Chatham, who lost his sister on 5th October.

DEVLIN.—To Mr. and Mrs. S. Devlin, of St. Helens, whose little daughter, born on 10th October, passed away seventeen days later.

INGREY.—To the wife of B. Ingrey, of Letchworth, who lost her father on the 19th October.

MILLINGTON.—To T. Millington, of Longton, Staffs., who lost his wife on the 7th October.

NEGUS.—To the wife of C. Negus, of Wellingborough, who lost her father on the 30th September.

PALMER.—To Mr. and Mrs. H. Palmer, of Upper Norwood, whose daughter died on the 9th October in hospital after a long illness which she had borne in great patience, and without complaint of weariness or pain.

RADFORD.—To A. J. Radford, of Castle Cary, Somerset, who on the 16th October lost his father.

TATTON.—To Mr. and Mrs. E. Tatton, of Frampton-on-Severn, who lost their daughter on the 25th October.

WHITTINGHAM.—To J. Whittingham, of Salford, Manchester, who on the 20th October lost his wife.

MURRAY.—We extend our sympathy also to J. Murray, of Kilkenny, Ireland, whose wife died on the 15th October after a very serious illness long and patiently borne. We quote from an Irish paper an

account of the death and funeral of Mrs. Murray:

"We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Ellen Murray, Talbot's Inch, Kilkenny, which took place at her residence on 15th inst. The deceased had been in failing health for some time past, and her demise was not altogether unexpected. She was attended during her illness by the Rev. Michael Drea, C.C., St. Canice's, and fortified by the rites of the Catholic Church, of which she was a devoted member. To her sorrowing husband and son much sympathy has been extended by far and near friends of the deceased.

"The funeral, which took place on Friday last to the family burial ground at Thornback, was very large and representative, and bore testimony to the respect in which the deceased was held.

"The chief mourners were Mr. James Murray (husband), Mr. Patrick Murray (son).

"Wreaths were sent from the following: 'In loving memory,' from her husband, James Murray; her son, Patrick Murray, and friend Agnes; 'With deepest sympathy' from the workers, Kilkenny Woollen Mills, the girl workers, Kilkenny Woollen Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Gibb, Mr. Schofield, The Ormonde Follies, the Countess of Desart, the members of the Talbot's Inch Women's Social Club, the members of the Talbot's Inch Men's Recreation Club, Mr. and Mrs. Kinahan, Mrs. Elizabeth Cole, and from the Committee of the Talbot's Inch Handball Club."

News from Overseas

In an interesting article in the *Toronto Star*, reference is made to N. Topping, an old St. Dunstaner, whom many of the earlier men will remember. It opens in typical Canadian newspaper style as follows:—

One good man could be made out of the three of them.

They don't know why their pre-war sweethearts should have married such a trio of "flat tires."

Neither one will talk much of himself, but each declares the other two are marvels.

One of them lost both legs at Sanctuary Wood in June 1916. Another had both hands shot off at the wrists by shrapnel at Cambrai a few weeks before Armistice. And the third got a burst of shrapnel in the face at Lens in August 1917 and lost the sight of both eyes.

Nathaniel Topping, the blind shorthand writer and typist of the Institution's branch of the provincial secretary's department, says they are "The Three Musketeers"—although it takes all of us to make a complete man."

The following details are given of Topping's career:—

Nathaniel Topping enlisted at Hamilton in July 1915 with the 76th Battalion and joined the 20th in France the next year. He was first wounded with machine gun fire in the legs in October 1916, but it was in August 1917 that a shrapnel shell which burst some distance away sprayed pieces in his face, blinding him on the spot. He received some body wounds at the same time, and after hospital treatment went to St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, London, where within a year he learned to write Braille shorthand and to typewrite.

He left St. Dunstan's just a week before the Armistice and got his discharge in Canada in January 1919. In April the same year he was attached to the Ontario Civil Service. He also was married after his return to Canada, and has a family of one boy and one girl.

Badges for the Blind

Apropos the article in a recent issue of the REVIEW under the heading, "White Walking Sticks," we have received from G. Fallowfield, of Leytonstone, an interesting account of an unofficial inquiry he has been making as to the best form of signal for blind persons. His investigation shows that many St. Dunstaners, and blind civilians, particularly those whose professional duties necessitate the keeping of appointments, would welcome some distinguishing device. Referring to the undoubted help of St. Dunstan's badge in this direction, Fallowfield says: "Since I have worn it outside, I find 'bus conductors, police, and railway officials come to my aid without the asking, and personally I am always very pleased with their assistance. Other times, I have been walking very closely behind my wife with Wheeler when in a crowded street, and people have said to her, 'Excuse me, there are two St. Dunstan's men wanting to pass you.' This means our badge does draw attention." Fallowfield, however, points out that our badge cannot be seen at a great distance, and that being the case, something is needed that can be seen by motorists. "If we had a general code of signalling the traffic to stop," he continues, "all this difficulty of waiting about shouting in vain for other people to assist us across roads, would be unnecessary. On the other hand, is this rule of getting the public to assist you across every road 'getting about alone'? Of course not, and I think to stand and shout about for help draws just as much attention to you."

Our Silver Weddings

On the 21st October, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hutchinson, of 87 Chassum Street, Manningham, Bradford, celebrated their silver wedding, and on 1st October, Mr. and Mrs. W. Sheridan, of Wanstead, celebrated a similar event. S. Cole, of Swansea, and H. W. Young, of Hammer-smith, have also celebrated their anniversaries recently.

Poppy Day Notes

Fallowfield sends us the following brief but explicit report of his experiences as a seller on Poppy Day. Who can beat these "times"?

4 a.m.—Dressed.

4.45 a.m.—Arrived at railway station to beat the band for the best pitch.

4.55 a.m.—Sold first poppy.

8.35 a.m.—Cold feet—all but sold out—returned home.

WHERE HAS SHE BEEN?

On 11th November a seller of poppies approached an old lady in a South London street, and asked her to purchase one. "What's it for?" she queried.

An Old Chinese Belief

When God made man of clay, he tried three different times to perfect the baking. The first mould was overdone, thus the black man resulted. The second mould was underdone, thus the white man resulted. The third mould was just slightly tanned, and resulted in a perfect baking, thus the yellow man resulted.

Cwmgrach sounds very Welsh, but English people, especially those who know St. Dunstan's, get a very warm welcome when they call on E. T. Hughes. It does not come from him alone, but from his wife, mother, sister, and brother, and any other member of the family who happens to be at home. They are very happy and united, each one taking part in the duties of the household and business, as occasion requires. For some years the boot repairing trade has been steadily growing, and this is evidently due to the extreme care Hughes and his sister give to the supervision of every part of the work, and also to the promptness with which the work is executed. Customers living three or four miles away bring him their repairs, and others come by train. Hughes has recently installed a finishing machine, which is quite necessary, in view of their regular output of fifty to sixty pairs a week.

Our sincere congratulations are offered to Hughes, and we must ask him to excuse

these laudatory words, because we know that he himself is very modest about the family achievements. W. H. O.

The household of F. Aubrey, of Bristol, is a very happy one; parents and children understand each other very well.

Aubrey's reputation as a mat-maker is well known, and the well ordered workshop enables us to understand how he turns out such excellent mats the designs of which are so much appreciated by local people. Mrs. Aubrey finds time, not only to care for the wants of this active household, but also to go with her husband in order to measure up wells for mats. Quite soon, Aubrey will have completed the purchase of the house which he has, for some years, been decorating and improving so capably.

We think many will be interested in reading the following letter from A. J. Radford which appeared in the *Daily News and Chronicle* a short time ago:

"GIVE BRITANNIA A GOOD SHAKING!"
"There can be no solution of the Unemployment problem until it is faced, not as a national, but an Imperial, problem."

We bear the burden of taxation to maintain a position as a first-rate power, and to defend an Empire we refuse to use, and it is ludicrous to think of a vast continent like Australia, undeveloped, unexplored, with a population equal only to London, trying to meet a budget deficit of 14 millions by customs and excise duties; but more ludicrous to think that it has an Unemployment problem, with millions of acres of productive land requiring development.

It is equally as ludicrous to think of Canada—also a vast, sparsely developed continent—having an Unemployment problem, and that, despite the constant stream of immigrants, they have only nine million population, and over 11 million have emigrated out of Canada in the last few years.

Had those 11 million remained in Canada and become prosperous, they would have created a greater demand for Canadian produce, and had they developed Canada, would have created greater demand for British goods, and British people.

Britain wants to wake up, and wake the Empire up, and give it a damned good shaking to make it realise and make herself realise what the Empire might have done for Britain, what it might have done for the world, and what it must do now.—A. J. RADFORD, Castle Cary, Somerset.

After-Care Reunions

LEAMINGTON

A VERY cheery afternoon was spent at the Blue Café, Leamington, on Wednesday, 8th October, when a larger gathering than ever foregathered for the Annual Reunion. Our thanks are due to "Sister Evers," who was responsible for the splendid arrangements, and to Miss McKinnell and the After-Care Sisters for their valuable help. Miss Hodgson, unfortunately, could not be present and was greatly missed.

After tea Mr. Swain made his usual cheery speech, which was full of interest, and expressed Captain Fraser's regret that he and Mrs. Fraser were unable to be present. A vote of thanks to Mr. Swain was proposed by W. Shakespeare and seconded by S. A. Chambers in their usual breezy manner.

Mrs. Fowler's "Black Satin" Orchestra played during tea and was greatly appreciated, as well as afterwards for dancing. There were various games and competitions and the prizes, given by several friends, were presented by the Rev. H. and Mrs. Gibb. The winners were:—

Cake Competition.—Mrs. Hines; Treasure Hunt.—C. Chapman; Egg Basket.—F. J. Brown; Pork Pie.—Halved by P. Summer and T. Shaw; Passing the Parcel.—Ladies: Mrs. J. Davies (1st); Mrs. J. R. Brown (2nd). Men: A. Cook (1st); G. Bateman (2nd).

Mr. Swain, before leaving to catch his train back to town, proposed a very hearty vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstan's and all present to Mrs. Fowler and her orchestra and the many friends who had helped so much to make the meeting such a successful one and expressed the wish that they should all meet again this time next year.

G. H. H. AND P. M. N.

LIVERPOOL

The Liverpool Reunion was held this year on Wednesday, the 1st October, at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street, when some 120 sat down to lunch and the annual exchange of reminiscences.

Mr. Swain, in his address, expressed Captain Fraser's regret at not being able to be present and said he was pleased to tell them that St. Dunstan's was still "going strong" and the men working as splendidly as ever. He also expressed his regret that Mr. Fairclough was still too ill to take up his work on the After-Care, but he had very great pleasure in introducing to them Sister Dunphy as their new social visitor. Sister Dunphy had had a varied war experience, having served from 1915-19 in the Red Cross in France. He considered her an ideal visitor and felt sure, when he met them all again next year, that they would congratulate him on having given them Sister Dunphy as their visitor. It was, he said at the conclusion of his address, with great regret that he found himself obliged to finish on a sorrowful note. Matron Power had passed away on Saturday morning, and he asked the company to stand for one minute in silence as a mark of their love and respect for her.

G. Eames and W. Westell proposed and seconded the vote of thanks, and then we all sang "For he's a jolly good fellow."

After lunch Mr. Yeoman Walker entertained, and the assembly amused itself by singing some of the old favourite war songs. Songs by G. Eames and W. Westell were thoroughly appreciated by their comrades, and the piano solo by G. Birkett was nothing short of wonderful.

The prize winners for the stop-watch competition were:—

Ladies.—Mrs. Bowles and Mrs. Eames.
Men.—G. Matthews and A. Kelly.

MANCHESTER

As in previous years, the large number of St. Dunstaners living in and round about Manchester necessitated two meetings, and these were held on 2nd and 3rd October. As usual they were held at the Fortuna Café and everyone seemed in the best of spirits.

Mr. Swain was received with enthusiasm when he rose to make his speech, in which he expressed Captain Fraser's regret that he was unable to be present. He referred to the quality of work being turned out, and complimented the technical instructors

on the way they encouraged and helped the men. He also alluded sympathetically to Mr. Fairclough's long illness, and introduced Sister Dunphy, their new social visitor. At the close of his speech Mr. Swain spoke of the very recent death of Matron Power and said how much she would be missed but that she had died as she would have wished, "in harness." All those present rose and stood for one minute in silence as a mark of love and respect to her.

Votes of thanks were proposed, at the first meeting, by W. Chambers, seconded by C. Molloy, and, at the second meeting, by G. W. Killingbeck and seconded by F. Dyson. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment provided by Mr. Yeoman Walker, supported by St. Dunstaners, who were enthusiastically received by their comrades.

The prizes for the stop-watch competition were awarded as follows:—

Ladies.—First Meeting, Mrs. Radley, Mrs. Duxbury. Second Meeting, Mrs. Furness, Mrs. Molloy.

Men.—First Meeting, J. Pearson, E. Johnson. Second Meeting, J. Whittingham, W. Lilley.

SHROPSHIRE AND STAFFORDSHIRE

This meeting is held at Wolverhampton and is always a very cheery one. This year was no exception to the rule, and Thursday, 9th October, will, I hope, be remembered as a very jolly afternoon.

Fortunately it was fine, and a larger number than usual turned up. Those who did not come cannot put down their absence to the weather, and they certainly missed a good party!

After we had all enjoyed a hearty tea Mr. Swain made his usual happy speech. He told us things were well at St. Dunstan's but asked the men to do their best to help by obtaining local orders whenever possible.

A. Taylor made a splendid little speech in proposing a vote of thanks to St. Dunstan's and Mr. Swain, which was seconded by A. Hinton, who also said how much the men appreciated all that was done for them.

While Mr. Swain was giving interviews the tables were cleared and we had a splendid entertainment, given by the kind

permission of the local theatre manager by members of the company of "Hold Everything." Everybody laughed so much that when the manager of Messrs. Reynolds's Café, who is always so kind to us, suggested cups of coffee we were most grateful.

The winners of the competitions were:—
Ladies' Competition.—Miss Ivy Johnson (1st), Mrs. Hastings (2nd), Mrs. Jones (Consolation).

Men's Competition.—W. J. Wakefield (1st), A. Hinton (2nd), G. Powell (Consolation).

N. G.

The British Legion

We print below a letter which has reached us from J. Sheehy, of Dover, which should interest many St. Dunstaners—whether Legionnaires or otherwise.

To the Editor,
St. Dunstan's Review.

DEAR SIR,

Would you please permit me space in the columns of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW to congratulate all St. Dunstaners who have been elected to hold any office in their branch of the British Legion. Now that St. Dunstan's is in association with the British Legion, it may be the means of more St. Dunstaners joining the Legion.

The Legion is the greatest national society in the country interested in the welfare of ex-service men, and it stands as a living memorial to our late beloved Field-Marshal Earl Haig. Its motto is "Service, not Self," it is non-sectarian, non-political, and supports the League of Nations.

It would be well for intending members if they would, when accepting the constitution of the Legion, and when attending its meetings, to leave their politics at home, avoid cliques, and above all, vote fearlessly, and also remember that as the outcome of the Great War, the Legion stands to see that fair play is done to the widow, the orphan, and the disabled, but like every other society, it has its unjust critics.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN SHEEHY.

A. ST. DUNSTANER'S LUCK

A ticket drawn in the old-established annual draw at Rhyl, the proceeds of which go to a football club, brought a motor-car to J. H. Matthews, of that district. Congratulations to him on his luck.

The Collected Correspondence of
Private PERCIVAL HODSOX, V.C. [St. Dunstaner, A.D. 1978]

[Edited by W. V. CLAMPETT]

St, Dunstan's Lunar Annexe,
 The Marble Hall,
 Alabaster Avenue,
 The Moon.

DEAR OLD UNCLE,

Unless you have completely forgotten my lunar existence, you will remember that I promised to tell you what we saw in the moon when we arrived there.

When the shouting and the tumult at Croydon Air Port had died down somewhat and we had finally settled ourselves in the seats of the flighty, the last handshake over—not to mention a wreath that was handed in by one of the boys “just in case you don't come back . . . might come in useful . . .”—the great ship with a mighty roar took off, and inside a minute we were clear of mother earth and winging our way through space to our destination. She could do her five thousand miles an hour with ease, and was expected to reach the moon in four and a half days; the distance being a trifle over two hundred and thirty thousand miles. Well Uncle to cut it short, we arrived all right without any untoward events, and landed safely at Mare Imbrium, a vast plain on the surface of the moon at four-thirty p.m. on the 1st April 1978.

I don't suppose I need to say much about the excitement and the thrill of it all which filled most of us—you can easily guess the state of our feelings. The only regret we boys had in the matter was that we could not see things as others saw them for us.

Well, when he had ended his little peroration, the pilot in charge of our airplane drew our attention to what seemed to him to be clouds of dust forming on the distant horizon, but as they drew nearer, they resolved themselves into what we conjectured—and rightly—were approaching moonites or lunarians, as we call them now.

We waited in tense silence of expectancy, each of us wondering in our minds what kind of creatures these were, and how on earth, or rather on the moon, were we going to establish friendly communications with them. But we needn't have

worried over the latter point—I'll tell you why later.

“By Jove,” ejaculated the Hon. Aloysius, breaking the silence, “what a queer method of locomotion! They don't walk at all—they're rotating like catherine wheels towards us. There's thousands of them coming—wheeling in mass formation with a vengeance.”

“Yes,” supplemented Sister Caroline in awe-struck tones, “they look just like thousands of flying wheels approaching. How wonderful, and how exceedingly beautiful!”

Being a bit on the weak and weary side at the moment, Uncle, I can only give you in this letter a brief description of the form and general appearance of these peculiar beings. They most nearly approximate to the classic pictures which you may have seen of Greek athletes, lithe, graceful and wiry, but there the similarity ends, and the differences begin.

Their whole bodies, from head to foot, are covered in very fine silver tinted fur, something like moleskin, only more silky and grown short and close. I have not so far had the pleasure of stroking one, or of running my digital extremities over their anatomies, but the Hon. Aloysius says they have what appear to him to be elongated cats' whiskers radiating from the hips on each side, and from the back, and the front of their anatomy, which we should describe with that word which rhymes with jelly! When extended, they are fully three feet long, and act as feelers in just the same way as do those of the domestic pet of Mother Earth. When not in use they are automatically withdrawn into the body. Isn't that a stunning evolutionary development? (But I must really stop, Uncle, as our airplane returns almost immediately, and will be taking this letter with him.)

I'll just add that we're comfortably ensconced in a beautiful palace made of gold, alabaster and precious stones, and that we're enjoying ourselves immensely. Will write you more fully next time.

Yours cheerfully,

PERCIVAL.

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