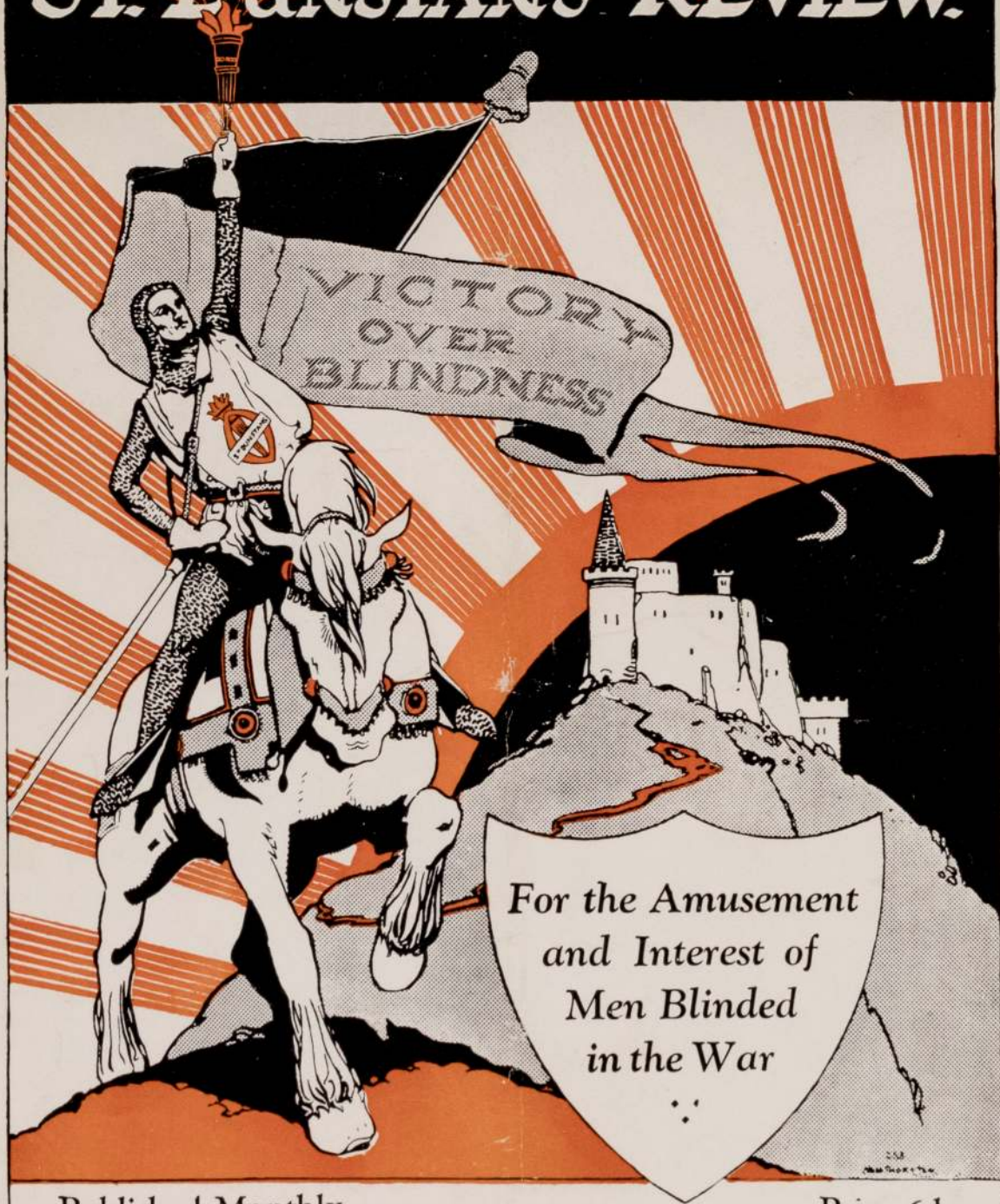


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.



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St. Dunstan's Review

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EDITORIAL NOTES

The Indispensable Man

IN the body of the REVIEW this month we publish an account of a Festival of Remembrance instituted in Grimsby last year by a St. Dunstan's man. The idea is a splendid one, worthy of being taken as an example by many other towns. What we wish, however, to stress in this place is this: We are always pleased when we have brought to our notice some act of a St. Dunstaner which shows initiative, the working out and perfecting of some idea which he has evolved in his own mind. Whether the idea is one to shake the world or not hardly matters: What is important is the proof of mental energy, the sign that what one might term fatty degeneration of the mind is being given no chance to set in. The world to-day needs, as perhaps it has never needed, the man with such initiative, the man capable above all else of mental leadership. The more there are of such men among St. Dunstaners the better.

Sweet—But Short

THERE is a notice in the following pages which is going to bring pleasure and interest to many of our community. Not a month passes but what we receive as contributions to the REVIEW several poems written by St. Dunstaners, some good, some not so good. Whatever their quality, however, one point is obvious—not only do our men make good use of their thinking apparatus, but they very often like to put the result of their thought into rhythmic and lyrical language. As one poem recently received puts it:

“God helps us to see with the mind.”

To these budding poets of ours the competition announced this month will ensure many busy, pleasurable hours. To write a poem on any subject one desires—and perhaps to be awarded a prize for it! It seems almost too good to be true. But beware! A lyric is asked for, not an epic where thousands of words may be used to clothe one thought. Not more than twenty lines of poetry are demanded. If twelve can be made to do, so much the better. As Mrs. Beeton would say, first catch your idea. Then serve it up, not with the gallons of cream and dozens of eggs which that famous lady would recommend, but with the emphasis on economy of material which the modern cook delights in. In brief, be brief! If brevity be the soul of wit, it is indeed the very heart of a prize-winning lyric.

Our Chairman's Success

EVERY member of the St. Dunstan's community will join in offering congratulations to our Chairman, Captain Fraser, on being successful in passing the Final Bar Examination last month. Captain Fraser began to read Law seriously only when he was out of the House of Commons, though he passed the examination in Constitutional Law in 1928, after spending his time on board ship on the way to and from South Africa in the August of that year in study. His knowledge of Parliamentary matters helped him very considerably in that examination. He did not continue studying till August 1929, and he sat for his final examination last December.

Very many newspapers have commented on Captain Fraser's success, with the pluck and perseverance which it necessitated. The *Daily Express*, in a leader uniting the names of Captain Fraser and the Dean of Canterbury, the loved and famous "Dick" Sheppard, summed up shortly what other papers all over the country had been saying at length. "The former, by an effort of indomitable perseverance and cheerfulness, has reduced one of the most terrible of human afflictions to the level of an inconvenience that he has refused to regard as a handicap. The latter's whole life has been a sermon even more inspiring than any he has preached. The world would be a poor place without such examples of sheer grit."

Captain Fraser received numerous congratulations by telephone, letter, and telegraph, from personal friends and relations, old colleagues in the House of Commons, Ex-service organisations, and from many individual St. Dunstaners. The Right Hon. Sir John Simon wrote to congratulate him, as did Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C. of the N.I.B., and Lord Riddell. Outstanding phrases occurred in many of these letters. "What you have done will not only affect your own future, but that of hundreds of blinded men as an example and a vindica-

tion and a hope." "Difficulties do not deter—they drive."

How Barristers are "Called"

In connection with Captain Fraser's work an article in *The Evening News*, describing "calling" night in the Inns of Court, will be of great interest to St. Dunstaners.

"In the beautiful Benchers' Room of the Inner Temple to-night Captain Ian Fraser will, with nearly twenty other students, be called to the Bar.

The ceremony differs slightly at each Inn, but at the Inner Temple the students are called after dinner which takes place at 7 p.m., by one of the 'panniers,' or attendants, and are led along the narrow corridor to the Benchers' Room.

Here they face the Benchers in their gowns, who sit at a horse-shoe table. In the centre as President will be seated Sir John Simon, the Treasurer.

Each student is handed a glass of old port and then the Treasurer makes a short speech, telling them of the responsibilities that are about to fall on them.

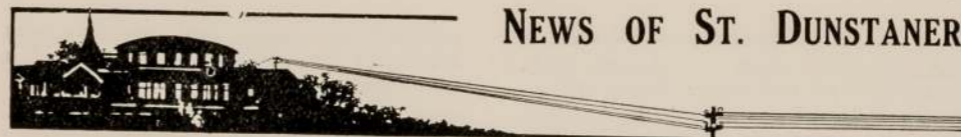
The reply to the President's exhortation is made by the senior student. A student who may have a friend or relation among the benchers may be invited to a chat, but the ceremony itself rarely lasts for more than ten minutes.

None but the students and Benchers may be present at this intimate function."

An Apology

Several mistakes seem to have crept into recent numbers of the Review regarding the families of R. J. Williams and G. Fallowfield, according to a letter received from the latter. We very much regret that this has been so. On the other hand we are glad that the report of the death of Fallowfield's wife's mother was due to an error. He writes "I had a good dinner with the dear old soul last Sunday, and we received a letter to-day asking us to go over and help her celebrate her 58th birthday next Sunday."

NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS



AS usual, at this season of the year, St. Dunstan's large family is suffering from a variety of ailments: rheumatism, bronchitis and influenza for the elders; measles and chicken-pox for the juniors! Those who have escaped such trials must count themselves fortunate.

One of the most interesting happenings of the month concerns an honour done to J. Dixon, of Watford. We give the notice as it has reached us:

"Brother Dixon, of the Watford Lodge of the R.A.O.B., was duly raised to the 3rd degree on 3rd December 1930, and he was also presented with a collarette by Brother Woodstock of the same Lodge."

We feel sure that all St. Dunstaners will be with us in offering congratulations on this advancement.

What with carpentry for the house, and mat-making, A. G. Wise, of Great Ryburg, has been keeping busy; he is among the fortunate ones who have not been on the sick list.

E. A. West, of King's Lynn, is also well; he did a very good trade around Christmas.

As all St. Dunstaners have wireless, they will know D. Hunt, of Highbury, even if they have not all had the pleasure of meeting him personally; it will interest them to know that he was requested to distribute the prizes at a successful whist-drive held in his district.

There is not much news concerning A. Kimber, of Medstead, except that he is well and engrossed in family affairs; one of his sons arrived home on leave unexpectedly, and another is being married as we go to press.

A man who is a good deal sought after in connection with various functions is

G. Killingbeck, of Chester; he is very popular, and when he speaks at whist drives is always given a good reception. He won enthusiastic applause at a social in Port Sunlight a week or so back, when he described St. Dunstan's, and what it stands for, to a large gathering.

L. Jackson had a stall at one of these Port Sunlight Whist Drives and reaped a harvest of orders as a result.

All is well with R. Barbour, of Brighton. He is happily settled again and is busy on stools. His headaches are much less serious than they were before his operation.

The honour of laying a wreath on the grave of Madam Williams in Southport cemetery on Mayor's Sunday fell to the lot of W. Smith, of that town. Madam Williams' interest in ex-service men never flagged.

Men who know how interesting poultry can be will sympathise with G. Fletcher, of Marple, when they hear that his best piece of land has been taken for building purposes; what remains is too damp to be suitable for poultry.

Quite a flourishing wireless trade has been worked up by T. Baker, of Holloway; he sometimes charges 250 accumulators in a week.

F. Polley, of Brixton, is as busy and happy as ever. Those who live within reach of Hyde Park may have heard him there, where he has become quite a well-known speaker, since he has a ready wit and is capable of standing up to anyone in the crowd who ventures to decry his doctrine!

Of our Wolverhampton men, E. D. Martin is fit and cheerful, and presents a

News of St. Dunstaners—Continued.

bold front to the world; G. Perry is looking better; he gives the credit of this to his paper round, since it gives him exercise.

§ § §

Another cheerful man is G. Powell, of Stretton, Staffs; his four children won admiration at a church social where they went in fancy costumes made from paper by Mrs. Powell's clever fingers.

§ § §

The new bungalow into which E. J. Burgess, of Hambrook (Bristol) moved a little time ago is ideal for him, since it stands high and gets whatever sun there is. Another advantage is that it has a nice piece of garden. Thanks to an energetic attack upon it, this is now cleared and planted; it has a few fruit trees, room for fowls, and, above all, a terrace wherein teas are to be served in summer. We hope these will be well patronised by the nicest of people.

§ § §

D. Makin, of Wallsend-on-Tyne, has been hard at work on his allotment. He is building a new hot-house and is busy laying plans for the growing of tomatoes.

§ § §

J. Ball, of Gateshead, is well and devotes a considerable amount of energy to keeping himself fit by long walks. He is blessed with a charming mother, we hear.

§ § §

A man who promises to be successful is B. Quigley, of South Shields. His craft is baskets and he seems to have excellent ideas of making himself known in the district.

§ § §

The young son of A. E. Hicks, of Purley, has just obtained a certificate for his music and has played at three concerts within the last few weeks; the boy's gift should be a great pleasure to Hicks.

§ § §

W. A. Mugeridge, of Great Bookham, Surrey, has been making himself a fine

gramophone cabinet and has also been lending a hand in the putting up of a number of shelves in a shop.

§ § §

"All's well," says W. Rickaby, who is working away at baskets much more comfortably since he has had a stove put into his hut.

§ § §

T. R. Beattie, of Crouch Hill, wonders if any St. Dunstaner is more regular in his attendance at football than he; he has hardly missed a match and doubts whether the Arsenal would get on without his encouragement.

§ § §

A fair amount of boot-repairing has been coming in to J. W. Abbs, of Stibbard, Guist. This, with mats, keeps him busy.

§ § §

Congratulations to W. Coleman of Islington, who carried off two prizes at Brighton, one at the Grand (£2) for a recitation, and another at the Annexe, for his ingenious costume to illustrate "Why did I kiss that girl last night?"—it consisted mainly of bandages.

§ § §

The wood business run by H. R. Potter, of Hastings, is making hopeful progress and the exercise obtained in going about on account of it seems to agree with Potter, whose health is decidedly better than it was.

§ § §

Some local orders for large hearth rugs have been keeping busy G. E. Wilkins, of Reading.

§ § §

S. Purvis, of Seghill, is beginning to work up quite a good boot-repairing connection, and we offer him congratulations on the result of his efforts and good work.

§ § §

"Quite flourishing," says F. Mowtall, of Cramlington. He is hoping to have a new poultry house shortly and is full of plans.

News of St. Dunstaners—continued.

He finds an increasing interest in the Salvation Army, which hold frequent, well-attended, meetings in the district. These are a source of pleasure to Mowtall.

§ § §

Chickens, and some fine young pigs which are being got ready for market, have been keeping C. Knight, of Leicester, very fully occupied.

§ § §

G. J. Smith, of the same town, is working steadily at his baskets; he has a particularly nice hut as a workshop.

§ § §

H. W. Young, of Hammersmith, is hoping to make a move as his premises are cramped; he is busy over wool rugs.

§ § §

The miners' strike is hitting a number of St. Dunstaners among other people. A. Morris, of Pontypridd, is much concerned at the trouble all about him, with which he is brought into touch by his daughter, who is married to a miner and has six small children. Fortunately, another daughter is well and happy in Australia, and the son is doing well in a London motor works.

§ § §

A. Law, of Gotherington, Glos, seems to be one of the most skilful of our joiners. His latest success is the making and fixing of a wooden fence and door beside his house. This cuts off the garden and makes it more private. The fence is well and strongly made—an excellent piece of work.

§ § §

The farm run by that enthusiastic worker, J. Whittingslow, looks particularly flourishing and well kept, thanks to Whittingslow's energies.

§ § §

Does anyone want an Airedale? Whittingslow has two for sale at a fair price to good homes. Address, J. Whittingslow, Heathfield, Lea Bank Avenue, Kidderminster.

§ § §

Congratulations to J. Farrell, of St. Leonards, on the success of his daughter, Kitty. She has passed her final examination and is now a fully qualified masseuse.

Another young St. Dunstaner who is making progress is the son of A. G. Briggs, of Norwich; he has just learned that he has passed with distinction in the violin examination for which he sat in December.

§ § §

With an Irishman's luck, W. J. Berry, of Bangor, escaped what might have been a very unpleasant experience at the beginning of the year. It was arranged that he should cross to Liverpool by a boat sailing on the 5th of January, but when he went on board he found the vessel fog-bound and so he came off again. Later the fog lifted to a degree and she sailed, only to be held up on the Mersey until the 8th. Food ran so short that it became necessary to break open some of the cargo.

§ § §

There has been a good deal of frost across the channel, and several of the cheery group have come to grief on slides—T. McCann, of Belfast, had a particularly nasty fall by stepping on a slide some children had made; he hurt both head and shoulder.

§ § §

A. Gribben's little shop in Belfast is doing quite well and is a never failing source of interest.

§ § §

Patients are still coming along nicely, and J. Boyce (Belfast) is in good form, as too is yet another Belfast man, S. Holmes, whose order for a gramophone cabinet is keeping him much occupied; H. McAteer is working at trays and has been confined to the house more than usual partly by reason of an attack of influenza, partly through trouble with his leg, of which we are sorry to hear.

§ § §

R. Young, of Tweedmouth, has begun work again—indeed, he has secured the assistance of another man and says that considering trade conditions in the country he thinks they are doing very well.

§ § §

One or two nice local orders have come from the local council to J. Attrell, of Polegate.

§ § §

A customer who wanted a particular tray and would take no other came to

News of St. Dunstaners—continued.

A. F. Lenderyou when he was having a display at Hailsham in the summer. He rose to the occasion nobly and undertook to make it on the spot. Unknown to Lenderyou, she watched and timed him as he worked—it was completed in twenty-five minutes. Such an effort is a fine advertisement and we congratulate this craftsman, feeling sure that this lady will tell the little story to many of her friends.

Yet another clever young St. Dunstaner is the daughter of W. Chapple, of Bush Hill Park; she holds first place at school and carried off three prizes at the end of the year. There was considerable excitement in the Chapple home a week or so back when the small son of the house disappeared—he was ultimately found curled up asleep inside the meat-safe upon which Chapple was at work.

H. Kidger, of Bridgnorth, is keeping busy with mats and retains his interest in the news of the day.

A. Wilkes, of Rhyd-y-Croesau, Oswestry, has been lending a helping hand on a farm and has proved himself an excellent assistant as well as a great attraction to a small niece and nephew who follow him about as closely at heel as a brace of puppies.

What with poultry and mats, C. H. Stock, of Gorsley, Newent, Glos, is as busy as ever. He has planted a number of new fruit trees and is watching the old ones carefully so that their days shall be numbered when they pass their prime. He shows every sign of being a successful farmer.

Success at whist has been coming the way of A. T. Coulson, of Witherwick, Hull, and his wife. At a whist-drive and dance held at the local council school, they were successful in winning respectively, the first gentlemen's and ladies' prizes. What the prizes were Coulson does not tell us.

A visit to Headquarters was paid the other day by A. Radford, of Castle Cary, Somerset—the first appearance he has

made in London since he left six years ago. Radford was looking very well and was apparently in high spirits over his jaunt. His mat-making is going along splendidly, and his hobby, which he describes as "scouring the country," keeps him exceedingly fit. He is very proud of his three little daughters, who, he says, are the "champions of Somerset." He hopes that the two eldest will win scholarships this year.

Brief Notes

T. McGuire, of Drogheda, is well and has made good progress at Brighton; A. Jones, Cliff Vale, Stoke, is showing marvellous recuperative power, is well, cheerful, and has now moved into a new house and business.

W. Sheridan, of Wanstead, is doing a little with string bags; Poultry continues to interest F. J. Harris, of Ramsden Bellhouse; J. Burley, of Norwich is very busy, as usual, doing trays, as is G. W. H. Wright, of the same district.

In Walthamstow, C. H. Cook, another of our joiners, is keeping fairly well and making slipper stools and folding tea-stands. Work of an exceptional quality. E. E. Callow, of Brentwood, is improving in health and doing fairly well with wool rugs. J. Overill, of Charlton, is busy in the grocery line, and M. O. Anker, of Ealing, seems to have plenty of repairwork in sight.

There is no news from F. Stewart, of Poplar, except that he is keeping fairly well, as is G. Newman, of Upton Park, and H. Bayer, of Burnt Oak—another of our basket men—and H. T. Mummery, of Saffron Walden—who works steadily at his mat frame.

Trade is "much as usual," says H. F. Porter, of Shirley, Southampton. Price, of Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury, is well and cheerful; he still does a great deal of walking. H. W. Giles, of Wolverhampton, looks the picture of health. E. Butler, of Hayes, Middlesex, is happy and comfortable; F. J. Clarke, of Colchester, is doing a little joinery.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE WILLIAM H. FLOYD
(Hampshire Regiment)

IT is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of W. H. Floyd. On account of his poor health he was unable to undergo training at Headquarters, but he was taught wool-rug making at home and took a keen interest in this work.

In February 1929 his health became considerably worse and he was admitted to hospital where he remained until his death on the 22nd December last. We extend our sincere sympathy to his mother and family.

Brief Notes—continued.

Rats have proved so destructive to the poultry that C. White, of Colchester, fears he will have to devote himself to mats entirely; F. T. Harris, a Catford man, is hoping to come to Brighton shortly, so friends may expect him there. E. Sheppard, of Bellingham, is keeping fairly well and working at trays; G. Cocker, of North Cadbury, Somerset, has found a new interest in the keeping of rabbits; he cures the skins himself. C. Oppery is as keen in wireless as ever, and W. H. Hildick, of Crowmoor, Shrewsbury, reports a record Christmas trade—so we end on an optimistic note.

Births

BURLEY.—To the wife of E. J. Burley, of Stithians, Cornwall, a son on 21st January.

BUTLER.—On 17th January, to the wife of J. Butler, of Waterford, Ireland, a son.

CHESHIRE.—On 3rd January, to the wife of T. Cheshire, of Studham, Nr. Dunstable, Beds, a son.

FISHWICK.—On 5th February, a daughter to the wife of F. Fishwick, of St. Helens, Lancs.

GREAVES.—On 26th January, to the wife of J. H. Greaves, of Oldham, a daughter, Laura.

HURST.—On 4th December 1930, a daughter to the wife of H. Hurst, of Gt. Longstone, Nr. Bakewell.

LAVELL.—To the wife of J. Lavell, of Brynmawr, Breconshire, a daughter, on 24th January.

MAKIN.—On 21st January, to the wife of D. Makin, of Wallsend-on-Tyne, a son.

MATTHEWS.—On 21st December 1930, to the wife of G. H. Matthews, of St. Helens, a son.

WHEELER.—To the wife of E. C. Wheeler, of Newbury, a daughter, on Monday, 6th January.

WILLIAMSON.—On 21st January, to the wife of A. F. Williamson, of Manchester, a son.

Marriage

ROYER-McCARTHY.—At Christmas, Mary, daughter of D. McCarthy, of Kinsale, Cork, to Sapper Jack Royer, of the Royal Engineers, Longmoor Camp, Hants. The two are returning to England shortly.

Silver Weddings

AVEY.—Their silver wedding anniversary was celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. J. Avey, of Dudley, on 6th February.

CLARK.—On 3rd February, their silver wedding anniversary was celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. F. Clark, of Colchester.

EATON.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Eaton, of Southwick, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on 5th February.

MCGUIRE.—Mr. and Mrs. McGuire, of Drogheda, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on 2nd February. McGuire is at present in training at Brighton.

Deaths

This month we have to offer sympathy to the following:—

BATCHELOR.—To the wife of D. Batchelor,

of Banbury, who lost her father on 14th January.

BENNETT.—To Mr. and Mrs. H. Bennett, of Bristol, who lost their baby son, only six weeks old, on 30th January.

COLBECK.—To the wife of G. Colbeck, of Louth, Lincs, who lost her sister recently after a brief two-weeks illness.

COX.—To W. Cox, of Balham, who lost his mother on 27th December 1930.

DAVIS.—To Mr. and Mrs. G. Davis, of Newent, who lost their baby son—Peter Richard—on 6th January from bronchial double pneumonia and whooping cough after 12 days' illness. Peter Richard was only seven months old.

GEORGE.—To H. George, of Brighton, whose brother, aged 36, died on 9th January after a painful illness.

HUTCHINSON.—To C. Hutchinson, of Manningham, Bradford, who lost his mother on Christmas Day after a long and painful illness; she was 79 years of age.

LAST.—To the wife of W. Last, of Aberdulais, who lost her sister recently.

LLOYD.—To the wife of E. J. Lloyd, of Cardiff, who lost her father on Saturday, 27th December.

MCCARTHY.—To W. McCarthy, at present in training, whose brother died suddenly at the end of January.

PARKER.—To the wife of T. Parker, of Mountrath, Ireland, who lost her father on 31st January.

SHAW.—To Mr. and Mrs. R. Shaw, of Burnley, in that they lost their little son, Dennis, on 27th December 1930.

WATMORE.—To the wife of T. Watmore, of Eastbourne, who lost her mother ten days before Christmas.

WILLIAMS.—To T. A. Williams, of Bangor, N. Wales, on the double tragedy of losing both his father and his mother within three weeks of each other. He lost his father on the 10th January, and his mother on the 5th February.

WOOD.—To Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Wood, of Putney, whose daughter, Agnes May, aged eighteen years, passed away on the 5th January after a long illness.

News from Overseas

Let me say at once that news from overseas is very scanty nowadays. We should like much more of it. We have had, however, an interesting letter from E. Nava, of Johannesburg, who says he has just returned from a very happy holiday in East London, Cape Province. He also tells us that he has seen Mrs. Bates several times, and that he is also keeping in touch with Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent, whom St. Dunstaners will always look upon as their friends.

A Series of Coincidences

A letter from W. A. Mugeridge, of Great Bookham, Surrey, deserves a special paragraph to itself. He sends a list of coincidences which he thinks—rightly, we imagine—to be outstanding in the history of St. Dunstan's.

(1) His great-grandmother's house at Ryde, in the Isle of Wight, was named "St. Dunstan's Lodge."

(2) During four years of his schooldays he received elementary carpentry instruction at St. Dunstan's Road School, Hammersmith.

(3) While employed by the late Mr. Ralph Knott, architect, he and another member of the staff carried out a survey for proposed alterations at St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, for Mr. Otto Kahn.

And

(4) He was admitted to St. Dunstan's when it had been made into a hostel for the re-education of war-blinded men.

An Interesting Competition

A free literary competition has just been announced by the National Institute for the Blind, to encourage any blind person who feels that he has a flair for writing. All that the entrant has to do is to write a lyric or an essay, or review a book. The essay or poem may be on any subject, but the book reviewed must be one of the following: P. G. Wodehouse's "Inimitable Jeeves," Hugh Walpole's "Forti-

tude," or Walsh's "The Key behind the Door." Who hasn't laughed over that most perfect of butlers, Jeeves, or found himself enthralled by the terror and courage of Walpole's splendid book? This is a chance to show if you can put your feelings about these works into words—or, alternatively, if you can write a short poem or essay off your own bat. Wouldn't you like, for instance, to have written the poem which is printed next in the REVIEW, with its gay, plucky philosophy?

The competition is open to the blind of the whole world, irrespective of nationality, and is the first of its kind that has yet been organised. Substantial prizes are offered in each class. How proud we should be if a St. Dunstaner was successful in winning one of them!

IF WE ONLY UNDERSTOOD!

"Life's a puzzle. It's a problem that is up to us to solve.

It's a school of evolution where we more or less evolve.

There's no lesson that is taught us that may not be for our good,
And we'd always keep on learning, if we only understood.

We should see the other fellow's point of view as well as ours;

We should not expect life's pathway to be always strewn with flow'rs;

We should reach out for the better things and do the best we could,

And we'd always keep on smiling, if we only understood.

We'd be always upward striving, and we'd help the world along;

We would cheer each other onward with a smile, a thought, a song;

And we'd know the joy of living, for to live and love is good,

And each day would make it better—if we only understood."

Another St. Dunstaner's Initiative

W. Coleman, of the Annexe, writes that a few weeks ago he entered for a competition held at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, in which anybody who was not a professional actor could go on to the stage and give any performance he liked. Coleman gave a monologue entitled "The Hellbound Train," which he had written himself. There were thirty in the final, but he was fortunate enough to gain the second prize—£2. Congratulations, Coleman!

A Noteworthy Event

INTERESTING news has come to us of the doings of P. J. Sparkes, of Grimsby. When the Albert Hall Armistice Day Festival, organised in 1929 by the British Legion, was over Sparkes obtained special copies of the programme. He and his colleagues of the local branch of the British Legion then set to work to see that Grimsby this last Armistice Day had a somewhat similar Festival. This came off and was a great success. Friends and supporters assisted in defraying expenses, local church choirs and the Choral Society—and the Grimsby British Legion Military Band—helped with the musical part of the programme, and well-known vocalists attended to sing solos, with refrains in which the audience joined.

The programme was excellently drawn up. First came the National Anthem, after which there was the Entry of Veterans to the stirring tune of "The Boys of the Old Brigade." Then the V.A.D. entered to the march "The Great Little Army," and representatives of the Royal Navy, the British Army, and the Royal Air Force followed them. Ex-servicemen representing all units of the Army and Navy came next, after which was the Entry of the Legion Standards and of Toc. H. The Union Jack was carried in and placed in position to the refrains of "Land of Hope and Glory," and "Rule Britannia."

Addresses were then given by the principal guests, and community singing came next on the programme. "Now sing up everyone. Don't be shy. Let it go," was the advice given, and we may be sure it was not given in vain. Such songs as "Tipperary," "Pack up your Troubles," "John Peel," "The Long, Long Trail," and "Good Bye-ee" are meant to be sung in gatherings such as this with all memories turned to the days when they were on everybody's lips. The next song is not so well known, but it is so lovely it is worth quoting:—

"There's a land, a dear land, where the rights of the free,

Though firm as the earth, are as wide as the sea;

Where the primroses bloom, and the
nightingales sing,
And the honest poor man is as good
as a King.

Show'ry! Flow'ry!
Cheerful! Tearful!
England wave-guarded, and green to
the shore!
West land! Best land!
Thy land! My land!
Glory be with her, and peace ever-
more."

The Last Post was then played, and the ceremony of Light, observed at all meetings of Toc. H. in every part of the world, was conducted by the President. The Festival ended with the hymn "The Supreme Sacrifice" in memory of fallen comrades, followed by God Save The King.

It may be that other St. Dunstaners in different parts of the country will be encouraged by this account of the response which followed P. J. Sparkes' efforts to follow his example, and interest their local branches of the British Legion in instituting similar festivals. Whatever the result, however, Sparkes is to be complimented on his initiative and the hard work which he gave to making the proceedings a success.

Badges for the Blind

WE have had a letter from H. Kerr, of Beckenham, commenting on the note in last month's REVIEW about sticks for blinded pedestrians. He agrees that the difficulties of crossing crowded streets have been growing bigger year by year, and that now, since the new Traffic Bill, they have increased greatly in one bound. He is also impressed by the sense of responsibility which must be felt both by motorists, who have continually to be on the look-out for blinded men, and also by the people in the street, to whom St. Dunstaners appeal for assistance in their journeys.

"I never cross a street alone," he says, "and as I travel to and from London during the busiest hours of the day, I am continually having to ask people to help me across streets crowded with traffic. Sometimes I can feel women trembling, and I know that they are feeling the responsi-

bility a heavy one."

He thinks that other St. Dunstaners will agree with him that the time has come when something must be done. The idea of dog-guides has never become popularised in England, and there are many objections which can be brought against the white stick. Chief among them is the fact that no St. Dunstaner likes to make himself conspicuous, and neither a dog nor a stick can be kept merely for their purpose in giving warning on busy streets that a blinded man is crossing—they must be obvious all the time the man is out walking.

Kerr thinks, therefore, that an idea which has been suggested to him is a good one. This is that all blinded men shall carry *red badges*, not to be worn but to be kept in the pocket until they are needed. When the time comes to cross the street the man takes his badge out and shows it, and other people, pedestrians and drivers of vehicles alike, know that he is blind and act accordingly. The advantage of this plan is that the badge would serve just the same purpose as the stick, but would not make its user conspicuous.

We should like to know what other St. Dunstaners think of this idea. Letters for and against will be welcomed. Of course, before it could be put into execution the widest publicity would be necessary, but first of all the opinions of the men who would be using the badge must be ascertained. Are St. Dunstaners satisfied to leave things as they are or not? We want to know, so get out your typewriters and tell us what *you* think.

Attention!

To joiners, picture framers, and whoever it may concern. May I again draw attention to the presence of March winds which have unpleasant effects upon all timbers and tools. It is advisable to treat the planes once a week with raw linseed oil. To protect all timbers, moulding, &c., against the direct current of wind and see that they are stood or laid in such a position that no twist can take place. Much time and trouble can be saved by prompt attention to these small details.

E. H. A.

Good Times at Brighton

THE Brighton coterie of St. Dunstaners has fortune indeed on its side. Never a month goes by but what our boys receive invitations to one or more concerts, dances, and so on, arranged for their special benefit by their friends in the town. This last month has proved itself no exception to the rule. One time it was a supper and dance given by Mrs. Robinson and the guests residing at Portland House, Regency Square. This was a most successful evening, greatly enjoyed by everybody. The Kemp Town Brewery kindly supplied the ale, and Tillings (always ready to help) conveyed the men there and back. Spot prizes were given, including five 10s. notes, and cigarettes were sent to those who were unable to attend.

On Tuesday, 3rd February, also, the latest of many proofs of the generous interest taken in St. Dunstaners by the Brighton, Hove, and District Grocers' Association was given. All the boys at the Annexe, together with others living outside, were entertained to a concert, supper and dance at the Old Ship Assembly Rooms. The St. Dunstaners numbered 110, and in addition there were 60 escorts and about 50 others present at what proved to be a particularly happy party.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton and the Mayor and Mayoress of Hove honoured the gathering with their presence; Mr. Ernest Kessell, Treasurer of St. Dunstan's, came down from London to represent the Chairman, Captain Fraser; and among others who attended were Mr. H. Clifford (President of the Grocers' Association) and Mrs. Clifford, Mr. E. C. Parsons (Chairman of the St. Dunstan's Committee of the Association)—and, of course, our Matron, Miss Thellusson.

The concert proved very much to the taste of the guests, who especially enjoyed the opportunity of joining in some of the old favourite songs.

Following supper, Mr. Clifford, in the name of the Association, offered a hearty welcome to the guests. The Mayors of

Brighton and Hove also spoke a few cheery words of greeting. Then Mr. Kessell rose to speak, amid tremendous applause. His speech was a great success, particularly when he recounted his arrival at Brighton complete with everything necessary for evening wear except black silk socks!

Mr. E. C. Parsons then moved a vote of thanks to the Mayors and Mayoresses, and to Miss Thellusson and Mr. Kessell, for their presence. Dancing followed and was kept up with zest, varied by a number of amusing competitions arranged by Miss Llewellyn. Unfortunately, Miss Llewellyn, who has rendered such devoted service to St. Dunstan's, was unable, owing to illness, to be present, but Miss Olga Barton supervised the competitions in her stead.

Netting Room Notes

We have begun February very busily with rug orders, even to the extent of asking all netting men possible to make rugs, as netting orders are few and far between during the winter. Most of the men are enjoying the change of work, and as we are supplying them with good orders each week, they are able to earn more in consequence for the time being, which is always a help, especially in the winter.

The men at Brighton are doing well; W. E. Freeman, E. Harrison, J. McAlonan and T. B. Wheeler working at rugs. W. Lacey, T. Warren, J. Yuille are all busy with netting. W. Gay is still away ill. G. Brooks is having a short course of rug-making.

We congratulate T. Bloomfield in finishing his course. He has done excellently.

Men's Anniversary Dance

The Sixteenth Anniversary Dance will be held on Tuesday, 24th March, from 8 to 11 p.m. at the St. Marylebone Hall, Marylebone Baths, Marylebone Road, N.W.1.—admission from 7.30 onwards. St. Dunstaners wishing to attend should apply to Sister Goolden at Headquarters for tickets (one escort for each man). It is regretted that children under 14 years of age cannot be admitted.

A Soldier's Yarn

The following story, which is taken from *The Daily Telegraph*, will be enjoyed by St. Dunstan's men:

"Major-General Burn-Murdoch, who has just died, was a great stickler for discipline, although he was held in high regard by many of his juniors. A friend was recounting to me yesterday an incident at an inspection.

"As he proceeded, the general plied each subaltern with the question 'What time do you get up?'

"'Eight o'clock, sir,' replied the first, thereby incurring General Burn-Murdoch's wrath, a sharp and very short expression of disgust! The next subaltern, thinking to do better, replied, 'seven-thirty, sir.' But he was equally unfortunate.

"So the question went on, always with the same result, until my friend's turn came. As he was the only officer with his mounted detachment, and had to turn out daily for early morning stables, he was able to reply truthfully: 'Six o'clock, sir, every morning.'

"'Here Colonel,' called General Burn-Murdoch, 'This is the only officer in the division who rises in time for breakfast.'"

Congratulations and Regrets

It is with the greatest regret that we have to announce that our Yorkshire representative, Miss Evelyn Rush, has retired from her position as Social Visitor. She was married, by Canon Mitchell, to Dr. Smyth, of Leamington Spa, in St. Ann's Cathedral, Leeds, on Monday, 5th January.

Miss Rush has worked for many years—eleven and a half—for St. Dunstan's. For several years she was Mr. Swain's Secretary at Headquarters, and five years ago she left London and took up the post of Social Visitor in Yorkshire.

Miss Rush will be immensely missed by her very large circle of friends, and especially by the men and their wives in the Yorkshire district. She leaves St. Dunstan's with our very sincere thanks for the splendid work she has done, and with our very best wishes for her happiness in the future—a happiness which she so richly deserves.

Blind Traveller's Amusing Experiences

We imagine that many St. Dunstaners have experiences just as amusing as these to relate. There was, for instance, H. Kerr's exciting adventure when practising for a walking race, which was described in last month's REVIEW. Will all others who have similarly interesting incidents hidden away in their minds please bring them to light—and hand them on to us for the REVIEW?

"When you have a blind man staying in your house, don't bother to tell him the whereabouts of the mirror, and don't explain the position of the electric switches." These are some of the "don'ts" to be learnt from the Rev. David Griffiths, deputation secretary of the National Institute for the Blind, writing in the current issue of the Institute's magazine on his experiences as a blind traveller.

Hostesses in country places sometimes give him a candle to light him to bed. Under such circumstances he says, to avoid causing "embarrassment to the old lady," it is just as well to take the candle; but even Mr. Griffiths, with all his long experience, still appears to have difficulty in gauging the correct distance of nose from flame when blowing out the light.

During the past 30 years Mr. Griffiths has travelled over 250,000 miles. He travels unattended, but—thanks to the ever-ready kindness of those he meets—he has never once got into the wrong train. "I have three brothers, who see perfectly, and who do not travel in a year as much as I do in a week, but all have been in wrong trains." He himself travels about 17,000 miles a year.

"My only embarrassment arises from the fact that some people are so kind that, in dealing with a blind man, they wish to do much more than is necessary. Not content with merely helping me out of a train; they try to lift me out. Others insist on treating me as though, being blind, I were also stone deaf."

Mr. Griffiths exposes the old fallacy which holds that the pleasure of smoking consists in watching the smoke. This belief is held by many smokers, and some have expressed surprise on noticing Mr. Griffiths' enjoyment of a cigar. To one of these he suggested that, under the circumstances, one cigar would do for both of them. "I'll smoke it," he said, "and you can watch the smoke."

A Successful Broadcast

Congratulations to the St. Dunstan's Singers, whose first experience at the microphone was a great success. We have heard the performance praised on all sides, and we believe that several letters have been sent to the B.B.C. asking that it shall be repeated some time in the near future.

After-Care Reunions

HULL REUNION

OUR Annual Reunion was held at Powolney's Restaurant, Hull, on 14th January. A good number of us gathered together from Hull and District and North Lincolnshire. I should think with the men and wives and escorts there were about 90 present.

After an excellent lunch, Mr. Swain, who was our host, spoke a few words of welcome to us all, and gave us a greeting from Captain Fraser. He went on to speak of the satisfactory position of St. Dunstan's and asked us to do our bit by trying to sell as many of our goods as we possibly could to our local customers.

Then he electrified the gathering by making two announcements. The first of these was that Miss Rush, our Social Visitor, had a few days ago been married to Dr. Smyth, of Leamington Spa, and she was leaving us on the Friday after the Leeds Re-Union. We certainly applauded, but we were too sorry to lose her to be very pleased about it.

Mr. Swain then went on to say that having given us one surprise, he would spring another on us, and to put it in his own words, he had taken unto himself a wife and, just before Christmas, had married Miss Yvonne Christie, daughter of the late Dr. Fairgray Christie, of Oxford. This announcement was, of course, received with great cheers.

I being the chosen victim, had to reply, a very difficult task to one not well versed in the art of speech-making, especially as the two weddings were such a great surprise to all of us. However, I did my best, and proposed a vote of thanks to St. Dunstan's for holding the meetings, and offered Mr. Swain the very best wishes of all present, expressing a hope that he would continue to be Manager of the After-Care for a long time to come.

To Miss Rush, who, by the way, is now Mrs. Smyth, I also offered our good wishes, and said that I hoped she would be very happy and would look back with pleasure on the years spent with us.

Lieut. G. Robinson very ably seconded all that I had said, and added his personal congratulations to Miss Rush and Mr. Swain.

A toast to the health of the newly-married people was proposed by P. Sparkes and "For he's a jolly good fellow" was sung with enthusiasm.

Mr. Swain thanked the company for their good wishes, and said he would leave Miss Rush to speak for herself, which she did in a few well chosen words.

We spent a very happy afternoon wandering round and having a chat with old friends. It reminded me very much of an afternoon in the lounge in the days when we were at home in Regent's Park.

During afternoon tea we had a guessing competition. The lucky prize-winners were:—

Ladies.—First, Mrs. Hopper; second, Mrs. Worlidge.

Men.—First, F. Marshall; second, W. Stamp.

After a very pleasant afternoon, the meeting closed, and we all wended our way to catch various buses and trains for home. I am sure that if good wishes were gold, Miss Rush and Mr. Swain would have had a heavy load to take with them.

A. T. C.

LEEDS REUNION

The Annual Reunion of St. Dunstaners residing in and around Leeds was held in the Masonic Hall, Leeds, on Friday, the 16th January 1931. About sixty men and their wives and escorts were present. On arrival all were greeted in the usual jovial and friendly manner by Miss Rush and Mr. Swain. A splendid luncheon was served at 1 p.m., after which Mr. Swain spoke to the gathering.

During the course of his speech he said how sorry he was that Captain Fraser was unable to be present. He also paid tribute to the men of St. Dunstan's generally for the great efforts they were continually making to rise victorious over their handicap. He broke very gently the news of his marriage, which was received with great surprise, and "For he's a jolly good fellow" was sung heartily by all. He also made known the marriage of Miss Rush to

Dr. J. Smyth, of Leamington Spa.

G. Healey proposed a vote of thanks to St. Dunstan's and all concerned in the welfare of St. Dunstaners. He mentioned the great pleasure felt by all there when they heard of the two weddings, and voiced the feelings of all present when he congratulated Miss Rush and Mr. Swain on the happy events. This was briefly seconded by H. Ferrand.

During the afternoon, Mr. Will Owen, the well-known Leeds artist, created roars of laughter with original jokes and songs, and Mr. Harrison, an old friend of ours, accompanied him on the piano. Mrs. Johnson delighted everyone with piano-forte solos.

The stop-watch competition was won by:—

Ladies.—First, Mrs. Cairns; second, Mrs. Ferrand.

Men.—First, R. Paterson; second, E. Boswell.

After tea, much to our regret, we all had to think about going, but we did feel that we had taken part in one of the most memorable and enjoyable Reunions yet held.

H. F.

SHEFFIELD REUNION

The Sheffield Reunion was held on Thursday, 15th January, and took place, as it has done for several years past, in the comfortable café at Messrs. T. & J. Roberts, Moorhead, where some forty men, from Sheffield and the surrounding district, along with their wives and friends, were afforded another opportunity of meeting.

A most excellent tea, with fare to suit all palates, was provided, and the service given was also excellent. Miss Lowe, the Manageress, was asked to accept the gratitude of all present for her efforts.

Tea over, Mr. Swain addressed the gathering in a cheery and encouraging tone, and was quick to give the assurance that all was going well with St. Dunstan's in general. He then sprang two surprises on his audience, the first being that Miss Rush, the After-care Visitor, had recently married, and, secondly, that he himself had taken a wife. After this double surprise, you could have heard a pin drop for

nearly a minute, and then the cheering and clapping were almost overwhelming.

In responding, C. Greaves extended good wishes on behalf of all present to Miss Rush, now Mrs. Smyth, and her husband, and to Mr. and Mrs. T. Evelyn Swain. A. Adams seconded the vote of thanks in a very nice little speech.

Miss Rush afterwards addressed the meeting and said how very sorry she was at the thought of having to terminate her official duties in connection with St. Dunstan's, and added that she would look back at the past years of work amongst the men as very happy ones, and she hoped that she would be given an invitation to attend the future Yorkshire meetings.

After tea there was a stop-watch competition, the winners being as follows:—

Ladies.—First, Mrs. Amos; second, Mrs. Garthwaite.

Men.—First, C. Greaves; second, T. Millward.

Mr. Glover came along to entertain us at the piano, and several of the men sang. So ended a Reunion thoroughly enjoyable, but just a little bit overshadowed by the thought of Miss Rush leaving us.

C. G.

Hoots Mon!

Here are two jokes which will please those St. Dunstaners who are *not* Scottish. Perhaps even those who are will give a hollow laugh.

First Scotsman (to crowd round fainting man): "Gi'e him air!"

Second Scotsman: "Gi'e him some yoursel', mon!"

—————
A Scotsman gave a waiter a tip.
The horse did not start.

—————
Every gift, even though it is small, is valuable if you give it with a kind intention.

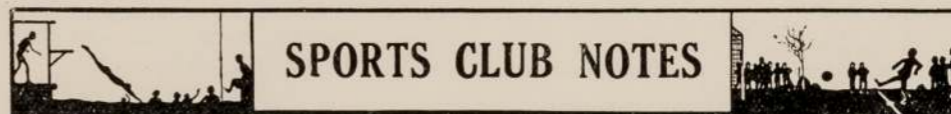
PHILEMON.

Start some kind word on its travels. There is no telling where the good it may do will stop.

D. TALMAGE.

It is a friendly heart that has plenty of friends.

THACKERAY.



Walk Date

15-MILE WALK

The 15-mile walk has been arranged to take place on Saturday, 14th March, at 2.30 p.m. instead of 21st March, as the latter date was found to be inconvenient. Will all competitors kindly send in their names to the Sports Office not later than 1st March.

Nine Miles Outer Circle Walk

24TH JANUARY 1931

The above event was held in Regent's Park, the rendezvous being as usual, Headquarters. Except for a stiff breeze, the conditions were ideal, including spring-like sunshine. The Birmingham and Brighton contingents were early on the scene.

Just before the race, when all the competitors, escorts, and officials were assembled in the Lounge, Captain Fraser introduced His Worship the Mayor of Marylebone, and the Lady Mayoress, Colonel and Mrs. R. Q. Henriques. His Worship said he was proud to have the honour to start these splendid sportsmen on their race, and wished them all the best of luck. As the competitors and their escorts lined up at the start a perfect galaxy of colour was produced in the sunlight by the various hued club colours worn. A small army of press photographers and correspondents were at the start, which the Mayor effected without any of the competitors being left at the post. (In the T.B. section, at the end of three miles, Kerr led from Boorman, Craigie, Thompson, Ingram and Holmes, followed by Rhodes, Berry, North, Shakespeare, and Barker. At six miles Kerr still led from Thompson, then came Craigie and Ingram. Just before eight miles, Holmes came through and, after a rare struggle with the above, just beat Kerr literally on the post in 69.14; Kerr, 69.42, second; Thompson, 90.33, third; Ingram, 90.43,

fourth; Craigie, 91.40, fifth; Boorman, 94.35, sixth. A splendid race—and it was nice to see Jock Ingram, of Brighton Walk fame, in the field again. Alex. Craigie has improved almost beyond recognition. In the S.S. Section, Brown immediately took the lead from Gover, Ashton, Trott, Giles, Dyer, and Coupland. This order was maintained at six miles, Brown increasing his lead. He was walking better than ever before, which is saying something. By this time he had required the assistance of three different escorts. He won in 76.55 from Gover, 81.0, second; Trott, 82.18 third; Ashton, 84.25, fourth; Giles, 86.52, fifth; Dyer, 96.32, sixth.

After partaking of the Davis Daintily Distributed Delicacies (which need no recommendation of mine), Mrs. Fraser presented the prizes with a hearty handshake and congratulations to each of the various winners. Captain Fraser thanked the handicapper, Mr. Donoghue, the judges, officials, Miss Davis, and her helpers, the prize-givers, and last but not least, the escorts, who are always so wonderful. After congratulating all the boys for their grand showing, Captain Fraser emphasised the fact that he fully appreciated the value of sport and exercise ever since their conception at St. Dunstan's and assured everyone that he would at all times and place support any logical and reasonable suggestion in that direction. Captain and Mrs. Fraser having been thanked for the kindly interest and support which they always give, three cheers were called for, and rendered with what I heard described as "military precision." Now you jolly old sportsmen—let us have your entries for the Fifteen Mile Walk, starting from Headquarters, 14th March, 2.30 p.m. sharp!

Prize Winners

NINE MILE HANDICAP
T.B.

1st. W. Shakespeare.
2nd. P. Holmes.

3rd. H. Thompson.
4th. H. Kerr (extra prize kindly presented by Miss Tomlins).
5th. D. Barker (novices' prize kindly presented by Mr. Parsons).
Fastest Time T.B.—P. Holmes, S.S.

1st. W. Giles.
2nd. A. Brown.
3rd. W. Trott.
4th. H. Gover (extra prize kindly presented by Miss Tomlins).
Fastest Time S.S.—A. Brown.

SPORTS POINTS

R. Rodwell .. 175	F. Winter .. 67
F. Coates .. 174	A. Brown .. 59
W. Birchall .. 145	G. Wheeler } .. 59
H. Prior .. 118	S. Dyer .. 46
P. Martin .. 105	H. Conlin .. 44
G. Fallowfield 83	

What About It?

We should like to remind our sportsmen that the socials are still in full swing every Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. The first Tuesday in the month we have a dance, the second and fourth whist drives, and the third Tuesday a domino tournament. Won't some of you others whom we have not yet seen try and come up one Tuesday to join in these socials—we should be so

glad to see you and the more the merrier. Make a start and come to the next dance, which is on 3rd March at 8 p.m.

A Generous Gift

Since the Nine Mile Walk was held the following letter has come to the Chairman from Colonel R. Q. Henriques:—

Dear Fraser,

The Mayoress and I were so impressed by the keenness of the competitors in the Annual Walking Race, which I had the privilege of starting a few days back, that I hope you will accept the enclosed cheque to provide a special prize for the eventual winner of the competition.

Yours truly,

Ralph Q. Henriques,

(Mayor of St. Marylebone)

This generous gift, following on the kindness which Colonel Henriques showed in acting as starter, will be greatly appreciated by St. Dunstaners. The prize has been put away in readiness for the twenty-five mile race which closes the season's walking events.

NINE MILE SEALED HANDICAP OUTER CIRCLE WALK

24TH JANUARY 1931

RESULTS

T.B.

Name	Escorts	Scr. Race	Actual Time	Start	Hand Time	Posit'n in hand
			m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	
P. Holmes	Messrs. Chalk & Bowly	1	89 14	3 15	85 59	2
H. Kerr	Messrs. Dodkins & D. Hall	2	89 42	3 0	86 42	6
H. Thompson	Messrs. Foster & Webster Smith	3	90 33	4 30	86 3	3
J. Ingram	Messrs. Sandy & Thayer	4	90 43	3 45	86 58	7
A. Craigie	Messrs. Montgomery & A. E. Jarvis	5	91 40	5 30	86 10	4
H. Boorman	Messrs. Bellis & Salter	6	94 35	6 30	88 5	8
W. Berry	Messrs. Nicholls & Weaver	7	98 36	12 0	86 36	5
F. Rhodes	Mr. Martin	8	103 50	10 0	93 50	9
W. Shakespeare	Messrs. J. Hall & Osborn	9	105 56	20 0	85 56	1
D. Barker	Messrs. Marlow & Buggett	10	107 5	12 0	95 5	10
T. North	Mr. Witham					
	S.S.					
A. Brown	Messrs. Winter, Fielder & Curme	1	76 56	Scr.	76 56	2
H. Gover	Mr. Harris	2	81 0	3 0	78 0	4
W. Trott	Messrs. Hinds & Meadows	3	82 18	4 45	77 33	3
P. Ashton	Mr. Woodyard	4	84 25	4 0	80 25	5
W. Giles	Messrs. Leary & Steggle	5	86 32	9 45	75 47	1
S. Dyer	Messrs. Boyce & Curme	6	96 32	15 0	81 32	6
J. Coupland	Messrs. Fielder & Brown	7	98 29	16 0	82 29	7

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