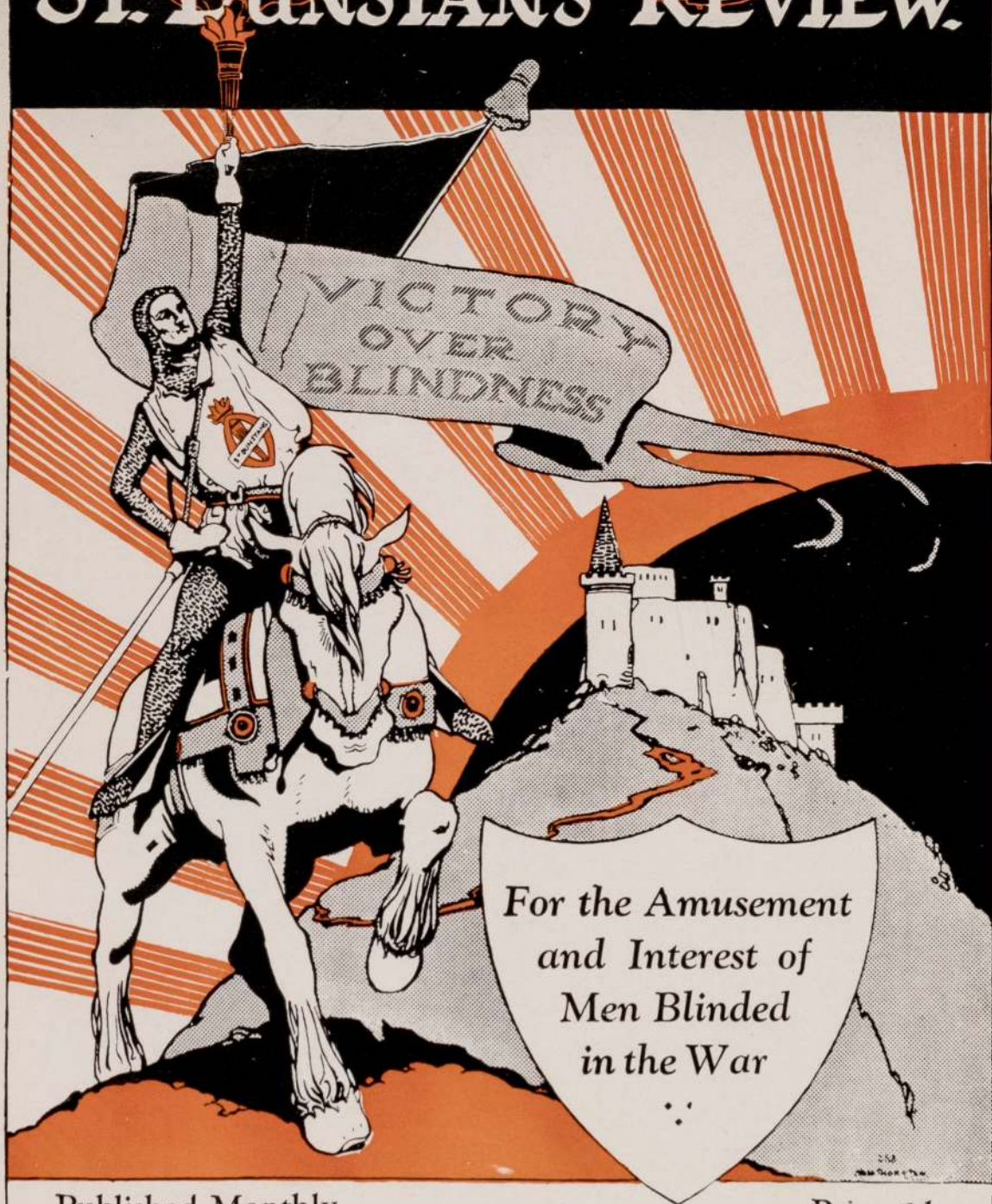


# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.



Published Monthly

Price 6d.

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

NO. 162.—VOLUME XV. [NEW SERIES]

MARCH 1931.

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

### Our Derby Sweepstake

ST. DUNSTANERS with long memories will notice that we give to this editorial the same title which was given last year to the editorial commenting on the announcement of the first St. Dunstan's Derby Sweepstake. This is because the sweepstake is, this year as last, definitely and absolutely *ours*. It is run by us for our men alone. Its only object is the amusement and interest of the members of our family, a big family but a more united one than many of smaller size. Even the funds of St. Dunstan's will not benefit by any proportion of the entrance fees, as has again been suggested. Our whole aim in organising the competition is to give enjoyment. We have no doubts at all that in this aim we shall succeed.

### Before—and After

'Flu! 'Flu! 'Flu!

The REVIEW is full of it this month. 'Flu at Brighton. 'Flu among our Irish community. 'Flu in the homes of St. Dunstaners in every part of England, Wales and Scotland. If we had put the cases in detail we could have filled the REVIEW from cover to cover. With even the greatest care taken to prevent our magazine from reading like a list pinned outside the doors of a hospital, it has not been possible to keep the simple, deadly little word out of many consecutive pages. It has a way of creeping in just as it has crept into our homes, our workshops, our seaside Annexe. And what hours of weariness, of pain, of deadly boredom and depression it has brought in its wake. How many of us, after the first fever and headache, have had to go through that dreaded stage of convalescence when nothing in life seems worth while, when the whole world appears to be in a hopeless mess and we feel that we have not the strength—and never again will have the strength—to tackle even the smallest portion of it. We are quite certain we simply don't care what happens to us. We know implicitly that whatever does happen will be the worst that one could possibly imagine. We even welcome that knowledge, dwell on it, glory in it . . . Until . . .

Until, very suddenly, the morning comes when the last touch of fever has gone, the last stage of convalescence is over, the last traces of pain and weariness have miraculously disappeared. A morning when we feel a new interest in everything around us. When the news that England is experiencing the worst snowstorm known in March for twenty years has the power to thrill us deeply. When the return of the children from school with tales of crocuses peeping gallantly through in park and garden makes us realise that Spring is at hand and that we long for it as we have never longed before. When we turn to the REVIEW not for news of other sufferers, other "down-in-the-dumpers," but for the date of the next

Walk, the paragraph about this year's Camp, the sports article which talks about rowing and preparation for the Sports. When we realise that with every bit of us we ache to be up and doing again. When, in short, we realise that we are alive, and give thanks for it.

Most of us this winter have known these two phases, the "before" and the "after." I wonder how many of us aren't just the tiniest bit glad, in our heart of hearts, that we have experienced the first phase, just for the joy of coming through to the second. When we were lying ill we should have laughed if anyone had suggested to us that one day we should be thinking that even 'flu has its points. But, now that we are better, most of us,—well truthfully,—hasn't it?

### World Conference of the Blind

WORKERS for the blind in the United States of America have arranged to convene a World Conference to be held in New York during the month of April 1931. Practically every nation will be represented at the Conference, which will deal with education, employment, pensions, State assistance, After-care, appliances and a host of other subjects of interest to the blind community. The Conference is being held by the authority of the Government of the United States, who are extending an official welcome to the delegates.

The delegates from Great Britain consist of eight persons, three representing Government Departments, i.e. Ministry of Health, Board of Education and Scottish Board of Health, and five representing the British Blind World and agencies for the Welfare of the Blind in Britain. Captain Ian Fraser has been invited to be one of the British delegates, and owing to his acquaintance with Parliamentary affairs, has been asked to deliver a paper upon The State and the Blind.

The objects of the Conference have been summarised in a circular as follows:—

1. To promote international comity by bringing more intimate personal acquaintanceships among leaders in work for the blind throughout the world.
2. To give the leaders in work for the blind detailed information regarding work being done in foreign countries which may suggest ways of improving the work at home.
3. To establish means of effecting more rapid interchange of information regarding developments in work for the blind:—
  - (a) As to practical types of employment;
  - (b) As to methods of instruction;
  - (c) As to new appliances for overcoming the handicap of blindness;
  - (d) As to prevention of blindness.

4. To promote the co-operative use of embossed literature through interchange of books and sheet music among libraries, and exchange of periodicals, especially among countries speaking the same language. (This exchange of periodicals may be carried on both by publishers and by individual readers).

5. To enlist the co-operation of leaders in various countries in the promotion of work in international interest, as, for instance, the development of uniform embossed codes for music, classical languages, and higher mathematics; also the establishment of uniform Braille codes among countries speaking the same language.

6. To enlist international co-operation among leaders for the promotion of local work, such as the securing of general publicity about forms of employment, methods of instruction, &c., and the securing of assistance from progressive nations for the promotion of work in less advanced countries.

Captain Fraser, who will be accompanied by Mrs. Fraser, sails from Southampton on Thursday, 2nd April, on S.S. "Corinthia," and will be returning about the middle of May.

### Humours of Taxation

Most of us would say that if there is one subject which does not lend itself to jokes it is taxation. But a Chief Inspector of Taxes told some very good stories at a Leeds dinner the other day, which the *Yorkshire Post* reported.

"We had a dentist before the Income Tax Commissioners once," he said. He appeared to appeal against an assessment without any figures to support his claim, but he tried to impress the Commissioners with his poverty by saying: 'Gentlemen, I assure you mine is only a hand-to-mouth business.'"

Another good yarn he told which the wives of St. Dunstaners will enjoy was of a man who wrote: "I wish to appeal. I was married on 6th May and have had other troubles since."

### News from Brighton

BRIGHTON news is—'flu! Nothing else this month. About thirty men went down, two V.A.D.'s, twelve orderlies, and—an all-important personage in the Annexe, as all St. Dunstaners who have visited Brighton know—the boy scout, John. Everybody who did not fall a victim had to work tremendously hard. There have been no slack times at Brighton lately! Below is a graphic account of the warfare written by one of the boys—anonously, more's the pity. We must discover him and keep him as our special correspondent at the front.

#### BRIGHTON BULLETIN

For the past few weeks we have been besieged by General 'Flu and his army of destroyers. First he made a sortie on the trainees. After causing several casualties in their ranks, he turned his heavy batteries on the large sick ward, isolating the whole of this position, after which his germs gradually took a firm hold on the whole of this sector. A pitched battle ensued but we are glad to report that Matron, Sister Baker and the very willing remaining staff slowly assumed the mastery, and as we go to Press our very depleted ranks are to receive reinforcements from an army of reserves that have been kept waiting. I might mention that one man has won distinction. Private Johnson, whilst all his comrades were falling round him, battled valiantly through it all, and won such admiration that Matron has decorated him with the order, "Victory over 'Flu," which now hangs over his bed.

#### A Young St. Dunstaner at Sea

We have received a very interesting letter from D. Livingstone, of Holmcroft, Ayr, telling us of the life his boy is leading at sea. He reached New York in time for Christmas, and had a very happy time while his boat was in port, as two American ladies have rented a house where appren-

tices are made welcome and where they can play games, read all the home papers, and have their meals free of charge. He is now coasting round India, but expects to be back in New York soon, after which he will be going to Australia and then back to Glasgow with a cargo of wool and wheat.

All young Livingstone's friends, and some of his old teachers, are taking a great interest in his doings, following the movements of his boat wherever it goes. What a great time he will have yarnning about his experiences when he comes home in the late autumn, as he hopes to do. He is not 17 years old yet, but his father tells us he is 5 ft. 10 ins. in height and well built. A young St. Dunstaner for all of us to be proud of.

#### Netting Room Notes

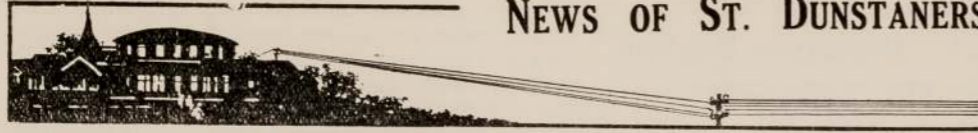
We congratulate the men who are working so well at rug making on the soft canvas after having learnt on the stiff, and finding difficulty with that at first. They have tried very hard and the result has been excellent. I am sure they are pleased about it too as now they are able to have regular orders for saleable goods which helps us greatly as well as themselves. Among these men are, R. Robinson, J. O'Neil, T. Darbinson, T. Parkinson, L. Bride, F. Gallagher and W. Reid.

The men at Brighton are busy as usual. A. Blaker and E. Stevenson passed their rug test successfully and are now on orders. T. Duncan has begun rug making. E. H. Harrison, J. McAlonan have finished their two rugs. W. E. Freeman, J. Yuill and W. Haslan are making hammocks. W. Gay is busy with a swing; W. H. Lacey at fruit netting and T. S. Warren on a pig net. The men should take much interest in learning to make pig nets as it is most useful to know how to net this thick cord successfully. K.H.W.

#### Braille Notes

Very many congratulations to H. F. Tarling on passing the Braille Reading Test and to J. Coupland on passing the Braille Writing Test.

## NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS



**J** BROCKERTON, of Coleraine, is getting along splendidly and is still getting a large number of orders for mats. He has just had a holiday at Brighton, where he had a great time. He has also had the excitement of a fire breaking out in his house. Luckily it was discovered in time and extinguished before it got a firm hold on the building.

We hear that J. Goodison, of Sandymount, made the draw for the British Legion Christmas Parcels drawing of prizes, but was unable to do himself or any of his pals any good. He has been getting a lot of orders lately and made six mats for display at the big dance. A. P. Horan also had a big display at the Sandymount dance, which has brought him in several orders.

R. Bell, of Sandymount, is fit and working at his baskets. His son is trying to get a job in a big new factory in Dublin. There are 20,000 applicants, so we shall have to wish young Bell lashins and lavins of luck.

The Irish group certainly seem to be making chances for themselves to display their work. L. Bride, of Dublin, showed three wool rugs at a big dance in the capital. The more work is shown on such occasions the more likely people are to remember any St. Dunstaner in their neighbourhood when they are thinking of giving an order.

We hear that G. Lyttle's home at Cloverhill is used for a "gathering of the clans" every evening, and that Lyttle keeps himself very fit walking all day and talking all night. It is hoped that he will be seen this year at the Belfast Reunion.

The shop which A. Gribben, of Belfast, runs is doing quite well—though not long ago a bag of potatoes was stolen from the little store.

The aim of B. Martin, of Bray, is to find a home nearer Dublin, as his kiddies are growing up and he wants to obtain better schooling for them, and also to be near them when they start work. We wish him the best of luck in this ambition.

'Flu seems to have been busy with our Irish group. The whole of the family of T. Parker, of Mountrath, have been down with it, as have W. Gay, of Dublin, F. Gallagher, of Strabane, J. Lawlor, of Dublin, and their families. We hope we shall hear of no more victims of the epidemic.

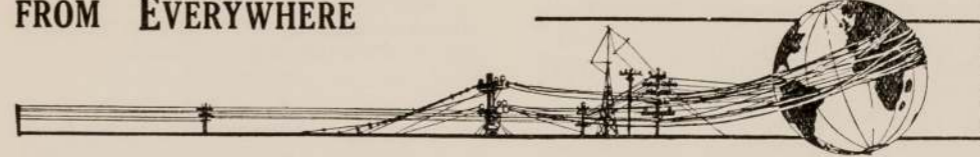
We are sorry to hear that the mother of W. J. Whiteside, of Portadown, is not at all well. She is an extremely plucky old lady, however, and Whiteside must feel very proud of her.

C. R. Newell, of Cheltenham, is as busy as usual with his poultry. He is at present planning the future of his daughter Edie, who is to finish her training at Exeter in April. We hope that Edie will find a good job, and then both she and her father will be pleased.

Good news comes from J. Martin, of Penzance. He has just rented a little place with which he is delighted, and he and Mrs. Martin are working hard to get it in ship-shape order. They have four cows and some pigs, and have been fortunate enough to get a regular customer for their cream and butter. Soon they hope they will also have a successful little poultry-run.

We hear that F. G. Vigar, of Exeter, will not be "of Exeter" much longer. He is moving to a nice house at Exmouth—indeed, by the time the REVIEW is in print he will have moved.

## FROM EVERYWHERE



Unfortunately for A. Tanner, of St. Ives, the fishing season has not been a good one, so that orders for fish baskets have not been coming in. Mrs. Tanner has been very busy repairing and decorating the house, and hopes to build up a good 'business in summer letting rooms to visitors.

E. J. Burley, of Perranwell, Cornwall, has been having a worrying time. His baby caught a cold in its eye when only a few days old and has been very ill. It is going on splendidly now, however, thanks to the good nursing and care of Mrs. Burley.

F. C. Harris, of Cheltenham, has also been having illness in the house. His small boy has undergone an operation for an abscess on the side of his chest. He has been very plucky about it and is going on well. All the family too have been down with the inevitable 'flu. Harris's shop is doing splendidly and is a delightful little place.

J. Bennett, also of Cheltenham, is rather unfortunately fixed. A bus company have bought the site of his house for garages, &c., and are pulling down as much as they can while waiting for him to get a new house. This means that the outer wall of Bennett's bedroom is bulging in a somewhat ominous manner. We must hope that it will not be long before he is comfortably settled in a new home.

W. Carnell, of Bampton, Devon, is sensible enough to make use of his typewriter when the weather is too wet for him to work with his mats and poultry (which, by the way, are doing very well). He busies himself typing notices for the local branch of the Women's Institute.

J. Rendell, of Tiverton, Devon, is also very busy with poultry, and has a nice number of chickens out.

Although he is just getting over a sharp attack of 'flu, W. Priest, of Exeter, is feeling very pleased with life. He has just had the shed in which he keeps his wheelchair repaired and improved; he received a visit from R. Young, who was speaking at the Women's Institute nearby, which pleased him greatly.

Signs of spring are evident in the way so many St. Dunstaners are giving attention to their houses. The men seem most interested in the outsides of their homes, whereas we imagine most of their wives are thinking at this season of the interiors. F. Humphries, of Brixham, Devon, like many others, has been busy getting the front of his house re-plastered. It had been letting the damp in badly, but should be perfectly alright now.

And still another move—G. Hadfield to Ottery St. Mary, Devon. And another family pleased with the change. Hadfield has made a good friend in the man next door, who already is going for walks with him. He is looking forward to starting work as soon as his shed is ready. It is quite certain that this move will mean more friends for St. Dunstan's than ever in that corner of Devon.

J. Ballantyne, of Isleworth, has had his two daughters ill with mumps. Luckily he has kept fit himself as has Mrs. Ballantyne, who is finding the running of her hairdressing business of great interest.

Influenza has been so bad in the neighbourhood of W. T. Jones, of Hedgerley, Bucks, that the school which his children attend has had to be closed. Five of his children have been ill, so that Mrs. Jones has had a very anxious and trying time.

Reports from the home of L. Hsley,

**News of St. Dunstaners—continued.**

Sutton, Surrey, say "all well and cheery." Ilsley himself is very happy with his work as telephonist; his son leaves school this year, and his eldest daughter is shortly to be married.

F. L. Green, of Gosport, is like most St. Dunstaners, a very great wireless enthusiast. He finds that since the new wavelengths, he has been in constant trouble with his set, and is now keen to have a two-valve set with the possibility of running a loud speaker.

F. Cox, of Nutbourne, has lately taken to making wool rugs. He has made several for friends and uses a patent hook with which he gets along famously. He is very keen for his eldest boy to go on to the "Warspite," and hopes that he will be able to do so this summer, as he would be leaving school this year in any case.

Digging in the garden, says W. Howes, of West Kingston, is what keeps him so fit. Unfortunately his wife has been ill for some weeks, but she is up and about again now.

W. Lowings has had to have the ceiling of his scullery repaired as it was collapsing! Otherwise, he says, all is well.

S. Durrant, of Wimborne, is very thrilled at the prospect of having a new bungalow.

F. Reason, of Bridport, is another wireless enthusiast who finds a one-valve set of little use nowadays. He is hoping he will be able to have a three-valve set with a loud speaker one of these days. He is also very keen on keeping pigs and hopes to be able to buy a piece of land near his house for them.

Yet another St. Dunstaner to move his home lately is P. Brown, of Kingsley Common. He and Mrs. Brown are very pleased with their new surroundings. They have certainly got a "picked spot" as far as the country around goes, and the bungalow is beautifully dry. The garden

needs a lot of attention, but as soon as a man has done the worst, Brown means to get on with the digging himself.

Everything is going on very well with A. Benning, of Warwick. He has been able to increase his stock of poultry lately, and he and Mrs. Benning are both working very hard.

W. Trott, of Birmingham, is also going on well, and is very busy with his fried fish shop.

An interesting piece of news is to hand about F. Heushaw, of Finchley. The branch of the Toc H to which he belongs is to be presented with a lamp by Lady (Arthur) Pearson when the Prince of Wales returns in June. We hope that when the ceremony has been performed, we shall be able to have an article about it in the REVIEW.

Old days at St. Dunstan's are not forgotten by G. T. Shaw, of Walsall. He never ceases to enjoy swapping yarns about those days and talking about all the tricks he played—or suffered from!

J. E. Langham has lately gone to live in Nottingham, where he and Mrs. Langham have found a nice little house, behind and over a lock-up fruit shop.

T. W. North, of Walsall, is a very enthusiastic attendant at Toc H. Unfortunately he is at present suffering from a bad cold which he attributes to the Walk on 24th January. That is not to say that he did not enjoy the Walk. He did, tremendously.

W. Duxbury, of Manchester, is feeling very proud, and rightly. His son, James, who went to the N. Manchester High School for Boys in September, came out top of the school in the Christmas examinations.

J. Pugh, of Islington, tells us he has just been to hear the talkie, "All Quiet on the Western Front." He says he enjoyed it

**News of St. Dunstaners—continued.**

because "it reminded him of the old days."

L. Forrester, of Glasgow, has just come back from a holiday at Brighton. He enjoyed himself immensely. Unfortunately he had to break off his holiday because his wife was in bed with 'flu.

G. Dawson, of Newmarket, is very keen to make a move. His boy is leaving school shortly, and he wants to take a larger poultry farm where they can work together.

Spring cleaning has already begun at the home of F. Handley, of Derby. They have just had electric light put in, which made such a mess that Mrs. Handley had to get straight to work papering the walls.

L. Sheridan, of Stourbridge, says that he is longing for the spring to come, when he will feel the benefit of living near the country. He is very pleased with his new workshop.

J. H. Greaves is very proud of his baby girl, who was born on 26th January. She is certainly a beautiful baby, one for any father or mother to feel pride in.

C. Molloy, of Wigan, has now got a workshop fixed at the back of his house. He is very happy in his new home, as is S. Evans, of Oldham, in his.

P. Summers, of Lanarkshire, reports that he had his wireless pole knocked down by a storm.

T. Cheshire, of Studham, is very well, as are his wife and baby. He is going to plant a variety of vegetable seeds in his garden, as he had such great success with them last year.

A. G. Rogers, of Biggleswade, and family are "well and busy."

Mrs. Foxon tells us that W. H. Foxon, of Acton Vale, is a wonderful cook. As she is ill in bed, this is very lucky, as he invents

all kinds of dishes to tempt her to eat.

J. Horridge, of Atherton, is having an anxious time. His little girl is in the Isolation Hospital with scarlet fever. We hope it will not be long before she is out and about again; and also the little daughter of J. W. Yarwood, of Manchester, who has had a bad attack of whooping cough.

We have had very interesting news from J. A. Dunlop, of Bonnyrigg. Recently the Scottish Veterans' Housing Association held a bazaar in Edinburgh and offered Dunlop a stall. This was extremely generous of them, as the bazaar was arranged to raise a fund to keep the houses in repair. Dunlop sold every basket he had in stock! The Association have also given him a porch for his front door, which will make his house much more comfortable. Naturally Dunlop is very happy and exceedingly grateful.

J. W. Broadbent, of Rosyth, has his eldest son at home now. He is hoping to get him into the Navy.

Another Spring move is being made by H. W. Hines, of Birmingham, who is leaving his old home for the Douglas Haig house he had been promised. It is a very nice house and Hines is very pleased.

A. W. Underwood, of Northwich, H. Hague, of Manchester, and J. Spinks, also of Manchester, have nothing to report except that they are "well and cheery."

Good news from A. Bennett, of Dover, about his son. He has passed the Senior Oxford Examination with five credits, and also the Civil Service Examination. Now he has passed into the Post Office, where he is working on probation till October. Then, we all hope, his regular job (and a very good job) will begin.

All is well at the home of J. Elder, of Leith, except that the youngest child is to have his tonsils out. The two eldest boys are both working. Elder receives a great deal of pleasure from the concerts at

**News of St. Dunstaners—continued.**

Newington Hall, which he attends every week.

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All well too with the household of J. Mitchell, of Leith. Mitchell himself is hoping to go abroad this summer for his holiday.

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R. Gifford, of Linlithgow, spends much of his time digging in his garden, which is in beautiful order. He also finds time to do a great deal of reading and altogether finds his hours fully occupied.

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Another young St. Dunstaner who is at sea is the son of D. Livingstone, of Mauchline. He is enjoying the life very much.

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"All's well," comes from W. Cook and A. Dolby, of Wood Green.

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Everything is going well with J. Thomas, of Cowbridge, S. Wales, and his family. Thomas hopes to have a nice number of chickens out shortly (they should be out before the REVIEW is!) his eldest daughter is busy with the dairy, and Mrs. Thomas with her milk and paper rounds.

\*\*\*

F. Saxon, of Cross Gate, near Stone, is very pleased because so far this winter he has had no coughs or colds. He is finding it much more convenient having his workshop in his own garden instead of "down the lane" as he had before.

\*\*\*

J. Nolan, of Market Drayton, is making good use of his boot repairing outfit and finds it a great saving. Mrs. Nolan is hoping to go on with her pig-rearing again shortly.

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The friends of A. E. Clewlow, of Brighton, will be glad to know that he has completely recovered from his operation of last year.

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When F. Bull, of Cheddar, attended a British Legion Dinner recently, he was asked to play his concertina. His performance was very much appreciated.

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We hear that G. Rickard, of Aylesbury,

is "O.K." and still going strong with his mats. He had an invitation from a friend to the Wingrave W. I. birthday party on 4th February and enjoyed himself very much.

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More news from T. Till, of Lancaster, about his daughters' musical successes, which continue with commendable regularity. This time it is the elder girl, Dorothy, who has been running away with the prizes. She was entered for four classes in the Lancaster Annual Musical Festival, and succeeded in carrying off three first prizes (books) and four first class certificates for high percentage of marks. She was highly praised by Dr. Lyon, the adjudicator, and her photograph appeared in several newspapers.

**Stocktaking**

Men are requested to refrain from sending orders for raw material to be despatched in the last days of March. It would be very helpful if we could send off all orders for raw material in each department, wanted before Easter, by Saturday, 28th March. We should be glad, therefore, to receive orders a few days before that date.

It would also help very much if men would send in their finished goods by the same date, or else immediately after Easter.  
W.H.O.

**Who's for the Camp?**

The usual St. Dunstan's Sports Camp will be held at Little Gaddesden House. The only available date this year will be Monday, 22nd June, for the week. Unless at least 20 definite entries are sent to Miss Honor Elwes, The Paddock, Grimston, King's Lynn, Norfolk, by 15th April, the camp will not take place. Please stir up your friends to come.  
H.K.W.

**Interesting News**

R.A.O.B. Brethren will be pleased to know that Bro. W. Lowings, K.O.M., the President of Knights Chapter, No. 154, was elected Provincial Grand Primo of the Province of Winchester for the year 1931 and has just held his second installation to the second degree.

**In "Memory"**

PRIVATE E. DONALD  
(Fusiliers)

WE regret to announce that E. Donald passed away on the 4th February last after suffering for some years from ill-health. He was trained at St. Dunstan's in mat-making, netting and woolrug work, but found it impossible to take up any occupation on account of his continued illness. He was several times admitted to hospital for lengthy periods, but never complained of his sufferings, and was always so grateful for any little help given him by St. Dunstan's.

The funeral took place at Brockley Cemetery on the 11th February, and among the numerous floral tributes was a wreath in the form of our badge from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We offer our sympathy to Donald's mother and sisters in their bereavement.

CORPORAL R. McMULLEN  
(West Yorkshire Regiment)

McMullen was trained at St. Dunstan's in poultry farming and basket making, and on leaving Headquarters in 1919 he took over a poultry farm at Oxford. In 1927 he gave up the farm and came to live at Clapton where he carried on with basket making. He made a great success of his trade and he was able to sell a great deal of his work through the Old Contemptibles Association of which he was a member. He was also a member of the Order of Buffaloes.

About a year ago McMullen's health began to fail and trouble arose in one of his legs. He was admitted to hospital for treatment, and it was found necessary to amputate his foot. After this, his health gradually became worse, and he died on the 2nd February. Although he suffered so much pain, he never complained and was always cheery.

The funeral took place on the 6th February, and the coffin was borne on a gun carriage; the six bearers being members of the Old Contemptibles Association. There were several members of the Order of Buffaloes present and a number of ex-Service men living in the neighbourhood, also many relatives. Among the numerous floral tributes, was one in the form of our badge from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's, and wreaths from the Hackney Disabled Soldiers' and Sailors' Foundation, the tenants, the Central and North Hackney branches of the British Legion, and the local branch of the Old Contemptibles' Association.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife and two sons.

PIONEER P. J. ROCK  
(Royal Engineers)

Rock became a St. Dunstaner in 1927 and was trained in mat making at which trade he made good progress until he took ill in April 1929, and was admitted to hospital. He was discharged a few weeks afterwards but his health did not improve, and in September last he was again admitted to hospital where he died on the 24th February 1931.

The funeral took place on the 26th February and among the floral tributes received was a wreath in the form of our badge from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

PRIVATE T. BOTELER  
(R.A.S.C.)

We deeply regret to state that one of our most loyal St. Dunstaners, T. Boteler, died on the 19th February. Boteler came to us in the early days and was trained as a mat maker. He was most industrious and made steady progress with his work until shortly after the death of his wife in 1923, when his health began to fail. During the last three years he spent a great deal of his time in hospital. He went down to our Brighton Annexe in December for convalescence where he was taken very ill and passed away shortly after his return home.

The funeral occurred on the 26th February at 1.30 p.m. at Tottenham Park Cemetery, and many of Boteler's neighbours and friends formed a guard of honour as the cortège passed through Whitecross Street where he had resided for some years. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack. Among those who attended the funeral was one of our social visitors, Sister Goodey. There were numerous beautiful wreaths received, including one in the form of our badge from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

### Births

BOSWELL.—To the wife of E. Boswell, of Gainsborough, Lincs., a son (Brindley) on the 5th of January.

HORNER.—On the 12th of November last, to the wife of R. Horner, of Chesterfield, a son.

KERR.—On the 17th of February, to the wife of J. W. Kerr, of Widnes, a daughter.

MAYNARD.—A daughter, on the 18th of February, to the wife of P. Maynard, of Gamlingay.

MOORE.—To the wife of W. Moore, of Hollingworth, Manchester, a son (Frederick) on 24th January.

MURPHY.—On 23rd February, to the wife of D. Murphy, of Glasgow, a daughter (Annie Lang).

PURVIES.—To the wife of D. A. Purvies, of South Bank, near Middlesbrough, a son, on the 4th of March.

### Silver Weddings

PAUL.—Mr. and Mrs. W. Paul, of New Brancepeth, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on the 10th February. They postponed their festivities till 19th February so that their daughter might hold her birthday at the same time.

HUMPHRIES.—Mr. and Mrs. F. Humphries, of Brixham, have celebrated their silver wedding.

### Deaths

This month we must offer sympathy to the following:—

ARTINGSTALL.—To A. Artingstall, of Ashton-under-Lyne, who lost his adopted son, aged 18 years, on 17th February, after a fortnight's illness. The boy was Artingstall's nephew and he has cared for him since his mother died, 8 years ago.

HARDY.—To L. Hardy, of Morley, Yorks, who lost his mother on the 11th of February.

JONES.—To B. F. Jones, of Greenwich, whose father, aged 85 years, died on the 19th of February.

MORTIMER.—To H. Mortimer, of Hull, who lost his little son, Terence, on Saturday, 28th February, from pneumonia. He was one year and eight months old.

PURVIES.—To the wife of D. A. Purvies, of

Middlesbrough, Yorks, who lost her father on the 27th of January.

RODGERS.—To A. C. Rodgers, of Wrexham, whose brother died on the 5th of March.

SPIERS.—To the wife of C. Spiers, of Oxford, who lost her mother on the 18th of February.

### A New Honour

Here is one of H. Kerr, of Beckenham's stories: What a marvellous collection he has!

The director of a big business house was called away from his work early one evening. Before he left he called his second-in-command and told him he had an important engagement and might be late back, but that all letters had to be got ready for him and kept for him to sign.

The second-in-command waited until six o'clock, when he also had an important engagement. He therefore summoned the typist, to whom he gave the same directions as he had been given. She had to wait with the letters until the director returned.

At seven o'clock nobody had arrived, so the typist, also with an important engagement, summoned the office boy and gave him strict injunctions to guard the letters till the return of the boss.

The story at this point jumps to the following morning, when among the letters delivered at the office were several addressed to Victor Smith, O.B.E. Naturally, the director was puzzled, so he consulted his aide-de-camp, who told him that the only Smith in the establishment was the office boy. He therefore was ordered to report at the chief's office, where this conversation took place!

"Is your name Smith?"

"Yes, sir."

"Victor Smith?"

"Yes, sir."

"How does it come about that there are so many letters addressed to you this morning?"

"Well, sir, nobody turned up last night and somebody had to sign the letters, so I did."

"Oh, did you? But why are you addressed as Victor Smith, O.B.E.?"

"Well, you see sir, I thought I'd better put that on the letters to explain. It means Only Bloke 'Ere!"

## "St. Dunstan's Review" Derby Sweepstake

FOR the second time it has been decided to hold a sweepstake on the Derby for St. Dunstaners. The rules for the sweepstake are set out clearly below, and entrants must conform exactly with them. It must be understood that this competition is solely confined to St. Dunstan's men, and applications for tickets from any other person will be disregarded. The draw will be made in the Lounge at St. Dunstan's Headquarters by two T.B. St. Dunstaners, under the supervision of responsible officials of the Headquarters staff, on the afternoon of Wednesday, 27th May.

### RULES

1. The price of tickets is 2s. 6d. each.
2. The total amount subscribed will, with the exception of the actual cost of printing and postage involved, be distributed in the following manner:—

50 per cent. to the holder of the ticket which has drawn the winning horse.

20 per cent. to the holder of the ticket which has drawn the second horse.

10 per cent. to the holder of the ticket which has drawn the third horse.

The remaining 20 per cent. will be equally divided among all whose tickets have drawn a horse which actually starts in the race.

3. Application for tickets can be made at once and will be received up to the first post on Monday, 25th May. All applications must be accompanied by a remittance to the value of the number of tickets required and must be addressed as follows:—

Derby Competition,  
c/o "St. Dunstan's Review,"  
Inner Circle,  
Regent's Park,  
London, N.W.1.

Tickets will be despatched in rotation and must be produced before payment of prize money is made.

### A Message from a Friend

We have heard lately from Miss Nina Stephenson-Browne, a friend in Ireland who will be remembered by all St. Dunstaners. Miss Stephenson-Browne has remembered that this month sees the anniversary of the founding of St. Dunstan's, and has wished to pay a tribute to the "boys" by writing for them the following poem. She says, "As comradeship is the keynote of St. Dunstan's, I think they will interest you."

#### COMRADES OF ST. DUNSTAN'S

They're bound in one by the strongest ties that ever a man can bind,  
For they fought their fight in the bitter dark when the world seemed left behind.  
But to them there came a stranger's voice and the touch of an unknown hand,  
Which led them forth through the Gates of Hope, out of the shadow-land.

The voice that cheered and the hand that led have passed from their ken away,  
But the courage and hope they left behind bide

with them day by day.  
So they turn to the world a smiling face and strive their best to do,  
For side by side, whate'er betide, they're comrades the journey through.

They've fought and won in the years between, they've come to their own anew.  
To do their work in the world again, work that a man may do.  
For Work and Love are the cables firm forged in the fires of pain,  
That hold them true through the darkened years till they come to the Light again.

#### CHORUS

Comrades of St. Dunstan's, comrades all the way,  
Till they come to the last long mile,  
Doing their bit as the days go by,  
Meeting Fate with a smile.  
Rough roads, smooth roads, no matter which they  
Still do they journey on, [tread,  
Up the shining heights of Work and Hope  
To the Gates of Eternal Dawn.

Nina Stephenson-Browne

"Do you give a guarantee with this hair-restorer?"

"Guarantee, sir? Why, we give a comb!"

## After-Care Reunions

PRESTON

THE Annual Reunion of St. Dunstaners in the Preston area was held at the Bull and Royal Hotel, Preston, on Friday, 20th February. It was one of the largest meetings yet held in Preston, 85 sitting down to lunch.

After we had all partaken of an excellent meal, Mr. Swain addressed the company in his usual cheery manner and gave them a message of welcome from Captain Fraser. He also expressed his regret that Mr. Fairclough was still too ill to attend the meeting and to take up his work on the After-care, and he knew how much they would all miss his genial presence. Mr. Swain went on to say that 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. She had already been in her area for some months and he considered her an ideal visitor and felt sure that when he met them all again next year they would congratulate him on having given them Sister Dunphy as their visitor.

W. Allen rose to propose a vote of thanks, and appealed to his fellow St. Dunstaners to "hold fast to all they had learned at St. Dunstan's, whether work or play." Then, in a few well-chosen words, he congratulated Mr. Swain on his recent marriage and expressed the good wishes of the company that he would enjoy a happy married life. This was ably seconded by C. Walch.

A musical programme followed, given by Mr. Tom Rogers and his party which was very much enjoyed.

The winners of the competition were:—  
*Ladies.*—First, Mrs. Fitchie; second, Mrs. Burdis.

*Men.*—First, W. Fitchie; second, T. Stevenson.

## Badges for the Blind

We have had an amusing letter from J. Sheehy, of Dover, about the suggestion

(a quite serious suggestion) made by H. Kerr, of Beckenham, in the last number of the REVIEW, that blinded men should be provided with red badges to give them protection in crossing crowded streets. Sheehy apparently disagrees with Kerr strongly, and thinks that neither this nor any other "safety first" device is necessary. He says—among other things:—

"What with white sticks, dogs, and red badges, how would it be to adopt the first line of the late George Formby's once-famous song, "I kept on waving my flag." Very likely you have already received a suggestion that we wear white top hats!

I have been totally blind for the past fourteen years and have never yet found any difficulty in crossing the street. The public, as most St. Dunstaners will agree, are extremely good to us, and so are the police. I think I am expressing the views of the majority of St. Dunstan's men when I say we want no more badges, sticks, or top hats."

Now is he expressing the views of the majority of St. Dunstaners? We should like to know. The only other letter we have received on the subject up to the present is one from C. Sullivan and his wife, which is on the other side. "We both think the idea of a red badge is a good one, as it is not so conspicuous as a dog or a stick."

The point raised is more than usually interesting at the moment, when the National Institute for the Blind has shown itself so impressed by the work of dog-guides in Germany that it is going to start the training of dogs in England. Six dogs have already been chosen, and the business of training them is going to be taken in hand immediately. There is also the notice in the REVIEW about the suggestion of the National "Safety First" Association, to which the attention of all St. Dunstaners is particularly drawn.

## Typewriting Notes

We heartily congratulate the following men on passing the Typewriting Test.

T. J. Warren, J. Duxbury, J. Yuill, E. Storey, W. Gay, W. E. Freeman, J. McAlonan. M.H.R.

## White Sticks for the Blind

We have received the following letter from the General Secretary of the National "Safety First" Association:—

119 Victoria St., S.W.1.  
4th March 1931

To the Secretary,  
St. Dunstons.

Dear Sir,

I beg to inform you that this Association have had before them a proposal that all blind people should carry white walking sticks, so that such a stick may become a recognised sign of a blind person, and thus obtain for him or her the help and care of other road users. My Committee, therefore, would be very much obliged if you would let them have for their information your opinion on the value of such a suggestion.

This matter, as St. Dunstaners know, has often come up before. Month by month new suggestions are put forward with the aim of bringing greater security to blinded persons. We have never had any very definite expression of opinion, however, but now that the question is asked with the authority of the National "Safety First" Association, which is considerable, we should like to discover what that opinion is. We cannot give a reply to the Association on behalf of the men of St. Dunstan's without first hearing their definite views.

Will men please let us know what their ideas on this matter are, and will they please state particularly if, and how much, they themselves go about alone in traffic.

## The National Anthem

THERE have been many letters recently in *The Times* in which St. Dunstaners would have been interested. They dealt with the National Anthem, more particularly with the fourth verse, which many people apparently felt to be too warlike and couched in too strong language for these peaceful times. For the benefit of St. Dunstaners who have never known or who have forgotten the fourth verse of the National Anthem—I wonder how many people throughout the country could repeat more than the first two verses—here it is.

*O Lord our God arise  
Scatter his enemies  
And make them fall  
Confound their politics  
Frustrate all knavish tricks,  
On him our hopes we fix,  
God save us all.*

The objection was taken to the lines:—

*Confound their politics,  
Frustrate all knavish tricks.*

The argument was even carried to the House of Commons, which by a large majority voted for the Anthem to be

retained in its present form.

It is doubtful if many people have ever given much thought either to the definite wording of our National Anthem or to its origin. Usually all that one does is to sing it heartily, liking the tune and feeling that its sentiments do express very adequately our loyalty to King and Country. Nevertheless, it may interest St. Dunstaners to know when the Anthem was first sung and in what form. The first version was indeed not very similar to the version we sing to-day. It was written and sung by supporters of James II, after his flight from England, and ran as follows:—

*God save the King, I pray,  
God bless the King, I pray,  
God save the King.  
Send him victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Soon to reign over us,  
God save the King.*

*God bless the Prince of Wales,  
The true-born Prince of Wales,  
Sent us by Thee.  
Grant us one favour more,  
The King for to restore,  
As Thou has done before  
The familie.*



*God bless the subjects all,  
And save both great and small  
In every station.  
That will bring home the King,  
Who hath best rights to reign,  
It is the only thing  
Can save the nation.*

The verse containing the taunt "Frustrate all knavish tricks," was the back-answer of the Hanoverians, after the failure of the Jacobite invasion.

New verses have often been suggested for the National Anthem. An official Peace Version was authorised in 1919, with this additional verse:—

*One realm of races four,  
Blest more and ever more,  
God save our land.  
Home of the brave and free,  
Set in the silver sea,  
True nurse of chivalry,  
God save our land.*

An unauthorised version was also written in 1918. Unfortunately we do not know the author.

*God grant that Marshall Haig,  
May, in no fashion vague,  
Victory bring.  
May he the Kaiser crush,  
And like a torrent rush,  
Till every Hun cries "Hush,  
God save the King."*

It is fairly certain that this is the version which will appeal to most St. Dunstaners.

## News from the Workshops

### BOOTS

J. Coupland has done some very useful and varied jobs during the month; the remainder of his course ought to enable him to become quite proficient. W. McCarthy is painstaking, and has improved steadily, both with regard to shape and finish. F. A. Whitehouse needs to take care, always, with the elementary parts of the work; we have rather been expecting that his general standard would have been higher by this time. W. G. Hodgman is a good tryer, and is making steady progress; the edges of his repairs have been much more satisfactory. W.H.O.

### BASKETS

"The Bully" of the Basket Shop and

W. J. Berry, completed their course of training at the end of February. F. Martin will now be able to get on with his work without the fear of what Griffiths will be doing to him one day. Griffiths has always shown a very keen desire to learn as much as possible; we never thought that he would be able to do half the work he has done on willows, and we offer our sincere congratulations. W. J. Berry has not done quite so much on willows as we anticipated, and is certainly much happier when doing centre cane, his knowledge of which work has been extended. The brief time which J. McAlonan has been in the shop each day, makes us feel that he has ability for neat work. W. H. Lacey always shows anxiety to understand his work, and has done quite well with plait borders. W. E. Freeman has progressed with several baskets in centre cane, and is anxious to do his work well, and corrects his own mistakes. T. J. Warren has made a very useful start on willows; he is an independent workman, and we look for a rapid advance. R. Wass is improving on waste papers and barrels, and shows a keen desire to do a job well. Dog beds and round and corner linens were the jobs that H. Tarling undertook in February; he is working his rods well, and just needs practice to memorise details of the work. T. McGuire is mastering technical points well; his interest in the work never slackens. F. Martin certainly prefers "a job of work" that calls for a lot of strength and skill. He is much more confident, and when at his best, his work is very neat.

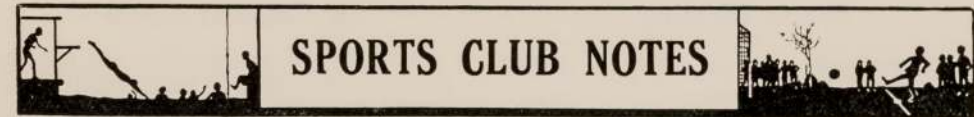
## A New Job for an Old Friend

We have much pleasure in announcing that Miss Hester K. L. Pease has been appointed After-Care Visitor for Yorkshire in place of Miss Rush, now Mrs. Smyth.

Miss Pease is a native of Yorkshire and many of the Yorkshire men will remember her as she has been working at the Brighton Annexe for the past four years.

Miss Pease commenced her duties at the beginning of the month.

COMFORTABLE APARTMENTS.—Minute Kingsway Promenade, moderate terms, board optional. Address, A. Welton, "St. Omer," 65 Bradford Avenue, Cleethorpes.



## 15-Mile Outer Circle Walk

This event was held, starting from Headquarters, on 14th March. It was an ideal day, so very different from some of the weather experienced by the competitors during their training. One or two had been held up with 'flu. Before starting the race Miss Hamar Greenwood had a chat with all competitors, wishing them luck and expressing her regret at being unable to attend the 25-mile race at Maidenhead owing to her visit to America, but promising to cable her good wishes for that event. The T.B. event was started first and Thompson took the lead from Homes, Craigie, Kerr, Harrison, Rhodes, Boorman and Shakespeare. At six miles Thompson still led from Holmes, Kerr, Boorman and Craigie. At 12 miles Thompson was still leading but was just beginning to feel the effects of his attack of 'flu; next came Boorman, Kerr, Holmes, Craigie, Harrison and Rhodes. From now until the end it was a titanic struggle, Boorman just winning in 2.33.4 from Kerr 2.33.40 with Thompson third in 2.34.31.

The S.S. Race again produced some splendid times, Archie Brown as usual leading the field with Billy Trott in close attendance for the first few miles. Trott appeared to be in better condition than when he last walked here. Gover was third up to nine miles when he had to retire at 12 miles, Brown winning in the good time of 2.10.40, Trott second 2.15.5, Ashton third 2.19.11, followed by Giles, Coupland and Dyer.

Congratulations to J. Harrison who was awarded the novices prize by Mr. S. Parsons. To start one's race walking career in a fifteen mile event requires a bit of an effort.

After tea Mrs. Fraser graciously presented the prizes to the successful athletes with a few words of congratulation. Archie Brown proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Fraser which was carried unanimously

and three hearty cheers given. Captain Fraser, replying, thanked Mr. Donoghue the handicapper, the judges and officials, the ladies who dispensed the tea and our good pals the escorts, who are simply wonderful in their consistency, and all who had helped. He congratulated the competitors and referred to the good health and happiness brought about by self-discipline during the training periods. Given favourable conditions I think we shall see some great walking in our 25-mile race at Maidenhead.

Appended are the results and times.

## Prize Winners

### FIFTEEN-MILE HANDICAP

T.B.

1. H. Boorman
2. H. Kerr
3. H. Thompson

NOVICE T.B.

J. Harrison  
(Presented by Mr. Parsons)

S.S.

1. W. Trott
2. J. Coupland
3. P. Ashton

### WINNERS OF SCRATCH RACE

T.B.

1. H. Boorman

S.S.

1. A. Brown

## Birmingham 14-Mile Walk

APRIL 11

Entries will be welcome from men in any part of the country. Anyone wishing to enter please apply, before 25th March to Miss Nelson, Lynnwood, Leamington Spa.

## 25-Mile Maidenhead Walk

The 25-mile Maidenhead Walk starting from Maidenhead will take place on Saturday, 2nd May. I should be glad if all those wishing to enter for this walk would send in their names to me not later than 13th April.

## Sports Meeting

The Sports Meeting will take place in the Lounge at Headquarters on Tuesday, 21st April to discuss the various summer events, and will be followed by a dance at 8 p.m. We shall hope to have a really good attendance.

The Winter Term will end on Tuesday, 14th April and summer sports and rowing will start in Regent's Park on Tuesday, 28th April. L.W.

## SPORTS POINTS

## 3rd March

F. Coates ..	227	G. Wheeler ..	59
F. Rodwell ..	222	S. Dyer ..	46
W. Birchall ..	182	P. Conlin ..	44
H. Prior ..	168	F. Fleetwood ..	32
P. Martin ..	136	B. Ingrey ..	21
G. Fallowfield ..	83	A. Crooke ..	..
F. Winter ..	80	T. Ruddock ..	11
A. Brown ..	70	T. Fleming ..	..

## A Colonial Letter

News from overseas does not exactly pour in. We have to be thankful if we receive even one letter a month—but we should be really pleased if we received dozens. This month's letter came from S. Sattary, of Port Elizabeth, South Africa. He says how nice it is to be remembered so many miles away, and goes on:—

"We had a good Christmas, through the kindness of Mrs. Bates. She has been working very hard and is most anxious to carry on the same as Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent. I am keeping well and am at present busy on some large mats for a golf club. I must tell you our daughter, Lily, passed her second examination for music with honours last November, and she gets on nicely at school. We also started the eldest boy this week. He is a little over six, and he sets the boys a-whistling in school."

Now then, overseas St. Dunstaners. What news have the rest of you for us?

## FIFTEEN-MILE SEALED HANDICAP OUTER CIRCLE WALK

14TH MARCH 1931

## RESULTS

Name	Escorts	Scratch Race	Actual Time	Start	Han. Time	Position in Han.
H. Boorman ..	Messrs. Martin & Hill ..	T.B. 1	h. m. s. 2 33 14	m s. 5 45	h. m. s. 2 27 39	1
H. Kerr ..	" Dodkins & Weaver ..	2	2 33 40	2 30	2 31 10	2
H. Thompson ..	" Foster & Webster ..	3	2 34 21	3 0	2 31 21	3
P. Holmes ..	" Hiscock & Eborall ..	4	2 39 14	2 0	2 37 14	5
A. Craigie ..	" Turney & Tookey ..	5	2 41 45	5 45	2 36 0	4
J. Harrison ..	" Witham & A.E. Jarvis ..	6	2 52 51	15 0	2 37 51	6
F. Rhodes ..	" Belchamber & Shepherd ..	7	2 56 39	18 30	2 38 9	7
W. Shakespeare ..	" Nichols & Osborn ..					
		S.S.				
A. Brown ..	Messrs. Bidgood & Holdaway ..	1	2 10 40	Scratch	2 10 40	4
W. Trott ..	" Austin & McSweeney ..	2	2 15 15	5 45	2 9 30	1
P. Ashton ..	" McCaffery & Bellis ..	3	2 19 11	9 15	2 9 56	3
W. Giles ..	" Steggle, Leary & Bowles ..	4	2 28 26	14 30	2 13 56	5
J. Coupland ..	" Brown & Shoesmyth ..	5	2 40 44	31 0	2 9 44	2
S. Dyer ..	" Hind & J. Hall ..	6	2 41 48	26 0	2 15 48	6
H. Gover ..	" Harris & Meadows ..					

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