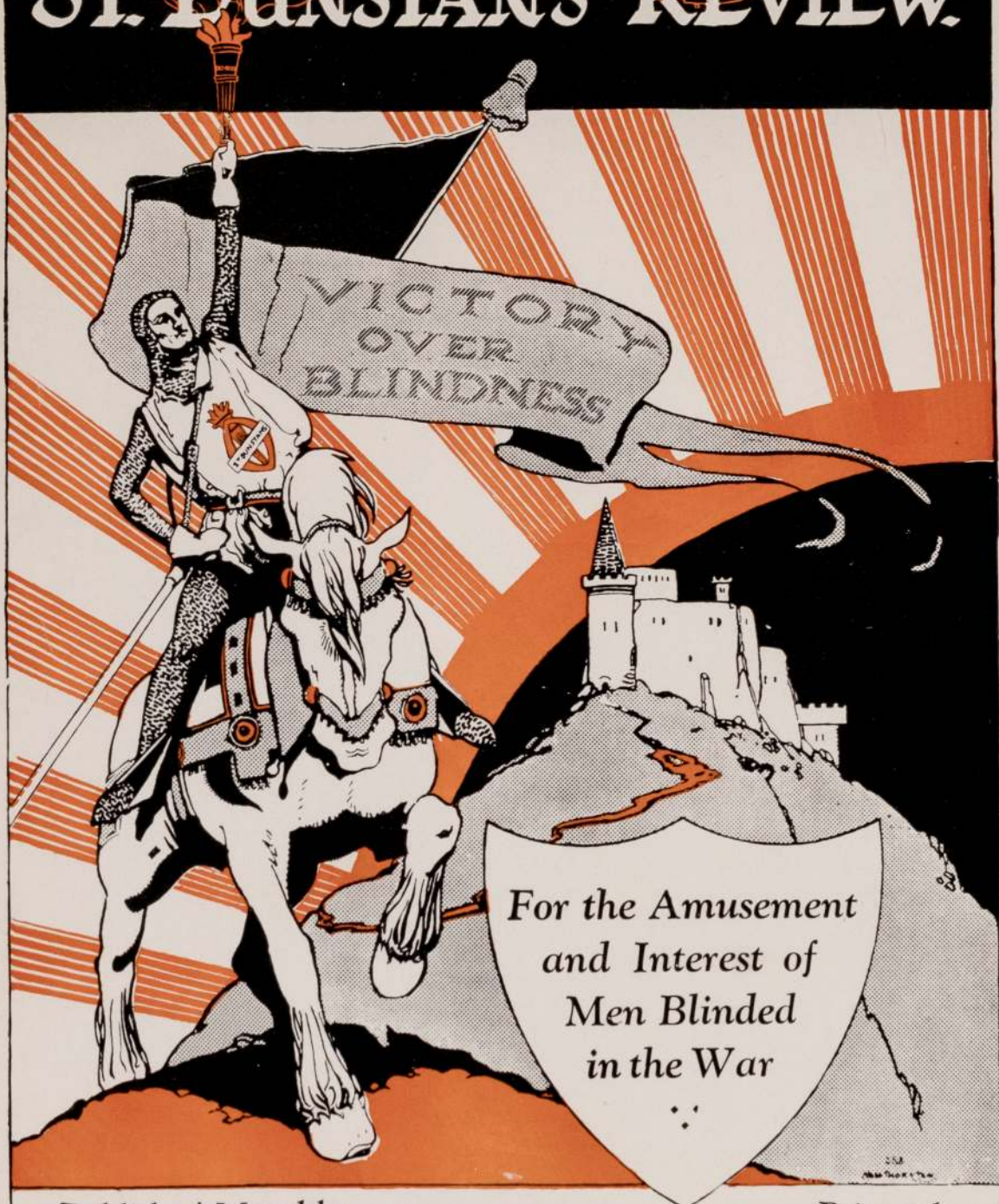


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.



For the Amusement
and Interest of
Men Blinded
in the War

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

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MAY 1931.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

The Day

THE great day of the year approaches. The day looked forward to throughout the whole year by every St. Dunstaner, St. Dunstaner's wife, and every young St. Dunstaner. The day when, from near and far, we all come trooping to Headquarters, to take part in races; to watch our wives and youngsters taking part in races; perhaps more than anything else, to gossip and laugh with friends seen, it may be, for the first time for twelve months or longer.

The date of the Annual Sports Day this year is Saturday, June the 20th. This is the first mention which has appeared in the REVIEW of the date. Will all men please take particular notice of it. We are hoping this will be the jolliest Sports Day yet. Only one thing is out of our control, and that is the weather. But if that is kind to us we can—and will—do everything else ourselves to make the day one of perfect memories.

Straight from the Editor's Mouth

The "White Stick" controversy still rages. Feeling among St. Dunstaners apparently runs very high on this question. Sitting here at my desk, I have felt as if some of the letters I have received would scorch and shrivel me up. Rather strangely, the men who are in favour of some "safety first" device are very much more moderate in expressing their views than those who cannot stick (no pun is intended) the idea at any price. But I should like to point out, in the part of the REVIEW which is particularly and happily my own, that I am no ogre, fully determined that whatever anyone says you are jolly-well going to have white sticks. As far as I am concerned, if you don't want them you shan't have 'em. But after all, the casting vote does not lie in my hands. It is for you, all of you, together with the civilian blind of the country, to decide this matter and others like it. That the question is being seriously discussed is shown by the number of times it crops up, and by the amount of space it is given on the agenda of the various associations for the blind. If the scheme is really repugnant to St. Dunstaners, it is up to them to say so, and to show us plainly what answer to give to the National "Safety First" Association. Perhaps it is with this idea in mind that the writers of the vitriolic letters which have found their way to this office have taken pen in hand. Perhaps the thought of biting a blameless editor's head off has never entered their minds. It may well be so. One very seldom bothers to be forceful unless one is arguing on behalf of a very firmly held opinion. At any rate, we are going to ask for letters for one further month, chancing the arrival of others written in fire and thunder. After that, the discussion will be closed. But one piece of advice. We can only know your ideas if you write them down, put the letter in an envelope, and send it off. It is no earthly good writing your letter and not posting it, or not writing it at all, and then complaining when the "ayes" and "noes" are counted that your judgment and your special arguments for and against have not been taken into consideration.

Farewell Ceremony to Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent

ONE of the most moving ceremonies which have been known in the history of St. Dunstan's took place on 23rd March at the City Hall, Cape Town, when presentations were made to Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Vintcent on behalf of the Blinded Soldiers of South Africa and Rhodesia and the Executive Council of St. Dunstan's, London. The presentations, which took the form of a suite of South African dining-room furniture (chosen by Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent themselves) and a silver salver, were made by His Excellency the Governor-General, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Clarendon, P.C., G.C.M.G., with His Worship the Mayor of Cape Town, the Rev. A. J. S. Lewis, in the chair.

The work done by Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent for the After-Care Organisation in South Africa is known to all St. Dunstaners. As Lord Clarendon said when making the presentations, "they have rightly earned the esteem and affection of all with whom they came in contact. Their work is one of the outstanding pieces of work done for injured ex-Servicemen in the British Empire." And as Advocate R. W. Bowen, M.P., speaking on behalf of his fellow St. Dunstaners, also said, "We can never thank them enough for what they have done for us during the past eleven years, and we shall try to justify the confidence they have shown in us."

Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent have had to retire from the active work of the After-Care Organisation owing to the ill-health of Mr. Vintcent. Both of them, nevertheless, refused to say good-bye, but wished all to know that they were still acting as co-trustees of the Fund, and in that capacity would continue to interest themselves in the progress of the Fund, and incidentally in the welfare of their "family." They promised that they would keep up a correspondence with one and all from time to time.

The function at the City Hall was preceded by a re-union lunch party at which

Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent, Mrs. Guest, and Mr. Marsh, of the Governor-General's Fund, and the following St. Dunstaners and their wives were present:—Mr. Archibald, Mr. and Mrs. Bowen, Mr. and Mrs. Helm, Mr. and Mrs. Hough, Mr. Kirstein, Mr. and Mrs. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Meaker, Mr. and Mrs. Muller, Mr. and Mrs. Owen, Mr. Sattary, Mr. and Mrs. Van Blerk, and Mr. Vernon. At the function itself, just over 100 people attended, being members of the Executive Council of the Governor-General's Fund, representatives from other ex-Servicemen's Associations, Civilian Blind Society, subscribers in Cape Town and people who have always taken a great interest in the work of St. Dunstan's, Mrs. Thorne (the President) and many members of the League of Remembrance and Help who have been of such assistance to Mrs. Vintcent in her collections for many years.

Their Excellencies were very charming, and delightful speeches were made by Lord Clarendon, Advocate R. W. Bowen, Mrs. Chadwick Bates, and by Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent themselves. Mrs. Vintcent promised that she would always use the furniture herself, and would pass it down to her children and grandchildren. A vote of thanks to the Governor-General was proposed by Sir James Rose-Innes, and seconded by Mr. J. Clare Sheridan. Mr. A. D. Kirstein proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor, and this was seconded by Mr. A. J. Mason. The toast of "Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent" was proposed by Mr. Kirstein and seconded by Mr. F. S. Owen, and drunk with musical honours amid great enthusiasm.

The gift from the Council (a silver salver) bore the following inscription:—

Presented by the Chairman and Executive Council of St. Dunstan's to Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Vintcent in appreciation of their devoted services to Blinded Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen throughout The Empire, and particularly in the Union of South Africa and Rhodesia.

The Blinded Soldiers' gift, to which the South African St. Dunstaners subscribed, consisted of a beautiful stinkwood antique dining-room table and bureau, and two antique cane-seated chairs—all very hand-

some. The bureau and table are to have inscription plates on them, which will be described in a later number of the REVIEW.

The whole function was a very pleasant one. We cannot sum up the whole occasion better than by concluding with a para-

graph from a letter sent by F. S. Owen to Captain Fraser: "It was a happy and most enjoyable time, saddened only by the thought that our dear friends, Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent, have had to give up active work for St. Dunstan's, *But they will never be absent from our hearts.*"

News from the World Conference—New York City, April 7th

This is the first information we have received up to the present about the work which is being done and the subjects which are being discussed at the World Conference on Work for the Blind. Although this article is intended primarily for people who have been blind since birth, we think it will be of enough interest to St. Dunstaners to print it in full.

AN extensive programme to give blind children and adults an opportunity to "see the world by touch" will be undertaken soon by workers for the blind. Through the co-operation of several organizations, miniature models of many things—ranging from city skyscrapers and street cars to rural cottages and cows—will be manufactured and exhibited throughout the United States.

"In this way, we hope to give blind children the same concepts of large objects in every day life which children of normal vision acquire naturally," it was explained by Robert B. Irwin, Executive Director, American Foundation for the Blind, who is Chairman of the Organizing Committee, which has made arrangements for the World Conference on Work for the Blind, which opened here on Monday (April 13th, 1931). Mr. Irwin himself has been without sight since the age of five.

"The blind," said Mr. Irwin, "live in a world in which the vast majority about them see through normal eyes. They hear references to sunsets, rainbows, the New York skyline, and numerous other things which they can understand only by straining their imaginations. These are intangible things about which not much can be done to aid them in an appreciation of beauty.

"There are many things, however, which may be 'shown' to the blind. To a limited extent, this has been done for several years, as an experiment, by the employment of toy models. The experiment

has been successful in bringing both instruction and pleasure to the blind.

"We are seeking now to develop this idea on a much larger scale through the production of small models of buildings, ships, and so on. It is our plan to keep in museums permanent exhibits which may be borrowed by schools for the blind. The subject will come up for discussion next week at the World Conference on Work for the Blind, which will be attended by experts from 36 nations.

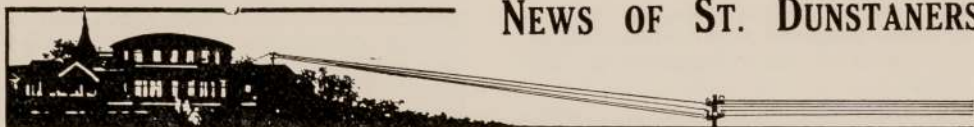
"Probably the most ambitious effort along these lines in the world is that of Dr. Siegfried Altmann, Director of the Jewish Institute for the Blind, in Vienna. When I visited his school two years ago, I found there a splendid miniature ocean harbour, lighthouse, fishing boats, cranes for unloading freight, and other replicas of things commonly found at the docks of a busy seaport—and which the blind could not see otherwise than by the sense of touch."

Mr. Irwin said that a preliminary discussion of the problems involved was held recently at the American Museum of Natural History in New York by representatives of several interested organizations.

"The sense of touch," said Mr. Irwin, "has been especially developed among the 200 blind boy scouts and 150 blind girl scouts in the United States. Despite their handicap, these sightless youths have made

(continued on page 6).

NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS



"ALL well" is the signal from the home of C. J. R. Fawcett, of Parkstone. Fawcett himself is keeping busy; indeed, he has had to give up work at one hospital to attend to his private patients.

H. W. Hale, of Waddon, and his son have both been busy building sheds, Hale for his wife's chair, and the boy to hold his own and his sister's bicycles.

D. M. McLean, of Brimpton, and his family are very well. McLean does so much writing that he has completely worn out his Braille machine.

J. M. Branegan, of Stockton-on-Tees, is well and as usual very contented. He is hoping he will be one of the lucky ones to get down to Brighton in July.

D. Potts, of Norton-on-Tees, is looking forward to the summer, as the ground behind his house is going to be converted into bowling greens and there is to be a band-stand, so that he will be able to sit in his garden on sunny afternoons and listen to the band.

J. A. Garbutt, of Stockton-on-Tees, is very fond of his new offices, which are certainly very smart. He has just had two days away from work with 'flu, the first time he has been off work for ten years. What a splendid record! He is still as full up as ever with preaching engagements.

R. Westwood, of Bellerby, near Leyburn, and his wife are busy from morning to night with chickens. So far their hatchings have been wonderfully successful. They are also very pleased with the number of eggs they are getting. As they have only been a year at the work, it is no wonder they feel so proud of the results.

Another St. Dunstaner who is feeling

very optimistic about his poultry is T. Carter, of Darlington who is looking forward to a prosperous year.

W. H. Harding, of Finsbury Park, and his wife have just celebrated the 10th anniversary of their marriage. Their little girl, Joan, is doing splendidly at school, and has been moved up into a class for girls older than herself.

"All's well" comes from H. Manning, of Highgate. Manning is the proud possessor of a canary which he won at a fair when he was at Brighton.

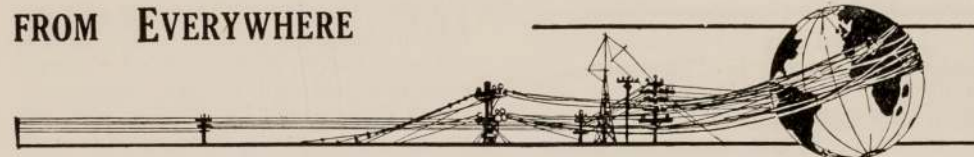
"All's well" comes too from the home of A. Adams of Doncaster. There is nothing to complain of, says Adams, except that trade is slack. He has got his car re-licensed, and going again, and the family all went for a trip to Cleethorpes on Easter Tuesday—an outing spoiled, however, by the weather.

J. Barley of, Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, is working hard at his mats. He is one of the few St. Dunstaners who has quite escaped 'flu this winter. Barley was one of our earliest "boys."

A. Thompson, of Sprotborough, is very pleased with his new house, which is certainly extremely nice and possesses every modern convenience. It is quite new, so there is still a lot to do to make it as nice as Thompson means it to be. There is a garden which will be very pleasant when some work has been put into it, and a fine lot of ground for his hens. His workshop is up, and he hopes to be quite settled and at work in a very short time.

F. Hemsworth, of Bentley, near Doncaster, has had a lucky escape. He was knocked down recently by a motor-car, but fortunately suffered nothing but

FROM EVERYWHERE



bruises and a bad shaking, and is perfectly all right again now.

A. S. Emerson, of Great Bromley, Essex, has been having bad luck with his pigs. Several have died and he and the vet. have had a hard time saving the remainder. We hope Emerson's luck will turn and that he will have no more trouble from now on.

G. Taylor has settled in Brighton, and is very pleased to be there, as it has always suited him so well.

J. Hiscock, of Ross-on-Wye, is working very busily at mats. His garden, which is the pride of his mother's heart, is beginning to look very nice.

W. Baughan, of Cirencester, Glos., is well and happy. His shop seems always to be full of customers and he is also working at his boot repairing. He is hoping very much to go to Brighton for a holiday in August.

J. Papps, of Braintree, Essex, is well, doing fairly well with his baskets, and is comfortably settled in his new house.

Two St. Dunstaners who have just been having their houses decorated are G. T. Eames, of Rock Ferry, Cheshire, S. Smith, of Upper Morteon, Birkenhead.

L. Jackson, of Rockferry, is very interested in a cycling club, of which he is the secretary. He gets up on Sunday morning to see the start at 6 a.m. His son and daughter are also enthusiastic cyclists and take part in the races.

G. F. Furniss, of Bolton, is getting on splendidly with his poultry. He has had over a thousand eggs from ten birds since August.

J. R. Smith, of Newbury, is also busy

with poultry, and says he is not going to hatch so many chickens this season.

E. C. Wheeler, of Newbury, and Mrs. Wheeler are very proud of their baby daughter, who is getting on splendidly.

H. Griffiths, of Northampton, is very pleased with his new home, and very anxious to get his hut up and start working.

A. Holland, of Rushenden, and Mrs. Holland are both well and very busy with their poultry. They have 120 young chicks and are expecting another hundred in a few weeks' time. They have some great friends who have been living outside their back door for seven years—ducks, who still continue to lay eggs in vast quantities!

The Mulvaney household, of Whitley Bay, are all well. Mulvaney and Mrs. Mulvaney are both eager that their boy shall have a good education. Mulvaney is working hard at mats, and Mrs. Mulvaney is busy getting ready for her summer visitors.

W. W. Watson, of How Mill, is fully occupied with his chickens. They have just had a three-legged chicken hatched; it has excited great interest in the district.

F. Cox, of Nutborne, is getting on very well with wool rugs, which he enjoys doing. The poultry have been doing well, but he is very cramped for room and is going to try to get hold of another piece of land next his garden. With his rugs, the garden, and the poultry he finds his time fully occupied.

P. R. Foyle, of Bournemouth, has been ill for six weeks but is well and about again now.

"Flu" and "trade depression" have

News of St. Dunstaners—continued.

been terms used over and over again in our gathering of news of St. Dunstaners this month. Most of the 'flu cases are well again now—the usual influx of illness just at the change from winter to spring, apparently. Some of those who have been down with 'flu are:—

C. Matthews, of Maidenhead, and his wife, who were ill at the same time.

C. H. Wheeler, of St. Albans, and his family, who had it rather badly, but are now on the way to recovery.

P. Brundrett, of Manchester, who is not quite over it yet, though he says he is "all right."

P. Austin, of Higham Ferrers, who has been ill but is now on the mend.

D. McCarthy, of Breamore, the whole of whose family have been down with it.

R. Tooth, of Christchurch, whose household have been ill.

A funny incident happened to Rhees, of Victoria, the other day. He was in the Tube with a bundle of cane in his arms, when a woman in the train said to her neighbour, "I wonder what that man wants all that spaghetti for?"

A. Grocott, of Ladbroke Grove, and his wife are very settled and comfortable in their new little flat.

H. S. Miller, of West Keal, Lincs, is very happy and well. Mrs. Miller is tremendously keen on the poultry farm and has raised 4,000 chicks this year already. Miller is waiting to go to Brighton to learn typing and Braille, so that he can do the correspondence side of the business.

G. Colbeck, of Louth, Lincs., is getting on well, although they have all been down with 'flu.

J. F. Leeman, of Skegness, has a house in a very nice open district, with a nice lawn all round the house. His little girl is a very bonny little thing.

(continued from page 3).

splendid progress, and three boys have attained the rank of eagle scouts.

"The American Foundation for the Blind is especially anxious to find ways of adapting nature study to blind children, so as to arouse for it the same enthusiasm which is displayed by children with full vision. Mrs. Dorothy Dean Sheldon made an investigation recently at Perkins Institution in Watertown, Mass. She found the blind children very eager and intelligently responsive to the instruction regarding plants and animals. This was carried out chiefly by the sense of touch.

"One of the most valuable items of material used in teaching blind children is the large relief globe on which the continents, mountains, &c., are raised, the rivers depressed, and the coast lines sanded, so that fingers may learn what eyes cannot see. It is more of this sort of thing which we are seeking to create and distribute among the blind."

Births

BELCHER.—To the wife of A. Belcher, of Hampton, on May 2nd, a son.

DAVIES.—A daughter, to the wife of John Davies, of Wrexham, on 21st April.

FEARN.—To the wife of E. Fearn, of Derby, on the 17th April, a son (weighing 12 pounds).

JAMES.—To the wife of E. James, of Darlington, a daughter, on the 11th April.

MAHER.—On 5th May, to the wife of H. Maher, of New Kent Road, a daughter.

SPENCE.—On 13th April, to the wife of A. R. Spence, of West Croydon, a son.

Silver Weddings

We offer congratulations to the following who have recently celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversaries.

MARSHALL.—T. H. Marshall, of Worcester, and Mrs. Marshall, whose Anniversary was on April 15th.

MURPHY.—T. Murphy, of Bedlington, and Mrs. Murphy, who celebrated their Anniversary on 19th May.

Wedding

SALT-WILSON.—On 11th April, at Old Hall Church, Dukinfield, Jess Salt, and Miss Doris Wilson.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE EDWARD EVERS
(3rd Yorkshire & Lancashire Regiment)

WE regret to announce that E. Evers passed away on 26th March. For the past few years he suffered from very indifferent health and about five weeks before his death he became considerably worse.

Evers came to St. Dunstan's in 1918 and was trained as a boot-repairer and mat-maker. He made very good progress at these trades whilst at headquarters, but on account of poor health he was compelled to give up work altogether.

The funeral took place on the 30th March and Evers was buried at West Bowling Cemetery, the coffin being draped with the Union Jack. Many relatives and friends attended, Sister Pease representing St. Dunstan's.

Among the numerous wreaths received was one in the form of our badge from Captain Fraser and his other comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Our sympathy is extended to Ever's wife and children in their loss.

Deaths

This month we have to offer sympathy to the following:

AITKEN.—To J. Aitken, of Cowgate, Newcastle, who lost his eleven-months-old grandchild on 7th May, to whom he was very much attached.

ATKINSON.—To R. Atkinson, of Alderholt, who lost his mother on 15th April. She was 82 years of age.

BATT.—To T. Batt, of Bristol, who lost his brother-in-law recently.

FOXON.—To W. Foxon, of Acton Vale, who lost his wife on 23rd April, after a long and trying illness.

HOLMES.—To J. G. Holmes, of S. Harrow, whose wife died on Saturday, 18th April, leaving a little son only two weeks old.

KERR.—To H. V. and Mrs. Kerr, of Beckenham, whose 6½ years old daughter, Audrey, died on the 7th of May after a week's illness. Kerr, as no doubt everyone knows, is telephonist at Headquarters.

MASON.—To the wife of J. H. Mason, of Bognor, whose mother died of heart trouble on 14 April. She was 68 years old.

SEBBAGE.—To the wife of W. Sebbage, of Kennington, who recently lost both her mother and her little niece.

SHURROCK.—To W. Shurrock, of Chilton, Thame, whose mother recently died.

TILL.—To the wife of T. Till, of Lancaster, who recently lost her father.

Typewriting Notes

We heartily congratulate F. Rodwell on passing his Typing and Braille Reading Tests.

An Experiment which Succeeded

Some little while ago, H. D. Wood, of Rugby, tried the experiment of stocking gramophone records. He has found it to be quite a successful line, and his sales have increased steadily. Wood's shop always looks smart and attractive; he gives careful thought to everything in connection with it, and this, with the personal attention he gives to his customers, is the explanation of the regular development of his trade. We should like to congratulate him, and say that we look forward to something even better.

W. H. O.

Advertisements

BOARD RESIDENCE.—Sea and country. Large grounds and woodland for visitors to enjoy. Good table. Moderate terms. Apply: G. Price, Oak Bungalow, Jay Wick Lane, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

(Price would like to have as visitors St. Dunstaners and their wives. He has a Raleigh tandem bicycle which he wishes to sell. £5 or nearest offer.)

BOARD RESIDENCE in a beautifully situated house, every comfort, near sea and all places of interest. Tennis, golf, regular 'bus services to all parts of Cornwall; high and healthy, lovely views; excellent cooking and liberal table. Garage. Moderate terms. Apply: Mrs. H. S. Potts, "Dowgas Bungalow," Grampound Road, Cornwall.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To the EDITOR of "ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,"

HEADQUARTERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S WORK, INNER CIRCLE,

REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, N.W.1.

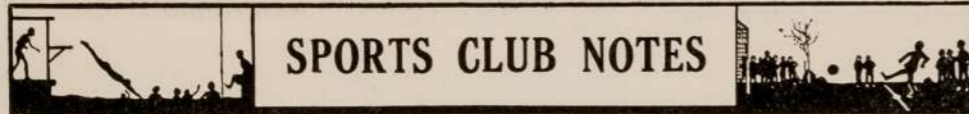
Please send me the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for { *one year*
six months } for
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3s. 9d.

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N.B.—Please strike out the period and charge not required.



SPORTS CLUB NOTES

General Sports Day 20th June

The General Sports Day is being held in Regent's Park on Saturday, 20th June, starting at 2.15 p.m.

Will you please send me all entries as soon as this "Review" reaches you and not later than 7th June. When sending your entries, will you kindly give names and ages of your children, and also the number of tea tickets required, as only those with tickets can be admitted, and this rule must be strictly adhered to.

L. WOOLRYCH.

Programme

1. Children's Race.—Girls and boys under 5 years. Distance 35 yards. Handicap 5 yards for each year.
2. Girls and boys Handicap Race between 5 and 7 years. Distance 40 yards. Handicap 5 yards for each year.
3. Girls and boys Handicap Race between 7 and 10 years.—Distance 60 yards. Handicap 5 yards for each year.
4. Girls and boys Handicap Race between 10 and 15 years. Distance 80 yards. Handicap 5 yards for each year.
5. Wives Handicap Race. Distance 80 yards.
6. Surprise Race.—One lady and one gentleman.
7. Egg and Spoon Race.
8. Open Sprint of 75 yards for St. Dunstaners.
9. Open events.
 - (a) Single Jump T.B.
 - (b) Treble Jump S.S.
 - (c) Putting the Weight, T.B. and S.S.

The Sports Office reserve the right to alter any of the above programme, should it be found necessary.

Sports Meeting

A really excellent and well attended meeting concerning summer sports was held in the lounge at headquarters on Tuesday, 21st April, with Captain Williams in the chair. The agenda dealt with:—

- (a) Tuesday night's sports programme and points.
- (b) Annual Sports day

- (c) Sports cup competition.
 - (d) Rowing and the Annual Regatta.
 - (e) Sports Concert to escorts.
 - (f) Swimming.
- (a) It was decided to add to the usual Tuesday evening programme the old and very enjoyable goal-kicking competition, each competitor to have two shots, with one point for each goal scored. Also to try a rope-quoit competition. It just means that all our sportsmen must endeavour to be ready for the start at 7 p.m. prompt so that the programme can be gone through. One point is allowed for attendance, so there is no need to go empty away. Handicaps will be as last year, with last year's winners being specially handicapped. The handicap for the weight is increased. Each Tuesday therefore a selection of events will be made from the following programme—sprint, weight, cricket ball, single and treble jumps, throwing football, goal kicking, and quoits. The points allowed for places are three, two, one.
- (b) Sports Day will be on Saturday, 20th June. An excellent programme is being arranged, and all we need is a fine day to ensure the success of last year. Our Sports Secretary will inform you all about the date of entries.
- (c) The Cup events for interclub sports will be held at Brighton on 4th July or 11th, and will consist of weight, cricket ball, single and treble jumps. At least two T.B.'s are to be in each team.
- (d) The Annual Regatta will be held at Putney on Wednesday, 15th July. The usual well tried and successful programme will be attempted, so our sportsmen must get busy practising. The inter-club Cup events will be pairs and doubles, with one T.B. at least in each crew. Instead of Cups it was decided to award prizes, but our Sports Secretary will endeavour to exchange a set prize for a Cup should the winner prefer it.
- (e) The Sports Concert has been arranged for 12th May. It is a great opportunity for thanking those who have been so helpful to us in our Sports during the past year.
- (f) Swimming.—It was decided at the suggestion of Inst. Jones to hold the classes on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 6 p.m. We trust that many will avail themselves of this chance to acquire a most useful art.
- A resolution was proposed by Mr. Robinson and seconded by Mr. Kerr and passed unanimously that the Sports Commentaries of Football matches and sporting events be continued. Our Chairman has already got this matter in hand and we are sure that his influence will carry

weight with the authorities. A very generous and hearty vote of thanks to Captain Williams was proposed by Mr. McSteel, and seconded by Mr. Roden and carried. This concluded a very happy and successful evening.

J. E. W.

25 Mile Maidenhead Walk

This, the last of our walking races for this season, was held at Maidenhead on Saturday, 2nd May.

This year, the party travelled down from London by train instead of 'bus and motor coach and a very merry party they were. Our rendezvous was, as usual, the celebrated Skindles Hotel, and the Clerk of the Weather smiled upon us. The competitors and their escorts were all ready awaiting the arrival of Sir Neville and Lady Pearson. Her Ladyship before giving the word "go" said a few kindly words of encouragement to all the competitors. There was a great crowd at the starting point—this event creates quite a lot of interest in the district and we meet many friends from year to year.

Both sections started together. At 5 miles Trott was leading with Castle ten seconds behind him, Craigie being next with another ten seconds difference. I think this was a funny experience for Archie Brown not to be in the lead—to say the least, it is a long time since we have seen it. At ten miles Trott still led from Brown, Giles, Castle, Ashton, Gover, Craigie, Thompson, Benning, Boorman, Ingrey, Rhodes and Harrison.

Just before 15 miles, Castle was forced to retire. This left Craigie leading the T.B. section, followed by Holmes, Thompson, Benning and Boorman. Trott still had the lead in the S.S. section from Brown and Gover.

At 20 miles, Holmes was just in front of Craigie with Benning close up third.

Brown had now gone up and led Trott by one minute, with Gover still third just in front of Giles and Ashton. The early pace was now telling its usual tale, but our boys would not be denied. "On,

Stanley, on" seemed to be the cry.

The S.S. race was eventually won by Brown in 4.15.10, Trott being second in 4.16.22, Giles third in 4.27.25 and Gover 4th in 4.32.50. Ashton, unfortunately, had to retire at about 24 miles—so near and yet so far!

The T.B.'s were now having a rare set to, Holmes eventually getting the better of it and winning in 4.34.37, with Benning 2nd in 4.38.10, Craigie 3rd in 4.40.20, and Thompson 4th in 4.41.37. Ingrey must be congratulated for finishing in this, the first race in which he has competed, and 25 miles is a long way even if the countryside is beautiful.

F. Rhodes finished smiling as usual and J. Harrison received the handicap prize given by the Mayor of St. Marylebone.

At the tea which followed, Mr. Ernest Kessell, C.B.E., our genial treasurer, took the Chair, supported by his Worship the Mayor and Lady Mayoress. In his very eloquent speech, Mr. Kessell thanked the Maidenhead Athletic Club (expressing regret at the illness of their President, Mr. Ketley), Mr. Howard Wood, our good friend, Mr. Roberts, the officials, prize givers, helpers, and all those wonderful jolly old sportsmen—the escorts. His Worship the Mayor said how pleased he was to be amongst us again. He congratulated the boys on their splendid efforts and said he hoped to be amongst us on these occasions for many years to come. Mr. Howard Wood, replying on behalf of the Maidenhead Club, said many nice things. The Lady Mayoress graciously presented the prizes and I can assure you it is grand to hear some of the sincere expressions that these ladies oft-times murmur whilst handing out the goods!

Naturally there are dozens of incidents on a day like this, which space does not permit me to mention, but it is extremely nice to see many old boys, their families, and friends, even if they are only looking on. We hope to see past winners of this race, Jock Ingram and Billy Birch, in action again next season.

Appended is the complete list of the competitors' times.

W. A. T.

TWENTY-FIVE MILE MAIDENHEAD WALK
2ND MAY 1931
RESULTS

Competitor	Escorts	Pos. in Scr.	Actual Time	Han. Allow.	Han. Time	Pos. in Hand
P. Holmes	Messrs. Pope & Adams ..	T.B. 1	h. m. s. 4 34 37	m. 22	h. m. s. 4 12 37	6
A. Benning	„ Thayer, Witham & Weaver ..	2	4 38 10	29	4 9 10	1
A. Craigie	„ Montgomery, A. E. Jarvis & Towers ..	3	4 40 24	29	4 11 24	2
H. Thompson	„ Foster, Webster & Smith ..	4	4 41 37	27	4 14 37	7
H. Boorman	„ Hind, Martin, Winner & Knight ..	5	4 50 27	27	4 23 27	11
J. Harrison	„ Boyce & Steggle ..	6	5 7 0	55	4 12 0	3
B. Ingrey	„ Shoemith & Hall ..	7	5 9 29	40	4 29 29	12
F. Rhodes	„ Bowles, A. G. Jarvis & Greenfield ..	8	5 18 16	60	4 18 16	9
W. Castle	„ Harris ..	S.S.				
A. Brown	Messrs. Toogood, Nichols & McSweeney ..	1	4 15 10	Scr.	4 15 10	8
W. Trott	„ Morgan, Bull & Bellis	2	4 16 22	4	4 12 22	4
W. Giles	„ Leary, Austin & Oliver ..	3	4 27 25	15	4 12 25	5
H. Gover	Mr. Harris ..	4	4 32 50	12	4 20 50	10
P. Ashton	Messrs. Woodyard & Caffery					

BIRMINGHAM WALK
RESULTS

Name	Position Finish	Actual Time	Start	Handicap Time	Handicap Position
		h. m. s.	m.	h. m. s.	
Brown	1	2 8 14	—	2 8 14	12
Trott	2	2 13 53	3	2 10 53	15
Gover	3	2 14 44	9	2 5 44	9
Ashton	4	2 17 0	9½	2 7 36	11
Giles	5	2 20 22	15	2 5 22	8
Castle	6	2 23 14	15	2 8 14	12
Holmes	7	2 23 36	20	2 3 36	5
Thompson	8	2 25 13	22	2 3 13	4
Boorman	9	2 25 46	22	2 3 46	6
Kerr	10	2 27 41	23	2 4 41	7
Craigie	11	2 31 2	30	2 1 2	2
Lenderyou	12	2 37 16	28	2 9 16	14
Harrison	13	2 41 55	42	1 59 55	1
Duncan	14	2 47 2	45	2 2 2	3
Lacey	15	2 57 23	50	2 7 23	10
Walker	16	3 10 12	50	2 20 12	16

Teams	T.B.	Scratch Race	S.S.
Birmingham 2, 5, 6, 7 20 points ..	1st	1. Castle.	1. Brown.
London 1, 3, 8, 9 21 ..	2nd	2. Holmes.	2. Trott.
Brighton 12, 14, 15, 16 57 ..	3rd	3. Thompson.	3. Gover.

Handicap

- Harrison.
- Craigie.
- Duncan.

“St. Dunstan's” Derby Sweepstake

OUR own Sweepstake is proving as great a success this year as it did last. Entries continue to pour in day by day, and are dealt with in strict rotation. The rules are once more published below, and it is again emphasized that the earliest possible application should be made for tickets.

It must be clearly understood that this competition is solely confined to St. Dunstan's officers and men, and prize money will only be paid out in the names of those persons coming under this specific category. The draw will be made in the Lounge at Headquarters by two T.B. St. Dunstaners under the supervision of responsible officials of the Headquarters staff. It will take place on the afternoon of Thursday, 28th May, instead of Wednesday, 27th May as stated in the March REVIEW. This change in date has been made because by the 28th it is probable that the list of starters will be published, and disappointment will be kept from men who have been notified that they have drawn a horse, only to find afterwards that the “gee” is not going to run. The closing date for entries is Tuesday 26th May and not Monday 25th as this is a Bank Holiday.

RULES

- The price of tickets is 2s. 6d. each.
- 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.
- Application for tickets can be made at once and will be received up to the first post on Tuesday, 26th 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 Letter from South Africa

We have received an interesting letter from Mrs. Isabel Kydd, who will be remembered by many St. Dunstaners as Miss Harvey, of Margate. She is now married and living in Natal. She writes:

“As a voluntary helper at St. Dunstan's Cheltenham Annexe every winter (from the opening to the closing thereof) and coming into contact with so many St. Dunstaners, I think the enclosed will perhaps be of interest to many readers of the REVIEW. (The “enclosed” is a card of marriage between Marie Isabel Harvey and W. Kydd. The wedding took place at Capetown on 4th December 1930.)

“When on a visit to S. Africa in 1929 (at which time I met my future husband!), I had the pleasure when passing through Capetown of meeting Mr. and Mrs. Bowen, but this trip I passed them at sea.

“I also met Sattery in the street at Port Elizabeth (recognising the ever familiar badge) and we have just received a well-made mat we ordered from him.

“Last December at Durban I looked up Mr. Cheesman (who is acting Secretary for the local St. Dunstan's Secretary during her absence abroad. I was pleased to be able to give him lots of information re St. Dunstan's work, and am hoping to borrow a copy of “Victory over Blindness” (from England) to lend to one who is so keenly interested as he is in the work of St. Dunstan's.

“In Maritzburg in January I had the pleasure of meeting A. Mason, M.C., and his wife and family, and had an interesting chat with them.

“Although at present we are living on the foot-hills of the Drakensberg Mountains (on the border of Basutoland) where my husband is trading, and I cannot do any practical work, I shall always maintain my interest, and look forward to the REVIEW even more than I did in England.”

St. Dunstan's Men Entertained by Freemasons

This interesting account of the dinner and dance which was given to St. Dunstaners by Brighton Freemasons is taken from the *Sussex Daily News*.

WHEN the men of St. Dunstan's smile that indication of a happy heart is repayment for the expenditure of any effort. And the many hard-working members of the Masonic Lodges in Brighton were contented yesterday when they looked at the faces of their guests gathered in the Old Ship Assembly Rooms for the dinner, concert and dance.

These blind men have abiding friends in the Brighton Freemasons, and the friendship has been illustrated in many ways, but undoubtedly the most popular is by this delightful evening. It was first given last year, and it is hoped now to make it an annual function. Fourteen local lodges combined to give the treat, and comprehensive arrangements were made for the enjoyment of the guests. They were conveyed to the hotel by motor-coach. Each man was accompanied by a lady, and with the V.A.D.'s and helpers a company of 124 sat down to dinner. Music and singing accompanied the meal, which was followed by a few speeches, then a delightful concert and a dance. The men were supplied with cigarettes and matches, and throughout the evening there was no lack of refreshments.

NOT FORGOTTEN

Addressing the company immediately after dinner, Wor. Bro. W. Aldrich (Deputy Mayor of Brighton) extended a warm welcome to the guests on behalf of the Freemasons of Brighton and Hove.

As an ex-Serviceman he knew something of the feelings of ex-Servicemen, and he was not going to offer them sympathy or thanks because they did not ask for either. He would simply say to them: "As far as we in Brighton and Hove are concerned you are not forgotten." (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Councillor Aldrich expressed the hope

that it would be possible to make the gathering an annual event, and spoke appreciatively of the work of Wor. Bros. Yeoman, Johnson, Potter, Bro. Webb and others.

A DELIGHTFUL CONCERT

Mr. A. Mace, from St. Dunstan's Headquarters, expressed gratitude for the help Freemasons gave St. Dunstan's from time to time, and Sgt. Maj. F. L. Hunt, one of the "boys," called for three cheers and musical honours for their hosts. Miss Thelluson, the Matron, also expressed her pleasure at the splendid way the Kemp Town men were treated by the Freemasons.

THE ORGANISERS

Additional amusement was provided by various competitions, Mr. F. T. Reynolds (Auxiliary Patrol Yacht), aged 65, was awarded a prize for being the oldest St. Dunstan's man present, and Private William Anderson (15th Lancashire Fusiliers), aged 31, a prize for being the youngest. Messrs. Brewer and Higgins won lucky number prizes.

Masonic friends augmented the company to some 250 for dancing. The Granville Orchestra supplied the music, and Wor. Bro. Yeoman, who carried out general supervisory duties throughout the evening, was M.C.

All Honour for a St. Dunstaner

We know that all St. Dunstaners who are interested in the British Legion will be pleased to hear that J. Sheehy of Dover, has been chosen to represent his branch at the Annual Delegates' Conference at the Queen's Hall, London, at Whitsuntide. There are more than 200 resolutions on the agenda. Sheehy hopes he may have the pleasure of meeting other St. Dunstaners who may also have been chosen as delegates for their branches.

News from Canada

AT last we have some news of some of our over-seas comrades—a fine batch of letter from Canada, most of them commenting on Captain Fraser's visit to Canada (which was spoken of in last month's *Review*) and telling him of the warm welcome he will receive. Here are some extracts taken from the letters.

From George Hutcheon of Toronto written in January):—

"We had a lovely Christmas with lovely weather all the time. This has been rather a mild winter without much snow, but it has been quite cold enough at that.

"I am so pleased to know that you are coming to Canada in the spring and I will look forward to seeing you when you arrive. I hope you and Mrs. Fraser will have a pleasant trip out.

"I do so enjoy the news in the *Review*. We read of all our old friends and it brings back pleasant memories of the old days."

And from Marion Smith, Ste. Annes de Bellevue:—

"I am still carrying on with my duties in the Military Hospital located at this place, and find my work as interesting as ever."

Gordon H. Simpson, Manitoba, sends along an interesting letter:—

"We are having rather a strenuous time out here this year, but I expect you will know about the conditions here as well as I do. Our barley is only worth at the present time seven cents a bushel, and wheat is only worth forty-five, so you see what that means. I tried raising some chicks last year, but for some reason or other I had poor luck. They hatched all right but I lost the greater portion when they were very young. But I am going to try again and probably I shall have better luck.

"You spoke of coming to Canada next Spring. Well, it would sure be fine to see you, but you know I live almost at the extreme west of Manitoba, and that is about three days' journey to Toronto, so you see it is rather a long distance away. But I am in hopes of returning to England as soon as I can manage it for a visit, and I will look you up if we do not meet before then."

G. A. Sugden writes from Alta:—

"We have a very nice wireless set which is very powerful and can get programmes from all over the American continent. It is an eight valve set, and is a combination so that you can play records as well. It gives me many a pleasant hour."

And H. A. Gamblin from New Brunswick:—

"Our two oldest girls are doing fine at school, one coming first and one second in their grades.

"We always enjoy the *Review*. It keeps us in touch with the boys.

"We have a radio now and take great enjoyment in it, both the music and lectures. We heard the Cenotaph Service from London on November 11th."

A. B. Taylor of Vancouver says:—

"We have an Atwater Kent Radio and are able to enjoy some very interesting broadcasts. This morning, while at breakfast, we listened to Sir Herbert Samuel speaking from St. James' Palace, London, and his voice came over the 6,000 miles as plainly as if he were talking in the same room. A talk of this kind comes over every Sunday morning at 9.30 and we have heard some very interesting men and women from different European countries. We have also heard Big Ben strike midnight on New Year's Eve, while our own clock struck four in the afternoon."

Lastly, a letter from J. H. Palmer of Ontario:—

"I am afraid I cannot tell you very much about my work for the past year as everything has been very dull and I have had but little sale for my mats, but, however, everyone is looking forward to better times. I have been rather under the weather this past summer and have had to do some doctoring—the first time for me as I have always enjoyed good health. But do not think I have any kick coming, as I am feeling a lot better again now. I am looking forward to meeting you in the spring when you make your visit to Toronto."

In the next issue of the *Review* we hope to have more news of our Canadian community, as Captain Fraser will have returned and will be able to bring our information up to date.

Telephony Notes

Hearty congratulations to the following telephonists who have obtained positions, and are giving every satisfaction.

J. Deegan, "Lairdways," Pall Mall.
J. Walne, "Rhodesian Congo," Austin Friars.

L. Johns, "C. F. Middleton," Moorgate Street.

F. Coates, "Fairclough Dodds" St. Mary's Axe.

We wish them every success and plenty of work.

M. B. MOORE.

White Sticks for the Blind

Here are extracts from the letters we have received this month on this subject.

From A. Thompson, of Doncaster :

"In reference to the request for the opinion of St. Dunstaners as to the advisability of carrying some distinctive badge, I should like to say that I, for one, am strongly against any such idea, as apart from a natural reluctance to be made conspicuous, I cannot see that they are going to produce the desired effect. In fairness to H. Kerr, who suggests a red badge, I must say that I do not move about where it is very busy, but at times I have to be careful, and having been totally blind since seventeen, I cannot remember any occasion when a badge would have been useful. My chief objection, however, is that I think such a scheme if adopted would be very dangerous, as unless a man had confidence in his badge, it would be useless, and I am certain that if he pinned his faith in one and started over a busy street, he would find that motorists are too much occupied to notice a badge, and he would soon come to grief. I think the same applies to white sticks. There is no getting away from the fact that whatever we try we shall have to rely on the public, and while I agree that there are people who find it a responsibility, at the same time they are always willing, and a man has but to ask and his troubles are soon over. I believe this question was asked during Sir Arthur's lifetime and he was strongly against it, and said that the most effective and simplest method when in a crowded street was just to shut one's eyes. With regard to the "Safety First" movement, we are bound to appreciate their difficulties, but I think if more attention was paid to the motorist, or rider of a push-bike, who very seldom gives any warning of approach, they will find blind people who are forced to be cautious will manage all right.

Here is C. W. Hudson's (of Brighton) letter :

"I have had fifteen and a-half-years' experience of going about unaided, therefore I feel that I should know something about it ; at any rate, I should know which is the most natural and incidentally the easiest way. I move about my own town alone far more than I do with an escort. The white stick question seems to me to warrant ridicule rather than support. For one thing we do not want to create in the public mind that "poor blind man" feeling. A white walking stick might advertise the fact that you cannot see ; it would also arouse a certain amount of momentary sympathy. By the way, the sooner St. Dunstan's men get out of their heads the idea that sympathy will assist them across a busy thoroughfare, the better foundation they will have to build up a little solo travelling. I

never take any undue risks when out alone and, if I am in my own district near home, if someone offers to see me across a perfectly quiet street, I never refuse. If an offer of this kind is turned down the would-be escort will think twice if the same chance comes his way again. But when I am out alone I very much prefer to be looked upon as a more or less natural sort of human being, not some freak resulting from that bit of bother which started in 1914.

"It is not in my power to supply statistics of street accidents, but I venture to suggest the percentage of sighted persons is considerably higher than the percentage of blind persons. This fact rather turns the tables, for we might say it is very dangerous for sighted persons to walk about without white walking sticks. The average pedestrian would not feel inclined to support any idea which would make him look ridiculous.

"The use of a dog as an escort does not appeal to me. In my work I think it would be a great nuisance and not a help. I have to travel fairly long distances at times, which means riding on a 'bus. Imagine on a cold, rainy day, what a nuisance a dog would be on a 'bus, and when your destination is reached, just imagine taking your bloodhound into some very neat and expensively furnished quarters.

"In conclusion, will any champion of the white walking stick brigade care to take up the challenge? I will wager a pair of old worn-out artificial eyes to his white walking stick that I arrive at any given destination just as quickly and as safely without any of these magic wands."

And then this from A. Billingham, of Northampton :

"I notice in the REVIEW that you are asking for our opinion on a little matter. I myself am strongly against being badged up any more than we are at present. I certainly do not go out very much alone, but I do not mean to infer that I am afraid to do so. The reason is that I find it much better to have someone to whom I can talk, and also who will tell me what is going on around me. A badge or a stick would only be conspicuous, and then what good would these things be in the case of a stationary vehicle with no one near? To my mind, anyone who goes across a road before making sure it is safe to do so, is simply asking for trouble. As for dogs, I don't think they would be much better, and they would be very inconvenient at times. To my mind, the "Safety First" method is surely to have someone with you, someone whom you can trust to do the right thing, and with whom you can talk.

Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Kerr wish to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to all their St. Dunstan's friends who sent flowers and letters of sympathy in their recent loss of their little daughter Audrey.

An Interesting Letter

WE have had an extremely interesting letter this month from Paddy Park, from Phoenix Camp, Mauritius. It is a long letter, but has so much which will interest St. Dunstan's in it that we are going to quote it almost in full.

"Dear Editor,

I need not tell you that I arrived here all right nine months ago and that I had a very good run out. I met and made a lot of new friends on the ship ; some of them I am still writing to. I must tell you that I am very happy here and I am sure I will never regret coming out. Of course, there are several things one cannot get, and lots of things one cannot do here that one can do at home.

"One of the greatest drawbacks is not having a wireless set. There are one or two on the island, but everyone seems to say that the results are not very good here, why I do not know. Anyway, one of these days I think I shall go in for one.

"This is a very pretty island. It is known as the island of rainbows, shooting stars and waterfalls. There are plenty of good walks and hill climbing. With regard to bathing, well, I think the place was made for it. The sands are just great and the water is better. The climate is very good, it is not too hot and, of course, never too cold. We get plenty of rain, I think the rainfall is something between 90 and 130 inches a year. Some years we get a bigger rainfall than this, but never less. To give you an idea what it is like when it rains, we had 28 inches in three days last month! Of course, we don't get the steady old English rain here. When it starts it may last an hour or it may last for three days, a good old tropical downpour. I do not mean by this that it is always raining here, for we get more fine days than wet. There are very few days that the sun does not shine. The summer is nearly over now, and we will start on our second summer about November. The coldest months are June and July and when they arrive we go to the seaside for our holidays. In the summer it is too hot to go there, and there is also a chance of getting fever in the hot weather. There is plenty of fever in the island, but we who live up country don't stand much chance of getting it, if we look after ourselves.

"Last summer (I mean winter) just after I arrived here we all went to a small island about 40 miles north of Mauritius, called Flat Island. I don't think it is marked on the map. It is a desert island ; there are only about six people living on it. We were there for a fortnight and had a rattling good time—a wild free holiday. We just dressed in shorts and singlets all the time. No dressing for dinner or having to shave every day. All we did was bathing or walking. We went there in a small sailing boat about thirty feet long, and she did everything but turn over.

On the way back she shipped half the Indian Ocean. This year we are going down to one of the seaside places on our own island. When I say seaside, I don't mean anything like Brighton.

"It is just sea and cocoa plants and a house here and there, plenty of freedom and you can dress as you like.

"I wish this little island was a bit nearer St. Dunstan's, for I am sure you would all like it, and I may say that I would like your company. I have just written to Mrs. Bates and told her that when she leaves S. Africa I will feel lost here. You see I am a crowd on my own, just Paddy Park, Mauritius, and after a few years I won't belong to anyone. I don't belong to the African or the Indian branch of St. Dunstan's. I am on the colonial roll now. It does not seem to be so far from home when Mrs. Bates is so near, but when she has gone—well, I suppose I will just "soldier on," as we used to say in the old days. I have made many good friends out here and spend many a happy day with them all. I would like to keep poultry here, but everything is so dear and the birds are not of much account. I am sorry I had to finish with my farm in England, for I am very fond of farming. I am sure any of our boys who are Buffaloes will be pleased to know that with the help of two more Brothers I have got a lodge going out here—at least I should say well on the way. We wrote to G.L.E. last month for our dispensation and hope to have it back in time to open the lodge before the Navy arrive here in June.

"Please remember me to all the boys and also everyone who is connected with St. Dunstan's, and tell them that I am still going strong and doing my best to keep the old St. Dunstan's spirit going—head and heart up and looking as if the whole island belonged to me.

"Well, cheerio everyone, and a Happy New Year to you all, if I am not too late."

(Paddy's letter was written on March 13th.)

Netting Room Notes

April has been a cold, wet month which is not very encouraging for the Netting Department. We have, however, had quite a number of orders for hammocks, boundary nets and sweet pea netting, and are hoping the warmer weather will bring more for fruit nets.

The men at Brighton are all busy and cheerful as usual. A. Green and F. West have just passed their bag test and are now working at turkan rugs. T. Duncan, W. Freeman, W. Lacey and N. Rand are all busy at netting. T. Duncan, having overcome his first difficulties, is doing well. T. Yuill has been put on to baskets, while W. Gay has had to give up work for a time owing to a bad hand. K. W. H.

After-Care Reunions

BEDFORD

THE Annual Reunion of St. Dunstaners in this area was held on the afternoon of Thursday, 9th April. The rendezvous was the Dujons Cafe in the High Street, and there was a good gathering of the men, their wives, families, and friends.

Miss Staddon, the area visitor, and Mr. Swain were there to receive the visitors and to help them find old friends. In this they were ably assisted by members of the After-Care Staff and friends. After a preliminary talk, high tea was served and attacked with gusto, and sad havoc was made in the ranks of the good things provided.

Mr. Swain then gave us a message of good cheer from our Chairman who, he told us, was on his way to America on business. He spoke a word of praise on the work of Miss Staddon and the technical visitors, thanking them all for their excellent work and the help they gave him. This was loudly applauded by the company. His address to the men struck a more serious note than usual and he omitted to tell us his usual funny story, but despite this he was listened to with close attention.

P. Holmes, in a racy little speech, thanked Mr. Swain for the kindly interest he took in the affairs of all the men, and indulged in some gentle leg-pulling when he remarked that now Mr. Swain was in the ranks of the "Benedicts" he might be a trifle more sympathetic to the "poor married men." E. J. Thompson ably seconded Holmes and congratulated Mr. Swain on his marriage amid much cheering.

After tea, talk was the order of things and old friends gathered in small coterie to recall old times and swap yarns, while for the more energetic beings D. T. Edwards and his band provided dance music and so the time flew swiftly by in the company of old friends, among whom one noticed Mrs. George.

In the guessing competition which was held the prizes were won by:—

Ladies—First, Mrs. Chave ; Second, Mrs. Hills.

Men.—First, S. Goodman ; second, H. Day.

Everyone enjoyed themselves and voted the gathering a great success and all look forward to next year's meeting. J. M. C.

HASTINGS

All reunions are jolly, but it was the unanimous opinion of everyone I came in contact with that the one held at Hastings on 8th April excelled all others.

We began the afternoon with a real good meal, which is always a great asset to one's enjoyment. When this was over, Mr. Swain, in his usual cheery speech, gave us impression of what outside folk think of war and those connected with it, both during war and after, and the remarks he made were warmly appreciated.

J. E. Plunkett very ably proposed a warm vote of thanks to Mr. Swain, Miss Rayson, and all technical visitors. This was seconded by T. Eaton, who in a very amusing speech congratulated Mr. Swain on taking the "gallant plunge." He went on to say that Mr. Swain was looking really well on it, but it was not for him to say who was responsible. Mr. Swain had stated in his opening remarks that during his year as Head of the After-Care Department he had learned the good points, and also the not-so-good points, of the boys. He took it this applied to the womenfolk also, and knowing all this, it made Mr. Swain's plunge all the more gallant. His job was both a difficult and a delicate one, one that Solomon would not rush to tackle, but they had always found him to act the man, and this is all St. Dunstan's asked.

New games were introduced and prizes won by:—

Ladies.—First, Mrs. Attrell ; second, Mrs. McDonagh.

Men.—First, H. Jacklin ; second, A. Sneddon.

"OBSERVER."

Owing to lack of space other After-Care Reunion reports have unavoidably been held over.

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