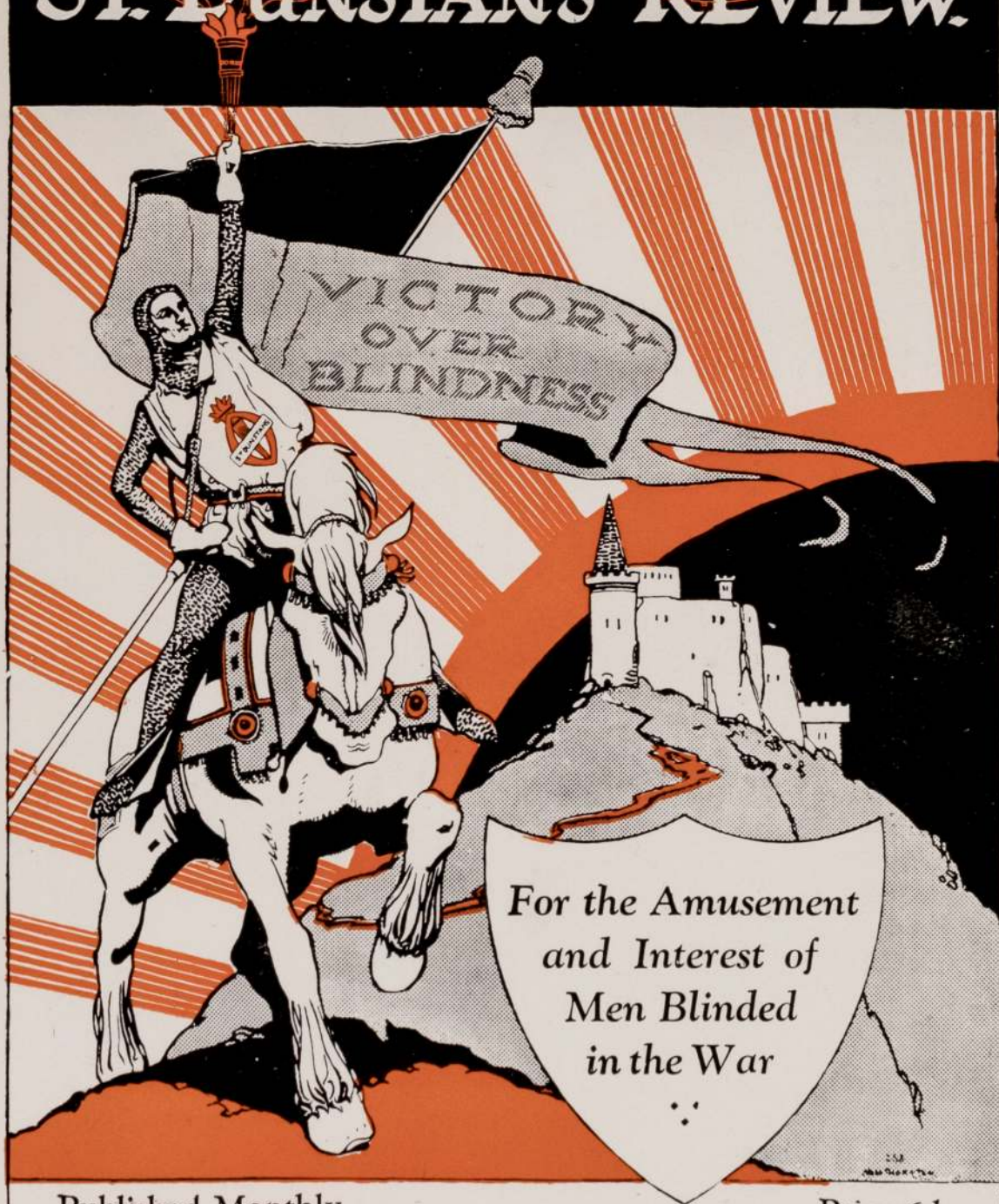


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.



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

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EDITORIAL NOTES

Twelve Years' Magnificent Work

WE noted last month how the work for the blind in Canada and New Zealand had been amplified and developed largely through the initiative of two returned blinded soldiers who had been to St. Dunstan's. We are reminded of another sphere in which another St. Dunstaner has done splendid work by the news that Elmer Glew, of Melbourne, Victoria, has resigned, on the grounds of ill-health, from the post of Honorary Secretary of the Victorian Blinded Soldiers' Association, which office he has occupied for twelve years.

Glew was trained at St. Dunstan's in quite the early days as a masseur, and practises that profession in Melbourne now. His work in starting a local Association for his Victorian comrades, and keeping them together ever since, has been what he would have called a "side-line." Though it has not been his primary occupation he has devoted a very great deal of his spare time to his comrades' interests, and we at St. Dunstan's have always found him a constant and regular correspondent and an efficient representative. We congratulate Glew on twelve years of splendid work, of which he and his friends in Victoria—and indeed all over Australia—may well be proud, and wish him a speedy return to his normal good health.

We understand that P. J. Lynch has been appointed Honorary Secretary in Glew's place. We tender him our very best wishes for success in his new office.

Full, and Brimming Over

Never, it would appear, has news come in at such a rate for the "Review." So much, indeed, has been received that it is totally impossible to print it all. This is in one respect a happy position for the Editor, for it shows that interest in our magazine is at a very high pitch. On the other hand, it means that we must again use that much disliked phrase, "Owing to lack of space we regret to say that some articles must be held over until next month." Among matter thus unavoidably postponed is a batch of correspondence on the White Stick controversy. We are giving as many letters as we can find room for in this "Review," and the others will appear in the September issue, there being, as usual, no "Review" in August. A summing-up of the situation will not, therefore, appear till October. It is thought that our readers would prefer this way of meeting the situation rather than that the letters should be so heavily cut that almost all their substance would be destroyed.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

ALTHOUGH a bad leg has prevented R. J. Williams, of Southwick, doing any work in his garden lately, it looks very flourishing, and he has some marvellous tomato plants in the greenhouse.

J. Simpson, of Newcastle, has had a run of bad luck. He managed to get over a bout of influenza, then his toe became poisoned, and now we hear that he has had a mallet dropped on his ankle, which has not yet healed.

A. Ackland, of Acton, is going along well in his new shop. He tells us that one of his most regular customers is a tiny tot of about three who calls every morning at a quarter to eight to buy "a ha'porth of choc buttons." Mrs. Ackland is trying a new side line in fancy drapery which looks like being a success.

We very much regret to report that the nineteen-year-old son of H. Palmer, of Norwood, met with a serious accident recently. He was pillion riding on his way home from work when his friend who was driving crashed into a milk lorry. His friend only lived for two hours. This has come as a great shock to Palmer and his wife, who are only just recovering from the death last October of their daughter.

S. J. Jordan, of Leominster, and his family were also involved in an accident recently. They were out in their trap and were passing a stationary furniture van (which was on the wrong side of the road) when a piece of tarpauling blew out in the pony's face. Jordan and his boy got off fairly lightly, being only bruised and slightly cut, but his daughter was in hospital for four days with a badly bruised back. We hope that they have now all recovered from their unpleasant experience.

F. Cooper, of Fareham, tells us that the photograph of the Reunion which appeared in the *Portsmouth Evening News* was a good advertisement for him, for many people stopped him to remark on how well he had come out, and to comment on his work. We hope the same thing happened to the other members of the group.

C. Roddy, of New Washington, had the honour of being invited by the British Legion to lay the wreath on the War memorial on the occasion of their recent Rally at Washington.

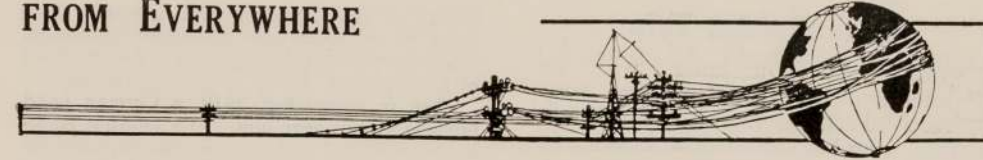
The Buckinghamshire branch of the Legion also held a Rally on the 14th June at Aylesbury, when over two thousand Legionnaires were inspected by Earl Jellicoe. G. Rickard, of Wingrave, writes that after a very inspiring speech, Earl Jellicoe spoke to several members individually, including himself, and adds: "I should like to know if there were any other St. Dunstaners there, as I know there are others in Buckinghamshire."

C. Morton, of Bramley, near Rotherham, has been keeping fit, and has been very busy with his Jazz Band activities.

A. H. Singleton, of Grantham, has also had a good many band engagements lately.

The family of P. Yuile, of Maryhill, Glasgow, has been distinguishing itself recently. Mary, aged 14, has won three prizes for sports at her school and also three prizes at the local sports, so she seems to be a most promising athlete. She has also obtained her Higher Certificate. Robert, aged eleven, has just gained a scholarship for two years at Allan Glen's School, and has been awarded a prize for General Intelligence.

FROM EVERYWHERE



W. Gill, of Ripon, is having a busy time just now making a new door to his house and also a new window frame.

H. Saunders, of Tottenham, is a great rose-grower and is producing some lovely blooms. His garden amply repays the hours of work he puts into it.

L. Douglas, of Osterley, is busy learning French, as a knowledge of this language will help him in his work.

M. Carey, of Tottenham, is well. His son is longing to leave school and says he means to be a boot-repairer. He has been a great help to his father for a long time past and this apprenticeship should stand him in good stead.

Grace, the little daughter of G. Lilley, of Acocks Green, Birmingham, has won a scholarship for the High School, a foundation scholarship which includes fees, books and outfit. She is only eleven years old, and Lilley and his wife are very proud of her.

A. Henderson, of City Road, is looking very fit and his daughters are doing well at their school and office. Florrie has just won the First Junior prize at school for gymnastics, and has two medals, and Ada has won the Senior Medal at her gymnasium. She is working at the Bank of England's Printing Works. Henderson's son is away for a fortnight's camp at Whitstable.

Brenda, the tiny daughter of C. E. Thomas, of Cricklewood, already shows signs of inheriting her father's gift for music. Although she is only three years old, she will sing a song at the piano, putting in notes all by herself, and her memory for words is remarkable for a child so young.

D. Maclean, of Brimpton, has had the honour of being elected president of the Reading and District C. E. Union. *The Berkshire Chronicle*, in reporting his election, said:—"Mr. Maclean lost his sight in the Great War, but in spite of his physical handicap, he has passed no less than three examinations held in connection with the Baptist Union's Lay Preachers' Association."

A Holiday Suggestion

IF any reader of the "Review" would care for a delightfully quiet holiday amongst the Cornish hills, he should get into touch with H. S. Potts, of Dowgas Bungalow, Grampound Road, Cornwall. Potts is living with his mother, who, we hear, is a very good cook and makes her visitors most comfortable. His house is situated in the heart of the hills, but when one has reached the main road, there are frequent buses to be taken for St. Austell in one direction, and Truro and Bodmin in the other. Potts will be very glad to send particulars of his terms, which are moderate, to any reader who may be interested.

Holiday Camp

Clifford Chambers, Stratford-on-Avon

August 17th to 25th inclusive. Fee 27s. 6d. Rowing, dancing, sports, and outings. Entries welcomed from any St. Dunstaner. Closing date for entries, 1st August.—A. HODGSON, Clopton, Stratford-on-Avon.

Advertisements

COMFORTABLE BOARD RESIDENCE—Two bedrooms, 37/6 weekly. 15 minutes from the sea.—Mrs. J. Parnell, Morna, High Street, Kessingland, Lowestoft.

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

An Interesting Trip

EVERY St. Dunstaner will be interested in the news we have received this month of David Ironside, who has travelled to America to visit his brother, and who is having a splendid time. In a letter Ironside tells of the friends he has made, and the great help which has been given him at all points of his journey, particularly by the officials of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. He says, "My friends came along with me to Seattle, about eight hours' sail from Vancouver. We had a good sail and lunch on board, and when we got to Seattle I could hear the pipes playing. This was my brother with his pipe band on the quay waiting for the boat to arrive. When they saw me step on the gangway the band played the old regimental march-past of the Scottish Highlanders, 'Highland Laddie.' I was guest of honour at the Memorial Day celebrations and finished off by being an honoured guest at a large birthday party of a prominent Seattle Scottish entertainer. I also have an invitation to the Foreign War Veterans' Association."

The following extract is taken from the *Seattle Times* :—

BLINDED WAR HERO VISITS BROTHER AFTER 26 YEARS.

John W. Ironside, Lake Burien resident, saw his younger brother, David, last night for the first time in twenty-six years but David didn't see John.

Blinded by an exploding hand grenade during the last year of the World War, David completed the long trip from Glasgow, Scotland, alone and last night was greeted by John when he stepped off the Canadian Pacific steamship from Vancouver.

Not since David was a wee lad and John a schoolboy in Glasgow have they seen each other. The Lake Burien man is the oldest, David the youngest, of five sons of the fighting Ironside family, all soldiers in different parts of the far-flung British Empire. John served with the British forces on the Northwest frontier in India and in the South African war.

David stayed home in Glasgow until the outbreak of the World War in 1914. He enlisted with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and went to Flanders to help stop the

onrush of the Germans. During nearly four years of desperate fighting, with replacement after replacement changing most of the personnel of his regiment, David stayed at the front.

Then in September, 1918, a German hand grenade struck near him. The fighting Highlander, wounded and helpless, was captured by the Germans. His relatives gave him up for dead. But when the Armistice was signed in November he was returned to England from the German prison camp. He attended St. Dunstan's in London to learn to adapt himself to his blindness. Then he returned to his home in Glasgow.

Now David runs a small shop in his home town. He makes and sells souvenirs and other articles. For some time he has hoped to come to Seattle to visit his oldest brother. Last night saw the realisation of that hope and he will be a visitor here five months. John W. Ironside is a member of the Seattle Pipers' Band. While here, David will be a guest of honor at Memorial Dayservices at the Veterans' Cemetery Saturday afternoon at Washelli.

News from Overseas

WE are always glad to hear from St. Dunstaners abroad and this month letters have been received from E. Beckham, of Vancouver, Canada, and W. F. Archibald, of Natal, South Africa. In his letter, Beckham says he and his family are very well, and wish to be remembered to all St. Dunstaners. He is at present doing some work for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, where his training at St. Dunstan's is standing him in very good stead. The Institute is specialising a good deal in willow work and Beckham is their most experienced worker.

W. F. Archibald says :

"Just a line to let you know that all the South African St. Dunstan's 'boys' have returned to their homes after the first Reunion, held in Cape Town, on the occasion of Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent having to give up the After-Care of the men through the serious ill-health of Mr. Vintcent. We all had a very happy time, meeting each other after so many years, but were sad at the thought that we should not have our Mr. and Mrs. Vintcent coming to our homes every year, bringing sunshine and happiness with them, and understanding each one of our little ways, shortcomings, and outlook of life. As you know, each one of us in this old world has a different outlook according to our circumstances and surroundings. These were well understood by the Vintcents, who are

A Great Honour For a St. Dunstan's Officer

ON the 23rd of June, H.M. The King conferred the Order of St. John of Jerusalem upon Captain Gerald Lowry—the first officer to be blinded in the War. While at St. Dunstan's in the early days of the War he qualified as a masseur, and has since studied osteopathy and has a very good practice in London. He was made a Member of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in connection with the centenary celebrations of the Order.

Death of "The Friend of Ex-Service Men"

ST. DUNSTANERS will regret to hear of the death of Sir Frederick Milner, Bart., which occurred on 9th June at the age of 81. Sir Frederick will always be remembered for his great work with and for old soldiers, and St. Dunstaners especially will remember him for the personal and generous interest which he took in them.

The Times in its obituary notice said : "While still in the House, his heart and imagination had been touched by the hardships of the soldiers returning from the South African War, and when the Great War came, he saw the risk of injustice on a much wider scale. He visited the hospitals, mixed with the returning disabled men, and realised that the work of administering the pensions which was then placed on the shoulders of the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital, was more than they could cope with. He raised money for the men at the rate of £60,000 a year. He wrote and spoke at every opportunity and through every channel. . . There is no doubt that he earned the title by which he was widely known—'The Soldiers' and Sailors' Friend.'"

Old "Reviews"

Have any St. Dunstaners any old copies of the "Review" prior to July, 1927, which they no longer need? The Editor would be very glad indeed to receive such copies if they can be spared.

gifted by that wonderful gift of human kindness and understanding. Our hope is that someone will be found to take up the wonderful work done by the Vintcents, and share the love and affection all South African St. Dunstan's 'boys' have for their 'Motherkie' and 'Fatherkie'—a love that will never die as long as one of us remains.

"Mrs. Bates worked very hard at making the Reunion a success and received the thanks from one and all for the good time she gave us. We shall all regret when the time comes for her to return to London, but feel sure that she will take back with her many happy remembrances of her stay in this wonderful land of sunshine and happiness.

"Kindest remembrances to all old friends."

A Happy Occasion

BLUE skies and a brilliant sun put the final touch to a very joyous event which happened on the 23rd June, when a party of the poor children of London were taken to Epping Forest by Pearson's Fresh Air Fund. This was the first outing of the year, and as 1931 is the fortieth year since the inception of the Fund, the occasion was a very special one. St. Dunstaners will be particularly interested in it, because members of the Council of the Fund had chosen the day to make a presentation to Mr. E. Kessell, C.B.E., our Treasurer, who has been its secretary and moving spirit for the whole of the forty years. Prince George, the youngest son of the King and Queen, was present, and it was he who handed the Council's gift, a most beautiful silver cigarette box, to Mr. Kessell, dropping a cigarette of his own in as he did so. Everybody else followed suit, and almost immediately the box was filled.

Also present on the occasion were our President, Lady (Arthur) Pearson, Sir Neville and Lady Pearson, and Captain and Mrs. Fraser.

Congratulations

to Captain Frank Marriott, a blinded officer who came to St. Dunstan's in June, 1917, and later returned to his home in Tasmania. He has been a member of the Tasmanian Legislature for the past nine years, and has recently been returned as a representative of the Nationalist Party again, with a good majority.

White Sticks for the Blind

THE following are some of the letters we have received this month:—

F. A. Rhodes, of London, is against the proposal. He says:—

"Will you please note that I wish to identify myself as a strong opponent of the 'White Walking Stick' campaign. As a 'T.B.' St. Dunstan of thirteen years' experience, I fail to see any reason why the time-honoured custom of blind persons wearing dark glasses to indicate their disability should be interfered with at this late date, when the aim of every self-respecting blind person is to make himself as inconspicuous as possible. For myself I always wear the St. Dunstan's After-Care Badge, which I find as valuable to me as a passport is to the traveller in foreign climes."

W. G. Parker, of Nottingham, is also one of the "antis."

"I fully agree with those not in favour of white walking sticks. We don't want so much publicity in the way of white walking sticks, badges, armlets, &c. Since I have been deaf in one ear, I have realised that a guide certainly makes life pleasanter, but when one has to go on his own I have found out that those simple words, 'thank you,' have got me through. White walking sticks might have a temporary beneficial effect but I cannot be convinced up to now that we shall be able to walk about with that feeling that we need not worry any more about our safety. No! I still think we shall have to use our own wits, especially when crossing the roads."

P. Nuyens, on the other hand, has interesting things to say on the other side.

"I presume that the use of white sticks has been suggested because they are actually in use in France and Belgium. The holder of such a stick in these countries, far from evoking a sense of pity, has the right to pass in front of any queue when travelling in the busy hours and to occupy one of certain reserved seats, and the fact of his holding a white stick explains this right without any need of comment. . . . So far as crossing roads is concerned, I do think assistance is always advisable, but there may be instances when instead of having to wait some time, the white stick would notify one's need of an escort."

A. Rees, of Thornton Heath, gives points for and against, both well thought out.

"1. It would not be of much use to any blind man crossing the road alone. The chief value would be when necessary to attract attention for assistance across roads and boarding buses and trams. People are sometimes thoughtless, and after taking a man to a bus stop will say, 'There you are, old man, there'll be one along in a minute.' Now, if

there are five or six different routes passing this stop, how is he able to find the number he requires?

"2. The daily press might be called into help by giving a front page advertisement with photograph of stick, in order to emphasise the meaning of it to the general public, and that when they see a person waiting near the kerb, to go up to him and offer assistance. Also, it would be a great help if conductors and drivers of public vehicles could call out their destination to anyone carrying a white stick."

J. Sheehy, of Dover, now has his say:

"I have read with interest in the current issue of the 'Review' the opinions of other St. Dunstaners. There is what I consider to be a very important point which has not most likely been considered by any St. Dunstaners who suggest white sticks, &c., and that is the slogan which emanated from our great friend the late Sir Arthur Pearson. He always emphasised and adopted as a slogan the phrase 'to be normal.'"

R. Dodds, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, writes that he, personally, is in favour of white sticks.

This letter comes from W. Watson, of Manchester:—

"I am totally blind and to provide white walking sticks or any other form of branding a blind person is only adding insult to injury. Let us see that the flag of St. Dunstan's is kept high and that all our doings will stand the critics of to-day. I travel round Manchester every day and night at its busiest times and find the public only too pleased to give a lift across the road."

A. Trigg, of Henlow, says:—

"I have been greatly interested in the letters recently published in the 'Review' re the white stick question, and fail to see why there should be any controversy over the matter at all. Presumably the N.I.B., as representing the majority of the blind population, will have the deciding vote. In any case, the carrying of the stick will be optional, and those who think it will be of use to them will carry it, and those who are of the opposite opinion will not."

And J. C. Trulock, of Northallerton, says:—

"As far as I am concerned, my vote is absolutely against white sticks or badges or anything conspicuous. I do not think there is any need of these gadgets at all; we have gone so far all these years, surely we can go on the same. To me the idea of a white stick is childish and ridiculous."

St. Dunstan's and Toc H

In our last issue we gave a brief report of the lighting of the "St. Dunstan's Lamp" by the Prince of Wales, on the occasion of the Toc H Festival at the Crystal Palace. In sending a very interesting detailed account of the proceedings, W. Heushaw conveys to us the following message from Mr. W. J. F. Gray, his successor as Secretary of the Finchley Branch:

TO ALL ST. DUNSTANERS.

You will, by now, have heard of the lighting of the Lamp of Maintenance, which has been bestowed upon the Finchley Branch of the Toc H by your President, Lady Arthur Pearson, D.B.E., and Sir Neville Pearson, Bart., which Lamp has been dedicated to the memory of your late "Chief," Sir Cyril Arthur Pearson, Bart., G.B.E., and which will henceforth be known as "The St. Dunstan's Lamp."

I have been asked by the Finchley Branch to send you all our heartfelt good wishes, and to say that the "St. Dunstan's Lamp" will be held by us as a sacred trust, and that it will ever be to us a source of inspiration and a constant reminder of our duty to Men and to blind folk in particular. We shall always be mindful of the Great Spirit which first lit the Light, and the memory of One so dear to you all will be with us for ever green. The "St. Dunstan's Lamp" Shall Ever Burn Bright.

The "St. Dunstan's" Lamp

A VAST hall, a vast audience, and a still vaster silence—this was the setting when, at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, 6th June, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales lit, for the first time, the Lamps of Maintenance of sixty-five new Branches of Toc H at their annual Festival for 1931.

Through the great hall, the procession of Lamp Bearers came, accompanied by their respective Banner Bearers—on to the stage where His Royal Highness sat by his own Lamp—then, kneeling, the Lamp Bearers in turn presented their Lamps which the Royal Patron lighted from his own, the banners proclaiming the latest territory to be blazed by the trail of Toc H. Immediately the last Lamp had been lit, there came the clarion voice of "Tubby" Clayton, Founder-Padre of Toc H.

"With proud thanksgiving, let us remember our Elder Brethren."

"They shall grow not old, as we, that are left, grow old,

Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn;

At the going-down of the sun, and in the morning,

We will remember them."

Then, the solemn avowal from that great audience—

"We will remember them."

Silence once more, intense and impressive, and yet again the voice of "Tubby"—

"Let your Light so shine before men, that they may see your good works,"

and finally the whole assembly, joining in with one voice—

"And glorify Our Father which is in Heaven,"

and the solemn yet beautiful Toc H act of remembrance and inspired purpose was completed.

But to St. Dunstaners, the world over, the centre of interest was the eleventh new Lamp of Maintenance—that which was accompanied by the banner of the Finchley Branch. These pages have already referred to the close association which exists between St. Dunstan's and the Finchley Branch of Toc H, but this association has now been welded into a much closer and stronger union, for the eleventh Bearer carried the "St. Dunstan's" Lamp, which has been bestowed upon the Finchley Branch by Lady Arthur and Sir Neville Pearson, and which has been dedicated to the memory of our late "Chief" and Founder, Sir Arthur.

This Lamp, like those of all other Toc H units, will be lighted at every meeting of the Finchley Branch, and thus will the memory and wonderful example set by our "Chief" ever be kept green and become a continual inspiration to those who come after to strive to do their utmost in the cause of humanity.

The Lamp bears the following Latin inscription—*Lumine tuo videbimus lumen*—"In thy Light we shall see the Light." St. Dunstaners have already proved the depths of that truth—now the light of our late beloved "Chief" is sending its penetrating gleams over those already living in light, urging them to follow in the path he trod by straining every nerve towards the fulfilment of the ideals of Toc H in Thinking Fairly, Loving Widely, Witnessing Humbly and Building Bravely.

St. Dunstan's, through Captain Fraser, are presenting the Finchley Branch of Toc H with a photograph of Sir Arthur Pearson, which will hang over the Lamp.



General Sports Day

GALA DAY AT REGENT'S PARK

The above event took place on Saturday, 20th June, on the Headquarters ground in Regent's Park. Each year it becomes more popular, and I am positive that the performances all round are improving.

After a very violent thunderstorm and a deluge of rain overnight, THE DAY turned out practically ideal. The men's events started with the 75 yards Sprint. The finals were eventually won by W. Birchall (T.B. section), in 9 secs., and H. Prior (S.S. section), in 10 secs. Some excellent jumping was seen; J. Meighan winning the Single T.B. with 8 ft. 9½ ins., while Alfie Crooke literally flew the Treble S.S. with 25 ft. 4½ ins. Jack Greaves won the T.B. Weight Putt with 26 ft. 1½ ins., and R. Cook the S.S. event with 27 ft. 1 in. All these are undoubtedly splendid performances, but on this day Dad rather takes a back seat, for you see, there are races for his kiddies; there are events for girls and boys of various ages with an age handicap for each race. Acting as the official starter, it was very obvious to me that the great majority of the kiddies had been subjected to strict training. They were all on their toes and anxious to get off their marks, with the exception of that well-trained speed spinner, Peter Deegan, aged 2½, who stuck his toes in at the start, got left at the post and took no further part in the race! I thought every kiddie wonderful. Nearly every mother thought her child had won! After the Derby, the Oaks. This is the *pièce de résistance*—the Ladies' 80 yards Handicap for the wives of St. Dunstaners. The field for the event looked a picture in the parade before the race. There was no preliminary canter, but after a false start they were away together (the Charge of the Light Brigade takes a back seat to this event!). After a terrific struggle,

Mrs. Ogg won from Mrs. Webster, with the favourite, Mrs. Ashton, close up third. Next came the Egg and Spoon Race. Great skill was shown in this event, Miss Ingrey winning from Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Roden. Then the Thread-Needle Race. This indeed was a test of speed and steadiness. Mr. and Mrs. Roden just won from Miss Stein and Jimmie Meighan, with Mr. and Mrs. Ogg third.

Thanks to the generosity of the staff and a too numerous number of sports supporters to mention, eight prizes were able to be given in each of the children's and ladies' races.

I wish you all could have seen Capt. Ian Fraser nursing a wee toddler, surrounded by a hundred or more beaming youngsters.

During the afternoon, the band of the S. Division Metropolitan Police, conducted by Mr. G. Passelow, M.M., rendered a fine programme. Tea, ices and refreshments were served on the lawn. Lady (Arthur) Pearson, assisted by Mrs. Fraser, presented the prizes (a most wonderful array!). Apart from prize winners, every child received a toy of some description. Capt. Fraser thanked her Ladyship, the judges and all officials, and donors of prizes, and all who had helped at this wonderful afternoon. W.A.T.

RESULTS

Girls under 5 Years.—1, Marjorie Fallowfield; 2, Brenda Thomas.

Girls between 5-7.—1, Joan Fallowfield; 2, Barbara Tomkinson; 3, Marjorie Deegan; 4, Avis Peckham; 5, Nancy Carey; 6, Joyce Dixon; 7, Monica Durkin; Consolation, Jean Rhodes.

Girls between 7-10.—1, Florence Tennison; 2, Peggy Lane; 3, Joyce Smith; 4, Peggy McFarlane; 5, Winnie Smith; 6, Laura Thompson; 7, Lillah Roden; Consolation, Mary Coupland.

Girls between 10-15.—1, Peggy Sullivan; 2, Nellie Lane; 3, Edna Carey; 4, Grace Porter; 5, Peggy Otway; 6, Ivy Dixon;

7, Ada Henderson; Consolation, Florrie Henderson.

Boys under 5 Years.—1, Cecil Rhodes; 2, John Birch; 3, Harris Tomkinson; 4, Ivor Wylie; 5, Neil McFarlane; 6, Geoffrey Webster; 7, Sidney Moeller; Consolation, Peter Deegan.

Boys between 5-7.—1, Eric Burran; 2, John Henry; 3, Eric Clark; 4, Derek Ingram; 5, John Sullivan; 6, Freddy Porter; 7, Peter Gamble; Consolation, Peter Nichols.

Boys between 7-10.—1, Bobby Birch; 2, Stanley Clark; 3, Cyril Clark; 4, Gordon Boulwood; 5, Harry Birch; 6, Fred Carey; 7, Bobby Porter; Consolation, Tom Dickinson.

Boys between 10-15.—1, Herbert Sainty; 2, Dickie Henderson; 3, Robert McMullen; 4, Daniel Carey; 5, Arthur Sullivan; 6, Peter McQuirk; 7, Leonard Clark; Consolation, Martin Lane.

Wives' Race.—1, Mrs. Ogg; 2, Mrs. Webster; 3, Mrs. Ashton; 4, Mrs. Fallowfield; 5, Mrs. Roden; 6, Mrs. Wylie; 7, Mrs. Brown; Consolation, Mrs. Carey.

Egg and Spoon Race.—1, Miss Ingrey; 2, Mrs. Brown; 3, Mrs. Roden; 4, Mrs. Ogg; 5, Mrs. Channing; 6, Mrs. Wylie; 7, Mrs. Ashton; Consolation, Mrs. O'Kelly.

Surprise Race.—Thread the Needle Race.—1, Mr. and Mrs. Roden; 2, Miss Stein and Mr. Meighan; 3, Mr. and Mrs. Ogg; 4, Mr. and Mrs. Channing; 5, Mr. and Mrs. Clampett; 6, Mr. and Miss Ingrey.

T.B. 75 Yards Sprint.—1, W. Birchall, 9 secs.; 2, J. McFarlane; 3, S. Webster.

T.B. Single Jump.—1, J. Meighan, 8 ft. 9½ in.; 2, J. Greaves, 8 ft. 9 in.; 3, R. Wass, 8 ft. 8½ in.; 4, W. Birchall, 8 ft. 8 in.

T.B. Putting the Weight.—1, J. Greaves, 26 ft. 1½ in.; 2, J. McFarlane, 24 ft. 5 in.; 3, W. Birchall 24 ft. 3½ in.; 4, R. Wass, 24 ft.

S.S. 75 Yards Sprint.—1, H. Prior, 10 secs.; 2, T. McGuire; 3, A. Crooke.

S.S. Treble Jump.—1, A. P. V. Crooke, 25 ft. 4½ in.; 2, T. Roden, 22 ft. 11 in.; 3, H. McSteel, 22 ft. 10½ in.; 4, J. Yuill, 22 ft. 3 in.

S.S. Putting the Weight.—1, R. Cook, 27 ft. 1 in.; 2, J. Yuill, 26 ft. 5 in.; 3, F. Martin, 26 ft.; 4, T. Duncan, 25 ft. 1 in.

Sports Points

7TH JULY		
W. Birchall ...	38	G. Fallowfield 8
H. McSteel ...	26	H. Gover ... 7
F. Winter ...	20	T. Duncan ... 6
J. Deegan ...	14	T. Meredith 5
J. McFarlane	} 13	G. Taylor ... 4
P. Conlin		P. Ashton ... 3
J. Meighan	} 12	Mr. Channing } 2
H. Thompson		S. Dyer
B. Ingrey ...	11	P. Martin ... } 1
S. Webster ...	10	N. Downs ... }
H. Prior ...	9	

A Sad Announcement

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of David Ironside, an account of whose magnificent welcome to Seattle appears in an earlier page of the Review. A cable came on the 4th of July giving merely the news of his death by drowning, and a letter from his brother John, with further details, has just arrived as we go to press. After the 4th of July celebrations, David had wanted a swim in Lake Washington, and his brother accompanied him. About 50 feet from shore in 12 feet of water David simply disappeared, and although many fine swimmers dived and tried to save him, their efforts were in vain. His brother says, "It happened after the fulfilment of the wish of a lifetime, a happy reunion, six weeks' humour, pleasant talks, and enjoyment." We know that every St. Dunstaner will share in the sorrow caused by the death of this fine member of our community, but will feel pleasure in the thought that before his death he had had such a happy time with his brother, whom he had not seen for 26 years, and had also been shown such honour by the people among whom his brother had settled.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE PETER BRUNDRETT
(2nd Border Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of this St. Dunstaner. Brundrett was trained at St. Dunstan's as a mat-maker and after leaving Headquarters worked up a nice little connection, in addition to his small shop. In 1925, however, on account of arthritis in his shoulder, he was compelled to give up his trade, and he was taught wool-rug making in his home.

His health had not been too good for some time, and then in April last he developed influenza, from which he never quite recovered. He was taken very ill on the 22nd May, and died three days afterwards (25th May).

The funeral took place at Christ Church, Pendlebury, on the 29th May, and was attended by many relatives and friends, including our Social Visitor, Mrs. Dunphy. Among the numerous wreaths and flowers received was a wreath from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Brundrett was well known and greatly respected in his neighbourhood, and we extend our sympathy to his wife, sons and daughter.

PRIVATE PATRICK WHITE
(Royal Defence Corps)

We deeply regret to announce that P. White passed away on the 15th May. He had been in poor health for some time and about a fortnight before his death, he had a fall which caused injuries to his head. He was admitted to hospital the following day, where he died.

White was trained in wool-rug making as his health would not allow him to take up any strenuous occupation, and he took a keen interest in this work.

The funeral took place at 2 o'clock on the 20th May, and was attended by many relatives and friends. Among the beautiful wreaths received was one in the form of our badge from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Marriage

VERNON—PRICE.—On the 22nd June, A. Vernon, of Winchester, to Miss Jessie Price, of Shanklin. The marriage was solemnised at the United Methodist Church, Shanklin, the Rev. F. Rosier Lee officiating. A reception was held at the Co-operative Hall, where some sixty guests attended, and later the bridal pair left for their honeymoon, which was spent in Birmingham and London.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

BAMBER.—To the wife of W. Bamber, of Haywards Heath, who has recently lost her father.

BROCKERTON.—To J. Brockerton, of Coleraine, Ireland, whose father has died very suddenly as the result of a stroke.

HOLLINS.—To G. Hollins, of Middlesbrough, and his wife, whose little girl, born on the 19th June, died only two hours later.

MULVANEY.—To M. Mulvaney, of Whitley Bay, whose brother died on the 19th June, after an operation.

PEACH.—To T. Peach, of Luton, who lost his eldest son, aged 21, on the 23rd June. He had been suffering from pneumonia and a very weak heart.

SMITH.—To the wife of A. Smith, of Nottingham, who lost her mother on the 7th April.

Births

BACHELOR.—To the wife of D. Bachelor, of Banbury, a daughter, on the 7th June.

BOORMAN.—To the wife of H. Boorman, of Fulham, on the 29th June, a son.

BOYD.—To the wife of J. Boyd, of Brighton, on the 12th June, a daughter.

CASTLE.—To the wife of W. S. Castle, of Birmingham, on the 3rd June, a daughter.

COLLEY.—To the wife of J. M. Colley, of Luton, on the 24th June, a son (Andrew David).

COUPLAND.—To the wife of J. Coupland, of Brighton, a son, on the 27th June.

DUNWOODIE.—On the 7th June, to the wife of G. Dunwoodie, of Newcastle, a son.

GRATTIDGE.—To the wife of C. Grattidge, of Birmingham, on the 25th June, a son.

LEA.—To the wife of H. Lea, of Hulland Ward, Derby, on the 7th May, a son (Dennis Henry).

MATTHEWS.—On the 5th June, to the wife of G. Matthews, of Petersfield, a daughter.

ROSE.—To the wife of J. D. Rose, of North Berwick, Scotland, on the 12th June, a daughter (Jean Joan).

TAYLOR.—To the wife of A. Taylor, of Stanway, Colchester, on the 8th July, a son.

WILLIAMS.—On the 10th June, to the wife of D. J. Williams, of Cardiff, a daughter.

The Chairman's American Address

As promised in the June Review some extracts are given this month from Captain Fraser's paper on the relations between the State and the Blind, which he was invited to contribute to the discussions of the World Conference on the Welfare of the Blind in New York. Captain Fraser's paper was so long that it is unfortunately impossible to print the whole of it, but the extracts and summary given below will help St. Dunstaners to realise its gist and to appreciate the part that our Chairman played as one of the delegates to the Conference. The paper was divided into two sections: Historical and the Voluntary System.

The State and the Blind

HISTORICAL.

RELATIONS between the State and the blind, bespeaking sympathy and interest and a real desire for the emancipation of blind people, are of very recent development. They have grown out of the mounting body of public opinion that blindness was not a disgrace, not a hopeless ineradicable infirmity, but a handicap which merited all the time and attention which could be spared for its reduction. It was only when into the minds of the ordinary man and woman crept the thought, "There, but for the grace of God, go I," that official investigations began to be made and laws for the amelioration of the lot of the blind to take their place upon the Statute book.

Even then the State lagged heavily behind public opinion. The first voluntary institution for the blind in England, for instance, was founded in Liverpool in 1791. The Blind Persons Act, which set on foot a widespread national scheme of State Aid for the blind, became law in 1920. The institutional system alone, while opening wide its gates and caring most admirably for those who found their way within them, could not hope to cover the whole of the ground. Yet the voluntary system led the way. The State, at last fully alive to the importance of the blind adult as citizen and the blind child as potential citizen, only followed down the paths to which others had fixed the sign-posts.

One of the earliest cases in which we hear of the State—in the form of the ruler—coming forward as champion of the blind occurred in Japan. There in the

9th century a young prince, son of the 54th Emperor, lost his sight. He and his father straightway developed a personal interest in blind people, and the prince, on entering the priesthood, distributed his income among them. Nor was this all. Several blind men of proved capacity were taken into Government service, and a decree was issued giving over the profession of massage entirely into the hands of the blind. Whether we can look upon the granting of this exceptional favour as being due to the impartial judgment of an impersonal Government, or whether we must see in it only the good resulting from an affliction to a powerful prince, is largely dependent on our point of view. There is no doubt at all that blindness attacking the households of the wealthy or socially important has been a noticeable factor in the growth of an interested public opinion, and so of an interested State. There are on record numerous cases all over the world of philanthropic effort initiated by educated blind people; in a very real sense, from the earliest times, the case has been that of the blind leading the blind.

There is no example now of State monopolies being granted to the blind. The nearest we get to State interference in the employment of blind people is in Germany, where by a Reich Act of 1923, the engagement of a small percentage of disabled men, including the blind, among normal workers was made compulsory. A recalcitrant employer might be fined. In France also a compulsory Employment Act was passed in 1924, but only those blind who lost their sight in the World War can claim benefit under it. Here and there, too, in Europe where there are State monopolies in handling tobacco or matches

a preference in the matter of employment has been granted to the disabled, including the blind. England's very mild version of this official interference is a recommendation by the Government to the Government Departments and Local Authorities that, other things being equal, they should give preference to goods produced by workshops for the blind. Scotland gives a preference to the blind in the matter of employment as Home Teachers of the blind.

Apart from a few instances where the ruler of a country has taken upon himself the responsibility for at least some of his blind subjects, there is little heard of any Government action till the 19th century. Certainly the Institut National des Jeunes Aveugles—the first school specifically for the blind—had been taken over by the State in Paris in 1791 during the French Revolution. But in its early stages the growth of activity by Government was slow. It was with the development of the idea of universal education that the problem became for the first time insistent. What were you to do with your blind children? Unless special provision could be made for them the talk of universal education was a sham. So special provision was made, and legislative enactments passed in a number of countries, requiring the establishment of schools for the blind, and, in some, making school attendance compulsory on blind children. The lot of the uneducated blind child was felt to be the unhappiest lot which could fall to human experience. At the same time it dawned on the State that such a child must necessarily grow up to an adult life dependent always on public moneys. Sentiment and cold expediency went therefore for once hand in hand. There are few countries, as a result, where the provision of special education for blind children is not now made. In many countries it is still the only form of State action, and the difficulties of the blind man or woman who has passed school age are relieved only by voluntary societies.

The acceptance of such responsibility by the State for the welfare of the blind, as such, is indeed comparatively rare. In most cases the adult blind are provided

for in the same way as other citizens. That is, if they are indigent they come under the Poor Law; if aged, under old-age pensions schemes; if disabled, under invalidity and disablement insurance. On the other hand, in many countries which do not make direct provision for the blind, the work of voluntary associations is often encouraged and assisted by the grant of State moneys. Usually the war-blinded are placed in a separate category and are given preferential treatment both as regards work and pensions.

Generally speaking, the countries which come best out of the test of State responsibility for the blind are the English-speaking countries. In a number of the States of the United States, State Commissions for the welfare of the blind have been set up and many States grant pensions to blind persons as such. In Great Britain, limited State pensions are paid and a variety of local services are insisted upon by the State, and supported from public funds.

All this activity, though it had its beginnings before the War, was stimulated in a very natural way by the return of blinded men from the Fighting Forces. For example, in most European countries, voluntary effort arising spontaneously out of the needs of the War has spurred civilian agencies to greater efforts. The needs of the blinded soldier, being much advertised and calling forth generous response, have encouraged the general idea of giving help to the blind. And again, in Germany, the Compulsory Employment Act, originating as a result of the War to find work for disabled soldiers, including the blind, was later amended to include the civilian blind.

In many countries, too, the entry into the world of the blind of young men cut off from their usual avocations by their disability has re-inforced the ranks of the natural leaders of this world. This is specially noticeable in the British Empire, where in no less than three of the Dominions, national organisations for the welfare of the blind as a whole have been initiated or have been very greatly developed, largely through the individual efforts of returned blinded soldiers who have

received their initial training and inspiration at St. Dunstan's. It may be said that the State is now fully alive to its duty towards the blind, and that the next decade will see even greater development towards universal State assistance than has been attained in the most forward countries, and the acceptance of State responsibility by those which are still backward.

THE VOLUNTARY SYSTEM.

The history outlined above shows that voluntary effort preceded State action. The author argues that this is inevitable and will continue. As established services are taken over by the State, new methods of helping the blind are devised by voluntary agencies. This initiative must not be discouraged. He concludes, therefore, by a strong plea for unity between the State authorities, the Municipal authorities and Voluntary Agencies. The one ought not to operate to the exclusion of the other, but there should be the fullest possible co-operation.

There follows a plea for a certain amount of grace in the blind community—a gracious outlook towards the rest of the world, from whom the majority of the blind must needs ask assistance in one form or another. This is not merely good manners, but is likely to be more fruitful of good. The demands sometimes made in the name of justice instead of in the name of mercy, occasionally put people's backs up, and do not produce the result desired.

Dealing with the Blind Persons Act, 1920, the writer claims that it is the most comprehensive and universal statute with regard to the blind in the world. Some local authorities might operate more generously, but it is theoretically sound, and in practice has raised the level of the blind community in Britain to an extraordinary extent in only eleven years.

PENSIONS.

Capt. Fraser argues for a State Pension for all blind people, payable at the age of sixteen, and subject only to a means limit which would prevent those from receiving it who obviously did not need it. Such a pension should be paid as a disability pension, whether the blind person is

employed or unemployed. He does not consider that it would encourage idleness, but claims it is the most practical and sympathetic way of helping people who must be helped in some form or another.

EMPLOYMENT.

Government Departments, Municipal Authorities, and voluntary agencies should give employment to the blind in suitable jobs, as an example to other employers. It is always more difficult to find congenial employment for mental than manual workers.

The article concludes with the following paragraph: "Blind people throughout the world owe the improvement which has taken place in their lot to the understanding, sympathy and sacrifice of their sighted fellows. But the public conscience has at all times been stimulated to a fuller conception of its duty towards the blind by the personal example and advocacy of outstanding blind people such as Henry Fawcett and Arthur Pearson. This should be borne in mind, and in every country encouragement should be given to young people who have the gift of leadership to come forward and help to guide the blind community towards greater opportunities for material and spiritual well-being."

Achievements of a St. Dunstaner

Many newspapers have commented on the achievements of P. S. Sumner, of Worcester, a St. Dunstaner who has been bringing credit to himself and to St. Dunstan's for many years. Since he lost his sight Sumner has studied for and passed both the B.A. and B.Sc. examinations, and he has just added to his laurels by gaining the M.Sc. in Economics degree of London University. The syllabus of this last degree was based on the subject, "The Stock Exchange and the National Savings," and he had to submit a thesis on Investment and Speculation.

Sumner carried on his studies in his spare time after his day's work as a master in the Worcester College for the Blind. Every St. Dunstaner will congratulate him on as fine a record as has been put up by any member of our community.

After-Care Reunions

BOURNEMOUTH.

WE were very glad to see so many old friends at the Bournemouth Reunion, which was held again this year at Holy Trinity Church Hall on Thursday, 30th April. The gathering was larger than in previous years, which was probably, in some measure, due to the good weather.

After we had all enjoyed an excellent tea, Mr. Swain gave a very interesting speech, and conveyed to us a message from Captain Fraser, who was unable to be present owing to being in the United States of America at the World Conference on Work for the Blind.

S. K. Jerome proposed a vote of thanks, and in his speech expressed the general appreciation of the work done by Mr. Swain, Miss Rayson, and the technical Instructors. He also congratulated Mr. Swain on behalf of all those present on his recent marriage. This was seconded by F. Reason, of Bridport, and F. Bulley, of Romsey.

During the afternoon, Mr. Swain had private interviews with all the men who wished to see him. Meanwhile, some excellent dance music was provided by W. Lowings' jazz band and various representatives arranged guessing competitions which caused a great deal of amusement and enjoyment. The winners were as follows:—

Ladies.—First, Mrs. Jerome; second, Mrs. Foyle; third, Mrs. McCarthy.

Men.—First, B. Chalk; second, A. Vernon; third, H. Porter. D. M.

NORWICH.

There was a good assembly at the St. Giles Parish Hall, Norwich, on 6th May when the Annual Reunion took place, and about fifty St. Dunstaners and their wives sat down to an excellent tea.

After tea, Mr. Swain addressed the meeting, outlining the affairs and activities of the After-Care Department. His speech was listened to with much interest.

A. G. Wise proposed a vote of thanks to

Mr. Swain and all his assistants in the After-Care work, and this was seconded by F. Ashworth. Some amusement was caused when Wise, stammering a little, wished Mr. and Mrs. Swain much happiness in their married life, as this was the first Reunion at Norwich since Mr. Swain's marriage. When Wise made his few remarks, it was quite evident, judging by the applause, that he was voicing the feelings of all present. Although Mr. Swain had only become recently married, it was quite apparent that he was proving a very apt pupil in the married school, and that he had already passed out of the kindergarten class, because during his address he advised the men to join any local debating society that might exist in their district, or go in for politics, or take up some honorary work for the local branch of the British Legion, and to get away from home on their own as much as they could, because, and this is the part that struck me, "their wives would appreciate their being away from home for a few hours!"

Various games followed the speech-making, and the prize winners were J. Parnell, first, and second, J. Shread and A. G. Wise, while Mrs. Trendell and Mrs. Buckle were successful in the Ladies' section.

During the afternoon, an excellent orchestra played for dancing, and although many of our men are now getting a bit "long in the tooth" they tried to throw off the yoke of twenty years and perspired rather freely.

The non-dancers gathered in little knots in corners of the room, and many were the reminiscences I heard. A conversation between two St. Dunstaners came to my ears, and I think it will stand printing! I will allude to these men as Jones and Brown, although these are not their real names:—

JONES: "Hello Brown, how are you getting along?"

BROWN: "Very nicely, three good

meals a day, and a good bed at night, so what more can a man want?"

JONES: "I didn't know Mr. Swain had got married until Wise mentioned it, did you?"

BROWN: "Yes, I had seen it in the 'Review,' and when my wife read it to me I remarked 'he will perhaps have a little more sympathy with us old married men!'"

JONES: "Ah well! I suppose when he went to get married he was like Bill Smith who lives near me, he went on purpose. Bill Smith got married at Easter, and having arrived at the church, the marriage service commenced. When the vicar got to the passage, 'William, wilt thou take this woman Mary Jane to be thy wedded wife?' Bill remarked, 'I've come on purpose.'"

I had a conversation with Whiffler of the *Norwich Evening Post*. When the newspaper correspondent told me his pen name was Whiffler, I informed him that mine was

WHAFFLER.

DUBLIN.

The Reunion for the Southern Irishmen took place in Jury's Hotel, Dublin, on Thursday, 14th May. An excellent lunch was served about one o'clock. Mr. Swain welcomed Mrs. Strain, who was our guest, and thanked her for the excellent work that she was doing in disposing of most of the articles made by the men working in Dublin, and he gave a most encouraging little speech to the men. He welcomed our hostess, Miss E. Taylor, late of the After-Care Department at Headquarters, and the technical visitors. Mr. Swain also thanked Mr. Norman Macauley for the splendid work he had done both for the After-Care Department and for the appeals in Ireland, and said that if he were asked to describe Mr. Macauley he would reply in a very few words, "A very just man and immensely human," two qualities which were particularly essential to officials at St. Dunstan's.

A vote of thanks was proposed by J. Murray, of Kilkenny, and seconded by B. Martin, of Bray, for the kindness of St. Dunstan's in providing the good fare and entertainment at the Reunion.

Mr. Macauley then asked Mr. Swain to

accept for his wife the gift of an embroidered Irish crochet supper-cloth, made by the peasants of Donegal. He told Mr. Swain that the men had heard that he did not desire any presentations on the occasion of his marriage, but that with true Irish cleverness and in the determination that some tangible token of this auspicious event should be given they decided to make the presentation to his wife. Mr. Macauley asked Mr. Swain to accept this gift with every good wish for a long and happy married life from the men in Southern Ireland.

During the afternoon, the men were entertained by Miss Vogen's Ladies' Choir from Belfast, who were first prize winners at the Dublin Feis. Miss Annie Coulter, Miss Latimer, and Mr. Bryce Whelan also entertained the men.

A stop-watch competition was engaged in and the winners of this were E. Horan, of Sandymount, and Mrs. Murray, jun., of Kilkenny, firsts, while the boobies went to J. O'Neill, of Newport, and Mrs. Kennedy, of Thurles.

Mr. Swain had interviews during the afternoon with all the men who were present.

After the men had partaken of afternoon tea, the proceedings terminated.

BELFAST.

The Reunion for the Northern Irishmen was held in the Carlton Restaurant on Friday, 15th May. After lunch, Mr. Swain expressed the regret of the Lady Mayoress and Lady Turner that they were unable to be present with the men at their Reunion, and proposed that a telegram of congratulations should be sent to Lady Turner at the City Hall, since she was receiving at the time of the Reunion a presentation from the citizens of Belfast, in recognition of her excellent work during the six years she was Lady Mayoress in Belfast, and this was done. He gave a very warm welcome to our hostess, Mrs. Norman Macauley, and also thanked Mr. Norman Macauley for the splendid work he had done in Ireland both for the After-Care Department and for the appeals. He said that as long as Mr. Macauley was in charge of St. Dunstan's affairs in Ireland, he knew they could not

be better looked after. He also welcomed Mr. Panton, the technical visitor, and spoke to the men on matters affecting their welfare.

The Northern men had also thought out the same way of circumventing Mr. Swain's expressed wishes regarding presentations and requested Mr. Macauley to ask Mr. Swain to accept for his wife an Irish linen hand-painted damask tablecloth and napkins, with an expression of their very deep regard for him and their best wishes for his future happiness.

A number of ladies and gentlemen came along to entertain the men during the afternoon, including our old friends, Miss Jeannie Erskine, Miss Warnock and Miss McWatters.

The winners of the stop-watch competition were S. Holmes, of Belfast, who took away a case of tea knives, Mrs. Gribben, of Belfast, a lady's handbag, while the booby prizes went to H. J. Glendennan and Mrs. McCann, of Belfast.

Our good friend Mrs. Allen looked in on her way to the function in the City Hall with a large packet of cigarettes which she asked to be used as a prize. We had a bean-bag competition for this, which was won by A. Gribben, of Belfast.

Mr. Swain gave an interview to each man during the afternoon, and when we had partaken of afternoon tea, the meeting terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

It was a notable Reunion that was held at Kunzle's Café, Birmingham, on the 24th June. First, it combined the usual Leamington and Wolverhampton Meetings, so that more than 200 men and their wives and a large company of friends were present. Then too, it coincided with an exhibition of the work of disabled Ex-Service men that was being held at the Birmingham Town Hall, which was opened by our Chairman, Captain Ian Fraser. The result was that we had the added pleasure of having Captain Fraser with us together with several officials of the British Legion of the district.

An excellent luncheon was provided and was fully enjoyed by everybody. After

the loyal toast had been honoured, Captain Fraser made a most cheery and encouraging speech. He told us that in spite of trade depression, St. Dunstan's was not doing too badly. He referred to the difficulty of disposing of the goods made by our men, and made an appeal to all to do everything in their power to dispose of more of their products locally, thus helping the Organisation and increasing their own earnings. He also told us of the happy relations between the British Legion and ourselves by which we join in the proceeds of Poppy Day without competing for public support. St. Dunstan's was no better and no worse off as a result of this arrangement, but it was obviously in the common interest to combine the appeal. In closing, he mentioned the many books that have been published of late, showing the war to have been all a matter of "mud, blood and women"—not the best kind of women either! We of St. Dunstan's knew that there was something else, he continued, namely a fine spirit of comradeship and self-sacrifice that had fortunately been enshrined in our Organisation. If the same spirit could be manifested in the community as a whole we should soon be through the worst of our troubles.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Smedley Crookes—a popular supporter of the British Legion, and an old parliamentary colleague of Captain Fraser—who spoke in high terms of the work of St. Dunstan's and of Captain Fraser. He was followed by S. A. Chambers and D. Pettit, who voiced the appreciation of the men of these annual Reunions, which keep us in touch with the Organisation to which they were proud to belong, and of the warm regard which all the men feel for Mr. T. E. Swain.

During the afternoon a good band discoursed music and there was dancing and many interesting competitions—to say nothing of much cheerful conversation between old comrades.

A very happy afternoon concluded all too soon at four-thirty, and our best thanks are due to all those who helped to provide such a pleasant function.

S. A. C.

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