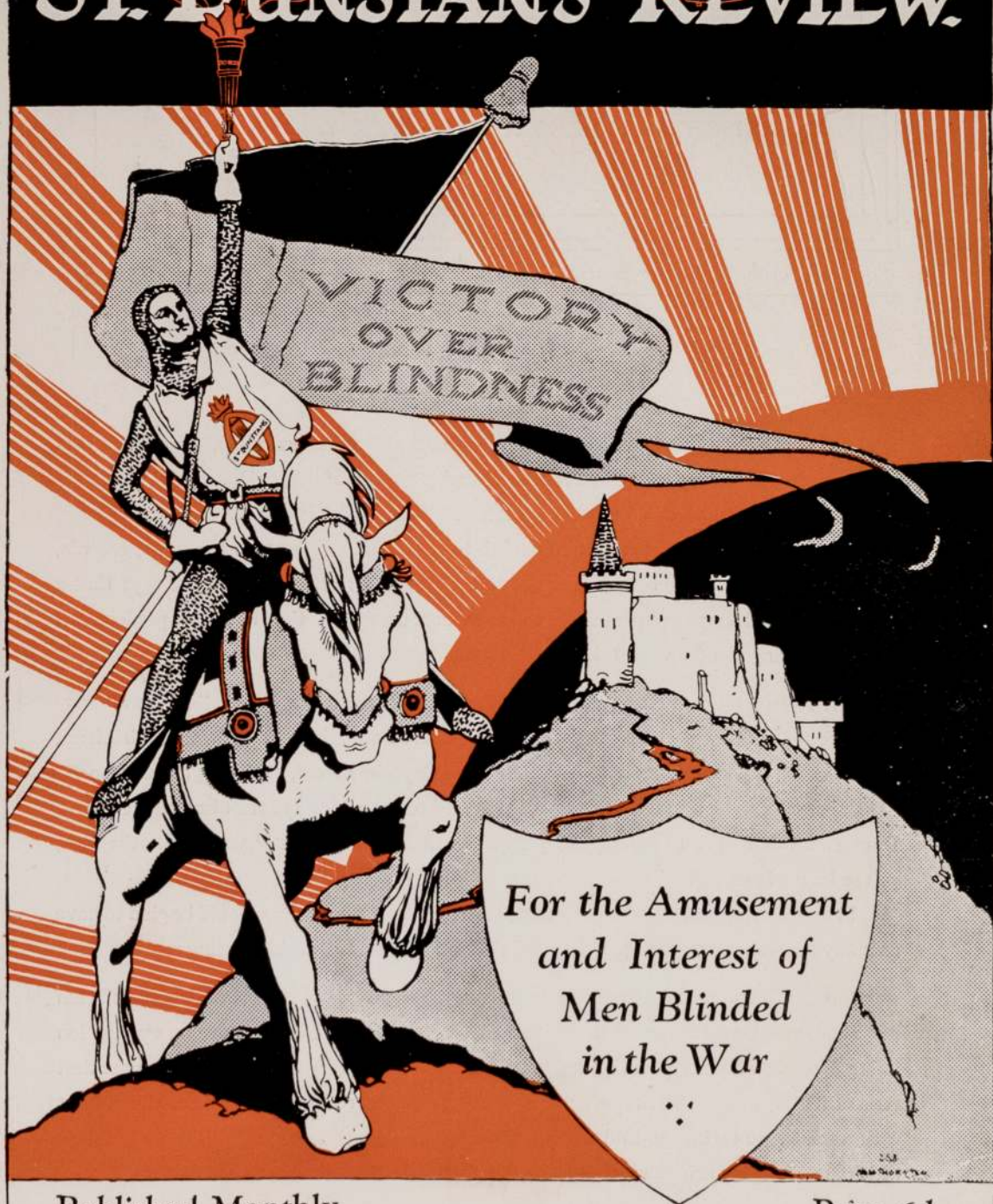


ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW



Published Monthly

Price 6d.

ST. DUNSTAN'S FOR BLINDED SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN (IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE BRITISH LEGION)
Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

No. 172.—VOLUME XVI. [NEW SERIES] FEBRUARY, 1932

PRICE 6d.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN.]

EDITORIAL NOTES

Little but Good

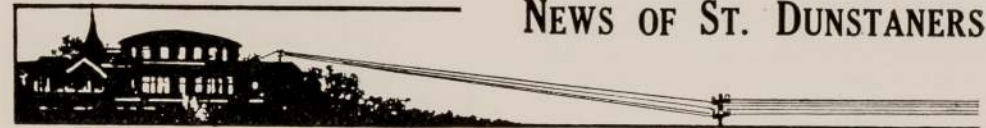
WHEN Captain Fraser met a number of the men at Brighton recently, a suggestion was made that money might be saved by reducing the size of the St. Dunstan's "Review." The Chairman said he would go into the matter. This smaller issue is the result.

We believe it will be possible to pack into these limited pages all the news, records, and items of interest which are essential to St. Dunstaners. Captain Fraser says that a short, bright and snappy paper may prove even more acceptable than its longer predecessor, because reading aloud always takes much time.

Mr. Kessell sends me a note to the effect that some readers of the "Review" may be interested to know that Mr. Hugh Murray, of Erin Farm, Middleburg, C.P., South Africa, when writing a personal letter to our Chairman, Captain Fraser, enclosing a donation for St. Dunstan's funds, said: "I would be interested to know if any of the disabled men of St. Dunstan's would care to correspond with a South African. If any would like the idea, please let me know."

Should this appeal to St. Dunstaners, I am quite sure Mr. Murray would be glad to have as many letters as they care to write, and they may be sure of an interesting reply.

Any St. Dunstaner who would like a copy of the 40th Annual Report of Pearson's Fresh Air Fund, which was reviewed in last month's "Review," will be sent one on application to Mr. Kessell, who has been Honorary Treasurer and Secretary of the Fund since the first year of its inception. The report makes quite absorbing reading, and all St. Dunstaners with families are certain to find much to interest them in this account of the golden days which are brought each year to children less fortunate than their own.



NEWS OF ST. DUNSTANERS

SATURDAY, January 8th, must have been R. J. Williams's (of Southwick) lucky day, for not only did he carry off first prize at a fancy dress ball, but he also secured a fine mat order at the same dance. Only a short time ago he won a splendid walking stick, while his prize this time was a blue morocco leather wallet with corners bound in gold. Williams has been busy planting over sixty rose trees, and hopes to do even better at the shows this season than he did last year.

T. Rogers, of Kingsbridge, is the latest recruit to the ranks of St. Dunstaner members of the British Legion, and very much enjoys the meetings of his local branch.

The small son of C. Blackett, of Devonport, has just made the important step from infant school to "big boys'," and is very proud of the fact. Homework time finds Blackett keeping a watchful eye on this very lively youngster, just to make sure that he does it thoroughly.

We are sorry to hear from J. Donnelly, of Watford, that his son was taken ill at a football match a week or so ago and had to be brought home in an ambulance. It appears he has been suffering from a septic throat and is likely to be in bed for several weeks.

W. Parnell, recently of Hull, is now living in Bridlington.

Mrs. Lawty, wife of G. Lawty, of Bridlington, was too ill with influenza to attend the Hull Reunion, but the latest news is reassuring. Lawty himself keeps very well, probably due to his wise policy of getting out as much as possible.

The eldest daughter of R. Dodds, of Whickham, who was to have been married at Christmas time, was unfortunate enough to develop scarlet fever a few days before her wedding day, and all the arrangements which had been made had to be cancelled. She should, however, be out of hospital by the time the "Review" is in print, we are glad to say.

A. Matthews, of Dover, enjoyed his spell of demonstrating, but since then he has been forced to give up work for a time owing to a very severe attack of lumbago.

Leonard, the ten-year-old son of A. J. Cole, of Sholing, Southampton, has just passed another music examination with honours, his total marks being 90 out of a possible 100. He started learning at the age of seven, and this will make his fourth certificate. Some St. Dunstaners will remember Leonard playing at the Annexe some time ago when he visited it with his father. Good luck to him in his future examinations!

All St. Dunstaners will sympathise with C. T. Condon, of Worting, Basingstoke, on the stroke of misfortune which has befallen him. In the early hours of Sunday morning, January 31st, fire broke out in his brooder house and rapidly spread to his corn stores and workshop. Although the fire brigade arrived very promptly, it was only possible for them to divert the fire from the bungalow and Condon fears that damage has been done to the extent of nearly £200. Apart from the loss of his poultry equipment, his coil loudspeaker, some treasury notes, and his son's bicycle were also destroyed. Up to the time of writing, there is no indication as to how the fire was caused, and Condon says that the lamps were burning quite steadily at 10.30 on Saturday night.

At a children's fancy dress dance held a short while ago, the two sons of S. Worlidge, of Grimsby, were both successful in winning prizes. In the "under six" class, Raymond won the prize as "a doctor" and in the open classes, Aubrey carried off first prize as "a gipsy hawker."

We regret to state that the Rev. Sydenham L. Dixon, Hon. Chaplain to St. Dunstan's from 1924 to 1928, died suddenly on 11th February, as the result of an accident. He had retired from the living of St. George's, Brighton, in 1928, and was living quietly in Worthing. His age was 79.

Births

HADFIELD.—On the 15th January, to the wife of G. Hadfield, of Ottery St. Mary, a son.

HOTSON.—To the wife of H. Hotson, of Hull, on the 8th January, a son—Harry.

WALKER.—On the 22nd January, to the wife of C. J. Walker, of Lower Edmonton, a son.

Deaths

We offer our deepest sympathy to the following:—

LAWLOR.—To G. Lawlor, of Walsall, and his wife, whose son, Aloysius, died in hospital on 2nd February, aged 12 years and 3 months. He had been ill for only three days and had been operated on for appendicitis and peritonitis.

PURVIES.—To D. Purvies, of South Bank, Yorks, and his wife, whose sad loss, reported last month, has been followed by the death of Purvies's mother-in-law and brother-in-law.

SNEDDON.—To Mrs. A. Sneddon, of St. Leonards, who lost her mother on 30th January.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to W. T. Jones, of Slough, and his wife, who are this month's recipients of St. Dunstan's Silver Wedding Gift.

Marriage

HARDING—STEDMAN. On the 3rd January, R. Harding, of Cirencester, to Miss Irene Stedman, youngest daughter of Mr. Charles and the late Mrs. Stedman, of Chesterton, Cirencester. The wedding took place at Cirencester.

Prince George and a St. Dunstaner

ON the 10th December last, H.R.H. Prince George visited Dover to open the new Secondary School. After he had inspected a guard of honour composed of school cadets, he inspected a number of disabled men, including J. Sheehy, who were present to represent the British Legion. Sheehy tells us that Prince George spoke and shook hands with every one, and did not forget to ask him a number of questions about himself and St. Dunstan's. "I am certain," adds Sheehy, "that my St. Dunstan's badge was the means by which he recognised me and not a white stick." His Royal Highness was accompanied by Major Astor, M.P., a member of St. Dunstan's Executive Council, and Lady Violet Astor was also present. Some interesting photographs appeared in the *Daily Mail*, showing the Royal visitor inspecting and shaking hands with the disabled men.

Good Time for Brighton St. Dunstaners

A NUMBER of men at the Annexe were entertained to supper and dance at Portland House Hotel on Monday, 18th January, the evening being a most successful one. Messrs. Tillings conveyed the guests there and back, and the Kemp Town Brewery presented the ale. Many spot prizes were given, most of them being presented by Mr. A. Simons, a constant visitor to the hotel. Cigarettes purchased with money collected by Mrs. J. L. Houston and Mrs. C. Richter residing at the hotel, and Mrs. S. Robinson, another constant visitor, were presented to the men, and also sent on to those unable to attend. The evening concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Pittman, and all who had helped.

Advertisement

BED AND BREAKFAST. Clean and comfortable, three minutes Palace Pier and ten minutes Annexe. Terms moderate—Apply Mrs. Anderson, 3 Mighell Street, Brighton.

From "The Daily Telegraph"

A blind man, Joseph Brunner, who lost his sight in the war, succeeded in detecting counterfeit bank-notes, which had deceived scores of people in full possession of their sight.

For some time past a number of forged five and twenty schilling notes have been circulating in the neighbourhood of Korneuburg, near Vienna. A schoolboy named Joseph Lehner handed Brunner a five schilling note in his tobacco shop and asked for a box of matches. Brunner's fine sense of touch enabled him to detect the falsity of the note, and when he began to question the boy he ran away.

Brunner, however, was able to recognise him again by his voice. When the police searched the house of the boy's parents they found a primitive forgers' plant installed there.

Netting Room Notes

January has been rather a quiet month in the Netting Department as it always is after the Christmas rush, but we have had a few nice orders, including one for a large fawn cable rug with dark red border, which looked very well indeed when sent out.

At Brighton the men are all doing well. We congratulate W. H. Timbrell on passing his string bag test. T. Selby is getting on with his boundary netting and T. Walker is on his first hammock. A. Ahrens has nearly finished his course; while J. Roughly has passed out of the Netting Room into the Basket Shop. A. Wilson has finished his course and has done well.

K.H.W.

Braille Notes

Very many congratulations to T. J. Warren and W. Radley on passing the Braille writing test.

Typewriting

We congratulate W. Samworth, A. Wilson, A. E. Ahrens and P. Watts, on passing the typewriting test.

Please Note

that Colonel Bickerton will in future see St. Dunstaners at Headquarters on Thursdays instead of Fridays.

A Congratulatory Letter

has come from that good friend of St. Dunstan's, Colonel B. Nethercote Anley, about the broadcasting of the St. Dunstan's singers on 20th January. Colonel Anley writes:

"I enjoyed them all the more because 'The Men of Harlech' is still the Regimental March of my old Corps, the 1st Welch, in which I served many years till promoted into the 2nd Welch whose Regimental March (when 69th Regiment) was 'The Lincolnshire Poacher.' I felt as if the two items had been selected to cheer me up in my old age. [Colonel Anley is approaching his 90th birthday.] My thanks to the Singers."

A Message from Mr. Hope Atkinson

"March is almost here. Be alive to the searching winds which are now very much alive among all woods and tools. While free ventilation is always desirable, the ends of timbers should be protected to save splits appearing. The air should have free access to every part of boards or mouldings. Boards are best laid, while mouldings should be stood perfectly erect. A free application of linseed oil (raw) at weekly intervals to the wood parts of unpolished tools is an advantage. Remember that a board planed now will shrink considerably, so provide for this when making up, and allow the stuff to stand for quite a long time before gluing. It is natural for all wood to shrink at this time of the year, and so craftsmen should control such action."

E. HOPE ATKINSON.

"A corpulent teacher was giving a lesson on the canary to a class of small children.

"Teacher: 'Can any boy tell me what a canary can do and I can't?'

"Sharp boy: 'Please, Miss, have a bath in a saucer.'"

Montreal Star.

"In Memory"

CORPORAL FREDERICK THOMAS HARRIS
(9th Royal Fusiliers)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of this St. Dunstan. Although Harris had not been in good health for some little time, his sudden death on the 3rd January came as a great shock to us all. He was taken very ill towards the end of December and was admitted to hospital on the Monday after Christmas, where he died. Harris came to St. Dunstan's in 1916, where he stayed for eighteen months to learn joinery. After leaving Headquarters he worked very hard and set up a good business in Catford.

The funeral took place on the 8th January, at Hither Green Cemetery at 1.20 p.m., and there were many beautiful wreaths and flowers received from relatives and friends, including a wreath from some of his colleagues with whom he worked eighteen years ago, and a wreath in the form of our badge from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our sympathy to Harris's wife and family.

PRIVATE F. KITCHEN
(9th Royal Engineers)

We deeply regret to announce the death of one of our early St. Dunstaners—F. Kitchen—on the 27th December, 1931. Kitchen was blinded by an accident in barracks shortly after his enlistment, and he came to St. Dunstan's to learn poultry farming and mat-making. Owing to very poor health, he was compelled to dispose of his poultry, and he carried on with mat-making, but eventually he had to give this up also. He gradually became worse and was admitted to hospital at the end of November, where he died.

The funeral took place on the 31st December at Hyde Cemetery and was attended by many relatives and friends, the ceremony being conducted by the Rev. J. N. Ellwood. Numerous wreaths were received, including one from the Hyde Blind Association and another from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our sincerest sympathy to his widow.

PRIVATE JOHN JAMES STEEL
(2nd Battalion Scottish Rifles)

We deeply regret to announce that J. Steel passed away on the 18th December last, after being in poor health for some months.

Steel joined the Army at the age of seventeen years, and was wounded in December, 1914, in France, when he lost the sight of his right eye. In May, 1915, he came to St. Dunstan's and learnt basket-making and mat-making, but gave up the former occupation shortly after returning to Scotland.

The funeral took place on the 22nd December, and was attended by several relatives and friends, including a St. Dunstaner and his wife—Mr. and Mrs. Broadbent. Among the numerous wreaths received was one from Captain Fraser and his many comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Steel's wife (who is, we regret to say, at present in hospital) and his four children.

PRIVATE R. H. HARDY
(24th Battalion, 2nd Australian Imperial Forces)

We deeply regret to announce that we have received notification from the Victorian Blinded Soldiers' Association of the death on the 9th October last of our Australian St. Dunstaner, "Bob" Hardy. The cause of death was a clot of blood on the heart. Hardy was admitted to St. Dunstan's on the 11th April, 1917, but the wound in his leg bothering him, and not liking our English climate, he returned to Australia shortly after. He returned however, in 1919, and was trained as a masseur, going back to Victoria in 1920 to take a post at the Military Hospital, Caulfield, Melbourne. Many St. Dunstaners of the early days will remember this Colonial and hear of his death with deep regret.

Hardy leaves a widow and little daughter (living at 72 Murray Street, Caulfield, S.E.8, Victoria, Australia) to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

PRIVATE JOHN NICOL THOMPSON
(1st Co., 1st Canterbury, New Zealand, Expeditionary Force.)

By a sad coincidence, the news of the loss of another of our Colonials reaches us this month. Mr. Clutha Mackenzie writes that the death of J. N. Thompson, of New Zealand, took place in November last, although the cause is not stated.

Thompson was never very strong after being wounded at Messines. He was trained at St. Dunstan's as a boot-repairer and netter, but there has been little news from him for some years. Before he enlisted in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, Thompson was in the New Zealand Navy for two years.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Thompson's wife and family.

On Writing

WHAT was the impulse which prompted the early writers of the spoken word to seek for a method of recording their ideas, impressions and mode of life? Was it to win the respect and admiration of those around them who, less endowed with brains and imagination, must have regarded these master minds with awe and veneration? Or was it a Divine Providence devising a means to assist humanity along the hard and laborious road of progress? Certain it is that the discovery and translation of written documents have done more to reveal the secrets of the dead and gone civilisations than any other discovery yet made.

What valuable time would have been saved to historians if a written record of the building of the Pyramids could be found. It is strange that a document of this kind has never been discovered when one contemplates that authentic history only begins with the translations of documents written in clay left by the Egyptians, who employed a system of picture-words known as "hieroglyphs."

Whatever their actuating motives, these early picture writers were the pioneers of an art which has contributed more to enlightenment and education than anything which the brain of man has yet conceived. It has run through the ages, like a river carrying refreshing draughts to the seeker after knowledge.

The Middle Ages saw the Monks producing works of art in the form of illuminated manuscripts, which still evoke admiration and wonder from all who behold them. But the Middle Ages also saw a change in the method of writing—this was the introduction of the printing press. It had long been the desire of studious men to find a means by which books could be more cheaply produced and in about the middle of the fifteenth century, a German discovered a means of setting together letters made of lead, thus forming the nucleus of the printed sheets. Hitherto, books and learning had been the monopoly of the very rich, but the Bible, the works of Plato, Aristotle and the

Greek poets and dramatists were soon in circulation, making learning more widespread, until to-day even children starting life in the most humble circumstances are provided with opportunities, which, if taken full advantage of, will enable them to rise from total obscurity to the highest pinnacles of fame. When one contemplates what a dull place the world would be without the daily newspapers, or the various novels which help to make life more pleasant, one dreads to think what might have happened to the literature which has been handed down from one generation to another, if the art of writing had not preserved to us those monuments in prose and verse which every age has bequeathed to posterity.

Thanks to those early writers we are able to appreciate the strides which evolution has made to the benefit of mankind. It was Emerson who stressed the fact that it was not necessary, between friends, to be in daily personal touch—the writing of a letter sufficed to show that, though absent, they were always ready for the call which is the prerogative of true friendship.

When one contemplates for a moment the part which writing plays in our daily life, its services to industry, society and politics—in fact, there is no walk of life in which its value is not felt—let us thank God for the inventive faculty which has enabled man to develop to its present high standard this most useful of arts.

T. ROGERS.

*St. Dunstan's Annexe,
Brighton.*

* * * * *

This story comes from W. E. Brookes, of Southampton:—

"A man who had been imbibing freely overnight went into the 'George and Dragon' in the hope of getting a free drink. The landlady was alone in the bar. Said the man:—

"Give me a drink, lady. I'll pay you when I've got the money."

"Get out," roared she. "Get out! Do you think this is a charity society? Get out. Br-r-r-r."

"He went, but returned again in a few minutes.

"Well!" exclaimed the landlady with arms akimbo. "Do you want to speak to me again?"

"No, lady," said the man humbly. "Can I have a few words with George?"

Headquarters Dances

St. Dunstaners in London and the Home Counties, many of whom have hitherto attended two Reunion Dances in the year, are informed that it has been decided only to hold one Dance during the year in future. This will take place in Armistice week, and a notice will appear in the "Review" in regard to it in due course.

Football Competition

THIS competition has proved to be more difficult than we had supposed, so that it has been decided to revise the conditions. The prize will be awarded this month to the competitor who sends in the nearest forecast of the first four and the last four teams of the FIRST AND SECOND LEAGUES only, on 27th March, 1932. As no competitor was successful in the January competition, the prize has been carried over and TEN SHILLINGS will be awarded to the winner of this contest.

Entries must reach the Editor by the first post on 14th, March, and only one entry can be sent in by each competitor. Send in your forecasts, study the papers, and if your entry is not more than two positions out, send in your claim by 30th March.

Please send in entries on postcards, and mark them "Football" in large letters. Typewriting or block letters should be used.

This competition is confined to St. Dunstaners.

History Brought Nearer

It is an interesting fact that a basket-making firm established over 800 years ago is still flourishing at North Walsham, in Norfolk. The business was founded in the year 1108, only forty-two years after Harold, the last of the Saxon kings, and William the Conqueror faced each other at the Battle of Hastings.

A Ruby Wedding

We send our best wishes and hearty congratulations to J. W. Bellis, of Flint, and his wife, who on February 10th, celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their wedding. They were married at Holy Trinity Church, Chester, in 1892.

After-Care Re-Unions

HULL, SHEFFIELD AND LEEDS

DURING the month of January, After-Care Reunions were held at Hull, Sheffield and Leeds on the 13th, 14th and 15th respectively. Captain Fraser attended all three meetings and answered questions. Votes of thanks and confidence in St. Dunstan's and in Captain Fraser were proposed and seconded by A. Urry and A. T. Coulson at Hull, C. Greaves and A. Adams at Sheffield, and G. H. Heeley and L. Brook at Leeds, and carried unanimously.

Mrs. E. E. Smyth (Miss Rush) was present at both the Sheffield and Leeds meetings, and amongst those who attended the latter were Major Vernon Hope, Organising Secretary for the Yorkshire Area of the British Legion, and Canon Mitchell. At the Sheffield meeting a pair of antique brass candlesticks were presented to Mr. Swain on the occasion of his recent marriage.

Very interesting reports of the meetings at Hull, Sheffield and Leeds have been received from C. J. Sparkes, of Grimsby; A. Thompson, of Sprotborough, and G. H. Heeley, of Wakefield.

A Helping Hand

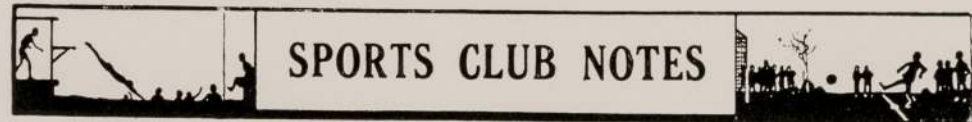
How one St. Dunstaner can help another in the way of securing orders is shown by the fact that in November last, — Sayers, of Upper Harbledown, received an order for an oak book-case which he promptly passed on to G. E. Crook, of Herne Bay. As a result Sayers now writes that he has obtained a repeat order for a similar bookcase for Crook, which, as he says, "shows that it was well done and quite satisfactory."

"I SEE you have a sign in your store, 'We Aim to Please,'" remarked the irritated customer.

"Certainly," replied the proprietor. "That is our motto."

"Well," retorted the I.C., "you ought to take a little time off for target practice."

Cincinatti Enquirer.



Fifteen Mile Outer Walk

SEALED HANDICAP.

12th March.

THE 15-Mile Outer Circle Walk will take place on Saturday, 12th March, starting from Headquarters at 2.30 p.m. sharp.

Will all entries kindly reach the Sports Office not later than 29th February.

SPORTS POINTS.

2nd February.

W. Birchall ... 153	W. Lacey ... 129
W. Nichols ... 150	W. Robinson 124
P. Conlin ... 149	F. Winter ... 92
F. Fleetwood 146	G. Fallowfield 72
H. Prior ... 145	B. Ingrey ... 60
A. Brown ... 130	C. Walker ... 29

Nine Mile Outer Circle Walk

THE walk was a great success. After a week of snow and a biting wind the weather turned out trumps—clear and fine, and just cold enough to make vigorous walking a pleasure. Colonel Ball, who acted as starter, made a most amusing little speech which must have kept the walkers chuckling for the first three miles.

Nine Mile Open Handicap Outer Circle Walk

13th February, 1932.

T.B.		RESULTS.				Position
Name	Scratch	Race	Start	Hand. Time	in Hand.	
P. Holmes ...	1	86.25	1.15	85.10	3	
H. Boorman ...	2	87.29	3.0	84.29	2	
H. Thompson ...	3	91.31	3.45	87.46	6	
H. Kerr ...	4	93.40	2.45	90.55	7	
B. Ingrey ...	5	93.58	14.0	79.58	1	
F. Lenderyou ...	6	96.44	5.0	91.44	8	
A. Mawford ...	7	102.10	16.0	86.10	5	
W. Shakespeare ...	8	105.31	20.0	85.31	4	
S.S.						
A. Brown ...	1	75.43	Scratch	75.43	1	
H. Gover ...	2	80.39	4.45	75.54	2	
P. Ashton ...	3	82.34	4.15	78.19	5	
W. Giles ...	4	84.16	6.45	77.31	4	
S. Dyer ...	5	86.12	10.15	75.57	3	
J. Walker ...	6	91.4	9.0	82.4	6	
W. Clampett ...	7	99.11	9.0	90.11	7	

Perhaps it even helped Percy Holmes and Archie Brown to make that extra spurt which enabled them to beat the records for the nine mile walk. Archie Brown particularly did great things, as he beat his own record. Both these lucky men won two prizes, Holmes coming in first and also being third in the handicap, and Brown being first both in S.S. scratch and handicap. Altogether a very enjoyable and successful afternoon.

PRIZE WINNERS

T.B.	S.S.
1. B. Ingrey	1. A. Brown (prize kindly presented by Miss Jackson)
2. H. Boorman	2. H. Gover.
3. P. Holmes	3. S. Dyer.

Fastest Time

1. P. Holmes	1. A. Brown
--------------	-------------

Unplaced Style Prizes

1. H. Thompson	1. W. Giles
----------------	-------------

(Prizes kindly presented by Mr. Harris and Miss Tomlins)

Novice Prize

J. Walker

(Prize kindly presented by Mr. Parsons)

Printed by
THE SHENVAL PRESS,
58 Bloomsbury St., London, W.C.1.