

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 236.—VOLUME XXII. [NEW SERIES] DECEMBER, 1937

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

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Matron

ST. DUNSTAN'S ANNEXE,
BRIGHTON.
December, 1937.

"MY VERY DEAR BOYS,

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you ; my love and a hearty shake of the hand to each one of you, your wives and children.

I cannot tell you how deeply I feel that I am still unable to be about with you all, but my sudden illness which necessitated an operation some months ago has proved more serious than was at first expected and in spite of all that can possibly be done for me, I am still gravely ill.

I want, through the medium of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW, to tell you all what a happiness and privilege it has been to me to be with you all these past twenty-one years, and how much I hope I may have been of some tiny help to you.

I am doing my best to get better, but I want you to remember that you will always be in my prayers, heart and thoughts.

God bless you all,

Ever your affectionate old
MATRON."

Miss Thellusson wrote this letter the day before she died. She would, I know, wish it to be published.

As her illness went on she must have known that the chances of recovery were becoming less, and her courage and fortitude during the last few weeks were in line with the splendid qualities she had shown during her life. Every St. Dunstaner will feel the poignancy and sympathy of this message written just before the end, and will wish it had been possible for an answer to have been sent. Miss Thellusson was part of St. Dunstan's, and particularly of the St. Dunstan's spirit ; thus will she be remembered. Her life illustrated better than that of anyone I have known the devoted service given by women in the healing of the spiritual and physical wounds of war. She brought to her work at St. Dunstan's rare gifts of leadership and love; two thousand British blinded soldiers are the better and happier for her life.

New Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Pensions Act

In the Christmas REVIEW last year I mentioned that we were working to get the Government to do something for the widows of those blinded soldiers who were not insured. Later I explained what was coming along. Now the Act of Parliament has been passed, and on January 1st, 1938, the scheme begins.

Practically every St. Dunstaner who is not fifty-five years of age, and who is not already insured for his widow, can come in the new Scheme. The benefit is—the Old Age Pension of 10s. a week for the man, and of 10s. a week for his wife at the age of sixty-five, and the widow's pension of 10s. a week should the man die from any cause before that time. The scheme is a most valuable piece of social legislation for the people as a whole. But it is more than ever valuable to men of our generation because at our age we can only contribute for relatively few years and yet we get the full benefits.

I have written to every St. Dunstaner who appears to me to be eligible, but in case I have missed somebody who is not already insured for his widow, I am mentioning the matter here so that he may write to me at once.

New Travelling Concession

I am pleased to say that after negotiations extending over some years, I have been able to secure a further railway travelling concession for the blind. It only affects those who travel with a guide for business purposes, but to them it is of great value. The new concession, which came into force on December 1st, reduces the cost to the blind by about one third on each return journey.

The blind have had a railway concession for many years, but it related to the old fares. When the fares were reduced the blind concession was not applied to the new fares. Now the railway companies have generously improved the concession, and any blind person who has to travel with a guide for business purposes can get two tickets for the one ordinary fare.

A good many blind people travel alone and I personally think they are much to be congratulated upon and praised for their independence and pluck, but the railway companies have always taken the view that although there may be a physical handicap there is no financial handicap upon the blind person unless he has to travel with a guide. Unfortunately for us this is an almost unanswerable argument. While naturally we wish the concession could be extended to those who travel alone, or to include the blind man and his guide on pleasure or holiday journeys as well as on business journeys, we gladly express our very sincere thanks to the railway companies and the Railway Clearing House for the concession itself and the extension they have now made.

Christmas Greetings

My wife and I wish all our St. Dunstan's friends and their children a Happy Christmas and Good Luck in the New Year.
IAN FRASER.

Three Thousand Disabled Men at a Concert

Eighty St. Dunstaners from the London district were among the audience of three thousand disabled ex-Servicemen who were the guests of Lord Southwood and Lady Carisbrooke at the Palladium on November 23rd. Their Majesties the King and Queen were present at the Concert, which was to commemorate the Coronation.

After the performance the guests went in motor-coaches to Olympia where they were entertained to tea.

Competition Prize Winners

The standard of entries in our Coincidences Competition was so good that it has been decided to award four prizes instead of two. Ten shillings is being sent to each of the following: W. T. Monaghan, of Wallasey, J. R. Burton, of Portchester, C. G. Williams, of Hampstead, and P. S. Sumner, of Worcester.

This month's prize for the best contributed article goes to F. C. S. Hilling, of Herne Bay, whose article, "Sea Angling," was published in the October issue.

Another competition is announced on page 5.

News of St. Dunstaners

H. V. Kerr broadcast in the B.B.C.'s popular Wednesday night feature, "The World Goes By," on November 17th. His subject was "Sport and the Blind." His voice came over remarkably well.

☆ ☆ ☆

A. J. Head, of Brixton Combe, won a first prize and two special prizes for his fowls at Plymouth and District Fanciers' Association Show. One of the special prizes was a cup for the best Indian Game Bird.

☆ ☆ ☆

W. J. Lowings, of Eastleigh, gave an address and demonstration on Basket-Work to the members of the Arts and Crafts Guild last month. From the *Eastleigh Weekly News*—"Basket making as shown by Mr. Lowings is fascinating, and well merits his claim for it being an art."

☆ ☆ ☆

A. Bristow, of Bexhill-on-Sea, won two first prizes, a third (very highly commended), and was highly commended in another class at the Hastings, St. Leonards and District Cage Bird Society show. Bristow not only tends his canaries himself and prepares them for show, but also makes all his own cages.

☆ ☆ ☆

A. J. Holland, of Rushden, won second prize at a Higham Ferrers Chrysanthemum Show last month. He was also awarded a special prize for the finest bloom in the House—a white chrysanthemum measuring eleven inches each way—given by an anonymous donor.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. Sheehy, of Dover, again laid the wreath on Dover War Memorial on behalf of Major J. J. Astor, M.P., and Lady Violet Astor. At the annual general meeting of the Dover Branch of the British Legion, he was elected Vice-Chairman of the Branch. He is already Vice-Chairman of the Benevolent Committee and Vice-President of the Kent Council of the British Legion.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. H. Mason, of Bognor Regis, is Chairman of the British Legion Band, Bognor, which, thanks to untiring efforts on his part, gave a remarkably successful Concert of Remembrance at the Pavilion on November 7th.

High Honour for a St. Dunstan's Buff

T. W. Chamberlain, of Hull, has received one of the highest honours of the R.A.O.B. He has been raised to the Second Degree which enables him, subject to the Lodge's wish, to take the Chair.

Chamberlain took the Chair for the first time on the evening of December 7th, when the following telegram was sent by Sir Ian Fraser to the Secretary of his Lodge:

Hear with deep satisfaction my friend Chamberlain's promotion to the Chair. As Buffalo myself and as Chairman of St. Dunstan's, send him and my other St. Dunstan's friends and all Members of the King William Lodge best wishes. Blind people can take their place in many spheres of activity and Chamberlain's promotion is a noteworthy example. Good luck to all Buffs.
IAN FRASER.

In his reply the Secretary said:

I need hardly say that to receive your telegram was a very pleasant surprise both to Bro. Chamberlain and to the Lodge in general and it goes to show that the esteem in which we hold him is also felt for him at St. Dunstan's.

It may be of interest to you to know that the office of City Marshal is also held by a St. Dunstan's Brother, namely, Bro. W. J. Hopper, and that, thereby, our Lodge at the moment is under the control of St. Dunstan's men. I might also say that in our opinion it could not be under better control.

A War-time Story

On November 5th, 1914, I was serving with the 9th Royal Warwickshire Regiment, stationed at Freshwater, Isle of Wight. The regiment was under orders to go overseas. At 11.15 p.m., after Lights Out, four of us thought we would like a game of cards. Lighting some candles we were playing pontoon. Suddenly military police entered, and four of us were placed under arrest.

The next day we stood before the Colonel charged with having lights in the room after Lights Out, and playing cards.

The Colonel to me, I being the senior: "What have you to say, Higgins?"

"Nothing, sir."

"What were you playing?"

"Patience, sir."

"Are you sure you were not playing pontoon?"

"Positive, sir."

"Well, Corporal Higgins, pontoon is a vice, patience a virtue. Corporal Higgins, you are admonished."

J. D. HIGGINS, Brighton.

Notes from South Africa

PRETORIA is sweltering in a heat wave, for the shade temperature during the past ten days has been in the neighbourhood of 100 degrees. Our city is now at its brightest, for the jacaranda trees, for which it is famed, and which border the wide streets of the administrative capital of the Union of South Africa, are in full bloom, and present a magnificent spectacle, with their gorgeous purple foliage and the beautiful carpet underfoot, caused by the falling petals.

Yesterday, the epoch-making monoplane, piloted by Flying Officer Clouston and Mrs. Kirby Green, passed over the city, *en route* for Cape Town, and caused quite a sensation. Late in the evening I was pleased to hear of the success of the flight, the two plucky aviators having beaten Amy Johnson's record by 33½ hours.

Our Governor-General, Sir Patrick Duncan, attended the Armistice Service on Church Square, Pretoria, and delivered a stirring address to a vast concourse of people, troops and ex-servicemen. Captain Young and myself, representing St. Dunstan's, and several members of our local committee, headed by Mrs. H. P. Veale, the President, were also present. On the following evening a Grand Armistice Ball was held at which the Governor-General and Lady Duncan attended.

South African St. Dunstaners will regret to learn of the death, in London, of Mrs. R. R. Edwards, wife of Colonel R. R. Edwards, C.B.E., and a member of the Pretoria Committee. This lady rendered yeoman service to the cause of St. Dunstan's for many years, and her loss will be sadly felt.

Another loss we have sustained is by the resignation of Mrs. Kathleen Battle from the post of Honorary Organizing Secretary of the Pretoria Committee. Mrs. Battle had worked on behalf of our organization for many years, and will be hard to replace. It is hoped, however, that she will resume her former activities after she has enjoyed a well-earned rest.

Mason and Archibald, who reside at Pietermaritzburg and Gilletts, Natal, respectively, were recently visited by Mr. W. A. Mulinder, of Pretoria, who was spending a holiday in Natal. Mr. Mulin-

der served for twenty-three years in the 1st Battalion, East Kent Regiment, and Mason and Archibald were overjoyed to see him and the visit was the more welcome because visitors are very few and far between in this part of the British Dominions. Mr. Mulinder is a regular visitor to Denny, they being very old service friends, and are members of the Executive Committee of the British Empire Service League in Pretoria which, if you do not know, is affiliated with the British Legion.

I received a very cheerful letter from Mrs. Chadwick-Bates last week. This very hard-worked lady writes to all South African St. Dunstaners regularly and is kept very busy looking after the interests of our institution and our men. She has a tremendous amount of travelling to do, and it will give you some idea when you realize that when she pays her annual visit to Pretoria she spends two days and two nights on the train journey.

As these notes may or may not have the good fortune to be published in the December issue of the REVIEW, I take the opportunity of wishing all the boys, and all who look after their welfare, a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

E. DENNY,

November 17th.

Pretoria.

Letter to the Editor

DEAR SIR,

I have never favoured "slimming" and should indeed be glad to see the REVIEW put on some weight in common with many of the fair sex, who have reduced too much, but I readily appreciate that yours is the greater difficulty, for it is certainly easier to feed a girl than a magazine, and I regret that I can think of no pleasing contribution to the latter.

I should like to take this opportunity of drawing the attention of Readers, who are Catholics (Roman) to The Crusade of the Blind, which is our particular Branch of The Apostleship of Prayer. The Hon. Secretary is Miss Gaisford, of "Danefold," West Grinstead, Horsham, who would gladly write to those interested on hearing from them.

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR T. BROOKS,
Bournemouth.

FOR SALE.

BUDGERIGARS. G. Mathews has bred thirteen budgerigars this season and has some for sale, mostly blue. Price, 8s. a pair. G. Mathews, 148 Moseley Road, Bilston, Staffs.

Young St. Dunstaners

Nancy Stock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stock, of Gorsley, has been awarded a special place in the Day School of Commerce.

☆ ☆ ☆

Harold, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gunson, of Batley, has been successful in his School Certificate examination, and he is now continuing his studies in order to take the Higher Schools Certificate.

☆ ☆ ☆

Eileen Milner, who is ten, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milner, of Walton, Liverpool, has passed the Preparatory Grade Examination of the London College of Music for pianoforte playing.

☆ ☆ ☆

Elizabeth ap Rhys, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. ap Rhys, of Bangor, has been doing well in the fields of hockey and amateur theatricals. She played for Caernarvonshire County Schools against Anglesey County Schools recently when, to quote a newspaper report, "she played a constructive game and her stick work was excellent". She was again in the news when her school produced Barrie's play, *Quality Street*. She played the part of Valentine Brown and her performance was highly praised.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mary the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kidger, of Bridgnorth, has passed the subsidiary examination in preparation for the Higher Schools Certificate.

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Norah, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Selby, of Larkfield, has been awarded a special exhibition by the Governors of the Maidstone Grammar School.

☆ ☆ ☆

Irene Purvis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Purvis, of Seghill, was married to Mr. James Smith on June 26th at Worthing.

☆ ☆ ☆

Eighteen year old Joan Smith, who is the daughter of Mr. W. Alan Smith (a St. Dunstan's officer) and Mrs. Alan Smith, of Mareham-le-Fen, has won a miniature rifle shooting cup from forty male competitors.

Joan, who shoots with an old service rifle, only took up shooting two years ago and is now a member of Mareham Rifle Club. Her ambition is to shoot at Bisley. A photograph of Joan and an account of her success appeared in the *Daily Mirror*.

☆ ☆ ☆

Godwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Taylor, of Lye, Stourbridge, has passed his Cambridge Schools Certificate examination with five credits and is entering the teaching profession. His brother, Desmond, has passed an entrance examination for the Day School of Commerce, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

☆ ☆ ☆

Betty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton, of Canterbury, has secured high awards at her school for practical embroidery, although she was entered for higher year examinations. She also won second class certificates for design and nature drawing, in spite of the fact that she had had no instruction in these subjects. Carlton's other daughter, Mary, who is eleven, has passed and gained honours in three examinations of the Royal Drawing Society, and was awarded the Society's first prize in Class I.

☆ ☆ ☆

Margaret Tootell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Tootell, was one of her school team of dancers which won the cup at the Blackpool Festival.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bulley, of Romsey, who celebrated their silver wedding on November 23rd; to Mr. and Mrs. Fox, of Hanley (a St. Dunstaner in training), whose anniversary fell on February 18th of this year; to Mr. and Mrs. Dykes, of Cudworth, near Barnsley, who will celebrate their silver wedding on Christmas Day, and to Mr. and Mrs. Swindell, of New Lenton, whose anniversary occurred in September of last year but has only just been brought to our notice.

Competition

Do you remember your last Christmas in the firing line? If you do, send us a line about it. A prize of ten shillings will be given to the sender of the most interesting account. Closing date, January 10th, 1938.

Does your Talking Book Machine gabble?

Quite a few of our readers seem to be under the impression that our artists read at a very rapid rate. This complaint usually follows the reader having used American Talking Book records. The American record should be run at 33 revolutions per minute, and our records at 24 r.p.m. The artists, in each case, read at much the same speed, and if, when your machine is slowed to the utmost, the reading is still fast, your machine is out of adjustment.

Correct adjustment is comparatively easy, and can be done by anyone with two screw-drivers and a mechanical turn of mind. Remove the circlip from the turntable spindle and lift off turntable, set speed control lever to the extreme right of its travel, release locking screw (the one working in the slot 2 inches from the control lever spindle) and by means of the screw-driver hold this spindle still and move lever, say $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, to the left. Tighten up locking screw and replace turntable and circlip. This should put the matter right.

NOTE—All adjustments should be made after the machine has warmed up for at least half an hour.

L. S. PINDER,
Chief Recording Engineer.

A Talking Book Review

WITHOUT doubt, one of the most outstanding of newspaper correspondents was Philip Gibbs, not only for his vivid war correspondence and his advocacy of peace, but also for his books.

Sir Philip became a journalist and served on the *Daily Mail*, *The Tribune*, about which he wrote *The Street of Adventure*, and the *Daily Chronicle*. He was special correspondent to the Bulgarian army in 1912, and was a war correspondent in France during the Great War. His numerous writings included *The Soul of the War*, 1915, *Realities of War*, 1920, *Ten Years After*, 1924, *The Cross of Peace*, 1932, and *Blood Relations*, which has been recorded for the Talking Book Library.

This story opens with the Count Paul von Arnberg, a young Bavarian nobleman, going to Oxford University for further advancement in his education.

This event happens in the summer of 1912, when all the world was at peace. Von Arnberg becomes very friendly with Edward Middleton. During the vacation Middleton invites his German heel-clicking friend to his people's place in Chiddingfold. Middleton's sister, Audrey, is enraptured with the young Count. It is not necessary to dwell here upon subsequent happenings, but Audrey becomes the Countess Paul von Arnberg, and leaves England for Gamish in the Bavarian Alps. Then the war comes and Paul joins his Bavarian Regiment seeing service at Messines and finally he is captured at Thiepval. The final phase of this book deals with the post-war period under Ebert until the rise of Adolf Hitler.

The position of an English wife living in Berlin, and her visits to the Templehoff Military Hospital, the pro-British ideas of a German Count brought upon to believe in *welt kultur*, the beliefs that England forced the war upon Germany, Gustav Stresemann's efforts to bring about a better understanding with the people of Europe, clearly define the real purpose of this enthralling book.

From the standpoint of promoting friendly relations with our late adversaries, this Talking Book should be listened to by every St. Dunstanian.

A word in praise of the reader, Mr. Lionel Gamlin. His diction, expression and mimicry are of the highest possible standard, for which one can only say, thank you. "BOOKWORM."

The King's Birthday

ST. DUNSTAN'S WISHES.

Below are copies of telegrams sent to and received from His Majesty The King:

December 14th.

"His Majesty The King, Buckingham Palace, S.W.

On behalf of British blinded soldiers, sailors, and airmen and of the Council of St. Dunstan's I express to Your Majesty our loyal greetings and best wishes for Many Happy Returns of the Day.

IAN FRASER."

"Sir Ian Fraser, Chairman, St. Dunstan's, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

Please convey the King's sincere thanks to all those associated with you in your kind message of congratulations on His Majesty's Birthday.

ALEXANDER HARDINGE."

Holiday Camp Fund Draw

A DRAW for Camp Funds has been arranged to meet a slight deficit on last camp and to collect some funds towards the next. The expense of transport and erection of a large camp for a week is fairly heavy—campers' fees pay most of the expenses but a fund is annually collected for help with long distance fares and to pay for all amusements. The prizes were all presented by campers, and the tickets have also been sold by them.

Perhaps though late in the day a word about this year's camp would not be out of place here.

How lovely to think of camping. I wish I could wake up to-morrow to find the winter over and the next camp about to start. The camp site this year was a new one, but very near the site we had in 1924-25—Clopton Farm, Birmingham Road, Stratford-on-Avon, lent by Mr. Henson, who was most helpful in every way. The party in camp was a large one, about fifty in all.

It was a great meeting of old friends. This short account would not be complete if we did not record the fact that we all put on weight during the week owing to the splendid caterer and cook from the R.A.F. depot. Never have we had such food. We ate twice as much as usual because it was so good; hence the necessity for the draw! But the caterer must not take that too seriously.

A.O.S.

DRAW.

1st, Ticket No. 20; Mr. H. Cox, 21 Well Lane, Rothwell, Northants. Collector, J. Gimber. Prize, Electric lamp; presented by W. Birchall.

2nd, Ticket No. 666; Miss D. M. Hoare, St Margaret's House, 21 Old Ford Road, E.2. Collector, Miss D. M. Hoare. Prize, a door-mat; presented by J. Gimber.

3rd, Ticket No. 838; Mr. H. W. Byford, 111 Booth Road, Colindale, N.W.9. Collector, D. Deacon. Prize, a tray; presented by J. Dennick.

4th, Ticket No. 351; Mr. R. S. Cooling, 179 Northfield Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham. Collector, Miss Chadwick. Prize, a twenty-one piece tea set.

5th, Ticket No. 21; Mr. J. A. Evans, 66 Eastcote Road, Ruislip, Middlesex. Collector, P. Ashton. Prize, a chicken; presented by P. Holmes.

6th, Ticket No. 184; Mrs. Harris, Coach Hill, Titchfield. Collector, Mrs. Remish. Prize, box of chocolates; presented by W. Shakespeare.

National Laying Test

Report for the first period of four weeks, October 4th to 31st, 1937.

Position	Name	Test score	value
1	Campbell, J.	...	123
2	Fisher, T. M.	...	88
3	Powell, G.	...	83
4	Hammett, H. A.	...	78
5	Brown, M. Watson	...	73
6	Knopp, H. A.	...	66
7	Roberts, Harry	...	64
8	Jarvis, Albert	...	64
9	Carpenter, E. H.	...	64
10	Holmes, Percy	...	63
11	Smith, W. Alan	...	61
12	Holmes, Percy	...	61
13	Jackson, G. C.	...	60
14	Capper, A. H.	...	59
15	Gwyn, A. Ivor	...	55
16	Hamilton, B.	...	52
17	Hamilton, B.	...	44
18	McLaren, D.	...	43
19	Smith, W. Alan	...	41
20	Fisher, T. M.	...	40
21	Chaffin, Albert	...	30
22	Stock, C. H.	...	29
23	Hill, R. E.	...	29
24	McIntosh, Charles	...	25
25	Capper, A. H.	...	18
26	Brown, C. H.	...	18
27	Webb, W....	...	16
—	Woodcock, W. J.	...	—
—	McLaren, David	...	—

A Holiday Memory

IN September I spent a few days' holiday as the guest of a great friend of mine and on the 15th I received a written invitation from Messrs. J. Lyons & Co. to visit their factory at Greenford.

Arriving next morning with my escort, we were met at the main gate of this very modern factory, with its beautiful gardens and large grounds, by a charming lady guide. She was very anxious that we should see every thing of interest. First she showed us the medical, rest and dining rooms, then we were taken to the cocoa department where everything was explained to us down to the last detail. We were then invited to rest and take light refreshments, after which we resumed our tour round the tea department. On leaving, I was asked to sign the visitors' book, and given a souvenir. It was a most enjoyable morning. The following day I visited the Tower of London, and I finished a splendid holiday with a trip down the Thames on the *Royal Daffodil*.
R. BIGGADIKE.

Royal Invitations

REPORTS of Royal presentations in recent REVIEWS have prompted J. Spinks, of Ashton-under-Lyne, to mention his experiences. In a letter to Sir Ian he writes:

In March, 1916, I had the honour of being entertained at the invitation of King George V at Buckingham Palace. I have been to Westminster Abbey and had tea at the invitation of the Dean of the Abbey, and I have had tea at Marlborough House when the late Queen Alexandra was in residence there. On this occasion, only two of us went.

It is my proud boast that not one person out of every twenty million has had the privilege of being entertained at these three Royal and historical places. I still retain the late King George's official invitation to Buckingham Palace.

"The Man with the Magic Hands"

Under this title a full-page article by Harry Cook, who is masseur to Everton F.C., appeared in the *Topical Times* of November 27th. We feel sure that St. Dunstaners will be interested in the following extracts from it:

Before the war I played amateur inside forward for Clitheroe. My ambition was to play for Everton, but the loss of my sight wrecked these ideas. Even so, not many years passed before I "signed" for Everton.

From Egypt I returned to England and entered that wonderful institution, St. Dunstan's.

I studied and passed exams in London. I went to Liverpool University.

Fifteen years ago Sir Robert Jones, famous bone specialist, recommended me to the Everton club for a job as masseur. I was appointed.

Since then I've massaged thousands of legs. No two have been alike.

I don't have to wait for the voice to know who is my "patient" on the massage table. Small peculiarities in the limb tell me his identity at once.

A slight thickness about the ankle tells me that "Dixie" Dean is on the table. Charlie Gee has two scars on one knee where cartilages were removed. Tom Lawton has a longer tibia shin-bone than any of his clubmates. Joe Mercer has a slight curve in his shin-bone. Albert Geldard—very hairy legs.

I can "spot" a player by the shape of his arch or the position of a small corn.

I enjoy football as much now as when I could see. Of the hundreds of games I've "watched," the one which gave me my biggest thrill was at Wembley when Everton beat Manchester City for the F.A. Cup.

I spent a few days before the big match with the players in their special training quarters at Dorking.

I was smitten with a bad attack of cup-tie fever, and could think of little else but the oncoming game.

If the players had similar feelings they didn't show them. Most of them showed they were cooler than cucumbers by the calm way they chatted to me of almost everything but football.

Two in particular showed iron control—I massaged both on the night before the match, and though I had a job to keep my hands steady the pair were as cool as if they had a "date" at a garden party the next day.

During the game I sat in the stand with Charlie Gee, who was injured at the time.

One reason why I still get a kick when I think of this game is that Charlie rattled off a running commentary in a crisp, clear style which wouldn't disgrace any radio commentator.

Footballers are tough. When injured they often show amazing guts in their fight to regain fitness. The best example of this while I've been at Goodison concerns Charlie Gee.

A few years ago Charlie suffered a severe knee twist. He consulted leading bone specialists. Doctors diagnosed a chronic condition of the knee, and told Charlie that his days as a footballer were numbered.

One specialist, however, said there was just a chance. This doctor removed two cartilages from Charlie's knee at one operation. Charlie was then handed over to my care.

It was the worst knee I have ever handled. For weeks I spent hours daily massaging the knee at my own electrically-equipped clinic. The knee refused to bend. I began to think that Charlie would never be able to bend the limb again.

I persevered. So did Charlie. "I'll show 'em whether I'm finished or not!" he used to say to me as I tried to get the joint working properly.

Suddenly the knee started to respond to treatment. The recovery was now so rapid that thirteen weeks after the cartilage operation Charlie was playing in the first team again, with the knee as strong as ever. And he was capped for England after that.

More Coincidences

Here is a further selection from the numerous entries in our Coincidences Competition. The prizewinners are given on page 2.

When my regiment, the 1st K.O.S.Brs., left Colchester for Egypt in December, 1906, we left behind a certain Sergeant Sandy Muir and his family, one of them a little, red-haired boy that I often used to see about the barracks. Sergeant Muir was at that time, master tailor to the regiment. He was getting on towards pension time, and instead of going abroad with the battalion he was to proceed to the depot of the regiment at Berwick-on-Tweed to finish his time, while we were setting forth on a long tour of foreign service. It was almost a hundred to one chance that we should never see each other again.

However, fate plays many strange pranks with our lives, and although it was not until late in 1915 or early in '16, we did meet again. One day when I was returning to St. Dunstan's about the time stated, I was hailed by someone, and who should it be but my old friend, Sergeant

Think of it!

SOME people go to theatres, sports, and for motor drives, because they like to see these things, and the countryside. Other people go to the music hall and the pier for what they can hear. They like seeing and hearing what they like, but if you cannot hear or see, you can't choose either. You can, of course, choose to read braille, but there are times when even braille does not appeal to you.

Why not *think* of what you like. What is more private and independent than your own thoughts as a means of amusement or pastime? Look at the millions of subjects you can think over. There are the great *thinkers*. There was Volk known in Brighton as the "Dreamer", but he laid and ran the first electric railway in Great Britain. This runs along the Brighton front from the Palace Pier to the Black Rock. How many St. Dunstaners knew that? And strangely enough, Brighton claims to be the first town linked with London on a main trunk electric line.

There was Gillette, who was laughed at because he sat and thought so much and talked very little, but he gave the world the safety razor.

And they called him Folly Fulton, and his boat Fulton's Folly, but they cheered as it paddled up the river—the first successful steamboat.

Of course, you must think of what you like to think. Maybe, you'd rather sit, smoke and think of Vesta Tilly and Little Tich, Marie Lloyd and Eugene Stratton. See and hear them all over again. Or you might be climbing hills and looking down again upon the huge valley and the glorious sunset.

On the other hand, there might be something you'd like to make, but you just don't happen to know how to start and which way would be best. Sit and think it out. If others can solve their everyday problems with an active mind, why not you?

Everything cannot be seen, everything cannot be heard, everything cannot be held or touched, but everything can be thought of—think of it!

G. FALLOWFIELD.

Muir, who had just come up to Headquarters to see his son, that same little boy whom I last saw in 1906, now Sergeant Jock Muir, who in addition to the loss of his sight, had also the very bad luck to lose a leg.

☆ ☆ ☆

During the early months of 1914 I had enrolled my name on the books of St. Mark's College, Chelsea, and was due to enter upon residence in the following September. By September 12th the war fever had caught me and I joined the 7th Lincolns, quitting the teaching post in which I was filling up the time pending entrance. The College authorities promised to keep my place open.

Time passed, and the new kind of life turned my thoughts away from teaching, with the result that St. Mark's occupied no place in my plans for the future; anything would be more adventurous than a lifetime spent with boys and books.

However, stand-to on the morning of December 10th, 1915, found me in the waterlogged and crumbling trenches known as XIA in the Salient; a German marksman got me with a bullet across the face, and the forlorn landscape was blotted out. This reduced me to the horizontal for a fortnight, and started me on my journey home via hospital at Boulogne to Dover and London, where my stretcher was finally dumped on Christmas Eve, 1915 at St. Mark's College, Chelsea, which had been commandeered as a hospital under the style of No. 2 London General.

I am not more than usually superstitious, but this was enough to bring me back to the fold. One of my first bedside visitors was Principal Hudson, and when the College resumed its normal guise in 1919, I was able to complete my training there, and have been teaching ever since.

P. S. SUMNER.

Worcester.

☆ ☆ ☆

I was at St Dunstan's (at the house) in 1916. One day I was in the lounge talking to one of our men when to our great surprise we found we used to attend the same school as boys together. Up to that time we had not seen or heard of each other for twenty-five years. It was a real reunion. We were never parted the whole six months we were in training. We both took up poultry and mat making. We still keep in touch with one another by letter and at times a visit. He is H. Hurst, of Great Longstone, Morecambe.

THOMAS THORPE.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. B. Wheeler, of Birmingham, sends us an interesting souvenir of his war-time experiences. He had come from the firing line for a rest, and for a month was billeted in a monastery at Mouscron. A week before the Armistice a concert was given for our men, and Wheeler has sent us the programme of that concert. Of thirteen items, two songs are given in English—"Because," and "I know of two bright eyes."

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

6 Mile Walking Handicap

This event took place on Saturday, 20th November, under ideal weather conditions and proved to be one of the best races ever held. By way of a change each man started at his handicap allowance which caused a very keen and interesting race. The finish was exciting as about a quarter of a mile covered the first ten men.

Tea was once again served by Miss Davies and her helpers, and the prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Dacre.

9 Mile Team Race

The 9 mile team race will take place from Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, on Saturday, 29th January, at 2.30 p.m. We have asked one or two of the outside clubs if they will kindly bring a team to compete against us. This, we hope, will create a new interest.

Unless we hear from you to the contrary, may we take it that you will be competing?

Tuesday Night Arrangements

On the first Tuesday in January (the 4th) there will be a dance in the lounge at Headquarters. The following Tuesday will be a Sports Meeting.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Brighton Sports Club will be on Wednesday, January 19th, at 6 p.m.

Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Service

The Memorial Service for our Founder, the late Sir Arthur Pearson, was held in the Lounge at the Brighton Home on the morning of December 9th. Lady (Arthur) Pearson, our President, Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Miss Hamar Greenwood, and Mr. Askew, were present, together with those St. Dunstaners at the Home who were able to attend. Mr. Askew read the lesson, and in an address, Sir Ian spoke of the deep affection and regard in which Sir Arthur would always be held by St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstan's men. Sir Ian also referred to the further severe loss St. Dunstan's had sustained in the death of Matron Thellusson.

Before travelling to Brighton, Sir Ian and Lady Fraser and Mr. Askew, with three St. Dunstaners—Drummer Downs, A. Craigie, and J. Edwards—visited Hampstead Cemetery where a wreath in the form of our badge was placed on Sir Arthur's grave. Sir Neville Pearson joined the party at the graveside, where Mr. Askew conducted a short service. A very beautiful wreath from St. Dunstan's telephonists was among other tributes.

Births

DUNWOODIE.—To the wife of G. Dunwoodie, of Newcastle, on November 27th, a son.

6 MILE WALKING HANDICAP.

20th November, 1937.

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Handicap Position
A.				
A. Brown ...	54.32	Scratch	54.32	2
P. Ashton ...	55.41	1.30	54.11	1
J. Jerome ...	57.55	2.0	55.55	5 Fastest Loser
H. Gover ...	60.23	2.45	57.38	9
J. Coupland ...	60.57	6.0	54.57	3
H. Giles ...	62.14	6.15	55.59	6
W. T. Scott ...	62.14	5.30	56.44	7
S. Dyer ...	62.29	5.45	56.44	8
T. Rouse... ..	63.34	8.0	55.34	4
B.				
T. ap Rhys ...	56.30	2.30	54.0	1
H. Boorman ...	60.34	3.30	57.4	5 Fastest Loser
A. Craigie ...	63.47	7.45	56.2	4
H. Kerr ...	64.0	5.30	58.30	6
A. Lenderyou ...	65.34	10.15	55.19	2
W. C. Scott ...	65.44	9.45	55.59	3
F. Rhodes ...	71.50	12.30	59.20	7

Matron Thellusson

St. Dunstaners everywhere will learn with the utmost regret of the death of Matron Thellusson. After a long illness, Matron passed away at the Brighton Home on Friday, December 3rd.

Miss Thellusson came to St. Dunstan's in 1917 as a young V.A.D. She was with us at the College and no one will ever forget her comforting presence in those days, and in particular during the difficult days of the War. To many St. Dunstan's men, their most vivid recollection of Matron will be of her great courage and cheerfulness during air raids. She would call us, grumblingly protesting, from our beds, marshal us into the cellar, and then through the anxious hours keep up our spirits with hot drinks and cheery words.

Matron's whole life was spent in selfless service for others. Her friends say that even as a child in the Isle of Man she gave early signs of that unselfish spirit, that grand sense of humour, and her wonderful gift of getting the best out of people.

Dr. Gemmell, St. Dunstan's Medical Officer, who visited Matron every day during her illness, not only in his professional capacity, but as a friend, and Mr. Fletcher, her surgeon, had nothing but the highest praise for the way in which she had borne her illness. Mr. Fletcher has said, "I consider it a privilege to have been in touch with such a woman."

Miss Thellusson loved St. Dunstan's, and she died in harness, as she wished.

The funeral took place on Monday, December 6th, at St. John the Baptist's Church, Brighton. Two hundred and fifty St. Dunstaners from the surrounding districts were there to pay their last tribute. After the service, they filed out of the church and lined each side of the

An Appreciation

MEMBERS of St. Dunstan's have learned with the deepest sorrow of the passing of Matron Thellusson, one of the noblest of the many noble characters with which our organisation has been blessed.

This lady could have led a life of ease and luxury, but Matron had a finer conception of life than self—knew that its true purpose is service, and for twenty-one years we of St. Dunstan's had a full

road. Then the coffin, covered with the Union Jack, passed slowly between them, on its way to Brighton and Preston Cemetery where many St. Dunstaners lie. It was Matron's wish that she should be buried among them.

In addition to family mourners, there were present Lady (Arthur) Pearson, President of St. Dunstan's, Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., Honorary Treasurer, Captain Sir Ian Fraser, Chairman, and Lady Fraser, Colonel Eric Ball, Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee, and Mrs. Ball, Miss Hamar Greenwood, Mr. Askew, and Miss Elsie Downing and Miss Boyd Rochfort, Miss Thellusson's personal friends and colleagues.

There were over one hundred wreaths, which included one of poppies, with the inscription, "From the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of St. Dunstan's, in affectionate remembrance of their devoted friend."

Among the other wreaths were those from Lady (Arthur) Pearson, Sir Neville Pearson, Captain Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Colonel and Mrs. Eric Ball, Miss Hamar Greenwood, the Executive Council of St. Dunstan's, Mr. and Mrs. W. Askew, the Staff at St. Dunstan's Headquarters, the Staff of St. Dunstan's Stores, the Staff at St. Dunstan's Poultry Farm, the Social and Technical Visitors at St. Dunstan's, "Her Boys at the Brighton Annexe," Miss E. Downing, Miss Boyd Rochfort, the Brighton Sports Club of St. Dunstan's, Orderlies of St. Dunstan's Annexe, Staff of the Brighton Appeals Office and Mrs. Boyd, Brighton, Hove and District Grocers' Association, St. Dunstan's Outing Committee, Brighton, Hove, and Southdown Transport Co., "Mrs. N. S. Macauley and her Irish boys," Mrs. E. M. Chadwick Bates, the Rev. and Mrs. Eyton Jones.

measure of that service. Her knowledge and understanding of human nature was such that she would err on the side of the transgressor to try and correct a weakness; always ready to lighten other people's burdens by taking them on her own shoulders, ever ready with a word of help, advice or encouragement for those in trouble; a friendly tap on the back for those who had a little success. How the sick-ward looked forward to her daily visits before breakfast and last thing at night, no matter what the

stress of the day (and only those closest to her knew how great that stress was at times). She was never too tired to lend a helping arm to any who needed support; to instruct the night-orderly if a man dangerously ill took a turn for the worse that she had to be called. How many of our departed comrades must have thanked God for her comforting presence as they waited to pass into the beyond? Her first and last thought was for her boys.

Each member of her staff was ready to do anything for her, secure in the knowledge they could take their trouble to her and receive a sympathetic hearing and motherly advice, and the world outside our little community held her in the same high respect and esteem.

It has been truly said that God's greatest gift to man is a good woman. We have had this gift. Now she has passed on. Ours is the greater loss, hers the gain; for if any human being possessed those golden virtues, Faith, Hope and Love, it was "Our Matron".
T.R.

To the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of St. Dunstan's:

Thank you all *ever* so much for the beautiful wreath you sent for Matron, and all your kind thoughts and sympathy. One of the last things she said was, "Give my love and blessings to all my dear boys."

With *most* grateful thanks,

Your friend,

ELSIE DOWNING.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE WILLIAM THOMAS EVANS.
(2nd Essex Regiment)

We have, with deep regret, to announce the death of W. T. Evans, of Llay.

Evans served from 1915 to 1917, but did not come to St. Dunstan's from the Star and Garter Home, Richmond, until 1926. He was always an invalid, and consequently was unable to take up any occupation. In spite of the fact that he had been in such indifferent health for many years, his death, which took place on November 18th, was unexpected.

The funeral took place at Llay Cemetery, and was attended by members of the British Legion and representatives of the Territorial Association, who acted as bearers. The Reveille and Last Post were sounded by Drum Major J. Lawlor.

A wreath was sent from London from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his relatives and to Mr. and Mrs. Phoenix, who have looked after Evans very devotedly.

GUNNER EDWIN BARNBY BARON.
(Royal Garrison Artillery)

We deeply regret to record the death of E. B. Baron, of Bridlington.

This St. Dunstaner enlisted in 1915, and after two years' service, was discharged in 1917. He did not, however, come to St. Dunstan's until 1922. It was then found impossible for him to take any training as he was a complete invalid. From that time he has suffered tremendously but with an indomitable spirit he has carried on cheerfully in spite of every thing, devotedly nursed by his wife. He had been rather worse for several weeks before his death, which occurred on November 6th, 1937.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades was sent from London, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his widow.

Baron had been a member of the Royal Prince's Parade Good Companions since their formation, and he was made an honorary member only a year ago. A representative of the Good Companions was present at the funeral. A fellow St. Dunstaner, G. Lawty, was also present.

LANCE-CORPORAL ROBERT MUNCASTER.
(Loyal North Lancashire Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of R. Muncaster, of Preston.

Muncaster enlisted in 1914, was wounded in 1918, and discharged from the army in 1919, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1925.

Trained as a boot repairer and mat maker, he was, for health reasons, unable to continue with these occupations, and was subsequently settled in a small business, which he carried on for a time. For some years now, however, he has occupied himself with a few poultry, and later found great interest in his allotment. He actually attended the Armistice Day celebrations and put in some work in his garden on the day he was taken ill. He was only in hospital for a short time and died on November 13th.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent from London, and we extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife and little daughter, Olive.