

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Queen Mary Visits St. Dunstan's

ON Monday, 27th June, Her Majesty Queen Mary paid a surprise visit to St. Dunstan's Headquarters. We were informed of the visit at such short notice that we were unable to arrange any elaborate ceremonial, but this was just what Her Majesty wanted, for she was able to see our Headquarters in its ordinary day-to-day setting.

After receiving Queen Mary we spent a few minutes in the Board Room explaining the nature of St. Dunstan's work and showing Her Majesty the full-sized pictures of the new Brighton Home which were so favourably commented on when they were exhibited in the Royal Academy.

It was a fortunate chance that a strong contingent of St. Dunstaners from all over Great Britain were passing through Headquarters on their way to Brighton. All of these were presented to Queen Mary and we felt that, in the circumstances, they most adequately represented St. Dunstaners as a whole. Their names were: T. Allen, of Durham; W. Bishop, of Harrogate; J. A. Bocking, of Oldham; J. W. Portman, of Salford; J. M. Branegan, of Stockton-on-Tees; A. E. Coman, of Hull; W. Jones, of Kidderminster; T. Kent, of Chelmsford; H. E. Lane, of King's Lynn; T. McCann, of Kirby Cross; S. F. Prideaux, of West Wickham; J. Ryan, of Newton-le-Willows; E. C. Slaughter, of London; C. V. Smith, of Desford; E. L. Woods, of Malmesbury; and G. Gibbs, of London.

Lady (Arthur) Pearson, our President, was unable to be present to welcome Her Majesty, on account of the suddenness of the visit, but happily, Sir Neville Pearson was able to represent her, and Miss Hamar Greenwood, Major Ormond, Colonel Bickerton and Mr. Askew, represented the Council, Medical Committees and staff.

A visit to the Secretarial office led to explanations of our welfare work and of the close and personal contact between St. Dunstan's and every blinded soldier. Queen Mary was much interested in our files relating to our men's affairs and commented on the detailed care with which they were kept.

A visit was paid later to the Appeals Department, where Her Majesty gained some idea of the widespread nature of our organization.

A visit to the telephone switchboard, a demonstration and explanation of the Talking Book, were included in the tour and, after tea in the Chairman's Office, Her Majesty left, the whole staff and men lining the courtyard and giving her a rousing cheer.

I print below a letter I received and my reply. I feel sure that all St. Dunstaners throughout the Empire will echo the sentiments I tried to express when I said that the honour done to those of us who happened to be at St. Dunstan's will be felt and enjoyed by all.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, S.W.1.
28th June, 1938.

DEAR SIR IAN,

I have received Queen Mary's commands to tell you with what pleasure Her Majesty visited St. Dunstan's yesterday afternoon.

Queen Mary was very interested in everything she was shown, and hopes that her visit, taken at such short notice, was not inconvenient to Lady Fraser and yourself.

Her Majesty was greatly struck by the beautiful Club Room (the Lounge at Headquarters), which has been arranged for the comfort of the men, and was also much impressed by the book records.

I am, at the same time, to forward you a cheque for £5, and Queen Mary would like you to give one of these talking books to a patient whom you may select. Perhaps you would be good enough to return the accompanying receipt form.

Yours sincerely,
GERALD CHICHESTER.

ST. DUNSTAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
29th June, 1938.

DEAR SIR GERALD,

Thank you for your letter of 28th June, and for the cheque for £5. I enclose your receipt and an official St. Dunstan's receipt.

Will you please tell Her Majesty Queen Mary how very much all who were at St. Dunstan's Headquarters appreciated her visit. The blinded men who had the honour to be presented would like me particularly to thank Her Majesty for her kindness, and I know that the rest of our two thousand blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen throughout the Empire will feel that they, through St. Dunstan's, have shared the honour.

We are all very touched by Her Majesty's spontaneous kindness in sending a cheque to purchase a Talking Book machine for one of our men. I will choose a suitable case during the next few weeks and will venture to let you know who he is. Will you please offer our most grateful thanks to Her Majesty for her generous thought.

Yours sincerely,
IAN FRASER.

THE HON. SIR GERALD CHICHESTER, K.C.V.O.,
MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, S.W.1.

M.B.E. for Australian St. Dunstaner

IN the Birthday Honours, among the names of those who were awarded the honour of Member of the Order of the British Empire (M.B.E.), appeared the following:—
GLEW: ELMER RENNIE HARRIS, Esq. For services to blinded ex-Service men in the Commonwealth of Australia.

All St. Dunstaners will join in offering hearty congratulations to our Australian comrade. Elmer Glew has given years of devoted service to ex-Service men, and his untiring efforts since the very early days of St. Dunstan's have been responsible for keeping together blinded soldiers in Victoria and other states. We wish him, and all our Australian friends, good luck.

Staff Changes at Brighton

THE old Brighton Home will close down at the end of August as usual. The new Brighton Home will open in the middle of October. As there is no REVIEW in August this would seem to be the right time to notify various appointments and resignations which have taken place over the past few weeks or will take place shortly.

We are, unfortunately, losing the services of Dr. Gemmell, Miss Downing, Miss A. Baker (the Medical Sister) and two of our V.A.D.'s, Miss Vivian Baker and Miss Wildey.

Dr. J. S. B. Forbes has been appointed Commandant and Medical Officer; Miss Boyd Rochfort, as Matron, and the rest of our splendid staff will all transfer to the new Home, and will be joined by some new Sisters and V.A.D.'s.

Age, illness, private considerations and family matters account for the resignations. Whatever the cause, all our men would, I know, wish me to place on record our sincere and deep appreciation of the services that have been rendered by these good friends of St. Dunstan's.

Dr. Gemmell was Medical Officer to hundreds of our men for fifteen years. His skill as a physician and his understanding and sympathy contributed much towards our men's welfare. Headquarters could always rely upon his wise advice, and to all he was a friend as well as their Doctor.

Miss Downing will have completed over twenty years service with St. Dunstan's at the College, the Ikley and North Berwick Annexes, and at Brighton. In all these spheres she will be remembered with affection. Sister Baker, Sister Vivian and Miss Wildey have also served St. Dunstaners admirably for twelve or thirteen years. All these ladies, in their long periods of devoted work, must have befriended practically every blinded soldier under the care of St. Dunstan's, and I am sure I am speaking for all when I offer them our most sincere thanks and wish them all possible happiness and good luck in their retirement.

St. Dunstaners who have been at Brighton during the past few weeks will have met Dr. J. S. B. Forbes, the new Commandant. He is a man about our own age, who retired recently from the Royal Army Medical Corps, where he had had twenty years' experience as doctor and administrator. He has been doing the medical work for some weeks, and is gradually taking over his full duties as Commandant. From all I hear, he is most popular with the men and has gained their confidence in medical and other matters. He has a most excellent record and we hope and believe that he will be happy in his work and render most valuable service to our organization.

Dr. Forbes is a member of the Welfare Committee, and comes to London every week to attend it, when he brings with him any matters that have been raised by men who happen at the time to be in the Brighton Home. Although new to St. Dunstan's he is proving so useful in this capacity that we think it will be unnecessary for us to transfer Mr. Banks from Headquarters for this purpose. We are very glad of this, for we need Mr. Banks at Headquarters because of his great knowledge of welfare work.

IAN FRASER

Reunions

WITH the Southsea and Colchester meetings, the 1938 reunions came to an end. Captain Sir Ian Fraser presided at the first on June 14th, and here Matron Boyd Rochfort was the guest of honour. Dr. Forbes, the newly appointed Commandant at Brighton, was another guest at this meeting, but everyone missed Lady Fraser who was unable to be present owing to another engagement in connection with the Brighton Home.

At Colchester, three days later, Colonel Eric Ball, senior member of our Council and Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee, presided. Colonel Ball described his many years of association with St. Dunstan's and gave interesting details about the new Home.

At Southsea and Colchester, as at all the other Southern Area meetings, Mr. Ottaway was present, with his usual cheery word of greeting for each man, while Mr. Banks represented the Welfare Department at every Northern meeting.

Railway Travelling Undertaken for Business Purposes

ST. DUNSTAN'S men travelling with an attendant for business purposes at the price of one fare, have hitherto had to make application to the Ministry of Pensions for the necessary voucher for production at the booking office.

The Railway Clearing House have now authorised St. Dunstan's to issue these vouchers as well as the Ministry of Pensions.

Application can accordingly be made to Mr. Askew at Headquarters for vouchers. All applications should state the reason for the business journey, the destination and departure stations, and the date on which the journey is to be made.

Applications should reach Mr. Askew at least 48 hours before a contemplated journey.

Notes from South Africa

DERBY Week in Pretoria has been a most wonderful week in more ways than one. Firstly because of the excitement occasioned by the great race itself and secondly by the visit of our great friend and counsellor, Mrs. Chadwick-Bates, O.B.E.

St. Dunstaners at home will hardly realize that we in South Africa take as much interest in English racing as themselves. Yet it is nevertheless a fact that the interest taken in South Africa is every bit as keen as that shown in England. On the great day we get the broadcast commentary of the race just as clear as it is heard in Brighton or London, and have the result before many, who are present on the Epsom racecourse, hear it. I was disappointed at the non-success of the St. Dunstan's stable in the Derby, but its two successes later in the week made up for any disappointment I may have felt.

Now a word about the second great event, mentioned above. Every St. Dunstaner will remember Mrs. Chadwick-Bates, that wonderful lady who has devoted so many years of her life in our service, for she has been with St. Dunstan's ever since its inception in 1915. She still remembers all the old boys, and when she was in Pretoria last week she was inquiring about those of you I had met during my recent visit to England. It is really wonderful the amount of work Mrs. Bates manages to get through in the course of a year, and the many thousands of miles she travels, for it must be remembered that she visits each St. Dunstaner out here once a year, and this in itself is a gigantic task. Moreover, she is often travelling from town to town organizing street collections, and when she visited Pretoria last week she had just completed a wonderfully successful effort in this connection in Johannesburg. She is adored, not only by St. Dunstaners out here but by everyone with whom she comes in contact, for her wonderful charm and tact. St. Dunstaners all over the British Empire owe her a debt of gratitude, for it should be remembered that the results of her efforts are divided between South Africa and England.

A reception was held in her honour in Pretoria on Derby Day, which was attended by about two hundred of the leading citizens, including Mesdames H. P.

Veale and M. G. Nicolson, President and Vice-President respectively of the Pretoria Committee, and Lady Wessels, who is also a Vice-President. The Mayoress of Pretoria was also present. The address delivered by Mrs. Bates was listened to with great interest and the gathering was very much impressed, so much so, that several new names were added to the committee during the afternoon. Tea was served and a very enjoyable musical programme followed. In the evening, the writer and Mrs. Denny had the honour of dining with Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Young, wife of Captain Young, who was indisposed, forming one of the party. And so ended Derby Day, 1938. I missed the broadcast of the great race, but the visit of Mrs. Chadwick-Bates more than made up for it.

St. Dunstaners in South Africa have suffered another great loss by the death of Miss A. Whiteman, R.R.C., who died in Pretoria during May. This lady did yeoman service for St. Dunstan's for many years. Prior to her retirement in 1932 she was for twenty-five years Matron of the Leper Asylum, Pretoria. Over five hundred persons attended her funeral.

Once again I bid you all farewell and send my best wishes to all the boys and members of the staff. Oh, for a quick one at the "Barley Mow"! E. DENNY

A Slotted Spade

CAPTAIN G. FARRANT, of Felton, Somerset, who is a disabled ex-Service man, has brought to our notice a special slotted spade which he has invented which is of particular use to disabled gardeners. He claims that it considerably lightens the work of digging, the slots being so arranged that clogging is reduced to an absolute minimum. It contains less metal than the old solid spade and is therefore always light in the hand.

Two St. Dunstaners, J. Hughes, of Sandarstead, and W. H. Wright, of Verwood, Dorset, have tried out the spade and highly recommended it. Wright says: "I have put it to different tests—light soil, heavy loam, and sod—and it is satisfactory to all tests. I prefer it to the ordinary spade for its lightness and non-clogging in wet soil."

The spade, which has an all-bright blade in a solid steel socket, is 10s. 6d. (T handle) or 11s. 6d. (rivetted D handle). Treads 1s. extra.

Brighton News

IT seemed that all who could possibly get down for the last Whitsuntide holiday at the old Home did so, with the result that there were many reunions of old and almost forgotten friends. "Week-ender" hit the nail on the head when he made the spirit say, "There are those who never come; that is their loss," for where on earth is one more likely to run across an old acquaintance, or the chance of a game of cards, or of tripping the light fantastic, and perhaps assisting at one of those enjoyable concerts which reach such a high standard whenever the artists are drawn from our own boys?

But those who were lucky enough to get down were fortunate in more ways than one, for the weather was both sunny and invigorating, so that all the entertainment was not indoors. There were long walks over the Downs, a sea bathe for a few hardy ones, whilst many took the opportunity of paying a visit to the new Home.

The Seven Kings Cheerful Sparrows in their flight south alighted at our annexe with the fruits of their winter's harvest, which provided the necessary to take our boys for a couple of circular drives round the country to High Salvington, a typical English country village, tucked away in the folds of the Downs. With the fresh clean breeze blowing about I fell to thinking—if only some of the so-called ideologists who hold the destinies of nations in their hands could find a spot like this and do a little quiet thinking, they might be persuaded to scrap their old ideas and realize that the peace they talk so much about will only be achieved when there is an economic system which is compatible with true Christian principles.

What a dream to be awakened from and brought back to realities by the sound of the machine which was to whirl us back to that world of noise and speed just over the hill! Anyway, thanks once again, Seven Kings, "for the memory."



Her Majesty Queen Mary paid a surprise visit to St. Dunstan's Headquarters on Monday, June 27th. A number of St. Dunstaners from all over the country who were passing through on their way to Brighton were presented. Queen Mary is seen looking closely at a St. Dunstaner's badge, in the Lounge at Headquarters.

Letters to the Editor

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR EDITOR,

Thank you for your kind reference to me in your April issue. You were quite right in stating that my many interests on behalf of one section of the community or another, keep me fairly well occupied, and my St. Dunstan's friends will be glad to know that my health appears to be as good as ever, permitting me to make full use of my opportunities.

In the same issue the suggestion was made that information regarding ex-members of the staff, particularly those of early days, would be of interest to readers of the Review.

Well, perhaps, everybody will like to know that the greenhouse presented to me five years ago has given me unbounded pleasure both in propagating and later enjoying the results. And may I say to those who enjoyed the joke, it is still a "Whitehouse greenhouse painted green."

Year after year I have been particularly lucky with schyzanthus, and frequently people in the neighbourhood have requested to be allowed to come in and see the wonderful show of blooms. Azaleas, too, seem to thrive, also ferns—particularly the maidenhair variety. Cineraria do well, but they are inclined to become "lousy" in a general greenhouse, and therefore they cause a bit of trouble. primulas, gloxinias and begonias always excel themselves. All this without any heat beyond the sun.

Of course I cannot mention everything, but I think I have said enough to show "the boys" that their present has been put to good and successful use, and that I possess a constant pleasant and useful reminder of their regard for me. I frequently hear from some of them, and recently I had the good luck to attend the re-unions at Bristol and Newbury.

Yours faithfully,

E. KESSELL.

20 Geneva Road,

Kingston-on-Thames.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

It was pleasing to read in the recent issue of the REVIEW that one of the boys was desirous of learning something of the movements and activities of some of the Staff since their retirement.

Many of the men I used to visit, I feel sure, would like to hear *something* of what I have done since my enforced retirement.

At first I did not feel like taking up anything else, but eventually I joined a technical class organized by the local society for the blind and was able to be of some service.

These classes were held during the autumn, winter and spring, and during the summer, outing parties were organized; we went for rambles in the country, or paid visits to some of the factories and works in the district.

I carried on with these classes for two or three years, and then the Secretary of the local society recommended me to the Liverpool Headquarters of the British Legion, who were anxious to have one of their men trained, as his sight had become so impaired that he could

no longer carry on with his trade as a motor mechanic. I was able to give him instruction in basket-making, re-seating of chairs in cane and sea-grass, and the results were very satisfactory. This man had reached the age of forty-five, but he had wonderful initiative, which made the work much easier and very pleasant.

For the benefit of those St. Dunstaners who are members of the R.A.O.B., I would like to say I am still keeping up my interest in the order, and I obtained my K.O.M. in March, 1937; I am therefore on my way for my R.O.H. I hope to be spared long after that, for the honour is a long way off yet.

Though I keep in touch with a number of my old boys by correspondence, it will be realized how impossible it is for me to keep up a regular contact with *all* of them, as my original list contained more than a hundred names. If, however, any boys care to drop me a line at any time, I can assure them they will get a reply.

Though I retired in 1932, I have not entirely severed my connections with St. Dunstan's, as I still get an invitation to the Liverpool and Manchester Re-union meetings from Headquarters. I cannot say how grateful I am for this privilege, as it gives me an opportunity of seeing many old friends that I could not otherwise see.

Yours faithfully,

H. HAY.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

On Saturday, July 2nd, Bath held its annual British Legion Parade and Fete. It was considered the biggest parade since the Branch was organised. I had the pleasure, with several comrades, to represent the Keynsham-Saltford Branch, and was given the honour of taking the lead of my branch in the march. I was the only chair case present at the Parade.

Our first halt was made at the Memorial where a poppy wreath was laid and tribute paid to fallen comrades. We then moved on to Victoria Park for the March Past, the salute being taken by Colonel Lord Strachie, J.P. After the March Past, my father was given the signal to fall out of the ranks, and when the Parade was dismissed, Lord Strachie came along to me and we had a nice chat together. Instead of wearing the old school tie, I displayed my St. Dunstan's badge. Lord Strachie said, "I see you're a St. Dunstaner." "Yes, sir, and proud of it." "Then you are being cared for. I am sorry to see you in a chair, but it is a great pity that more men like you do not turn up on these parades, because the public would realise more the evils of war and what the Legion stands for."

During the march, my 82-year-old father took control of my chair, and was congratulated on the way he stuck to his guns. He told me that a St. Dunstaner spoke to him saying he would come and have a chat with me later. This would have added more pleasure to the afternoon, but unfortunately we did not come in touch with each other. I should very much like to know, through the REVIEW who the comrade was.

Yours sincerely,

G. S. CHAPPELL.

Saltford, Bristol.

St. Dunstaners at the British Legion Conference

SIR IAN AND LADY FRASER were guests of the National Executive Council of the British Legion at their Annual Conference at Whitsun. Sir Ian had combined this visit with attendance at the Glasgow and Newcastle Reunions of St. Dunstan's.

The Chairman told the Editor that he had the opportunity of meeting the National and Local Chairmen of the Legion, as well as many friends amongst the delegates. He attaches great importance to the maintenance of the best possible relationship between St. Dunstan's and the Legion, and was glad to find great goodwill towards our organization among all whom he met.

Three St. Dunstaners were present—W. Mugeridge, hon. secretary of the Local Benevolent Committee of the Effingham and the Bookhams Branch of the Legion; John Sheehy, Vice-President of the Kent Council and Vice-Chairman of the Benevolent Committee, and Charles Durkin, Vice-President of the South-Western District, Metropolitan Area.

Mugeridge, on behalf of the Effingham and Bookhams Branch, in a most admirable speech, proposed the following resolution, which was carried without debate.

No. 25. "That this Conference views with alarm the recommendations of the Central Valuation Committee to co-relate rateable values with the existing rental values which by reason of inflated rents for small properties, discriminate unfairly against that section of the community already overburdened with taxation.

"This conference therefore requests the National Executive Council to use every effort to prevent the recommendations of the Central Valuation Committee becoming effective, in order to prevent unnecessary hardship to ex-Service men—particularly the disabled."

Do You Play Mah-Jongg?

WE have had presented to us a mah-jongg set with Braille markings. This set was cleverly designed and executed especially for the use of blinded soldiers by the staff of the Flinders Naval Dockyard, Australia.

The Editor would like to have the names of all St. Dunstaners interested in this game.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

Weston-super-Mare.—Mrs. Bull caters for Bed and Breakfast or full board. 62 Southend Road, Weston-super-Mare.

General Franco and the War Blinded

WE take the following from the *New Beacon* for June:—

Among his provisions for the war blinded and other totally disabled soldiers in his army, General Franco has provided, in a decree dated February last, for free medical and orthopaedic treatment and medical supplies for those disabled men who need them. Official supervision is to secure for the soldier in the ranks the employment of a personal servant where constant personal attendance is necessary. The servant is to receive a minimum wage of 6 pesetas (at present values about 1s. 6d.) per day, the sum to be deducted from the pensioner's salary.

Soldiers are to receive annual pensions of 6,000 pesetas (about £72. 10s.) and Generals totally disabled are to retire on double pay.

Blinded soldiers are to receive the title of Caballeros Ciegos de la Guerra (Blind Knights of the War).

Garden Topics

THIS has been such a bad season that there is not much more that I can write about this year.

Be sure to remove all dead flowers, as soon as they are over, from antirrhinum and sweet peas. This will ensure much more flower. Take off all buds from carnations, when they are small, leaving only the one at the top.

If you want large flowers on your chrysanthus, disbud to one flower on a stem as the shoots appear, but if you want sprays of flower, leave four or five buds at the top. Stake them out well and feed with liquid manure or a good fertiliser. Be sure to use the latter to instructions—do not overdo it—and leave it off when the buds begin to open. Then keep them watered if the weather is dry.

The asters I have mentioned in previous articles will want a strong two-foot stake. Tie the centre of the plant twice as it grows, letting the side flowers hang out themselves. You will spoil the effect if you tie them in.

That is all for this year. I hope my articles have been a help for some of you.

A. J. HOLLAND.

Community Swimming

BY A CORRESPONDENT

THESE are countless text books to tell us how to swim, but I have never come across one yet which teaches us how to community swim, or, in simpler language, how to bathe. Anyone who has the knack, health, courage and strength, and who has taken a few hundred lessons, can learn how to swim well enough to drown himself, but it is a much more difficult matter to learn how to bathe well. Bathing is such a very public business, especially seaside bathing, and there are countless pitfalls into which the unwary may stumble, and many metaphorical jellyfish on which even the best intentioned may inadvertently step.

I propose, therefore, to give a few hints on bathing behaviour.

In the first place, it must be firmly understood that bathing at the seaside is very different from bathing in the local baths. You don't have to stay out of the sea on Tuesday because it is ladies' day, wait until mixed bathing day on Sunday before you can go in with your wife, or go to the other end of the town on Saturday, because they are emptying it and putting clean water in. You just select your sea, and make it your own, whatever the day of the week.

Having found your sea, put on a bathing costume. You can have what is known as a "one-piece costume" or a "two-piece" one. A quiet effect, such as your old school colours, if something like yellow and red in alternate stripes is advisable, and ribbons are not being worn this year.

Hats are rarely worn. A *beret* in sponge bag material is just tolerated, but the bowler is rigidly taboo. An umbrella is useful if it is wet. On a stony beach, shoes should be worn, not pumps or patents which give the wearer rather a bizarre appearance, but that species of footwear facetiously known as "sandshoes." At most of our watering-places, the poor things live and die without having ever seen a grain of sand, but I suppose that hope springs eternal in their flimsy soles.

Thus equipped, you prance lightly into the ocean, carefully remembering not to scream when you first make contact with the water. Entering the sea during the height of the season is not nearly so easy as it sounds. Several other people have

got the same idea. Remember, however, that a bather can pass through a paddler, or even a foursome of paddlers. It is their business to give way, and, if they don't, you are perfectly entitled to immerse them in the water they are fiddling about with. It doesn't matter if they don't reappear. Paddlers were born to trouble as the spray flies upwards. Incidentally, of course, a swimmer can pass through bather, and invariably does, leaving a cloud of foam, a strong man's curse, and a heavy back-wash behind him.

Once in the sea, immerse yourself. I know it's unpleasant, but it's got to be done sometime, and it's best to get it over as soon as possible. The best way to do it is to wait until the water has reached your waist, and then to stick your head between your feet. The water will do the rest.

Some bathers have a playful habit of dashing large chunks of the ocean over each other, and then laughing merrily. Sometimes it's all right, but don't butt in on other people's merrymaking. If you throw water at a stranger, you will give him a shock, but not nearly such a shock as he will give you when he has recovered his breath.

Getting out of one's depth is a habit sometimes affected by the inexperienced. For the non-swimmer it is an exciting but undependable hobby. The first thing to do when you suddenly find that you've got water all round you, under your feet as well as everywhere else, is to scream for help like a madman. It is undignified, but safer in the long run, because treading water is much more difficult than treading the solid earth. When rescued, it is better to go to the bottom of the class, and join the paddlers.

If the sea is very full, and you want a clear space, you had better take your Alsatian with you. You will be surprised how accommodating the rest of the bathers will be. Your pet can also carry your soap, shrimping net, fishing rod, and gull rifle. If it had a hip pocket, it could be even more useful.

These hints of course are mainly for bathers. If you can swim, don't bathe. Just go round to your local baths and enjoy yourself. You'll save a return fare and avoid the risk of being trampled to death as you try to fight your way to the sea between the legions of the paddlers and the cohorts of the tanned.

National Laying Test

REPORT for the ninth period of four weeks, May 16th to June 12th, 1938.

Position	Name	Test score value
1	Campbell, J. ...	993
2	Brown, M. Watson ...	842
3	Carpenter, E. H. ...	824
4	Knopp, H. A. ...	806
5	Fisher, T. M. ...	785
6	Gwyn, A. Ivor ...	775
7	Holmes, Percy ...	771
8	Jackson, G. C. ...	758
9	Hill, R. E. ...	673
10	Jarvis, Albert ...	652
11	Hamilton, B. ...	616
12	Hammett, H. A. ...	615
13	Powell, G. ...	604
14	Smith, W. Alan ...	595
15	Chaffin, Albert ...	590
16	Woodcock, W. J. ...	581
17	Brown, C. H. ...	580
18	Roberts, Harry ...	574
19	McLaren, David ...	571
20	Capper, A. H. ...	566
21	Fisher, T. M. ...	564
22	Holmes, Percy ...	558
23	McIntosh, Charles ...	496
24	Smith, W. Alan ...	479
25	Capper, A. H. ...	454
26	Hamilton, B. ...	449
27	Webb, W. ...	430
28	McLaren, David ...	335
29	Stock, C. H. ...	320

Position of the No. 1 birds at the end of the ninth period:—

R. E. Hill	3433	W.W.	184
G. C. Jackson	3361	R.I.R.	178
D. McLaren	3379	R.I.R.	170

Brief Notes

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith, of Grassmoor, near Chesterfield, has presented them with a grandchild weighing nine pounds.

☆ ☆ ☆

The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Francis, of Morley, is doing well. Francis made her cradle himself—a really splendid piece of work.

☆ ☆ ☆

Those St. Dunstaners who knew her will regret to learn of the death of the mother of A. H. Rodgers, of Barrow-in-Furness.

?

IT was a fine afternoon, the sun shining brilliantly, and I was walking down the Strand accompanied by an orderly from the hospital.

Suddenly, to my amazement, the orderly left me and jumped on to a passing bus. I walked further on and got on to a bus (No. 33). On arrival at Hammersmith I alighted and crossed the road and tried to get on to a 666 bus. This I was unable to do, owing to the crowd.

I got on to the next bus, No. 72, and eventually arrived at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton. On alighting from the bus I was standing admiring the front of the Hospital, when I felt someone get hold of my arm: "Your tea is ready, Dykes." It was the same orderly who had left me.

I awoke with a start to find it only a dream. I had fallen asleep in the ward armchair.

Now here is the peculiar part of the affair. First, I have never been in the Strand since losing my sight; neither have I been on one of the London buses; nor had I been to Hammersmith before; nor have I seen the outside of the hospital. Secondly, on describing the affair to the others in the ward, it was found that I had given a correct description of the various places and buses, even to the description of the front of the hospital.

I have mentioned this matter to several friends and acquaintances, and all give conflicting opinions, and the question still remains: What is the explanation?

J. DYKES

Mrs. Chaplin-Hall

ALL St. Dunstaners, and in particular those who were trained at the Massage School, will be gratified to learn of the award of O.B.E. conferred upon Mrs. F. A. V. Chaplin-Hall, Secretary of the Massage Department and School of the National Institute for the Blind, in the recent Birthday Honours.

☆ ☆ ☆

A number of player-piano records have been given to St. Dunstan's. As they are twelve-inch rolls, however, they will only fit certain instruments. St. Dunstaners owning a player-piano which will take twelve-inch records are invited to write to Mr. Askew.

Young St. Dunstaners

Lawrence, the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Smith, of Leicester, has won a First Class Scholarship which should enable him to go to a secondary school in the autumn.

☆ ☆ ☆

Yvonne Pearce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, of Hendon, presented a purse to Queen Mary when Her Majesty attended the opening of an extension to Mildmay Mission Hospital, Bethnal Green.

☆ ☆ ☆

Grenville, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe, of Leeds, is now a gunner in the Royal Artillery.

☆ ☆ ☆

Pearl Yarwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Yarwood, of Wythenshaw, who already holds many trophies for dancing, came second in the girls under 14 class of the Alderley Edge Musical Festival. Pearl obtained a first class certificate for her singing.

☆ ☆ ☆

Edwin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Brooks, of Bournemouth, has passed into the Navy.

☆ ☆ ☆

Ronald, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Whitham, of Dunswell, has won a scholarship which enables him to enter Riley High School in September.

☆ ☆ ☆

Lily Sattary, whom many St. Dunstaners will remember, since she was over with Mr. and Mrs. Sattary from South Africa some two years ago, was married on April 30th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Neil Stewart, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane, of Queen's Park, has passed an examination enabling him to become a student at the Regent Street Polytechnic.

☆ ☆ ☆

Betty, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Owen, of Blaenau Festiniog, secured first place in a scripture examination held throughout the county of Merionethshire.

☆ ☆ ☆

The sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. Healey, of Bradford, are making big names for themselves as boxers. William, aged 16, has won two silver cups for the Championship of the schoolboys of East Lancs and East Cheshire for 1937, and James, aged 14, the Manchester Schoolboys' Football Champion's medal for 1938.

Edward, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Brockie, of Torphins, has won first prize for the first year in the Higher Grade at his school.

☆ ☆ ☆

Henry Chafer, the son of our St. Dunstaners, H. C. Chafer, who died some time ago, joins his ship in August after training at Hull Navigation School. He has won medals and certificates for life saving, international code, etc.

☆ ☆ ☆

Joan Corns, twin daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Corns, of Kenton, is being married on July 31st at Kenton Methodist Church, to Mr. Gilbert Bradley, of Newcastle. Joan and her sister were the first twins to be christened at St. Dunstan's Chapel, by Captain Williams, in June, 1920.

☆ ☆ ☆

Jack Clamp, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clamp, of New Bradwell, has won a certificate for violin playing in the Bedfordshire Competitive Music Festival in the section for children from eight to nine years old.

Competition Result

MOST of the entries in last month's "Word Square" competition were true word squares—the five words spelt across were exactly the same when they were read from top to bottom. It was of course much more difficult to fit in words which had not already been used. P. S. Summer, of Worcester, introduced two variations into his square and receives the prize of ten shillings. G. Nancarrow, of Newquay, and G. E. Wilkins, of Reading, however, found one variation, and five shillings is going to each of them as a special consolation prize.

Summer's square was—

B A D G E
A R E N A
D E P O T
G N O M E
E A T E R

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bolton, of Bexley Heath, who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on July 6th.

Golden Wedding

The parents of H. F. Porter, of Southampton, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on May 21st.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

General Sports Day, 1938

THE annual General Sports were held on Saturday, June 18th, on the Sports Ground in Regent's Park in weather that can only be described as ideal.

Sir Ian and Lady Fraser attended the sports in the afternoon and met and extended a welcome to St. Dunstaners and their wives.

This year we had the additional pleasure of a visit from a distinguished friend in the person of Brigadier General W. E. C. Tanner, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Chairman of St. Dunstan's South African Committee, on a visit to this country with a party of ex-servicemen. Accompanied by his son, he met, and was photographed with, the teams competing in the sports.

This year the competition for the Inter-Club Challenge Cup was different. Each member in each team was required to compete in all four events with the result that the competition was more open, and after a good fight the final placings were:—London, 11 points, first; Manchester, 7 points, second; Birmingham and Brighton tied for third place with three points each.

Once again the St. Marylebone British Legion Band played during the afternoon with a splendid programme of music and our grateful thanks are tendered to them for such an entertainment. Our thanks to Mr. Pinder whose arrangements for the amplification of announcements during the prize giving were a great help.

After an excellent tea, served indoors, prizes were presented on the lawn by General Tanner. At the conclusion, in an appropriate speech, Sir Ian thanked all helpers and staff who had made such a successful afternoon possible.

Results

INTER-CLUB TEAM COMPETITION

1ST LONDON, 2ND MANCHESTER
3RD TIE (BRIGHTON AND BIRMINGHAM)
(London Team: J. McFarlane, G. Brown, S. Webster, W. Birchall)

A. Section B. Section

75 YARDS SPRINT
1. Steel
2. Walker
3. Scott

1. Webster
2. Greaves
3. Peach

CHILDREN

Girls under 4
1. Mary Loveridge
2. Joan Billington
3. Brenda Hodgman

Boys under 4
1. Derek Scott
2. George Fallowfield
3. David Roden
4. Norman Hunt
5. Peter Triggs

Girls under 6
1. Grace Fallowfield
2. Shirley Tomkinson
3. Marie Lenderyou
4. Jesmond Scott
5. Violet Bonner
6. Pamela Hodgman

Boys under 6
1. Geoffrey Craddock
2. Richard Gimber

Girls under 9
1. Jean Smith
2. Jill Scott
3. Brenda Hazel
4. Mary Ashe
5. Phyllis Moeller
6. Jean Miller

Boys under 9
1. Ernest Samworth
2. Peter Glendennan
3. Robin Colley
4. David Loveridge
5. John Rickaby
6. Andrew Colley

Girls under 12
1. Brenda Thomas
2. Enid Pimm
3. Marjorie Fallowfield
4. Margaret Frampton
5. Irene White
6. Edith Samworth

Boys under 12
1. Roy Craddock
2. Victor Glendennan
3. Harry Tomkinson
4. Geoffrey Webster
5. Derek Corns
6. Alan Brown

Girls under 15
1. Peggy Smith
2. Barbara Tomkinson
3. Joan Fallowfield
4. Betty Cheshire
5. Avis Peckham
6. Sylvia White

Boys under 15
1. Benjamin Barnard
2. Stanley Pimm
3. Albert Samworth
4. John Howells
5. Vernon Triggs
6. Leonard Frampton

Ladies' Surprise Race

1. Mrs. Webster
2. Mrs. Park
3. Miss Abbott
4. Mrs. Wiltshire
5. Mrs. Smith
6. Mrs. Loveridge
7. Mrs. Ashton

Ladies' Egg and Spoon Race

1. Mrs. Ashton
2. Mrs. Deegan
3. Mrs. Abbott
4. Miss Kirk
5. Mrs. Meredith
6. Mrs. Fallowfield

Three-legged Race

1. Mr. Lacey and Miss Money
2. Mr. and Miss Matthews
3. Mr. and Mrs. Fallowfield
4. Mr. and Mrs. Park
5. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson
6. Mr. and Mrs. Gannaway

A. Section
Throwing Cricket Ball
1. Meredith
2. Roden
3. James Cook

B. Section
Throwing Cricket Ball
1. Wiltshire
2. Brown
3. Dennick

Putting the Weight
1. Cook
2. Walker
3. Gimber

Putting the Weight
1. Brown
2. Greaves
3. McFarlane

Throwing the Football
1. Steel
2. Crook
3. Roden

Throwing the Football
1. Peach
2. Lacey
3. Dennick

Single Jump
1. Crook
2. Scott
3. Fallowfield

Single Jump
1. Birchall
2. J. R. Brown
3. Webster

"In Memory"

Private WILLIAM THOMAS MONAGHAN
(12th Cheshire Regiment)

WITH deep regret we have to record the death of another St. Dunstan's man—W. T. Monaghan, of Wallasey. Enlisting in September, 1914, Monaghan came to St. Dunstan's early in 1918, having lost his sight as a result of wounds received at Salonika in August of the previous year.

Trained as a boot repairer and mat maker, he carried on with these trades for a time, but of later years his interests were centred in his refreshment business and kiosk, of which, strangely enough, he had just negotiated to dispose at the time of his death.

After a stay at Brighton for a holiday, he was taken ill while in the South, and died in the Royal Sussex County Hospital on June 9th.

He was buried, however, in his home town. A wreath was sent from London from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, and we extend our sincere sympathy to his widow and two children.

Lance-Corporal HARRY REGINALD PALMER
(The East Kent Regiment)

WE deeply regret to record the death of H. R. Palmer, of Buxted.

Palmer served in the Great War and was badly wounded in one of the 1915 engagements, when he lost the sight of one eye and shortly afterwards, as a result, the sight of the other. In due course he came to St. Dunstan's, where he was trained as a basket maker; recently he had spent a good deal of time at wool rug making. His death, which was due to a stroke, was unexpected, as previously he had been fairly well in health.

The funeral took place at Buxted and was attended by his family and friends. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Palmer leaves a widow and four sons and daughters to mourn his loss, and to whom we extend our deep sympathy.

Sergeant JOHN WILLIAM MACAULEY
(9th Black Watch)

WITH deepest regret we have to record the death of J. W. Macauley, of Prestwich.

Enlisting in 1915 Macauley was wounded on the Somme in 1917 and came to St. Dunstan's a few months afterwards. During the same year as his admission he was decorated by Sir Francis Lloyd at St. Dunstan's with the Military Medal.

A splendid workman, he gained first class certificates for basket making and mat making, but for some years has really concentrated more or less on his baskets.

His death, which took place on May 15th, was most unexpected, as he had been in comparatively good health and busy with his work. A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent from London. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and children.

Births

BRIGGS.—To the wife of A. G. Briggs, of Norwich, a son.

DAKIN.—To the wife of H. A. Dakin, of Herne Hill, on July 11th, a son.

KING.—To the wife of L. R. King, of Brighton, on June 23rd, a son.

Deaths

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

BALL.—To J. Ball, of Lupset, whose wife died suddenly on June 10th. Mrs. Ball had a stroke after attending the Leeds reunion and passed away the following day.

LEEMAN.—To Mr. and Mrs. Leeman, of Fotherby, Louth, whose invalid son passed away on July 12th.

Marriage

BOORMAN-PAYNE.—On June 25th, at West Tisted Church, F. W. Boorman, of Ropley, Hants, to Miss Elizabeth Ann Payne of Ropley.

Points from Letters

"Were any St. Dunstan's boys on the Punjab Frontier 1897-8 under General Lockhart when Sir Havelock Allen was killed in the Khyber Pass? Or were there any in Africa during the Peace Conference at Vereeniging? My regiment (the Royal Munster Fusiliers) was guard of honour then to Mr. Joe Chamberlain coming through the veldt. I was there."

A. GALLAGHER,
Strabane.

"I attained my 71st year on January 5th. The old adage, 'Old soldiers never die,' seems to fit in with me. I enlisted in the 22nd Cheshires, in September, 1883, and was transferred into the R.A. in November of the same year. I was firing big guns at Gibraltar when King Alphonso was born and fired them at Gib. on the anniversary of Queen Victoria's Jubilee."

J. PERCIVAL,
Salford.

As in previous years, there will be no REVIEW published in August.