

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

News from South Africa

LAST month I returned from a visit to South Africa. I am a director of a trading company which has interests in the Orange Free State, in Basutoland, and in Johannesburg, and it was to attend to the affairs of this company that I undertook the journey. But so universal and widespread are the interests of St. Dunstan's that I found myself attending to these wherever I went.

In Capetown, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Pietermaritzburg, Durban, East London, and Port Elizabeth I met St. Dunstan's Committees and attended public meetings, Mayoral receptions, and representative luncheon or morning tea parties. On top of my private business and certain other public duties this made a very heavy programme.

South Africa knows how to meet and greet her guests and everywhere we received the utmost kindness. Goodwill for St. Dunstan's is abundant and the public interest taken in our work is most gratifying.

Our South African Committee under the Chairmanship of General Tanner, and with Mrs. Chadwick Bates as its secretary, continues to do splendid work, looking after the welfare of South African blinded soldiers and raising funds for our South African and Imperial work. And in each of the centres we were able to visit, as well as in other cities and towns throughout the Union and Rhodesia, St. Dunstan's is extremely fortunate to have the most splendid band of regular voluntary workers, led by influential Presidents, Chairmen, and Hon. Treasurers and Secretaries. We in the Old Country and our comrades in South Africa owe these ladies and gentlemen a deep debt of gratitude.

I met many St. Dunstaners. In Capetown I met Bowen, still a Member of the South African Parliament and taking an active part in public affairs, including particularly the welfare of the civilian blind. He is Chairman of the South African National Council for the Blind. Stobie was there—a man of strong personality and charm, he is conducting a successful practice as a chiropractor. Sattary, mat-maker—who came over to England with his wife and family in 1935—and Helm and Van Blerk, busy basket-makers, also greeted us.

Johannesburg was my home for ten years when I was a child. My father was there in the earliest days when gold was first discovered. There are two streets called Fraser Street, one where we lived and the other where he had his office. I was proud to find the name still there. Here we met many old friends and connections, boys I went to school with, friends of my family and so on. The Mayor and City Council gave us an official luncheon at which 150 leading citizens, including the Mayors of ten neighbouring towns, were present. Here we met Kirstein, who carries on a highly successful practice as masseur and electro-therapist. O'Connor, Muller from Mafeking, and Owen gave us the pleasure of a talk with them. Kirstein made a charming speech of welcome, concluding with a greeting in the Afrikaans or South African Dutch language. Those old soldiers and others who

remember South Africa in the old days will be interested and perhaps surprised to know that bilingualism is no longer a theory or cult, but a practical reality. Every child, English or Dutch, learns both languages, and throughout the country as a whole, one hears the two languages spoken in ordinary day-to-day business and social life. When I first remember Johannesburg, say between 1902 and 1907, when I was between five and ten years old, it was a town of inevitable corrugated iron and timber; it is now like a modern American city, sky-scrapers and all.

At Pretoria was Denny; many will remember with pleasure his visit to Brighton two or three years ago. Although confined more or less to his chair he leads an active and busy life and is a great correspondent, writing frequently for ex-servicemen's magazines. We met also Captain Young, an Australian blinded officer who lives in Pretoria.

Pietermaritzburg was our next stop. Here were Mason, who continues with a very active business, making stools, trays, tennis nets and so on, and also De Kock, a new St. Dunstaner.

At Durban, Stayt, in an attractive speech welcomed us. He practises massage, and farms on the South Coast. His interest in and study of native questions is unabated and from time to time he makes contributions to current thought on this subject.

I was asked to make a presentation from our South African Committee, and Mason made one from the men, to Mrs. Holmes, one of our most outstanding voluntary organizing secretaries. She has represented us devotedly and ably for the past twenty-three years.

Archibald, whom many early men will remember, and Kayne, a new St. Dunstaner, both of whom poultry-farm not far from Durban, also attended the luncheon.

Port Elizabeth gave us the opportunity of meeting another new St. Dunstaner, Queate, on his poultry farm, and also one of the earliest South African St. Dunstaners, Meaker, who motored down from Grahamstown. Grahamstown is the centre where the South African Library for the Blind has its Headquarters for Braille and the Talking Book. I think all the men in the Union are great users of the Talking Book; many mentioned it to me and were full of praise and appreciation.

The great distances in South Africa, and the small number of men in any one centre, make regular reunions such as we have here, impossible, and I think our South African comrades enjoyed the lunch parties we had together, and they certainly gave Lady Fraser and me very great pleasure. Not the least pleasure of the visit was to see Mrs. Chadwick Bates again. St. Dunstan's generally, and our men in South Africa, are fortunate to have her to look after their interests so capably and devotedly. Her many old friends at home will be glad to know that she was in the best of health and spirits and wished to be remembered to them.

South African St. Dunstaners everywhere sent individual and collective messages of goodwill to St. Dunstaners at home, and I reciprocated these greetings.

IAN FRASER.

Derby Sweepstake

The draw for the Derby Sweepstake, which has now closed, will take place in the Lounge, at Headquarters by two Section B St. Dunstaners on the afternoon of May 18th. All those drawing a horse will be notified the following day.

Consider Your Verdict

Solution to last month's problem.

The owner of the shop was awarded damages against the driver of the car, who, in his turn, had to sue the cyclist for the damages and costs of the first case, which the cyclist had to pay.

A Louis Braille Stamp

From "The Times"

The latest addition to the gallery of famous men who have been honoured on stamps is Louis Braille (1806-1852) inventor of the alphabet for the blind, whose effigy finds place on a new 2½ centavos stamp of Argentina, printed in black. It is curious that Braille, who was French, should take his place among the Argentine celebrities whose portraits adorn the stamps of that country. France, which produced recently a charity postage stamp to provide radio for the blind, has apparently overlooked his claims.

A Brighton Memory

OCH! the fun we had at Brighton! Sure, 'tis vexed I am they won't let me travel the sea again.

Arrah, now! I mind one night coming off the Pier there wid Murdock and Bromley when we took a bit av a notion for fish and chips. We wandered into a place that Murdock said was all right. Down sinks I in the carpets up to me knees. "Murdock," says I, "Hould me hand, for I'm out av me depth entirely, an' sinkin' fast." "Shut up!" says he, "and mind yer manners." A fellow comes along and takes the hats off us. "Murdock," says I, soft an' earnest, "'Tis sad an' sorrowful we'll be afore we gets out av this." "Will ye hould yer tongue, ye mad Irishman," says he. Down we gets to a bit av a table, an' I feels around. The divil a thing can I feel but knives and forks and spoons—No end to them!—and glasses by the dozen, all laid out. "Tell me now," says I, "In the name av goodness, what do we do with all these tools?" an' with that up comes a waiter and Murdock orders three fish and chips.

When it comes along, I lets on I can't feed meself, and gets the waiter to feed me. Ochanee! Ye should have heard what the other two were sayin' about me under their breaths. I near choked wid laughin'.

When it was all over, Murdock asks, "How much?" and the waiter says "Seven and six to you, Sir."

Holy Powers! Seven shillings and sixpence for a slap av spuds and a couple av dabs!! Did ye ever hear the like?

A fellow gives us back our hats and sticks, and out we gets. Then another big lad at the door wants to know if he'll call us a car. "Car," shouts I, "Car is it? Get away man. D'ye want me to commit suicide? I'll not be able to stand meself a pint all week after this."

Laugh!! We hung on to one another an' laughed ourselves sick up to the Annexe.

Bad luck to this ould heart of mine for goin' back on me, or I'd be over again like a shot, so I just sits here on the jetty and thinks about it all.

Och! the fun we had to be sure!!

St. Dunstaner an A.R.P. Warden

Congratulations to T. A. Williams, of Sheringham, who is now a fully qualified Air Raid Warden.

Young St. Dunstaners

The son of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Porter, of Southampton, who was in the Metropolitan Police, has now been transferred to the C.I.D.

☆ ☆ ☆

Betty Caple, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Caple, of Cardiff, has passed out with honours in her recent pianoforte examination. She hopes to become a music teacher.

☆ ☆ ☆

Gladys, the eleven years old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith, of Wembley Park, has won a scholarship to Brondesbury and Kilburn High School where she will join her sister Peggy, while Peggy, who is fourteen, has just passed her Grade IV examination at the Royal Academy of Music.

☆ ☆ ☆

Leslie Storer, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Storer, of Leicester, has passed the qualifying examination for an artificer in the Naval Air Arm. He is eighteen.

☆ ☆ ☆

The son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen, of Wallasey, who is serving on H.M.S. *Royal Oak*, has been promoted to the rank of Petty Officer.

☆ ☆ ☆

The youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Butler, of Distington, has been mentioned in dispatches for devotion to duty and gallantry. He is now on his way home after nineteen months in Palestine. He is in the 1st Batt. Border Regiment.

☆ ☆ ☆

Josephine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Humble, of East Howdon-on-Tyne, was married to Harold Bishop at St. John's Church, Percy Main, on January 28th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Norman Francis, the third surviving son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Denny, of Pretoria, married Lily St. Claire, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Bunce, of Pretoria, at St. Alban's Cathedral, Pretoria, on April 15th. The Rev. C. R. Rumbold, Dean of Pretoria, officiated.

☆ ☆ ☆

Benny Skelly, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Skelly, of Batley, Yorks, married Miss Hannah Wood, of Ardsley, on April 29th.

Competition Corner

THE first correct solution to last month's problem opened on May 6th (the closing date) was sent in by R. Gifford, of Linlithgow, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. is being sent. This was the correct solution:

1. Calves
2. Pupils
3. Palms
4. Drums
5. Soles
6. Lids
7. Feet
8. Ten-dons
9. Nails
10. Muscles
11. Temples
12. Arms

Here is this month's teaser.

Two different eight-letter words may be formed from the eight letters given

Physical Training at Home

INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES

- (1) *Leg Ex.*—Hips firm—feet full open—foot outward place.
- (2) *Neck Ex.*—Head turning quickly.
- (3) *Arm Ex.*—Arms sideways raise—arms forward bend.
- (4) *Trunk Ex.*—Arms bend—foot sideways place—trunk turning quickly, with arms stretching sideways.
- (5) *Leg Ex.*—Arms bend—feet full open—heels raise—full knees bend—arms stretching sideways.

GENERAL EXERCISES

- (6) *Dorsal Ex.*—Neck rest—feet sideways place—trunk bending backward.
Complementary Exercise—Hips firm—trunk bending forward.
- (7) *Balance Ex.*—Hips firm—leg raising forward, sideways and backward.
- (8) *Lateral Ex.*—Neck rest—feet sideways place—trunk bending sideways.
- (9) *Abdominal Ex.*—Lying—arms upward raise—legs raising.
- (10) *Dorsal Ex.*—Feet astride—arms upward stretch—trunk bending forward.
- (11) *Running Ex.*—Running on the spot.
- (12) *Final Ex.*—Heels raising and knees bending.

below. Use all eight letters in each word.

E P R R S S U E

The prize of 10s. 6d. will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, which is Monday, June 5th. Mark your envelopes "Competition Corner."

Holiday Camp

The date of the Holiday Camp at Stratford-on-Avon has been fixed for Friday, June 16th, to Saturday, June 24th. Camp fee: 27s. 6d.

Please send your names to Miss M. Chadwick, Ingon Grange, Snitterfield, Stratford-on-Avon, before May 31st.

Holiday Apartments

Brixham, Devon.—Board residence, or bed and breakfast. Mrs. M. Hall, Westbury, New Road, Brixham, Devon.

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Instructions as in last table, but place feet during exercise midway between forward and sideways position.
- (2) Body erect and shoulders kept square. Fingers stretch as the head is turned.
- (3) Raise arms sideways to shoulder level, elbows kept well back when bending arms forward.
- (4) Turn from waist above quickly and at same time stretch arms sideways. Equal number of times to left and right in trunk turning.
- (5) Keep body upright throughout the exercise. Bend and stretch arms two or three times only at first before stretching legs to normal position.
- (6) Elbows back level with shoulders, bend back only about 6 in. Keep chin tucked in always. Complete exercise as before.
- (7) Only raise leg 45 deg. from ground. Don't disturb position of body when raising leg.
- (8) Keep head in centre of body. Don't let it fall to side inclined. Chest up; elbows well back.
- (9) Raise arms up; touch ground with thumbs, hands width of shoulders apart. Raise legs about 45 deg. to ground.
- (10) Keep head in centre between arms. Force arms back when bending forward.
- (11) Keep up good fast movements with both legs and arms for a minute or two.
- (12) Only bend knees half way.

Derby Day

HOW many people are there on Epsom Downs on Derby Day?

That question is often asked or debated, and widely differing estimates tendered, because the greater part of this crowd, the largest assembly in Great Britain, and probably in the world, does not pay for admission or pass through turnstiles. Consequently, accurate official figures, like those which record the attendance at the Cup Final or at the Test Matches, are not available.

The number of people present can be calculated approximately with the help of Mr. Charles Langlands, the clerk of the course at the Epsom meetings. Certain it is that it exceeds half a million. He tells me that on a fine Derby Day 120,000 official race-cards are sold. He thinks that one person in five buys a card. If he is right, the total number on the Downs must be 600,000.

Tens of thousands attend Epsom races on Derby Day without contributing a penny-piece towards the cost of the show. The Derby may be a great national festival, but it is also a commercial enterprise costing a very large sum to present.

Many who are not regular race-goers, and who, when they visit the Derby, do not pay for admission to any of the official enclosures, have the erroneous idea that they have unrestricted common rights on Epsom Downs. They think, for instance, that they are entitled to park their car free on any vacant space, which may provide them with a view of some part of the race. The Downs are free to the public only for "air and exercise," to use the legal term. The Epsom Grand-stand Association has paid heavily at different times to acquire certain rights which were within the power of the lord of the manor and various public authorities to grant.

A considerable contribution to the expenses of Derby Day is obtained by letting areas on the Downs for the erection of refreshment tents, fun fairs, car parks, and other purposes. All the "pitches" for cars along the rails of the course are rented, and the fee demanded by the authorised attendants from any holiday-maker who drives his car into these spaces, which are mostly roped off, is quite in order and is indirectly a just contribution towards the cost of the entertainment provided.

There was racing on Epsom and the

neighbouring Walton Downs in the days of the Stuart kings, and meetings have been held regularly for over 200 years.

In 1828, Charles Buck, an enterprising citizen of Doncaster, obtained the permission of the manor court at Epsom to erect a permanent stand, and a lease of one acre of land was granted to him for this purpose. Then it was that the Epsom Grand-stand Association was founded, and until 1845 the association was concerned only with the control of the stands. The races were run by the stewards with the consent of the lord of the manor. In that year, however, the Association began to contribute money towards the prizes, but soon found themselves in financial difficulties.

It leased the Grand-stand for twenty-one years to Henry Dorling who gradually restored the prestige of Epsom races with the help and advice of Lord George Bentinck, and when his lease expired the Grand-stand Association resumed control and from that date managed the racing, though the lord of the manor retained for some years the management of the Downs. In 1888 the Association purchased from the lord of the manor of Walton part of the Downs which had previously been leased from him, and in 1925 the whole of Epsom Downs were purchased from the lord of the manor of Epsom.

When the new main stand was built at a cost of £250,000 in 1926, the local authority granted permission on condition that the Association gave six acres of the neighbouring Warren estate for the use of the public, to compensate for the additional ground required for the stand, the closing of certain ancient rights-of-way, and the erection of a new number board on the hill.

Since the Derby was instituted in 1780, its course has been altered five times, but Tattenham Corner has always been part of it.

ERIC RICKMAN in *Men Only*.

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The whippets which belonged to our late St. Dunstaner L. Hutchinson, of Barmby Moor, have been transferred to his wife and at the West of England Ladies' Kennel Society on May 3rd, "Flight Lieutenant" won three third prizes and he and the bitch, "Lady be good," won first prize in the brace class.

The New Brighton Home Cloakroom Facilities

A NEW contingent is arriving to take up residence in St. Dunstan's Home at Ovingdean, and among other details to be arranged is the disposal of hats and coats on their arrival.

Previous to their arrival the cloakroom attendant has been furnished with a list of the names of men who should arrive, and he now refers to a register kept in the cloakroom—giving numbers one to 178 (the number of fittings actually in the cloakroom for the reception of hats and coats) to ascertain what numbers are not in use. Having found a vacant number the men's names are placed at the side of it and they are allotted a corresponding peg which is also numbered.

On arrival at the Home, men are handed a card, which among other information, acquaints them with their cloakroom number. They are then escorted through the drying and exercise rooms in orderly procession until it is their turn to hand hats, etc., over the counter to the attendant in the cloakroom. He tells the men their number and at the same time hands over a metal disc on which this number is stamped. The disc is an important factor to the smooth running of cloakroom routine and is always placed on the peg when a man has claimed his hat. No clothing is handed over unless a man produces his disc; it therefore answers two purposes—firstly a receipt for clothing, and secondly a means of quickly ascertaining if a man is in or out of the building.

The newcomers are now ready to leave the cloakroom and are escorted across the entrance hall to the lift, which takes them to the main floor where the dining room is situated and a welcome cup of tea is waiting.

Luggage was left in St. Dunstan's bus at the main entrance, but during the former procedure it has been marked by a V.A.D. with the number of the dormitory and bed the man will occupy. By the time tea has been served, all suitcases, etc., will be placed at his locker to await his convenience.

A drying-room has been mentioned. This is a most convenient asset for those who unfortunately have been caught in a storm. Its fittings are similar to those of

the cloakroom, but there is central heating by a coil of pipes, so that wet clothing will be dried in a short time. Clothing to be dried is handed to the hall porter who gives the man a number so that it may be claimed when needed.

Boot brushes are available in the cloakroom and also a clothes-brush, so that the attendant may assist with a "brush-down."

In addition to the main cloakroom on the entrance floor, there are men's cloakrooms on the fourth floor and on the fifth floor (the winter gardens), and there are lavatories attached to every dormitory.

In the exercise room is a rowing machine, a stationary cycling machine, and wall-attached developers. W.H.

National Laying Test

REPORT for the sixth period of four weeks February 27th to March 26th, 1939.

Position	Name	Test score value
1	Carpenter, E. H.	580
2	Holmes, P.	479
2	Jarvis, A.	479
4	Benning, A.	473
5	Jackson, G. C.	471
6	Holmes, P.	468
7	Campbell, J.	465
8	Fisher, T. M.	461
9	Hill, R. E.	459
10	Woodcock, W. J.	446
11	Knopp, H. A.	430
12	Chaffin, A.	413
13	Hammett, H. A.	403
14	Chaffin, A.	393
15	McLaren, D.	375
16	Smith, W. Alan	374
17	Pink, A.	351
18	McLaren, D.	334
19	Jackson, G. C.	314
20	Brown, M. Watson	307
21	McIntosh, C.	291
21	Smith, W. Alan	291
23	Powell, G.	211
24	Webb, W.	201

It's a Fact That—

The odds against a royal flush—a sequence of ace, king, queen, jack, ten of the same suit—being dealt in any one hand of poker are 649,739 to 1.

☆ ☆ ☆

Over 70 per cent of all fish eaten in this country is bought already cooked at fish and chip shops. There are over 30,000 such shops in Great Britain.

Backstage in Fleet Street

ANYTHING in the paper this morning?"

The question is asked and answered at millions of breakfast tables every day. Sometimes the answer is, "Nothing much." Some thousands of men have been killed in a battle which may decide the fate of three Chinese provinces; a trade agreement has been signed which will bring new hope to thousands of English homes; and a Cabinet decision has been reached which may mean the safeguarding of European peace for a decade; but—"Nothing much."

The average Englishman expects the world's news with the coffee and marmalade, and unless that news is dramatic, or seems to impinge directly upon his own daily life, he reads it with indifferent interest.

Few newspaper readers know exactly how their news comes to them—how it is gathered, prepared, selected, arranged, printed, and distributed, with clockwork regularity, every twenty-four hours. Some may have seen highly coloured screen versions of a newspaper office—seething turmoil of frenzied activity, with tough men shouting into three telephones at once, and reporters dashing in and out at a word from "the Chief." But this picture is misleading.

Frenzy, bustle, and excitement make good films but bad newspapers.

It is surprising how many people imagine that newspaper men suffer from a daily anxiety lest there should not be enough news to fill the paper. The sources of news are so well organized that every night the "copy" which is rejected is at least twice as much as the copy which appears in the paper next morning.

A word about these sources of news. Every important newspaper has its specialists. These men have applied themselves continuously to the study of certain aspects of news—aviation, Parliament, international affairs, crime, trade and industry, or finance. The specialist's is a delicate task. He must possess the absolute confidence of the people with whom he is in daily contact, yet at the same time keep his editor and the reading public abreast of every new development.

Then there are the foreign and local correspondents—experienced newspapermen who maintain their contacts over

areas instead of over spheres of activity. Whether it be a political crisis in Jugoslavia or the birth of quadruplets in Peebles, the newspaper's correspondent is ready with the news, by telegraph, telephone, and cable.

Both these "private" sources are supplemented by the work of the great news agencies. Reuters and the Press Association cover the whole civilized world, and their messages are transmitted to a huge number of newspapers at astonishing speed. The result of the Derby, for instance, will be known in Fleet Street before the crowd at Tattenham Corner has time to learn it.

Finally, there are the reporters—the maids-of-all-work where news-getting is concerned. A "flash" message arrives—"Express derailed Leighton Buzzard several killed"—and, in five minutes, the reporter is off in a fast car to provide a description "From Our Special Representative" of what looks like being the biggest news of the night.

A reporter flies with the Air Force, goes to sea with the Fleet, attends at Westminster Abbey for the Coronation, or spends months at sea in search of buried treasure; and in the intervals between these excitements he will sit in the office telephoning inquiries all over the world or patiently dissecting official publications in search of news.

All the work must be done with strict regard to the clock, to catch trains which will carry the completed newspapers to every part of the country. Even so, the layman might well be amazed at the speed with which last-minute news can be introduced into an already completed page when the occasion warrants it.

No sooner has the first edition been "put to bed" than the second edition is being prepared. A main-page story of half a column may be cut to a couple of paragraphs and put on a less important page in order to make room for late news of greater importance. The critics are back from the theatres, and their notices must go into the appropriate page. A fire has broken out in a City warehouse. At the moment the story is worth, say, a third of a column; but if the fire spreads, and if human lives are endangered, it may very well be worth more space and a more important position before the second edition

goes to press. The third and fourth editions will appear during the early hours of the morning, and a few reporters and sub-editors will work on, but by then the main task of producing the paper is over—"unless something happens."

And how often that "something" does happen! The man left in charge of the machines suddenly hears the never-sleeping tape machine ticking out a message. It is important news, and it has to be got into the paper. Then he thanks heaven for the invention of "stop-press" corner which he knows as the "fudge." The news is compressed into twenty lines, speedily set up into type, the "fudge-box" is clamped into the space provided for it, and the machines resume their thunder.

Stumps are drawn at 6.30 for the second day of the Test match at Melbourne, and the cables are busy. Two hours later, Mr. Brown, at his Kensington breakfast-table, observes with satisfaction that England has only 120 to make, with eight wickets in hand, and comments languidly to Mrs. Brown about it. A tired sub-editor, going to bed in Streatham, is also pleased. He may sleep satisfied that, at some breakfast-tables at least, the reply of "Nothing much" to the old question will not be heard.

Extracts from an article by ARTHUR E. WATSON, Managing Editor, *Daily Telegraph*, in *Home and Empire*.

Matrimony

I can't understand women at all. The missus and I had a row the other day and she ended up by saying she was leaving me for good and was going back to live with her mother.

"O.K.," I said, "that suits me. Here's the money for the fare."

She picked up the note and gave me an awful black look.

"This is no good," she said, "there isn't enough for a return ticket."

☆ ☆ ☆
I happened to hear a friend say to the missus, "Is your husband hard to please?" The missus said "I don't know, I've never tried."

☆ ☆ ☆
I always remember the time I nearly didn't marry the missus. I didn't propose; I just said, "Let's get married." "It's a good idea," she agreed, "but who'd have us?"

MAX MILLER in *Lilliput*.

Knowledge at Your Fingertips

I DON'T know exactly where he came from, but he wore horn-rimmed spectacles and smoked a large cigar and said there wasn't a Cockney knew a thing about London. "Isn't there," I said with a snarl, "You meet me to-morrow and I'll take and tell you more'n you'd care to listen to." He hesitated, then agreed that I and a pal with him and his "Pard" should take a stroll next afternoon.

With my left hand thrust deep into my trousers pocket and holding my visitor's arm with the right, I set off along Euston Road following the other two. They stopped and I made my first recital, "Here's George Stephenson. He was born in 1781 and in 1814 built the first locomotive; in 1815 he invented the coal miners' safety lamp, got £1,000 for his trouble. Built Stockton-Darlington railway 1821, Manchester-Liverpool in 1826." We walked on a bit farther, "Here's St. Pancras. It took 60,000,000 bricks and 6,000 tons of iron. Mixed up in the station is that Regent Canal and Fleet River, but you can't see 'em because the bloke who built it put 'em both into a pipe."

Up Pentonville Road and along City Road. Then we arrived at the Mansion House, "the Money box for the world," said I, "'cos the Lord Mayor who occupies it while he's in office, organises all the collections for 'ard 'it people, all over the world." I turned and continued, "Naturally you'd find the Bank o' England near this. There it is, built in 1788. Over there is the Royal Exchange, built 1844 and opened by Queen Victoria." We moved on and I moved to the other side of my companion. I had my right hand in my pocket now. "Here we are, London Bridge. Built in 1757 and cost £2,000,000 and that's the Tower Bridge which cost 1½ million. That's the Monument, 200 feet high, with 345 steps in it. Coming up? No, no electric elevators there. Right, we'll stop here.

"There's the Tower built by order of William the Conqueror in 1078." We turned and walked back along Cheapside. "There's St. Paul's—built in 1775 by Sir Christopher Wren. Nelson, Wellington and all the great soldiers and sailors rest there." We moved on. "Here is the Old Bailey, supposed to be as sober as a judge, and right on up here, the Holborn Bars. That's the General Post

Office where the old road coaches used to start from London."

"This is Holborn Viaduct and that's the Meat Market, proper name, Smithfield Market; down here's Farringdon Street. This's Fleet Street from where we gets our news, see, and there's Ludgate Circus and the Law Courts—a fine bit o' work built in 1882, cost £2,000,000 and opened by the old Queen. Come on, here's Somerset House where all our birth certificates and marriage certificates are. The first part of this was started in 1776 and bits have been added. The Thames which came right up to it is separated now, as you can see and the embankment made." On I pushed them and we came to Trafalgar Square. "Here we are then, that's the Column and it's 154 feet 'igh. Before the figure was put on top, fourteen people sat down to a dinner up there." "Gee," commented my companion, "Yes, and them lamps over there are off the old Victory. That's the National Gallery, it was built in 1832, and that's White'all. Come on" and we went. "There's Wellington Barracks, or what some call the Horse Guards, and over there's the War Office, Downing Street and the Foreign Office. Here's Parliament Square and there's the old Abbey which was built in 1049; there's the Houses of Parliament what ole Guy Fawkes tried to blow up, built in 1840 by James Barry. That's Westminster Bridge and over there's St. Thomas's Hospital, the L.C.C. Headquarters and the Headquarters of the London Fire Brigade."

I showed them St. James's Palace and Buckingham Palace and we moved round. "And there's Victoria Station," I said. "If stations were mentioned in history, this one would come out an easy first. All great statesmen from foreign countries travel up to this station; during the war thousands of men came and left by this station. Kings and Queens have arrived and departed from Victoria, and even to-day there is at least one man every day either leaving or arriving at this station who belongs to one of the most famous armies in the world—St. Dunstan's blind army. But let's push on." But my friends held me back and suggested a meal. They had already decided there were Cockneys who know London.

Later when I was alone with my friend I took some papers out of my trousers

pockets. "What's that?" he asked. "This? Only the braille notes on London which I had in my pocket." "Crikey," said my pal, "No wonder he said you had a wonderful memory."

GEO. FALLOWFIELD.

General Sports Day Programme

Closing Date for Entries—Friday, June 9th (see page 10.)

1. Girls and Boys under 4 years of age
35 yds.
2. Girls and Boys, 4 years and under 6
years 35 yds.
3. Girls and Boys, 6 years and under 9
years 50 yds.
4. Girls and Boys, 9 years and under 12
years 60 yds.
5. Girls and Boys, 12 years and under
15 years 80 yds.
6. Ladies' Surprise Race
7. Three Legged Race, One Lady and
one Gentleman.
8. Egg and Spoon Race.

Events for St. Dunstaners:—

9. Inter-club Cup Competition.
 - (1) Throwing the Cricket Ball.
 - (2) Putting the Weight.
 - (3) Single Jump.
 - (4) Treble Jump.
10. 75 yards Sprint—A and B Section.
11. Throwing the Cricket Ball, A and B
Section.
12. Putting the Weight, A and B Section.
13. Throwing the Football, A and B
Section.
14. Single Jump, A and B Section.

Reminiscence

It was soon after our eldest daughter was born while I was still at St. Dunstan's. The baby was being greatly admired by some visitors, one of whom was apparently a highbrow nit-wit: "It's remarkable. The men all seem so natural, and I suppose it's a good thing for them to marry, but I shouldn't think that blind men could have children." "They don't," was the prompt answer of one of my chums, Bur . . . (Sorry, Jimmy, the name nearly slipped out). "It's the wives that have them, but the husband's feelings are good."

A. J. RADFORD.

Wise Words

A crisis is a searchlight focussed upon our lives. The sudden illumination reveals their quality. CLAUDE HAUGHTON.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

General Summer Sports

THE General Sports Meeting was held in the lounge at Headquarters on Tuesday, April 25th. It was agreed that the date for the **General Sports** should be **Saturday, June 24th**, and the **Regatta, Wednesday, July 12th**.

Entries for the Sports Day would be welcome as early as possible with the number of tea tickets required. The latest date for entries will be **Friday, June 9th**. Please help us by entering your names and applying for tea tickets early, and send the names and ages of children taking part for inclusion in the programme.

As ages of children have to be grouped and published in the programme, only those whose names are sent in before the closing date can compete.

The list of events is given on page 9.

Wembley Walk

The final walk of the season took place at Wembley on Saturday, April 22nd, in somewhat erratic weather. We had bursts of rain and sunshine throughout a well fought out race.

15 Mile Walk, Wembley, 22nd April, 1939.

Competitor	Scratch Race	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Handicap Position
A. BROWN	1	2:15:15	Scratch	2:15:15	5
J. JEROME	2	2:21:17	6:30	2:14:47	4
T. AP RHYS	3	2:23:57	6:30	2:17:27	9
J. COUPLAND	4	2:24:57	14:30	2:10:27	1
H. GOVER	5	2:25:9	11:45	2:13:24	3
G. FALLOWFIELD	6	2:27:41	15:0	2:12:41	2
W. TROTT	7	2:27:54	11:0	2:16:54	8
A. GILES	8	2:32:11	16:30	2:15:41	6
A. CRAIGIE	9	2:34:45	18:0	2:16:45	7
T. ROUSE	10	2:34:46	16:30	2:18:16	10
H. BOORMAN	11	2:44:20	18:45	2:25:35	12
W. PEACH	12	3:1:20	38:0	2:23:20	11
A. BROWN	1	2:15:15	Scratch	2:15:15	A SECTION.
J. JEROME	2	2:21:17	6:30	2:14:47	
J. COUPLAND	3	2:24:57	14:30	2:10:27	*Takes 3rd
H. GOVER	4	2:25:9	11:45	2:13:24	Prize owing
G. FALLOWFIELD	5	2:27:41	15:0	2:12:41	to 3, 4, 5
W. TROTT	6	2:27:54	11:0	2:16:54*	getting
W. GILES	7	2:32:11	16:30	2:15:41	Handicap
T. ROUSE	8	2:34:46	16:30	2:18:16	prizes.
T. AP RHYS	1	2:23:57	6:30	2:17:27	B SECTION.
A. CRAIGIE	2	2:34:45	18:0	2:16:45	
H. BOORMAN	3	2:44:20	18:45	2:25:35	
H. PEACH	4	3:1:20	38:0	2:23:20	

Archie Brown was the winner in 2.15.15; J. Jerome was second in 2.21.17, and Tommy ap Rhys third in 2.23.57.

Tommy ap Rhys was once again successful in the "B" Section and for the fourth year in succession the winner of Dr. Chittenden Bridges' Cup and Medal. Congratulations, Tommy.

The Natappro Sports Club once again provided an excellent tea, served in their Club Rooms by their lady members.

Mr. Swain in a few well-chosen words thanked the organizing Committee and their staff for the excellent arrangements made before, during and after a very fine sporting afternoon.

Below are the final placings in the race.

Brighton Winter Sports

We regret that particulars of the Brighton Winter Sports results were held over from the last issue of the REVIEW owing to lack of space.

After a very enjoyable season's sports, the final placings in the Dominoes Tournament were T. Millard first with 30 points, and after an exciting race T. Newman and G. Rhees tied for second place with 17 points each.

(continued on opposite page.)

The Matron and Mrs. Broughton very kindly gave prizes for the successful competitors and on the final day's sport Miss Rayson contributed to the enjoyment with two Chair prizes.

Brighton Summer Sports

The Summer Sports are this year being held in the field opposite the Home and we hope for good attendances.

The next sports will take place on June 14th.

Birmingham Walk

THE team competition for the Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. F. E. Spurway, *née* Miss Avis Hodgson, was again altered this year. Last year saw an exciting tie between London and the Rest. This year saw an equally keen contest between the South and the North, which resulted in a popular victory for the North by 23 points to 29.

Although the weather was less pleasant than last year, the showers came before and after the race. This was lucky as the keen wind slowed down the majority. It was not, however, sufficient to prevent some from showing that it was not only the "cracks" who could improve. Tommy

Rouse, Alec Craigie and J. Salt all bettered last year's effort by over two minutes and thus took the handicap prizes.

In the early stages of the race, the competitors kept well together, and it began to look as if Archie Brown's supremacy was to be seriously challenged, but he gradually forged ahead. The last two miles found many tiring considerably, and eventually Archie arrived home an easy winner from Billy Trott, who had pluckily held on to second position, with H. Gover, after a hard fight, in third place.

After the race, the tea and prize distribution made a very enjoyable feature of the day. The jovial hospitality of Mr. Ernest Lees, the pleasant chairmanship of Councillor Major F. J. Wilde, M.C., the charm of his wife who kindly distributed the prizes, and the general congratulations to the St. Dunstaners made it a typical function, which encourages all to look forward to the visit to the New Inns, Hands-worth.

Each year seems to provide some feature as the "best on record," and this time, the pleasure and enjoyment of the St. Dunstaners and the smooth carrying out of the event, thanks to the willing and efficient help of the escorts, patrols and officials, must surely be the record feature.

Birmingham Walk, April 15th

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Handicap Position
1. A. Brown	1:25:33	Scratch	1:25:33	12
2. W. Trott	1:28:10	4	1:24:10	9
3. H. Gover	1:28:27	4½	1:23:57	5
4. S. K. Jerome	1:28:51	2	1:26:51	15
5. T. ap Rhys... ..	1:28:56	2½	1:26:26	13
6. J. Coupland	1:30:44	6	1:24:44	10
7. G. Fallowfield	1:30:57	7	1:23:57	5
8. P. Ashton	1:31:6	3½	1:27:36	17
9. W. Giles	1:32:8	5	1:27:8	16
10. W. S. Castle	1:34:30	10½	1:24:0	7
11. T. Rouse	1:34:58	12	1:22:58	2
12. H. Boorman	1:35:33	9	1:26:33	14
13. A. Craigie	1:36:17	14	1:22:17	1
14. R. J. Williams	1:42:43	19	1:23:43	4
15. A. Prince	1:44:53	20	1:24:53	11
16. C. Peach	1:52:2	28	1:24:2	8
17. J. Salt	1:56:28	33	1:23:28	3
A. Section Scratch Race				
A. Brown... ..	1:25:33			
W. Trott	1:28:10			
H. Gover	1:28:27			
B. Section Scratch Race				
T. ap Rhys	1:28:56			
W. S. Castle	1:34:30			
H. Boorman	1:35:33			
Team Race.				
North				
W. Trott	2			
T. ap Rhys	5			
J. Coupland	6			
W. S. Castle	10			
South				
A. Brown	1			
H. Gover	3			
H. Boorman	12			
A. Craigie	13			
23				
29				

"In Memory"

PRIVATE GEORGE STRICKLAND
(19th Bn. King's Liverpool Regiment)

We deeply regret to record the death of G. Strickland, of Liverpool.

Strickland, who was a single man, enlisted in March, 1916. As the result of a bomb explosion at Ypres in April, 1917, he lost the sight of both eyes.

He was trained at St. Dunstan's as a mat-maker, at which occupation he worked for a while, but for some years he had not been able to do much work on account of indifferent health. He was ill in hospital for some time before his death, which occurred on the 2nd April, 1939.

After a short service at the Toxteth Parish Church, which Strickland attended as a boy, the funeral took place at Allerton Cemetery. The wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was placed on the coffin, which was covered with a Union Jack.

We extend our sympathy to his relatives and friends.

PRIVATE JAMES A. PILE
(115th Gloucestershire Regiment)

We deeply regret to announce the death of J. A. Pile, of Rodborough.

Pile came to St. Dunstan's, but owing to his ill-health was unable to take up any form of training. From that time onwards he was devotedly looked after by his wife, who did everything possible for her husband's comfort. His death, which took place suddenly on the 26th March, came as a great shock to his wife as he had not been complaining unduly of feeling ill.

The funeral took place a few days later, and was attended by Mrs. Pile with her sons and daughter and other relatives. St. Dunstan's was represented by Mr. and Mrs. A. Bundy and Mr. H. A. Mussell. There were many wreaths among which was one from Sir Ian and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

We send our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Pile and her family in their bereavement.

GUNNER ALBERT EDWARD PARSONS
(Royal Field Artillery)

We record with deep regret the death of A. E. Parsons, of Sutton Courtenay.

Parsons was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in 1927, and for some time carried on a little poultry farming. Later, however, his health began to fail, and for some years past he had been a complete invalid. His wife gave him constant care and attention, but in spite of this he died on the 9th instant.

The funeral took place a few days later and was attended by various relatives and friends, the latter including Mr. J. J. Morgan, a St. Dunstan's comrade, and his wife. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Parsons and her daughter in their great loss.

PRIVATE GEORGE EDWIN MEAKES
(Royal Army Service Corps)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of G. E. Meakes, of Chelmsford.

Meakes was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in 1921. He did not, however, take up any training as at that time he and his wife were running a little business in London; some time later they moved to Chelmsford, but Meakes' health, which had not been too good, began to grow worse. For some years past he had been practically an invalid, and had been very devotedly cared for by his wife. He died on the 30th March, and was buried a few days later at Writtle Road Cemetery.

The funeral was attended by relatives and friends, the latter including Mr. T. Kent, a St. Dunstan's comrade, and Miss Kent, his sister. The local British Legion and the Women's Section were represented by Major H. S. Doe, M.C., and Mrs. Doe. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Meakes in her great loss.

Birth

WILKINS.—To the wife of G. Wilkins, of Westbury, on the 2nd May, a daughter.

Death

WOODCOCK.—We offer our deepest sympathy to R. Woodcock, of Leeds, whose mother, with whom he lived, passed away on the 4th May.

Silver Weddings

We have only just received notice that Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Powell, of Bullinghope, Hereford, celebrated their silver wedding on October 29th last year. We also extend our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Cork, of Rhodes Minnis, whose anniversary was on May 9th.

To those interested in French

A number of Linguaphone Records of instruction in French have been presented to St. Dunstan's for the use of a St. Dunstan's man wishing to learn, or improve upon, his knowledge of the language. Will any St. Dunstaner who is interested send in his name to Mr. Askew not later than Wednesday, 24th May. If more than one application is received, a ballot will be taken.

It will be understood, of course, that the records will only be of use to St. Dunstaners already owning a gramophone.