

Kenner Mastman. Woodcock. Saham - Toney Thetford -
Norfolk.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

ALL over the world on Remembrance Day, November 9th, homage was paid to the dead of the two World Wars. St. Dunstaners were among those who paraded at the Cenotaph in London, and in the country, singly or in parties, they were present at the Services at their local War Memorials. At the Royal Albert Hall the previous day, St. Dunstaners again were among the vast audience taking part in the stirring Festival of Remembrance.

For the first time in nearly thirty years I was not present at the Cenotaph in London or at the Royal Albert Hall, because I had ceased to be President of the British Legion and I had been invited to go to Glasgow for the Festival of Remembrance there, and to make a speech. This was something new for me on this moving occasion for it has not been the custom to have speeches at the London ceremony, and as I considered what I should say my thoughts ranged over the past twenty years, and in particular the lot of the disabled during that time. Some of these thoughts might interest you.

Taking it all round, British ex-servicemen were absorbed into the community after the Second Great War smoothly, effectively and fairly. I think that this was partly due to the lessons we learned from the lack of organisation and carelessness of the period after the First World War, and to the British Legion's efforts during those difficult years; partly it was due to the high employment which has characterised the years since 1945.

So far as the war-disabled are concerned, they also have enjoyed much better employment in recent years and much better pensions, both actually and relatively. Indeed, I think it may be said that Britain has done reasonably well for those who fought her battles, but the British Legion must continue to be vigilant to make sure that the people remember and that Governments do their duty.

Why do men join societies, I wondered? Sometimes, perhaps, to get something, such as a material advantage or the recognition of a policy or an ideal. At other times to remember. To remember what? Perhaps that they are Scots and are far from home, as in the case of the Caledonian Society in Johannesburg or Auckland or Toronto. Or to remember their youth, as at an Old Boys' gathering. In our case, as old soldiers, sailors and airmen, to remember our comrades who died, or afterwards as the years march on, but also, I think, to remember the regiment, the ship or the squadron and the adventure.

Shakespeare made one of his characters say, "Old men forget . . . but he'll remember with advantages what feats he did that day." Advantages clearly means, "with exaggeration," and I suspect that one of the reasons for going to a British Legion branch, especially as you get older, is that you can tell your tales of daring, or whatever it may be, assured that there is no one present to check your story, or that even if there is, he won't let you down.

The British Legion north and south of the Border has done much to keep alive the comradeship of the war years and to help those who have fallen by the way. Not least, by reminding Governments and people of their obligations to the disabled, the widowed and the fatherless, and we who have served in war and are growing older can still give something to our country by our simple acts of unity and by our forbearance and kindness.

FRASER OF LONSDALE.

Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Service

On Sunday, December 7th, at 11.15 a.m., a Service will be held at the Ovingdean Chapel to honour the memory of the Founder of St. Dunstan's, Sir Arthur Pearson, Bart. The Rev. Stanley Oliver will conduct the Service, assisted by St. Dunstan's Padre, the Rev. W. J. Taylor, and our President, Sir Neville Pearson, will read the Lesson. Lady Pearson and Lord and Lady Fraser will be present.

* * *

On the morning of Tuesday, December 9th, the anniversary of Sir Arthur's death thirty-seven years ago, a party of St. Dunstaners will leave Headquarters for Hampstead Cemetery, where a wreath will be placed upon Sir Arthur's grave.

Subscriptions of not more than one shilling towards the wreath should be sent to Mr. Lloyds, at 191 Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

Our Chairman takes his place in the Lords

Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, accompanied by his two sponsors, Lord Lovat, the Chieftain of the Fraser Clan, and Lord Astor of Hever, dressed in cloaks of scarlet and ermine, was introduced in the House of Lords on Wednesday, 22nd October, 1958.

Amongst those who attended the ceremony were a number of Peers, including Lord Teviot, one of Lord Fraser's oldest friends, and Lady Teviot, Major-General Sir Richard Howard-Vyse and Lady Howard-Vyse, Dame Regina Evans and Mr. J. R. Griffin and Mrs. Griffin representing the British Legion, Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., and Lady Pearson, and Mr. W. G. Askew and Mr. A. D. Lloyds, representing St. Dunstan's, Mr. T. Milligan, a blinded ex-serviceman and Mr. H. C. Baxter, a disabled ex-serviceman, representing the blind and the disabled, Sir John Fisher, President of the Morecambe and Lonsdale Conservative Association and Lady Fisher, Air Commodore G. Bentley Dacre, High Sheriff of Sussex and Mrs. G. B. Dacre (sister), Miss P. V. Fraser and Mr. Donald Fraser (cousins), Mr. C. A. F. McDonald (grandson), Mr. D. G. Hopewell and Miss E. Goole.

The party were entertained to tea in the House of Lords by Lord and Lady Fraser after the ceremony.

Lord Fraser's Maiden Speech

During the month our Chairman made his maiden speech in the House of Lords. In fact he made two speeches during his first fortnight there. Characteristically, both related to ex-servicemen.

In the first he said that he felt sure disabled men generally and their societies would regard the improvements made last February as a very valuable instalment. There were, however, still anomalies and he thought that these did not justify national campaigning but that it would be more effective to bring them to the notice of Ministries by way of deputation.

In his second speech, Lord Fraser said that he did not think retirement pensions for officers or men could be altered as of right for that would mean re-writing contracts or implied contracts of service going back to the Boer War or earlier. Moreover, you could not confine yourself to the military cases but would have to consider police and all Crown servants—an impossible task. However, he thought there were cases of hardship and they ought to be dealt with by Ministries on their merits.

The Sutton Club

The Sutton Club has been running for one year now. Although our President, Lady Onslow, and Mrs. Spurway and Miss Stevens, our two Vice-Presidents, were unable to be with us at last Saturday's meeting (November 1st), we got off to a flying start with the games. Bobby Daw, our Deputy Chairman, Bill Miller, George Emmerson, Pat Spring, Ernie Flynn and myself won our games and will go forward to the next round on November 29th, with the other heat winners. Of course, chaps, our Treasurer, Bob Giffard, and Miss Parsons (Florrie), our Secretary, will notify us of our opponents. I certainly hope you will all turn up on the 29th as we wish to bring the games to a close on that day. We want to be free for our last meeting of the year on the 20th December, as this will be a party night.

Will all those members who anticipate attending the Party notify me at my home address, 74 Waddon Court Road, West Croydon, Surrey, or telephone CRO. 0596 after 6 p.m.

Well, here's to our next meeting, chaps, so good luck and good health.

TED DUDLEY, *Chairman.*

St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

As we go to press the Bridge Club is holding its annual Congress at Ovingdean. On Friday, November 14th, on the eve of the Congress, the Club held its Annual General Meeting. We give below extracts from the Captain's report:

"In the following report I hope that the picture I have tried to put before you will show that the entertainment provided through the medium of Contract Bridge is something that is fully appreciated and enjoyed by all members of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club in London.

"I am very grateful to Lord Fraser of Lonsdale for his article in the REVIEW, in which he draws attention to the many pleasant hours that can be spent with your friends. Lord Fraser proved this by spending one afternoon with us; he enjoyed himself and fully intends to come again.

"The programme for the past year was as follows:

"Firstly, Bridge matches against teams from business houses of all kinds.

"Secondly, the Bridge Drives, four in all and we had eight or nine tables on each occasion. The Drives are always looked forward to as they provide clean, wholesome competition and each drive seems to bring new faces up for prizes. I would like to point out for the benefit of new members that each man plays with a sighted partner.

"Thirdly, the Pairs Competition; this goes on throughout the year and is played when the time is convenient for the men to get together. This event has gone on a little longer than was expected, but that was mainly due to the 'bus strike and the fact that several of our members were away sick, but I am glad to say that it is on the way to being completed, and you must remember the A.G.M. is a month earlier this year than usual.

"The last point I have to bring to your notice is an innovation, namely, the choosing of the team to go to Ilkley Moor. This has always been done by the Appeals Department, but they have decided from now on that it will be handed over to the Bridge Committee for, in the opinion of that Department, the Bridge Committee are the right and proper body to make the choice. I must stress this point now—when choosing a team for that engagement, they must

be men who read the card by feeling and not by sight.

"I would like to say how grateful we are to Mrs. Willis and her helpers for the wonderful way they have looked after the needs of the "inner man." The quality and variety of food and refreshments provided are always excellent—thank you, Mrs. Willis. And to that stalwart, Mr. Willis, who has helped us so much in so many different ways during the past year—thanks a lot, Bob.

"Finally, may I thank all my Committee and the members of the Club as a whole, for their help and co-operation during my year of office as Captain."

G. P. BROWN,
Captain.

"Philbert Swankau"

Dubbed with this satirical nickname by a not too admiring critic, Gilbert Frankau, in his "Self Portrait" proceeds to justify it. He has the faculty of standing off and taking an objective look at Gilbert Frankau, and often he does not appear to like what he sees. He reveals himself over self-confident, opinionated, forceful, aggressive, in fact, as he says himself an "exhibitionist." He certainly does not spare himself in his frankness and yet I think he emerges a likeable character. Perhaps one envies his push and drive, acknowledging the lack of them oneself. There must have been a lot of ability or he would not have achieved the success which he won.

I wonder whether any other Braille reader like myself, found this a rather difficult book to read. I think it must be his style or my inexperience. When a sentence starts, "Certain is that . . ." and continues with a parenthesis or two, I have to go back and read it again, sometimes three times before I get the meaning. Despite this I can recommend this lively book to any one who has not read it, to meet this stormy personality, and also glimpses of many famous people.

S. A. CHAMBERS.

Masonic

J. Swales, of Saltburn-by-the-Sea, has been appointed by the Earl of Ronaldshay, Provincial Grand Master of the Province of York, North and East Ridings, to be his Provincial Grand Senior Warden for the current Masonic year.

Letters to the Editor

DEAR EDITOR,

Being a bridge player I have read with great interest the Chairman's article on this very absorbing subject.

Let me first of all mention the points in which I am in agreement. The method of sorting the cards is adopted by most of my blind colleagues playing, there is no doubt in my mind that it has for me, and I am sure that it can be for most St. Dunstaners, a wonderful hobby as well as a means of entertaining card-playing friends.

Next I am presuming the Chairman is referring to Contract Rubber Bridge only. Over the past 20 years I have discarded this type of play in favour of the more fascinating and competitive Duplicate Bridge where the luck of the cards is completely eliminated, but admitting at the same time a game in which tempers are liable to become a little frayed, a little jealousy arises and yet friends still remain friends. It is for this reason I still prefer to entertain my own friends in my own home for the social and jolly evening. If you take the game as a whole I disagree with the Chairman about it being a relaxation. I find it a fascinating most interesting hobby, but relaxation, no. If you are at all fatigued from whatever occupation, your standard of play is affected to a greater or lesser extent—this does not matter so much in the game of Rubber Bridge but is most disastrous in the competitive field.

I disagree with the remark that we are slower players than sighted players. Admittedly when first starting all card players take quite a long time to work out their plan of campaign. With my colleagues who play for St. Dunstan's in the London Business Houses Bridge League, we find no difficulty in keeping up with the tempo of our opponents and in fact sometimes I have known when our efforts have even outpaced them.

I shall be interested to hear what other St. Dunstaners have to say about the Chairman's letter and I trust it will stimulate others to air their views and at the same time to attract many other St. Dunstaners to take up this very pleasant and attractive game.

Beckenham.

CYRIL BULMAN.

DEAR EDITOR,

Reading the Chairman's excellent analytical article on Bridge reminded me of

the following amusing story:—

"A young subaltern, arriving in the Mess for the first time, was seized by three Bridge-hungry brother officers and invited to make a fourth. Protesting that he knew very little about the game he allowed himself to be cajoled into making up the table and proceeded to make a series of blunders: after a particularly bad one the irate colonel left the table exclaiming, 'Even Horatio couldn't defend your Bridge'."

Huddersfield.

T. ROGERS.

DEAR EDITOR,

A good many years ago I realised the possibilities of bridge and made a start. I soon found that the bidding was the all-important thing to make a good player and I got the pamphlet on the Vienna, or Stern system, and just learnt it off by heart. Later I went over to Culbertson and mastered that, but realising now that Acol is the system nearest to natural bidding, I went over to that and play it whenever possible. I have taught several of my sighted friends the Acol system and am now teaching one of our own men. He is in his sixties but does not find it too much.

Being slightly deaf I always like my friends to say "one" instead of "Ace," as "Ace" and "eight" are much alike, and in calling the dummy I like the top card mentioned first.

Yours sincerely,

Rottingdean.

BRUCE INGREY.

DEAR EDITOR,

There is always a place for the beginner in our Bridge Club at London H.Q. In fact, we have one and sometimes two yearly events whereby the beginner, or shall we say the *not so good*, plays with a player of more experience in a league whereby each pair play each other pair once, and sometimes twice. This is a great scheme for encouraging and training the beginner.

As regards reading the cards, I don't think it matters what way you read, or with what finger or thumb, but for God's sake, do it quickly, so that you are not the last, and you can make your bid and play quicker, on the average, than most sighted people. Speed at this can only be obtained by constantly picking up the pack at odd moments, dealing and then assessing the points and values and then—what to bid. Then pick up the next hand and bid against the imaginary opponent. By doing this

for that odd half hour before tea, or before going to bed, your speed will come automatically.

Another way of improving your bridge is to read and thoroughly digest the bridge article in your favourite paper and then bid the hand with your own pet system and see if you arrive at the same answer, or even a better one.

I started playing regular bridge in 1938 and have never regretted it, and friendships have been made or improved through it.

Yours sincerely,

Leigh-on-Sea.

HARRY GOVER.

DEAR EDITOR,

When I wrote to you suggesting a theatre column in the REVIEW, I did not intend that it should be printed but only that you might mull it over in your mind.

However, as it has been printed, let me say that I do not feel strongly enough on the matter to make an issue of it. Nevertheless, I should like to answer some of the arguments against my suggestion, arguments which in my opinion do not hold water.

Firstly, the question of lack of space was raised. Surely this is not a valid argument. I should say that a couple of dozen lines would suffice. Secondly, the fact that a theatre column appears in *Progress* is of very little consequence. I have been a reader of this periodical for some years and I can honestly say that the only part of it that interests me at the moment is the theatre column, so if I could get a similar column in the REVIEW I should no longer need to take *Progress*.

Thirdly, the fact that many St. Dunstaners live in rural areas is a very thin argument indeed. Let me quote something that Lord Fraser said at the opening of the London Club—"London must always have a special place in the heart of St. Dunstan's, and therefore St. Dunstaners living in the London area must benefit by the facilities which cannot be made available to other more remote parts of the country." It would also benefit our men living in rural areas who make an occasional visit to London to be able to pick a play which is suitable for blind men.

Mr. Radford said it would be impossible to review plays for individual blind men. This is very true and I did not ask for that. I merely asked that plays suitable for blind men should be reviewed.

I am sure that Mr. Radford would not deny that many plays are not suitable for St. Dunstaners. Dialogue is the most essential part of a play for a blind man. Without it, it is useless. As for repetition, it is impossible to avoid it in a community like ours with such a variety of interests and periodicals.

As for your point, dear Editor, even the greatest theatre critic wouldn't dare to predict a long or short run.

Yours sincerely,

Westcliff-on-Sea.

MICKEY BURNS.

P.S. If any one can get me two tickets between now and February 1st for "My Fair Lady," I should be delighted to give you my comments! M.B.

DEAR EDITOR,

It would be helpful if you could print in the REVIEW a note as to how we should now address Lord Fraser.

Yours sincerely,

Ovingdean.

FRANK RHODES.

Editor's Note: A number of other St. Dunstaners have also made this request. Our Chairman's full title for formal occasions is: Lieut. Colonel the Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, C.H., C.B.E., but we understand it to be his wish that he should simply be addressed as Lord Fraser.

DEAR EDITOR,

I am still using the watch presented to me by Sir Arthur Pearson at the Chelsea Eye Hospital on December 18th, 1916, and it is still going strong.

Yours sincerely,

Bolton.

D. BEE.

DEAR EDITOR,

I still have the watch given to me by Mrs. Bates, sent to me before my arrival at St. Dunstan's about 1920. I dropped and broke it in the dressing rooms in 1927 and Mr. Swain offered to give me a new one for it: and in the end allowed me to keep the original which I got repaired, so have two. The original has been lent to two daughters and a son, when they were in the W.A.A.F., A.T.S. and R.A.F., with the result that it has been to Austria, Belgium, Canada (five times), Cyprus, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, and touched down at Tripoli!

Yours sincerely,

Southwick.

G. FALLOWFIELD.

Talking Book Library

Seven excellent books of miscellaneous nature should appeal this month to all varieties of taste.

"Marry for Money," by Faith Baldwin, reader Elizabeth Kendall, tells the career of a girl model in New York who, although believing herself in love with a boozy journalist, accepts the affectionate millionaire who offers her marriage. She copes with her stiff in-laws admirably but her life is complicated by a sponging father, not averse to a little blackmail when opportunity offers. The story of the endurance and strengthening of the marriage makes a pleasant change from the present day crop of matrimonial wrecks. *Cat. No. 458.*

"The Golden Princess," by Alexander Baron, reader Robert Gladwell, is set in 16th century Mexico and recounts the improbable story of the Spaniard, Cortes. History is full of the accomplishment of the impossible but this particular story is colourful, romantically barbaric and full of interest and fascination. *Cat. No. 560.*

"Brothers in Law," by Henry Cecil, reader Eric Gillett, is a fine compound of both the serious and comic sides of a very young barrister's early process of feeling his way about the Courts. *Cat. No. 308.*

"Finch's Fortune," by Mazo de la Roche, reader Eric Gillett, is the third volume in the saga of the Whiteoaks family, following *Jalna* and *Whiteoaks*. *Cat. No. 452.*

"Triple Crown," by Colin Davy, reader John de Manio, is a most pleasing study of the Turf, far more typical of the activities of normal trainers, owners and jockeys than the usual crooked epics of the track. The fluctuating fortune of the owner-breeder, his trainer, and his family is a full measure of entertainment. *Cat. No. 416.*

"Queen in Waiting," by Norah Lofts, reader Andrew Timothy, is a biography of Eleanor of Aquitaine, eventual wife of Henry II after being the widowed Queen of France. A steadfast woman who bore Richard of the Lionheart, and to add to her bitter troubles, John the Jackal as well. Interesting and very readable. *Cat. No. 480.*

"Moby Dick," by Herman Melville, reader Donald Bissett, is the epic of Captain Ahab and the white whale. A mighty tome which like the curate's egg, I found good in parts. Enthralling and sleep-making by turn and, I'm afraid, least commendable of the seven books. *Cat. No. 388.* NELSON.

Tarry in Wonderland

I recently had the privilege of being a guest for two weeks at St. Dunstan's Home at Ovingdean, Sussex. Most of you know this home has existed for a number of years and perhaps you have had the pleasing experience of staying there. For years I have always arranged to have my holidays with my family, but last year, owing to an accident whilst working at the hospital, I had to become a patient there and have an operation, which later necessitated a period of convalescence. This I spent at St. Dunstan's.

This was fortune following misfortune, for here I discovered the marvels I had been missing, so this year I took the opportunity of visiting St. Dunstan's again and stayed a fortnight. And what a wonderful fortnight! Arriving at mid-day on a Saturday in July, I was greeted by the Matron and conducted to a lift and taken to a spacious bedroom complete with wardrobe and wireless. Then down to the dining room for a particularly fine lunch, after which we went off by coach to the pier and theatre. Back to St. Dunstan's at 6 o'clock to a very appetising meal, then to a dominoes tournament, after which Horlicks and sandwiches, and so to a comfortable bed.

Next morning at 6.45 I was awakened by a cheery orderly with a hot cup of tea. Then to bathroom and breakfast.

During that fortnight there were coach trips to Lewes, Burgess Hill, Goodwood, Arundel and Brighton Races. We attended a concert at the Dome, visited the Hippodrome and Theatre Royal. There were many entertainments, including housey-housey and dominoes, with valuable prizes. We enjoyed listening to the reading of plays by the V.A.D.s and there were walks with escorts, car drives and lounging in deck chairs in the spacious sunken garden. I personally thoroughly enjoyed many hours with the talking books. Each day at intervals a coach service to and from Brighton was maintained.

It was a grand privilege to meet old St. Dunstaners and chat together, and last, but by no means least, I shall always remember the kindness received from all members of the Staff, for which I herewith thank them, and express the wish that I may "Tarry" longer another time.

S. C. TARRY, M.B.E.

—And Another Tribute

I am writing, as has been suggested, to give my impressions of a visit to Ovingdean.

My stay was so very enjoyable that it would be difficult not to be too fulsome in appreciation. Since last I was there, nearly twenty years ago, I find so many improvements that it is not easy to enumerate them all, particularly as so many are psychological.

For instance, on arrival I was greeted by name although I had not advised the time of my train. I found the cuisine above reproach and the service better than most hotels today. The custom of reading to the newcomer the list of activities he can enjoy and the names of his fellow guests is an inspiration.

Trying very hard to be critical I would have wished that when the alterations were made you had put the wash bowls in the rooms; shaving to a very lusty chorus is rather difficult to we older men and this is not the fault of St. Dunstan's, merely an indication of how happy they make their guests. One very small practical suggestion—that an ordinary brush be placed in the bathroom to clean the bath after use.

Quite frankly I cannot find anything but praise for all arrangements, staff, domestic, and otherwise, escorts, dispensary, ministered to my every need.
Parkstone, Poole. LEONARD ARNOLD.

Brighton Club Notes

Hello Brightonians! Come and support your Club by attending the Annual General Meeting on Thursday, the 11th December, at 7 p.m., and enter your names for the 1959 Sir Arthur Pearson Tournament Games.

FRANK A. RHODES.

From Mr. Forsdick

I would like sincerely to thank all the St. Dunstaners who have so generously contributed towards the T.V. set presented to me on my retirement. I will think of you all every time I look in at the various programmes. My thirty-two years with St. Dunstan's have been among my happiest and I hope to keep in touch with many of you from time to time.

With very best wishes to you, your wives and families.

FRANK FORSDICK.

Chess

There was just a round dozen who attended this year's Chess Week-end, when a handicap system was introduced for the first time. This seemed to work out very well, but alterations will be made in the handicap next year as a result of this year's games.

The first prize was shared by Bill Holder and myself, with Fred Taylor and Paul Walker sharing third and fourth places. Special prizes were awarded to J. B. Campbell, J. Culshaw and F. Kirkbright. These were braille books on Chess given by Mr. Bonham.

As is now usual, Mr. R. W. Bonham of Worcester College for the Blind, spent the week-end with us, adjudicating games when necessary, and assisting generally in running the tournament. He also devoted the Saturday evening to a talk and demonstration on how best to make use of the advantage of the handicap system.

We are very grateful to Miss Carlton for giving us so much of her time, especially as so many of the senior staff were on leave or were sick, and to Mrs. MacDonald, who made herself so useful in many ways.

Next year, in place of a talk or demonstration, we hope to arrange a match against the school boys who played a useful role again this year.

CHARLIE KELK.

DEAR CHESS PLAYERS,

Many thanks for the splendid gift you sent me; it was such a grand surprise and I appreciate your kindly thought very much.

I trust you enjoyed your Chess Week-end and I regret I was not well enough to be with you.

As I cannot write you individually, I am expressing my thanks through the REVIEW.

With every good wish,
Yours sincerely,
Pearson House. T. H. TUXFORD.

Grandfathers

J. F. C. Mash, of St. Helier, Jersey—a daughter, Christine, has been born to the wife of his son, Maurice, now serving with the Army in Cyprus. Maurice's wife is with her husband. W. Storer, of Rugby, whose youngest son's wife has had a daughter. W. E. Bignell, of Kenley, Surrey.

From All Quarters

A. C. Mitchell, of Guildford, by special invitation attended the Ceremony of Unveiling the Brookwood Memorial to Commonwealth Land Forces by Her Majesty the Queen on Saturday, October 25th. Her Majesty spoke to our St. Dunstaner for several minutes.

★ ★ ★
Sergeant Alan Nichols has just completed unaccompanied a round-the-world tour by air. When he left London Airport on November 4th, he was interviewed on the B.B.C.'s "Radio Newsreel," and in the Television Newsreel.

★ ★ ★
D. B. Elrod sent a photograph of his guide-dog, Dianna, to the Commander of the submarine *Nautilus*, which recently made the journey under the North Pole, and the photograph came back bearing the autographs of the Commander, Officers and all other ranks.

★ ★ ★
Lord and Lady Fraser went to Brighton on October 31st to visit the various Homes. St. Dunstaners took the opportunity of the visit, the first since our Chairman became a peer, to wish him good luck.

★ ★ ★
H. F. Goodley, of Pulham Market, who, as reported last month, secured four "firsts" at Norfolk Blind Gardeners' Show, has since heard that he also gained four seconds, one third and one highly commended.

★ ★ ★
At Staines Lino Horticultural Society's Show in September, E. J. West, of Egham, gained a Certificate of Merit from the National Chrysanthemum Society, three first prizes for tomatoes and flowers, and a second, a third and a fourth.

★ ★ ★
Yet another gardening success. F. C. Fullbrook, of Edgware, exhibiting at his first flower show—that of the Stanmore and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society—took third prize for a single Pink Pride chrysanthemum bloom. The local paper carried a good story and photograph.

Advertisements

FOR SALE.—A hand-weaving loom, four shaft, cheaply. Apply, Mr. H. Hurst, The Meirs, Great Longstone, Bakewell.

R.A.O.B.—A braille Rule Book, to any Brother of this Order. Please send Lodge name and address to Mr. W. W. Holmes, 35 Bath Road, Stonehouse, Glos.

"Time Shall Not Weary"

The date was November 11th, 1958, and I had attended a meeting at Eastbourne and the meeting had concluded.

As I was making my way from the hall a lady took my arm and said, "You do not know me, but I felt I must speak to you, I am one of the original St. D.'s staff in the Bungalow." This statement may not make much sense to my Second War colleagues, but to many a 14/18 chap it will ring a bell.

The lady, Miss Brown, had been a V.A.D. in the office of The Bungalow, with Capt. Roberts, and so a long chat was due. To me, a Second War bloke, with many friends from the First War, it was a pleasure.

So now I pass on to you of The Bungalow your old friend's regards. The names came tumbling from her lips, Ashton, Scotty, Webster, Rhodes, Winter, Craigie, the Aussie, many more, but space forbids my mentioning them all.

You will all be glad to know Miss Brown is very fit, and full of remembrances of you all. How I smiled when I learnt one friend of mine was to her a "nice dark young boy." When I told him he said he was now a "bald headed old bloke." Yes, Miss Brown sends her wishes and told me she hopes to pay a visit to Ovingdean in the early part of 1959, and I am sure she will once again meet some of you and she will prove that time does not weary, and as she told me, "Once a St. Dunstaner, always a St. Dunstaner"; words used by our greatest and well loved founder and friend, Sir Arthur Pearson.

JOHN A. MUDGE.

Tales Of Ind Cashing a Cheque

I was walking along a tree lined road of the little town of Muddipore when I met Paget, who had recently arrived in India and was on the staff of our office. "Where are you going?" I asked. "I'm going to the Bank to cash a cheque." We were near the bank so I went along with him. We entered the bank, a large roomy building. On the left, as we entered, was a wooden partitioned office, the Agent's office—it was a Scotch bank. On the left ran a long counter surmounted by a brass grille and behind each window sat an Indian clerk with a large open ledger before him. Beside each window, attached to the grille was a series of letters of the alphabet indicating where the customer would find

his account. "Come along," I said to Paget, "You're up here among the 'Ps'." Paget handed his cheque in to the clerk saying, "I should like the money in notes." The clerk took the cheque, examined it, entered it in a ledger and handed Paget a brass token with a number stamped on it. "What is this for?" asked Paget, looking bewildered. "You will hand that to the Cashier when he calls the number on the token," I said. We then sat down on a bench and I explained to Paget some of the mysteries of cashing a cheque in a country branch of a bank in India. I pointed to an Indian gentleman sitting at a desk at the top of the room. "That," said I, "is the sub-Agent. When your cheque has been through the hands of several more clerks it will eventually arrive on the sub-Agent's desk, and after he has initialled it it will be taken to the Agent for his signature." "Why is all this necessary?" asked Paget. "A matter of check and counter check, and I am not punning," I said. "Who is that scantily clad Indian seated cross-legged on that bed-like affair surrounded by chests and money?" "That is the cashier, he handles all the money and is personally responsible for it. He is not a servant of the bank, and in fact has to give the bank substantial security before he gets the job. In return he receives a commission on all the business that passes through his hands. I said it was a Scotch bank."

As I was speaking the cashier nodded to me that Paget's cheque had arrived and we went over to where he was seated. My friend Moti Ram, the cashier, pointed to the cheque and said, "Backside sign kia saheb?" "What does he say," asked Paget. "He wanted to know if you had endorsed it," I replied.

"Why did he say 'backside'?" asked Paget. I pointed out that Indians of the class of the cashier knew very little English and that many old English words not now in use in modern English are still current among them. For example, many Indians still speak of the cinema as the Bioscope.

"Well, we live and learn," said Paget. "Let's go along to the Club for a drink." I agreed.

DUNCAN McALPIN.

(The last two articles arrived too late for inclusion in the braille "Review," but will appear next month.—ED.)

Births

JUBB.—On November 14th, to the wife of B. T. Jubb, of Orpington, a daughter—Kathryn.

SMITH.—On October 27th, to the wife of D. W. Smith, of Worcester, a son.

Marriage

WINDRIDGE—SMITH.—On October 23rd, O. Windridge, of Wigston Magna, to Mrs. E. L. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Windridge are now living at South Wigston.

Deaths

Our deep sympathy goes out this month to the following:—

AUSTWICK.—To G. M. Austwick, M.M., of Coventry, whose wife has died suddenly.

COULSON.—To A. Coulson, of Seaton, near Hull, whose wife has died suddenly following a recent illness.

DUNCAN.—To T. Duncan, of Peacehaven, whose mother has died in Scotland, at the age of 88.

MILLER.—To E. Miller, of Leamington, in the loss of his mother.

STANWAY.—To Mrs. Margaret Stanway, of Morecambe, who lost her father on October 22nd.

Ruby Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Matthews, of St. Helens, and to Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rodgers, of Barrow-in-Furness, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on October 23rd. They had a double wedding at Marylebone Parish Church in 1918. A record was played for both couples on the B.B.C. programme, "Housewives' Choice" on the actual day of their anniversary.

Family News

C. Durkin's son, Eng. Officer F. T. Durkin, was the engineer on the B.O.A.C. Comet that flew across the Atlantic to the U.S.A. on October 4th. He has served with the Comets for many years.

Marriages of Sons and Daughters

On October 2nd, Liam McGloin, Sligo, to Miss B. H. Sheridan.

On October 4th, Rosalie Mortimer, Hull, to Roy Douglas Watts.

On October 18th, Philip Matthews, Bilston, to Miss Margaret Paget, of Sheffield.

On September 27th, Margaret Rose Read, Worlingworth, Suffolk, to Colin J. Heffer.

On August 30th, Maureen Varley, Sheldon, to Frank Smith.

"In Memory"

Private William James Dimond, *2nd Sussex Regiment*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of W. J. Dimond, of East Grinstead, at the age of sixty-one.

He came to St. Dunstan's in February, 1917, and trained as a mat-maker, and combined with this work wool rugs and string bags. For some time, however, he has been in very poor health; on October 14th his condition became much more serious and he died the following day.

He leaves a widow and grown up family, as well as a little girl of thirteen, to whom our deep sympathy is sent. Our thoughts go out particularly to Mrs. Dimond whose brother also died the following day. He had been a paralysed invalid for many years.

Gunner William John Harris, *Royal Field Artillery*

We record with deep regret the death of W. J. Harris, of Fareham. He was sixty-five.

When he came to us in February, 1920, he trained as a boot and mat-maker. He worked at these crafts for some ten years but gave up the former in the 1930's. Ill-health forced him to give up mat-making in 1949, since when he had only worked a little on string bags.

He was admitted to hospital a few weeks before his death, which occurred on October 12th. Members of Toc H and a representative of the Royal Artillery were present at the funeral, which was also attended by his St. Dunstaner friend, Mr. Prior, of Portchester, and Mrs. Prior. Mrs. Albert Ryan (formerly Miss Craddock, V.A.D.) was also present.

To his widow and family our deep sympathy is sent.

Corporal Henry Olpin, *Royal Field Artillery*

With deep regret we record the death, on October 25th, of H. Olpin, of Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol. He was sixty-four.

He served in the First World War but did not come to St. Dunstan's until December, 1950, when his age and indifferent health ruled out any training.

To his widow and grown up family our deep sympathy is sent.

Private Archie Alfred Papps, *Labour Corps*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of A. A. Papps, of Stroud, Glos., at the age of sixty-one.

Although he served in the 1914-1918 war, it was not until as recently as April of this year that he came to us, when his ill-health made training impossible. He was admitted to hospital in June, but his condition gradually deteriorated and he died there on November 10th.

He leaves a widow, four daughters and a son, to whom our deep sympathy is extended.

William Louis Pottier Smith, *Civil Defence Force*

With deep regret we record the death of W. L. P. Smith, of Eastbourne, who was our oldest St. Dunstaner. He was ninety.

He enlisted in Civil Defence as a volunteer in 1941 and was discharged the same year after being injured by incendiary bombs. He came to us in February, 1953, but his age prevented him taking any training. He lost his wife in 1954 and was cared for by his daughter-in-law. He had been coming to Pearson House for several periods this year and it was there that he died on November 12th.

We send our deep sympathy to his relatives.

Private Albert Williams, *1st South Wales Borderers*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of A. Williams, of Newport, Monmouthshire, at the age of eighty-one.

Enlisting in August, 1914, he was wounded at La Bassée, and he came to St. Dunstan's in August, 1915. He was first a poultry farmer but gave this up in 1922 owing to ill-health. He did a little mat-making for a short time and began poultry-keeping on a small scale again in 1929.

He lost his wife in 1952 and our deep sympathy goes out to his seven children.