



# REVIEW

FOR MEN AND WOMEN BLINDED ON WAR SERVICE

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At an exhibition of ex-servicemen's work some years ago, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, and Princess Margaret admire a St. Dunstaner's picnic table demonstrated by Mr. Hall.

### RETIREMENT OF MR. STANLEY HALL

#### Lord Fraser writes:

After 47 years service with St. Dunstan's, Mr. S. C. Hall, Home Industries Superintendent, retires at the end of April. It was in June, 1919, that Mr. Hall joined us straight from the Mercers' School; at that time his father, Arthur B. Hall, was in charge of workshop training at St. Dunstan's.

Mr. Stanley Hall's work has always been connected with the distribution of raw material and the marketing of goods made by St. Dunstaners. His period of service with us was broken only by his Army service in the Second World War; from 1942 to 1946 he was Lieutenant and Paymaster in the Royal Army Pay Corps. Back at St. Dunstan's he was appointed Home Industries Superintendent on the retirement of Mr. Harry Bennett in 1956.

The value of the finished articles made by St. Dunstaners and sold by Mr. Hall's Department now runs at £30,000 a year.

Among Mr. Hall's outside activities must be mentioned his work as organist at St. Mary's Church, West Hampstead. He is married and has two sons, and in his retirement will be living at St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Having worked with Mr. Hall, the subject of this note and with his father for nearly 50 years, I can say how much I appreciate what they have done for St. Dunstan's. I am sure hundreds of St. Dunstaners will agree with me and will wish Mr. Hall the best of luck.

#### NOTE

As from 1st May, Home Industries Department will be combined with the Industrial Department under the direction of Mr. G. P. Owens, with Mr. G. E. C. Zipfel as Home Crafts Manager.

**COVER PICTURE: A Spring Wedding at St. Margaret's Church, Rottingdean, on 18th March, for Bill Slade and Sally Vincent, who first met at Ovingdean. They will live at Southwick.**

### CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Last year, our Fiftieth Anniversary, I was invited to speak on the monthly radio programme for the blind called "In Touch", in which certain questions about St. Dunstan's were asked; and this year a newspaper has asked similar questions.

The questions were whether St. Dunstan's with its considerable resources should now extend its services to all the blind.

The British Legion in some of their Conferences have asked a slightly different question, namely whether St. Dunstan's should extend its objects to take care of all those ex-soldiers, sailors and airmen, who go blind in old age from a purely civilian cause.

The answer to these questions seems to me to be quite clear.

If they refer to our existing resources, our Trusts prevent our extending our objects because the money was given for British war-blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen and not for a wider section of the community. If, on the other hand, they mean that we should now widen our activities to embrace other large sections of the blind world, then we would have to make a fresh appeal to the British public to help these people. A rough calculation I have made shows that if we were to admit soldiers, sailors and airmen who go blind in old age, there would be approximately 10,000 coming to us from the First War and perhaps 8,000 from the second. Whether it be the whole blind world, or all persons who go blind in old age who served in the armed forces, this would alter the character of St. Dunstan's, which is a specialist organisation and not a general one.

St. Dunstan's has—I am glad to say—always maintained the highest standards and it is our intention to uphold these until the last St. Dunstaner has passed away.

We are proud that we are ex-servicemen, blinded in wars and warlike operations; we intend to retain our character and do our duty to the end.

### Sir Clutha Mackenzie

I have asked the Editor to reprint in these notes *The Times'* obituary notice of this distinguished St. Dunstaner and also the text of a personal note I wrote to *The Times* a day or two later:—

*The Times, March 31st*

"Sir Clutha Nantes Mackenzie, who was blinded at Gallipoli in 1915 and went on to work for the blind throughout the world, died on the 30th March in Auckland, New Zealand, at the age of 71.

"Mackenzie, the son of a former New Zealand Prime Minister, Sir Thomas Mackenzie, was born in his father's constituency on February 11th, 1895, and took his first name from it. He served with the New Zealand Mounted Rifle Brigade, and lost his sight after being wounded by Turkish artillery. Mackenzie trained at St. Dunstan's, which had just been founded, and returned to finish the war running the New Zealand Expeditionary Force's journal. After the war he organised his own country's progressive welfare system, both as an M.P. (1920-22) and as a director of the Blind Institute (1923-38).

"Mackenzie soon became an authority on blind welfare—and travelled to India (1942), China, Malaya (1947), Turkey (1950), Ceylon, Indonesia, Malaya, India (1952), Pakistan (1953), Burma (1955), East Africa (1953), among other countries, to advise on help for the blind.

## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES (continued)

"Mackenzie became Braille consultant to Unesco from 1949 to 1951 to establish a uniform Braille system throughout the world. In 1951 he set up, and was subsequently elected Chairman of the World Braille Council. He was Chairman of the International Conference on Braille music notation in 1954. In 1952 he became Chairman of the World Blind Council, and he was a member of the executive of the World Council for Welfare of the Blind. His publications included 'Tales of a Trooper' (1920) and 'World Braille Usage' (1954). He was knighted in 1935."

*The Times, April 2nd*

"Ex Trooper Clutha Mackenzie, blinded at Gallipoli, was I think the man more widely travelled and known in the blind world than any other at any time in history. His friends, of whom I was one, used to say that he never stayed with anyone in a foreign country unless it was a king, a viceroy, a rajah or a commissar. He knew better than anyone I have met how to make friends and influence red carpets!

"He rode a horse thousands of miles all over New Zealand—his native land—sometimes with the local soldiery or police or a farmer friend, but sometimes alone although totally blind. He said 'My horse could see the way even if I couldn't.' The object of this odyssey was to raise a fund to establish work for the New Zealand blind on a national scale; he succeeded.

"He initiated Braille systems in a dozen languages. He played bridge better than most people. He awakened interest in the blind in the Far East, the Middle East and Africa.

"St. Dunstan's looks upon him as one of its most notable characters; we mourn his passing, but rejoice at the memory of a kind, humorous and outstanding man."

In 1919, Clutha Mackenzie married Miss Doris Sawyer, who was a senior V.A.D at St. Dunstan's. They had two sons and three daughters. We express our deep sympathy with all the members of his family.

### *Ron Smith's Outside Tape Recording*

I am always interested when I learn that a St. Dunstaner has adopted, or developed, a new activity. I listened last night to a tape which I think ran for more than half an hour, and in which Ron Smith, a St. Dunstaner who lives on the Sussex coast, is the commentator and he is also the man who planned and made the recording. The recording is one of country sounds, such as the barking of a fox and the nightingale and many other bird sounds, and much of it was made in the early hours of the morning—a job requiring much skill and enormous patience.

I know a few St. Dunstaners who have told me that a study of bird songs and identification of them is a very pleasant hobby, but I have not previously heard of anyone who has been prepared to capture these delightful sounds by such painstaking and skilful work.

This recording is much to be admired because obviously compiled of many extracts made at different times and cleverly pieced together. The commentary is very well done and one can imagine one's self sitting with him in the countryside hearing the rustle of creatures, the sighing of the wind and, in one case, the distant sound of the Newhaven fog horn. His levels of sound are also excellent when one considers that he could not see the electronic eye but had to do it all from experience and judgement.

## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES (continued)

### *Braille*

In the January *Review* I reminded St. Dunstaners of the service we ran in earlier years whereby St. Dunstaners who were good Brailleists acted as local teachers of Braille to other St. Dunstaners who wanted to brush up their technique. I said that we would be willing to re-create a similar service if there were any demand for it, and I asked St. Dunstaners who wished to be teachers or pupils to communicate with me.

I have had letters from two willing teachers, Horace Blake, of Ross-on-Wye, and Fred Ripley, of Wimbledon, but, so far, none from pupils.

Accordingly, we will not set about organising the suggested service, but if there are any prospective pupils anywhere, more especially in the districts I have mentioned, will they please write to me?

Incidentally, I hear there was a Braille Weekend at Ovingdean in March, and Fred Ripley, who was Chairman, tells me it was a great success.

**Fraser of Lonsdale.**

## *FIRST BRAILLE WEEK-END*

We were pleased to hear, after matron had welcomed us to the First Braille Weekend in the history of St. Dunstons, that Ovingdean was installing a new American machine which could make copies of braille material, including maps. It was in keeping with the aim of our meeting which was to further the interests of those who read braille and to encourage its wider use.

We discussed Lord Fraser's scheme for refresher braille courses and agreed to do all we could to support it.

Considering incentives for people to take up braille again, we thought that an opportunity might be given to take a repeat test on any grade instead of as at present on the senior test only. The waiting time before you can qualify for a repeat test prize should be made five years instead of the present ten, which seems a long time now that most of us are past our youth. If these modifications were adopted, hundreds of St. Dunstaners would immediately qualify for a repeat test.

For those who throw braille away when they have finished with it, we hope to publish a list of addresses of individuals and institutions, both at home and abroad, who are in need of it. We were made aware by Wally Thomas and Bill Scott of the importance of braille to the deaf blind. If a contact can be found in this sphere where magazines and perhaps correspondence would be welcome, it would be particularly worthwhile.

Computer programming for the blind,

learning French by braille, and the need for more pocket-sized magazines were among other subjects discussed.

But the weekend wasn't all discussions. Commandant and Matron organised a Treasure Hunt on Saturday afternoon, followed by high tea in a Brighton restaurant and a theatre party in the evening with braille programmes. Both events were most enjoyable. At the Sunday morning service in the chapel, one of us read the lesson from braille, and another gave the address, which was on the life of Louis Braille.

We were fortunate in having the help of Commandant's secretary to take notes and supply information during the weekend, and of Mark Kingsnorth who, assisted by his wife and Miss Phillippo, must have put in some overtime supplying all the braille needed.

Finally, it was encouraging to hear a St. Dunstaner who is in his seventies, say his fluency at reading braille tended to increase rather than decrease as he grew older, and that it was a great boon to him in his retirement.

**FRED RIPLEY.**

## A Tribute to Louis Braille

I sing to salute you, Monsieur Louis  
Braille,  
For your courage and forethought that  
blazed a new trail,  
For the joy you have brought to the blind  
of all lands,  
For the key to knowledge you have placed  
in their hands,  
For the beautiful pictures of external  
things,  
These are the joys of which my muse sings.

When first in the dark of your endless  
night  
Did you dream of a sphere of perpetual  
light?  
Where rivers of wisdom and beauty flow  
Up sensitive fingers, to set hearts aglow.  
That simple Key of six little dots  
That opens the doors, by easing the locks,  
To the storehouse where treasures of silver  
and gold  
Come straight from the minds of the men  
of old.  
Contemporary thought, desires, aspirations  
Are now set free for the blind of all nations.

Did it come in a dream on some nocturnal  
breeze?  
Suggested by whispers that came from the  
trees.  
Did it drop in the pool of your mind when  
asleep?  
That pool but a part of an ocean so deep.  
Did the idea follow so strong and so sure  
That it made the pool quiver from shore  
to shore,  
And sent a wave crashing so strong and  
so great  
That it poured into consciousness when  
you were awake;  
Then stretched out your hand the Awl to  
glean,  
And gave it a chance itself to redeem  
By puncturing paper with six magic dots:  
Is this the way you undid the locks?

L. HOWELL.

## Annual Party for Blind Telephonists

On Thursday, 31st March, Shell Mex and B.P. Limited gave their customary annual party to the blind telephonists in their employment. These included our St. Dunstaners, James Blackwell, D.C.M. (Bridgwater), George Poole (Preston), Leslie Northwood (Plymouth), Henry Petty, B.E.M. (Leeds), Ronald Phillips (Steyning), William Phillips (London, E.13). The civilian blind attending were R. Churchward (Shell Haven, London), Mrs. McMillan (Southampton) and Miss M. Murphy (Dublin), together with wives or escorts.

Lord and Lady Fraser and Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., were present, so were Mr. A. D. Lloyds, Mr. and Mrs. Owens, Mrs. Lilian Brown and other members of St. Dunstan's staff.

Among the Shell Mex hosts to receive our contingent were Mr. T. R. Grieve, Company Vice-Chairman, and Mr. H. E. Barry, Mr. J. H. Buscombe, Mr. A. P. de Boer, Mr. A. L. King and Mr. F. W. J. Scott from the Directorate.

Mr. A. A. E. Morgan presided as usual at the dinner, and other members of the General Staff of Shell Mex and B.P. present were: Mrs. B. Banks, Miss E. P. Crummey, Miss A. M. Edwards, Miss P. M. Matthews, Mrs. N. M. Mallier, Mrs. V. H. B. Matika, Mr. J. E. Brett, Mr. G. E. D. King, Mr. S. H. Lake and Mr. S. W. Simmons.

It was a gay and delightful evening's entertainment. After cocktails and an excellent dinner the party were driven to Drury Lane Theatre to see the musical "Hello Dolly", and afterwards returned to Shell Mex House for coffee.

## St. Dunstaner Elected Alderman

Congratulations to Colin Beaumont-Edmonds, M.C., who was Mayor of Sutton Coldfield during the year 1964/65, on his recent election as Alderman.

## First Reunion of 1966

One hundred and sixty-four people—71 St. Dunstaners with their wives, escorts and guests—gathered at the White Hart Hotel, Windsor, on 26th March, for the first of the 1966 Reunions.

Lord and Lady Fraser presided over the occasion and during his speech after lunch Lord Fraser welcomed Gilbert Smith of Guildford, "Our new colleague, at his first reunion."

Joseph Harris, of Stoneleigh, Epsom, proposed the vote of thanks to Lord and Lady Fraser and to the staff of St. Dunstan's, particularly to Miss de Burlet, the Welfare Visitor responsible for the organisation of the reunion.

After luncheon a large part of the company listened to the broadcast commentary on the Grand National before adjourning to the ballroom for dancing—and some spontaneous community singing.

## BOOK REVIEW

### Tides and Eddies

*We invited Alderman Colin Beaumont-Edmonds, M.C., to review Lady Casey's book "Tides and Eddies" for us, and here is what he has to say. The book is published by Messrs. Michael Joseph Ltd., at 30/-.*

**I remember Lady Casey visiting me in hospital, and widening my immediate horizons by inviting me out to her Cairo flat. As you read this fascinating book, beginning as it does with a child's memory of Queen Victoria, I am sure you will find your horizons broadening too.**

With Maie Casey we travel to cities in Australia, Europe, America, the Middle East and India, meeting many interesting and well-known people.

During both world wars she helped troops on leave and in hospital, observing that time spent in the trenches or in hospital gave them opportunities for questioning standards that had previously been acceptable.

## TIDES AND EDDIES (continued)

In a book so full of people it is surprising to find a keen appreciation of flying, from one of the earliest flights to Paris, to flying solo in Australia.

As we read the book we gain a picture of Lady Casey herself, kindly, energetic, keenly observant in sight and sound, and personal qualities. Those of us who joined St. Dunstan's in Cairo and met Lady Casey there, will remember her for these very qualities and her sympathetic understanding.

This is a book that one can pick up and put down, reading a chapter at a time, each one being complete in itself, and I feel sure that what will appeal to blind readers is Lady Casey's skilful use of a very few words to draw an imaginative picture of countryside and character, appearances and people.

## TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS NEAR HEADQUARTERS

A further traffic diversion will be coming into operation near Headquarters in May. Traffic lights are being installed at the Lisson Street/Chapel Street junction (the junction halfway between the Edgware Road Metropolitan Line Station and the point where Chapel Street joins the Marylebone Road), as heavy southbound vehicles are being diverted along Lisson Street.

## H.M.S. DAEDALUS CALLING

*Lee-on-Solent, Hants*

Fifty St. Dunstaners are invited to spend a week as guests of the Royal Navy from Friday, 19th August, to Saturday, 27th August. Please send in your entries before Friday, 6th May. Camp fee, £2 0s. 0d., payable in Camp. Fares Refund—over first £1 10s. 0d., limit of £5 0s. 0d. only refund on any one fare.

**Mrs. Spurway, The Vicarage, Holmwood, Dorking, Surrey.**

## CLUB NEWS

## Midland Club Notes

Our meeting held on Sunday, 13th March, was once again poorly attended, but it was quite a good one for all that. We started a domino "league" in which each member will play every other member, and prizes will be given for final placings at the end of the year.

The domino knockout competition was held up this month, as members who should have played matches were not there. Any competitor who misses two months' meetings will automatically be scratched from the knockout competition. This will give a bye into the next round to his opponent.

Tea was arranged for us by Mrs. Bilcliff, to whom we offer grateful thanks for a fine spread.

We had a very good attendance at our meeting held on Sunday, 3rd April, and the support given by members to our "Bring and Buy" sale was excellent. Several bargains were picked up in one way or another, even the kiddies went away with books, etc., under their arms. The committee would like to thank everyone who brought items to sell and then bought things brought by other members. It was such a success that we must look into the idea again later in the year.

We also managed to get several games of dominoes off, and we are in the quarter-final stage of the knockout competition.

We were pleased to see Mrs. Varley with us again, Ernie could not make it owing to ill-health. Three or four other members were unable to attend because of sickness.

We have had quite a good response to our outing to Church Stretton on Sunday, 12th June, and very few seats are left.

Mrs. Kibbler arranged the tea for us, and we thanked her most warmly for a very excellent spread.

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, 8th May, at 3 p.m. prompt. Let us have another good crowd there. The more the merrier.

D. E. CASHMORE,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

## TRIBUTE TO BILLY TROTT

I am sure those of us who were members of the Midland Club would like to pay a tribute to Billy Trott, who died in March at Pearson House.

How good Billy was to all the totally blind members of the Club, assisted by Percy Cashmore, he would use every bit of his sight to help at sports and to do escort duty for totally blinded members—nothing was ever too much trouble. He had a heart of gold. So this is to say thank you, Billy, we all remember you with affection.

AVIS SPURWAY.

## Sutton Club Notes

At the Annual General Meeting of the Sutton Club, held Saturday, 2nd April, which was well attended, Mr. Alf Shaw presided. It was everyone's wish that Ted Dudley and George Jenrick should carry on as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, also Bill Kennedy to continue as Treasurer.

Sir Arthur Pearson games are in progress, these are in the hands of Bobbie Dow.

Monthly meetings are held at the Adult School, Sutton, next meeting 21st May, at 2.30 p.m.

Several outings are being arranged for the summer; first one on 14th May is for Blenheim Palace.

Anyone interested in our activities, please ring Ted Dudley at Croydon 0596, or George Jenrick at Croydon 3066.

J. TAYLOR.

## CLUB NEWS (continued)

## Cardiff Club Notes

Very few members attended this meeting owing to illness and very bad weather.

It is with very deep regret that we have just heard of the sudden death of Arthur Wheeler, one of the very first members of this Club. Arthur attended the Club regularly until his illness and was the first secretary. He was a very staunch member. To Mrs. Wheeler and her family we send our sincere sympathy.

The next meeting of the Cardiff Club will be on Saturday, 14th May.

D. STOTT,  
*Secretary.*

## BRITISH LEGION NEWS

Francis Hicks, of Teddington, has been elected Chairman of his local British Legion Club. He is a past Chairman of the Branch.

Our St. Dunstaner, E. M. Goundrill, of Keyingham, Nr. Hull, has been re-elected President of the local branch of the British Legion.

S. C. Loram, of Brixham, Devon, has just had to resign from the Presidency of his local British Legion, a position he has held for many years and which he is sad to give up, but his health will not permit him to continue. He has been a good President and has done much to keep this active Branch alive.

## REWARD

Our readers will remember a story in the October number of the *Review* concerning Robert, aged fifteen, son of our St. Dunstaner, L. Thompson, of Gateshead, Co. Durham, who with a friend rescued two men who got into difficulties whilst swimming.

We are now glad to report that Robert has received an award from the Royal Humane Society for this rescue.

## BRIDGE NOTES

## HARROGATE

*St. Dunstan's Party*

The Harrogate Bridge Week will be held this year from 10th to 17th September. The following have already sent in their names to play this year:

Mrs. V. Formstone, M. Delaney, R. Fullard, B. Ingrey, C. Kelk, P. Nuyens, F. Rhodes and A. Smith.

Any other bridge player wishing to join the party should send in his name to me as soon as possible, as we have been requested to limit the number not to exceed twelve. The hotel charges are £1 15s. 0d. per day, plus 10 per cent for service.

The fourth "Individual" Competition, Brighton Section, was held on Saturday, 26th March. The results were as follows:—

M. Clements and C. Kelk, 45;  
B. Ingrey and J. Chell, 39;  
S. Webster and A. Smith, 37;  
J. Whitcombe and F. Rhodes, 35;  
H. Boorman and Partner, 34;  
R. Goding and W. Burnett, 26.

The fourth "Individual" Competition, London Section, was held on Saturday, 2nd April. The results were as follows:—

R. Stanners and F. Mathewman, 83;  
P. Nuyens and G. Brown, 71;  
R. Fullard and G. Andrew, 66;  
G. T. Simmons and W. Scott, 64;  
R. Bickley and Partner, 63;  
H. Kerr and P. Pescott-Jones, 62;  
F. Jackson and M. Tybinski, 48;  
E. Carpenter and H. Meleson, 47.

P. NUYENS.

## MR. AND MRS. ASTBURY

No doubt St. Dunstaners will wish to join in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Astbury very many congratulations on the celebration of their Ruby Wedding on 3rd April, 1966. Mr. Astbury was for some years basket instructor at Ovingdean although, of course, he has now retired.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From D. B. Elrod, of Norton, Sheffield

## WHERE E'ER WE WALK

Man and Dog possibly came together in the Stone Age to their mutual benefit some 20,000 years ago.

Throughout its development as a species the dog's ability to adapt to the needs of man is hardly less impressive than the ability of man to the requirements of his own environment. The modern Guide Dog is the product of years of man's association and co-operation with the dog.

Man has through the ages of time found that although blind, he could have the assistance of the dog to take him from place to place without human aid and this gave him a sense of freedom.

Even this appeared better than the more usual method of the blind leading the blind by walking in a line a hand on the shoulder of the person in front, a very common sight in past days. I remember the first St. Dunstan's poster I saw of blind soldiers walking over a battlefield in a long line, a hand on the shoulder of the man in front, in 1915—a very sad sight.

The modern method of guiding by the new type of sticks is worthy of high praise. I feel that even the most efficient form of stick is still a method lacking warmth and true companionship. We all have our own ideas of having mobility, and I prefer the warm companionship and confidence of my beloved companion and friend, Dianna. We have travelled over 108,000 miles alone and every day is a new adventure and the making of new friendships. Since the death of my wife a little over two years ago I have lived alone, and there is no doubt in my mind

that without Dianna I could not have conquered the new problems that arose.

We enjoy a very happy and intimate life together, and this I know could not be compared with living with a white stick. One cannot get much companionship or loyalty from a stick. I agree that caring, feeding and looking after a Guide Dog is a duty that needs all one's attention, but the reward is worth all that you can give to a devoted companion. You cannot talk to a stick.

I know the argument that a Guide Dog can, it is often said, be a handicap, but I have found that when I arrange my tours that I have never met any difficulties with hotels, and we are always catered for at Theatres, Cinemas and Concerts or whatever functions we care to visit. With planned living with a Guide Dog you can lead a very full and happy life.

I sincerely appreciate all the research that goes into the work of making the stick a more safe and secure method of travel, yet I still feel that man's oldest and best friend the dog is the ideal companion and guide for man.

From Dave Thomas, of Warrington.

Chess, as many St. Dunstaners will already know, is a game of skill between two opponents who start with an equal number of pieces, of equal value and, therefore, both start with an equal chance of winning.

This, I submit, is not the case with Bridge, and yet the *Review* bombards its readers (not all Bridge players) with notes, articles and reminders about tournaments arranged for the Bridge players. Far too much publicity is given to such a well established game as Bridge, and not nearly enough to the up and coming game of Chess.

However fervently Bridge players may defend the game, I can see very little skill attached to it; like all other card games, if one is not dealt a good hand of cards one cannot play a good game.

Mr. J. A. ABRAHAMMS

*A life of service to the blind*

Mr. J. A. Abrahams will be retiring at the end of April, having spent virtually the whole of his working life in the service of the blind.

On leaving school, he joined the National Institute for the Blind in 1915, with whom he served for twenty-five years, acquiring a wide knowledge of the many then innovations which, today, are perhaps more commonplace. This experience proved to be of great value when, after working during the war as an engineer in the Radar Section of Messrs. E.M.I., he joined St. Dunstan's in August, 1945. He became one of the Industrial Department's team concerned with the placement of new war men (in the main) in factories all over the country. His first-class engineering experience has been of great value in serving the very many St. Dunstaners with whom he has been concerned.

More recently arthritis has restricted his mobility, and we would want to wish him a successful outcome of pending hospital treatment. May both Mr. and Mrs. Abrahams enjoy good health and every happiness in retirement.

★ ★ ★

With the retirement of Mr. J. A. Abrahams, we are happy to announce the appointment of Mr. J. J. Barlow to the post of Technical Industrial Visitor.

Mr. Barlow comes to us after many, many successful years as an engineer with a South London factory combine. The area he will be taking over will be Greater London, the Home Counties, East Anglia, as far as and including Yorkshire, and we do wish him every success in his new duties.

G.P.O.

## TALKING POINT

We all know the "sympathy for the blind" bit can be overdone, and recently at Middlesex Sessions there was a case in point. An elderly, near-blind lady was prosecuted by a grocery firm for the alleged theft of two shillings worth of almonds. She was acquitted, and afterwards a spokesman of the firm was quoted as saying that the prosecution would not have been brought had it been known that the lady was nearly blind. Nobody would wish to see a guilty person let off simply because he or she were blind, but, perhaps more important, such misplaced mercy could leave a stain on an innocent character.

In the present case the blind lady commented bitterly on the firm's statement after the hearing: "I did not want to be acquitted because I was blind, but because I did not steal."

## 65th Birthday Party

More than 60 friends and relations, many of them in wheelchairs, gathered at St. Philip's Church, Hove, for the 65th birthday of our St. Dunstaner, Percy Stephens.

The party was arranged by his wife, Ethel, as a joint birthday party and social for members of the local branch of the Disabled Drivers' Association, of which she is treasurer.

She and Percy were married at St. Philip's in 1930. He had been paralysed by illness contracted during the First World War, but did not lose his sight until 1957. He went to St. Dunstan's each day to learn Braille and typing, and Mrs. Stephens, too learned Braille, so that they could read together.

Percy is very fond of racing, and he and his wife often go in their Ministry of Pensions car to various local race meetings.

## NELSON'S COLUMN

## Five Drops among the April Showers

Two farming stories, a thriller, vengeance and "The Bomb" make a strange quintet this fickle month.

"Silver Ley", by Adrian Bell, reader *Stephen Jack*, is a homely account of a young man starting to farm 50 acres just after the 1914-18 War. A book of very restful reading with day to day events recorded and a continuing warmth of feeling for the countryside and country-folk. A horse, a cow, a harrow and a plough, plus Walter, a boy and a thirst for work, seem to be the essentials for starting a farming career at that particular moment in time with some possibility of prospering.

"The Cherry Tree", by Adrian Bell, reader *Stephen Jack*, stood massively before the living-room window of Silver Ley Farm, and the author uses its falling during a gale one night to narrate how his family came to join him, how his mother's "get rich quick" poultry scheme evaporated how he brought home a wife, moved the henhouses and resumed proper farming again. This reasonable account shows that between the wars and long before that the land workers had as raw a deal as any sectional interest in the country. Unfortunately I was born in Lincolnshire, and I know full well that prosperous or broke, it is a farmer's first duty always to grumble.

"The Upfold Witch", by Josephine Bell, reader *Arthur Bush*, has a cloud of dust which is proudly labelled "Prologue". Ten years later a retired Doctor buys the house in Sussex featured in the prologue. He and his wife meet superstitious prejudice against the wife of the previous owner which arouses their curiosity. Digging near the henhouse, the doctor unearths a female human skeleton minus a head but plus a broken breast-bone and a sharpened stake. Locals, aided and abetted by local police, try to make the doctor look foolish by sub-

stituting a school of anatomy skeleton for his find. Doctor gets cross and starts delving deep into the woman's history and the roots of witchcraft in the village. He crosses up the police and manages to solve the mystery to his own satisfaction and to the discomfiture of several prejudiced locals.

"A Man from Nowhere", by Elspeth Huxley, reader *Corbett Woodall*, sets out as the story of a man's vengeance which is pinpointed on a Cabinet Minister. A farm, "Chaffins", is the Minister's home, and the anti-hero finds a job as cowman. At various moments in the book the poor chap's life story is pieced together. Martin, elder son of the Minister, frustrated the first attempt at assassination, then makes the error of trying to blackmail his father's would-be killer. Whereupon, anti-hero dashes off with Julia, Minister's daughter, on a glorious weekend. Quite a nice logical twist at the end which everyone may cry out against, but should not as it is the only decent thing in the story.

"The New Men", by C. P. Snow, reader *Eric Gillett* is, behind all the scientific research, a story of two brothers, Louis Elliott, a man of law, and Martin, a research physicist. The scene is set in 1939 when the head of the department in which Louis works whispers to him the faint possibility of a fission bomb and of setting up a research centre at Barford manned by refugee scientists. Martin is duly drafted to Barford and he and his boss race to get the bomb before the enemy. Because of a terrible accident Martin's boss only manages the bomb after Chicago have made several. All through the book Martin, nine years younger than Louis, is busy throwing off his younger brother complex. His final success in refuting that complex is, to say the least, quixotic. He turns down the post of Head of Barford to become a second-rate academic physicist for life.

## OVINGDEAN NOTES

Arrangements for the Beginners' Sports are now being put in hand, and those who have made application will be hearing from Ovingdean direct in a few days.

We would like to remind readers that Commandant must have all applications for the main sports weekend (3rd to 5th June) not later than the first week in May . . . so if you have not written yet don't delay—get out that typewriter now!

★ ★ ★

## BRONZE MEDAL

Congratulations to Manny Corbettis on passing the Bronze Medal Test for Ballroom Dancing on 6th March this year. The test in which he was commended, was carried out by Mr. Carl Bryant of the National Association of Teachers of Dancing. Manny was partnered for this by Miss Sheila O'Kane, and his award was presented to him by the Principal of the Grafton Ballroom, Dulwich, Miss Phyllis Walker.

## DERBY SWEEPSTAKE, 1966

The closing date of the Derby Sweepstake is Wednesday, 11th May.

Tickets are 2s. 6d. each, and are limited solely to St. Dunstaners or St. Dunstan's trainees.

Each application must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

The name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, should be sent, with the stamped addressed envelope, to the Editor, *St. Dunstan's Review*, 191 Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

The Draw will take place at the London Club on the evening of Thursday, 19th May.

All those drawing a horse will be notified.

## WANTED

Second-hand camping equipment suitable for two adults and three children. Anyone wishing to sell their equipment please get in touch with P. R. Duffee, Esq., Kingston-on-Thames 5249.

## Nuffield Talking Book Library for the Blind

## Additional Tape Titles—FICTION

Cat. No.		Playing Time Hours approx.
947	BOWEN, ELIZABETH—THE HEAT OF THE DAY (1949) Read by Duncan Carse. A widow in wartime England is faced with an agonising decision when told that her lover is betraying his country.	12½
960	DICKENS, CHARLES—NICHOLAS NICKLEBY (1838) Read by George Hagan. Introducing Squeer's Academy for Boys and Mr. Vincent Crummles Theatrical Touring Company.	38
958	FARNOL, JEFFERY—BELTANE THE SMITH (1915) Read by Gabriel Woolf. In medieval England fierce battles and valiant deeds, loyalty, love and trickery all play their part in Beltane's struggle to defeat a tyrant.	20
926	FITZGERALD, F. SCOTT—THE GREAT GATSBY (1926) Read by John Dunn. At the centre of this picture of the Jazz Age stands the enigmatic figure of Gatsby in his fabulous Long Island mansion.	5½
953	HARTLEY, L. P.—THE SHRIMP AND THE ANEMONE (1944) Read by David Geary. The childhood of Eustace and his puritanical sister Hilda, "whose aim is to mould her brother in the image of her ideal".	8½
954	HARTLEY, L. P.—THE SIXTH HEAVEN (1946. Sequel to 953) Read by David Geary. As an Oxford undergraduate enjoying his social life, Eustace is still dominated by Hilda. Trying to free himself he encourages her romance.	7½

## FAMILY NEWS

**Births**

MCCORMACK.—On 11th March, 1966, to the wife of Peter McCormack, of Shoreham-by-Sea, a son, Roland Clifford—a brother for Tyrone.

TREGLOWN.—On 7th April, 1966, to the wife of the Reverend G. L. Treglown, of Cricklade, Wiltshire, a daughter, Catherine Charlotte.

**Adoption**

Pamela Brockington, daughter of our St. Dunstaner, H. Biggs, and her husband, have adopted a little daughter aged 7 months.

**Marriage**

SLADE—VINCENT.—On 18th March, 1966, W. Slade of Wisbech, to Miss R. G. Vincent, of Cheam, Surrey, at St. Margaret's Church, Rottingdean, Sussex.

**Ruby Weddings**

Warmest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Millen, of Birchington, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary in April, 1965.

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Pearce, of Hendon, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 3rd April, 1966.

**Golden Wedding**

Very many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Edwards, of Sandy, Bedfordshire, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 30th March, 1966.

**Grandfathers****Congratulations to:—**

T. Brougham, of Liverpool, on the arrival of his 10th grandchild.

W. E. M. Blandy, M.A. of Pangbourne, Berks, on the birth of a grandson on 7th April, 1966.

**Grandfathers (continued)**

T. Cox, of Egham, Surrey, on the birth of his ninth grandchild, Alison Jane, born on 7th October, 1965.

A. A. Howell, of Colindale, who became a grandfather for the second time, when his daughter, Mrs. Michael Ball, gave birth to a son on 10th March, 1966. The baby is to be called Michael.

B. Priest, of Tipton, who has become a grandfather for the second time recently, when his married daughter gave birth to a son, Jamie, in the United States of America.

J. A. Smith, of Seaford, Sussex, on the birth of a grandson, Gregory John, born on 16th March, 1966.

K. Ward, of Winchester, who became a grandparent for the 10th time on 14th February, when his daughter, Mrs. Marjorie Pain, gave birth to a son, Sean Patrick.

**Great-Grandfathers****Many congratulations to:—**

R. Chandler, of Richmond, Yorks., on the arrival of his second great-grandchild on 23rd December, 1965. He is to be called Nicolas Eric.

★ ★ ★

Senga, daughter of A. H. Boseley, of Wallasey, Cheshire, was married to Iain Berriman, on 16th April, 1966.

★ ★ ★

Sonia Cummings, daughter of G. W. Cummings, of Verwood, was married to John Bamsey, of Verwood, in the Parish Church, Verwood, on 12th April, 1966.

★ ★ ★

Denise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Deyes, Hull, was married to James Bratton on Easter Saturday, 9th April, 1966.

## FAMILY NEWS—continued

Trevor, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Westby, of Manchester, was married to Patricia Jackson on 2nd April, 1966.

Our St. Dunstaner, G. Moore, of Blackpool, reports that his son, Thomas, a regular soldier for 20 years, has just been commissioned as a captain from quartermaster sergeant.

Patricia, aged fifteen, and daughter of F. J. Nicholson, of Beeston, Notts, has done very well at school. She is top of all the second year pupils, top of her Form in French and received book prizes at the annual Prize-giving at the end of the Spring Term.

**Deaths**

We send our very sincere sympathy to:—

P. Booth, of Bredon, near Tewkesbury, whose father died suddenly on Sunday, 20th March, 1966.

J. M. Lucocq, of Cardiff, who mourns the death of his eldest son at the beginning of January.

A. F. Cooke, of Hereford, who mourns the death of his mother on 20th March, 1966. She was 90 years of age.

W. Robinson, of Oasby, Nr. Grantham, Lincs., on the death of his wife on 21st March, 1966. She died after a long and painful illness.

A. Taylor, of Stourbridge, Worcs., on the death of his wife in hospital on 31st March, 1966.

A. C. Wheeler, of Rhondda, who mourns the death recently of his eldest sister.

C. H. Wheeler, of St. Albans, whose wife died on 3rd April, 1966. She had been ill for some considerable time.

**In Memory****Alfred Daniel Andreassend, 26th Infantry Battalion, New Zealand**

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of Alfred Daniel Andreassend, of Onehunga, Auckland, whilst travelling as a passenger in a car, on 19th February, 1966, at the age of 59 years.

Mr. Andreassend enlisted in June, 1940, and served with the 26th Infantry Battalion, New Zealand, until his discharge in July, 1945. He was wounded, receiving multiple injuries, and was trained in New Zealand.

His funeral was attended by a large representation of St. Dunstaners in New Zealand, together with members of the Returned Services' Association and the P.O.W. Association.

To his widow and two sons we send our very sincere sympathy.

**Alfred Beddows, Worcestershire Regiment**

We have to record with deep regret the sudden death at his home on 19th March, 1966, of Alfred Beddows, of Burntwood, near Walsall, Staffs. He was 70 years of age.

He served in the Worcestershire Regiment from 1916 to 1919, but his eyesight did not deteriorate until quite recently, and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1959.

On account of his age he did not undertake any training and it was only latterly that his health began to fail.

To his sister, Mrs. E. Clements, who looked after him, and to other members of the family we send an expression of very sincere sympathy.



*In Memory—continued***Frank Ambrose Bennett, A.D.U.S.**

With deep regret we have to record the death of Frank Ambrose Bennett, in Australia, on 7th October, 1965, at the age of 69.

He enlisted with the 27th A.D.U.S. in January, 1915, and served with them until his discharge in 1919. Frank Bennett was English by birth and he was on duty with the Territorials on the Procession Route at the Coronation of King George V.

To his widow and two grown-up children we send our deepest sympathy.

**Douglas Hector Breed, 26th Battalion, 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force**

We have to record with deep regret the death of Douglas Hector Breed, of Blockhouse Bay, Auckland, New Zealand, on 21st January, 1966. He was 42 years of age.

He enlisted in December, 1941, with the 26th Battalion, 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force, and served with them until his discharge in March, 1946. He was wounded in December, 1944, by bomb blast which resulted in injuries to his face, spine and foot. Unfortunately his health was too poor for him to undertake any training and he spent many years in hospital. He was interred in the Waikumete Soldiers Cemetery.

To his widow and three children we send our deepest sympathy on their sad loss.

**Thomas Arthur Carter, Royal Army Medical Corps**

We have to record with deep regret the death at his home on 22nd March, 1966, of Thomas Arthur Carter, of Darlington, Co. Durham. He was 79 years of age.

He served with the Royal Army Medical Corps from 1915 to 1918 and was wounded in France in 1917. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918 and trained in mat making and also took up the occupation of poultry farmer. He carried on both these occupations until ill-health compelled him to give up. Although his health had been indifferent for some time his death, nevertheless, was sudden.

To his widow and grown-up family we send an expression of very sincere sympathy.

**Bernard Fitzpatrick, 1st Border Regiment**

It is with deep regret we have to record the death, suddenly at his home, on 22nd March, 1966, of Bernard Fitzpatrick, of Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs. He was 72 years of age.

He served in the 1st Border Regiment from 1914 to 1919 and was wounded at Poperinghe. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1919 and trained in the making of baskets and rugs and carried on these occupations for some considerable time. He enjoyed holidays every year at Brighton and only left Pearson House in February after two months stay there.

To his widow and family we send an expression of very sincere sympathy.

**John Thomas Kerr, Royal Field Artillery**

With deep regret we have to record the death of John Thomas Kerr, of Rhos-on-Sea, Denbighshire, North Wales. He was 73 years of age.

He served with the Royal Field Artillery from 1914 to 1919 coming to St. Dunstan's when he lost his sight in 1961. On account of his age he did not undertake any training, but was able to enjoy a holiday at Brighton. Before coming to St. Dunstan's he and his wife spent thirteen years in Australia and returned to the United Kingdom just before the outbreak of the Second World War. John had been gravely ill a few weeks before he died.

To his widow and grown-up family we send an expression of very sincere sympathy.

**James Ross MacPherson, 193rd Canadian Expeditionary Force**

We have to record with deep regret the death on 9th February, 1966, of James Ross MacPherson, of Cumberland County, Nova Scotia, Canada. He was 70 years of age.

He enlisted with the 193rd Canadian Expeditionary Force in March, 1916, and was wounded in December, 1917, and discharged from the Forces in June, 1918. He came to St. Dunstan's in September, 1918, and trained as a masseur, returning to Canada in July, 1920, to take up a hospital appointment. He came to England again in 1929 for an extended stay, returning home in 1931.

We offer our sincere sympathy to his family and friends.

**Gerald Lowry, 5th Royal Irish Rifles**

We have to record with deep regret the death at Pearson House on 21st March of Gerald Lowry, of Brighton, at the age of 76.

He was wounded in October, 1914, and became one of the very first St. Dunstaners. He trained and practised for many years as an osteopath and his interests included athletics, especially swimming, and bridge. His health had been poor for some time.

To his widow and other members of his family we send our deepest sympathy.

*In Memory—continued***Cyril Moloney, New Zealand Forces**

It is with deep regret we have to record the death on 28th February, 1966, of Cyril Moloney, of Rocky Bay, Waiheke Island, New Zealand.

He served during the first World War with the New Zealand Forces and his sight had failed gradually over the years. His health deteriorated sharply a few weeks before his death and he was eventually admitted to hospital.

To his widow and son we send our deepest sympathy.

**John Nolan, 1st Battalion Inniskillings**

We have to record with deep regret the death of John Nolan, of Acton, on 23rd March, 1966. He was 55 years of age.

He enlisted in the 1st Battalion Inniskillings in May, 1929, and served with them throughout the Second World War until his discharge in 1946. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's at the end of 1945.

On his return from the Far East, where he had been a Prisoner-of-War, he was nursed back to health and then entered Ovingdean for training. On completion of his training he became a boot repairer, but later obtained work as a packer in a factory. He afterwards went to a number of factories but finally in 1958 he joined the staff of the Sussex Rubber Company. In 1963 his health began to deteriorate fast and last year he had a serious operation.

He was nursed devotedly all through his illness by his wife, and our sincere sympathy is extended to her and the two young sons who have done everything possible for their Father.

**Alfred Edward Roberts, Worcester Regiment**

We have to record with deep regret the death at Pearson House, where he was staying temporarily, of Alfred Edward Roberts, of Worcester, on 20th March, 1966. He was 46 years of age.

He served in the Worcester Regiment from 1939 to 1943 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1962 when on account of his illness he was not able to contemplate any training. He had been gravely ill for some time.

To his widow and son, Christopher, we send an expression of most sincere sympathy.

**Sydney R. Sach, Croix de Guerre (Belgium), 12th Battery, 4th F.A.B.**

With deep regret we have to record the death on 27th June, 1965, of Sydney R. Sach, of Gordon, New South Wales, Australia. Mr. Sach enlisted in 1914 and served with the 12th Battery, 4th F.A.B., until his discharge in 1919. He was a victim of mustard gas poisoning at Villiers Bretonneaux and was awarded the Croix de Guerre (Belgium) in 1917.

To his widow and family we send our deepest sympathy.

**Thomas Selby, Labour Corps**

It is with deep regret we have to record the death on 12th April, 1966, of Thomas Selby, of Cardiff. He was 88 years of age.

He served in the Labour Corps from 1915 to 1917 and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1931.

Until recently he had been in fairly good health and he always enjoyed being present at annual Reunions.

To Mrs. Bines with whom he lodged and to his family we send an expression of most sincere sympathy.

**Sydney Gerrard Silcock, Royal Australian Air Force**

It is with deep regret we have to record the death on 13th October, 1965, of Sydney Gerrard Silcock, of Teralba, New South Wales, Australia.

He enlisted with the Royal Australian Air Force in May, 1940, and served with them until his discharge in 1947. He was trained as a basket maker.

To his widow and family we send our very sincere sympathy.

**Thomas Edward Whitmore, Royal Army Service Corps**

We have to record with deep regret the sudden death at his home in Arklow, Co. Wicklow, Republic of Ireland, on 27th March, 1966, of Thomas Edward Whitmore, aged 71 years.

He served with the Royal Army Service Corps from 1915 to 1922 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1949. He was a fine St. Dunstaner and very independent.

To his relatives we send an expression of most sincere sympathy.

## VOTE BURNS

### KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES

Electorate: 57,705. 1964: 58,884

Boyd-Carpenter, J. A. (C.)	..	22,781
Cook, J. S. (Lab.)	.. ..	14,915
Burns, M. F. (L)	.. ..	6,722
C. majority	.. ..	7,866

### NO CHANGE

*Just an inch in 'The Times' election results pages, but one name is familiar—M. F. Burns is our St. Dunstaner, better known as Mickie Burns. Although he ran under different colours his candidacy recalls Lord Fraser's accounts of electioneering excitement in the 1920s in his book "Whereas I Was Blind". To get the feel of an election in 1966 the Review spent some time with Mickie and his wife, Margot, during his campaign in Kingston:*

It is a bright but cold morning outside the Hawker Siddeley building where the candidate is due to address lunch-time workers. Two local party workers arrive. They are not sure when the factory workers come out and they are worried about the candidate's timetable. A funeral procession forming up outside a nearby house is another cause for concern. "You can't very well talk through a loudspeaker over a funeral."

A Morris Minor estate car decorated with stickers "Vote Burns" with a loud-

speaker on its roof arrives right on time. The funeral procession draws away—just in time.

The first trickle of workers begins to emerge from the factory. Margot, driver, critic, adviser and leaflet distributor, is busy outside the gates handing out literature. The voice of the candidate booms across the road: "Good morning, this is your Liberal candidate, Michael Burns. You need the Liberals; the Liberals need your vote."

In a lull Mickie explains that on this

sort of operation it is essential to speak in slogans, otherwise the people passing only catch part of the message.

Seen at close quarters the behaviour of the electorate is amusing. The Hawkers workers stroll in the sun or look in shop windows. They are listening but making a pretence of nonchalant inattention. Three young men take cover behind an ornamental arch on the green. Mickie, told that he has an audience, turns to a brief outline of industrial policy. The lunch period passes and the stream of workers heads back into the factory. Some slogans as a parting shot: "Vote Burns on Thursday—This is Michael Burns, your Liberal candidate."

Over lunch Mickie Burns, an experienced campaigner, having fought Putney and Reading parliamentary constituencies and served as a Councillor in Southend, talks about electioneering.

"Is blindness a handicap? Not really. Take canvassing: a sighted candidate would never be allowed to canvass alone, so I am no different. In meetings the fact that I can't see the person asking the question can be an advantage. People often look aggressive when they stand up to ask their question and this may affect one's reply. Not being able to see them I can answer the question objectively."

He makes a point of questions, keeping speeches short to allow plenty of question time. At small meetings he goes among the audience. After a big meeting he likes to go to the back of the hall to answer questions for those who hesitate to speak in public. "I find people are more relaxed if they can talk to me like that—sometimes we go on long after the main audience has gone home."

Mickie Burns does not find people are specially sympathetic to a blind candidate, "Although there was one old lady when we were canvassing who said 'Yes' to me but shook her head to my sighted companion!" On the whole people are more polite rather than sympathetic, he concludes. "They wouldn't slam the door in my face. Of course things weren't always like this. I remember Lord Fraser telling me about his campaigns in the 1920s. I believe they even stoned his



Addressing lunch-time workers.

car once. We are lucky election crowds are more civilised nowadays."

After lunch a tour of Kingston with the loudspeaker. "This is Michael Burns your Liberal candidate—Vote Liberal—Vote Burns"; then in the approach to the town centre we see a Conservative loudspeaker van becalmed in the thick traffic. A neat switch of lane by Mrs. Burns gets us through the traffic lights first and we drive down the main shopping street ahead of our rivals.

Then out into a prosperous suburb of Kingston for some door-step campaigning. Surely a strong Conservative area, but Mickie Burns is undeterred: "Good afternoon, I'm Michael Burns, your Liberal candidate . . ."

There is a Committee Room in this part of Kingston so the Burns call in to discuss plans for the Eve of Poll meeting and the motor-cade which will precede it, with John Pledger, the Chairman of the Kingston Association. There is also to be a meeting at Kingston Hospital and they decide it would be worth going back to Hawkers with another supply of leaflets next day.

The Burns are going home to snatch a quick meal and see their three boys are settled before the evening meeting. "This is the first time we have fought a



## Vote Burns (continued)

constituency less than fifty miles from home," explained Mickie. "It's much easier," says Margot, "I have time to get the boys off to school before we leave in the mornings."

There is more waiting on the Eve of Poll. A few party workers are putting the finishing touches to the room in the famous old Kingston Market House, but the candidate and his supporters are still circling the town with the motor-cade.

One elderly lady arrives and takes her seat prudently far back. "Don't know her," whispers a young man with a party rosette in his lapel, "maybe we'll get a good meeting tonight, it's been well publicised." In the event the hall fills nicely and many of the faces are unfamiliar to the party faithfuls.

Despite some parking problems, for the motor-cade is some twenty vehicles strong, Michael Burns arrives on the platform only a few minutes late.

He is not a showy speaker, but listening to him the comment of a local worker comes back: "His greatest asset as a



Committee room discussion with Chairman, John Pledger, and party workers.

A youthful democrat questions the candidate at the Eve of Poll meeting.



candidate is his sincerity." He comes into his own with questions, dealing with them on their merits and not scoring cheap points. One questioner is a small boy about twelve years old, and Mickie explains gravely that he would hope to save something in the region of £200m. by defence cuts but he can't resist a joke with his youthful heckler: "Enough to pay for the rebuilding of all our old schools—but perhaps you wouldn't approve of that."

With the end of the Eve of Poll meeting comes the end of Mickie Burns' campaign. The polling booths will find the measure of his support in Kingston and the inch of space in the columns of *The Times* will show he has been fighting a lost cause. It is a cause he will fight again, for he has already been re-adopted as prospective candidate for the next election. With, possibly, a full Parliamentary term to work in his constituency, he is sure he can build up his vote. Whatever the outcome one thing is sure. He will conduct his next campaign as he has this one; with integrity and without animosity. There is a kind of victory in that.