

MARCH REVIEW





G. W. R. 'Jimmy' Shepherd has a seven acre smallholding at Whitchurch Hill near Pangbourne.

ST. DUNSTAN'S COUNTRY LIFE SECTION TO-DAY

by

D. F. Robinson, *Country Life Superintendent*

During the last few years the number of men doing Country Life as a full time occupation has declined sharply owing to the very poor profit margins from small holdings particularly poultry and, of course, due to the age of some men and death of others.

At present there are only four full-scale poultry farmers, one market gardener, four general farmers, one dog breeder, one milk farmer and pig and poultry keeper.

However, there is still a considerable

number of men, both First and Second War, with poultry as a hobby occupation ranging from those with about a dozen hens or so up to 300. In addition a few others have interests such as kennels, cows and pigs in a small way as a hobby.

Many others are keenly interested in the garden and in greenhouse work and get an enormous amount of pleasure from raising plants of all kinds, both indoors and in the garden. Naturally a certain amount of help has to be given by the wives or other members of the family and this shared work is enjoyed and provides something for the home such as cut flowers and vegetables.

Continued inside back cover

COVER PICTURE.

The Bates family sample some of the sweets made according to the recipes in this month's "Mainly for Women".

St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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3d. MONTHLY

Free to St. Dunstaners

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Country Life

Facing this page is an article about St. Dunstan's and country life today. I remember that during the First World War poultry farming was a major occupation for St. Dunstaners and we had our own farm in Regent's Park and later on at Kings Langley, where they were taught. The story is told that when King George visited St. Dunstaners in Regent's Park, he saw the poultry farm at work and there was a blinded officer there called Captain Appleby who many will remember. Appleby was handling a bird with more tenacity than dexterity and understandably enough, the King asked him what he was trying to do.

"I am finding out the breed of this hen, sir," replied the officer, with all the misplaced confidence of a beginner.

He went through the drill while the King waited and his instructor breathed menacingly.

"Have you found out?" the King asked, when the officer suddenly stopped feeling the bird.

"Yes, sir," he said ruefully. "It's a cock."

The King roared with laughter and so did the others though perhaps a little sheepishly.

Over the years hundreds of St. Dunstaners became poultry farmers. Some developed large farms employing labour and making a very good living; a moderate number did reasonably well, and many others were engaged in boot repairing or basket making and regarded their poultry farm as a paying hobby.

By the time the Second World War came country life did not seem to have the same strong appeal and there were also considerable difficulties in getting foodstuffs and in the rationing and organisation of supplies.

For one reason or another the country life section, which was one of the biggest forty or fifty years ago is now less significant though still important to those who follow it. I myself, have always lived in a town, except for one year during the War when my house in London was destroyed and I moved to the Home Counties so I have never really had a garden, but I enjoy a lawn to walk on.

When I go to South Africa, where I have a home and a big bit of ground, I take an interest in the things we can grow. The familiar English vegetables like cabbages and lettuces and beans are not so good in South Africa as they are in the old country; I think this is because they get too much sunshine and grow too fast and are rather thick and tough. But in January or February I get the most wonderful crop of melons and mealies (sometimes called Indian Corn) and occasionally peaches and nectarines. I can well imagine that a man who is retired might get great enjoyment from a greenhouse and a garden, especially if he does a lot of the work himself, as many do.

Roses in December

In the December *Review* I recalled a quotation "God gave us memories that we might have roses in December" and asked if anybody knew more accurately what this quotation was and where it came from. I have had two correct replies, one from my friend Willie Kerr of Edinburgh, who came to St. Dunstan's in 1919, and the other from Mrs. Hutcheon, widow of Captain A. Hutcheon, M.C. The poem written by Rev. G. A. Studdert-Kennedy (Woodbine Willie) is reproduced on this page.

Fraser of Lonsdale

Coming Events—see page 9.

CHAIRMAN'S QUOTATION

In answer to the Chairman's question in the January *Review* Mrs. Helen Hutcheon of Bielside, Aberdeen, widow of our St. Dunstaner, Captain A. Hutcheon quoted to us the following poem, by Rev. G. A. Studdert-Kennedy (Woodbine Willie), which we verified in "The best loved poems of the American People", Editor, Hazel Felleman.

ROSES IN DECEMBER

*God gave His children memory
That in life's garden there might be
June roses in December.
But sin the Father's goodness scorns,
And weaves of them a crown of thorns,
That wounds when they remember.*

*Sharp stabbing points of vain regret
Around my soul for ever set,
Turn June into December.
Ah Christ, who wore my crown of thorns,
Have mercy on the heart that mourns,
Forgive when I remember.*

Derby Sweepstake

Applications are once again invited from St. Dunstaners and St. Dunstan's trainees for tickets in the *St. Dunstan's Review* Derby Sweepstake. The attention of everyone is drawn to the rule that **every application for tickets made in the British Isles must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.**

Tickets are 2s. 6d. each, and applications for them should be made as soon as possible and will be received up to the first post on **Wednesday, 15th May.** Each application must bear the name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, and, **with a stamped addressed envelope enclosed,** must be sent to the Editor, D.S.S. Dept., *St. Dunstan's Review*, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to St. Dunstan's and crossed. Loose money should not be sent unless it is registered.

Tickets will be issued consecutively, and are limited to twenty-four.

The total money subscribed, less the cost of printing and expenses, will be distributed as follows:

- 50 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.
- 20 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.
- 10 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.
- 20 per cent to be divided equally among those drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

No prize won in the Sweepstake will be paid to any person other than the person to whom the winning ticket was sold.

The Draw will take place in the London Club on the evening of Thursday, 23rd May.



Sydney Scroggie and two of his friends halt for a rest.

Stalking the Monarch in the Glen

by

SYDNEY SCROGGIE

Much of my adventures in the last 30 years, and notably the last 10, have been on a royal estate which includes Lochnagar (3,786 feet), Broadcairn (3,268 feet), and goodness knows how many tens of thousands of acres of heather, bog and boulders. There is a vast amount of sheer, glorious nothingness in Scotland, and although it all belongs to somebody there is no bar under the law of this ancient kingdom to anybody using it, provided they do so as it were without ruffling the heather, enraging the laird and his retainers, or causing alarm and despondency amongst the deer, grouse, salmon and hooded crows.

At one side of this estate is Balmoral Castle, peered at annually by tourists with binoculars: at the other, never seen except by such as me, is Glas Alt Sheil, a dour, grey, silent shooting-lodge built by Queen Victoria's Prince Consort in the dark lovely wilderness on the shores of Loch Muick. Here there is nothing to be heard but the wind in the pines, the lapping of water on pebbles, the call of curlew, and maybe the clink of climbing-nails as men with pipe, rope and anorak descend from the crags of Lochnagar which rises hugely behind.

Stalking the Monarch

Over these 30 years I have made friends with the deerstalkers on this estate, big Johnny Robertson at the Spittal and his father, Jock, before him, who have put us up in the barn and told us the news of the glen, how the grouse are this year, how many stags have been shot, and what exhausted or injured climbers they have had to bring off the hill.

I have never met any royalty although they are often around and especially in August and September when the Queen, like the late King her father, is in residence at Balmoral, Lizzie as she is always called in the glens as her father was called Geordie before her. Queen Victoria, or a queer, universal sense of her presence, I have often met in Glen Muick: Elizabeth, Philip, or any of the living royal family never, nor they me. It is almost as if by some tacit Cox and Box arrangement we were never to coincide on the boggy uplands of Monelpie Moss, at the Dubh Loch under the dark slabs of Broadcairn, or in the whispering stand of timber at Glas Alt Sheil.

Only last April with the winter drifts not melted away I again crossed the Capel Mounth, descended to Glen Muick, put up at Johnny Robertson's barn, rounded the dark loch next day, passed Glas Alt Sheil with its shuttered windows, climbed over the boulders of Broadcairn and returned to Glen Clova, seeing as usual neither hide nor hair of the blood royal.

This November past, after a night in the wilds at the head of Glen Doll, I came down by Bachnagairn and Moulzie under the crag of the Juan Jorge, having a cup of tea with the royal stalker certainly in this air but of the Queen and her entourage not an orb or a sceptre to be seen though I was beating the marches of her land.

Again I was in the area doing a 15-mile round of the hills at the beginning of September, the time when you are most of all likely to meet the royal party, but we were fobbed off with the royal herd of highland cattle instead, quietly munching the wet grass, in whose presence we jocularly uncovered and pronounced a loyal and humorous address, calling them hairy coos. I had given the Queen and Philip every opportunity, yet they remained shy and inaccessible.

Later that same September my second son Sydney, 14, with two of his school friends made an expedition in this area, crossing the high Capel Mounth and returning to Glen Clova by Sandy Hillocks and Bachnagairn as part of the qualification for a Duke of Edinburgh award. Though Sydney had been at both ends of this great circle he was new to the middle part, Dog Hillock, Glen Muick and the Black Burn, and since the others were absolute greenhorns, was leader in a genuine act of exploration.

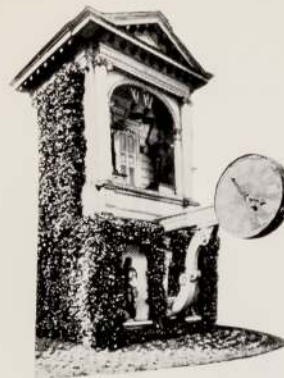
Beginners' Luck

The second day, on the royal jeep-scraper along Loch Muick, they opened a gate for a landrover in which as it was about to pass through the boys saw and immediately recognized two occupants. It is not unknown for boys of 14 at least to look at the photographs in the popular press. One had the self-possessed air of an older schoolboy, the other a naval cut to his jib, and the boys, saluting magnificently, held up the landrover, presented their official route-cards, and requested the senior of the two, with what protocol it is not known, for his signature. Route-cards on these Award schemes have to be authenticated as to distances and times by some authoritative person. As to these they were good-naturedly cross-examined while curlews circled overhead, snipe drummed, and an otter cruised stealthily along the edge of the loch. Only the fishing-tackle in the back of the landrover seemed stiffly indignant at the delay. Then the route-cards were signed, the gate sneaked up, more magnificent salutes, and the landrover rocked and bucked on its way.

As I say, in way of royal encounters I have nothing to show for all my 30 years around Glen Muick. The boys, after one visit, have framed route-cards hanging on their walls. "PHILIP" they say, in a large, uncompromising and indisputable hand.

RUNNING WATERS!

J. J. WATERS of Stretford, Nr. Manchester, tells us that his son, Roy, age 15, has been presented with a plaque containing a gold medallion by the Stretford Schools Athletic Association for his successes in the 5th Lancashire Junior Cross Country Championships. Roy is also Captain of the school running team.



ST. DUNSTAN'S CLOCK

It Strikes Me

Voting Secrecy

I see that it is claimed that the first secret ballot for the blind in the history of democracy was held in a recent Parliamentary election in Brazil. Every blind person was issued with a special voting card on which the names of the candidates appeared in Braille. The card was, in effect, a template with square holes alongside the candidates' names so that when placed over an ordinary ballot paper the blind voter was able to mark his cross alongside the candidate of his choice.

Sounds a good idea but it would involve some complicated organisation if applied to the 100,000 or so blind element of Britain's 36 million electorate. At the last general election there were no less than 1629 candidates standing in the 630 constituencies! It would be a huge task to sort them out and relate the appropriate cards to the number of blind in each constituency. Perhaps our present system offers the best solution to the problem. It gives a choice of methods—asking the Presiding Officer of the polling station to mark your paper; nominating officially a sighted companion to accompany you into the booth or arranging for a proxy or postal vote—none of which needs involve more than one sighted person.

Poles Top Poppy Sellers

The February issue of the *British Legion Journal* has gone out of its way to express appreciation for the help of Polish ex-servicemen in this country during the Poppy Day Appeal. Two separate news items recorded their work and one report mentioned our St. Dunstaner **Edward Hordyniec**. This former Polish Army parachutist who took British nationality in 1951, collected more than £31 with his wife's assistance for the Legion's North Birmingham branch. That represents an awful lot of poppies.

Mind the Hole in the High Street

Congratulations to **Bob Gunnell**, manager of the new VHF Station Radio Brighton on a service he is providing for blind people. We have all heard on national broadcasting services those bulletins for motorists which tell drivers where the roads are up and delays likely to occur. Announcers of Radio Brighton are adding to these reports, details of footpaths that are obstructed in the town and how long the hazard is likely to last, for the benefit of blind listeners. With the accent on independent mobility for blind people these days this is an idea that might be copied to advantage by other local radio services as and when they come into operation.

MAGOG

Club News

London Club Notes

The 21st Annual General Meeting was held in the club rooms on Thursday, 18th January.

In his review of the past year Billy Miller the chairman said that the attendances had shown a modest increase, and that all sections had had a most successful year. He paid particular compliments to the Bridge players, on their determination to attend the Bridge Drives despite the worst of weather conditions and travelling difficulties. His thanks to all officers were heartily echoed by the members present, who also asked Billy Miller to convey their thanks to Mr. Percy Scouse, the hall porter for his courteous and willing assistance.

The only member of the committee due to retire was Bob Bickley, who declined re-election for health reasons.

George Stanley was elected, and will take charge of the indoor section with "Jock" Brown. Bob Fullard will continue to look after the Bridge section and Billy Miller the out-door section.

In discussion C. Hancock asked if any competition could be arranged to hold the interest of the domino players after the Sir Arthur Pearson aggregate competition had finished. This was readily agreed to and a series of competitions for both members and their wives has already started.

It was also suggested, and agreed, that the next Annual General Meeting be held on a Saturday, as it was felt that this would allow more members to attend.

In conclusion Mr. A. D. Lloyds expressed the thanks of St. Dunstan's to Billy Miller and the committee for their work in the past year.

Certainly Lady Luck traversed the corridors of the London Club during the month of January, as three ladies shared the Football Pontoon Sweep. They were

Mrs. Chas. Hancock, Mrs. George Stanley and Mrs. Carol Higginson. The "Booby" was also determined by a division. Those with the lowest scores being R. Fullard, W. Harding, M. Tybinski and the late Mrs. Kerr.

Unfortunately, bad weather and illness prevented our members from attending the Club during the first half of January and our first meeting was held on the 18th. Winners of our domino games on and after that date were as follows:

January 18th	1 P. Nuyens
	2 G. Stanley
	C. Hancock
January 25th	1 'Jock' Brown
	Bill Miller
February 2nd	1 J. Murray
	2 'Jock' Brown
February 8th	1 Bill Miller
	2 'Jock' Brown
	W. MILLER

Cardiff Club Notes

We held our meeting on Saturday, 3rd February, and a nice crowd attended. Dominoes were played and won by Bert Evans and Frank Bell, and Crib by Reg Parsons.

Owing to the weather we had to cancel the arrangements for our Christmas Dinner but this was transferred to Saturday, 17th February, at the Wheatsheaf Inn, Magor. A report of this will be given in the next issue of the *Review*.

The meeting closed with the usual game of Bingo and everyone had an enjoyable afternoon.

D. STOTT, *Secretary*.

WINDSOR REUNION

Anyone wishing to travel by coach from the Kingston area, please contact G. Eustace, 22, Moorfield Road, Chessington, Surrey. Telephone number: 01-397 6813.

REUNIONS—1968

All Reunions to be held at 12.30 p.m. for 1 p.m. lunch.

DATE	REUNION	MEMBER OF COUNCIL PRESIDING	HOTEL
Sat. 6th April	WINDSOR	Sir Neville Pearson	Ye Hart & Garter (formerly White Hart)
Thurs. 25th April	SOUTHAMPTON	Lord Fraser	Polygon
Sat. 4th May	BRISTOL	Mr. D. G. Hopewell	Grand
Thurs. 9th May	IPSWICH	Lord Fraser	Great White Horse
Sat. 11th May	BIRMINGHAM	Lord Fraser	Grand
Sat. 8th June	BRIGHTON	Sir Neville Pearson	Metropole
Thurs. 20th June	NEWCASTLE	Lord Normanby	Royal Station
Sat. 22nd June	SHEFFIELD	Mr. Nigel Pearson	Grand
Thurs. 4th July	MANCHESTER	Col. Sir Michael Ansell	Grand
Sat. 6th July	LIVERPOOL	Major Mervyn Sandys	Adelphi
Sat. 20th July	LONDON	Sir Neville Pearson	Russell

OVINGDEAN WEEKENDS

1st Manipulative Therapy Course. 8th, 9th and 10th March
 Ham Radio Weekend. 22nd to 24th March
 Sports Weekend. 13th to 18th June
 Deaf Reunion. 15th to 19th August
 Physiotherapy Conference. 11th to 13th October
 2nd Manipulative Therapy Course. 14th to 15th October—to follow Conference
 Handless Reunion. 17th to 21st October
 Chess Tournament Weekend. 8th to 10th November
 Bridge Congress Weekend. 15th to 18th November

DERBY OUTING

As last year's Outing was an unqualified success, it has been proposed to run a coach trip leaving H.Q. at Old Marylebone Road at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 29th May, this year.

Any St. Dunstaner wishing to join this party should send his name in not later than Saturday, 20th April, to Norman Smith at the London Club.

If seats are available it may be possible to include, in addition to the St. Dunstaner's escort, other members of his family. Please note, however, that the full price must be paid for children. A packed luncheon will be provided as usual. Details of the charge will be made known as soon as possible.

So hurry up, you racing types, and send your names in at your very earliest possible convenience.

W. MILLER.

HARROGATE BRIDGE

The Harrogate Week will take place this year from Saturday, 14th September to Saturday, 21st September.

Will those interested, please notify me as soon as possible so as to book the necessary hotel accommodation. The charges are £2 per person for double rooms and £2 5s. for single rooms plus the usual 10% for service. When replying, please state which of the two accommodations you will require.

P. NUYENS

The Royal Tournament and Trooping the Colour

It is hoped that we may once again be allocated tickets for the Trooping the Colour Ceremony, which will take place on the morning of Saturday, 8th June, and for the Private View of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court on the afternoon of Wednesday, 26th June.

Any St. Dunstaners wishing to attend should write to me by 3rd May, please.

C. D. WILLS

Bridge Notes

The second Individual Competition for both Brighton and London Sections were held on Saturday, 2nd February. The results were as follows:—

LONDON

R. Armstrong and P. Pescott-Jones	77
G. Brown and R. Bickley	76
M. Tybinski and P. Nuyens	65
R. Evans and R. Fullard	61
H. King and Vera Kemmish	60
R. Stanners and H. Meleson	58
H. Kerr and Partner	58
F. Matthewman and J. Huk	49

BRIGHTON

F. Rhodes and S. Webster	67
B. Ingrey and J. Whitcombe	66
R. Goding and F. Griffie	64
W. Burnett and T. Clements	64
J. Chell and A. Smith	54

HARROGATE BRIDGE

Please turn to Coming Events
on page 9

THE LATE HARRY "CHARLIE" GOVER

It was with a very sad heart, I learned of the passing away of Harry (Charlie) Gover. I met Charlie in the early twenties, he was then a very active member of our St. Dunstan's Community, attending Regent's Park Headquarters regularly and taking part in such sports and social activities as walking, rowing, dancing, whist drives, choir, and many others.

Eventually Bridge became his pet pre-occupation and so he founded our Bridge Club in 1938. He was a forceful character and everybody within reach was roped into play. Under his Captaincy we gathered very many friends in the bridge world.

Many international players have been our guests. It was mainly his indomitable will and organising ability that led us to compete with outside clubs on level terms such as London Business Houses, Harrogate, Ilkley, etc. As Captain-Secretary of a Club whose members are scattered all over the country, this entailed a tremendous amount of work. Charlie took all this in his stride, he also started our Annual Bridge Congress (the only one of its kind in the world) which still flourishes to-day.

As the present Captain of the Bridge Club, I know it would be the wish of all members for me to pay this tribute—"Thank you, Charlie, you did a wonderful job, rest in peace, old pal".

P. Nuyens

Monica and I are very sorry to hear that your old friend Charlie has passed on and we send our sincerest sympathy to his wife, to you and to all his friends whom we have had the pleasure of meeting in Harrogate in the past 27 years.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Campbell
Harrogate.

We are very sorry to hear your news of Charlie's passing. We shall always remember him for his happy and cheerful personality. He will be sadly missed.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Green
Harrogate.

I shall always remember him—his courage and cheerfulness and sense of humour.

Mrs. R. M. Burnham,
Ilkley.

May I be allowed a few lines to pay tribute to an old pal, Charlie Gover? More than 25 years of strenuous effort to build up and maintain a successful Bridge Club for St. Dunstan's—well done, chum.

Aif E. Field

Par Bridge Answer

by

ALF FIELD

The deal is given again for convenience. South is dealer. The Score is love all.

NORTH

S. —
H. 7,6
D. A,10,9,8,6,3,2
C. Q,8,6,3

WEST

S. 7,8
H. A,10,8,5
D. K,Q,J,4
C. K,5,4

EAST

S. Q,J,10,9,6,4,2
H. Q,J,9,3
D. 5
C. 10

SOUTH

S. A,K,5,3
H. K,4,2
D. 7
C. A,J,9,7,2

There are three probable contracts to analyse, four Hearts, or Spades and five Clubs.

WELCOME TO ST. DUNSTAN'S

We are told that four new St. Dunstaners have recently been admitted and the *Review* hopes they settle down happily as members of our family. They are as follows:—

Walter Jones of Birmingham who joined us last month. He served in the Royal Air Force for twenty-four years. He is a bachelor.

George Owens of Burnley, Lanes., joined us in February. He served in the Durham Light Infantry in the First World War and he is married.

Frank Whitehouse who lives in Barlaston, Staffs., came to St. Dunstan's recently. He served in the 1st World War from 1916 to 1918 in the 57th Labour Corps. He is a bachelor.

Alfred Walter Cook of Canvey Island, Essex, has recently become a St. Dunstaner. He served with the Middlesex Regiment and Border Regiment during the 1st World War. He is married with two grown-up sons.

Five Clubs can be made against best defence. West leads Club x (best) taken by South's Jack, who now plays Spade Ace and King, discarding Dummy's two Hearts. South now cross-ruffs Hearts (3) and Diamonds (4)=7 ruffs plus Jack of Clubs, Ace of Diamonds, Ace King of Spades=11 tricks.

Four Hearts is two light. South leads Spade Ace and King, Ace of Clubs then small Diamond to Ace, and ruffs the Diamond return by North.

Four Spades is two light. South leads Ace of Clubs, then diamond to North's Ace who continues Diamonds ruffed by East with Spade 9 (best) South discards a Club! If South were to over-ruff he would only make two spades! This NS made Ace of Clubs, Ace of Diamonds and three Spades.

The Par score is Five Clubs by N.S. E.W. lose 400 unless they bid five spades doubled, which is three light=500.

INVITATION

Mrs. Robertson-Glasgow invites all St. Dunstaners and their wives to her home on Friday, 14th June, 1968, from 3 o'clock to Hinton House, Hinton Charterhouse, Nr. Bath. The garden party is for those attending the Camp at Warminster and for all St. Dunstaners and their wives living in the Somerset district.

Brailled Cookers

Women St. Dunstaners, and others who occasionally try their hand at cooking, may like to know that the Gas Council have recently issued a Braille thermostat chart for use with gas cookers. These charts which are embossed on plastic (so keep away from the heat) are available free of charge from local Gas Board showrooms. It is also understood that suitable Brailled oven control knobs will be fitted free of charge to gas cookers purchased new during the past five years. Here again application should be made to the local Gas Board showroom.

Mainly for Women

Lucky Brenda Bates

On March 26th, 1943—almost 25 years ago—Mrs. Brenda Bates was blinded and lost her right hand in an accident in a Reading munitions factory. Nowadays she is a busy housewife living in Clacton with her husband, Dennis, who is partially blind, and her twelve year old daughter, Denise, to look after. Brenda and Dennis met at a civilian blind club dance in Tottenham Court Road, and, by coincidence, Dennis is the son of a First World War St. Dunstan, the late Edwin Bates, who died in May 1963. When "Mainly for Women" wanted a St. Dunstan's housewife to try one of the Easter recipes included in this Review, Brenda was an obvious choice. She had no real difficulty in coping with the recipe for peppermint creams except, perhaps, rolling the mixture into balls with one hand. At the end of the operation the whole family tasted the product and pronounced it a success.

Brenda seems to cope with most things: "I don't think I've got any problems. The only time I have burnt a saucepan has been when I have done some other job and forgotten it was on. When I'm

actually cooking I always make a point of doing that only, so that I am in the kitchenette all the time preparing and cooking it".

Like all working St. Dunstaners, Brenda says good housekeeping needs concentration: "You have to think about what you are doing and remember where things are. I always was a very tidy person and kept things in their place and I don't find that hard now. I've got plastic containers for the main things like flour, sugar and tea in different sizes and I know which is which".

You will not find many special gadgets around the Bates household. There is a Prestige tin opener mounted on the wall which has a useful magnet to hold the lids of tins. An ordinary Hoover sweeper and an automatic washing machine. Brenda does not use a false limb. "I manage without. I had two from Roehampton but I never got on with them. I do everything with my stump, it's just like a hand really. It wasn't only a sense of touch, they felt too long, seemed to get in the way. I suppose I had been a little while without one and got used to a short arm. I'd definitely be lost without my stump if I put on a false limb now".

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Brenda using her Hoover.



Playing Lexicon with Denise, using Brailled cards.

An ingenious method of peeling potatoes.

Brenda used an electric mixer to make the peppermint creams and her tip for St. Dunstaners following the recipe is to allow more icing sugar. Perhaps there was more white than usual in our trial egg for Brenda needed to increase the amount of icing sugar to achieve the thick texture required.

On the electric stove there are no gadgets again—not even Brailled controls. "I know the switches off by heart. I gauge the oven control all right, maybe it's luck. I have an awful lot of luck in my life. For anything like meat or yorkshire you want it high so that's easy. The grill I always have on high, I never burn my little girl's toast—I go by the smell".

She has a neat trick for peeling potatoes. With her stump she holds the blade of a knife flat on the edge of the sink. Then she presses the potato against the knife edge and slowly turns it. The peel comes off thinner than at least one sighted potato peeler can achieve with both hands! "No,

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Brenda found her mixer useful in preparing the peppermint creams.

Rolling the mixture single handed was tricky



Mainly for Women

I didn't think about it at all. I just got the knife out of the drawer and did it automatically. I'd never done it in my life. There must be Someone who helps me somewhere, I always say".

Saturday is shopping day: In the morning out with Denise, who is now good company for her mother and they usually find a place for coffee; in the afternoon the main shopping when Dennis is available to do the carrying. "When I'm buying clothes Dennis usually goes with me, he's got about the same taste as I have".

"We're very fond of records, I love the pops, Tom Jones and Roy Orbison are lovely, and we watch quite a lot of T.V. I prefer things like Cross-roads and Coronation Street. I know all their voices now on the things I watch, like the Newcomers, I know each one, I can tell more or less what's going on".

We left Brenda playing Lexicon with Denise using Braille cards and having experienced the happy family atmosphere in the house in Recreation Road, we could understand how Brenda could say, "I have an awful lot of luck in my life".

HOME-MADE SWEETS

Home-made sweets are easy to make and are excellent presents for birthdays, Christmas and Easter.

Small frilly paper cases can be obtained at most stationers to give your sweets a professional finish and these are a help in the packing and arranging of the different types of sweets into the gift boxes, especially if they have to travel by post.

Peppermint Creams

White of one egg
2 teacupsful of sifted icing sugar
1 tablespoonful of cold water
1-2 drops of oil of peppermint

Beat the egg-white with the water until well blended. Add the sugar gradually, producing a smooth firm fondant. Add the oil of peppermint and knead well. Taste, and add a further drop of peppermint if required. Divide the mixture into small even pieces, roll into balls and flatten. Place on greaseproof paper and leave to dry.

14

Coffee Fudge

6 oz. (small tin) evaporated milk
1 oz. raisins (finely chopped)
3 oz. butter
1 lb. granulated sugar
 $\frac{1}{4}$ pint of water
2 tablespoonfuls of coffee essence

Slowly heat in a heavy saucepan all the ingredients together, except the raisins, stirring once or twice. When the sugar has melted and continuing to stir all the time, boil the mixture until a little of it dropped into a cup of cold water forms a soft ball. Remove the saucepan from the heat and add the raisins finely chopped. Beat the mixture until thick and creamy, pour into a well greased 7" square tin. When just firm, mark into squares and decorate with whole almonds.

Coffee Coconut Kisses

1 lb. granulated sugar
6 oz. (small tin) evaporated milk
4 tablespoons of coffee essence
12 oz. desiccated coconut
A little icing sugar

Place the sugar and evaporated milk in a saucepan and heat gently until the sugar is dissolved. Remove from the heat and add the coffee essence and the desiccated coconut. Leave to cool for about 10 minutes. Then form into 'marbles' and roll in icing sugar.

Chocolate Truffles

6 oz. plain chocolate
1 yolk of an egg
1 oz. fresh butter
1 teaspoonful of top of the milk or cream
Small amount of drinking chocolate or cocoa
Rum essence to taste

Melt the chocolate in a basin over a saucepan of hot water. Remove from the heat and add the egg-yolk, butter, rum essence and cream. Beat until the mixture thickens. Leave to cool for about half an hour. Form into small balls and roll these in the powdered drinking chocolate.

15



Brenda copes with most things, including pegging out the washing.

A useful gadget is the wall-mounted tin opener.



NELSON'S COLUMN

Tracks Greeting the 'Flat'

Four books containing humour, drama, suspense and murder detection are this month's offering.

"Book of Coarse Sport" by Michael Green, reader *Garard Green*, is a 2 tracker in 19 sections. There is, as far as I recall, no section on Soccer but most other ball games plus sailing have a fair share. This is liable to offend some keen followers of certain games but, although exaggerated, the enthusiastic amateur will have little difficulty and some nostalgia in recognising himself. I found it entertaining, many could easily dislike this cheerful scribble.

"Bluebird and the Dead Lake" by J. Pearson, reader *Michael de Morgan*, is a story of Donald Campbell's land speed record on the great salt lake in S. Australia. I expected to be bored but in the event, I found this a most gripping account of a man, quite as great as his father, methodically withstanding pressures and avoiding foolhardy risks to achieve a glittering prize rather than ruinous disaster and the loss of his life. When Lake Coniston claimed him he went as he would have hoped.

"A Fragment of Fear" by John Bingham, reader *David Geary*, is a sustained suspense yarn. An author, convalescing in an hotel near Naples has his interest aroused by the murder in Pompeii of an old English woman, a fellow guest. Back in London he pursues enquiries and suffers anonymous phone calls and letters trying to dissuade him from digging any deeper. Almost framed for another killing and on the verge of doubting his own sanity, he receives dramatic assistance from an unexpected quarter. It struck me as taking a sledge hammer to crack a walnut but, nevertheless, the tension is well kept up.

"The Religious Body" by Catherine Aird, reader *Martin Muncaster*, is a straightforward murder story. The setting is a convent so two rather nasty killings acquired a macabre flavour. Students and staff of the Agricultural College next door are much concerned. Pity the poor killer who struck down the nun. How was he to know he had clobbered the wrong one?

British Talking Book Service for the Blind

Additional Tape Titles

Cat. No.

Fiction

- 1206 STEVENSON, D. E.
THE HOUSE ON THE CLIFF (1966)
Read by Phyllis Boothroyd. Elfrida returns to the country after a career as a small-part actress, but her peace is soon shattered by visitors from her former world.
P.T. 8½ hours.
- 1209 TRACY, HONOR
MEN AT WORK (1966)
Read by David Broomfield. The success of his latest novel enables Timothy Beauchamp to buy a house in the country, but things do not turn out quite as expected.
P.T. 7½ hours.
- 1210 GORDON, RICHARD
DOCTOR AT SEA (1953)
Read by John Curle. A newly qualified ship's doctor relates his hilarious adventures with wine, women, and mariners.
P.T. 6¼ hours.
- 1211 DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN
THE CASEBOOK OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (1927)
Read by John Curle. Eleven short stories concerning the famous detective.
P.T. 9¼ hours.
- 1207 FRANKAU, PAMELA
SING FOR YOUR SUPPER (1963)
Read by Eric Gillett. The first book in the Trilogy 'Clothes of a King's Son'. This is the story of Thomas, aged 10, an ordinary small boy with a mysterious secret, and his family's changing pattern of existence. (Followed by 1212 and 1213)
P.T. 12½ hours.
- 1212 FRANKAU, PAMELA
SLAVES OF THE LAMP (1965) (2 vols.)
Sequel to 1207. Read by Eric Gillett. Thomas, now grown up, is working in an advertising agency; his gift as a healer is still a complication in his life. (Followed by 1213)
P.T. 18¼ hours.
- 1213 FRANKAU, PAMELA
OVER THE MOUNTAINS (1967)
Sequel to 1207 and 1212. Read by Eric Gillett. Thomas is now a lieutenant, and is reported killed at Dunkirk. Lost to the world, he journeys through France.
P.T. 14½ hours.

Non-Fiction

- 1208 ATTENBOROUGH, DAVID
ZOO QUEST IN PARAGUAY (1959)
Read by David Attenborough. Entertaining description of a search for armadillos, and the discovery of other fascinating creatures.
P.T. 5¼ hours.

"Cure for Blindness"

by

WALTER THORNTON

It is said that we all have at least one book in us, our autobiography, and if "Cure for Blindness" is Walter Thornton's first and last, then he will still have done much better than most of us. The book is largely autobiographical and traces Walter's life from the moment when he was blinded by a flying bomb in 1944, at the age of 29, right up to the present day. The book is very readable, but your reviewer found the first half more interesting than the second. This may seem strange, because in the first half of the book Walter is writing about his period in hospital, his rehabilitation and his training at St. Dunstan's, which largely follows the familiar pattern repeated hundreds of times by other St. Dunstaners, whereas in the second half he treads his own unique path of employment with Cadbury's at Bournville and later becomes the first St. Dunstaner to undergo training in the Long Cane technique in the United States.

There is a special point of interest in that Walter's employers at Bournville engaged him on trust from St. Dunstan's and, no doubt, from a sincere wish to help a war disabled man, but with almost no idea of how his talents were to be used. Fortunately, Walter had worked hard during his training period at Church Stretton and had become proficient in typewriting and in Braille, both reading and writing, including the use of Braille shorthand. This, coupled with his sense of purpose and his energetic drive, enabled him to make a success of the job which he forged for himself, running the Youth Club and expanding the activities of many hundreds of young people both at Bournville and outside, including visits abroad.

One theme running through the book is Walter's feeling that life would hardly be worth while unless he could attain as great a measure of independent mobility as he could manage. From the first, together with his friend Ted Barton at Church Stretton, he showed outstanding proficiency in this art. Despite bumps and bruises he never flagged and his exceptional progress in getting about alone led

to his being invited by St. Dunstan's to be a "guinea pig" to try out, first the new Ultrasonic Torch and then, as already mentioned, the Long Cane technique. Walter's happy life with his wife Margaret, whom he married shortly before he lost his sight and who has supported him in all his ventures, makes very pleasant reading. We recommend this book to all St. Dunstaners.

Publishers: Hodder & Stoughton. Price 30s.

THE LATE JACK E. ROSE

St. Dunstaners who knew him will be very sorry to hear that Mr. Jack Rose, who was our Public Relations Officer for a number of years during and after the 2nd World War, died at Hove on 13th January, 1968, at the age of 87. Lt. Commander and Mrs. Buckley represented St. Dunstan's at the funeral which took place at Brighton on 16th January. Our sympathy is extended to Mr. Rose's son, Stanley, and to his other relatives-

TRIBUTE

LESLIE WHITE

George Killingbeck of Saltdean, Sussex writes:—

Leslie White will be remembered by many people with real affection. He was a very human person, with a quiet independence of spirit, a kindly humour and was possessed of sound wisdom. He had a fine singing voice and took an active part in concerts and entertainments arranged at Church Stretton and Ovingdean.

His many pupils will remember him with thankfulness for his cheerfulness and patience and for his good advice.

I knew Leslie for nearly fifty years though more intimately as a colleague teaching Braille for half that time. He was always ready to help both in the classroom and out of it.

I am sure all those who came in contact with him at the training centre will feel a sadness at his passing but gratitude for his help and example.



The other day I received a letter from my brother-in-law in Wales, in which he said that he had a dog for whom he wanted to find a home. He went on to say that 'if I would like him, I could have him as he would make a very good watch-dog. He was very well behaved, ate anything, especially fond of children!'

The brewer's lorry had just left after delivering to the off-licence two doors away, when one of the local urchins sat down on my door step and lit up a "fag" and proceeded to drink from a beer bottle. My wife was appalled at the action of such a small boy that she went to him and said, in her most stern manner, "You are a very naughty boy. Why aren't you at school?"

"Cor, lady, have a heart," came the perky reply, "I'm only four!"

Birthday in Triplicate!

Brian, Robert and Pamela, who are triplets and the children of our St. Dunstaner, G. Bilcliffe of Birmingham, celebrated their 21st birthdays on 25th January, 1968.

Letter to the Editor

From George Fallowfield, of Welling, Kent

I suggest that St. Dunstan's should invite someone to choose a Bridge Team and captain this team on a round the world voyage, calling at various ports for bridge matches which would be arranged by the machinery of St. Dunstan's. There is more card-sharpening on a darn liner than anything or anywhere and a publicity stunt like this would enable these bridge players to get well ahead of the bowls trip to Edinburgh and the St. Dunstaner selected could write it all up in the *News of the World*, a serial in *Homes and Gardens*, with a grand book to follow.

Walking

My remarks in last month's *Review* about the prospects for the 6 miles race at Ewell on 20th January, were not too wide of the mark, for although the weather turned out very good for the time of the year, the walkers were all off form. Times all round were slower. Attention was focused on Mike Tetley, who was trying hard to qualify for his 6 miles in the hour badge, but once again the clock beat him, by only 1½ mins.

Had Roy Mendham or Billy Miller been on form, either one could have closed the gap and helped Mike along, enough to knock off the deficit, instead they had quite a battle between themselves, but remained almost at the back of the field. Mike's consolation: he won the handicap.

St. Dunstan's 6 Miles Ewell, 20th January, 1968

Order of finish	Handicap time	Allow-ance	Actual time
M. TETLEY	57.24	4.00	61.24
R. Young	57.43	11.40	69.23
F. Barratt	58.08	4.00	62.08
S. Tutton	58.34	9.30	68.04
W. Miller	59.00	Scr.	59.00
R. Mendham	59.12	Scr.	59.12
C. Stafford	60.19	11.20	71.39

W. MILLER

The Chairman, I'm sorry to say, has as much chance of improving sound radio as a snowball in a furnace, people can rent a T.V. for 10/- a week and the B.B.C. ain't improving the sound programmes, they're going to drive the public to getting T.V. and paying the bigger licence.

Sound radio is on the way out, but the Chairman's right about too much pop, my wife says she cannot get the programme she wants since there were some re-arrangements and she's "sick of the wail of pop".

I've never heard wireless, and wonder if I'd be much better off were I able to.

Family News

Silver Wedding

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. E. QUINN of Eltham, London, S.E.9., who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 20th February, 1968.

Golden Wedding

Very many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. L. ACOTT of Portslade, Sussex, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 5th February, 1968.

Diamond Wedding

Very many congratulations to MR. and MRS. W. H. DUDLEY of Horley, Surrey, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 26th January, 1968.

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley received a telegram of congratulations from H.M. the Queen.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:—

S. AVIS of Southampton on the birth of his first grandchild, Helen Clare, who was born on 10th January, 1968, to his eldest son, Stanley and his wife.

W. FREEMAN of Winnersh, Berks., on the birth of his fifth grandchild, Denise, to his eldest daughter, Maureen, on 25th October, 1967.

S. FLETCHER of London, S.W.17, on the arrival of a grandchild, born to his son and daughter-in-law on 9th January, 1968. She is to be called Samantha Jane.

R. HORNER of Holmfirth, Nr. Huddersfield, announces the arrival of another grandchild—a grand-daughter, born on 19th January, 1968 who is to be called Helen Elizabeth.

D. JENNINGS of Steyning, Sussex, on the arrival of his first grandchild, John Bruce Nicholls on 18th June, 1967, born to Su, eldest daughter of our St. Dunstaner.

T. E. JONES of Trench, Nr. Wellington, Salop, announces the arrival of a grand-daughter, Sarah Jane, on 11th December, 1967.

F. SUNDERLAND of Ruislip, Middlesex, whose step-daughter gave birth to a son in Cooksville, Ontario, Canada, on 27th January, 1968, who is to be called Patrick Martin.

R. V. TAPPIN of Eastcote, Ruislip, Middlesex, on the arrival of his first grandchild, Mark Jonathan, born on 4th October, 1967, to his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lydon.

Great Grandfathers

Many congratulations to:—

A. BRAMSON of Brighton, Sussex, on the birth of his third great grand-child, Darrel Stewart Hazell, on 8th December, 1967.

Christopher, eldest son of our St. Dunstaner, G. COLE of Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, was married to Leslie Cecil, on December 2nd, 1967, at Abertillery, Monmouthshire.

Sandra, youngest daughter of G. COLE of Shoreham-by-Sea, was married on 23rd December, 1967, to Brian Gingell at Caerleon, Monmouthshire.

Maureen, daughter of our St. Dunstaner, E. QUINN of Eltham, London, S.E.9., was married to Michael Dodd on 3rd February at St. Michael's and St. Martin's Church, Hounslow, Middlesex.

R. C. A. JONES of Port Talbot, Glamorgan, South Wales, is very proud of his daughter, Megan, who has obtained four certificates and a shield. She is now a Sergeant in the local St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

David, son of our St. Dunstaner, W. G. EVANS, of Upton St. Leonards, Gloucester, recently won the Doughty Endurance Test—a thirty-five mile walk which is an annual event for apprentices in Gloucester.

J. C. MOSLEY of Solihull, Nr. Birmingham, is pleased to announce that his daughter has acquired a Bronze medal for dancing and was Highly Commended.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:—

J. BRITTON of Pontefract, Yorks., whose wife died in hospital on 7th February, 1968.

J. BLAKELY of Liverpool who mourns the death of his sister on January, 1968.

S. CHAMBERS of Northfield, Birmingham on the death of his wife, on 8th February, 1968. Mrs. Chambers had been in very poor health for some considerable time.

F. MATTHEWMAN of Northampton, on the death of his wife in hospital on 14th February, 1968.

H. V. KERR of Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middlesex, on the death of his wife, Mrs. Constance Kerr in hospital on 10th February, 1968. We offer our sincere sympathy to him and his son and daughter-in-law.

A. PINK of Monkton, Thanet, Kent, whose wife Minnie, died at her home on 28th January, 1968. Unfortunately Mr. Pink is in hospital recovering from an operation.

C. SEDMAN of Bury, Lancs., who mourns the death of his mother who died only three months after the death of his father. During that time he has also lost a sister-in-law.

R. G. WILSON of Somerton, Somerset, on the death of his son James Benjamin, age 3, who survived an operation for a hole in the heart but suddenly collapsed and died in the Intensive Care Unit of Bristol Royal Infirmary on 26th January, 1968. Our sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and their three other children, Ann, Robert and Mary.

In Memory

It is with great regret we have to record the death of the following St. Dunstaners, and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

John Thomas Berridge. *West Riding Regiment.*
John Thomas Berridge of Spalding, died at his home on 8th January, 1968 at the age of 70 years. He served with the West Riding Regiment from 1916 to 1918 when he was the victim of a mustard gas attack in October of that year. His sight did not fail until recently and he came to St. Dunstan's in November, 1967. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

George Carter. *Highland Light Infantry.*
George Carter of Southend-on-Sea, died at his home on 15th January, 1968, at the age of 77. He served in the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War and came to St. Dunstan's in 1931. He trained in handicraft work and carried on this work for some years. He also took an interest in gardening. During the past months Mr. Carter's health has given cause for concern. He leaves a widow who is an invalid, a married daughter and a son. Both parents have been wonderfully cared for by their daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Webb.

Albert Edward Clark. *Worcestershire Regiment.*
Albert Edward Clark died at his home at Newton Abbot, Devon, on his birthday, 9th February, 1968. He was 73 years of age. He served with the Worcesters from 1915 to 1919 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1949. He did not undertake any occupational training as he had been employed by the railways as a storeman and continued this work until 1960. After his retirement he led a very quiet life and during the last eighteen months or so his health had given cause for a great deal of concern. He leaves a widow.

John Dennick. *1/8th Worcestershire Regiment.*
John Dennick of Bengeworth, Evesham, Wores., died at his home on 4th February, 1968, at the age of 70 years.

He served with the 1/8th Worcestershire Regiment from 1914 to 1917 and was wounded whilst fighting in Belgium. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1918. He trained in basket making and carried out this occupation throughout the years making baskets for our Stores and also for local sale. He had been in indifferent health recently and also had a spell in hospital during January, 1968, but his death was sudden. He leaves a widow and grown up family.

Harry Gover. *9th East Surrey Regiment.*
Harry Gover of Rottingdean, Sussex, died on 21st January, 1968, at Pearson House. He was 72 years of age. He enlisted in the 9th East Surrey Regiment in 1914 and served with them until his discharge in 1917 and came to St. Dunstan's in that year. He trained as a telephonist and obtained employment in London. He continued with this work until 1946, when he retired and moved to Leigh-on-Sea where his wife ran a guest house. In later years his health gave cause for concern and he spent frequent holidays abroad. After the death of his first wife he remarried in 1962 and moved to Sussex the following year.

For many years Mr. Gover was an active member of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club and other social activities. Over the last year or so his health has deteriorated and for some time he has been nursed in Pearson House, where he died. He leaves a widow. A number of St. Dunstaners attended the funeral.

John Carl Hibbert. *7th City of London Regiment.*
John Carl Hibbert of New Malden, Surrey, died suddenly on 30th January, 1968, at the age of 79. He enlisted in the 7th City of London Regiment, in 1915 and served with them until his discharge in 1919.

He came to St. Dunstan's in 1942 and took a short period of training. On returning home he worked at wool rugs and had also learned enough joinery to enable him to do odd jobs at home and in which he took much pleasure. He was a frequent visitor to Ovingdean and very much enjoyed holidays there with his friends. During the last year or so he has not been too well at times but nevertheless his death came suddenly after a short attack of bronchitis. He leaves a widow.

James Kavanagh. *Royal Engineers.*
James Kavanagh of Liverpool, Lancs, died in hospital on 27th January, 1968. He was 81 years of age.

He served with the Royal Engineers from 1915 until 1919 but his sight did not deteriorate until later in life and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1950. On account of his age he did not undertake any occupational training. He enjoyed visits to Brighton and attended the Northern Reunions whenever possible. He had been in poor health for some time. He leaves a widow.

In Memory

Alec Berkeley Hill. *Royal Army Service Corps.*

Alec Berkeley Hill of Bristol, died on 25th January, 1968. He was 72 years of age.

He enlisted with the Royal Army Service Corps from 1916 and served with them until his discharge in October 1917. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1920.

Mr. Hill's previous occupation before coming to St. Dunstan's was that of a teacher and after entering St. Dunstan's he trained in shorthand/typing and took up a clerical post in an office. Mr. Hill often gave talks on St. Dunstan's and was considered an excellent speaker. He spent most of his life in Bristol and he and his wife continued to live there after he retired in 1959. Unfortunately, Mrs. Hill has for several years suffered ill health and her husband has been her constant companion and help mate, and our deepest sympathy is offered to her in her sad loss.

Francis William Oxenham. *31st Field Regiment, Royal Artillery.*

Francis William Oxenham died on 23rd January, 1968, in hospital. He was 56 years of age.

He served with the 31st Field Regiment, Royal Artillery from 1938 to 1944 and came to St. Dunstan's in that year. Unfortunately his health was precarious and he had been a patient in Hospital for many years.

Arthur Toop. *Royal Artillery.*

Arthur Toop of Bere Regis, Wareham, Dorset, died on 10th February, 1968, at the age of 81 years.

He enlisted in the Royal Artillery in 1916 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1961.

Mr. Toop had retired from poultry work before coming to St. Dunstan's but he did enjoy several visits to Ovingdean. However lately these have not been possible owing to the ill-health of his wife who died just two weeks before him. Her passing very much affected him and he became seriously ill and died on 10th February.

Our sincere sympathy is offered to his very devoted family on their sad loss.

Walter William Watkins. *Royal Engineers.*

Walter William Watkins of Ealing, W.13, died in hospital on 13th January, 1968. He was 87 years of age.

He served with the Royal Engineers from 1915 until his discharge in 1919 but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1965, when he was 85. Our St. Dunstaner had a large family but was especially cared for by his married daughter, Mrs. Lewis and her husband. He became rather poorly in November last. Recently he had two bad falls and was admitted to King Edwards Hospital, Ealing, where he died on 13th January. He was a widower and our sympathy is extended to his family.

Leslie Morris White. *6th Queens Royal West Surrey Regiment.*

Leslie Morris White of Bromley, Kent, died on 3rd February, 1968, at the age of 68 years.

He enlisted with the 6th Queens Royal West Surrey Regiment in January 1918, and served with them until his discharge in January, 1919, and came to St. Dunstan's in that year.

He trained as a basket maker and had his own shop until 1925 when he retrained in telephony and obtained a post as a telephone operator in March, 1926. Unfortunately two years later he had to give up owing to ill-health. For the next few years Mr. White did netting work but was finally appointed Braille Instructor at Church Stretton during the war years from 1941 to 1945. After the war he continued this work at Ovingdean until 1964 when he retired.

St. Dunstaners will remember Leslie's fine singing voice from concerts and entertainments at Church Stretton and Ovingdean.

Since his retirement he has spent many holidays at Ovingdean but of late his health had given cause for concern and since Christmas his condition has deteriorated rapidly and he was admitted to Farnborough Hospital, where he died on 3rd February.

Our sympathy is extended to his brother, sisters and niece and her family.



COUNTRY LIFE TO-DAY

Above. Country life yesterday: A group of St. Dunstaners in training in the early days.

Below. Country life today: A successful nurseryman and market gardener, Jack Simmons, of Broadstairs, in his greenhouse.



Many St. Dunstaners need some kind of interesting occupation, especially after retiring from a life-long job and I find that a small garden with a greenhouse or conservatory provides a real answer. It gives them not only an occupation to get them out of the house but also something to talk over with friends, neighbours and other St. Dunstaners.

Local flower shows often give St. Dunstaners a chance to exhibit their prowess and many prizes and awards are gained, not only for single items but also for fine all round gardens. Advice is given to all who ask, through correspondence and through the gardening notes which are supplied with the *Review*.

In addition advice is available at the St. Dunstaner's home and this is much better than by letter since many other queries are brought up on the spot and can be dealt with by giving some practical demonstration or suggestion.

Sources of supply of plants, equipment and garden contractors etc. can always be given and the names of more knowledgeable experts suggested when queries are a bit beyond the Department.

Naturally one would think that scented flowers or aromatic leaved plants would be of primary interest, but this is not the case,



A lifetime's work: A photograph taken when Will Rathmell was establishing his orchard and another showing him gathering fruit not long before his retirement.

COUNTRY LIFE TO-DAY

though scent is certainly appreciated. Unusual items are grown which give St. Dunstaners a real challenge and more often than not they are highly successful, since they are more careful and painstaking over the job.

The main items grown are tomatoes and cucumbers for the Summer and chrysanthemums for the Autumn and Winter plus a wide variety of bulbs for flowering in early Spring.

Plants for bedding out in the borders and for growing as pot plants are raised in the early part of the year. Cuttings of all types are taken to increase the stock of certain loved plants which are better as youngsters.

The recommended greenhouse size is 12 ft. x 8 ft., with staging for both sides and this as a rule, is moveable if the border soil inside is used. Some form of heating is

advised for the Winter months in order to keep a minimum of 45 degrees Fahrenheit, which should keep most plants reasonably healthy.

St. Dunstaners who take up garden or greenhouse or animal husbandry as a full time or hobby occupation are given subsidies to help with the cost of soils, pots, manures, seeds, upkeep of the greenhouse etc., in the case of the gardener and with replacement stock and food costs where they are keeping stock.

These subsidies in the case of the unemployable or retired pensioner, only apply if he does not do a full quota of work in a homecraft occupation. They range from £15 per annum for the greenhouse man to £80 for the full-scale farmer. In addition those with stock to replace are given extra help since the profit obtained from their small numbers is insufficient to pay completely for replacements each season.