

St Dunstons
REVIEW
MAY



St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 619

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5p MONTHLY

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Royal Occasion

This month's *Review* features a Royal occasion, the visit by Her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh to Tewkesbury on 8th April, when Her Majesty distributed Maundy money at the Abbey. The Royal party was met outside the Abbey by the Mayor of Tewkesbury, Councillor Leslie Webber, who is a St. Dunstaner blinded during the Second World War. The story is told more fully in words and pictures on other pages.

St. Dunstan's has a long tradition of public service by its members and in quite recent years three St. Dunstaners have served as Mayors—the late Alderman Harry White at Stalybridge, Alderman Colin Beaumont Edmonds, M.C., at Sutton Coldfield and now Councillor Leslie Webber at Tewkesbury.

I do warmly congratulate Leslie and his wife Dorothy as Mayor and Mayoress of Tewkesbury, not only during the present year but also for a second term during the coming year, which will see a whole series of events to commemorate the 850th anniversary of the Consecration of the Abbey, 23rd October, 1121, and the 500th anniversary of the Battle of Tewkesbury, 4th May, 1471.

War Pensions and Allowances

The Secretary of State for Social Services, Sir Keith Joseph, has announced increases in War Pensions and associated allowances.

Full details of the changes and certain other new allowances will not be available until a White Paper is published. However some of the principal changes already announced are given below.—

	£	£
100% Disablement Pension	up from 8.40	to 10.00
Unemployability Supplement	up from 5.45	to 6.55
Comforts Allowances higher rate	up from 1.25	to 1.70
Constant Attendance normal maximum	up from 3.30	to 4.00
Standard War Widows Pension	up from 6.50	to 7.80

A new Allowance called the Invalidity Allowance will be paid with the Unemployability Supplement. This Allowance varies with the age at which the incapacity began.

The increases and new Allowances will come into effect in the week beginning 20th September, 1971.

We will publish full details in the next *Review* together with any comments we may have to make. Meantime, I express our thanks to Mr. Paul Dean, the Minister especially concerned with War Pensions, and the Government for what looks like a generous reform.



"Welcome, Your Majesty"—Leslie Webber greets the Queen at the gates of Tewkesbury Abbey.

Photo—K. J. Upton.

COVER PICTURE. H.M. the Queen with Councillor Webber and Mr. K. Smale, Town Clerk, at the Maundy money ceremony. Photo—Press Assn.

During luncheon, Leslie Webber presents a commemorative sword to the Duke of Edinburgh. Photo—Cheltenham Newspaper Co.



HOST TO QUEEN

On Maundy Thursday, 8th April, a St. Dunstaner, Councillor Leslie Webber, as Mayor of Tewkesbury, was host to H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh when they visited the town.

The bells of Tewkesbury Abbey, where the Queen distributed the Maundy money, rang out a welcome for this, the first visit by a reigning monarch for 120 years. After the service the Royal party toured a terrace of medieval shops and houses being restored at a cost of £100,000 before lunching with the Mayor, members of the Council and guests.

Afterwards Leslie Webber said: "During lunch I was sitting between the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh with my wife on the Duke's left. We were not conscious of any tension because of the easy and wide-ranging conversations they shared with us. The kindness and happiness of the Queen charmed us both. When, finally, we took leave of the Royal Visitors we were left with the impression that they, too, had greatly enjoyed their visit."

Western Tradition

Political philosophy, different stages of development, intolerance and even religion seem to divide nations and even citizens within a nation.

In these circumstances, it was to me very interesting to observe how extremely similar many ways of thought and attitudes conform to one Western tradition. In particular in South Africa, there are persistent traits which derive directly from the British way of life and the tradition of the Old Country.

An example of this was the celebration which took place in Cape Town to mark the 50th Anniversary of the South African Legion which is the counterpart to the British Legion.

My ship was two or three days late sailing from Cape Town to the U.K. so that unexpectedly I was present for these ceremonials and attended the opening of the 50th Conference and the Cenotaph Service. The form of these ceremonials, the very words used, such as "They shall grow not old . . .", the Prayers, and the Legion President's statement all called to mind many similar occasions which I attended in Britain over the years and which many St. Dunstaners will have attended in London or in their own towns or villages.

The Last Post, the Reveille, the Lament by a Scottish piper, the laying of the wreaths, indeed almost every item of the proceedings, was familiar. In wider spheres Parliamentary procedure, the Law—particularly Company Law—the railways, banking and finance are all derived from the British pattern and follow it closely.

St. Dunstaners in South Africa

While in South Africa, I attended two very representative Reunions, one in Cape Town for the men from the South and one in Johannesburg for the men from the North, and Lady Fraser and I met the majority of St. Dunstaners. Great credit is due to Mrs. Natalie Opperman, the Chairman, and the Committee of St. Dunstan's (South Africa) for the way they look after all their beneficiaries and their families. I am able to judge of this because I attended two of their Committee Meetings.

St. Dunstaners have been well represented in South African Legion affairs. In recent years, for example, Mr. Jimmy Ellis, Welfare and Public Relations Officer of St. Dunstan's in Cape Town, has been a foremost figure at Legion ceremonials and at their Jubilee celebrations and at the Cenotaph the Rev. Michael Norman conducted the Services which Mrs. Opperman, Jimmy Ellis and I attended. Mention of the Reverend Norman, who is Rector of Pinelands, Cape Town, leads me to report that he has been appointed Dean of five neighbouring parishes. We congratulate him.

The Post Office Strike

Now that the Post Office strike has become a matter of history, I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Lloyds and the Welfare and Accountancy Staff—and indeed to all the staff—for the improvisations which they made to overcome the difficulty of communication, and I would like to thank all St. Dunstaners for co-operation in this matter.

Fraser of Lonsdale

DERBY SWEEPSTAKE

Less than three weeks to go to the closing date, 19th May. The winning ticket will cost just 15p. Send stamped addressed envelope to Editor, D.S.S. Dept., St. Dunstan's Review, at Headquarters.

APPOINTMENT

WILLIAM GILBERT of Hengoed, Glamorgan, who came to us in February, 1970, has finished his training and has taken up his appointment as a Braille transcriber at Torch House, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex.

BRITISH SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE DISABLED.

B.S.A.D. (for short) is now the recognised National Association for organising sports for the disabled. Sir Ludwig Guttman has a seat on the Central Sports Council and the seven Regional Sports Councils in England and Wales hope to get things going in each Region.

There is much work to do which I think some of you may find interesting. I have been "having a go" at getting things started just round Taunton. Find out if there are any local disabled clubs then find out what facilities—if any—there would be for disabled swimming, sports grounds for field and other events—Archery, Bowls, Skittles, etc. Anyone who feels like helping, please write to me and I will give you full details.

Mrs. Avis Spurway,
Mount House,
Halse,
Taunton, Somerset.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Stoke Mandeville Sports

Friday, 10th September to Sunday 12th September.

PRESENTATION FUND

It has been suggested by a number of St. Dunstaners that a presentation should be made to Mr. Christopher, who retired at the end of March after 50 years' service with St. Dunstan's.

Mr. C. D. Wills is willing to act as Honorary Treasurer of the Fund for Mr. Christopher and any St. Dunstaner wishing to subscribe should send their donations to him at Headquarters.

H.M.S. Daedalus

Just a note to remind you that entries close May 8th. We have just been to a meeting at *Daedalus*. The accommodation will be in the Petty Officers' Mess, as last year. Campers rejoice—you will be most comfortable. If the weather is kind, it was terrible last year, the lawn outside the lounge will be a joy. Much larger and quieter than the one by Cunningham Block.

Things are needed for the raffle—could any camper help? Let me know when you write to Mrs. Avis Spurway, address above.

FRANK REVIEWS

"Small Man of Nanataki", by Liam Nolan, read by David Broomfield. A young British Army subaltern, posted to Hong Kong in 1956, hears much of the brutalities of the Japanese occupation. He hears too of a man called Uncle John, a Japanese civilian interpreter, who daily risked his life to carry into the prison camps vital medical instruments, drugs and vitamins. Later when writing scripts for B.B.C.'s "This Is Your Life" he again comes across the legendary little man and traces him to his home in Japan.

Uncle John is a Japanese Christian, proud of his country yet sickened by the brutality his fellow-countrymen inflicted on their helpless captives. Nolan is a professional writer, young enough to take a detached view, and the picture he constructs of this timid little Japanese benefits accordingly.

The book ends with a postscript by Sir Selwyn Clarke, head of medical supplies in the colony before and during the occupation, who himself suffered at the hands of the Japanese Secret Police, and who writes of Uncle John as a personal friend.

"On Her Majesty's Secret Service", by Ian Fleming, read by Robert Gladwell. Well, here is another of the good old Fleming series—Bond at his best, Bond breaking with decorum and enlisting the help of gangsters in his attempt to get his man. But almost as strange as fiction, Bond getting married. Strange indeed, but cheer up, the ace of the British Secret Service is not to be tied to apron strings for very long. Fleming sees to it that our debonair hero is soon left free to seek out and destroy Her Majesty's enemies and, of course, to give us much future light fiction.

"Sea-Horse in the Sky", by Edmund Cooper, read by David Broomfield. Passengers on a flight from Stockholm to London are very surprised to find themselves waking up, not at London Heathrow but in coffin-like boxes set in the middle of a roadway which leads to nowhere.

There is a hotel and a supermarket and a life of luxury or enterprise—the choice is theirs.

This is a lovely piece of science-fiction writing which I thoroughly enjoyed reading.

"The Sophomore", by Barry Spacks, read by *Marvin Kane*. Harry, thrown out of University for misconduct, has finished his term of service in the American Army and is thus privileged to return to college.

Now on Easter vacation he is a pretty mixed-up young man. Miriam, his girl friend, tells him she is pregnant, presumably to test his affection for her. Harry does a bunk—then regrets it. Meeting up with an old college chum he persuades him and his wife to drive him back down to his girl. Miriam, however, wants no further part of him. Harry looks at the idea of suicide as a way out, but finally rejects it and decides that he might as well cut his losses and get down to his studies.

Well, that briefly is the synopsis, but this is really an excellent psychological study of a modern, young mixed-up male. We get the general idea that whilst his language is often foul, and he plays around "pot-smoking", he is, in the end, not a bad lad at heart. He's just looking for his own identity and the people he has around him do nothing much to help. This is a nice job of character by the author, and it is extremely well interpreted by the reader who certainly gives us of his best.

"A Mixed Double", by Bunny Austin and Phyllis Konstam, read by *David Broomfield* and *Phyllis Boothroyd*. A joint autobiographical work by husband and wife. Bunny Austin, pre-war tennis champion and his non-orthodox Jewish wife, Phyllis, have their first matrimonial dispute when Bunny meets up with the Oxford Group and decides to join them in Moral Rearmament.

Phyllis wants no part in the Group's activities at first and in an effort to save their marriage accompanies Bunny to the United States where she herself becomes a devotee of the cult.

At the outbreak of war, Bunny is assigned the task of addressing American factory workers, as M.R.A. is recognised by the British Government as an excellent weapon against the evils of Nazi Germany. The Group is not without powerful enemies both in Britain and the United States and Bunny is called up for service in the American Army.

This part of the narrative baffles me, for Austin, as a British subject in an Allied country would, I should have thought,

been requested either to return home, or to travel to Canada, to join up. However, Bunny was no pacifist and willingly joined the American Army as a Private, carrying on his Moral Rearmament from within.

His wife, meanwhile, was appearing in a show on Broadway, and later toured Canada, at the same time helping with the work of the Group.

This is an extremely well-styled piece of dual writing, and I'd like to add that it is equally well interpreted by its two readers.

"The Smugglers", by Timothy Green, read by *David Broomfield*. If this title reminds you of childhood stories of ye olde worlde smugglers versus ye olde worlde Customs men then this book will bring you up to date. For what the men of the South coast used to smuggle in from the Continent is chickenfeed compared with latter-day traffic. From diamonds and hashish to antiques and women's hair it is an international business of billion dollar proportions, which increases with the ease and speed of intercontinental communications.

The Customs and Excise men, aided by science as well as their long-trying experience and hunches, still intercept only a small percentage of what the ingenious smuggler brings through. Even when an arrest is made, it is more likely than not to be a hard-up student or dropout, who has thought to earn an easy fifty pounds by acting as a courier for the faceless men behind the racket.

This is a nice job of research, the writing humorous in parts, and it is excellently read by David Broomfield.

Catalogue nos. in order of mention: 1115, 968, 806, 1012, 1117, 1106.

"YOU"

The "It Strikes Me" column in our *March Review* carried a notice about the new monthly publication "You" which is being transcribed into Braille by the Scottish Braille Press. St. Dunstaners wishing to become readers of "You" are requested to write to **Mens' Supplies Dept. at Headquarters** and NOT to the Scottish Braille Press direct. Incidentally, sale of the first issue has been delayed from April to May owing to difficulties arising from the recent postal strike and other factors.

Letters to the Editor

From D. Purches of Hatfield, Herts.

Just recently I had occasion to be talking to a past employer, and he asked me, what apart from an occupation, had I learned from my eighteen months at St. Dunstan's.

As this was a question I had often asked myself, I was quite prepared with my answers.

I entered St. Dunstan's as a post-war St. Dunstaner, having been born after the outbreak of the war. So I was quite apprehensive about joining this new world, an apprehension which I now realise was quite unnecessary.

In that eighteen months I gained at least fifteen years experience of life. Thanks to what I now call the senior Citizens of St. Dunstan's. You see, to have met and lived with these people, and to have some old enough, in some cases, to be my grandparents, ask advice of me, someone, who had hardly seen life, and so inexperienced of it—well the kick this gave me just could not be put to paper. The respect I now hold for my elders could never have been so great had it not been for meeting them at St. Dunstan's.

So to the Senior Citizens of St. Dunstan's I say "Thank you sincerely, for the experience given to me".

From Billy Bell of Whitley Bay, Northumberland

I cannot agree with Wally regarding courage. Can anyone think of another word? Thinking of all disabled people, it is the courage a person shows that gives Doctors courage to perform the most severe operations. But most disablements are permanent and in hundreds of cases a person must have great courage to go through the constant pain and yet be able to smile and understand what the future will be for them.

In 1915 I was sent to Netley Hospital from France. They put me next to a young lad. He was full of life. I wondered why he was in hospital until I saw them dressing him. He had total amputations of both legs and arms. If that was not courage I cannot find a word for it. But a smile is good medicine.

From Harold Pollitt of Farnworth Nr. Bolton.

I read with great pleasure the announcement in the *March Review* that the Talking Book Library in Bolton is to be named the "Ian Fraser Library". It is not because Bolton is my home town but because this is a permanent memorial to Lord Fraser for the good work he has done for all blind people.

I, with many of my friends, feel very happy that the contribution made by our Chairman in the production of the Talking Book has now been commemorated in a most suitable manner.

Club News

London Club Notes

After a run of five weeks our Club Football Pontoon was won by H. Meleson with the team of Birmingham. The "booby prize" was equally shared by Mrs. E. Carpenter and M. Tybinski, their teams being Blackpool and Watford respectively.

Winners of our Thursday evening Domino games during the month of March were as follows:

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| March 4th | 1 C. Hancock |
| | 2. W. Harding |
| March 11th | 1. W. Miller |
| | 2. C. Sheehan |
| March 18th | 1. R. Armstrong |
| | 2. C. Hancock |
| March 25th | 1. R. Armstrong |
| | 2. J. Padley |
| | W. Harding } |

A very happy party was celebrated in the Club Rooms on 25th March to mark the occasion of Mr. and Mrs. W. Harding's Golden Wedding. Mrs. Harding had provided a delicious supper, the highlight being a lovely cake with golden icing. After we had drunk a toast to the happy couple, Mrs. C. Hancock graciously presented Mrs. Harding with a bouquet of golden spring flowers on behalf of all their friends at the London Club. Other personal gifts were handed to Mr. and Mrs. Harding in the course of the evening to show our appreciation of their long and loyal

membership at the St. Dunstan's London Club. We wish them continued health, joy and happiness.

We are happy to note the still increasing numbers who attend our Thursday evening sessions. It gives us great encouragement for the future. Members may wish to note that our Derby coach is now almost fully booked.

W. MILLER,
Secretary.

Midland Club Notes

Despite one or two of our members being on the sick list we had quite a well-attended meeting on Sunday, 14th March. All the Sir Arthur Pearson first round knock-out competitions were completed and several doubles were played off. The tea for this meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Kibbler and we all enjoyed it and thanked her very much. We all offered our warmest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. G. Bilcliff on the occasion of their silver wedding.

On Saturday evening, March 27th, we held our first get together of the year. It took the form of a concert and was held at the King's Arms, Harborne. We had three excellent entertainers: Steve Rivers (country and western), Dixie (comedian), and Earl (piano). A beautiful buffet was arranged for us by the "Missus" of the King's Arms and we had a very good gathering, over sixty being present, made up of club members and their families and friends. Everyone had a wonderful night and really enjoyed the entertainment.

This made an excellent start to our year's activities and let us hope they go on as well through the year.

Our next club meeting is on Sunday 9th May. Final plans will be announced for our outing to Chester Zoo which will take place on Sunday, 6th June.

D. E. CASHMORE,
Secretary.

SCHOOLBOY EXPLORERS

This Summer, John, son of our St. Dunstaner, HENRY PETTY, B.E.M., of Leeds, is taking part in an expedition to Norway run by a master at his school. Twenty-four sixth form students will be going on this biological and sociological expedition and there will be really tough Arctic conditions where they will be based.

OVINGDEAN NOTES

The Ides of March

March winds, a little rain, some sunny days. Daffodils and crocuses in the garden. Daisies in the fields, birds that sing cheerfully and wake you at dawn. All these signs of Spring are with us at last. By the time you read this the Easter Bonnet Parade will have burst into full bloom and we shall be all ready to welcome the holiday season.

This month our Wednesday Group activities have been extended to include music. On the first Wednesday in the month Miss Dagnall presented the first in a series of gramophone concerts entitled "Music for Music Lovers". As the title suggests, all the records played will be of good music, leaving Sunday evenings free for a lighter type of entertainment.

As promised in their last visit in January, the Brighton Tape Recording Club came again, bringing with them a box of records marked "St. Dunstaners' Requests". These were the records requested by St. Dunstaners who were present on the last occasion. The Club members had managed to beg, borrow or otherwise gain access to all the music asked for, including some that must have been quite difficult to find. Ever ready to work for our entertainment they have again collected a list of requests and hope to return in June and play them to us.

The Rev. Popham Hosford, Padre to St. Dunstan's, took an important part in our Wednesday meetings this month when he came to tell us about his work with the Seamen's Mission in Rotterdam. Padre called his talk "Rotterdam Rolics" and gave us a very entertaining account of life in Rotterdam in general and his work with the seamen of many nations who call at this important port. As well as expressing our appreciation of Padre's talk, we were also able to add our sincere congratulations on the O.B.E. recently presented to him by H.M. the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

Our discussion this month took a slightly different form in that St. Dunstaners were asked to put forward their ideas for a private members bill as if they were in the House of Commons. Many and varied were the suggestions and some of them may

well have given us ideas for future discussion subjects. Incidentally, if any of our readers have any ideas for discussion subjects, don't hesitate to let Miss Dagnall know about them. This is just your chance to argue a pet subject, air a grievance or just generally stir things up. Our popular and hardworking Wednesday Chairman, Mr. J. Stokes, appeared in a different role this month. As well as fulfilling his usual duties at talks and discussions, he read the part of an M.P. in our reading of Wendy Grimwood's comedy "A Woman's Place". Also in this play were Mr. Les Harris and members of the V.A.D. staff.

Annual Get-together

Towards the end of the month, we welcomed our "outside escorts" to their annual get-together, which this year was held in the Canteen. It was a pleasure to see so many of our voluntary helpers, including representatives from the Red Cross, who are so valuable as escorts on long journeys, as well as walkers, playreaders, theatre,

ODE TO SPRING

by
PEGGY BRETT

Hey nonny nonny, I dance and I sing,
Happy the housewife! Hurray for the Spring.
Dust in high places,
Some cob-webs, and all!
Covers look faded,
And hedges grow tall,
Mint, sprouting bravely,
Calls out for roast lamb,
Blankets to wash . . .
Now it's raining—Oh damn!
Carpets look dingy,
I Hoover in vain,
Don't say the dog's started moulting AGAIN?
Paintwork shows fingermarks,
Furniture, too,
Old Mrs. Down-the-road's
Down with the flu'.
Mirrors are cloudy—
You just cannot win . . .
Mercy! I'm getting a spot on my chin!
Lawn mowers rattle,
Lumbago is rife,
Yells for the Wintergreen—
Who'd be a wife?
Rhubarb and custard,
"Let's all make a wish!"
Pass round the sugar bowl,
Scrape out the dish.
Wasn't that good? Colliwobbles and all—
What's that? no, listen . . . The first cuckoo's call!
Hey nonny nonny, I dance and I sing,
Happy the housewife, Hurray for the Spring.

Dome and race-goers, Bridge players and all those who help in countless ways. Each guest received a small gift, a purse for the ladies and a "drop of the hard stuff" for the men. After tea there were various competitions and everyone was invited to have a go. A large cake was passed round and its weight guessed. Darts were thrown, everyone trying to get the highest score possible with three darts, and—something new this year—around the walls were pinned colourful advertisements cut from magazines. The game was to guess which products were being advertised—not so easy when the names of the said products had been carefully removed. After the competitions had been judged and the prizes given, the Commandant thanked our guests for all the help they give, and assured them that, as the alterations to Pearson House are completed the Ovingdean modernisation programme begins, they will be needed more than ever to ensure that the operation is completed smoothly.

VERBAL ORGANISATION

by
T. ROGERS

There is no past, nor is there future,
Since both assume the role of present,
When applied to the current procedure
Is a correction stressed by the pedant.

But in the country of the mind,
Past, present and future are intertwined,
The present by the past is made,
And future's path by the present is laid.

The present is pregnant with future's child,
Whose inheritance from the past derived,
So past and future through the present survive,
Though nature oft strange quirks provide.

The present reaps what the past has sown,
Since the past has the present been,
But with the future is held the pawn,
Waiting to answer the present's call.

Thus past and future retain their place,
In the language of the human race,
Though each can only function through
The media of the present's induction.

Like time that flies whilst standing still,
And that pristine lamp in its celestial bowl,
The present fulfils its immutable role,
Using past and future as its verbal tool.

'DULY AND FAITHFULLY FULFILL'

Leslie Webber

When Leslie Webber greeted Her Majesty the Queen in Tewkesbury on Maundy Thursday it was the beginning of the most momentous year of his life. Re-elected to serve a second year in office covering the town's festival celebrating the 850th anniversary of the consecration of Tewkesbury Abbey and the 500th anniversary of the Battle of Tewkesbury, he has received great honour from his fellow-citizens.

The way to the civic leadership of Tewkesbury began on Friday, 13th December, 1940. "Not an unlucky day," says Leslie Webber now, but when he went to Church Stretton to begin his training as a St. Dunstaner he cannot have thought of it as an auspicious occasion.

He was totally blind after a German bomb had wrecked the Fire Service headquarters where he was stationed as a driver in the early stages of the blitz on London. He says ruefully, "I only served five hours in the blitz. I was on leave when it started. I reported back at eleven and was knocked out at four o'clock in the afternoon."

After training at St. Dunstan's as a telephonist he worked in Guildford for the Building Society where he was employed before the war. There he met and married Dorothy, who worked for the same company and, coincidentally, was the daughter of Bill Hallam, who lost his sight in the First World War. After his marriage Leslie decided, "It would probably provide a fuller life and a more interesting career altogether if St. Dunstan's were willing to retrain me as a physiotherapist."

St. Dunstan's was willing and since then no sighted person could have filled his life better than Tewkesbury's Mayor since he took over the practice of a retiring war-blinded physiotherapist in the town in 1949 and later a full-time post in the Tewkesbury Hospital sub-group.

Before the war Leslie had no ambitions to enter the hospital service or to play any part in politics. Now, between his busy physiotherapy department, his civic duties, his work for the Baptist Church as a Deacon and his keen interest in the youth service

as a member of the adult management committee of a boys' club in Tewkesbury, he finds little time for hobbies.

Before he was blinded he played the organ. Now he confesses that he had not played for twenty years when he was invited to be organist at a special service in Ovingdean Chapel during a physiotherapy conference, "So I had to get some practice in rather hastily."

A tall man, with the air of a scholar, Leslie Webber has been a member of the Council for eleven years—graduating via the Chamber of Commerce and the Round Table, of which he was a founder member in Tewkesbury.

"The political parties have looked to Rotary and the Round Table for possible candidates for the Council and in point of fact Round Table throughout the country has provided a great many local Councillors. As I was approaching the end of my time in Round Table I was invited to be a candidate on behalf of the Liberal Party and I was elected the first time I stood in 1960."

Every six weeks he attends around twenty meetings of the Council and its Committees in addition to fulfilling the civic and social appearances expected of the Mayor and, of course, his duties at the hospital.

Dorothy acts as his chauffeuse and reader of all the documentation he must keep up with to prepare for meetings. "We usually read up the night before and if there are any parts I want to be reminded of before I leave for the meeting, we just glance at it to revise these facts."

"I do occasionally jot a particular minute number in Braille. Basically, when I am conducting a meeting I always have the agenda in Braille but it would be such a lengthy task, and with the reading relatively slow, that to Braille the entire details of a meeting would be an unreasonable task."

There are not really many problems in Chairing the meetings he explains, "When you are in the chair you always have the Town Clerk sitting next to you."



Councillor and Mrs. Webber at Buckingham Palace for a Garden Party.

He has the full records with him and it is normal for him to assist the Mayor by producing facts and figures on the spot and reading anything aloud. I have always received the very greatest assistance from the chief officers and staff of the Council.

"The Chair has to recognise the Councillors who wish to speak, but it is not a large Council. There are twelve Councillors and four Aldermen and all of us are known to each other intimately so I can recognise their voices."

As a blind Mayor he has worked out a system with his sighted officers on ceremonial occasions. "To a degree you have to have additional advice on the spot as regards positioning and in introductions to other people because obviously you do not know who is coming towards you. Our Town Clerk does it in such a helpful way that there are not really any problems at all as a rule."

Leslie Webber is conscious of the rich history behind him as Mayor of Tewkesbury. "You feel that there is an absolute wealth of history and tradition behind so much in the town, both from a civic angle and in connection with the Abbey."

He is the latest in a line of Mayors dating back to 1686 when a charter of James II appointed the first Mayor. There



In the Council Chamber.

With Nicholas Ridley, M.P. for Cirencester and Tewkesbury, opening the Tewkesbury by-pass section of the M.5. Photo: Cheltenham Newspaper Co.





Kenneth Smale, D.M.A., Town Clerk, watches as Leslie Webber signs the oath at the Mayor-making in 1970. Photo: Evesham Journal.

was a gap until 1698 because, as the Council handbook puts it, "The inhabitants were so neglectful of their duties and so indifferent to their own government that for many years they did not exercise their powers and no Mayor was elected."

It is not so today, says the Mayor. "I think it fair to say that, although one hears a great deal about the lack of interest in local government affairs, in Tewkesbury the interest shown compares very favourably with the larger towns. The percentage of the poll in the local elections is far higher."

Although the Royal visit to Tewkesbury is the grand finale of Leslie Webber's first year in office and the prelude to an eventful second year, there have been highlights in 1970. From Mr. James Hadley, Director of Home Services, British Tourist Authority, Leslie received a "Britain '70" Wedgwood plaque on behalf of the town. It was one of only three awarded last year for outstanding tourist

enterprise and marked the painstaking restoration of some of Tewkesbury's historic buildings.

"Another thing, of course, was the achievement of the opening of the motorway, following constant pressure over a period of years to get relief from the traffic which threatened to destroy Tewkesbury.

"These two municipal years are perhaps the most noteworthy in the history of Tewkesbury and it is an outstanding honour to be Mayor during the period. There will be things that I will remember all the rest of my life without any question."

And when it is all over his ambition is to continue as a Councillor. "If I am re-elected." Working in local government and as a physiotherapist swallows up most of his life—is it worth it?

"The main reward is the ability to serve one's fellow-citizens and the management of the affairs of the town is absorbingly interesting," he says.

At the Mayor-making Leslie Webber signed and recited this oath: "... I take the said office upon myself and will duly and faithfully fulfill the duties thereof according to the best of my judgment and ability."

He is doing just that.

Receiving from James Hadley of the British Tourist Authority, the Wedgwood plaque awarded to Tewkesbury. Photo: Cheltenham Newspaper Co.



Walking

It was unfortunate that the postal strike deprived our readers of the walking results of our last few races, and as space is somewhat limited in this month's *Review*, I will give the results of our last four races at Ewell, and from these they can draw a picture of what has been happening.

4½ mile—23rd January

Order of finish	Handicap time	Allowance	Actual time
S. Tutton	43.25	7.45	51.10
R. Youldon	44.08	Scr.	44.08
R. Young	44.11	8.25	52.36
D. Willis	44.27	Scr.	44.27
W. Miller	44.42	Scr.	44.42
J. Wright	44.43	8.05	52.48
C. Stafford	45.14	7.55	53.09
R. Mendham	45.24	0.10	45.34
J. Simpson	48.22	1.15	49.37
C. McLellan	50.25	Scr.	50.25
A. Denny	53.33	Scr.	53.33
Match 4 a side	St. Dunstan's	15	
	Met. Police	27	

6 miles—20th February

Order of finish	Handicap time	Allowance	Actual time
R. Mendham	59.00	1.15	60.15
W. Miller	61.22	Scr.	61.22
J. Simpson	61.33	1.45	63.18
E. Allchin	61.21	6.55	68.16
J. Wright	58.40	10.15	68.55
C. Stafford	59.42	10.15	69.57
S. Tutton	61.45	8.30	70.15

7 miles—13th March

Order of finish	Handicap time	Allowance	Actual time
E. Allchin	67.41	8.20	76.01
R. Mendham	68.38	Scr.	68.38
J. Wright	68.42	10.20	79.02
C. Stafford	68.58	11.20	80.18
S. Tutton	69.29	9.40	79.09
J. Simpson	70.19	2.40	72.59
R. Young	75.02	10.20	85.22
6 a side	St. Dunstan's	43	
	Met. Police	35	

7 mile championship—27th March

Order of finish	Actual time	Allowance	Handicap time
L. Taylor	60.01		
D. Webber	62.58		
K. Turner	63.49		
D. Davies	65.11		
R. Hedger	66.40		
R. Youldon	67.20		
R. Mendham	67.43	Scr.	67.43
W. Miller	69.32	Scr.	69.32
J. Simpson	73.50	4.20	69.30
E. Allchin	76.20	7.20	69.00
S. Tutton	77.30	10.20	67.10
J. Wright	77.43	10.20	67.23
C. Stafford	80.28	11.40	68.48
Match 6 a side	St. Dunstan's	56	
	Met. Police	22	
Sir Arthur Pearson Prize			
1st	T.B. J. Simpson		
1st	S.S. R. Mendham		

Archie Brown Cup 1970/71 season

The total number of points scored by each member in the Archie Brown Cup competition were as follows:

	Points
R. Mendham	36
C. Stafford	34
E. Allchin	34
J. Wright	33
S. Tutton	32
W. Miller	22
R. Young	17
J. Simpson	13
F. Barratt	4
C. Redford	3

Jimmy Wright and Roy Mendham each received plaques presented by Mr. C. Harrison for winning the Archie Brown Cup last year and this year respectively.

W. MILLER.

Bridge Notes

BRIGHTON

The third Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 27th March. The results were as follows:

F. Rhodes and Partner	88
W. Scott and J. Huk	73
F. Mathewman and F. Griffiee	66
R. Bickley and H. Kerr	62
W. Burnett and J. Whitcombe	61
J. Chell and P. Pescot Jones	60
S. Webster and M. Clements	49
A. Dodgson and A. Smith	45

LONDON

The fourth Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 3rd April. The results were as follows:

F. Pusey and M. Tybinski	71
R. Fullard and J. Lynch	67
R. Stanners and R. Evans	67
R. Armstrong and	
Miss V. Kemmish	66
P. Nuyens and W. Allen	55
H. Meleson and Partner	52

R. ARMSTRONG,
Captain

NEVER ENDING BRIDGE?

The following tapes are now available:

1. Simple opening suit bid at the one level.
2. The losing trick count.
3. Competitive bidding—tape one. (Over a simple opening suit bid.)
4. Competitive bidding—tape two. (Over a one no trump opening.)
5. Competitive bidding—tape three. (Response to partners opening competitive bid.)

BLOODY BUT UNBOWED

by
Alf Field

Most Bridge Players have had (or it's only a matter of time) the "Character building experience" of being doubled and dropping 800, 1100 or more. Mostly it is because you are (A) too venturesome or (B) just stupid—it depends on whether it is you or your partner. I, as South, held this hand at game all recently.

♠ 10, 4
♥ J, 10, 4
♦ K, 10, 6
♣ Q, 10, 9, 7, 6

West on my left dealt and passed. North (my partner) opened "One Diamond". East passed. What do you bid? Go on, you first! I bid "Two Diamonds", reasoning that North might hold the "Big" Hand or a 5 card suit in Diamonds and my "Two Diamonds" would dissuade or obstruct West. West passed as did my partner. The "snake" on my right now "Doubled". We were 1100 down, could have been 1400 with best defence. My partner did have 12 points. (Balanced!) Came one or two dawns—the "scar" healed and I found myself reading my writings—"If there is not long suit available to Bid you must bid four card suits (any four card) attempting to find the 4-4 fit for trumps at the one level. A bid of 'one' should therefore, be primarily accepted as a suggested trump suit and not to be confirmed (raised) by partner without 4 cards of that suit—any four. To ensure

you do not miss the 4-4 fit you must not go past a 4 card suit at the one level unless it is to bid a long suit." Acol bidding is arranged for that purpose. Emphasis is on the 8 cards rather than the point content of the trump suit. I concede (as with Reese) that an opening bid of "one" should be headed by the Jack. My "scar" has twitched and I can hear my friends muttering—"Oh hell! He writes one thing and does another at the table" (supported Diamonds with only K, 10, 6)—O.K. I was half venturesome and half stupid, anyhow I did show you my "scar".

Some more dawns come and go and I am invited into a semi-scrubbers school—there is no one else available—with it's 'nice-of-you-to-join-us', etc., etc. I cut the best partner and after three deals we were in arrears. (5p per 100.) The demi-semi's have bid and made a small slam and enquired, "Did we bid that correctly—could it have been defeated?" I hear myself saying words of encouragement and mentally asking that my thoughts should not be recorded up above. Two hands later North on my left (now vulnerable) dealt and bid "One Club". My partner passed, South bid "One Heart". I held:

♠ K, Q, J, 2
♥ A, K, Q
♦ 9, 7, 4, 3
♣ 8, 6

What do you bid? Go on be my guest. I decided that as my partner could not raise a squeak not vulnerable over "One Club" it would be better to defend, so I passed. North had a "ponder" and bid "Two Hearts".

East passed now, South wriggled, gazed at his score sheet hoping possibly to find they were 40 towards the second game and bid "Three Hearts". Now while that was happening you were like me thinking of what your bid must be so that you will not hesitate. What do you bid over "Three Hearts?" You pass smoothly because you don't want to drive them into Three No Trumps. North raised to "Four Hearts". You have to wait until it is your turn to bid and you double. What would you lead? I decided to go for the spade trick first and led the King. Here is the complete deal:

		♠ 9		
		♥ 5, 4, 3, 2		
		♦ A, K, J		
		♣ K, Q, 9, 8, 7		
♠	K, Q, J, 2	N	♠	10, 8, 7, 3
♥	A, K, Q	W	♥	J, 10
♦	9, 7, 4, 3	E	♦	Q, 10, 2
♣	6, 4	S	♣	10, 5, 3, 2
		♠ A, 6, 5, 4		
		♥ 9, 8, 7, 6		
		♦ 8, 6, 5		
		♣ A, J		

South won with Spade Ace and led Heart 6 which I won with Queen and to Trick 3. Led Queen of Spades which was ruffed with Heart 3. Trick 4. South wins with Club Jack. Trick 5. Spade 5 was ruffed with Heart 4. Trick 6 won by Club Ace and Trick 7 Spade 6 is ruffed with Heart 5. Trick 8. King of Clubs is led from North. This was the position:

		♠ —		
		♥ —		
		♦ A, K, J		
		♣ K, Q, 8		
		N		
♠	—	W	♠	—
♥	A, K	E	♥	J
♦	9, 7, 4, 3	S	♦	Q, 10, 3
♣	—		♣	10, 5
		♠ —		
		♥ 9, 8, 7		
		♦ 8, 6, 5		
		♣ —		

King of Clubs was led and South discarded Diamond 5. I can make only two tricks. Naturally there was an inquest and now there were "Kibitzers" who volunteered suggestions. One was, "Pity you didn't double three Hearts. They would have gone into three N.T. which can't be made." I concentrated on totalling the score and then came the salt. South was smiling (so would I) and said, "Thanks, Alf. Sorry about that—but you're right about those four card suits." I join those two experiences and meekly suggest there could be a lesson. Oh! you might consider that four Hearts should be defeated. Let me know, my partner is anxious.

Congratulations to Ian Partington, son of BERTIE PARTINGTON, of Bolton, Lancs., on achieving his Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery at Leeds University.



Welcome to St. Dunstan's

On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.

Thomas Frederick Basson of Cheltenham, Glos., who came to St. Dunstan's in February, 1971, served for 38½ years and was commissioned in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. He is married and has a grown-up family.

William James Orr of Lisburn, Co. Antrim, was admitted as a full St. Dunstaner in March, 1971. He served in the Royal Ulster Rifles, the Queen's Own Royal West Kent and the Gloucesters, and was a Prisoner of War in Japan. He is married with a son.

James William Thwaites of Burnley, Lancs., who joined St. Dunstan's in March 1971, served in the Royal Artillery during the Second World War. He was a Prisoner of War in the Far East. He is married with a grown-up daughter.

Henry Geller of Woodford Green, Essex, came to St. Dunstan's in March, 1971. He served in the First World War in the 1st Battalion of the King's Liverpool Regiment. Mr. Geller is married.

The late Mr. J. W. Treece

We published an obituary notice about MR. TREECE in the March Review since which his widow has given us some interesting further information. We understand that Mr. Treece was totally blind as a result of service in the Royal Naval Reserve in the First World War. He recovered sufficient sight in his left eye to continue serving in the Merchant Navy after the War and he held the rank of Boatswain for no less than 35 years. Unhappily his right eye never recovered and this prevented him from sitting examinations for higher rank. In the circumstances he did wonderfully well to continue serving at sea for such a long period of time.

Family News

Congratulations to GEORGE LAWLOR of Leamore, who attained his 92nd birthday on 14th April, 1971.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to MR. AND MRS. "DICKY" RICHARDSON of Peacehaven, Sussex, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 22nd April, 1971. Dicky is well known to everyone as the telephonist at Ovingdean.

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. GUY BILCLIFF of Sutton Coldfield, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 6th March, 1971.

Congratulations to MR. AND MRS. ROBERT FULLARD of Norbury, London, S.W.16, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 19th April, 1971.

Sincere congratulations to MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM KELLY of Workington, Cumberland, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 26th March, 1971.

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. WALTER LETHBRIDGE of Oldham, Lancs., who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 25th May, 1970. (Rather belated congratulations—but we have only just received the news.)

Ruby Wedding

Very many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. HORACE BOORMAN of Faversham, Kent, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 8th April, 1971.

Golden Weddings

Warm congratulations to MR. AND MRS. ROBERT BAKER of Cambridge, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 28th March, 1971.

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. CHARLES BLACKETT of Plymouth, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 22nd January, 1971.

Sincere congratulations to MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM COOK of Doncaster, East, Victoria, Australia, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 26th March, 1971. Mr. Cook is an Englishman who was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918 and went to live abroad in 1947.

Warmest congratulations to MR. AND MRS. ALAN EMERSON of Clacton-on-Sea, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in December, 1970.

Very many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. JAMES GREENWOOD of Worthing, Sussex, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 29th March, 1971.

Very many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM HARDING of Finchley, N.3, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 27th March, 1971.

Very many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. WALTER HIGGINS of Moreton, Wirral, Cheshire, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 4th April, 1971.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

JOHN COOPER of Rhyl, North Wales, who is pleased to announce that he became a grandfather for the first time, when his daughter, Dorothy, who lives in Australia, gave birth to a daughter, Judith Anne, on 18th February, 1971.

JOSEPH LANGLEY of Brighton, whose first grandchild, John Gordon Langley, was born on 12th March, 1971, to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Langley, his son and daughter-in-law.

MRS. EMILY MCCLARNAN of Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs., announces the arrival of another grandson born on 5th March, 1971, who is to be called Robert. She now has four grandchildren.

WILLIAM KELLY of Workington, Cumberland, on the arrival of a grand-daughter on 9th March, 1971.

In Memory

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

Dr. J. Struan Alexander, O.B.E. S.A.M.C.

Struan Alexander, of Durban, South Africa, died on the 20th March, 1971.

He was a South African doctor who served in both World Wars, was a prisoner of war in Italy, and first came to St. Dunstan's in London in 1947. He later returned to Durban and was a South African St. Dunstaner. He worked for many years as a specialist in physical medicine, only retiring fully in 1965. His health had deteriorated by then and he later entered a nursing home, where he remained permanently. He leaves a widow and family by his first marriage.

Patrick J. Conlin. 4th King's Liverpool Regiment.

Patrick J. Conlin of Malden, Essex, died on 24th March, 1971. He was 79 years of age.

He enlisted in the 4th King's Liverpool Regiment in 1908 and served with them until his discharge in 1916, coming to St. Dunstan's in the same year. He trained in Braille reading, writing and type-writing and had considered telephony but decided against this. Mr. Conlin started his office career as a Braille shorthand typist and worked for 25 years as a Civil Servant in various offices, mostly in London. He retired from work in 1955 and moved to Essex a year later where he and his wife have lived in retirement.

Unfortunately, Mr. Conlin did not enjoy good health and in January this year was admitted to hospital, although his health improved sufficiently to return home. He leaves a widow.

James Cooney. Labour Corps.

James Cooney of Worthing, Sussex, died on 23rd March, 1971. He was 81 years of age.

He enlisted in the Labour Corps in October 1917 and served with them until March 1918 and came to St. Dunstan's a year later. His health was not very robust and he trained in netting, basket work and typewriting and was able to open a small basket-ware shop in Worthing, where he worked up a reasonable trade doing chair repairs, cycle baskets etc. He lost a son in the 2nd World War and his first wife died in 1944. Mr. Cooney remarried a few years later and their daughter, Josephine, who is now a school teacher, has shared with her mother, the nursing of Mr. Cooney in recent years when his health gave reason for concern. Mr. Cooney lived most of his life in Worthing and when his health no longer permitted him to do Basketry he regularly made string-bags for St. Dunstan's stores and did this work right up to the week of his death.

He leaves a widow and daughter, Josephine.

CECIL DOUGLAS PARKER of Grantham, Lincs., is delighted to announce the arrival of his first grandchild, Lynn, born to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Parker, his son and daughter-in-law.

Great Grandfather

Many congratulations to:

JOSEPH RAINS of Nottingham, who is pleased to announce that he has become a great-grandfather for the second time when his grand-daughter, Mrs. Waterhouse of Crewe, gave birth to a son Duncan James, on 14th March, 1971.

ALEXANDER STERNO of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, who is very pleased to announce the birth of his first great-grandson, Matthew, born to his grand-daughter, Olivia, on 25th January, 1971. He is a brother for Esther, Rebecca and Delilah.

Linda, daughter of HUGH GALLAGHER of Blackpool, was married to Paul Taylor of Blackpool on 3rd April, 1971.

Judith, daughter of CECIL WILSON of Brough, East Yorkshire, was married to Michael Benson on 10th April, 1971.

Sheila, daughter of JOHN MARTIN of Boreham Wood, Herts., married Tony Hennessey on 27th March, 1971.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

GEORGE LAWLOR of Leamore, near Walsall, Staffs., who mourns the death of his wife on 19th March, 1971.

GEORGE NUTTALL of Bonehill, near Tamworth, Staffs., on the death of his wife on 22nd March, 1971.

CHARLES WHEELER of St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean, on the death of his daughter, Mrs. Maureen Gray, aged 48 years, who died in hospital on 26th March, 1971.

In Memory

Edward Grant. *Royal Scots.*

Edward Grant of Hadfield, Via Hyde, Cheshire, died on 28th March 1971. He was 76 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Scots from 1915 to 1919 and was the victim of a mustard gas attack. He had tuition in netting when he came to St. Dunstan's in 1950 and he also for many years derived great pleasure from his greenhouse. Until latterly he enjoyed holidays at Ovingdean and was a good attender at North Country Reunions. He had been in poor health and he died in hospital where he had been admitted a fortnight previously. He leaves a widow and family.

William Grimwood. *Royal Marines.*

William Grimwood of Fleetwood, Lancashire, died suddenly on 13th March 1971. He was 53 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Marines from 1940 to 1941. In December of that year he came to St. Dunstan's and was trained for industry. He spent a few years in an industrial job until ill health compelled him to give it up. Mr. Grimwood was married in December 1970.

He leaves a widow and relations.

William Douglas Hope. *1st Scots Guards.*

Douglas Hope, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, died on the 30th March, 1971, which was his 85th birthday.

He enlisted in 1914 and was commissioned in the Scots Guards. He was blinded and ultimately came to St. Dunstan's in 1917. He had business interests in London, but eventually he and his sister, who cared for him for some fifty years, settled in Tunbridge Wells. Miss Hope died in 1966, but he continued to live independently in a hotel, until poor health made it necessary for him to move into a nursing home about a fortnight before his death.

George Gordon Madieson. *1/4 Seaforth Highlanders.*

George Gordon Madieson of Brighton, Sussex, died on 6th April, 1971. He was 80 years of age.

He enlisted in the 1/4 Seaforth Highlanders and served with them from May, 1915, to June, 1916, when he came to St. Dunstan's. He trained in poultry farming and also learned basket making, netting and typewriting. Unfortunately his wife was very ill and died in 1919. Later on Mr. Madieson remarried and decided to give up poultry farming but concentrated on basket work. In 1931 Mr. Madieson moved to Brighton, where he has remained ever since. His second wife died in 1961 and since then he has been looked after by relatives and in particular by his cousin by marriage, Mrs. Mary Holmes. In recent years Mr. Madieson has enjoyed a happy retirement and spent sometime each year visiting relatives in the North of England.

John Maryon Drucquer. *Essex Regiment.*

John Maryon Drucquer of Hove, Sussex, died on 24th March, 1971. He was 72 years of age.

He served with the Essex Regiment from 1917 until 1919 but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1959. Mr. Drucquer had already retired from the Administrative Staff of London University and he and his wife lived in Dorset until 1960 when they moved to Sussex. Unfortunately Mr. Drucquer had been in poor health practically throughout his retirement and in recent years was more or less housebound. He died in his home after a long illness.

He leaves a widow.

Wilfred Wilson. *9th West Riding Regiment.*

Wilfred Wilson of Blackburn, Lancashire, died on 23rd March, 1971. He was 80 years of age.

He served in the 9th West Riding Regiment from 1915 to 1916 but his sight did not deteriorate until 1932 when he came to St. Dunstan's.

He trained in netting and mat making and also kept poultry on a modest scale for a number of years. He was very fond of his vacations at Brighton and was actually staying at Northgate House during the illness and sojourn in hospital of Mrs. Wilson. He was only ill for a few days and his death was unexpected.

He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

Ernest Woofenden. *Leicestershire Regiment.*

Ernest Woofenden of Leicester died on 10th December, 1970. He was 61 years of age.

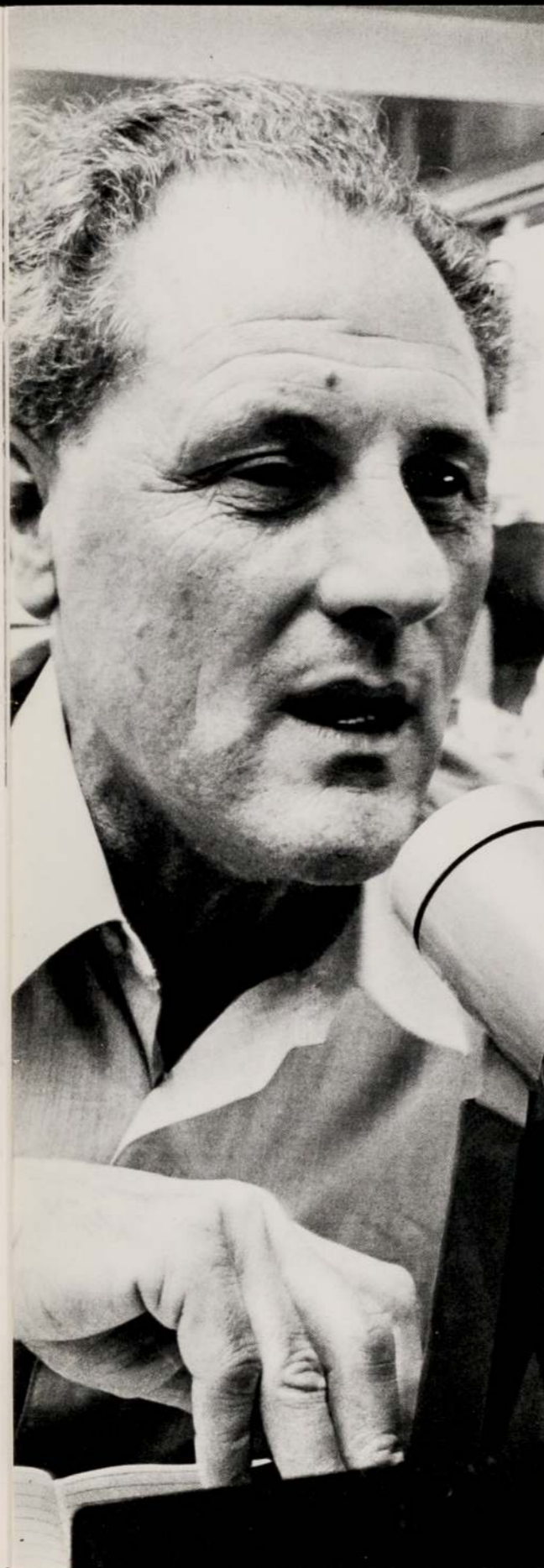
He served in the Leicestershire Regiment from 1943 to 1945 and was wounded in Italy in November, 1944, and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1945. He trained in industry and was working right up to the time of his very sudden death. He was first class at his job and very highly respected. He enjoyed Midland Reunions and will be much missed at future meetings.

He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

Thomas Arundell Van Zeller, M.C. *Royal Tank Corps.*

Tom Van Zeller, of Oundle, Northants, died on the 26th March, 1971, at the age of 86 years.

He was a regular Officer who lost one eye in the First World War and the sight of the other eye deteriorated when he was elderly and very ill. He became a St. Dunstaner in 1970, but had then for some time been a permanent resident in hospital near his home. He leaves a widow and large family: one of his daughters, who had lived abroad for many years, returned home only three weeks before his death and was able to join the others in their frequent visits to the hospital, which meant so much to him.



Space Signals at Ovingdean

Eleven St. Dunstaner radio hams and short-wave listeners gathered at Ovingdean over the week-end 12th-14th March for the fourth Ham Radio Week-end.

Although there was disappointment that, for the first time, GB3STD failed to make contact with Iris de Reuck, our South African girl "ham", there were other interesting conversations over the air with, among others, Stan in Venice, Peter in Munich and Paul in New Jersey, U.S.A.

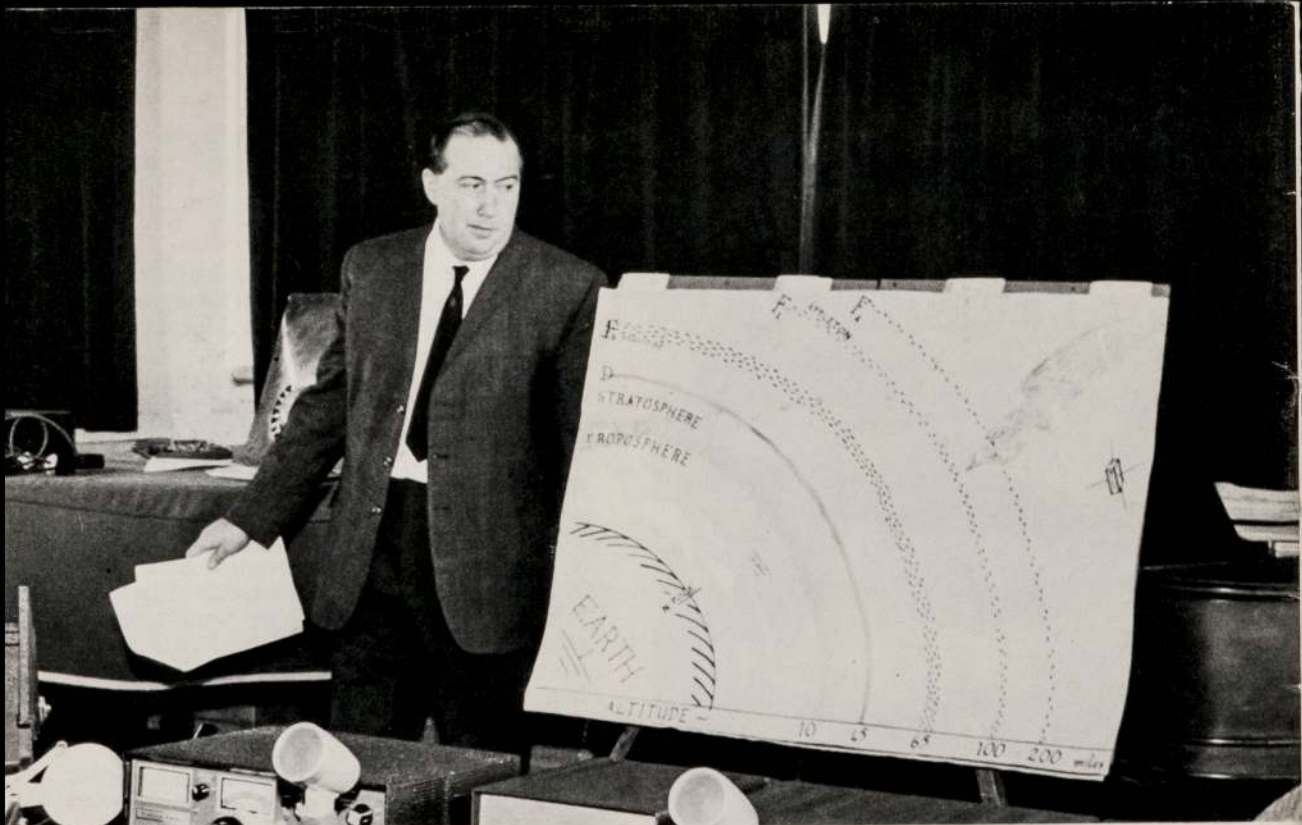
The St. Dunstaners were also able to hear radio signals from thousands of light years away in space. These were tape-recorded by Mr. Ronald Ham, F.R.A.S., through his radio telescope. In his talk, Mr. Ham gave his audience a "look" through sound, "millions of light years into space at galaxies which dwarf our own. Out of a hundred thousand million stars," said Mr. Ham, "our sun is a minor star of no galactic importance." Nevertheless, he explained how sun-spot activity can affect radio transmissions and provide freak long-distance signals. This, again, he illustrated with tape-recordings of such signals received.

History Survey

Another welcome guest was Mr. Fred Ward, President of the Radio Society of Great Britain, who travelled all the way from Derby to attend. His survey of the history of the amateur radio movement in Britain greatly interested the St. Dunstaner hams.

His concluding remarks sum up the fascination amateur radio has for some 13,000 licensed operators today. "Early amateurs were a little body of people ranging from dustmen to Royalty. Today the field has widened still further to take in the handicapped. Radio has opened up the world. There are no barriers. Nobody now can say he is alone if he is an amateur. He has only to switch on and there is somebody to talk to."

Eric Rowe, at the microphone of GB3STD, talks to a fellow amateur in the United States.



Ham Radio Weekend

Ronald Ham giving his lecture.

A "bug-key"—electronic morse sender—demonstrated by Ted John.

Alan Reynolds admires Fred Ward's Presidential chain. One of the links reads "Captain Ian Fraser 1928".

