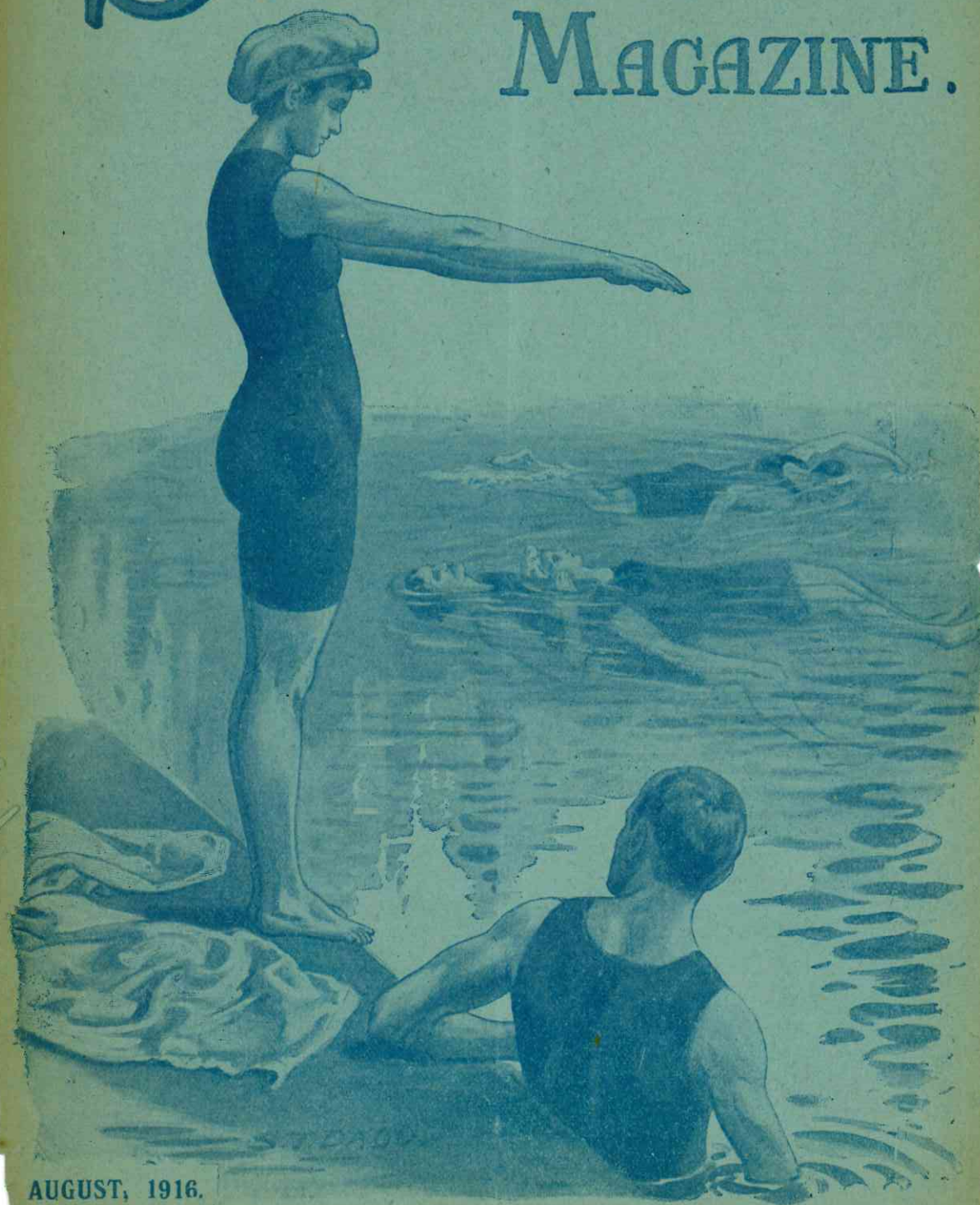


THE
SWIMMING
MAGAZINE.



AUGUST, 1916.

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SWIMMING IN THE ARMY.

PROPOSED INTER-REGIMENTAL COMPETITIONS.

IT is very gratifying to note that the many swimmers who have joined the Army, more particularly those who are holding the Awards of the Royal Life Saving Society, are carrying with them their love of the exercise, and endeavouring in every possible way to get swimming and life saving taken up enthusiastically in the regiments in which they are serving. Ever since the season commenced we have been receiving interesting communications from the leading swimmers of the Empire, all of whom are doing their best to push forward the work and encourage their comrades in its practice.

It would therefore be well if those of the older swimmers who are left behind were to arrange for the holding of special competitions in all the military areas in this country, for, by so doing, they will not only help towards the general teaching of swimming, but incidentally give pleasure to the many swimmers who are now in training or awaiting their call to the front.

There can be no doubt that the practice of swimming is one of essential value to a soldier. Its knowledge has proved useful on innumerable occasions during this great War, and has led to the saving of many lives. Hardly a day passes but that news is received of some gallant rescue by a soldier, and details about these have appeared in this magazine. Furthermore, it has been useful to scouting parties and also for purposes of direct attack or for saving one's own life when communications have been broken.

Commanding Officers have it in their power to encourage swimming, as provision is made for it in the King's Regulations, and though perhaps at the present juncture it is inadvisable to press much upon this point, there can be no doubt that much good which could have been done in peace time was left undone.

Of course, some regiments did go in very strongly for swimming and life saving, one

of the notable ones being the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, who have long been supporters of the Royal Life Saving Society, and many of whose members have gained the Bronze Medallion. They instilled the love of swimming among the other regiments in the districts where they were quartered from time to time, and now it is rarely that you find a regiment without a swimming team of good capabilities. This is more particularly so in the new Army, and therefore we make a plea for the promotion of military competitions on a large scale in the same way as those valuable cross-country and inter-relay races which were carried through during the past two winters and which received the unqualified support and approval, not only of the General Officers commanding, but also His Majesty the King.

There have already been some competitions run at Club galas, held on behalf of the Red Cross and other War Funds, but no general system involving the participation of the best swimmers in every regiment in great inter-regimental contests has been promulgated or devised. What is needed is a strong guiding hand to take up the matter at once in order that the question may not be shelved until another season. It is an opportunity which should not be missed, for we are certain it will commend itself warmly to every swimmer in the Army, who themselves will be only too pleased to assist in the organisation to carry the idea to a successful issue. Were a strong body to get to work at once we should be able to enlarge the pleasures of the soldier in training, and by careful arrangement of details command such attendances at galas that substantial sums would be raised for the general benefit of the War Charities. Failing the holding of galas, military championships might be arranged, such as one over the long distance course in the Thames, or over a mile at one of the large open air baths.

THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY.

PROMINENT WORKERS FOR THE CAUSE.

CONTINUED PROGRESS IN THE SCHOOLS.

THE Central Executive Meeting of the Royal Life Saving Society was held on July 20 at the Head Offices of the Society, Mr. J. R. Leggatt in the Chair, and among others present were Mr. Harry J. Barclay, Hon. Treasurer, William Henry, Chief Secretary, Archibald Sinclair, who had acted as Secretary during Mr. Henry's illness, S. J. Monks, D. W. Allan, R. Sandon, H. J. Grimwade (Chairman of the General Purposes Committee), W. Cheshire, H. E. Newman, E. H. Oxlade, A. N. Craig, Mrs. Jarvis Dickinson, Miss Ida Schafer and Miss M. Ewart.

Reports were received of numerous examinations amounting to 1,078 Awards, including 2 Diplomas, one for Miss Winifred Scott, of Leeds, and the other, Miss Edith S. Hartley, of Toronto. There were also 51 Awards of Merit granted.

The Hon. Treasurer's report was regarded as particularly satisfactory, and his recommendation that accounts to the amount of nearly £70 be paid was agreed to.

It was resolved to accept with regret the resignation of Mr. Alfred Bower, as Chairman of the Executive, he having written to the effect that it would be impossible for him to carry out his duties as Chairman, owing to the calls upon his time in other directions. Thereupon Mr. S. J. Monks was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy, and Mr. D. W. Allan was appointed Vice-Chairman.

It was resolved that the Distinguished Service Medal be awarded to Mr. Arthur B. Parker, of New South Wales, for services rendered to the cause during a period of many years. The Chief Secretary having reported the great kindness he had met with from Mr. G. P. Beamish during his illness at Bath it was resolved that a special vote of thanks be accorded to him for all his favours, and regret was expressed at the loss Mr. Beamish had sustained by the death of his brother, who had been brought back from France to hospital in London.

Regret was also expressed at the death of Cyril Fleetwood, of the Highgate Lifebuoys, who was killed in France. Mr. Fleetwood had been an energetic promoter of the aims and objects of the Society for several years.

He took a great interest in the Boy Scouts, and was particularly proud of his troop as swimmers and life-savers. Not only the Highgate Lifebuoys but also the Society has lost a warm and earnest supporter.

WESTERN PROVINCE HEAD CENTRE.

A gallant rescue was effected by Mr. A. S. Morris, a prominent member of the Western Province Branch, Cape Town. On May 28, the rough sea prevailing was in striking evidence on the Sea Point and Camps Bay coast. The summits of high rocks that are overlapped by the sea but once or twice in a decade were subjected to wash-overs on occasions when the waves sought bigger fry than the ordinary sized rocks. At Bakoven, a popular permanent camping spot just beyond Camps Bay, the high seas prevailing should have damped the ardour of the most venturesome spirits. Not so, however, in the case of a European boy named Bowers, who was noticed by a couple of onlookers, Mr. J. Hudson and Mr. A. S. Morris, to be perched on the top of the highest rock jutting out seaward, fully 30 feet above the waters. The next moment they were amazed to see a huge sea sweep over and carry the lad into the seething waters below. Without hesitating a moment the latter of the lookers-on ran down to the water to rescue the lad from his plight. The waters were a mass of foam alternately hiding the lad from view. Mr. Morris, undismayed by the sharp bristling rocks, dashed into the sea, and after strenuous efforts, which at one time the now alarmed campers felt certain would result in a dual calamity, brought the boy safely to the shore. Both were considerably hurt by the tossing on to the rocks. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Mr. Andrew Morris for his timely rescue. As superintendent of the City Baths, and a prominent figure in the Life Saving Society, it is apparent that he is a believer in practising what he teaches.

Sapper W. G. Hargrave, Royal Engineers, the first winner of the William Henry Cup, is on service in East Africa, but is still working in the interests of the Royal Life Saving

Society and hopes to have several of his comrades ready for examination on his return. Meanwhile he has been keeping up the work of instruction. The Henry Cup which was won by Mr. Henry in an open life saving competition some years ago in Finland has arrived at the Cape and is treasured as an heirloom. It is donated for the Western Province individual life saving championship.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The New South Wales Head Centre has done remarkably well during its past season, as upwards of 1,400 awards have been gained. There were granted 168 Elementary Certificates, 703 Proficiency Certificates, 468 Bronze Medallions, 9 Teacher's Certificates, 29 Honorary Instructor's Certificates and 24 Awards of Merit, while there were 2 Diploma Examinations, the Theoretical Parts of which had not been adjudicated upon at the time our mail letter left.

Unfortunately, Mr. George H. Williams, the esteemed secretary of the Head Centre, has been very unwell, but yet he has been able to give a good many lectures and demonstrations of the Society's methods of rescue and resuscitation as well as displays of scientific swimming and floating.

Of course the majority of the senior swimmers in New South Wales are fighting for the Empire, but the juveniles have risen to the occasion splendidly and have done very creditable work on the ocean beaches, etc.

The Surf Bathing Association has been depleted of nearly all its members and it is regrettable that many of the best and most experienced life savers in the State have been killed or disabled.

Since his return from England, where we had the great pleasure of meeting him, Mr. William H. Cooke, the chairman of the New South Wales Head Centre, has been indefatigable in the work, and so has Mr. Spyer, who is acting as Chief Honorary Instructor. Both these gentlemen have been very enthusiastic and helpful to the Society for a number of years.

Another hard worker is Mr. Arthur B. Parker, who usually assists Mr. Williams in his displays. He is a powerful swimmer and one of the early members of the Society. He joined the first branch at Waverley, which amalgamated with the Sydney Branch (afterwards merging into the New South Wales Head Centre) in 1893 and was a member of a class put through by Warrant

Officer J. Bond at the Bondi Baths in 1894. Mr. Parker has been most consistent in his attendance and work ever since and the Society owes him much gratitude. He was in South Africa in 1904 and did what he could for the Society there, also similarly in West Australia, New Zealand, and Brisbane. His Coogee team won the Roth Challenge Shield in 1908. Mr. Parker is now located in Newcastle, where his energies are unrelaxed.



Photo by Sarony

[Melbourne, Victoria.]

Police Constable James E. Uren.

One of the most energetic of the supporters of the Victorian Head Centre of the Royal Life Saving Society is Police Constable James E. Uren, who successfully passed the test for the Diploma at the Richmond Baths, Melbourne, on March 6 of this year, this being the second pass since the institution of the Centre, the first being by Mr. Harry Witty, who is well known to English swimmers. Police Constable Uren is a powerfully built swimmer standing about 6 feet and weighing sixteen stone. He gained the Bronze Medallion of the Society in February, 1914, and the Award of Merit in the same month at Horsham, Victoria. Now by assiduous practice he has succeeded in gaining the highest Award the Society can offer.

Good work has been done by Mr. M. L. Hodges at Jarrow, and on the first Monday in July Messrs. J. W. Bremner, Eric K. Jennings, J. Gillespie, Norman Gillespie, W. Smith, J. Haggerty, A. Rounthwaite, W. Waggott, W. Fee, G. Hutcheson, R. McCarthy, Eric Furlong, and W. Pugh, passed for the Proficiency Certificate and Bronze Medallion. The examiner was Mr. George Tinnion, the district representative of the Royal Life Saving Society.

A gallant rescue of three lives has been achieved by S. C. Stevens, of the Royal Flying Corps, formerly a life-saving pupil of Mr. Holmes Walker. This splendid soldier succeeded in saving three lives, but says it was a tough job and that had it not been for the knowledge instilled into him by his instructor he could not possibly have effected the rescues. Stevens has been recommended for the Award of the Royal Humane Society.

The death in action of Capt. Percy Gordon Graham, Northumberland Fusiliers, has caused great sorrow in Newcastle, where he was universally beloved. He joined the ranks soon after the outbreak of war, and was afterwards gazetted Sec. Lieut.; eventually being promoted to the rank of Captain, after being in the Army only about six months. Captain Graham was a famous swimmer and for seven consecutive years held the Newcastle Corporation Cup, while as a Water Polo player he gained International honours, playing for England against Scotland in 1910. Before the war he was Captain of the Northumberland Amateur Swimming Club. Captain Graham was also very much interested in Church work and was Captain of the Boys' Life Brigade. He also took great interest in the Liverpool Mission, Newcastle, which is run by the parent Church. An upright and honourable citizen, his loss is greatly regretted. In 1912 Captain Graham gained the Proficiency Certificate and Bronze Medallion of the Royal Life Saving Society, after instruction at one of Mr. G. Tinnion's classes.

Miss Winifred Scott, of York, who has just passed for the Diploma at Leeds, had her training at the City of Leeds Training College. She gained the Bronze Medallion in March, 1915, and the Award of Merit in June.

Among those who have joined the New Zealand Expeditionary Force is George E. Billson, hon. sec. of the Dominion Executive Council, and also of the Canterbury Head Centre of the Royal Life Saving Society. Mr. Billson, who was formerly in the City of London Police and winner of the Police Championship of the United Kingdom, is the Superintendent of the Baths in Christchurch. He informs us that although over seventy Award holders and members of the Canterbury Head Centre have joined the Forces, the work of the Centre during the past season has been very successful, and that upwards of 140 Awards have been granted.

Important examinations have been carried through at Harrow with eminently satisfactory results. The encouragement now given to the teaching of life saving in the Public Schools is very gratifying, and the long list of awards granted each year points to general efficiency of high-class character. The knowledge which the boys obtain enables them to take up the subject in their respective spheres in after life, and it is to the work of many of these Old Boys in all parts of the world that the great progress of the Royal Life Saving Society is largely due.

The examiner at Harrow was Mr. J. R. Leggatt, who has been connected with the Society since 1897. He has passed through every grade of its work from the Proficiency Certificate onwards. Mr. Leggatt was a competitor in the National Life Saving Competition, and with his team only just missed gaining the highest honour. He has been in regular attendance at Central Executive Meetings, and was Vice-Chairman for five years, after which he became Chairman. For the services he rendered Mr. Leggatt was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, for beyond being a member of the Executive he has regularly instructed classes, particularly amongst the police in North London, and had the satisfaction of guiding one of his teams to victory in the Police Life Saving Championship, the cup for which was donated by the late Mr. W. F. Darnell. For years Mr. Leggatt has acted as Special Examiner and Judge in connection with the King's Cup and other international and national competitions. His appointment for these and other events has been due to the fact that he is very particular in observing the requirements and conditions of competitions and examinations.

Mr. A. R. Kerr, a member of the Northern Counties Amateur Swimming Association, Royal Life Saving Society, and Amateur Diving Association, first diploma winner in Blackpool, conducted an examination for the R.L.S.S. Awards at Southport, on Wednesday, July 12. The candidates were all members of the Brentwood Ladies' College. Mr. Kerr has been a member of the Blackpool Club since 1894, and for some years acted as hon. treasurer and secretary.

Mr. George H. Williams, the Secretary of the New South Wales Head Centre of the Royal Life Saving Society, has been doing good work during the war by becoming acting accountant to the Sydney Hospital, and giving displays of Epée and fencing at military camps in various parts of the State. Mr. Williams is an ardent member of the craft and is working for the formation of a Lodge in Australia similar to the Royal Life Saving Lodge.

We are pleased to learn that classes of instruction are being formed at St. Mary's, Isle of Scilly, by Mrs. Addison, formerly of Thornton Heath. There could be no more fitting place for instruction to be given in life saving than in the wave swept isles beyond Land's End.

The President of the Union Amateur Swimming Club of Cape Town is making great effort to secure a hundred Awards of the Royal Life Saving Society before September 20, and has signified his intention of being one of the candidates at the next examination. This is a notable example for all presidents of swimming clubs. It is a practical proof that the honour of election to the chieftainship of so important a South African Swimming Club as the Union was more than deserved, and it says much for the discernment of the members in selecting such a worthy chief.

Among those who have recently passed for the Award of Merit are Miss Kathlene Smith, Miss Isabel Gordon, Miss Jeannette Higginbotham, Miss Aileen O'Hara, Miss Gladys Field, Ontario Ladies' College, Ontario; F. James, A. M. Kennedy, West End Y.M.C.A., Toronto; Miss Monica Goodchild, Miss Constance Gibbings, Miss Lilian Gibbings, Miss Violet K. Common, Miss

May Gresham, Miss Doris Wilson, Liverpool Physical Training College; Miss Phyllis P. Wilson, Miss Kate Johnson, Miss Gladys Moore, Miss Doris M. Livesey, Miss Rachel G. McFarlane, Miss Doris A. Blakeley, Miss Edith Oldham, Miss Mary E. Vickers, Walter Johnson and Douglas Craig, City of Leeds Training College; John P. Walker, Andrew Clark, David Saul and Wilfred G. Hewson, Nelson School, Wigton; Arthur Jackson Stout, John Harpur Smith, Edward Dixon Grubb, Harold G. L. Jeken and Hugh R. Arundel, Ackworth School, Ackworth; George Savage, James Samuel Warner, Wallasey Police; Miss Vera E. Hickson, Miss Kathleen Crundwell, Miss Myra S. Brown, Miss Madeleine F. McIlwraith, Oliver Powell, Ivan C. Sanderson, Josiah Wedgwood, Christopher M. Fordham, Peter J. Mrosovsky (Petrograd) and George A. Turner, Bedales School, Petersfield; William Smith Gray, Bootle; Miss Christina Lochhead, and Miss Elizabeth Whitehill, Paisley; Colin Ross Baxter, William G. Scott, George Robert Parker, High School, Dundee; Miss Katherine E. Whincop, Chelsea Physical Training College.

Mr. W. Lear Begg, who was hon. secretary of the Transvaal Amateur Swimming Association, and is holder of the Award of Merit of the Royal Life Saving Society, is now taking active interest in swimming and life saving in Cape Town.

A gala, organised by the Grimsby Corporation Baths Committee in aid of the Tobacco and Cigarette Fund for local soldiers at the front, took place at the Corporation Baths on Friday evening, July 21, before a large attendance. Viewed from a competitive standpoint the finest tussle was between Pte. McNally, of the 3rd Lincolns (local champion), and Corpl. R. A. Crawshaw, 3rd Manchesters. They met in the military championship over a 100 yard course. Crawshaw led to the end of the sixth length, when McNally with a much better turn caught up and won by a mere fraction. Both met again in a 66 yards handicap, in which Crawshaw conceded his opponent four seconds. In the first two lengths Crawshaw drew level, and looked like being an easy winner. Again he got a bad turn, in fact he entirely missed it, and after a fine tussle McNally won, Gnr. Prince, R.F.A., being second, with Crawshaw third.

In a paper on the "Science and art of Swimming from a medical point of view," which Mr. John Furse McMillan, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., late of the Royal Army Medical Corps, has contributed to *The Medical Press* there occurs the following statement regarding cramp and its causes. "It has been mentioned that swimming has by the profession been regarded rather as a pastime than an art and science, so that may account for the fact that no great light has been thrown upon the origin and physiology of cramp. It must be remembered that the act of swimming involves as much muscular effort as walking or running, but whereas in the latter the signs of exhaustion are obvious and evident, in swimming this is not so. The walker perspires, whilst this physiological sequence to exercise is nature's effort with the greatest speed to get rid of those waste products, urates and lithates, that under normal conditions would be eliminated by the kidneys. But the swimmer in the water, *ipso facto*, has lost his facility for perspiration owing to the condition of *cutis anserina* caused by the water, and the only means of elimination of deleterious products remaining to him is by the lungs. So that, when as the result of direct muscular effort his respiration is impeded, the urates and lithates, failing of removal from the blood, act directly on the nerves of the sarcolemma, and so cause the contraction of the latter—a physiological effect that in magnitude gives rise to that distressful malady known as cramp. As regards treatment, flexion and rest, the swimmer keeping himself afloat until help arrives, to our present knowledge, are the only means to arrest drowning; but when removed from the water, friction, either by the hand or mustard, is efficacious."

Lieut. Cyril L. Roberts, South Lancashire Regt., who won the 200 yards Mersey Defences Championship at the recent "Roll of Honour" gala at Liverpool, has received an appointment in the Royal Flying Corps. Prior to the war Lieut. Roberts was a member of the Everton Swimming Club.

The first Royal Naval Brigade Swimming Club, formed among men interned at Groningen, Holland, has been handicapped this season by bad weather. Attendance at the baths has consequently been irregular, and the organisation of learners and life saving classes has practically been impossible,

as regularity is the only way to results. Some progress has been made with water polo and it is hoped to be able to obtain a representative team this year and arrange inter-battalion matches later on. This information comes from B. C. Gray, of the Collingwood Battalion, who is one of the Honorary Examiners of the Royal Life Saving Society.

In the final of a hundred yards handicap decided by the Barrow Amateur Swimming Club last month Roy Meredith won from scratch in 1.3. The Barrow club has evidently some good men in its ranks. Among the interested spectators was David Billington.

Some people imagine that colds cannot be caught after sea swimming. This is an entirely erroneous idea. To guard against a chill, directly the water is left, a vigorous rubbing down with a coarse towel should be indulged in. A short run up and down the beach should then be made, and this will brace up the system.

In 1910 Hugh McMahon, A.B., passed for the Bronze Medallion of the Royal Life Saving Society at Devonport, and two years later took the Award of Merit at Sydney, New South Wales. Being proud of this distinction he carried the silver medal with him, but unfortunately lost it in the battle of Jutland. Under these exceptional circumstances the Chief Executive have been pleased to issue a duplicate. The story of this medal shows how widespread are the ramifications of the Royal Life Saving Society, whose Head Centres and Branches all over the world afford every opportunity for those who have gained the Elementary awards to try for Honours no matter where they may be.

We are pleased to learn that Mr. A. C. P. Handover, of the Central Executive, who enlisted in the Royal Army Medical Corps, has been promoted Staff Sergeant Instructor on the Army Gymnastic Staff, after passing several examinations. He is now responsible for the physical fitness and skill with the bayonet of the 3/8th Middlesex Regiment. Sergt. Handover has had much experience in conducting life saving classes and giving lectures at Hounslow and other centres. An article from his pen on the subject of Resuscitation appeared in the June number of the SWIMMING MAGAZINE.

THE LADIES' SECTION.

RED CROSS AND HOSPITAL FUND GALAS.

FINE DISPLAY BY THE PARK CLUB AMATEURS.

THE Junior Ladies' Competitions at the Bath Club were held on June 28, and were very keenly contested. For the "Maud Nathan" Cup, presented to the Club in 1911 by the relatives of the late Miss Maud Nathan, there were nine entries. Each candidate had to swim one length breast stroke, not at racing pace, but with graceful action and correct method; one length back stroke, without using the hands; Life Saving, 60 ft. (2nd method); standing dive from low spring board; standing dive from 5 ft. board and revolution on the surface of the water (not less than three revolutions).

For these tests the maximum number of points was 120. After a very close competition Miss Beryl Cumberlege Ware and Miss Marguerite Barlow were adjudged to have tied for the first place with 96½ points, and Commander G. E. Nathan, R.N.V.R., thereupon very kindly presented a second Cup. Miss Joyce Bruce Dick was second with 95½ points, and Miss Elinor Dodd third with 94½ points; thus only two points separated the four ladies.

For the Children's Challenge Shield there were fifteen entries. In this competition each candidate had to swim one length breast stroke, not racing, but with graceful action and correct method; one width back stroke, not racing, but with graceful action and correct method; one width Life Saving (2nd method), and one dive from the side of the Bath. The maximum points for these tests was 80. Victory was secured by Miss Pamela d'A. Nathan with 66½ points. Miss Sybil Dawson was second with 64½ points, and Miss Sybil Jecks and Miss Margaret Fripp tied for the third place with 64 points. The Judges of the Competition were Messrs. Guy M. Campbell, Vice President of the Royal Life Saving Society, and H. J. Grimwade, Official Judge of the Amateur Swimming Association.

Excellent arrangements for the carrying out of these competitions were made by Mr. J. Wilson Taylor, the Secretary of the Bath Club. Much interest was centred in them, for they are the only competitions the ladies are deciding this season, the senior

contests having been abandoned for the past two years.

The Ladies Committee of the Southern Counties Amateur Swimming Association is doing exceedingly good work towards the increase of the Star and Garter Fund for disabled soldiers and sailors. As we noted last month the start was made by the Dartford Premier Ladies, who made something like £20 out of the Gala, and also had a Flag Day. By the time they have finished they hope to have placed £100 to the credit of the Fund. But the energetic and enterprising Hon. Secretary of the Southern Ladies, Mrs. Edith Lyon, will not be content with that, and aided by the other clubs, hopes to raise £800 to £1000 altogether so that the ladies may provide the wherewithal for the building of a lift in the Star and Garter Home.

It should be noted that no member of the Dartford clubs benefited by the gala, every prize won being given to one of the wounded soldiers by means of winning numbers, and each member buying his or her own entrance ticket.

The second Gala was held at the Westminster Baths on the first Saturday in July, among the events being a 44 yards (one length) scratch race for Australian and Canadian swimmers, which was won by Pte. Davey, of Sydney, in 25.45 secs; Corpl. Hayward, Anzacs, being second, and Pte. Hemming, Montreal, third. The ladies themselves had two capital races, one being a 176 yards inter-club team handicap, and the other an 88 yds. handicap limited to the speediest swimmers in the Southern Counties. The final of the latter was won by Miss V. Johnson, Holloway United, off the two second mark. Miss V. Newman, Mermaid Ladies, 7 seconds start, being second; and Miss A. McHattie, Holloway Ladies, 5 seconds start, was third. It was a splendid race, Miss Johnson only winning by half a yard from Miss Newman. The team handicap was swum in heats.

A team race, open to H.M. Forces, and over the same distance as the Ladies' race, was won by the Royal Naval Air Service,

Crystal Palace, in 1.54.3; the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, Crystal Palace, being second, and the R.A.M.C. Royal Flying Corps, Coldstream Guards and Scots Guards unplaced. There was also a Water Polo match, between the Royal Naval Air Service and the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, which the former won by 4 goals to 3.

The Mayoress of Hammersmith has accepted the presidency of the newly formed Hammersmith Ladies' Swimming Club. The members meet at the Lime Grove Baths, Shepherd's Bush, every Wednesday evening, when particulars as to membership, etc., can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. James. The Mayoress has also kindly presented a silver challenge cup for competition.

The winners of the Ladies' Challenge Cup Competition promoted by the New South Wales Head Centre of the Royal Life Saving Society were Miss Fanny Durack, Miss Mina Wylie, Miss Hilda Robertson and Miss Jessie Evans.

The ladies' furlong senior championship of the Midland Counties Amateur Swimming Association of England was decided at the Kettering Baths, Northamptonshire, on the evening of July 3. For it there were only three entries, these being Miss Constance Mabel Jeans, Nottingham Ladies', the holder, Miss R. H. Lawrence, Coventry, and Miss D. Wheat, Nottingham. Miss Jeans, who holds the record for the Midland District at 220 yards, 3.12.3, led from the start and won by eleven yards in 3.17.1. Miss Lawrence was second in 3.30. Miss Wheat finished in 3.51.3.

The English Amateur Swimming Association has officially passed the following records:—300 Yards Ladies. 4.23 made by Miss Constance Mabel Jeans, of Nottingham Ladies' S.C., October 30, 1915, at Nottingham. 150 Yards Ladies' Record. 1.56.1 made by Miss Constance Mabel Jeans, on December 31, 1915, at Seacombe.

It is understood that close upon £400 has already been obtained by the Southern Ladies' Committee, of which Mrs. Edith Lyon is the enthusiastic honorary secretary, out of the £800 which the ladies hope to subscribe to the Star and Garter Fund for Disabled Sailors and Soldiers. All the carnivals have been successful, and the Committee are highly gratified at the progress made.

Beckenham Ladies' gala in aid of the Star and Garter Fund, held on July 6, was the third of the series organised by the Ladies' Committee of the Southern Association. Among the exhibitions was one by F. A. Unwin, the ex-back-stroke champion, who is an air mechanic in the R.N.A.S. He also competed in a 133yds. team race, but his side was beaten by the 2/2nd Welsh Field Ambulance. The ladies' team handicap competition over a distance of 133 yards was won by Beckenham (W. Douglas, S. Sherlock, F. Obee, and P. L. Tett), who had 23secs. start, by a touch from the Dartford Premier Ladies' (H. Herget, C. Turner, N. Stevenson and R. Morgan), 31 secs start, the Clapton Ladies' (R. Lamb, L. Hunt, Q. Allen, and Ivy Grimwood), scratch, being third. The time registered for the victors was 2.8 and the limit 0.33.

Congratulations to Mrs. Hussey, of the Barry Ladies, on winning the final of the 67 yards invitation ladies' handicap at this gala by half a yard from Miss V. Newman, Mermaid, with Miss W. Douglas, Beckenham, only another foot behind. It was a capital race throughout. A portrait of Mrs. Hussey, who is the holder of the Award of Merit, appeared in the "Swimming Magazine" of November last.

A ladies' diving competition was also decided which Miss N. Armstrong, Mermaids, won, Miss E. Harrison of the same club being placed second and Miss P. L. Tett, Beckenham Ladies', Third.

The Leicester Ladies' S.C. have fixed up their autumn swimming fixtures, which will be competed for at Vestry Street Baths, on and from September next. Senior members' evening practice: Sept. 1, 60 yards' handicap; Oct. 6, novices' race; Oct. 13, breast and back race; Nov. 17, diving competition (three prizes each). Juniors' evening practice (Bath Lane Baths): Sept. 7, two lengths handicap; Sept. 28, learners' race; Oct. 5, diving competition. Seniors' morning practice (Bath Lane Baths): Oct. 6, diving competition; Oct. 27, perfection of strokes; Oct. 17, one length handicap.

Although only started last October the Ladies' Section of the Barrow Swimming Club already has a membership of close upon a hundred and fifty.

An exceptionally bright entertainment was that given by the Park Club at the Municipal Baths, Tottenham Green, on the evening of Thursday, July 13, in aid of the Prince of Wales's General Hospital at Tottenham. It was the third effort which the Park Club had made in the interest of the Hospital, the sums of £57 and £47 being obtained for the deserving cause on the two previous occasions, but we imagine that record was beaten this time.

It was essentially a ladies' night, and a great ladies' night, for nearly all the best swimmers in the South of England were there, freely giving their services, and contributing to the pleasure of a very large audience. One of the outstanding features of the gala was the remarkably skilful display of scientific swimming by Mrs. Jarvis Dickinson, Mrs. Pascoe, and Mrs. King, who gaily described themselves as a "Veteran trio desirous of showing that those no longer in their first youth may reap benefit from the exercise of swimming." We doubt if a better display has ever been given by lady amateurs. Every feat was performed with accuracy and in most graceful manner. No wonder therefore that the audience paid rapt attention to the exhibition and enthusiastically cheered the swimmers at its close.

But there were also other fine exhibitions, those by Miss Johnson, the winner of the 100 yards Southern Counties Junior Championship last year, Frank Giles of the City of London Police, Miss Violet Hall, the Tottenham School Girls' champion, 1912 and 1913, and Miss Vera Neave, being very instructive, and the diving display by Miss Pennington was also much admired.

Particular interest centred in the Ladies' Life Saving Races for the Hospital Challenge Cup presented to the Ladies' Section of the Park Club last year by the Governors of the Hospital, of which the Park Ladies were the holders. In this competition each club sends a team of four first claim members of two seasons standing. Each member of the team has to act as drowning subject and rescuer in turn, and the four methods are gone through. Thus there are four races and the competition is decided on points. In the first method race, the Avenue Club, Misses Guy, Rice, England and Gerrard, won smartly from Broomfield Park, represented

by Misses E. Joy, E. Simpson, A. Lees, and Blandford, with Clapton Ladies third, and Park fourth. The second method race ended in an easy win for the Park Ladies, Misses E. Hodgkinson, L. Pinnell, W. Mackay, and E. M. Rigby, Bloomfield Park again being second and Clapton Ladies third, Avenue spoiling their chance by a false start. Park Ladies also scored readily in the third method race, but this time Clapton Ladies, Misses Ivy Grimwood, D. Tindell, R. Lamb, and E. Slipper, gained second place, the Avenue third, and Broomfield Park fourth. Thus when the last race came for decision Park Ladies led by six points to eight for the other three clubs. Park Ladies had therefore only to gain first or second position to win, but they failed badly and could only gain fourth position to Clapton Ladies, Broomfield Park and Avenue in the order named, Clapton Ladies therefore depriving the holders of the cup by a single point. Mr. Archibald Sinclair acted as judge of this competition in the regretted absence of Mr. William Henry, Chief Secretary of the Royal Life Saving Society, to whose long illness Mr. W. E. Bull, of the Southern Counties Executive, made sympathetic reference when introducing the competing teams.

There were many other events which attracted enthusiasm, particularly the local school races and Park Club's junior gentlemen's championship. The last-mentioned was won by W. Clark, the Secondary School team race for boys by Tottenham County School, that for girls by the Skinners' Company's School, a police team race by Stoke Newington, a Special Constabulary team race by Tottenham, a tug of war by the Stoke Newington Police, a military team race by the R.A.M.C., the Anzacs coming in second, and a polo match by the Park Club, who beat the R.A.M.C. by three goals to one.

Mrs. Aileen Allen, the high and fancy lady diver of the Pacific Coast, says that: "In spite of opinions to the contrary, women make as efficient life savers as men. To rescue a drowning person does not require so much strength as skill. It would be the greatest folly in the world for a man, no matter how powerful he might be, to attempt to save a drowning person unless he were an expert swimmer and knew how to break the holds of a victim struggling in the water."

Various calls brought about by the war have naturally made their attendances more uncertain than in the past, but still the Clapton Ladies have made excellent progress during the present season. Despite having been compelled to rely upon their reserves on more than one occasion, they are leading in the Inter-Club Team Handicap, an event which has been introduced in the series of Galas organised by the Ladies' Committee of the Southern Counties A.S.A. for the benefit of the Queen Mary Star and Garter Home Fund. More than ordinary interest has been taken in this event, and the members are keen upon securing all the honours attached to the competition.

Another important event—and one which the Club members will always look back to with more than ordinary pleasure—is their achievement in carrying off the Life Saving Trophy, presented by the Governors of the Tottenham Hospital. The "Park" Swimming Club, under whose auspices the Gala was held, are to be congratulated for their hospitality to all the visiting teams, and the recipients were all full of praise. When the opportunity arises for the Clapton Ladies to entertain their Tottenham friends, they will, we are sure, do their utmost to return several kindnesses.

It was, in a sense, unfortunate that the Clapton Ladies should deprive the promoting body of the honour of holding the handsome trophy, but to win is the all important object in events of this kind: and neither the Park Club, nor those others who competed, will envy them the honour which was obtained after such a fine sporting tussle. Miss Hole has good reasons to feel proud of the success, as the winning team has practised under her personal supervision. During the short period Miss Hole's services have been at the members' disposal they have made astounding improvement.

At a gala held by the Halifax Ladies Swimming Club at the Woodside Baths, Halifax, on July 17, Miss M. S. Marshall won the contest for neatest breast stroke, Miss A. A. Bottomley, the hundred yards club championship, the same young lady the hundred yards race for the Macaulay Bowl, Mr. P. Mitchell, a fifty yards handicap, Miss E. Priestley a competition in neat diving and also the life-saving championship race, a special club feature.

A capital gala was given by the 1st East Ham troop of the British Girl Scouts at the East Ham Baths on July 18, in aid of the funds of East Ham Hospital. Included in the programme was an eighty yards invitation race to twelve of the fastest lady swimmers in the South of England, and this was won by Miss Edna Smith. Afterwards four pairs of girls gave an exhibition of four methods of life saving. The Girl Scouts were kindly assisted by Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Derbyshire, Mrs. Hussey, Mrs. Handman, Miss Davis, Mrs. Jarvis Dickinson and Mrs. Forsyth, and under the skilful guidance of these experienced ladies the whole gala went with a swing and proved an unqualified success.

Windsor Ladies Swimming Club decided a two miles race in the Thames from Boveney Lock to Windsor Corporation Baths, a distance of about two miles, on July 19, when victory was secured by Miss M. Parsons, who covered the course in 38.15, Miss I. Strange, 38.41, was second, and Miss F. Tucker, 39.1, third. Twelve started and nine completed the course.

One of the "Star and Garter" galas was held by the Southern Ladies at Westcliff on Saturday, July 22, when the fine open-air bath was packed to its utmost extent. There was an exciting finish in the final of the hundred yards' limited handicap, ending in a win for Miss Harrison, Mermaids, who had three seconds' start. Next to finish was Miss Johnson, Holloway United, the Southern Counties' Junior Champion, from scratch, with Miss Ivy Grimwood, Clapton Ladies, also three seconds' start, close up third. It was good swimming, for with a 12 seconds' limit the time registered was 1.20. Ernie Corri, a son of Eugene Corri, the famous boxing referee, won a boys' race, and Polytechnic easily beat Amateur in a water polo match by four goals to one.

Subscribers to the SWIMMING MAGAZINE, who have done so much to keep this journal going, are respectfully reminded that the third volume commenced in June last. They will greatly assist the future of this journal, which is the only one of its kind in the world, by kindly posting their renewal subscriptions to the Hon. Editor without delay.

(See notice facing page 60.)

NOTES ON NEWS.

Interesting Items from Home and Abroad

ABOUT the most famous swimming bath in the world is the Sydney Domain, which has a swimming course of one hundred and ten yards and a diving stage sixty feet in height. It is in this bath that many world's records have been made and it was here that Duke Kahanamoku swam his straightaway hundred in 0.53.4, thus creating

with the water, which is sometimes twenty-one feet in depth, and also the method adopted for fixing up the hundred yards mark, either a firm pole being used or else a rope drawn quite taut and fitted with small blocks of cork, so as to keep the rope dead level on the water. Under the big seating stages are innumerable dressing boxes and there are



Sydney Domain Municipal Baths.

an astonishing record. At this same bath such famous swimmers as Cecil Healy and W. Hill evolved the idea of the "two meals a day club," the men meeting at what is ordinarily luncheon time, and swimming their trials from a hundred yards to a mile.

There could not be a better bath for a gala, for the seating accommodation is arranged in crescent form, one part of it being quite thirty yards from the swimming area, and as a consequence every spectator can see comfortably. At times over seven thousand persons have been in attendance.

As regards the turning boards we were struck with an ingenious idea which allowed of the boards rising and falling automatically

no fewer than eleven lavatories. Over the platform are fifty incandescent lights and over the swimming basin are twenty-one electric arc lamps. The diving stage by the platform is generally used for sun bathing and light luncheons, nothing being forgotten in the arrangements of this splendid establishment. Then again there are four low spring boards and one twenty feet from the water, but about the greatest boon of all are the twenty-seven fresh water showers.

For the children who frequent the bath a basin sixty feet by twenty-seven feet and with water from one to five feet in depth has been set aside, and here it is that young Sydney of both sexes learns to swim.

A series of articles on the Crawl Stroke is being written by Richard Dungan, the coach to the Piedmont Athletic Club, for one of the American papers. In his opening statement he says, "There are three styles of the crawl stroke—the Australian, the American and the Hawaiian. Each of these divisions is a distinct style embodying the main characteristics of the stroke, that is, the double over arm stroke and the dragging leg kick. Yet each is a different stroke and each has its representative champions and proponents. Just where the crawl originated no one seems able to say. Credit goes to the Australians for the first effective use of the dragging leg drive. The famous Cavill family, that dominated swimming for fifteen years in the Antipodes, used the crawl stroke for the first time in competition. The assertion of Sidney Cavill, the present instructor at the Olympic Club in San Francisco, that he and his brother Dick discovered the crawl, is borne out by several old-time competitors from the island continent. According to Cavill, his brother and he were staying in Samoa, and while there noticed that the natives swam with unusual speed and without the use of their legs. Being the champions of Australia at the time they were particularly interested and investigated. Their search netted the principles of the Australian crawl. They practised the new stroke and found that they could travel faster using the arms without the scissors kick than with it."

The first round of the London Schools team swimming championship, under the auspices of the Southern Counties A.S.A., was decided on Friday, July 21, at Holborn Baths. Teams of six competed, each boy swimming 60 yards. The holders, St. Stephen's, Shepherd's Bush, had a swim over in the second heat, owing to Trafalgar Road, Twickenham, having unknowingly entered a boy who was just over the age limit, which disqualified the team, and the absence of the Kennington Road (last year's runners-up) and West Hill teams. The first heat produced a most exciting race, in which two Hoxton teams, from Canal Road and Gopsall Street, dead-heated for first place. The times bore no comparison to last year's record, St. Stephen's, who are without three of last year's team, accomplishing the fastest time, 5.30.2 as against 5.6.3 last year.

The authorities of Harrow School have given permission for the public of Harrow

and district to use the school bathing place during the school summer holidays. The bathing place, which is known as the "Ducker," is 500 feet long, 100 feet wide in its widest part, with a bridge over it in the centre. The depth near the bridge is a little over 6ft., and it runs down to 3ft. 6in. at the ends. The surface covers 31,000 square feet. At the school swimming is compulsory, all boys, unless exempted by the doctor's orders, being obliged to learn. The test is 70 yds. A "pass" swim is held about once a fortnight, while the bath is open, and boys, until they have passed, have to take at least three lessons a week, which are reported weekly to their form masters. At the end of the summer term all boys, excepting, perhaps, about a dozen, have done the test. There is also a voluntary pass, and the boys who accomplish it are called "Dolphins." A "Dolphin" has to swim five lengths of the bath under nineteen minutes, has to enter the water with a good header and, in the course of the swim, dive under a floating hurdle, climb out at a low board and plunge in again, and to show efficiency in breast, side and back strokes. The "Dolphins" have certain privileges and are expected to practise life-saving.

After giving an exhibition of life-saving at the fifth annual school children's gala at Jarrow on July 20, the junior members of the Jarrow Swimming Club made a thoughtful presentation to Mr. Hodges, their instructor, who has coached them with marked ability.

The annual sports of Eton College took place on Saturday, July 22, at Athen's Bathing Place on the Thames. Capital form was shown, P. G. Kennedy's time (3.25.2) for the Senior 300 yards being distinctly good. J. L. Baker, who was second, and won the Senior Headers, also showed excellent form. Thonard, a Belgian boy, won the Junior Headers, and was second in the Junior 200 yards. In the Senior Headers the competition was very close. The award went to J. L. Baker. Headers have always been a special feature in connection with Eton swimming from an untraceable date, and the so-called acropolis in the bathing place exists for their practice. The acropolis is a mound of earth with a perpendicular camp sheathed face on the river bank some fourteen or fifteen feet above low summer water level. Running headers are taken from this, the run being about ten yards.

The annual inter-school competitions of the Surrey Secondary Schools Swimming Association were held at the Baths, Latimer Road, Wimbledon, on Monday evening, July 10. There were four events, Rutlish winning one first and two second places, thus doing the best of all the schools taking part. The School are grateful to two old boys, Messrs. R. G. H. Whitty, who was champion in 1914, and M. W. L. Hines, who coached the Rutlish School boys for the championship events, and Mr. H. T. Bignell, of Wimbledon Baths, who instructed the junior and diving teams. It is interesting to know that Mr. Bull, for twenty-five years judge of the London Schools Swimming Association Championship, said that the diving was one of the best exhibitions of schoolboy diving he had ever seen. The results were as follows:—

Championship Shield.—1, H. M. Hemmings, Tiffins School, Kingston, time 3.7.2; 2, L. O. Happe, Kingston Grammar School, time 3.10.2; 3, E. F. Levitt, Sutton County School; 4, E. H. Nash, Rutlish School.

Junior Challenge Cup.—1, Richmond County School (L. M. Butt, L. H. Hale, A. R. Johnston, E. North and W. Strauss), time 6.10.2; 2, Rutlish School (T. H. Nash, L. J. Brice, W. O. Chalkley, E. V. King and P. Maynard), time 6.40.2; 3, Sutton County School and Tiffins School (dead-heat).

Senior Challenge Cup.—1, Sutton County School (E. F. Levitt, F. G. Stevens, A. E. Cooper, K. F. Purser and F. W. Russell), time 7.38; 2, Rutlish School (E. H. Nash, C. L. Cobb, J. J. Creasy, H. W. Boreham and G. D. Honey), time 7.50.4; 3, Richmond County School (S. J. Clark, H. Dawkins, C. P. Field, F. Musin and W. Strauss), time 8.22.

Diving Competition.—1, Rutlish School, 70 points out of 90 points; 2, Sutton County, 65 points; 3, Richmond County, 59 points. The individual scores were—1st, E. H. Nash (captain of Rutlish), 78 points out of 90 points; 2nd, G. D. Honey (Rutlish), E. W. Knox (Rutlish), E. F. Levitt (Sutton County School), 66 points.

It is very gratifying to learn from Mr. Carey, who is responsible for the swimming at the Rutlish School, that 60 per cent. of the boys are able to swim.

The hundred yards junior championship of the Southern Counties of England is to be decided at Dartford, Kent, on the first Wednesday of this month.

Westminster School being without a bath, the annual school races had to be decided at Buckingham Palace Road Baths on July 18, when good form was shown by F. L. Moss, who won the seventy-six yards seniors' race in 0.53.4 the thirty-eight yards open race in 0.24.2 and the graceful diving. His house was however beaten in the inter-house team race; Ashburnham House (L. Tudsberry, A. M. Dobbie, J. C. Horton and P. J. Ruhler) finishing four yards ahead of Rigaurd's House in a 152 yards contest. Moss was swimming for Rigaurd's House.

As an alternative to physical drill and Swedish exercises performed indoors during the winter the 3rd (Dulwich) Battalion of the South London Volunteer Regiment is developing an idea for a military swimming class for the summer months.

A. G. Fairhall, who had a hundred seconds start, won the final of the Serpentine Swimming Club's furlong race in the Serpentine Lake, Hyde Park, for the Duke of Westminster's trophy on July 19, by a yard from the scratch man, W. H. Melhuish.

Lt. D. A. Green, Connaught Rangers, who has died abroad from enteric, was captain of the swimming club when at Tonbridge School.

Sergt. Reginald Dunk, 2nd Barnsley Battn. Yorkshire Regt., killed in action, was captain and champion of the Barnsley Club. It is only a few months since that he saved the lives of two of his comrades from drowning in the Suez Canal, and for this he was presented with the certificate of the Royal Humane Society.

In New York City, on July 4, the American Independence Day, every public park, recreation ground, swimming bath and gymnasium was devoted for the time being to athletics in its broadest sense. These Fourth of July celebrations are eclipsing the Olympic Games in importance, all the big cities following New York's lead and catering for every type of athlete from the six-year-old schoolboy to the veteran of three-score years and ten. Swimmers have their turn in the baths and bathing-places. Similar celebrations in England would be worthy of Empire Day.

Rifleman J. Laverty, Rifle Brigade, who was the professional coach to the Longsight, Bolton Bridgman and other clubs has been awarded the Military Medal for distinguished courage in action. The Germans sprung a mine, burying a number of men. Laverty's section had to retire from the crater they were holding, owing to heavy artillery fire, but Laverty remained exposed to fire, releasing the buried men by scraping away the earth with his hands. His action saved a number of lives.

The death in action of George Humphreys, one of the best juvenile swimmers the North of England has produced, is much regretted. Prior to his enlistment at the outbreak of war, Humphreys was employed as clerk to the Baths Committee of the Manchester City Council, and was a prominent member of the Municipal Officers' Guild, winning the swimming championship in 1914. Humphreys was a member of the famous Abbot School Boys' Swimming Club, which won the School-boy Team Swimming Championship of England in 1900-1-3-4-6-9-10-11-12. He participated in the later of these successes, being one of the three selected swimmers to compete for the trophy, the "Barker Memorial Shield," that was associated with the contest. Humphreys was at one time the best breast stroke swimmer of the school. Later he became a member of the Harpurhey Swimming Club, Manchester. He assisted that organisation to win the second division Manchester District Water Polo League Championship, and so represented them in the Team Swimming Championship. In 1912 he won the hundred yards junior championship of the Northern Counties Association.

At Godalming on July 19, Charterhouse met Harrow in a series of inter-school contests. R. B. Pope, Harrow, won the four lengths in 1.28, W. R. Cubitt, Charterhouse, being second, D. Darroch, Harrow, third, and F. E. Cutts, Charterhouse, fourth. A. B. Philip, Harrow, was first in the two lengths in 0.34.3, E. D. Emley, Charterhouse, second, G. F. Hyams, Charterhouse, third, and G. H. Miesagues, Harrow, fourth. V. Llewellyn, of Harrow, with a plunge of 47ft. 3in., beat G. R. Barrow, of Charterhouse, but Charterhouse beat Harrow in a team race, and D. Skinner, Charterhouse, defeated H. C. Vaughan, Harrow, in the diving contest.

Chester is fortunate in having a rare bath superintendent, by name Mr. L. Jefferson Hope, formerly of Sheffield, who in Chester has aimed at improving bathing facilities so that the citizens may derive the maximum pleasure, comfort, and enjoyment from using the baths. Mr. Hope has done great things towards reviving the once defunct Chester Ladies' S.C. They are now enjoying a splendid membership, sprightly, enthusiastic young ladies who understand what is exactly meant by good comradeship. So well is the ladies' club developing that on club nights the second bath has to be utilised in order to allow of all members getting in their practice. Many of them are capable swimmers over a distance, and very often undertake long swims in the Dee. Diving, too, is a popular item, in which they are attaining proficiency. The Club held a capital gala last year and have fixed another up for the second of this month, when in addition to important military events the seventy-five yards ladies' championship of the Northern Counties will be decided.

At the annual gala of the Coventry Swimming and Life Saving Society held at the Corporation Baths on July 13 in aid of the St. Dunstan's Home for Blinded Sailors and Soldiers, Miss R. Lawrence won the challenge cup for the Club championship, Miss E. Chidlett gaining second place, Miss K. Clarke, the lady members' handicap, and C. R. Baker, the junior gentlemen's club championship.

The hundred yards junior breast stroke championship of the Northern Counties of England Association was decided at Hyde, on Saturday, July 15, when E. H. Sumner, of Toxteth, the holder, won in 1.25. T. R. Lea, of Longsight, was second in 1.27.1., and J. McGrath, of Longsight, third in 1.36. Sumner, whose time was a second better than last year, has a clean, strong breast stroke, with short quick arm and powerful leg movements.

We have received a field card from Lieut. James Hunt from "somewhere" on active service saying "All well!" Lieut. Hunt, who is an old member of the Manchester Mayfield, played for England against Scotland in 1891, 1893, 1894, 1895 and 1896, and was captain of the team in 1894 when England beat Scotland at Nottingham by four goals to one.

The man who devises a proper system of ventilation for baths will deserve the whole-hearted gratitude of all those who attend indoor galas. Attention seems always to be paid to the elaboration of fittings, and the multiplication of unnecessary adornments, little thought being given to the health and comfort of those who attend the baths. At some of them the heat is insufferable, and the packed audiences that nowadays assemble at galas risk great chance of contracting serious illnesses, at others the systems are so bad that when attempt is made to lighten the atmosphere, cold showers of air are immediately plumped down on perspiring bodies. One of the best attempts to cope with this dangerous difficulty is that made by Mr. Charles Newman by means of cold water sprays from the roof, thereby considerably cooling the famous Westminster Baths, and making the conditions for spectators far more comfortable than is the case in other baths.

Sec.-Lieut. Archibald Warner, London Regiment, killed in action, was well known as a swimmer when at Cambridge University, and was also captain of Queens' College Boat Club.

Owing to the war only a few camps are open this season on the Thames Camping and Boating Association's island at Walton-on-Thames, the majority of the regular campers being on active service. Hearty welcome is, however, extended to our war worn warriors by Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Plumbridge, who are still keeping the camp fires burning.

Rifleman Leonard Tyler, Queen's Westminster Rifles, who has been killed in action, was formerly on the sub-editorial staff of the *Evening Standard*, and was the only son of Mr. John Tyler, for many years advertisement manager of the *Sporting Life*. When at Dulwich School, Rifleman Tyler won several swimming events, and was a fine all-round athlete.

Vance Veith, of the Los Angeles Athletic Club, won the ocean race for professionals at Ocean Park on June 11, after a terrific and gruelling swimming duel with Billy Logg, of Bimini. There were others in the race besides these two, but they never figured. Veith finished about fifty yards ahead of Logg. The race was supposed to be a mile out to sea and return.

Walter Brickett, the British trainer for the Olympic Games of 1908 and 1912, who holds a record for walking, running, cycling, rowing and swimming, a mile of each in an hour, and also a record of doing six separate miles in 53.26.0, will, on Monday, August 14, essay the task of walking a mile, running a mile, running a mile over hurdles, cycling two miles, rowing a mile, and swimming a mile inside the hour. A start will be made at Aylin's Boathouse, at Putney, at 4.15 p.m.

In the twenty-fourth annual report of the London Schools Swimming Association it is stated that despite the abnormal circumstances no fewer than 10,800 First Class Certificates were granted last session, which under the circumstances is excellent. The shields given to the schools with the highest percentage of these certificates have been won by St. Monica's Boys' School, Hoxton, and Netley Street Girls' School, St. Pancras. In the matter of Life Saving much good work has been accomplished. The award of 2,479 Life Saving Certificates is sufficient evidence that there has been plenty of enthusiasm where facilities for its teaching have been forthcoming. The Competition by teams of four for the Life Saving Shields is generally productive of skilful and keen contests, and that for last year was no exception to the rule. After an exciting struggle the boys from Gopsall Street School, which has always done well in this competition, but had so far not succeeded in securing the trophy, were declared the winners of the "Fabian" Shield, whilst West Square Boys—last year's winners—came second. For the "Daily Chronicle" Shield, Munster Road Girls, who won it in 1908 and 1909, were again placed first, and Oldfield Road Girls were second. Nineteen names of children who have succeeded in gaining awards from the Royal Humane Society for conspicuous gallantry in saving, or attempting to save, lives were added to the Roll of Honour in 1915. There are now altogether 231 names inscribed.

Sec. Lieut. William Roy Gwyn Benson, South Staffordshire Regiment, killed in action, held the Vellum certificate of the Royal Humane Society for saving life from drowning. He was on the staff of the Bank of Montreal, in Montreal, when war broke out and returned home at once, enlisting in the University and Public Schools Brigade.

Of course, in several of the fighting areas a chance to get a swim is impossible, but when opportunity has offered the ability to swim has afforded immense pleasure and gratification to thousands whose comrades have envied them the good fortune which favoured them in their youth. This is another plea for the general teaching of swimming.

* * * *

They have in America a "Masked Marvel" who has been swimming at various entertainments. For more than a year the Marvel has been trying to develop a speedy crawl stroke, but was making little headway when Veith discovered him. His physical construction handicapped him, his arms being hung farther back on his shoulders than those of the average man. Noting this peculiarity, Veith decided to try him out on the back stroke. The result was surprising. The first time the Marvel tried the back stroke he swam 150 yards in 2.14. Since then he has won every race he has entered, and is improving rapidly. He prefers to enter contests anonymously, until he has reached the goal of perfection he has set out to attain.

* * * *

At a water Carnival given by the boys of Beverley Road School, Hull, on July 10, in the Beverley Road Baths, in aid of the relief of the children in the schools of Belgium, a fine display of life saving methods was given by A. Woodall, W. Hopkinson, R. Bilton, G. Mainprize, A. Frith, and A. McCoy, all of whom had been instructed by Mr. William Lowrey.

* * * *

The Royal Engineers stationed in the Northern District have taken up the study of the methods of rescue and resuscitation advocated by the Royal Life Saving Society in no half-hearted manner, and very strong classes have been formed.

* * * *

The Serpentine Swimming Club has been conducting a series of races in the Serpentine Lake, Hyde Park, for prizes presented by Messrs. Debenham, Storr & Sons, the destination of the prizes being decided on points. In the final race on July 15 R. R. Ledger just beat A. F. Nimz by a few inches, but the latter won first prize with 9 points, W. H. Lawe, who finished third in the final race, taking second prize with 7½ points, and E. Murkin, 7 points, the third.

The Amusement Tax will press rather heavily upon Schools Organisations who hold Annual Swimming Competitions for which admission money is charged. The London Schools Swimming Association has been endeavouring to get an exemption for its Annual Meeting and those of its Branches, but the reply has been in the negative. One would have thought that such useful Institutions as Schools Associations would have been absolved from the charges, as it is difficult for them to meet financial calls without appealing to patrons. Yet we must endeavour not to become lax in our energy, and though handicapped, fight for better results during the year's work.

* * * *

Among the awards of the Port of Plymouth Humane Society presented by the Mayor at the June Sessions, in pursuance of an annual custom, was the bronze medal, with certificate, assigned to Miss Mary Willan, a daughter of Captain Willan, R.N. (retired), of St. German's, for a plucky rescue effected last summer. Miss Willan was standing with a number of other passengers in the ferry steamer about to cross from Admiral's Hard, when she saw a little boy fall from the edge of the Hard into the water, which was ebbing strongly, and bore him off seawards at once. Without a moment's delay, she plunged overboard, seized the child, and brought him ashore. The master of the steamer is convinced that but for this prompt aid the boy must certainly have been carried away and drowned. Though not holding any of the Royal Life Saving Society's awards, Miss Willan had received practical instruction in its methods from its local representative; she admits that otherwise (though an expert swimmer), she would not have thought of attempting the rescue.

* * * *

Hyde Seal have sustained a great loss by the death in action of their president, Major J. Leadbitter Knott, D.S.O., deputy-manager of the Prince Line, and one of the largest coal exporters from Newcastle. Major Knott's patriotism was of the highest order. He and his two brothers early elected to take up the sword. Shortly after his brothers had fallen he was, by reason of his great business capacity, offered an appointment as organiser, a non-combatant appointment, but he declined it that he might still be in the great struggle, defending his country's honour.

Every boy and girl in the schools of San Rafael, a summer resort near San Francisco, California, must learn to swim. This decision was come to at a meeting of the Board of Education on June 12. In future also each pupil will be required to participate in at least two physical or athletic exercises in addition to the regular classroom requirements.

* * * *

Ilfracombe Swimming Club opened its season on the first Saturday of last month with a dip at the Hotel Swimming Baths, followed by a club breakfast with Mr. C. H. Darbyshire, the president. In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. H. Russell Grover for granting facilities to the Swimming Club for practice Mr. F. Lord mentioned that for five years in his school they had only one lady swimmer, whereas now they had forty or fifty girls who could swim.

* * * *

An open air gala was held at the Corporation Bath, Moor Park, Preston, on Saturday, July 8, when Fred Allcock, Clam Street Council School, won the 33 yards Junior championship of Preston, the 7th Battery, Royal Field Artillery, beat the 8th and 9th Batteries and the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment in a squadron race and also beat the 8th and 9th Batteries in a Water Polo match by three goals to one.

* * * *

We presume that there will be no infringement of the Defence of the Realm Act in stating that at Lowestoft they are preserving a piece of a German shell which entered the Baths, without paying the amusement tax. The fragment only weighs 3st. 2lb.

* * * *

It is reported from New York that Kahanamoku has signed on with Mr. R. B. Benjamin, one of the leading managers of sporting celebrities in America, to give professional exhibitions, and consequently the world's record holder will be lost to the amateur ranks. The outdoor acts will consist of swimming and surf-boat riding at Atlantic City or Newport, and Mr. Benjamin has also made arrangements for the appearance of Kahanamoku in vaudeville. The stage exhibitions will be featured by a trick in which the Duke supposedly bites off the head of a live fish, besides many other water eccentricities known to the natives of Hawaii.

The Kettering Swimming and Polo Club's gala, at which Miss Connie Jeans won the ladies' championship of the Midland Counties, as mentioned in our Ladies' Section, was very largely patronised. Apart from the championship, a feature of the evening was the swimming of Mr. Addin Tyldesley, clerk to the Rothwell Urban Council, the Midlands District 220 yards champion in 1912, and who represented this country in the Olympic Sports. A life-saving exhibition arranged by Miss E. Wilson, representing the Royal Life Saving Society, was given by the following Kettering ladies: Misses M. Ashby, M. Pickford, H. Farren, and D. Miller. This created very keen interest, and testified that the ladies had practised a great deal, with much success, to attain the standard they have achieved. They demonstrated three methods of release and four of rescue, suited to the violence or otherwise of the "drowning patient." In a 50 yards handicap for members of the club Tyldesley won from scratch by a touch, and a ladies' club handicap was secured by Miss D. L. Blackett, who had an allowance of 21 secs. First prize in an open handicap for ladies over the same distance went to Miss D. M. North, Leicester Ladies, 7 secs. start, by a few inches from Miss D. Wheat, Nottingham Ladies, 9 secs.; with Miss V. E. North, Leicester Ladies, 10 secs., close up. A water polo match between Kettering, captained by Tyldesley, and the 2/2nd Welsh Field Ambulance, was won by the latter by six goals to one.

* * * *

The 47th Divisional School of Instruction recently held a relay race somewhere in France. Among the competitors was Corpl. D'Arcy, 19th London Regiment, a member of the Holloway United Swimming Club, who swam the course (50 yards) in 0.38.

* * * *

David Billington, of Bacup, who is credited by the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur with the world's Amateur record of 13.34.3 for 1000 yards made at Liverpool on July 22, 1905, and who won the salt water amateur championship in 1903 and 1904, the five hundred yards in 1902 and 1903, the half mile in the latter year, the mile in 1903, 1904 and 1905, and the long distance championship in 1905, afterwards turning professional and making a tour in Australia, is now in the Lancashire Fusiliers. His battalion ought to turn out good swimmers.

AMERICAN BATHING POOLS.

COST AND PARTICULARS OF CONSTRUCTION.

IN an article dealing with the swimming pools of America which appears in the *Popular Mechanics Magazine*, Mr. John Anson Ford tells us that one of the most significant features of America's trend, during recent years, toward outdoor recreation and open-air living has been the rapid increase in the number of swimming pools in that country. It was so recently as in 1885 that Philadelphia established what was the first municipal swimming pool in the United States, so far as is known. To-day the demand for wholesome outdoor recreation is so widespread that municipal pools are a part of the play facilities of almost every city; schools are equipped with pools; the homes not alone of the rich but of persons of moderate means have indoor and outdoor swimming facilities; great corporations are making similar provision for their employees, and such agencies as the Young Men's and the Young Women's Christian Associations are spending enormous sums to make healthful swimming possible for the young men and women who belong to these organisations.

Aside from the recreative aspect there is another incentive for this movement which has found expression in so many different channels. Estimates based on the census figures of 1913, and previous years for a majority of the Northern states, indicate that persons are meeting death by accidental drowning at the rate of 9,000 or 10,000 annually. This fact in itself is sufficient reason for establishing facilities for supervised swimming in every city and village in the land.

The cost of constructing swimming pools—or rather a misconception as to the cost—undoubtedly has prevented many communities from acquiring proper swimming facilities. As a matter of fact the cost of many pools has been very moderate indeed. Oakdale, Cal., is a town of 1,500, which has a pool that cost \$1,400. It is so situated that water from the pool is used from time to time to flush the sewer system. Concrete was used in the construction. The pool is in the form of an ellipse, measuring 40

by 60 feet, and has a maximum depth of 9 feet. The pool holds 100,000 gallons. The expense of maintenance has been made very slight by placing it in charge of the fire department. The river close by, which formerly was a source of anxiety to parents because frequented by the boys, is now deserted.

The town of Grand Rapids, Wis., has a very attractive swimming pool which cost \$5000. The walls are of concrete and the bottom is covered with sand. As a special precaution against accidents in the water, large sluice gates, which can be easily thrown open, were constructed, by which the tank can be emptied in two minutes.

But homes, as well as municipalities, institutions, public and private, and amusement parks, are now being equipped with swimming pools. In some cases these have cost less than \$100. Probably the record for cheap construction of a home-made pool is held by three brothers, the oldest of whom is 13 years. These boys did the excavating themselves for a pool 25 by 100 feet, and 3 feet deep. On the flat ground around the pool, and along the upper edges of the slanting sides, boards were fastened to a framework which projected down into the earth at the bottom of the pool. The young workmen purchased 2½ barrels of cement and with the aid of one man covered the earthen walls and floor with a coating of concrete. Their total cash expenditure was only \$7.50.

In contrast to these swimming facilities is the magnificent pool recently completed on an estate at Lake Forest, Ill. At an expense of many thousands of dollars the reservoir was built on the side of a bluff, some distance below the residence and overlooking Lake Michigan. A winding flight of steps leads from the house down to the pool. In addition, a shaft, in which an electric elevator is installed, was sunk directly beneath the house to a depth of 80 feet. From the lower end of the shaft a marble-lined tunnel, 150 feet long, was constructed to a splendidly appointed bath-house, situated at the edge of the pool.

AFTER THE WAR.

National Spirit in Sport.

In a trenchant article which appeared in the *Sporting Life* of July 6, under the title of "The National Spirit in Sport" Mr. Charles Otway, the hon. secretary of the Southern Counties Cross Country Association, who has been continually organising military athletic meetings and races ever since the war commenced, says:—When the value of sport really does dawn upon the nation I fancy the man in the street will begin to feel that it should be so organised as to serve national ends, and not left so much to chance; to the fads of self-appointed controllers, and the tender mercies of those who are only in the game for what they can get out of it.

* * *

Nothing has shown so clearly the need of progressive organisation as war-time sport; and I venture to add nothing has shown better how much may be accomplished when an open mind is applied to organisation. Yet when we survey pre-war conditions and give careful thought to them it becomes obvious that sport more than anything else has been organised on a merely parochial basis. Associations, clubs, and other societies organising sport were mindful entirely of their own interests, and there was, and is, nobody invested with the authority to organise and encourage athletic sport in the interests of the nation. If sport is a national asset it should be, to an extent, nationalised; there should be some high authority to direct it into its proper channel, which is not the augmentation of profits for professional promoters, or of kudos for clubs, "amateur" or otherwise.

* * *

The team building business is an instance among many which suggest the need for rebuilding amateur sport upon a better basis. What we need is not so much a new set of A.A.A., or F.A., or A.S.A., laws, as a new spirit in reading and applying existing laws. We know in what strange company apologists sometimes endeavour to place good sportsmanship, and all because while they laud sport as means to an end, they lose sight of that end altogether, write of sport as being of infinite value to the nation, and yet condone actions which bring untold discredit upon athletic sport. Really there is no intermediate course. A thing is either good or bad, and we need something like a Jockey Club of sport, a body which will have the authority and the necessary courage to

"warn off" offenders. I am quite prepared to believe that some victims of misplaced enthusiasm consider that the end justifies the means. What is required to convince them to the contrary is properly-educated public opinion.

As to the basis on which to build, so much depends upon the position of affairs after the war that I do not wish to dogmatise. But every day makes it increasingly evident that one outcome of the present struggle will be some form of national service, and this thought suggests the form in which amateur sport should be organised. It should commence with the school, and proceed with the military units into which schoolboys will eventually be drafted. Then we shall in the course of time be presented with a regular supply of trained athletes, distributed all over the country. With these it should be a comparatively easy matter to provide a sufficiency of competitors for all those sports which have been fostered at the schools and in the Army. The present methods of club organisation, especially that of the more powerful clubs, is however quite unfitted for the task of organising local sport. It must be obvious that what is to be desired is not the exploitation of exceptional athletics, but the general development of athletics. If a good man is discovered at Horsham, Wimborne, Swindon, Welshpool, or any other place—I am thinking of some champions of the past—we want him to be identified with his town or his country, and not with an influential club in one of the big centres.

This may be regarded as a counsel of perfection; as savouring of Utopian ideals. Under the old conditions, perhaps, yes; not quite so in the future. The lad will start as representing his school; he will then go into the local battalion, and this is perhaps where identity with the locality will be established. My idea is, therefore, that an effort should, in due course, be made to form permanent sports clubs in connection with all the depôts and training units, and that local sportsmen should centralise their efforts upon the support of these clubs, which would be composed of both past and present members of the unit. The new Army will furnish an all-sufficient number of "past" members; country districts would then have "clubs" really representative of their athletic strength, and clubs, too, which would probably be strong enough to withstand any efforts of the "team building" societies to obtain their best men. And this mainly because pub-

lic opinion would be guided in the correct direction. It has become such a common thing to find a team entirely unrepresentative of the district from which it takes its name that we view without surprise a man from the far North or the wilds of Ireland representing a metropolitan club. What we need to do is to create a feeling of local patriotism which will not allow of similar developments in the future, and I think the very best method would be to utilise the Army as a means of building up the right spirit, and by the formation of past and present or "old boys'" clubs, in the various units, keep the athletic elements in those units in closer touch."

This appeal, made more particularly on behalf of athletics, is in accordance with our oft expressed ideals as to a national spirit in swimming and the compulsory teaching of it to the youth of both sexes.

The Rev. A. Newman Guest, the Vicar of Stantonbury, has thrown out a swimming challenge. He is ready to swim all comers ten years his junior for 100 yards on level terms at the new bathing-place. This is a sporting offer, for Mr. Guest is getting on towards middle age, and he would require some training for a swimming sprint. Some years ago he fostered boxing competitions in the Vicarage gardens, and issued challenges which created a considerable amount of controversy at the time. His championship of Sunday gardening and sports and pastimes on Sunday after Church service is still fresh in the public memory. His desire is apparently for a return to the days of Merrie England in the time of good Queen Bess.

St. Paul's School met Rugby in the school bath at West Kensington on Saturday, July 8. They proved victorious in three swimming races and the water polo but lost the plunging and graceful diving, these being won by H. A. White, Rugby, 19 feet, and G. P. Harvey, Rugby, respectively. L. N. Gaskell of St. Paul's won a fifty yards in 0.27, D. I. Owen, St. Paul's, a hundred yards event in 1. 10, 3. St. Paul's, represented by D. I. Owen, D. A. Abernethy, H. H. Ross, L.L. Roy, R. Martin, and C. R. Shaw, a 200 yards team race very easily and the same school a five aside (G. Hunt, H. A. Johnson; D. I. Owen; L. N. Gaskell and D. A. Abernethy) water polo match by seven goals to none.

A communication has been received from Mr. Aston Lewis, Hon. Representative of the Royal Life Saving Society, Plymouth, who draws attention to the fact that in the new Army drill the directions "Squad—attention," "Right turn," and "From the right—extend," have been altered. That for "Squad—attention" now reads:—

"Spring up to the following position:—
"Heels together and in line. Feet turned out at an angle of about 45 degrees. Knees straight. Body erect and carried evenly over the thighs, with the shoulders (which should be level and square to the front) down and moderately back—this should bring the chest into its natural forward position without any straining or stiffening. Arms hanging easily from the shoulders as straight as the natural bend of the arm, when the muscles are relaxed, will allow, but with the thumbs immediately behind the seams of the trousers. Wrists straight. Palms of the hands turned towards the thighs, hands partially closed, backs of fingers touching the thigh lightly, thumb close to forefinger. Neck erect. Head balanced evenly on the neck, and not poked forward, eyes looking their own height and straight to the front.

"The weight of the body should be balanced on both feet, and evenly distributed between the fore part of the feet and the heels.

"The breathing must not in any way be restricted, and no part of the body should be either drawn in or pushed out.

"The position is one of readiness, but there should be no stiffness or unnatural straining to maintain it.

"Particular attention should be paid to the heels being in line, as otherwise the man cannot stand square in the ranks."

W. E. Garner, Cheshire Regiment, wounded, held the championship of the Altrincham Club for five years and swam second for the championship of Cheshire. He is the present holder of the Challenge Cup for the championship of the Altrincham Parliamentary Division.

The 3rd Cheshire Regiment, beaten in a water polo tournament at Liverpool on June 10 by the Lancashire Fortress Engineers, wanted another game and they had it at the Guinea Gap Baths, Seacombe, on July 1, when the Engineers beat them by no fewer than seven goals to one.

The Swimming Magazine.

(Third Volume commenced 1st June, 1916.)

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William Henry

Hon. Editor.

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