

THE
SWIMMING
MAGAZINE.



DEC., 1916.

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The Swimming Magazine

(The Official
Organ of The
Royal Life
Saving Society)

No. 7. VOL. III.

DECEMBER, 1916.

THE CLOSING YEAR. LADIES' EFFORTS HIGHLY APPRECIATED. SUGGESTED ORGANISATION IN THE SERVICES.

THE year that is closing has been fraught with troubles and trials for us all, but yet brightened by the energies of the lady swimmers who have maintained a stout heart throughout and, apart from their successful galas in aid of War Funds or for the entertainment of wounded soldiers, done an immense amount of work with regard to the teaching of the young.

One of the great drawbacks has been the closing of many baths and the limitation of the hours of bathing in the majority of those remaining open. But wherever possible the ladies have overcome these disadvantages, and the results achieved are really remarkable.

The success which has attended their various galas must be a source of great gratification to the promoters, and their gift to the Star and Garter Fund will form a permanent record of able work in well doing. No one knows better than we do how greatly our wounded sailors and soldiers appreciated their efforts or how pleased they were to get invitations to their galas. The self-denial of the prizewinners in handing over most of their gifts to the wounded was in itself excellent evidence of the heartfelt sympathy of the ladies, and the enthusiasm of their great and successful effort.

Yet while they were doing all this good work they did not forget the teaching and encouragement of the juniors, and though vastly hampered were not above going long distances could they be of any service where instructors were absent on war duties. Particularly so was this in the matter of Life Saving instruction and examination, in which they took great interest and rendered invaluable service. Had it not been for their unselfish assistance the promotion of the knowledge of swimming and life saving might have been considerably interfered with, but they came nobly to the front, and were ever ready to give help when needed.

In normal times the Royal Life Saving Society has a numerous body of examiners available, but during the past year its resources in this respect have been heavily taxed. But largely through the self-denial of the ladies it has been able to fulfil all obligations in the matter of examinations, and this not only in Great Britain, but also in our Oversea Dominions. The ladies have been determined to carry on while the men are absent, and this determination has been fraught with highly successful results.

So far as the men's organisations are concerned there is, of course, little to be said except praise for those teachers over military age who have undertaken the instruction of boy scholars in the absence of their regular masters and otherwise assisted in the promotion of the aims and objects of the Royal Life Saving Society. The various Bath Superintendents have been highly sympathetic, and have given assistance whenever possible without infringing their own Council's regulations. In many instances they have arranged for instruction to be given, and examinations made at baths other than those regularly used, and in various other ways have shown their genuine desire to give assistance to a noble object.

There have been no races for the men's senior championships, for all the best men are in the Navy or Army, but it seems a question for consideration whether in the near future there should not be arranged a series of Naval and Military Championships, and it is, perhaps, to be regretted that it was not taken in hand this year. It, of course, requires an organisation in the services, or else amateurs might lose their status, but this organisation might well have been encouraged by one of the numerous amateur swimming associations in this country, and completed by now. It only requires about half a dozen interested swimmers, who have service qualifications, to take the matter in hand.

THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY.

INTEREST AROUSED IN THE WEST INDIES.

THE November Meeting of the Central Executive of the Royal Life Saving Society was duly held at the offices of the Society. Mr. S. J. Monks, as Chairman of the Executive, presided. The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Harry J. Barclay, in submitting his monthly financial statement, reported that in addition to the usual transactions £187 10s. had been received from the Executors of the late E. R. Nash, on account of his legacy. He also submitted accounts for the past month for supplies, etc., amounting to £123, which were ordered to be paid. With regard to the Awards of the Society over 800 of these were granted, including one Diploma in favour of Miss Rena Jenkinson, of Edinburgh, who is an excellent all-round swimmer and therefore passed a meritorious test. Among the other items of interest in connection with the Awards was the fact that the Y.M.C.A. of Havana, Cuba, submitted ten candidates for the Elementary and eight for the Proficiency Certificates, also seven for the Bronze Medallion, which were duly vouched for by Mr. A. Waterman and Sr. Victor Mendoza, President of the Havana Yacht Club. A letter was read from Mr. Harry Witty, stating that in consequence of Mr. T. W. Malins being called away on military duty, he had undertaken the office of Hon. Secretary *pro tem.* of the Victoria Head Centre; also one from Mr. P. O. Wathes, Hon. Secretary Western Province of Cape Colony Centre, which is dealt with on another page. The Chief Secretary also reported that he had forwarded a case of supplies ordered by cable to Mr. S. K. Bassett, Chairman of the Dominion Executive Council of New Zealand, amounting to £70, and on his proposition, Miss Jessie L. Woodward, of Halifax, was elected Hon. Associate of the Society for work done by her in promoting its objects.

A letter was read from Mr. E. W. Roberts, Hon. Sec. of the Ulster Branch, ordering several dozen Handbooks of Instruction for the use of future classes, and reporting that the "Kelly Cup" Life Saving Competition of the Branch had resulted in G. T. Corry, Donegal S.C., being placed first, E. Douglas, of the same club, second, D.

Munroe, Victoria S.C., third, and T. Leonard, St. Peter's S.C., fourth.

The Chief Secretary reported that he had had the pleasure of a conference with Mr. Percy Travers Cox, Hon. Sec. of the Manitoba Branch for 1911 and 1912, and since, Hon. Instructor and Examiner on the Executive of the Branch. The conversation related to the progress of the work of the Society in the district, and its interruption since the outbreak of war, although some classes had been held. Mr. Cox is at present engaged in hospital work in connection with the Canadian Forces; he originally came into touch with the Society when a member of the Hove S.C., and when in Canada, was chiefly responsible for the formation of the Manitoba Branch.

The Hon. Secretary of the Ontario Branch, Mr. E. A. Chapman, of the St. Andrew's College, Toronto, who has undergone a serious operation from which he has happily recovered and resumed his duties, sent in a long list of awards which had been gained by candidates from Camp Temagami, Camp Kagawong, Central Y.M.C.A., Ontario Ladies College and the Tilsonburg Class. These included four Awards of Merit and 12 Bronze Medallions, 27 Proficiency Certificates, 2 Hon. Instructors', and some Elementary Certificates. A letter was also read from Hon. Instructor Mr. D. Putlin, who gained his awards when at Ardingley College; he is now in Northern India, conducting classes among the military, where examinations are to be held for the Society's awards.

A very interesting letter was read from Mr. J. W. S. MacGregor, who is interested in the Bimini Hot Springs Life Saving Corps and Swimming Club, at Los Angeles. He stated that the Club desired to take up the subject in accordance with the methods of the R.L.S.S., and become affiliated, in order that the members could enter for its various awards, for which purpose Handbooks and other supplies were despatched. It was in the summer of 1904, as a member of the Toronto S.C., that Mr. MacGregor passed for the Award of the R.L.S.S., since when he has done his best to promote the knowledge wherever possible.

WESTERN PROVINCE HEAD CENTRE.

The Western Province Head Centre of the Royal Life Saving Society is making rapid headway. From notes received from Cape Town we learn that at the first meeting held to form a Centre there were eight present, that at one held during the visit of Mr. William Henry there were about twenty, at the first annual meeting about thirty-five, but at the one held last September nearly one hundred.

The following are the Committee and officials elected for the present season: President, Mr. H. H. L. Pentz; vice-president, Mr. Thomas Mitchell; hon. secretary, Mr. P. O. Wathes; hon. treasurer, Mr. F. P. Oliver; Committee, Misses Lyttle, Beck, Parsons, McPherson, Tandy and Jardine, Messrs. Ellis, Morris, Terry, Katzin, Ballinger, Mulliner and Exner, a strong representative committee, of whom great things are expected during the ensuing year.

Applications for instructors are coming in so fast that an appeal has had to be made for more assistance.

There will doubtless be some keen competition during the year between the ladies' clubs, all of them having signified their intention of heading the log.

It has been unanimously decided to invite Mr. G. N. Oakley to become one of the hon. vice-presidents of the centre. Mr. Oakley, who might be called the father of the life-saving movement in the Western Province, seeing that twelve years ago he was Hon. Representative of the Society, and in that capacity told the first meeting ever held in Cape Town to try to form a branch of the Society, and explained its aims and objects.

It has been suggested that the Centre promote a competition for ladies on the lines of the William Henry Cup. The idea is an excellent one, and the Centre will carry it out, if necessary, without a trophy for a year or so. The ladies are taking up Life Saving work in earnest and we are pleased to see that Miss Doreen Lyttle is among the enthusiasts. We had the pleasure of meeting that young lady when in South Africa and a portrait of her appeared in the first number of the SWIMMING MAGAZINE.

On October 5 the Union Swimming Club, in conjunction with the Centre, gave "Water Sports" in aid of War Funds at Camps Bay, at which there were two outstanding features, the first being the wonderful

advance shown by junior swimmers in the Peninsula, and the second the exhibition given by Award holders of the Royal Life-saving Society. It is doubtful if anything approaching the display given by Messrs. Wathes, Tennyson, Ballinger, Yell, Katzin, and Powell, all of the Union A.S.C., has ever been attempted in South Africa, and the whole was an object-lesson on what can be done once a thorough ascendancy over the water is obtained. The squad was trained by Instructor James Finney, whose value as a teacher was shown to very great advantage. The floating star and leaving the water in leap-frog fashion were the most popular because most spectacular, but of all the seven items given it is hard to say which was most difficult—perhaps the figure floating and pendulum by Messrs. Wathes and Ballinger.

Then the work of the society was further demonstrated by half a dozen lady Award holders, who received an ovation and carried really well—Misses Price and Korelstein (Leander), Beck and Dilworth (C.T.), and Jardine and Duk (Union).

The hundred yards scratch race for men was won by A. Ballinger (Union Club), in 1.8.2, and the Men's open diving, Miss Doreen Lyttle a two lengths Ladies' handicap from scratch and the Ladies diving contest, V. Burton (Union), a four lengths handicap from scratch, and N. Canard (Union), a Life Saving race.

As far as the sport was concerned, it was excellent, the crowd was very good, and the Camps Bay war funds benefited considerably. The success of the venture was due mainly to the efforts of Messrs. V. G. Reitz, F. Katzin, and P. O. Wathes, who put in a lot of hard work, ably assisted, by Mr. Phil Lapin. At the conclusion of the sports, Mr. H. H. L. Pentz, President of the W.P. Head Centre, R.L.S.S. presented the prizes.

QUEENSLAND HEAD CENTRE.

The annual meeting of the Queensland Head Centre of the Royal Life Saving Society was held at the Brisbane Gymnasium on August 28 last, under the presidency of His Excellency the Governor of Queensland, Sir Hamilton J. Goold-Adams, G.C.M.G., C.B., among others present being Captain Cozens, A.D.C., Messrs. M. J. Kirwan, M.L.A., D. Ryan, M.L.A., and Maurice J. Barry, the Rev. Bro. McGee and Mr. J. J. Betts, the hon. secretary.

In his opening address His Excellency congratulated the Centre on its work and

expressed the pleasure it had been for him to be present at its annual competitions. He had been much struck with the skill displayed by the lady swimmers, and hoped that in future they would emulate the men to a greater degree in becoming proficient in the art of swimming and Life Saving. As a proof of his appreciation of the Society's work His Excellency generously donated ten guineas to its fund.

The report, which was carried unanimously upon the proposition of Mr. M. J. Kirwan, M.L.A., seconded by the Rev. Bro. McGee, showed that there had been a great improvement on the previous season in the number of classes formed and that the Awards had been 345 as against 329 the previous twelve months. Nudgee College was again head of the list with 144 Awards to its credit.

Classes for State School Masters and Teachers for junior cadet instruction, which includes a course of Life-Saving, were held at Southport, Charters Towers and Peel Street Drill Shed for men and Pialba for ladies, the former gaining 75 Awards and the latter 11. The Christian Brothers made a very successful start, gaining 42 Awards after good instruction by the Rev. Bro. W. G. Downs, Brisbane Boys' Grammar School gained 10 Awards under the capable instruction of Mr. M. Connell, and the Valley State School 16 Awards, Mr. A. E. Palfrey, being responsible for the teaching. All these instructors are to be commended upon their energetic work.

The total Awards gained were made up as follows:—Hon. Associates' Certificates, 1; Teachers' Certificates, 3; Awards of Merit, 17; Hon. Instructors' Certificates, 3; Bronze Medallions, 52; Proficiency Certificates, 119; Elementary Certificates, 149.

The accounts showed a balance of £95 4s. 10d. to the credit of the Centre, to whom the Government had made a grant in aid of £100.

During the meeting Mr. J. Daly, chief clerk, Education Department, apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Hon. H. F. Hardacre, Minister of Public Instruction, and Mr. J. D. Story, Under Secretary, and in the course of his remarks said that the number of teachers qualified to give instruction in Life Saving was 925 males and 645 females. The aim of the Department, like the Society, was to secure the teaching of swimming and Life Saving hand in hand.

The pleasing duty devolved upon the Governor of presenting Miss Gladys Brown, of Kangaroo Point, a young lady only ten

years of age, with the Certificate of the Royal Humane Society of Australasia, for the rescue of another little girl at Pinkenba a few months ago, and also the presentation of Certificates granted by the Chief Executive in London to Messrs. F. O. Venning, J. Thompson, P. Sykes, F. W. Springfield, F. O. Cavanagh, A. E. Palfrey, S. Nicholson and J. J. Betts, who were instrumental in saving five persons from drowning at Maroochy River earlier in the year. At the time of the rescue the recipients were installing a life saving reel, and also giving demonstrations. Certificates from the Queensland Head Centre were given to Messrs. J. Parry and O. Anderson, who assisted in the rescues.

Prior to making the presentations, his Excellency expressed the opinion that some enactment should be passed by which bathers who went to places which they knew to be dangerous, and risked their lives, should be punished. "They are not only risking their lives," he said, "but also the life of some heroic person who happens to be on the shore. Such persons ought to be punished by the law of the land. I do think it is a matter that ought to be taken in hand."

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Swimming and Life Saving is a special feature at the Mount School for the blind and the deaf at Stoke-on-Trent. At a recent test Cecil Davies, Allen Chadwick and Fred Platt gained the Bronze Medallion of the R.L.S.S., also the School's silver medal for their success in a mile endurance test. During the season three others gained the Bronze Medallion whilst six passed for the Proficiency and four for the Elementary Certificate. At this school there is an open air swimming bath which has proved of much benefit to the scholars during the summer; it is also used by the Scouts in camp in the school grounds.

* * * *

During the past season the Elland Ladies' Swimming Club has had the advantage of tuition in life saving from Miss J. L. Woodward, of Halifax, and at an examination at Brighouse Baths this accomplished lady had the satisfaction of seeing Miss Florrie Robinson and Miss Annie M. Thompson pass for the Award of Merit, and the Misses Doris Fearnside, Winnie and Elsie Hobbs, Alice Hemingway, Nellie Kitchen and Mrs. Arthur Lamb, for the Bronze Medallion. Mrs. Sutcliffe, of Halifax, the examiner, was greatly satisfied with the ability displayed.

ROYAL LIFE SAVING LODGE.

The usual quarterly meeting of the above Lodge of Freemasons connected with the art of Swimming and Life Saving was held in London on Friday, November 17. W. Bro. H. L. Balfour, P.M., P.D.G.O., W.M., presided, when the chief business of the gathering related to the selection of Master and Treasurer of the Lodge for the year 1917 and the raising of Bro. W. M. B. Mellish to the third degree. The position of Master was unanimously accorded to Bro. William Henry, S.W., Chief Secretary and Founder of the Royal Life Saving Society, and that of Treasurer to W. Bro. Shirley W. Cropper, P.M., Life Member of the Society. The Installation meeting is fixed to be held on Friday, February 16, 1917. The past Masters of the Lodge are:—W. Brothers H. J. Grimwade, Life Governor of the Society; Guy M. Campbell, Vice-President; D. L. Cropper, Life Governor; Harry J. Barclay, Hon. Treasurer; D. F. Cooke, R.L.S.S. and A.D.A.; F. A. Wynn, R.L.S.S.; and Warren Faraday, R.L.S.S.

Amongst the distinguished visitors was Col. G. T. B. Cobbett, V.D., of Group 2, City of London (National Guard), V.R. and S.W. of the National Guard Lodge No. 3757, Hon. Member R.L.S.S.; also Warrant Officer Roy Hendy, with the Australian Forces in France, J.D. of the Sydney Ionic Lodge No. 65, who was on short leave in London. He passed for his Bronze Medallion in connection with the New South Wales Head Centre.

The Northampton Life Saving Society brought its season to a close at the end of October with an examination for Elementary Certificates, in which eleven boys and Miss D. Rose were successful. There was also a competition for the Butlin Shield, presented by Mr. F. J. Butlin and won by the Barry Road School A team, as well as a contest for the School Girls' Bowl, given by Mrs. Randolph, in which Miss Phyllis H. Sutton, Barry Road School, proved successful.

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We have received many gratifying reports of classes formed among military units in training, chiefly through the efforts of those who have qualified for the Bronze Medallion. Many of those taught have been successful in saving life, and are already engaged in imparting the useful knowledge to others.

THE LIFE SAVING SOCIETY OF ITALY.

It was with extreme regret that we learned from Captain Passerini, of the Italian Navy, by way of Kalimnos, that on September 4 last our esteemed friend, Signor Joseph Contù, was drowned in the Ticino, one of the rivers of Lombardy. He was one of the strongest of the Italian swimmers, and we can only venture the opinion that heart failure was the cause of his death. It appears that a contest was about to take place between the Rari Nantes of Novara and Milan, and that Signor Contù was swimming over the selected course when the sad accident happened.

Signor Contù was a sculptor of great ability and it was he who designed the medals and diploma of the Italian Life Saving Society, in whose work he took great and enthusiastic interest, and to him is largely due the great improvement in the swimming education of the Italian youths.

When Messrs. J. A. Jarvis, of Leicester, then Amateur Champion of England, and J. Sanders, of Richmond, visited Italy in August, 1901, a magnificent reception was prepared for them by the good hearted Italian swimmer, whose courtesy and hospitality was unbounded.

In order to unite all the best exponents of the art of swimming in one body Signor Contù had formed the College of the Pioneers of Swimming, and of this at the time of his death he was the beloved and worthy President.

We unite with the Italian swimmers in sincerely mourning the loss of Signor Contù and sympathising with the widow, daughter and sister, who have been deprived of such a noble member of their family.

* * * *

The official journal of the Italian Ministry of Marine states that the King of Italy has granted a Bronze Medal to P.O. Moncrieff Williams, R.N., of Dundee, for saving a French sailor from drowning in the Port of Brindisi, in November, 1915, the rescue being effected at night; also that Mr. Henry Passerini, the sixteen-year-old son of the founder of the Italian Life Saving Society, has been declared by the Superior Council of the Italian Royal Marine as worthy of the Silver Medal, for having succeeded in rescuing an apparently drowned man at Leghorn last year, and restoring him to life by means of artificial respiration before assistance arrived. The youth had a difficult task in

the rescue as the man was very much heavier than himself. Captain Passerini, who is now on war service, founded the Italian Society at Ancona in 1899, on similar lines to the Royal Life Saving Society, whose methods of instruction it has adopted.

One of those doing good work in the cause of swimming and life saving is Mr. Harry Lusher, who is instructor to the training ship "Arethusa." Swimming is part of the regular teaching of the ship, every boy being taught to swim before he goes to sea, but Life Saving was not so regularly taught until the opening of a twenty yards bath for the boys in 1914, in which year 49 boys gained Awards. Last year this total was increased to 87, and this year, up to November 4 the total had reached 122, one having gained the Award of Merit and 43 the Bronze Medallion. The boys are wonderfully keen on the work, and there is a great rush to join the classes in time to qualify for the examinations periodically made by Mr. H. Johansson, and so proficient have the boys become that they have been giving displays at various galas in aid of Red Cross and other war charities.

They have also put up some records of note, one of them being forty yards in 0.24, and another a distance record of two miles, whilst some of them have carried a subject 200 yards by the first method, 120 yards by the second and 100 yards by the third. From February 12, 1914, to October 3, 1916, the attendance at the baths numbered 18,332 and yet the baths were closed three months through shortage of fuel.

In June, 1915, the Arethusa boys met Eton Mission in a team race, and won, but could only get second in breast and back stroke competitions, and a month later lost a team race with the same organisation, but took first and second place in a back stroke race, while in October of the same year Mr. Geoghegan's team had to acknowledge defeat from them. In July of this year they beat Dartford in a team race, but lost at water polo by 5 goals to 2, this being the first match in which they had engaged. All last summer a team of six boys was giving exhibitions of Life-Saving at Dartford, Westminster and Westcliff-on-Sea, and at the last mentioned place the Mayoress presented each boy with a watch. The average age of these boys was fourteen and a half years.

There are some very speedy swimmers in training on the ship, one of them being able to swim a hundred yards in 1.16. Unfortunately the Southern Counties A.S.A. would not accept his entry for the hundred yards junior championship, of the reason for which we are unaware.

At present there are nearly one hundred old boys now in the Navy or Merchant Service who hold a Life Saving Award, and the value of the knowledge which gained such recognition to those whose lives are passed on the ocean has been demonstrated many times during this great war.

A most gratifying success has again been achieved by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kay, the Managers and Instructors at the Public Baths of Wombwell, Yorkshire, who have been keeping the subject of Life Saving well to the front in the district. They have not missed a year since 1903 in submitting candidates for examinations for all classes of Awards of the Royal Life Saving Society, including many for Awards of Merit and two for the Diploma. During the past season 240 of their school pupils have gained County Council Certificates for swimming 50 yards on the breast and 25 yards on the back, in addition to which a very large number can swim shorter distances, and if we add those who have passed for Life Saving Awards, it makes a total of 560 who have a fair idea of how to take care of themselves and others by being able to swim and save life from drowning. We understand that 103 is the greatest number who have gained County Council Certificates in any one year in other centres of the district of West Riding, which goes to show that the instruction provided at Wombwell must be particularly efficient.

The London Orphan Asylum Schools annual Life Saving tests were held as usual in October, with the result that the Girls' Department gained five Elementary and five Proficiency Certificates, whilst the Boys passed for ten Elementary and fifteen Proficiency Certificates, also seven Bronze Medallions. On the same occasion an Inter-House Life Saving Competition was conducted between teams of four boys from Houses 5, 6, and 7. The contest was very close throughout, and resulted in favour of House No. 7, by one point over House 6. Nearly all the boys in the school were ad-

mitted to witness the event, and cheer their favourites to victory, which was effectually performed, and the boy contestants acquitted themselves splendidly, as every item of the test was performed perfectly, which reflects much credit on the Instructor, Sergt.-Major King, who has for years done much to promote the knowledge of the subject in the famous school, which has two swimming baths, one for the use of the girls and one for boys. The girls are being trained by Miss Elsie F. Shaw, who gained her knowledge of Life Saving when at College at Liverpool, and Miss Dorothy F. Williams, who passed for her awards in London. On the present occasion the latter conducted the test and gave all the orders perfectly in accordance with the Handbook of the R.L.S.S.

Yorkshire swimmers will learn with regret that Mr. and Mrs. Buswell, who for twenty-seven years have acted as Manager and Manageress of the Barnsley Baths, have left for France, owing to the ill-health of Mrs. Buswell. Both of them have done much to advance the cause of swimming and Life saving, and the Royal Life Saving Society is losing the valuable services of two great supporters. In 1900 Mr. Buswell and Mr. Butler, the Chief Constable of Barnsley, inaugurated the Barnsley Police Swimming Club and Mr. Buswell took over the instruction, and was successful in producing candidates for the Diploma of the Royal Life Saving Society, Award of Merit and the Bronze Medallion, and he also assisted the Barnsley Club as well as acting as a member of the Executive of the Sheffield and District Branch, and as an Examiner. In fact nothing has been too much for him to do so long as he was assisting in promulgating the aims and objects of the Society.

The ladies have had great help from Mrs. Buswell, and there are now over a hundred active Members. Miss Buswell (now Mrs. Rushforth, whose husband is general manager of an important colliery in France) was the Hon. Sec. of the Ladies' Club, and while acting in that capacity gained the Bronze Medallion, Hon. Instructor's Certificate, Award of Merit and Diploma of the Royal Life Saving Society. It is interesting to note that at least six of Mr. Buswell's pupils have received recognition from the Royal Humane Society for gallant

rescues. The labours of Mr. and Mrs. Buswell were greatly appreciated by the Executive and officials of the Royal Life Saving Society, all of whom wish Mrs. Buswell a speedy return to perfect health.

The Boys' Life Brigade annual swimming and Life Saving competition for the Challenge Cup presented by the late Mr. W. F. Darnell was again successfully carried through. This competition is conducted on a time test basis, between teams of four boys representing companies of the Boys' Life Brigade in the United Kingdom, and to prevent travelling as well as expense, each competitor in a team is separately timed over a course which is precisely the same for all, laid in a still water bath. The test requires two members of a team each to swim 72 yards breast stroke, and two 72 yards back stroke, whilst each member has to perform one method of rescue over a distance of 18 yards, one using the "first," one the "second," one the "third," and one the "fourth" method as described in the Handbook of the Royal Life Saving Society, which body appoints the judges. This year, although 21 teams entered only 7 took the test, and the others were prevented because of the closing of the baths, the final placing being—10th Manchester Company, total time, 7.22, first; 1st St. Helen's, 7.57½, second, and 16th Sheffield Zion Congregational, 7.59.2 third. The Judge of the first two was Mr. W. H. Broom, Hon. Sec., Manchester Branch, and the third placed team were judged by Mr. Williams Watts, Hon. Sec., Sheffield Branch, whilst the London team, which were unplaced, were judged by Mr. R. Sandon, Vice-President of the R.L.S.S.

Eleven lady candidates presented themselves for examination at the Cleckheaton Baths, on October 30, these being the Misses Doris Smith, Margaret Sedman, Amy Drake, Gladys M. Hilton, Olive Clay, Laura Hartley, Amy Hilton, Doris W. Bentley, Lucy Benson, Annie Artist, and Elsie Hilton, who were all successful in passing. The examiners were Mr. J. R. Cheetham, of Huddersfield (official examiner to the Society), and Dr. Sutherland, of Cleckheaton. Both examiners expressed great satisfaction. All the successful candidates are members of the Ladies' Swimming Club, and were trained by Mrs. T. Thornton, D.R.L.S.S., the hon. instructress.

Progress in Schools.

A Notable Record.

HOW different are the conditions under which Swimming is taught in our schools contrasted with those of thirty years ago. Although the water accommodation of the Metropolis is still inadequate to the needs of its millions of inhabitants, still we have much to be thankful for when we consider the progress made in three decades; for everything that tends to enhance the effects of the instruction in natation in the schools undoubtedly assists in laying a broader foundation for improved national health, increased probability of the saving of life and further progress in sportsmanlike qualities of the national character. We are led to pen these sentiments by the receipt of information concerning a member of the R.L.S.S., Mr. F. S. Jago, Head Master of the Christ Church Parochial School, Southwark, whose old scholars last month organised a gala at the Lambeth Baths, by which the benefit to the "Star and Garter" Home for Disabled Soldiers and Sailors Fund amounted to close on £30, and whose present scholars have just been awarded fifteen Proficiency Certificates of the R.L.S.S.

We learn that Mr. Jago was "taught" to swim at the Royal Patriotic School, Wandsworth, when about eleven years of age, by being taken by an arm and a leg and thrown out to the middle of the bath. Fortunately better methods are now in vogue but doubtless this his first "entry" had a marked effect in impressing upon him the necessity to make a supreme effort to acquire the art. Mr. Jago recalls the fact that of the very few prizes offered for swimming in his younger days only one fell to him and that was for picking up plates, an art now little encouraged but skill in which is useful when one wishes to recover a body.

As a pupil-teacher at St. Paul's School, Walworth, Mr. Jago used to take his boys in turn to three baths, all of which are now non-existent—the Crown Bath, Kennington Oval; the Open Air Bath, Addington Square, Camberwell; and the Lambeth Bath, which was a very different institution from the present palatial establishment in Kennington Road. Still, in the "early eighties" some very good work was done, and serviceable results achieved under adverse circumstances.

Appointed to the Head Mastership of St. Jude's School in August, 1885, and transferred to Christ Church School in 1898, Mr. Jago has for over thirty years worked strenuously for the progress of swimming in the Borough of Southwark, and more particularly for the encouragement of the art in the smaller schools which, from his own experience, he well knows are heavily handicapped in competition with larger educational institutions. He has for the past eight years been Treasurer of the West Southwark Schools Swimming Association and has sat on the Executive Committee of that body from its institution in 1895, since which year his scholars have held no less than seventy-six of the Annual Championships, sixteen for Life Saving, offered for competition among the Schools of the district. In this respect Mr. Jago emphatically disclaims personal credit for the successes, which in his opinion are achieved by the enthusiasm and skill of the teachers who now mainly train the pupils, though of course he cannot deny that the traditions respected by the scholars and the encouragement given to live up to their predecessors have much to do with the spirit in which the work is done, thus ensuring success in carrying on the excellent work.

We have a few copies of the second volume of the SWIMMING MAGAZINE on hand, bound in cloth and gilt lettered, the price being ten shillings each copy. The volume contains a complete record of swimming in all parts of the world from the beginning of May, 1915, until the end of May of the present year, and as such forms a valuable work of reference. The demand for copies of the First Volume was so great that the stock is exhausted, and only copies of the issues of certain months can be supplied.

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 140.)

THE LADIES' SECTION.

WEST OF ENGLAND ENTHUSIASTS.

CANADIAN SWIMMERS ON CHARITY WORK.

ONE of the strongest ladies' club sections in the country is the Ladies' Branch of the Port of Plymouth Swimming Association and Humane Society, which has an average yearly membership of about a hundred and twenty. As soon

club has a team noted far and wide as the Porpoise Divers.

The opportunities for practice are, of course, excellent, and the Club has developed the well-deserved reputation of possessing about the best lady divers in the West of



PORT OF PLYMOUTH SWIMMING ASSOCIATION AND HUMANE SOCIETY.
(LADIES' SECTION.)

From Left to Right—Standing—MRS. OUGHTON (HON. SEC.), MISS LAFFORD, MISS GEORGE, MRS. MODLEY (CHAIRMAN). Sitting—MRS. UGLOW, MISS QUANTICK, MISS HUGHES.

as a girl can swim a few strokes she is eligible for membership, is then taken in hand by the Captain and soon becomes proficient under her tuition. Real interest is taken in Life Saving, the Club possessing four members who hold hon. Teachers' Certificates, and nearly every member has passed for Proficiency Certificates and Medallions, thus setting a worthy example to many other Ladies' Clubs. Considerable attention is also paid to High and Graceful Diving and Scientific Swimming, and the

England. A competition for a gold medal given by Miss Nellie Smith, of the Diving Belles, was taken by Miss George, whose portrait appears in the Club group.

At the monthly matches held by the Club special attention is given to the development of all strokes, and the members have records of very creditable performances in Back, Breast, Overarm and Trudgen swimming, and it is worthy of note that all the "Baby" Members, girls six to eight years of age, are able to swim 25 yards in open water.

One of the members of the club is Miss Violet Alice Manley, who this year won the fifty yards championship of the West of England at Gloucester, she defeating Miss Thoule, who had held it for some years past. Her fellow members are very proud of the success she has achieved. They intend to make special effort next season to emulate the doings of Miss Manley, and further to maintain their reputation as the best divers in the West of England. Their energy and enthusiasm is unbounded, and by the amount of practice taken they are bound to come prominently to the front in all competitions they enter, for it is only by constant practice that high ability can be obtained in the art.

Six of the best lady swimmers in Liverpool and district were invited to compete in a special hundred yards record handicap at the Breeze Hill Club gala held at the end of October, but only Miss Daisy Curwen, scratch, Miss May Leigh, of Everton, 10 seconds, and Miss Rigby, 11 seconds, started in the event. Miss Curwen, who won, tried to beat record, but failed, her time being returned as 1.12.2. Miss Leigh finished second.

On the last Saturday in October Miss Curwen was called upon to defend her title of 100 yards amateur champion of the northern counties, the race taking place at a gala of the Victoria Ladies' Club, held at the Victoria Baths, Manchester. Miss Curwen had no difficulty in retaining the honour, she defeating Miss N. P. Taylor, of Manchester, very easily in 1.12.4, which is incidentally a record for this championship. Among other prominent competitors were Misses N. Heaton and J. H. Dand, of Liverpool, and Miss M. Leigh and Miss Rigby, of Everton.

At a gala held by the Burnley Ladies on October 28 Miss M. Ingham won the Lady Thursby Cup for the Championship of the Borough, the Schofield Cup for the 50 yards championship of the Club, and the open 50 yards handicap.

That splendid breast stroke swimmer, Miss Lucy Morton, of Blackpool, made a successful attempt upon her own 200 yards breast stroke record at the Garston Baths, Liverpool, on Friday, October 27. She swam the first 100 yards in 1.30, and the full distance in 3.11.4. Her previous best time,

also accomplished at Liverpool, was 3.14. This was made on September 25, 1913, and stood as English record.

The junior pupils of Miss Mary Beaton and members of her life saving classes at Toronto have been giving exhibitions in aid of the Spadrina Convalescent Home for Soldiers, which proved most successful, and as a result a large quantity of preserved fruit has been donated. Miss Beaton also presented the fittings for the bathroom at the Home.

Miss Lilian Doersan, a fourteen-year-old Philadelphia girl, has swum in the Delaware river from Chester to Philadelphia, a distance of sixteen miles, in 6.35.0.

The gala of the Bedford Ladies' Club, held at Lambeth Baths in October, resulted in the handsome sum of £19 9s. being raised for the Star and Garter Fund for Disabled Sailors and Soldiers. The ladies desire to thank all those who assisted them on the occasion.

The London *Star* says: "Princess Patricia of Connaught is a splendid sports-woman and is a very fine swimmer. Cold weather does not prevent her from taking regular swimming exercise, and she kept up her attendances at the swimming-bath all through the Canadian winters, thereby earning much admiration from the Canadians, who dislike the molly-coddle and think highly of the courageous and outdoor type of woman or man."

The members of the Ladies' Diving Association will meet for practice during the winter months on Mondays at the Prince of Wales Road Baths, at 6 p.m.; on Wednesdays, at the Hammersmith Baths, Shepherd's Bush, at 6 p.m.; and on Thursdays at the Wood Green Baths at 2.30 p.m.

A special match over a hundred yards took place between Miss Daisy Curwen, of Liverpool, holder of the 100 yards English ladies' record, and Miss Connie Jeans, of Nottingham, at Nottingham, on November 18. Miss Curwen won easily by nearly three yards in 1.16, well outside her record of 1.11.

LADIES' DIVING ASSOCIATION. Close Contests at Chelsea.

By WILLIAM HENRY.

EVERYONE is keenly appreciative of the splendid efforts the ladies of the Southern Counties of England have made in aid of the Star and Garter Fund and also highly delighted at their success. The last of this season's galas in aid of their special Fund took place at the Chelsea Baths on the last Saturday in October under the auspices of the Ladies' Diving Association and the presidency of Lady Constance Stewart Richardson. Of course most of the events were for diving and so excellent was the display that the judges experienced great difficulty in coming to their various decisions. For instance Miss E. Armstrong, of the Mermaids, who won the Individual Members' Cup, might also probably have secured the competition for the Donegan Shield but for turning over when going off the spring board. This young lady is a greatly improved diver, as is also Miss Edna Smith, Victoria Ladies, whose physique has been splendidly developed by participation in this excellent exercise.

All the ladies dived exceedingly well except in the running dives, in which the Misses Smith, Armstrong, and Queenie Allen were bold and vigorous in their running and clean and impressive in their diving. This was not so with some of the others, who hesitated or stopped on the brink of the dive. They did not seem to go off properly and their dives might be classed as "running off" or "falling off" dives. It is evident that now the ladies are so close on points further conditions are necessary and the Committee of the Ladies' Diving Association might well consider the advisability of compelling them to "take off" so many dives with one foot and so many with both feet.

Sgt. Spiers, Royal Garrison Artillery, followed up his recent successes in special military events by winning a sixty yards scratch race from Corporal Levy, of the Australians, and the old Everton club man must be glad of his escape from Mecklenburg just before the war. He had been swimming there by special invitation only a few days before the great outbreak.

Notable among the exhibitions was that of back stroke swimming by F. A. Unwin, of the

Royal Naval Air Service, the ex-champion of England and before the war one of the official coaches appointed by the Amateur Swimming Association. Unwin's style was simply superb and the perfection of ease and grace. Those who watched it were loud in their admiration.

Miss Eileen Lee, of Teddington, who has graciously appeared at nearly every gala, did not impress me as likely to make a fast swimmer, though we know she possesses extraordinary staying powers. Were she to keep her body in line with the course and not swim as if she were going across it she would rapidly develop speed, but until she gets rid of the habit of "humping" up her body, this development is not possible.

A whole army of good workers assisted the indefatigable Mrs. S. G. Lewis, the hon. sec., and Mrs. Edith Lyon, the hard working convener of the Southern Ladies Committee, among them being Mrs. Jarvis Dickinson, who was busy in the background.

Diving for Professionals' Cup by members of the L.D.A. Professional Section.—Miss E. Johnson (holder) 1, Miss D. Stuart Beavis 2, Miss W. Hooke 3.

Affiliated Clubs' Final for Donegan Shield and gold, silver, and bronze medals of the L.D.A.—E. Smith, Victoria Ladies, 1; E. Armstrong, Mermaid L.S.C., 2; Q. Allen, Clapton Ladies' S.C., 3.

Individual Members' Event for the Howard Thompson Cup.—E. Armstrong (holder), 1; E. Smith, 2; Q. Allen, 3; J. Christie, 0; E. Ballard, 0; N. Pennington, 0.

Team Diving for the Willford Shield.—Mermaid Ladies' S.C. (holders) (V. Davis, E. Armstrong, V. Newman, and V. George), 1; City of London Ladies' S.C., 2; Fulham, Ladies' S.C., 3; Clapton Ladies' S.C., 0.

Fancy Diving Competition for the Nixon Cup.—E. Smith, 1; Q. Allen, 2; N. Pennington, 3.

Ladies' Clubs Handicap Team Race.—Final: Mermaid Ladies' S.C. (V. Newman, V. Davis, C. Anderson, E. Armstrong), 1; Holloway United, 2; Clapton Ladies' S.C., 3; won by 2 yards, touch. Natantes, Clapton Ladies' and Holloway United tie

on points in a series of these Competitions which have been run at the various galas.

100 yards Ladies' Limited Handicap.—Heat 1; A. McHattie, Holloway United, 2sec. start, 1; V. Davis, Mermaids, 6, 2, easily. Heat 2; V. Newman, Mermaid S.C., 2, 1; E. Smith, Victoria, 5, 2; 2 yards, Final: A. McHattie 1, V. Newman 2, E. Smith 3.

120 yards Service Team Race.—Royal Naval Depot No. 2 Team (Hancock, Coghlan, Bull, and Ince), 1; Royal Naval Depot No. 1 Team (Unwin, Hughes, Griffin, and Hunt), 2.

60 yards Military Scratch Race.—Sergt. Spiers, R.G.A., 1; Corpl. Levy, Australians, 2; touch; 44.

It was greatly regretted that Miss Belle White, of the Ilford Ladies, arrived too late to take part in the affiliated clubs competition for the Donegan Shield, of which she was the holder.

American Records.

There has been much record breaking in America during the past outdoor season, and following are the times to date, subject to revision by the Amateur Athletic Union of America.

FREE STYLE.

* 80 yards, 60-foot pool, 0.42.1, Duke Kahanamoku, in Honolulu, August 20.

* 100 yards, 60-foot pool, 0.53.3, Duke Kahanamoku, in Honolulu, July 23.

* 440 yards, 110-yard course, 5.27, Norman Ross, at Ocean Park, Cal., Aug. 20.

* 440 yards, 100-yard course, 5.28, Ludy Langer, in Honolulu, September 2.

* 500 yards, 100-yard course, 6.11.2, Ludy Langer, in Honolulu, Sept. 2.

* 500 meters, 75-foot, 6.51.3, Herbert Vollmer, in New York, July 19.

* 880 yards, 100-yard course, 11.29.3, Ludy Langer, in Honolulu, Sept. 6.

* 880 yards, 110 yard course, 11.25, Ludy Langer, Ocean Park, Cal., Aug. 20.

* 1,000 yards, 100-yard course, 13.7, Ludy Langer, in Honolulu, Sept. 6.

* One mile, 110-yard course, 23.11, Ludy Langer, at Ocean Park, Cal., Aug. 20.

SWIMMING ON THE BACK.

* 100 yards, straightaway, 1.14.1, Harold Kruger, in Honolulu, Sept. 6.

BREAST STROKE SWIMMING.

* 100 yards, straightaway, 1.13.1, Michael McDermott, in Chicago, Aug. 19.

RELAY RACING.

* 400 yards, four men, 60-foot pool, 3.44.3, D. Kahanamoku, G. Cuhna, C. Lane, H. Kruger, in Honolulu, July 23.

* 500 yards, five men, 60-foot pool, 4.43.3, same men and J. Kelli, in Honolulu, July 23.

* 500 yards, five men, 100-yard course, 5.4.3, P. McGillivray, H. Hebner, A. Raithel, W. Vosburgh, A. Siegel, in Chicago, Aug. 19.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

Sixteen miles, across tide, 8h. 42m., Charles Durborow, in Chesapeake Bay, June 24.

Thirty-six miles, with tide, 13h. 30m., Charles Durborow, in Delaware River, Sept. 10.

WOMEN, FREE STYLE.

* 50 yards, 60-foot pool, 30.1, Miss Olga Dorfner, in Philadelphia, June 11.

100 yards, 75-yard pool, 1.8.4, Miss Olga Dorfner, in San Francisco, July 4.

440 yards, 110-yard course, 7.20, Miss Claire Galligan, at Rye, N.Y., Sept. 2.

880 yards, 168-foot pool, 16.8.3, Miss Thelma Darby, in St. Louis, Aug. 26.

320 yards, 110-yard course, 15.15.3, Miss Claire Galligan, at Rye, N.Y., Sept. 2.

One mile, 110-yard course, 31.19.3, Miss Claire Galligan, at Rye, N.Y., Sept. 2.

NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCES.

Four miles, Mississippi Marathon course, 51.26, Miss Claire Galligan, in St. Louis, Aug. 29.

Twenty-six miles, with tide, 11h. 8m., 41.3, Miss Anna Kean, in Delaware River, Sept. 18.

* All the performances marked with a star actually represent world's records for the conditions, but those made over courses shorter than seventy-five feet will be tabled only as American standards, as the International Federation of Swimmers will not consider them.

Our Australian and New Zealand swimmers are very keen on a big competition in London, but the season is against them. However there is no reason why a combination should not be formed and a series of competitions carried out next year. Such contests would certainly tend to relieve the monotony of training and would add zest to the stay of our friends from Oversea.

THE COMING OF THE CRAWL.

Mr. L. LEO EXPLAINS ITS ORIGIN.

COMMENTS ON THE LUDY LANGER STROKE.

FOR some time past there has been great controversy over the origin of the crawl stroke, and the date of its introduction to the swimming world, and now that it has become so highly cultivated we are treated to dissertations on its variations, each instructor claiming his own distinct style. Apparently, by common consent, its place of origin was Australia, or at least that was the first continent where it was put to use as a racing stroke, and until recently the credit has been given to the famous Cavill family, who were the first to display its usefulness in English waters. It had not then such a notoriety as it has to-day, for our older swimming champions would not discard their styles in a hurry, and it was left to America to exploit the stroke in the northern hemisphere. Regarding the history of the stroke we have received the following letter:

The EDITOR, SWIMMING MAGAZINE.

Dear Sir,—In the August number of your magazine, I note your quotation from an article on the "Crawl" stroke by Richard Dungan. Discussion of the origin of this stroke is by no means a new topic and I enclose a copy of a letter in *Country Life in America* (November, 1910), in reply to an article by Mr. de B. Handley, and which also covers that by Dungan. If space in your next issue permits kindly insert as much of it as possible. I remember the Cavill family well and when in 1893-4 I taught this stroke to Arthur, Sydney and Dick were boys of from eight to twelve years of age and had not studied Samoan swimmers.

I have a number of friends in the swimming world who will be glad to hear from me on this subject. It is a pity that no paper similar to the *SWIMMING MAGAZINE* existed in those days to chronicle such matters and be regarded as an authority. The *Sydney Bulletin*, however, was and is a very popular sporting paper, and I refer you to its files with pleasure.

Regarding new strokes, I note that Ludy Langer, the popular California swimmer, has invented a new Crawl and is calling it the "Propelling Crawl" so you see they are getting back to the original idea. Local swimming enthusiasts are glad that Langer has

accepted a position with a Honolulu engineering firm and will make his home here. He is a good sportsman.

Trusting that I have not asked too much and thanking you in anticipation, I beg to remain,

Yours sincerely,

L. LEO.

Honolulu, T. H.,

September 20, 1916.

We make the following extracts from Mr. Leo's letter to *Country Life in America* (November, 1910), as mentioned in his letter to us—

"To Richard Cavill the credit is given of inventing the original Crawl in 1903. This, however, is incorrect, as the writer swam the Crawl stroke in Australia as far back as 1888. It was then called the "Propeller," and always used in the last twenty or thirty yards of a race. After this, newspaper correspondents in reporting on races and describing competitors' strokes, repeatedly referred to L. Leo's "crawl home," etc., and in this manner the stroke became popular as the "crawl."

"Discussion took place as to the originator of the crawl in Australia and New Zealand in 1903, and the following is an extract from a comment by the sporting editor of the *Sydney Bulletin*, dated January 10, 1903—'My assertion regarding Leo and other side-stroke champions 'crawling' is right. I saw Leo in his palmy days deliberately turn on to his stomach, stiffen out and crawl, though then it was not known by that name.'

"Again I must differ from Mr. Handley in making distinction and speaking of the Australian and American varieties, etc. There is, as in the breast-stroke, only one crawl, but every swimmer has his peculiarities in most every stroke, per example, Tums (Arthur) Cavill, elder brother of Richard Cavill, to whom I taught this stroke in 1893-4 adopted a stroke consisting of a short trudgen kick with a crawl flutter in between and often would swim a lap without the use of his legs at all, and yet his was called the crawl. A. Wickham, holder of fifty yards record, used the crawl in 1894-5,

and swam this stroke more gracefully than any one I ever saw, using a good arm swing and allowing both legs to do an equal share of work. Mr. Cecil Healy, who competed against Mr. Daniels, is one of the very few Australians who use that peculiar and particular stroke which Mr. Handley describes as the Australian crawl. Here in America each of our prominent swimmers has his own method, thus it would hardly be just to describe the American or Australian crawl judging from one or two experts. The crawl is not easily acquired and calls for a great deal of perseverance and continual close attention to detail. I have known a few crack swimmers to give up in despair."

THE LUDY LANGER STROKE.

The following description of the Ludy Langer stroke by Mr. James H. Sterrett, of Philadelphia, who has seen most of the great swimmers and record holders of the world in action, who was one of the officials of the American Amateur Athletic Union quarter-mile championship at Travers Island and who went to the meet for the purpose of analysing Langer's stroke, is taken from the *Pittsburgh Sun*.

"Ludy Langer is the ideal build for a swimmer. He stands 5ft. 8in. in height, weighs 155 pounds and is 23 years old. He is splendidly set up physically, looks the part of a champion, and is the coolest competitor I ever have seen on the mark before a great race.

"Swimming coaches and expert natators present, always looking for some new things in strokes, were treated to a brand new method of the crawl stroke the minute the great Californian struck the water, and as the course was twice over a 100-yard lane with turns, they were enabled to see the champion both coming and going, and after the race he swam across, and back directly in front of the judges' float, in order that all those interested might study his style, which is distinctly different from that of any other swimmer I have ever seen.

"Langer's stroke is nearest to the straight crawl, with a four beat action of the lower limbs, for his legs do not separate as much as other swimmers who use the trudgen crawl. I should say that a good name for his stroke would be to call it the 'rotary crawl,' for he lies flat in the water like the straight crawl swimmers and uses his arms the same way, but his legs are used propeller-

like, more sideways than up and down, two beats to each arm movement, with a quick thrash of the feet, which are kept under the water, giving him a sort of twin screw action, that helps to keep up a continuous pace.

"Langer carries his face higher in the water than most of our crawl swimmers, his eyes and nose clearing the surface in such a way that he sort of hydroplanes the water instead of pushing through it, which gives him a better chance to see where he is going, and it is this higher position that keeps his legs under water and makes a better balance of the body. His arm action is neither short nor long, but each arm is put out with elbows bent upward, and the hands are alternately put in about the centre line of the body and pulled down and recovered again in the form of a long oval, the arms relaxing at both the beginning and ending of the arm stroke.

"Besides being the fastest and best swimmer this country has produced from the 'quarter' to the mile Langer is also a great competitor, and it is now safe to say that he is capable of swimming and possibly beating any swimmer in the world at these distances."

VANCE VEITH ON BREATHING.

Mr. Vance Veith has commenced a system of "Beginners' Correspondence Lessons," in one of which he illustrates the Veith Crawl Stroke. This well-known coach of the Los Angeles Athletic Club has given careful study to his subject, and consequently rewarded us with a good and simple description of the stroke. As he very rightly observes, "Breathing is half the stroke," and this he exemplifies by giving very particular instructions as to the proper method of inhaling and exhaling when making progress through the water. Mr. Veith advocates breathing on one side only, and to learn how to breathe properly in the crawl he suggests that you place your face downward in a basin of water, exhale under water through your nose, turn your face to the side and inhale through your mouth. Then turn your face down in water and exhale through your nose. "Try this," says he, "about forty times or more, and in a few days you will have mastered the best method of breathing for the crawl stroke. He also says, "Never swing the head from left to right or from right to left. Stick to one side. Nothing is more exhausting than needless head movements."

SWIMMING IN HONOLULU.

Remarkable Times by American Swimmers.

WE have received by mail from Honolulu copies of the *Pacific Commercial Advertiser* giving details of the great Hawaiian meet held in September last. From these it would appear that Hawaii possesses many young swimmers of "near champion" ability, and that the island which has produced so great an exponent of natation as Kahanamoku has other surprises in store for the swimming world.

The games commenced on the evening of September 1, when Ludy Langer beat Kahanamoku in a 500 yards race for the Hawaiian Championship in 6.11.2. Vollmer dropped out of the race, being clean out-paced. Kahanamoku, however, secured the 50 yards race for the Hawaiian championship in 0.23.2, George Cunha being second and Clarence K. Lane third. A 220 yards breast stroke race was won by George Keaweamaki, Pua Kealoha being second, in 3.06.4. and Miss Bernicia Lane won a 50 yards girls' race by a foot from Miss Helena Rosa in 0.33.2. Miss Gerd Hiorth, a thirteen years old girl, who swam remarkably well, was third. A 75 yards race for boys under fifteen went to Mitrie Konownloff in 0.46.2.

The next night Tedford Cann, of New York, created a big surprise by beating John Kelii, Duke Kahanamoku and George Cunha in the 220 yards Hawaiian Championship in 2.29.1. It was a most exciting race and at two hundred yards five men were level. Then Kelii increased the pace and a whirlwind race ended in a narrow win for the New York Clubman by less than a yard, Duke and Cunha tying for third place. Konownloff, who is looked upon as about the most promising of the youngsters, followed up his previous night's success by winning the 50 yards boys' race in 0.28.2. George Cunha beat Kelii by only two strokes for the 100 yards championship of Hawaii in 0.55.2. Miss Bernicia Lane won a 100 yards girls' race in 1.17.4. and Ludy Langer, the 440 yards champion of Hawaii in 5.28. Langer, Cann and Kelii were the only competitors in this race, and they finished in the order named, Kelii, who had previously swum in the 220 and the 200 yards, putting up a great race against Cann.

American records went by the board on the closing night of the meet, and Duke Kahanamoku, when winning the 100 yards national championship, equalled his world's record of 53.1. Clarence Lane swam second to him and George Cunha third. In a back stroke race over 150 yards, Harold Kruger swam the distance in 2.14. and in the course of the race broke American record for 100 yards in that style, his time being 1.14.1. as against 1.16.4. the previous best. Ludy Langer continued his conquering career and won the half mile championship of Hawaii in 11.29.3. an American record, and going on for the 1000 yards he created another record of 13.07.2. There was a very hot relay race of 600 yards in which a Healani Boat Club team was opposed to a picked team composed of Duke, Cann, Vollmer, Hustace, Langer and Kananui, the club team being "Stubby" Kruger, George Cunha, Frank Cunha, Kelii, Frank Kruger and Kealoha.

The picked team was a little too fast for the Healani aggregation. Duke, who swam last for the all stars, picked up the lead and came down the course in the fastest time he has ever made. The timers caught him for the hundred in .53 flat but it was unofficial. The picked team won the relay but the winners not being all from one club, the time they made cannot be accepted, although said to be record, the rules of the Amateur Athletic Union of America not allowing inter-team, records to be made under such conditions.

The performances at this meeting were very remarkable, and as they were made under properly recognised conditions must be accepted as strictly authentic. They certainly give rise for much conjecture on the part of the British authorities as to what rank the best of the English swimmers will take in contests after the war. A glance at the American times shows marked improvement all round, due no doubt to better cultivation of style and more assiduous practice.

The proposed visit of Miss Fanny Durack and Miss Mina Wylie, the famous Australian lady swimmers, to Honolulu early next year is creating great interest in Hawaii.

Modern Diving Displays.

THE occasion was a swimming gala at which a diving display was due.

These displays are often announced as "Fancy Diving" or "High and Acrobatic Diving," neither of which terms conveys the slightest indication of the actual performance of those who take part, which perhaps is a wise discretion, since this greatly depends upon the ability of the individuals composing the party who provide the exhibition, which usually opens with some fancy dives from low levels. These are cleverly and skilfully executed and prove rather interesting. The public appreciate what is done, and demonstrate the fact in the usual way. Yet there was nothing daring done, no risk involved, no element of danger, in fact there was little to stir the imagination.

The steward conducting the event informs the spectators that the performance will be continued from the highest level, which consists of a platform high up above the surface of the water. This is what many have been waiting for, they have observed the high stage and expected some one to use it. There is a simmer of excitement, especially among the ladies. As they contemplate the height of the diving stage, it occurs to them that what they are about to witness must be fraught with considerable risk to those engaged. The thought fascinates them, yet they hate the idea of an accident, but it is just the possibility of such a thing occurring which often adds zest to the display.

Before the war many such displays were given at home and abroad, and we hope to see these resumed when times are normal again. We observe that these are continued at the present time in Sweden, which is the home of high and scientific diving. It was the Swedes who gave us English the first lessons, whilst from other countries we acquired the full use of spring-boards, fixed at heights from about three to twelve feet, and as a result the first association for the encouragement of each method of diving was formed in London under the title of "The Amateur Diving Association," whose amateurs have many times provided the sensational at swimming festivals, who with hands outstretched leap out into space far from the diving stage and for a moment appear to hover in mid-air like a poised eagle with wings outstretched, about to swoop down on its prey. Then, instantaneously they alter

their position in the air and either enter the water hands first in perfect line or turn one or one-and-a-half somersaults, also entering the water in perfect line either feet first or head first, cleaving the water at much the same angle as in an ordinary dive. The entry is sharp and clean, almost without a splash, although at times it appears as if they will hit the water with a resounding smack. The adjustment of the body to the proper position for entry into the water seems too quick for the eye to follow, and the sound produced by the impact of the body with the water is like that made when a stone is thrown in. The effect produced by this sort of diving is startling, no matter how often it is witnessed. Hence it is not surprising that it is popular with the audience, who perhaps seldom give a thought to question of practice—the amount of time devoted to it and the many hard smacks received in the first stages before perfection is attained. Yet it is a beautiful pastime which should receive every encouragement under expert guidance, and for that reason it is to be regretted that so few of our baths are adapted for its practice.

"There are all sorts of bathers and all sorts of ways of bathing, which afford," says Peripatetic in the *Eastbourne Gazette*, "quite an interesting little study in anthropomorphics. (The definition of that word is the science of judging men's characters by their shapes and antics.) You may classify the former widely as the Serious Bather—who bathes by doctor's orders or in obedience to some rigid system of self-imposed hygiene (he is generally a morose, unhappy-looking person); the Athletic Bather; the Frolicsome Bather; the Timid Bather; and the Out-for-a-jolly-old-lark Bather—the sort who flops and splashes and tries to play little practical jokes on his nearest neighbours. In fact, you can almost unerringly diagnose the character of a bather by the way he, or she, bathes. Just sit for an hour on the beach, as close as possible to the fringe of the water, and watch carefully and philosophically the groups of bathers as they are discharged one by one from their machine guns—I mean their bathing machines—and proceed to disport themselves in the sea, each according to his own curious fashion! Or, as a better point of observation still sit yourself, as one who bathes, on the top step of your own machine and look around you."

NOTES ON NEWS.

Interesting Items from Home and Abroad.

FROM time to time we have quoted the methods of teaching adopted by well known swimmers in various parts of the world. By a recent mail from Cape Town we received from Mr. Andrew S. Morris, who is well known in South African Masonic circles, his idea of the best way of imparting instruction to the young. First of all he delivers a short homily pointing out the movements of the arms and legs. The pupil then enters the water and is suspended on two rings held by a chain attached to a spring which is hooked to running wheel, on a stout wire, one arm is placed in either ring and the body floats in the proper position in the water, for the purpose of being instructed in the breast stroke, which Mr. Morris contends is the proper stroke to teach a beginner. The arm movement is first acquired, then the kick is taught, after which both movements are combined and soon the pupils are able to swim. Being a qualified masseur Mr. Morris has little difficulty in teaching the proper method of breathing. He reports that he had 148 pupils in seven months and with the exception of six all gained the certificate. Each pupil had twelve lessons, but the average is seven, including instruction in Floating and Diving.

* * * *

Alfred Fazakerley, of the Birkenhead Swimming Club, first reported missing, but who now appears to be a prisoner of war, has been awarded the Military Medal, and Arthur Manning, a former member of the Club, has gained a similar distinction. Leo Golen, the breast stroke champion of the club, who has been on naval service, is in hospital.

* * * *

The other day George Innocent, the well-known amateur champion swimmer of the City of London Police, was in London on short leave from France, when he made excellent use of the occasion in entering into that state which is regarded as the best for men in general, by marrying Miss Ada Gibbs at St. John's Church, Horselydown. We wish the pair an eternity of pleasure and happiness.

Among the many activities of the Railway Servants' Orphanage, at Derby, there are none more carefully fostered than the art of swimming and life saving. Both boys and girls are properly taught: no boy who is physically fit leaves the institution without a knowledge of swimming, whilst most of them also pass for the Royal Life Saving Society's certificate, awarded for knowledge of Life Saving and resuscitation.

This knowledge has recently been the means of saving a life by one of the pupils, Arthur B. Ward, 14 years of age, who left last July. As a ferry was crossing the river near Lincoln, it overturned, throwing all the passengers into the water. The boy, who was working on the bank, immediately plunged in, and was successful in saving the life of a lady. The case is to be brought under the notice of the Royal Humane Society. The institution and its swimming teacher, Mr. T. H. Moorley, are to be highly congratulated on this very creditable conduct of one of their most recent pupils, who was examined for the R.L.S.S. certificate by Mr. J. Brearley, Hon. Examiner of the Society, just before the last midsummer holidays.

* * * *

It is with deep regret we learn of the death from wounds in France, of Mr. H. Hughes, husband of Mrs. Annie Hughes, an esteemed member of the R.L.S.S., who has done much to promote its aims and objects for years past. Mrs. Hughes is well-known in swimming and life saving circles in London, and all friends will join us in extending to her the deepest sympathy in her bereavement.

* * * *

Our Sydney friends will be interested to learn that we have had the pleasure of a visit from Warrant Officer Roy Hendy, who is with the Australian Forces. He came as bearer of a letter from R.Q.M.S. Cecil Healy, and we are glad to state that both are in perfect health. This is not the first time we have met Mr. Hendy, for the previous meetings took place at the Domain Baths and on Coogee Beach, Sydney, when we had an introduction to the system of two meals a day, of which both Hendy and Healy are strong advocates.

The Plymouth Amateur Swimming and Life Saving Society is one of the very few in the West who have still carried on the work amongst the Schools to encourage the boys and girls to acquire the noble art. Although it cannot undertake all that is possible under normal conditions, nevertheless it has done a remarkable amount of good work amongst the boys. Mr. A. J. Griffiths, a fine exponent of the art of swimming, has readily given his services, part time of the day, and thus the boys have been well catered for. Unfortunately, the veteran Captain, A. Barsham, who is the boys' principal guiding star, and is so well known throughout all colonies as an expert diver, has been laid aside for some considerable time, and all swimmers in general, especially in the West, wish him a speedy recovery. A very successful Schools Aquatic Fête was held on September 23, when no less than fourteen items were keenly contested by boys and girls, and those who took part gave every promise of becoming swimmers of merit. Another feature of the programme was the excellent diving display given by members of the Ladies' Club, who gave their services for the occasion. |

Messrs. W. C. Bloye and W. H. Kellaway, who are connected with school life, are now serving, the former in the R.N., and the latter in the R.E. The veteran Water Polo Captain, Mr. E. Lamb, who is serving in Egypt, has been successful in saving a comrade from drowning, which, however, unfortunately placed him *hors de combat* after, by taking a cold which developed into dysentery, but we trust to soon learn that all ill-effects have passed away. Many members of the Society are serving with the Forces, and it is regretted that many have laid down their lives for the cause. *

The receipts at the Chiswick open-air bath last year were £260, being £100 more than last year. The increase is largely due to the extended mixed bathing facilities granted by the Chiswick Urban District Council. *

The Sydney Fencing Club, which was inaugurated some four years ago, has Mr. G. H. Williams, the secretary of the New South Wales Head Centre of the Royal Life Saving Society, as its hon. secretary. Many of its officers and members have of course gone on active service. |

The Royal Humane Society has conferred its Silver Medal upon Mr. Richard K. Wright, the Hon. Treasurer of the Lancaster Swimming Club, for his gallant swim to shore on August 20, in an attempt to obtain help for several of his friends who had been capsized in a boat off the mouth of the Lune. Details of Mr. Wright's plucky effort were given in our October issue. At the same meeting the Bronze Medal was conferred upon Pte. R. J. Kirk, 15th Canadian Rifles, who has lost a leg through wound received in action, for the rescue of a young woman who fell from a boat into the Thames at Twickenham on September 14, and also upon Corpl. H. C. Showell, Gloucester Regiment, a wounded soldier, who, on July 26, saved a woman from deep water in the sea at Bangor, North Wales. *

The teaching of swimming has been taken up with energy at Southend-on-Sea, where instruction in the art now forms part of the curriculum of the Council Schools. The fine new bath on the sea front enabled the authorities to hold a series of contests during the past season, and shields and other valuable trophies have now been presented for annual competition amongst the ten schools under the control of the Education Committee. It is pleasing to learn that 350 boys and girls gained Proficiency Certificates this year. *

One of the well-known members of the Serpentine Swimming Club is unfortunately a prisoner of war. This is Mr. Herbert Clears, who has been serving with the Royal Garrison Artillery. He was a winner of several races, including the "Peter Pan" Christmas morning cup race. His father, Mr. D. J. Clears, who has another son serving, is a vice-president of the club. *

Among welcome visitors during the month has been Driver S. Hardwicke, of the Australian Imperial Forces, who for over four years was assistant hon. secretary of the West Australian Head Centre of the Royal Life Saving Society. It will interest Mr. P. O. Wathes and his fellow members of the Western Province Head Centre to learn that Driver Hardwicke was present at the Camps Bay Water Sports and that his appreciation of the various displays is very high. He also had opportunity of excellent bathing at Durban. At the time of his visit here Driver Hardwicke had just completed a short tour of London, and was on his way back to camp. *

Coventry Swimming and Life Saving Society has done good work during the past season, there has been an increase of thirty-nine in the membership of the Ladies' Section. Miss M. S. Harrison has been elected instructress of the section, which is in a very flourishing condition and constantly increasing in strength. Mrs. Long, for instance, having been instrumental in introducing no fewer than twenty-six new members during the present year. *

Some people may shiver, but not so Mr. E. J. Plumbridge, ex-water polo champion and past president of the Southern Counties A.S.A., for he was seen swimming about in the River Thames, in a gale on Sunday, November 5, just before his tent was blown to ribbons. He says that these bracing dips are lovely. *

The outdoor season of 1916 has been the greatest in the history of American swimming, says Mr. Harry A. May, in the *Pittsburgh Sun*. Practically every American record was broken; the majority would be worth record, but for the fact that some were made in a 20 yards bath, which is the standard length in America. *

We regret to say that Lieut. Cecil L. Roberts, South Lancashire Regiment, attached Royal Flying Corps, has been reported missing since October 17, after heavy fighting in mid air. On June 10 last, Lieut. Roberts, who was a well-known member of the Everton Swimming Club, won the Mersey Defences Championship at a big military gala in Liverpool, and also the Lord Mayor's gold medal in the officers' race. *

At the distribution of certificates awarded by the Education Committee of Winchester to the boys and girls who have learned to swim this year, Mrs. A. Edmeades, the Mayoress, offered prizes for the best boy and girl swimmers next year, and Councillor J. H. Bishop, who takes a great interest in swimming, renewed his annual gifts to boys and girls who have taught others to swim. Certificates were presented to 47 boys and 36 girls, but these numbers would have been larger had not very cold weather set in before the tests were completed. *

2nd Lieut. A. F. A. Patterson, Royal Flying Corps, reported died of wounds as a prisoner of war, held the swimming championship of Eastbourne College when sixteen years of age. *

Greater Pittsburgh already has more swimming pools than any other inland city, possibly more than any city in America, and to the 44 already in existence in this locality there will shortly be added three more indoor public school pools and next summer will see the completion of a new outdoor pool. It is, perhaps, because there are so many pools that swimming has become one of the most popular pastimes. *

One all-American record lowered, a new California state record set and eight new Pacific Coast open water records were established in an 110 yards course at the State swimming championship meet held in San Diego September last, under the auspices of the Amateur Athletic Union and the San Diego Rowing Club. The meet, the greatest by far that has ever been held in local waters, was won by the Olympic Club of San Francisco with a score of 38 points. The Los Angeles Athletic Club achieved second honours with 19 points, the Piedmont Club of Oakland finished third, making 13 points. The new Pacific outdoor open water records that were established are as follows:—100 yard free style, Norman Ross, Olympic Club, 59.2; 150 yard backstroke, L. Johnson, Olympic Club, 2.7.2; 320 yard free style for girls, Miss Frances Colwells, 3.25.2; 50 yard free style, S. Goodman, Olympic Club, 24.2; 200-yard breaststroke, G. Sundman, Piedmont Club, 3.8.1; 220-yard free style, Norman Ross, Olympic Club, 2.33.1; 50 yard backstroke for girls, Miss Cowells, 43; four-men 440-yard relay team race, Olympic Club, 5.42. *

Mr. W. J. Dean, the Hon. Secretary of the Stafford Swimming Club, joined the Northumberland Fusiliers early in the war, and as a Sergeant was awarded the D.C.M. He has now been given a commission in his own battalion. *

Mr. T. Wilkinson, of the School of Scientific Swimming, Los Angeles, and author of "Correct and Graceful Swimming," who was well known in English swimming and water polo circles some years back, has undertaken the instruction of swimming at the Young Women's Christian Association at Los Angeles, at which institution Miss Ella Stevers is the beloved director of the gymnastics, she providing special exercises for the body, dancing, games and lots of fun for the girls in gymnasium department, said to be the largest in any Y.W.C.A. in the States. *

Wallasey Police Swimming Club will hold a big gala at the Guinea Gap Baths, Seacombe, on the evening of Wednesday, December 6, when Miss Norton, of Blackpool, will attempt to lower the 150 yards ladies' back stroke record of 2.19.2, made by herself at Blackpool on October 22, 1913, and Miss Pemberton will try and lower the plunging record of 60 feet made by Miss Minnie Harrison at Seacombe on November 5, 1913. Miss Pemberton recently made a similar effort to lower record at Garston, but failed at 58 feet. She was travelling fast when the whistle sounded for the "minute."

John Kelii is the latest Hawaiian phenomenon, and so rapid is his improvement that a great future is predicted for him next season. He has swum a hundred yards in 55.3 and a furlong in 2.29.4, and is yet only a novice.

Bramley National School team has won the Yorkshire Schoolboys' Championship, the National Schools Championship of Leeds, and the Championship of Bramley and district, the team consisting of H. Higginbottom, H. Edmondson, D. Lambert and F. Lockwood.

That famous swimming instructor and life guard, Mr. John A. Jackson, of the Lurline Baths, San Francisco, is at present doing duty at the Del Mar Baths, Santa Barbara, California; he will be there to January next, relieving Prof. T. W. Maxey, who is on a three months well-earned vacation. Prof. Jackson returns to the Lurline Baths in February; on his way he proposes to call at Los Angeles, San Diego, etc., in order to gather members for the Swimming Teachers Association.

The Baths Committee of the Manchester Corporation has decided that all members of His Majesty's Forces shall be admitted to the second class washing and swimming baths free of charge, and at half rates to first class baths, but wounded men are to be admitted free to all baths. This broad-minded policy is in keeping with the traditions of the Manchester City Council.

The Serpentine Club continues its All the Year Round bathing, but now holds its club races on Wednesday mornings. The Christmas morning handicap will be held this year as usual, thus continuing an unbroken series of fixtures since 1864, for

although on some occasions it has had to be postponed through ice, the race has never been abandoned. Highgate Lifebuoys will also be out Christmas morning.

The All-India British Army Championships were held at Calcutta at the end of September. Lance-Corporal Dale, Middlesex Regiment, won the 110 yards' championship by a yard from Cyclist W. G. Middleton, London Regiment, Colour-Sergeant A. Payne, Somersetshire Regiment, being third, and Lance-Corporal G. H. White, London Regiment, fourth in 1.29. There were twelve entries for the event. In the furlong relay championship Lt. Sanders, Sergeant H. G. White, Lance-Corporal G. H. White, and Cyclist Middleton, London Regiment, beat the Middlesex Regiment by two yards in 2.48.2. In the Indian Water Polo Championship the Ahireetola Swimming Club proved successful after beating the London Regiment, whose team consisted of Lance-Corporal F. C. White (Chelsea Swimming Club), Cyclist Middleton (Acton Swimming Club), Lt. Sanders (Cambridge University), Cyclist Beaman (Shepherd's Bush Swimming Club), Sergeant H. G. White (Chelsea Swimming Club), and Cyclist Green, in the semi-final by 3 goals to 2.

The Manitoba Branch of the R.L.S.S. by last mail sent in claims for seven Awards of Merit, twenty-two Bronze Medallions, twenty-five Proficiency Certificates, one Hon. Instructor's, and twelve Elementary Certificates, in favour of candidates who had been taught by Mr. John Lyons of the St. John's, S.C., Winnipeg, and Mrs. G. A. Harrison, also of Winnipeg.

To our readers in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India, South Africa, France, Portugal, Spain, Russia, Italy, Holland, Sweden and the United States of America, as well as all at home, we send, on the occasion of the last month of the year 1916, our Greetings to friends who have assisted us to do good and create happiness in each other by a mutual exchange of ideas in connection with the art of Swimming and Life Saving. May we all be in a position, this time next year, to congratulate each other upon a very different state of affairs to that which now exists.

The Swimming Magazine.

(Third Volume commenced 1st June, 1916.)

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The response to the proposal, made two years ago, to found this Magazine, was so very enthusiastic and thoroughly representative of the Art throughout the World, that the issue of the only organ in the English language devoted to the interest of Swimming, Diving, and Life Saving was assured. The first number was published on June 1, 1914, and the Magazine has been continued each month since with complete success.

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William Henry

Hon. Editor.

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