

ST. GEORGE DISTRICT AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB.

(Affiliated to the N. S. W. Amateur Athletic Association)

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Founded 1921.  
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TENTH ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET.

For the year ending February 28th, 1931.

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OFFICE BEARERS:

Patron: J. J. Walsh, Esq.

President: H. A. Taylor, Esq.

Senior Vice-Presidents:

Ald. S. Binder, Mark Gosling, M. L. A., F. Matson, Esq.

Vice-Presidents:

B. Jolley, Esq., A. Gainsford, Esq., T. Houghton, Esq., J. Harris, Esq.,  
R. C. Coombes, Esq. W. Button, Esq., O. Matson, Esq., R. D. Norman, Esq.  
- Ferguson, Esq., Ald. Hill.

Associate Members:

W. B. Alexander, Esq., W. Elder, Esq.

Hon. Handicappers:

Distance: B. C. Button, Esq.  
E. J. Brooke, Esq.

Ladies:  
Miss E. Coghlan.

Track & Field Games:  
W. Graham, Esq.

Delegates to the N. S. W. A. A. A.

W. J. Hasler, Esq., M. J. Moroney, Esq., B. C. Button, Esq.,  
J. A. Harris (elected 2/6/30) A. Longhurst (elected 1/4/30)  
(resgnd. 1/9/30) (resgnd. 2/6/30)

Captain:

A. Gainsford, Esq.

Vice-Captain:

E. Brooke, Esq.

Hon. Auditors:

Ald. S. Binder  
J. A. Harris, Esq.

Timetakers:

E. Button, Esq. A. Cleary, Esq.  
A. Ford, Esq., M. Moroney, Esq.  
H. Taylor, Esq. W. Hasler, Esq.

Judges:

E. E. Giles, Esq., J. Harris, Esq.  
Theo. Young, Esq., W. Pearce, Esq.  
B. Button, Esq.

Point Scorers:

Track: W. Hasler, Esq.,

Distance: B. C. Button, Esq.,

Starter: A. Gainsford, Esq.

Local Sec: E. J. Brooke, Esq.

Life Member:

A. Gainsford, Esq.

Hon. Treasurer: E. E. Giles, Esq.

Hon. Secretary: W. J. Hasler, Esq.

L A D I E S .

Captain: Miss E. Robinson

Chaperon: Miss Coghlan.

Hon. Sec: Miss G. Phillips.

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## ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ST. GEORGE DISTRICT AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB AT  
THE TENTH ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN MRS. COLVIN'S HALL, HURSTVILLE, ON THE 16TH  
MARCH, 1931.

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GENTLEMEN:

In placing before you the tenth Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ending February 28th, 1931, it gives me great pleasure to record the deeds of the club generally and of certain individuals in particular who were most outstanding. The chief feature of the year's work has been the fine spirit of fellowship that has prevailed. Despite the times of depression through which we as members of the community are passing, your club as nearly as possible has maintained its membership of the past.

Membership: Financial Members - Men's Section = 58 (1930 = 83)  
Women's " = 14 (1930 = 20)

Distance Season - Club Events: Cross country and road races were held throughout the district, and attracted record fields. On May 24th, 1930, 36 runners faced the starter which constitutes a new record for the club. This is one of the largest club fields to start in this State. Once again a novice runner in G. Gosling won the seasons point score with a total of 50 points from W. Hamer (46½ points) and R. Chadwick (44 points.)

5-Miles Novice Club Championship: This was held at Kensington Race course on June 7th, 1930. After a very close race R. Williams defeated the favourite N. Young by a foot, with J. Coppock and W. S. Brooke close up. William's time of 30 mins. 48 secs., was 3 secs. faster than last year's and is the best on record. Bill Brooke brother of track star E. J. Brooke, won the sealed handicap with an allowance of 2 mins. 30 secs.

5-Miles Senior Road Championship: This was held at Hurstville on July 26th, 1930 and won by A. Gainsford, for the seventh consecutive time. His time was 28 mins. 25 secs. He was followed home by E. J. Brooke (28m. 31s.) and A. Blyth (28m. 45s.). W. Hamer repeated last years win, when he won the sealed handicap with an allowance of 1 min. 40 secs.

Open Handicaps: Your club conducted its own annual Open Race of 3 miles at Brighton-le-sands on the 21st June, 1930. It attracted a record entry of 94, of which 73 started, this equalled last years number of starters. The race was won by W. Harris (Botany) all. 3m. 50s., time 27 mins. 8 secs., with S. Marsh (Botany) and D. Murphy (Sth. Sydney) second and third. Cross country champion M. J. Mackenzie (Western Suburbs) gained fastest time honors in 23mins. 56 secs.

Our only success of note came from youthful runner Bill Ahearn who finished second to T. Millard (Sth. Sydney) in the Bob Tuck Memorial Race at Botany. He lead for best part of the journey, over a very stiff course, and was most unlucky not to gain first prize.

N. S. Wales Championships: For the first time for some years your club failed to gain a State Title, individual or teams. Though this in itself, is disappointing, one must realise that it would not be possible for the club to continue to be unbeaten year after year.

In the Novice C. C. C. Held at Kensington Race Course on June 14th, 1930 your club's colours were lowered after five successive teams victories. The race was won by J. Patterson (Botany) in the fast time of 27m. 50s. D. Birrell (Sth. Sydney) and J. Wood (West. Subs.) followed him home. The Teams Race was won by Botany. Your team finished last, whilst N. Young in 18th place, was the first man home. This was very hard to understand, equally so, the fact that club champion R. Williams failed to get into the team. Thus St. George's proud record was badly broken.

N. S. Wales Senior 10,000 Metres C.C.C. Held at Randwick Race course on August 16th, 1930. Still supreme M. J. Mackenzie (West. Subs.) proved too strong for his younger rival J. Patterson (Bot.) and won nicely in 34m. 50 secs.



This was Mackenzie's fifth successive victory, a record for the race. Of your own members, A. Gainsford and A. Blyth filled third and fourth positions respectively. Both men ran well, whilst Blyth would possibly have done better if he had not fallen heavily at one of the big jumps. Bert Button caused considerable surprise by his forward showing in ninth place. In the teams' section, Western Suburbs club was too strong and beat your club by 15 points. Unfortunately Stan. Gainsford ran with a cut foot and did not get in the team. Your club's six were A. Gainsford, A. Blyth, B. C. Button, R. Chadwick, E. J. Brooke and N. Gillard.

N. S. W. TEN MILES' TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP: This event was held at the Kensington Racecourse on 23rd August, 1930. In this race A. Gainsford was defeated in actual competition for the first time in six years, much to the surprise of club members. He finished fourth. M. J. Mackenzie (Western Suburbs), for the second year in succession, won the double, this time from A. Blyth (St. George) and J. Patterson (Bot.) Your club-mate made a wonderful effort to bring the title to St. George, but in a desperate finish could not quite catch the winner. It was Blyth's first attempt at the long distance, and was a truly remarkable effort. In the teams' race your club fought out the issue with the title holders, Western Suburbs, and after a great tussle were beaten by one point. The six runners were A. Blyth, A. Gainsford, B. C. Button, R. Chadwick, E. J. Brooke and S. Gainsford. By filling twentieth position in the actual race N. Gillard of your club gained the B Grade title.

N. S. W. FIFTEEN MILES' CHAMPIONSHIP: This race was held at Manly on 13th September, 1930. The scene of many St. George triumphs on this occasion proved disastrous to your club. The race was one of sadness for all club members as the club captain A. Gainsford, with his brother Stan., were absent owing to the sad death of their mother. The team was greatly weakened as a result losing the Proud Cup to South Sydney. The individual title was won by Rowley Bateman (South Sydney) and we congratulate him on his victory. His time of m. s. was outside A. Gainsford's record. Bert Button of your club ran exceedingly well to fill fourth position.

VICTORIAN MODIFIED MARATHON: Run over fifteen miles, this even was conducted by the Moreland Harriers on 20th September, 1930. Your club was represented by R. Chadwick, who has for many years been in the fore-front of long distance athletics in this State. He finished seventh in a field of 45 runners, which was an excellent performance. This is the first occasion on which a distance runner has left the State at the club's expense.

Track Season - Club Events:

The usual midweek meetings were held at Hurstville Oval, and the average attendance was very good. Unfortunately the weather was unsatisfactory and interfered with the racing. The point score competitions stand as follows: Track: A. Blyth, 36; W. Pearce, 35; G. Collins, 34; R. Williams, 26.

Field Games: A. Bell, 38; C. Kemp, 20; B. Shieles, 18; M. Moroney, 15½

INTER-CLUB COMPETITION: After four years of persistent trying, St. George secured the B Grade competition, defeating South Sydney by eleven points in the grand final. The club suffered one defeat, that at the hands of South Sydney in the first round. The success was long overdue, as the club has been of A Grade standard for some time, yet could not manage to achieve victory. This year all members turned out regularly, which made the difference between winning and losing.

During the season your club also defeated the A. Graders, Western Suburbs, at their home ground by 4 points, and they downed the Y. M. C. A. club by 35 points at Hurstville Oval, the latter club being undefeated C grade champions. In the match against East Sydney we were beaten by 3 points only, which was an excellent performance, considering East's strength.



**DUNTROON TRIP:** During the eight-hour weekend the club made a momentous visit to the Royal Military College at Duntroon. Accorded a splendid welcome by officials and trainees alike, the club members had a most excellent weekend. The occasion was the first on which a selected team had represented the club outside the metropolitan area. The team consisted of the following members:- Messrs. E. F. Grove, G. Crispo, A. Blyth, B. W. Shieles and W. J. Hasler, Manager; added to these were Messrs. E. J. Brooke, R. Williams, H. Llewellyn, N. Black, M. J. Moroney, J. Coppock, C. Wilcoxon, W. Pearce, M. S. Tumpane and W. Ahearn, who also made the trip. The challenge match resulted in a win for the College by three points. A. Blyth and H. Llewellyn were most outstanding, the former defeating H. J. Kauter in the 1 mile run in the fast time of 4m. 37-1/5s.; Llewellyn's time of 10-1/5s. in the 100 yards was the fastest of his career, while he also won the broad jump with a fine leap of 21 ft. 1 in.

The hospitality meted out to us was of a very high order, and members greatly appreciated the wonderful time spent at Duntroon. It is fitting fitting to record that the behaviour of the team was at all times exemplary, upholding the best traditions of the club.

#### Club Championships - Senior Results:-

100 yards	F. Gould	10-3/5s. :	Broad Jump	H. Llewellyn	20' 9 1/2"
220 yards	H. Llewellyn	23-3/10s.:	H. S. & J.	L. Brennan	45' 5"
440 yards	A. Blyth	53-4/5 :	Javelin	O. Matson	150' 1/2"
880 yards	A. Blyth	2m.7-1/5 :	Discus	W. McKenzie	112' 8"
1 mile	A. Blyth	4m40-2/5 :	16-lb. shot	W. McKenzie	36' 10 1/2"
3 miles	A. Blyth	15m.59-4/5:			
1 m. walk	J. Lloydstrom	7m.51-1/5:			
3 m. walk	J. Lloydstrom	:			

Once again Albert Blyth was the most outstanding athlete at the meeting, when he won the four middle distance titles of the club. This is a record performance, and his win in the three miles' run was his first at that distance. This race has a unique record in that no athlete has won the title on successive occasions. Competing for the first time this season, Bill Mackenzie broke the discus record by over two feet. The effort was a particularly fine one, as it was against a heavy wind. Mackenzie also shattered his own shot putt record by one foot six and a half inches. Though no other records were broken, Brennan equalled G. Crispo's triple leap figures, whilst H. Llewellyn was only 1/10th s. outside H. Bennett's 220 yards' record. Llewellyn also won the broad jump with the best leap for over five years.

#### Club Championships - Junior Results:-

100 yards	E. Ellis	11-1/5s. :	Broad Jump	C. Gould	19' 6 1/2"
220 yards	J. Carey	25s. :	H. S. & J.	C. Gould	40' 1/2"
440 yards	E. Ellis	55-1/5s. :	Javelin	W. Brazier	98' 8"
880 Yards	E. Ellis	2m.17-3/10s. :	12-lb. shot	C. Kemp	34' 10"
1 mile	C. Stark	5m. 9s. :			

Four records were broken, of which Ted Ellis was responsible for two. In the 440 yards he clipped 4/5ths. s. off L. Blyth's record, whilst in the 880 yards he beat G. Goldie's 1928 record by 7/10ths s. In this young athlete the club has a most promising sprinter, whilst C. Gould shows great promise in the jumping section. His broad jump figures created a new record by 1ft. 1 3/4ins. C. Kemp retained his shot putt title and increased the record by 5 ins.

**DUNN SHIELD:** This competition was held at the Sydney Sports Ground, 29th November and 6th December, 1930. It was won by the Randwick-Kensington A. A. C. As a combined body your club improved immensely, scoring more points than ever before in this shield. In winning four titles, St. George actually finished second to the winners. By winning the half mile and one mile run, A. Blyth scored his first outstanding track successes. B. W. Shieles won the Javelin throw from clubmate O. Matson, who gained a similar success in the discus throw.



STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS: These were held at the Sports Ground on 28th February and 7th March, 1931. On the first day, to the great jubilation of his club mates, Albert Blyth won his first State title on the track. Finishing in determined style, he headed J. Sheaves (W. S.) to the tape in the good time of 4m. 30 s. for the mile journey. This is the fastest run for this ground, over a number of years. Once again Oscar Matson had to be content with second place in the javelin throw. In this event B. Shieles greatly disappointed, when he failed to qualify in the preliminary heat.

During the second day your club enjoyed further success, winning two titles and one second place. Our star, A. Blyth, experienced no trouble to annex the 880 yards race in the fast time of 1m. 58½s. This was an improvement on the Australian record holder's (W. Hunt, Easts) time of last year. Blyth is the only athlete to annex four titles during the year. When Oscar Matson hurled the discus 115' 5½" he deservedly won the title, as he has had many minor placings in the past. Concentration and hard training were responsible for his success. Bill Mackenzie finished in second place with an effort of 111' ½", an excellent showing for so little training and experience.

Thus this year's performances were easily the best ever recorded by the Club. O. Matson incidentally won the Naukler Cup for all round field games ability.

#### A. BLYTH (Summary of His Career to Date.)

Our clubmate has been so outstanding this season, that I feel sure his early deeds will be of interest to all. Competing for the first time in 1927, he improved from a middle marker to club champion within four months. His time for that year was 4m. 44-4/5s., made on 25th February, 1928. A week later he confounded the critics by a slashing run in the 1 mile State Championship at Manly Oval. He finished within a yard of J. A. Martin (East Sydney), in the fast time of 4m. 30-3/5s. This was Blyth's first start in the title races of this state, and for one so un-experienced was truly a remarkable effort. His record in state championships is as follows:-

<u>1 mile run</u>	...	<u>880 yards</u>
1928 Second		1928 Fourth
1929 Third		1929 Third
1930 Third		1930 Third
1931 First		1931 First

By the above it will be seen that our clubmate has been knocking at the door for some time; culminating in his grand victory of this year. The time of 4m. 30s. is his fastest in actual official competition, and it is safe to say that had he been pushed he would have reduced this considerably. On February 24th, 1931, Blyth put up his finest mile effort to date. Competing from scratch, he swiftly over-hauled his field and finishing in brilliant style, registered the great time of 4m. 26-1/5s. This performance is further enhanced by the fact that it was run on Hurstville Oval at night time.

At the Dunn Shield meeting of this season Blyth's splendid form was rewarded by a double victory in the 880 yards and 1 mile runs. His time of 2m. in the 880 yards is not his actual best, as in the Dunn Shield half mile of 1929 he finished third, and his time was approximately 1m. 59-2/5s. In January 1930, he represented N. S. W. at the Australian Championship meeting held at Melbourne. He was selected to run in the 1 mile medley relay championship, and gave his team such a commanding lead that they won very easily.

In addition to his track ability, Blyth is also a stirring distance runner. In 1928 he won the N. S. W. 5 miles Novice C.C.C. at North Bondi, by over 200 yards. He did not appear again until 1930 when he ran so brilliantly in the Senior Championships (see report).



Albert has yet to be defeated this season over the middle distances, and by his deeds of this year is without doubt a potential Australian champion and Olympic representative. Despite the fact that he is rapidly becoming the club's idol, he still remains the modest and unassuming young fellow he was at the beginning of his career.

#### GENERAL REVIEW OF SEASON'S WORK.

For the first time in the history of the club, the track section has upheld its athletic reputation at the expense of the distance team. For so many years has the winter brigade won State titles, whilst the track men have shown great lack of concentration in this regard, that it has been a welcome surprise to club officials to have a reversal in this way and to see the track men come into their own as they have done this season.

It is very evident that the distance team requires some new blood to bring it back to former levels. Last season the same old contingent, R. Chadwick, A. and S. Gainsford, B. C. Button and E. J. Brooke carried the team. A. Blyth was competing for the first time seriously, and was possibly our best man, but we cannot expect this wonderful runner to compete year in and year out.

The deeds of this athlete, to my mind, were to a large extent responsible for the interclub competition victory this season. He not only remained unbeaten himself, but I think he inspired his clubmates to excel themselves in every manner.

At its full strength our sprint section was possibly the second best in the State, due to the great improvement of H. Llewellyn and F. Gould. The latter runner has still to acquire the correct style and should develop into an excellent sprinter. The jumpers were of an excellent standard, with L. Brennan in the vanguard. Youthful Jim Nixon shows great promise as a broad jumper, and it behoves the club to encourage him and all others as much as possible.

The field games' section received a much-needed lift, when O. Matson and W. Mackenzie turned out regularly during the latter half of the season. Mackenzie should develop into a great athlete, especially in the discus throw. B. W. Shieles did not display the same consistent form as in the past, but he has youth on his side, and I feel sure it will not be long before he again reaches the top rung of the ladder.

The middle distance runners, W. Pearce and L. Blyth, showed fine form throughout the season, the latter athlete is developing fast and may be nearly as outstanding as his brother in the sprint section.

Of the juniors, C. Stark and E. Ellis stand out, the last-named being very good at 440 yards. Stark should turn out an excellent distance runner, having improved considerably this season. Both need a lot of coaching as yet. In the walking section, although J. Lloydstrom gained the titles, the club must thank our old friend M. J. Moroney for the majority of the inter-club points gained.

Altogether the track team has shown remarkable improvement, which is very gratifying to club officials, who in the past have worked hard to attain this object.

#### LADIES' CLUB.

With the loss of N. Gould and M. Crispo the Ladies' Club received a setback from which it never apparently recovered. These two ladies supplied the strength in the field games' section, which added to the sprinters, Misses Robinson and Phillips, gave promise of a very strong club. Unfortunately, their places were not filled, which was mainly due to lack of interest by the leading ladies of the club. It was rather remarkable to note that during the latter and most important part of the season, the most experienced ladies were consistently absent from the Hurstville Oval midweek meetings.



INTER-CLUB COMPETITIONS: The club dropped from second place to last despite the great efforts of Misses Robinson and Phillips. These two ladies upheld their reputations in the sprints, but the matches were lost in the field games section.

ANGUS & COOTE SHIELD EVENTS: In the 100 yards Miss Phillips ran second to A. Smith of Botany in the smart time of 11 1/5s. She turned the tables on her clubmate, Miss Robinson, who finished third. Miss Robinson also secured second place in the discus and second place in the broad jump. J. Hamer competing for the first time in the javelin throw filled second position.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS: The 100 yards, held on the first day, was won by Miss Dahm of Botany. G. Phillips filled third place, whilst last year's runner-up, Edie Robinson, did not get a place and was well beaten. On the second day Miss Robinson won her first State title since her return from the 1928 Olympiad. In the 220 yards' race she finished in wonderful style to just head H. Kennaby of Botany Club to the tape. The latter lady was leading until a few yards from home, when she faltered and fell. The time was 26-2/5. Miss Phillips continued her long run of minor placings by running third. This little lady is certainly unlucky to strike so hot a bunch of sprinters, as are at present competing. Edie Robinson also gained second place in the broad jump with a leap of 16' 2 1/2". Miss R. Winter won with 16' 9".

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: The club dances were well patronised throughout the year and showed considerable financial benefit to the club. The following fixtures have been allotted this year to date at the Kogarah Masonic Hall as follows:-

March 21, April 11, May 30, September 12 and October 10.

Members are also reminded that a club smoko will take place on April 1st 1931 at the Palaise Grande, Rockdale. Any information needed will be supplied by Mr. B. C. Button.

BALANCE SHEET: The Hon. Treasurer's report again shows an increase on last year's credit balance and speaks volumes for the fine work he has done this year. Mr. Giles has easily proved the most efficient and consistent official the club has ever had in this position.

Thanks are due to those who rendered us support during the year as follows:- Messrs. A. Whelan, £2/2/-; E. E. Giles, £1/1/-; W. Pearce, 10/6; A. Straney (£1/1/-; N. Black, 10/6; J. J. Walsh, £1/1/-; press and all distance season supporters.

In conclusion I wish to thank members and officials who have made my term of office one of pleasure. I sincerely appreciate their assistance and feel sure that the office bearers for the forthcoming year can look forward to an even more amicable and successful future.

All office bearers retire tonight and are eligible for re-election. Members, your chance is here, you have the power to elect men who have the welfare of the club at heart. In addition, render unto them your fullest and most efficient support, which will ensure the future of the St. George D. A. A. C.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE ST. GEORGE DISTRICT  
AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB,

WALTER J. HASLER,

Hon. Secretary.



ST. GEORGE DISTRICT AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB  
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Balance Sheet for Financial Year Ending February 18th, 1931.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s	d
Cash Balance 28/2/1930.	51	11	4
Members Annual Subscriptions.	15	15	-
Members Race Subscriptions.	47	7	9
Donations.	7	5	-
Proceeds for Sale of Badges.	2	13	6
Proceeds for Sale of Photographs		4	-
Proceeds from Dances	76	18	3
Miscellaneous Receipts	7	1	-
Interest on Bank a/cs.	1	9	1
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Total Receipts.	£210	4	11
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ASSETS.

Credit Cash Balance	68	14	1
Badges on Hand	5	2	6
Starting Gun	3	10	-
Typewriter	8	15	-
Shots		18	-
High Jump Stands	2	10	-
Discus	1	16	-
Javelin		10	-
Hurdles	2	19	5
Massage Tables	1	16	-
Track Ropes	2	8	2
Handicap Numbers		5	-
Signs for Road Races	1	10	-
Megaphone		2	-
Blank Cartridges		5	3
Mourning Bands		10	-
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	£102	6	5
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LIABILITIES.

	£	s	d
Hurstville Oval Lighting Account	9	18	-
Hurstville Oval Care-taker's Account.	5	5	-
Hire of Halls for Meetings	2	12	-
Fees to N.S.W.A.A.A.	11	12	6
Printing Accounts.	9	1	3
Trophy Accounts.	51	14	2
Maintenance & Additions To Apparatus	20	6	2
Miscellaneous Expenditure	31	1	9
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Total Expenditure.	£141	10	10
Cash Balance	68	14	1
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	£210	4	11
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4th March, 1931, E. E. GILES,

Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,  
4th March, 1931.

S. H. BINDER, JOHN H. HARRIS.