

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 241.—VOLUME XXII. [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

St. Dunstaners and Public Service

By the Editor

IT has just been announced that a St. Dunstaner has been made a Justice of the Peace. This is the first time that a war-blinded man has attained to such an office, and it is believed that it is only the second case of a man without sight being so honoured. Our congratulations to the new J.P., and also to St. Dunstan's, which undoubtedly is partly responsible for his elevation to such a position.

For this piece of news is only another instance of the way in which works what may now assuredly be called the "Spirit of St. Dunstan's". We say "now" because, after all, St. Dunstan's has come of age and is now nearing its silver jubilee. From the very start, our Founder, Sir Arthur Pearson, sought to inculcate the idea into every St. Dunstaner, summed up in the familiar slogan "Victory over Blindness", that the aim of St. Dunstan's training was to make it possible for its men, in spite of their handicap, once again to lead normal lives. This last example of what St. Dunstaners have done in the way of public service is a striking example of the success of these efforts.

The ranks of St. Dunstaners have included Members of Parliament at home and in the Empire, county and borough councillors, chairmen of committees, office bearers in the Legion, Toc H and other philanthropic organizations.

But these are not the only examples of public service achieved by St. Dunstaners. Among our men there are several who have achieved distinction in broadcasting; we have quite a coterie of authors; and our lecturers are deservedly acclaimed whenever they speak. Then, too, there are our telephonists, many of them in Government departments or with local authorities; and our masseurs, some of whom have become famous for their work with famous cricket and football teams, and one of whom recently attended a Royal personage on a voyage over half the world. The discussion in our last issue of what our men could do in the way of public service over Air Raid Precautions, and the letters which follow this article are also good examples of the results of St. Dunstan's training.

This, however, is not all. All these cases are more or less spectacular, but it must not be forgotten that every St. Dunstaner who is doing his bit—in however humble a way—is also being of public service. Our poultry keepers, mat-makers, netters, joiners, typists, and the rest are all showing what they can do in the way of public service, for not only are they setting a fine example to others handicapped in the same way as themselves, but also to the community as a whole. In a sonnet, the poet John Milton, when himself blind, declared: "They also serve who only stand and wait". That is a maxim with which St. Dunstan's cannot agree. The St. Dunstan's idea of service is not "to stand and wait" but to get on with whatever job comes to hand, and the proud boast of our organization is that it has constant proof, of which the recent appointment of one of its men as J.P. is the latest instance, that it has achieved its object.

St. Dunstan's and A.R.P.

OUR Chairman has received the following letters from St. Dunstaners regarding the correspondence published last month between P. Garrity and himself in connection with St. Dunstaners' services in a national emergency.

Captain Sir Ian Fraser.

DEAR SIR,

My wife read me your letter in this month's REVIEW *re* St. Dunstan's telephone operators being of some use during a national crisis. I entirely agree that all the boys would give all the assistance they could.

My wife is now taking a course as an air warden, and I feel that I would also like to do something should the necessity arise.

I think that the majority of the young officers of the present-day police force realize the help a St. Dunstan's operator could be in operating a switchboard and taking messages on his shorthand machine. It would certainly relieve the able-bodied police and firemen to take over outside duties. I should be glad, therefore, if you will submit my name to the A.R.P. at Eccles, Manchester.

R. E. NAMAN,
Manchester.

Captain Sir Ian Fraser.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to your letter in the REVIEW *re* Air Raid Precautions, the enclosed letter may be of interest to you.

It is my intention to attend further lectures in the near future.

I feel that whenever possible, we should attend the A.R.P. lectures. Firstly, to learn how to protect ourselves and family. Secondly, to be in a position, although slightly handicapped, to help others by telling them what to do. Lastly, the lectures teach one to have confidence in the gas masks, etc., and this confidence and coolness displayed by us in front of other people will go a long way towards preventing panic. Further, I fail to see why we cannot act as assistant street wardens in our own road.

Anyhow, the lectures are very interesting and the knowledge we gain may be of some use.

J. W. MAHONY,
Brighton.

The enclosure referred to in Mahony's letter was as follows:—

Royal York Buildings,
Brighton.

J. W. Mahony, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I am glad you were able to attend practically all the lectures given by Mr. Noble, and I cannot help feeling that the knowledge which you have gained will be most usefully utilized at St. Dunstan's, where they will certainly find it useful to have a nucleus of the staff with a knowledge of anti-gas measures.

I enclose some forms, which I should be glad if you would pass on to the friends to whom you refer.

E. L. ARDLEY,
(Squadron Leader), A.R.P. Officer.

St. Dunstaner Becomes a Magistrate

FROM the *Manchester Guardian*, April 29th:—

Mr. W. Curtis-Willson, a St. Dunstan's war-blinded man, who for five years has been Chairman and Managing Director of the *Brighton and Hove Herald*, has been made a Justice of the Peace and is to be sworn in to-day. This is the first case of a war-blinded man becoming a magistrate, and it is believed that it is only the second instance of a blind man attaining to that office.

Mr. Curtis-Willson received the M.B.E. in July, 1933, for his work in connection with the organization of Empire shopping weeks at Brighton. He was also Parliamentary Agent for the Conservative Party of Brighton and Hove from 1920 to 1933.

Our St. Dunstaner is also still carrying on in the Army, although as a civilian. He was recently elected to serve on the Sussex County Territorial Army Association as one of the two employer-representatives for the County. Last year his son, Clifford Leslie Curtis-Willson, was gazetted a second lieutenant in the Royal Artillery (T.A.), so that the link with the services is being well maintained. Young Curtis-Willson is a first-class Rugby player, and besides playing regularly for the Brighton Club, has been chosen for his county this season.

Legion Ladies Cheer the Chairman

SIR IAN FRASER received a very warm welcome from hundreds of Legion ladies at the Queen's Hall on April 28th. At the invitation of Lady Edward Spencer Churchill, the Chairman was addressing the delegates of the Women's Section's Annual Conference on St. Dunstan's.

A full explanation of the agreement between St. Dunstan's and the British Legion was given, and the delegates were urged to help St. Dunstan's collections whenever possible.

Lady Edward said that they had a warm corner in their hearts for St. Dunstan's, and as the result of Sir Ian's appeal, many misunderstandings had been cleared up. Although they had their own needs to attend to, she was sure they would also help St. Dunstan's more in the future.

Reunions—Notice

All Reunion meetings will this year begin with lunch at about one o'clock, and will end after tea—about 5.30.

Irish Meetings

THE Irish Reunions were held in Cork, Dublin and Belfast on April 26th, 28th and 29th respectively, and were enjoyed by a very good muster of St. Dunstaners in these areas. Guests included Councillor J. Barrett, of Cork County Council; Mr. Barnes, Chairman of British Legion in Cork; the Lord Mayor of Dublin; Mr. A. P. Connolly, Chairman, Metropolitan Area, British Legion, in Dublin. Among our guests at Belfast were Lady Turner, J.P., and Mr. William Sweeney, Hon. Representative of Wireless for the Blind Fund in Belfast. Major-General Sir J. Cooke-Collis, G.O.C., Northern Command, was unable to attend at Belfast and sent a message of goodwill.

St. Dunstaners will be interested to know that Mrs. Carr and Miss Power, V.A.D.'s in the early days, drove 140 miles to be present at Cork Reunion. Another V.A.D., Mrs. Stowell Taylor, also came to Belfast late in the afternoon, and made a nice little speech about old times at St. Dunstan's. Mr. L. Banks, from Headquarters, who presided at these meetings and interviewed the men, read a message of welcome from Sir Ian Fraser, who was unfortunately unable to be present this year.

At last year's Reunions the Irishmen decided that they would like to give a little presentation to Mr. W. H. Ottaway in recognition of his long service of twenty years in their interests as Workshops Manager and on the After-Care. At Mr. Ottaway's request, the presentation took the form of giving a Braille watch to a civilian deaf-blind man in Cork, one in Dublin and one in Belfast. These were presented to the recipients during the afternoons of the Reunions. The joy and satisfaction that these men showed in their gifts was very touching.

The Irishmen remembered their debt of gratitude to our late beloved Matron Thellusson by standing in silence for a few moments. Murray in Dublin and Boyce in Belfast spoke very feelingly of her kindness, sympathy and wisdom.

Good friends had arranged musical entertainments during the afternoons, and D. J. McLoughlin's Dance Band played at Dublin. These, with competitive games, filled in the time till tea was served, after which the meetings were brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

Garden Topics

ASTERS

AT the end of this month or the beginning of June, according to the weather, you can plant your asters. The sorts that I mention are the very best and strongest growers, and they stand the weather better than any other variety. They are Giants of California, double mixed; plant these in the back row, and in front of them plant Los Angeles. The above should be planted 16 or 18 inches apart each way; they grow 2 ft. high and have flowers 6 in. across. In the front row plant Beacon; this variety does not grow quite so tall but is beautiful. Plant 1 ft. apart. Good plants can be obtained from Edmunds & Co., of Milton, Cambridge, at 6d. per doz.; carriage paid on 5s. order.

Break down very finely the ground that you have prepared for the asters, and plant them just to the first pair of leaves; making firm with the fingers. Water each one 4 in. round the plant, not all over the ground, and the water should have the chill off it.

I hope to give you a few more notes about the plants as time goes on. This has been a very bad season so far.

A. J. HOLLAND.

Young St. Dunstaners

Another son of Mr. and Mrs. Back, of Shaldon, Teignmouth, has entered the Navy. Leslie has now passed his examination as a writer, and joined up on May 10th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Jean McLurg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. McLurg, of Carsduchan, secured third place in a recent dancing display at Newton Stewart.

☆ ☆ ☆

Alan Turrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Turrell, of Leeds, has won a scholarship which entitles him to enter the High School in September. His brother Walter is already at this school.

A Strange Reunion

A NEW St. Dunstaner, J. Dykes, is the author of the following. Dykes was severely gassed in the War, as a result of which he became practically an invalid. Now his sight has gone and he has come to St. Dunstan's. For the time being he is a patient at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, where he wrote this article:

In the year prior to the war, there were four young footballers (three budding professionals and one amateur) connected with a very prominent League club on the North-East Coast.

With the outbreak of war and the cessation of League football, we all decided to sign on for the sterner game. We all enlisted into the Army Cyclists Corps, and it was not long before we had our football togs on again. We played on many League grounds in different parts of the country and soon became known as the Unbeaten Cyclists.

On being ordered to France, we still found time for a game. Eventually we were absorbed into other units; we four were very fortunate, as we were all transferred to the West Yorks Regiment.

Early in July, 1917, we were at Nieuport in Belgium when mustard gas was first used, and I became a serious casualty. After many months in hospital, I was discharged in 1918 as being unfit for further military service. I became a more or less confirmed invalid.

In April, 1936, blindness overtook me due to the delayed action of mustard gas poisoning, and I was sent to Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton.

Meanwhile the other three went on to the end, and were eventually demobilized, returning once more to civil life and their football careers. The names of my former companions were T. Thompson, T. Wilson and J. M. Seed. Tommy Thompson eventually played for Sunderland, Tommy Wilson played for and captained Huddersfield and Jimmy Seed, after playing for Tottenham, Sheffield Wednesday and England, is now the manager of Charlton Athletic.

While lying in bed at Roehampton, I received a letter from Jimmy Seed stating that he had heard from someone who had recently been discharged from the Hospital who mentioned my name. I was asked to reply by return and to let the writer know if it was the same Billie Dykes who he knew before and during the war.

Needless to say I replied saying that it was the same, also recalling many thrilling games of the past. I received another letter the following day saying that he would be in to see me on the Sunday.

Sunday visiting time came, and although the minutes were slipping by, nobody came. I then realized that Jimmy had gone with his team to Middlesbrough. I was dozing and almost asleep when I heard a voice saying, "Good God, is that Billie?" I thought I was dreaming, but again I heard the voice and I knew then that it was the voice of the pal I knew so well.

I will not give details of what we talked about, but we certainly did talk. He was late in arriving because he had travelled back from Middlesbrough on the Sunday morning and had come straight on to see his old pal whom he last saw when he identified him lying on a stretcher at the C.C.S. on July 10th, 1917. It was just twenty years and seven months after.

Contributory Funds for Widows

SIR IAN FRASER was talking to the men who were at the Brighton Home early this month, when the following discussion took place.

Peach, of Burgess Hill, asked whether further consideration had been given to the suggestion he had made that St. Dunstan's should start a contributory fund for blinded soldiers' widows, the idea being that the blinded soldier himself and St. Dunstan's should each place a shilling a week, or half-a-crown a week, in a fund to give further help to widows.

Sir Ian replied: "I am glad to say we have succeeded in securing that a large majority of our men are in the Government Scheme which provides a pension for widows. Considering the age at which our men entered this Scheme, the benefit of 10s. a week is extremely good value, having regard to the small weekly payment. I hesitate to propose a contributory scheme because I think a good many blinded soldiers could ill afford to pay a shilling or half-a-crown a week, and it would not be quite fair for St. Dunstan's to make such contributions if only a small number of men came into the scheme."

Peach then emphasized his belief that a good many of the men would be interested and asked if the matter could be published in the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW. Sir Ian said he would ask the Editor to publish the question and answer and invite correspondence.

R.A.O.B. Notes

On March 8th, W. Shayler was initiated into the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes at the Lamb Lodge, Liverpool, sponsored by Bro. J. C. Owen, K.O.M., and Bro. Tom Kelly, K.O.M. On March 19th, the same St. Dunstaner was unanimously elected a member of the Rushton Social Circle of which another St. Dunstaner, H. Cook, is the vice-chairman and T. Milner is on the committee.

J. C. O.

Derby Sweepstake

Closing Date, May 23rd

The draw will take place in the Lounge at Headquarters on the afternoon of Thursday, May 26th, and all those drawing horses will be notified on Friday, May 27th.

"Words" Competition

Last month's competition was a very popular one, and, frankly, we did not think it possible for so many words to be found.

P. S. Sumner, of Worcester, discovered no fewer than 1,334 words, and the prize of ten shillings goes to him.

T. Floyd, of Teignmouth, found 1,074 words, and J. McAndrew, of Bournemouth, 923. Five shillings goes to each of them.

We must apologize if the ruling regarding the use of the "same letter" caused some misunderstanding. It should have been made quite clear that although the same letter must be used only once, if that letter appeared, say, three times in the given words, it could appear as many times in the word discovered.

For the benefit of non-successful competitors *only*, and in particular, those who misunderstood this ruling, here is another competition.

A prize of ten shillings, and two of five shillings, will go to the senders of the longest lists of words discovered in

EX-SERVICEMEN

Plurals are not allowed; neither are proper names. The number of words found should be stated at the top of the list.

Entries must be received not later than Friday, June 3rd.

Believe it or not

THE other day I went to a whist drive—a semi-partner drive. I commenced with a lady at table 4. We played and got four tricks. We separated and went round two rooms and never met again until the last hand—again at table 4. We got ten tricks, and when scores were added, we both had 78 in the first half, and 85 in the second half. There was a prize for the highest score at table 4, therefore my partner and I tied for it with the same score. We cut and we both cut four. Eventually I won by cutting an ace.

E. SLAUGHTER, Hornsey.

Letter to the Editor

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.
DEAR SIR,

I have read with interest the article regarding the British Legion by Captain Sir Ian Fraser, C.B.E., in the March issue of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW. I have been a member of the executive committee of my local branch since its inception seventeen years ago, and I have for the past six years been a vice-president of the Kent Council of the British Legion; also vice-chairman of the Benevolent Committee, so I think I can speak with some knowledge of the internal affairs of the Legion.

The Legion work I have personally taken most interest in has been the pensions section. I have represented my branch on the War Pensions Committee for the past fifteen years, and I believe I am the only man who lost his sight in the War who has ever served on a War Pensions Committee. I have found a lot of pleasure in this work and I feel very proud of the fact that four years ago I was awarded a Certificate of Merit, which is the highest honour the British Legion can bestow on any of its members. For that honour I feel very grateful to my comrades, and I would like to meet any St. Dunstan's man who will be attending the Annual Conference at Newcastle-on-Tyne at Whitsun: I have the honour of representing my branch there.

I can endorse all that Sir Ian has said in his recent article. Major Sir Francis Featherstone-Godley, O.B.E., has been Chairman of the Legion for the past four years, and beyond doubt he is a very able and efficient Chairman, and has filled the office with dignity and honour.

I advise all St. Dunstaners to make themselves conversant with the agreement between the Council of St. Dunstan's and the N.E.C. of the British Legion, regarding the percentage of Poppy Day money which goes to St. Dunstan's, and I would, in all sincerity, appeal to all war-blinded men to join the British Legion. It is a great national organization: it has a constitution and a Royal Charter under which it works for the widows, orphans and disabled men. It has at present 600,000 members and 4,500 branches, with each branch having its own benevolent committee, which renders assistance to ex-Service men and their dependents.

If St. Dunstaners accept Sir Ian's advice they will apply to the local hon. secretary of the British Legion, where they reside. It is open to all ex-Service men who served seven days with the Colours. As well as ordinary members, they accept any male citizen as honorary members, providing they accept the constitution of the Legion. The only class they will not accept are conscientious objectors, although they are accepted as Members of Parliament and given a salary of £600 a year.

There is an entrance fee of 1s., and a minimum subscription of 2s. 6d.; the badge costs 1s.; a copy of Royal Charter, 2d. The motto of the Legion is "Service not self", and another slogan is "Honour the Dead and Serve the Living."

JOIN THE LEGION.—Yours faithfully,

Legionaire J. SHEEHY, Dover.

Merry Go Round

WONDER how many of our boys visit fairs at this stage of life? I don't mean cattle fairs, but "ye olde fairs" (where the merry go round goes round, etc.). Well, last Birmingham fair the merry-go-round broke down, and, believe it or not, that was one of the tunes on the organ.

Have any of our boys been on the loop-a-planes? This amusement has been out, I think, about two years, and if, by any chance, you have never been upside down in your life, swinging over and over, well, try it and you've got a thrill coming. The loop-a-plane consists of a car holding four persons; you are chained and locked in, and the car starts with a gentle swing of about ten feet high; swinging back to twenty feet; then forward swing and you are nearly over the top; back swing, again nearly over, and then two or three more times and you are over and over.

One word of warning. Don't do what I did—go on after the "local" had shut!

The chair-o-planes are a great favourite of mine, and the speedway cars are all right, too—with a good escort who can drive.

Talking of escorts, I don't advise any St. Dunstaner to go roaming about these fairs alone. Take someone with you, but a word to the money-takers, and you will be given every attention.

I remember going to a fete and gala from the Stratford-on-Avon camp one year. When we arrived there was a full supply of coco-nuts—no one had apparently won any. Jack Dennick had a go, and at the first smash, off they came—five out of six. We had to knock off or we should have won all the nuts the man had. We spent our money, but we had our fun—and we had his nuts.

W. TROTT.

Sutton Coldfield.

National Laying Test

Temporary position of the No. 1 birds to the end of the sixth period:

Hill, R. E. 3433 W.W. 123
Jackson, G. C. 3361 R.I.R. 116

Gwyn, A. I. 3427 W.W. 108
Campbell, J. 3487 R.I.R. 108

Tie for
3rd
place

Jarvis, A. 3367 R.I.R. 103

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Sports Meeting

At the General Meeting at Headquarters on Tuesday, the 26th April, it was agreed to hold the **General Sports** on Saturday, June 18th, at 2 p.m. and the Regatta at Putney on Wednesday, July 20th, at 1.30 p.m.

Entries for Sports Day cannot be received after **Friday, June 3rd**. Please help us by entering your name and applying for tea tickets early.

Programme:—

1. Children's Handicap Race. Girls and Boys under 6 years. 35 yards.
2. Girls' and Boys' Handicap Race. Six years and under 9 years. 50 yards.
3. Girls' and Boys' Handicap Race. Between 9 and 12 years. 60 yards.
4. Girls' and Boys' Handicap Race. Between 12 and 15 years. 80 yards.
5. Ladies' Surprise Race.
6. Three Legged Race. One Lady and one Gentleman.
7. Egg and Spoon Race.

Events for St. Dunstaners:—

8. Inter-club Cup Competition.
 1. Throwing the Cricket Ball.
 2. Putting Weight.
 3. Single Jump.
 4. Treble Jump.
9. 75 yards Sprint, A and B Section.
10. Throwing the Cricket Ball, A and B Section.
11. Putting the Weight, A and B Section.
12. Throwing the Football, A and B Section.
13. Single Jump, A and B Section.

Fifteen Mile Walk

ONE more walking season was brought to a close with the fifteen-mile walk at Wembley on April 23rd.

Record-breaking still goes on, Tommy ap Rhys again reducing the B Section time. Welcome, even if unexpected, was the splendid display of Craigie and Coupland, who finished second in their respective divisions. Congratulations, both of you.

Unexpected also, but greatly appreciated, was the visit of the Swedish Walking Team and their supporters. This team had, earlier in the afternoon, competed in the seven miles English Championship,

obtaining first and second places.

The Natapro Sports Club, our esteemed hosts, in true sporting spirit, invited the visitors from Sweden to have tea with us, which proved a very enjoyable meal, both to the palate and the ear.

The president of the Swedish team, in a very witty speech, said how surprised they were to see the speed, style and enthusiasm of the St. Dunstan's A.C. He explained, however, that it was, "as he had learned as a boy at school," typical of the inborn sporting spirit of the English.

As a mark of appreciation of fellow-sportsmen, a Continental custom was observed by our overseas friends, in presenting bouquets of flowers to the winners of A and B Sections, Archie Brown re-receiving one from J. Mikaelsson, who was first in the English Championships, and Tommy ap Rhys one from E. Hedberg, who was second.

Quite a new note was struck when R. J. Williams, who finished last in our race, received a souvenir prize from G. Rundlof, who was the unsuccessful Swedish competitor, and their president, Mr. Legner.

Jimmy Coupland was also presented with a bouquet, because as they (the visitors) said, "He is so little, but he do so much."

It was certainly an interesting and enjoyable day for all, for which our sincere thanks are due to the officials and members of the Natapro Sports Club.

Holiday Camp

Saturday, June 25th, to Saturday, July 2nd, at Little Gaddesden House, Berkhamsted. Please note Miss Talbot has invited us to Little Gaddesden this year so the camp is there and not at Stratford-on-Avon as announced in the March REVIEW. Also please note camp starts Saturday, June 25th, and not Friday, June 24th, as previously announced. Camp fee, £1. 7s. 6d.

ENTRIES.—Please send me your names not later than June 8th.

VISITORS.—Will those wishing to visit camp please write to Miss Talbot, Little Gaddesden House, Berkhamsted, who has all the arrangements in hand.

A. O. SPURWAY.

The Vicarage,
Titchfield, Hants.

Wembley Fifteen Mile Walk

Competitor	Scratch Race	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Position in Handicap
A.					
A. Brown	1	2-15-6	—	2-15-6	3
J. Coupland	2	2-25-38	11-15	2-14-23	2
P. Ashton	3	2-26-14	5-45	2-20-29	7
A. Giles	4	2-26-59	9-30	2-17-29	6
H. Gover	5	2-28-59	12-45	2-16-14	4
S. Dyer	6	2-36-16	19-30	2-16-46	5
T. Rouse	7	2-36-30	22-15	2-14-15	1
R. J. Williams	8	2-49-26	28-30	2-20-56	8
B.					
T. ap Rhys	1	2-19-44	3-45	2-15-59	4
A. Craigie	2	2-36-27	24-0	2-12-27	1
H. Kerr	3	2-38-34	23-30	2-15-4	3
W. E. Castle	4	2-40-5	18-0	2-22-5	6
W. C. Scott	5	2-45-9	23-30	2-21-39	5
F. Rhodes	6	2-55-28	40-45	2-14-43	2

As a competitor can only take one prize, the Handicap Prizes are as follows:

A

1. T. Rouse.
2. H. Gover.
3. S. Dyer.

B

1. F. Rhodes.
2. W. C. Scott.
3. W. E. Castle.

Winner of Dr. Bridges' Cup and Medal: T. ap Rhys.

"In Memory"

Private FREDERICK C. HARRISON

(Royal West Surreys; transferred to 302nd Welsh Fusiliers)

We deeply regret to announce the death of F. C. Harrison, of Leytonstone.

Harrison lost his sight as a result of service in the Great War, and came to St. Dunstan's in 1918 for training. He then set up as a boot repairer and mat maker, and continued at these occupations until 1931, when his health, which had never been very good, gradually grew worse. Nevertheless, his death on March 21st was unexpected, as he had only had a few hours' illness.

The funeral took place a few days later at Woodgrange Cemetery, and was attended by his widow and family, and also a St. Dunstan's friend, Mr. Gardiner, of Leytonstone. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Harrison and her family.

Rifleman GEORGE PARRICK

(King's Royal Rifles)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of G. Parrick, of West Croydon.

Parrick was wounded in France in 1916, as a result of which he lost his sight, and also became very deaf. Eventually he came to St. Dunstan's for training, and in due course started work as a boot-repairer, and was able to carry on a very successful business. For some time past, however, his health had not been very good, and it was found necessary for him to have an operation, from the effects of which he did not recover. His death took place on March 15th.

The funeral service was held a few days later in the Croydon Crematorium Chapel, where Parrick's remains were cremated. A Union Jack covered his coffin. There were many beautiful flowers, including a wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, which were afterwards placed on the war memorial in the cemetery.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Parrick and her son in their great loss.

Private WILLIAM B. GILL

(Labour Corps)

WITH deepest regret we have to record the death of another St. Dunstaner—W. B. Gill, of Ripon.

Gill enlisted in the early days of the war—1916—and was discharged after three years' service in the Army. He did not, however, come under the notice of St. Dunstan's until 1923. An expert joiner before his enlistment—actually there is work in Ripon Cathedral executed by him when he was a young man—it was, of course, natural for him to return to this occupation when he lost his sight, and he continued to be happily engaged at this work for several years, in which he took the keenest interest.

A few years ago, illness made it necessary for him to give up all strenuous work, and he has of late occupied himself with just a little joinery as a hobby, and the making of an occasional wool rug.

Gill suffered a great deal during his latter years, but he was only seriously ill a few days before his death, which occurred on April 4th.

The funeral was attended by a large number of mourners, including relatives, and among the wreaths sent was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Gill's widow and son.

Births

FRANCIS.—To the wife of G. W. Francis, of Morley, on April 30th, a daughter.

MCQUIRK.—To the wife of W. McQuirk, of North Wimbledon, on April 22nd, a daughter—Jennifer Adeline.

PEACOCK.—To the wife of F. Peacock, of Stokesley, on April 15th, a daughter.

TAYLOR.—To the wife of S. W. Taylor, of Shepshed, a son.

Death

DIXON.—We extend our deepest sympathy to J. Dixon, of Watford, whose wife passed away on April 19th.

Bridge Club

It is proposed to form a bridge club commencing with a bridge drive. Never mind what sort of a player you are; if you are interested send in your name to the Sports Office and a meeting will be called to discuss details.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. McAlonan, of Ringway, who celebrated their silver wedding on April 5th, and to Mr. and Mrs. Ridley, of East Finchley, whose anniversary was on May 4th.