

# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

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## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

ON Monday, January 8th, the Chairman made one of his periodical speeches to the men, in the Lounge at Brighton.

This report of the speech takes the place of the Chairman's Notes this month. Sir Ian Fraser said: Considering that they had moved the Welfare Offices to Brighton, and that many members of the staff had been called up, and many other wartime difficulties, he thought the organisation of St. Dunstan's was working very smoothly. There were occasional delays and disappointments, but on the whole the men all over the country were receiving their regular work and their regular payments, children's allowances, etc., from St. Dunstan's satisfactorily. This was due to the splendid work of the staff, to which he paid a high tribute (applause).

### Local Sales

The trading position was not very satisfactory. They were not selling all the goods that were coming in from the men; thus stocks were rising, and January and February were always bad months, but he felt sure that a shortage of commodities generally would set in as the war proceeded, and he hoped this would induce better sales.

He had heard of a few St. Dunstaners who had already succeeded in increasing their local sales. He hoped all would try to do this. If only every St. Dunstaner could sell one extra mat or basket a month, instead of sending it to St. Dunstan's, what a difference this would make. The Chairman reminded St. Dunstaners that they might all act as agents for selling St. Dunstan's goods, whether they made the particular goods or not. If any St. Dunstaner got an order, he could pass it through to the Sales Department, Raglan Street, Kentish Town. The goods would be delivered direct to the customer and the St. Dunstaner would receive the discount for having made the sale. Application could be made to Raglan Street for leaflets or a catalogue by those who thought they could make sales in this way.

In spite of all these difficulties, the Chairman said they could rest assured that St. Dunstan's would do everything possible to maintain the amount of work to which the men were accustomed.

He learned that the After-care Visitors, social and technical, were managing to pay their regular visits, in spite of travelling difficulties, and he was glad of this, for he felt that with their understanding and long experience they were a great source of comfort to St. Dunstaners and their families.

### Reunions—?

As regards Reunions they were not sure whether they would be able to carry them out this year. They wanted to do so, because they knew how valuable these meetings were

in bringing St. Dunstaners in touch with Headquarters officials, to discuss business and other matters, and also how much they were appreciated as social gatherings; but there were travelling and A.R.P. difficulties. Now that trains took so much longer, and ran less frequently, it would be impossible for many men to go to their usual Reunions, and many bus services were also disorganised. Nor would it be possible to hold such large gatherings of blinded men as usually took place in, for example, Manchester, because the police authorities would not approve of such meetings on account of the risk of air raids. He thought it would be possible to hold a certain number of smaller meetings, but this would impose much travelling upon members of Headquarters Staff, and would keep them away from the office for a number of days, thus making it more difficult to deal with St. Dunstaners' affairs. He would ask the Editor of the REVIEW to print these words in the next number, so that St. Dunstaners all over the country could think about this matter and write him their views.

### We Can All Help

Addressing himself particularly to the men in the Home to whom he was speaking, and to those who might be visiting there shortly, Sir Ian said:

"There is one way in which you can all help us. That is by realising that war conditions make the running of a great establishment like this more difficult. Some of our Staff have been called up; food is to be rationed, and petrol rationing has reduced transport. We still maintain a very high standard indeed in this Home, possibly the highest of any of its kind in the country (hear, hear). We will continue to do our best, but the splendid service you receive here when you are ill or convalescent can only be maintained by more work and devotion on the part of the staff. They give this only too willingly, but you can, and I know you will, all help by tolerance, patience, and independence. If sometimes you stay out at an appointment for an extra ten minutes and are late for lunch, you put extra work on the V.A.D.s and the Orderlies. If sometimes you are late in at night, and have forgotten to notify the Sister, you involve other people in extra work. These things occur very seldom, I know, but two or three acts of thoughtlessness like this occurring each day make more work for all concerned. I am sure I have only to ask you to bear this in mind and that you will respond (applause).

St. Dunstan's is not an institution with all kinds of rules and regulations. We have always relied upon the men themselves to uphold the good name of St. Dunstan's and maintain a code of behaviour which is high and exemplary. I am glad to hear that this continues, and that all who come to Brighton realise that whenever they go out, and wherever they go to, they are St. Dunstaners and carry with them the good name of our organisation."

### Rationing

Rationing comes into force to-day in every home in Britain. There would be rationing also at this Home. There would, he knew, be some grumbling at this, and there was no harm in that because a good grouse often made you feel better, but it was well for them to remember that rationing was a protection for the community against rising prices, and that it was of special benefit to those with small fixed incomes. He feared that prices would probably rise as the war went on, but that they would rise much more quickly if there was no rationing. The plain fact was that, when such a tremendous effort had to be made to supply the Armed Forces and the Civilian Defence Forces with food, clothing, and equipment, there must be a shortage of these commodities for the civil population. Thus all of us who are not in the fighting forces will have to go without many things we were accustomed to in peace time. We must all try to do this cheerfully as our contribution towards winning the war.

So far as St. Dunstan's was concerned, he had already made a promise, and he repeated it, that they would do everything in their power to carry on the social services to which the men had become accustomed. There might have to be changes and even curtailments, but if these became necessary he would explain them fully to all concerned.

He did not know yet how far it would be possible in wartime to raise large sums of money for any cause, however good, but they could be assured that the funds St. Dunstan's already had in hand would be a sure guarantee to the men of the Great War that their needs

would not be overlooked. The Government had asked them to look after any new members of the Fighting Forces who lost their sight. The Government might ask them to undertake other responsibilities, for if great air raids descended upon Britain, many would find themselves in the front line. Whatever their duty turned out to be, they would do it, and he felt sure that all who composed St. Dunstan's—subscribers, staff, men, women, old and new, would work together to keep St. Dunstan's flag flying and help the country.

Concluding, Sir Ian said: "I know all will join with me in telling St. Dunstaners' sons how much we admire them at their posts of duty, and wishing them all the best of luck" (applause).

### News of St. Dunstaners.

W. A. Muggeridge, of Great Bookham, is doing splendid work in his district by conducting a Citizens' Advice Bureau. Rent Act queries, Soldiers' Families Allowances, Billeting of Blind Persons, writing letters for aliens—these are but a few of the varied questions he is called upon to answer. It is hard work, but Muggeridge says he finds it intensely interesting.

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A. Grogan, of Leeds, is now a proud grandfather. Furthermore, there is a great-grandfather and great-grandmother living.

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J. R. Pease, of Pudsey, received a novel present at Christmas—a luminous walking stick.

★ ★ ★

W. T. Curtis-Willson, M.B.E., J.P., who is Managing Director of the *Brighton and Hove Herald*, has just concluded a tour of the B.E.F. He was one of a party who went over at the invitation of the War Office.

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Mrs. Scott Pearey very much regrets that she has been unable to reply to many letters from friends. Her husband is seriously ill in hospital, suffering from war wounds.

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Although he is not doing National Service work, such as A.R.P., H. Abbey, of Lightwater, has found a way to help, nevertheless. He has bought some St. Dunstan's trays, which have been raffled at the Women's Institute and the Village Club. The first realized 9s. 6d., and the second, £2 14s. 4d. (but a large bottle of whiskey was on this one!) The proceeds (which were made up of twopences) went to the Soldiers' Comforts Fund, and a Children's Party. Well done, Abbey!

### The Long Arm of St. Dunstans

**A**FTER twenty-one years, H. W. Burnett, of Edmonton, has just heard from a sister in Canada—thanks to a member of St. Dunstan's staff.

When Burnett was wounded in April, 1918, a parcel sent to him in France by his sister was returned, marked "Wounded and missing." Ten months later the parcel reached Burnett, who naturally assumed that his sister had gone from her previous address; and not hearing from her all these years, had given up hope of seeing or hearing from her again.

She has been living in London, Ontario, and had a neighbour, named Hitchin. In conversation, he told her his brother was employed at St. Dunstan's Sales Department, while she spoke about Burnett's loss of an eye. On his advice, she wrote to Burnett at St. Dunstan's, the letter was forwarded, and once again he is in touch.

### Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. Sayers, of Birchington, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on December 26th.

### A Removal

Mrs. G. J. Hollins (formerly Miss Stacey) has now moved to The Gate House, Whitchurch, Tavistock, Devon.

### A Letter from Matron

MY DEAR BOYS,

Many, many thanks to you all, your wives, big and little sons, and daughters, for your nice cards, calendars and letters of good wishes. They gave me great joy, and I just loved all your kind thoughts. The best of everything good to you all for 1940.

Ever your friend,

WINIFRED BOYD-ROCHFORD.

St. Dunstan's,  
Ovingdean.

## Brighton News

THE programme of entertainments arranged for the Christmas holidays wove themselves into such a delightful pattern that those who were privileged to take part in the weaving will remember them with feelings of pleasure for many a long day. Everything went with such a swing—dances, concert, bridge, dominoes, and the hundred and one games which a large and happy gathering, for a few days throwing off dull care, can devise. Dinner on Christmas Day, at which over a hundred sat down, was unique in more ways than one; for the first time we had the pleasure of Sir Ian and Lady Fraser's company. Also, someone had the bright idea of linking up the old army and the new by inviting to dinner two members of the Searchlight Battery, stationed at (blue pencil). They were tremendously impressed by all they saw.

During dinner, Sir Ian made a short and characteristic speech, and Matron was then presented with a diamante decoration for her dress, after which telegrams of good wishes from friends all over the world were read. In the evening, much fun was evoked by the playing of Christmas games—but the high spot of the week was the performance of a potted version of "Cinderella," produced and performed by members of the staff, and which is reported elsewhere. The whole affair was a riot of fun from beginning to end.

The grand finale was a dance on New Year's Day. Owing to the black-out and the difficulty of transport, this was held from three to seven p.m. Here again everybody made the most of the opportunity and let themselves go with a will which filled the afternoon with four hours' pure joy.

"OBSERVER."

## A True Yorkshire Story

During the Great War, 1914—1918, a woman I knew was walking down one of the roads leading into Spensborough. The night was dark and no lights were allowed. Soon she heard footsteps approaching, so began calling out "Keep to the right; keep to the right; keep to the—" bang! and a man's voice exclaimed: "It's all right, missus, yo' callin' aht 'Keep to the right,' but yor keepin' ta t'left!"

## "Cinderella" a la St. Dunstan's

ST. DUNSTANERS enjoyed a rollicking evening's entertainment on Thursday, December 28th, when the V.A.D.s gave a performance of the pantomime "Cinderella." This fairy tale has been produced in many circumstances, in many climes, and has had a variety of audiences, but rarely, if ever, has it been given, or received, in circumstances comparable with the performance at Ovingdean.

The audience included the wives, children and friends of St. Dunstaners now "in residence," and it was pleasing to see our Chairman and Lady Fraser, the Misses Fraser (Sir Ian's cousins), Mr. and Mrs. Askew, Mrs. Davenport (wife of our Medical Commandant), and Mrs. Paul (wife of Commander Paul, Commandant at St. Dunstan's prior to the outbreak of war), among those present, all of whom were warmly welcomed by our beloved Matron, Miss Boyd-Rochfort.

A pantomime for such an audience as one meets at St. Dunstan's was an audacious and enterprising conception, and all concerned, from author of the dialogue and producer to the scene shifter, are to be heartily congratulated on the success of their efforts. It was good, all-round Christmas fare, with a blend of irresistible comedy, wit, and humour impregnated with local colour and personality, reference to popular haunts (not always within the bounds of St. Dunstan's) and incident which created endless fun, all of which were keenly appreciated by St. Dunstaners. It was this element of humorous content, hit and quip, that rendered it so jolly and interesting an entertainment—in fact, a veritable "Cinderella" a la St. Dunstan's.

The Entr'acte, "Running commentary on the St. Dunstan's Stakes"—a good imitation of a typical Woodruffian B.B.C. description of the "Derby"—given by Mr. Davenport, our Commandant, was particularly clever, both in the script reference and the rendering, and evoked uproarious laughter, as he related incident after incident in the "race" to St. Dunstan's. It was a gorgeous leg-pull which every St. Dunstaner appreciated, and none more so than Tommy Rogers, "who won by a stiff-leg," H. Kerr, and A. Waite, "occupying second and third places," and T. Powell, "bringing up the rear."

## A "Good Companion" Marries St. Dunstaner

From the "Brighton and Hove Herald"  
December 16th

VOLUNTEERING her services to St. Dunstan's Home at Ovingdean as a Good Companion, Miss Frances Mary Harwood, a native of Worcester, who has for some time past made her home with her brother-in-law, at Pavilion Buildings, Brighton, met and fell in love with a blinded ex-soldier, Mr. John Unsworth, of Chester Street, Warrington, Lancs.

Their romance had a happy sequel on Thursday, when the couple were married at the Chapel Royal, Brighton, in the presence of a number of friends, men of St. Dunstan's, and members of the staff.

The bride was given away by her brother-in-law, Mr. W. J. Allen. Another blinded ex-Service man, Mr. W. Astbury, attended the bridegroom as best man, and the well-known blind musician, Dr. Leonard Marsh, F.R.C.O., was the organist.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. M. W. H. Nichols.

Afterwards a reception was held at the Royal Pavilion Hotel, where a large number of friends and well-wishers gathered.

Among the company in Church and at the reception were Miss Boyd-Rochfort (Matron at St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean), several of the bridegroom's blinded colleagues, and members of the nursing staff.

Mr. and Mrs. Unsworth are going to live at Hollingbury.

## Letter to the Editor

The Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR EDITOR,

Sir Ian's reference to our deaf-blind St. Dunstaners, mentioned in the December issue of the REVIEW, should do much to promote a greater interest in the lives of our fellow-men, and I should like to recommend a little book which I feel sure would assist all concerned.

This book *A Manual Alphabet for the Deaf-Blind*, by Edward Evans, can be obtained from the N.I.B., Catalogue No. 11038, which would be invaluable in learning this method of communication with our deaf-blind comrades.

Yours sincerely,

W. A. MUGGERIDGE.

As to the pantomime, the immortal story of "Cinderella" was recognisable in skeleton, although in detail not strictly conforming to the nursery book version. A strong vein of originality ran through the script, and the clue was certainly modern. Not, was it, the dainty shoe of the forlorn maid of all work, but a small size gas mask, which neither of the Ugly Sisters had the remotest chance of wearing, despite their efforts at adjustment.

The hit of the evening was the performance of the Ugly Sisters—Lady Esmeralda and Lady Griselda—with Mr. Davenport and Miss E. Hickley sustaining these roles respectively. Their dialogues and by-play, which produced a number of awkward situations, were excruciatingly funny, especially in their efforts to win the favours of the handsome Prince Truelove—Miss K. Poole. Miss Tippett made a delightful "Cinderella," as demure as any story book could make her.

But it was all good fun, and the genuine spirit of enjoyment of the evening's entertainment was expressed at the close by the presentation of a box of chocolates to "Cinderella" and a bouquet—a large size cabbage and two potatoes on short sticks—to "Lady Esmeralda."

The cast was as follows:—

Prince Truelove	-	Miss K. Poole
Nit-Wit (his Page)	-	Miss M. Byolin
Baron Figtree	-	Miss M. Keily
Baroness Henrietta		
Figtree (his Wife)		Miss Vaughan Davies
Lady Esmeralda	-	Mr. R. C. Davenport
Lady Griselda	-	Miss E. Hickley
Fairy Godmother	-	Miss J. Ginner
Cinderella	-	Miss E. Tippett
Spi	} Detectives	Mrs. Cohn
Cop		Miss Peacock
Fredrico, a Servant	-	Miss Poole

Miss M. Keily was responsible for most of the script and Miss Davies composed the lines of the Prologues. Miss W. Saunt was excellent in her recital of theme, and also proved herself a most efficient producer.

Credit must also be given to Mr. Austin (I/c. Transport), who was responsible for the costumes and scenes, whilst Mr. Sawyer looked after the electrical effects and Mr. W. Hawketts was a tower of usefulness here, there, and everywhere.

Mr. Huskinson, a good friend of St. Dunstan's, and Miss Clode, supplied the musical numbers.

## Canine Topics

### The Alsatian (continued)

AS I have already said, the breed had made great headway in this country. Some specimens were also exported to the U.S.A. In that country fanciers did not go into hysterics over the newcomer. In due course, it was recognised by the American Kennel Club as a breed, under the title of German Sheepdog, its correct name. On the Continent: France, Belgium, Germany, and Albania each had its own type of the breed.

The French type resembles a dog much more than any of the others, which resemble the wolf, both in colour and lope.

The Belgian type is not so large as the German, and it is smaller in the head.

The French type is similar to that of a small Great Dane, no wolf type at all. It is used in the Army and by the Police.

The Albanian type is not a sheepdog, but a guard dog, and a very ferocious one, too, as that is its work.

The German variety is used as a police dog, defence dog, war dog, Red Cross dog, and blind lead dog, and last, but not least, the purpose for which it was bred, to look after sheep.

In this country, after it had nearly gone under owing to the fierce hostility of the public and press, and the word wolfdog was dropped in 1927, the craze for this breed had reached its peak, and a serious attempt was made to train it, many training kennels being started. Training was for police, guards, and for leading the blind. Training for the latter work is very expensive and arduous, demanding a tremendous amount of patience and tact. The cost may be anything up to £100. A special harness is provided for the use of the blind person, which fits around the dog's shoulders. By this means, the "led" person becomes aware of the slightest movement of the dog.

The strongest point the Alsatian should have is the Wolf gait. How has this become so pronounced in what was originally a sheepdog? It is known that, from the year 1870, the Germans regularly crossed their sheepdogs with wolf blood. They thus allied the honest working qualities of their domesticated dogs with the wolf's non-domestic characteristics. The resultant progeny thus showed the wolf

coat, gait, and also that pronounced timidity, so common to specimens that were imported into this country when the "craze" caught on. In the hands of sound English breeders, this "wolf" blood has very largely "bred out," by introducing more reliable traits into the character, *i.e.*, stability of temperament, which is more noticeable as a result.

White-coated Alsations are now on the market for "guide" purposes in the "black-out."

H.M.

### Braille Publications

AT the outbreak of war, the National Institute for the Blind suspended most of their Braille publications, but as St. Dunstaners will already have heard from a circular letter which we sent out, most of these have been resumed. In our circular letter, we gave a full list of Braille magazines that are available, and we asked readers if they would be good enough to state, on a postcard which was enclosed, the names of those magazines they required. Many of you have replied. However, we have heard of some St. Dunstaners who have not been receiving their magazines as regularly as they did in pre-war days. This should not be the case. Therefore, if there is any St. Dunstaner who is not receiving the Braille literature he needs, will he please write to Miss Pain at Brighton, who is now looking after all matters relating to Braille.

### Young St. Dunstaners

Eric, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Ruston, of Poole, was married a few months ago, and is now a private in the Dorset Regiment.

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Harry, son of A. Sterno, of Bath, was married in October, and joined a Searchlight Training Unit of the R.A. in November.

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Arthur, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Morgan, Tredegar, was married just before joining up in the R.A.M.C. in October.

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Two young St. Dunstaners are on H.M.S. *Revenge*. The eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, of Sprotborough, is one, and the other is Edwin Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Brooks, of Bournemouth. Edwin is Leading Boy in charge of his Mess. He is an excellent boxer and hopes one day to box for his ship.

## Sports Club Notes

### Walks

There will be a 3-mile Walk from Regent's Park on Saturday, February 24th, starting at 2.15 p.m.

Will you please send in your entries to the Sports Office as soon as possible.

### Brighton Summer Sports, 1939

#### RESULTS

#### B Section

1st	Peach, C.	...	...	...	110
2nd	Dickinson, T.	...	...	...	105
3rd	Ashe, T.	...	...	...	85

#### A Section—

1st	Gannaway, W. F.	...	...	...	100
2nd	Rouse, J. T.	...	...	...	85
3rd	Lidbetter, G.	...	...	...	55

### Bridge Club

THE Annual General Meeting of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, at 6 o'clock, at Headquarters, Regent's Park.

Please send your suggestions for the Committee to consider for the Agenda.

All St. Dunstaners interested will be welcome.

H.G.

A team of twelve St. Dunstaners met a team from the Civil Service Association, Contract Bridge Section, in a duplicate match on December 16th. The Civil Servants defeated us by 7,200 points.

### Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

KNIGHTS.—To J. J. Knights, of Romford, who lost his father on December 16th, and suffered a further loss by the death of his uncle four days later.

WATLING.—To H. Watling, of Wirral, whose father, with whom he lived, has recently passed away.

### Miss Mary Wilson

We have heard with deep regret of the death of Miss Mary Wilson, whom many St. Dunstaners will remember as a sister in the Dispensary at St. John's Lodge. Miss Wilson, who was an enthusiastic airwoman, died after a long and trying illness, an indirect result of an aeroplane accident some years ago.

Kathleen, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Iddiols, of Paddington, was married on November 4th to Mr. L. J. Humphry.

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Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Kerr, of Widnes, was married on December 12th. Kerr writes: "This will mean that we have in the family John, my eldest, in the Air Force; Joseph, the second, in the Canadian Ordnance Corps; Arthur Pearson, No. 3, is serving in the King's Dragoon Guards, and now a soldier son-in-law."

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Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Spackman, of Dagenham, now have five sons serving in the Army—two in Egypt and three "somewhere in Suffolk."

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Kitty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Farrell, of St. Leonard's, was married, very quietly, on September 9th.

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Rosaleen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Richardson, was married to Mr. J. P. Scully, at Holy Trinity Church, Hammersmith, on December 2nd.

(We regret that many other notes are unavoidably held over until next month.)

### Competition Corner

Answer to last month's problem:

Fill the 3 pint vessel from the 8 pint vessel; fill the 5 pint vessel from the 3 pint vessel. One pint is then left in the 3 pint vessel.

The first correct solution opened on January 6th, was sent in by P. Condon, of Cork, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. is being sent.

### This Month's Problem

A train leaves London for Birmingham, which we will say is 100 miles, travelling at 25 miles an hour.

At the same time a bird, starting in the opposite direction from Birmingham, travels at 60 miles an hour, meets the train, turns back to Birmingham, turns again, meets the train, and continues backwards and forwards until both arrive at Birmingham.

How many miles has the bird travelled?

Ten shillings and sixpence to the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, February 6th. Mark your envelope, "Competition Corner," and send it to the Editor, St. Dunstan's Review, Regent's Park.

## “ In Memory ”

MARTIN O'BRIEN  
(*Royal Air Force*)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of M. O'Brien, of Nenagh, Ireland.

O'Brien enlisted in 1915 and received his discharge two years later. He did not, however, come to St. Dunstan's until January, 1932. He was then too old to train, but he carried on with wool rug-making. He came to England for a holiday about once a year.

His death, which occurred in hospital on December 13th, was due to pneumonia. Two St. Dunstaners—Maher and Darbinson—attended the funeral. Among the many wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades.

GUNNER LEONARD ILSLEY  
(*Royal Field Artillery*)

We deeply regret to announce the death of L. Ilsley, of Carshalton Beeches.

Ilsley was wounded in France a few days before the Armistice. As a result, both eyes were removed, and he also suffered a disability to his right leg.

He came to St. Dunstan's shortly afterwards, and in due course was trained as a telephone operator, working at the London School of Hygiene for the past ten years. Latterly his health had not been too good, and after the outbreak of war failed rapidly; he spent some little time in hospital, but in spite of skilled care and attention, he passed away on the 30th December.

The funeral took place a few days later, at Carshalton Parish Church, and was attended by members of his firm; St. Dunstan's was represented by S. Duncan, of Sutton. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Ilsley and her family in their great bereavement.

GUNNER ERNEST B. PARK  
(*Royal Garrison Artillery*)

We deeply regret to record the death of E. B. Park, of Fetcham, Leatherhead.

“Paddy,” as he was known to all his friends, served in the Army from 1914 to 1918, as a result of which his vision was affected, and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1925.

He took up poultry farming, but in later years gave this up in favour of telephone operating. He had a most congenial post at the Sun Assurance Office, Cornhill, where he was a great favourite with all the staff. Shortly after the firm evacuated to the country, they asked “Paddy” to return to them. He began to settle down quite happily, and when he started out for work on the morning of December 27th appeared to be in his usual good health and spirits. Just after arriving at the office he was taken ill and died on his way to hospital.

“Paddy” had expressed a desire to be cremated, and this arrangement was carried out, and the funeral service took place at Streatham Vale Crematorium a few days later.

We extend our very deep and sincere sympathy to Mrs. Park in her great sorrow.

PRIVATE WILLIAM HENRY TRUSSLER  
(*Intelligence Department and Machine Gun Corps*)

We have heard with deepest regret of the death of W. H. Trussler, of France.

Trussler was blinded in France as a result of an explosion. He came to St. Dunstan's, where he was trained in boot-repairing, and in due course returned to France, where he has lived ever since, with his wife and three daughters, paying an occasional visit to our Convalescent Home at Brighton.

For some years Trussler's health had not been good, and on his last visit to England it was noticed that he was far from well. He passed away on December 14th. A number of English soldiers were present at the funeral. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Trussler and her three daughters.

SERGEANT WILLIAM WATT  
(*Cameron Highlanders*)

It is with deepest regret that we record the death of W. Watt, of Montrose.

Watt, who was an old campaigner and was in the Egyptian campaign, and the South African War, re-enlisted in his old regiment, the Cameron Highlanders, at the outbreak of the Great War. He was blinded in November, 1915, and entered St. Dunstan's a few days before his discharge in February, 1916.

Originally he was a poultry farmer and mat-maker, but of late years he has just done a little rug-work.

He was taken seriously ill whilst on holiday last year, at Cardiff, and was taken straight from hospital to his home, where he died on January 3rd.

Watt was a splendid character, and he will be greatly missed at Reunions. He was a splendid elocutionist, and a fine exponent of Burns' poetry; on one occasion he recited to a gathering of officers, which included Lord Kitchener.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Watt and her children.