

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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[FARE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

Rise in the Cost of Living

THE rise in the cost of living troubles all of us, but more particularly those who have to live on a small income, such as a disability pension. I know that this matter is exercising the minds of a great many St. Dunstaners and other disabled men throughout the country.

The following figures may be of some interest. Taking the cost of living in July, 1914, at 100, it rose in 1919 to 215, thus more than doubling itself. In 1933, at the bottom of the great slump, it was 136. In September, 1939, just before the present war broke out, it was 155, and in April, 1940, just before I wrote this note, it was 178. Thus it has risen 23 points, or just under 15 per cent., since the present war broke out. On top of this, there is a heavy increase in taxation. Relatively few disabled ex-service men pay income tax, for the war pension itself is, by a special concession, tax free, but all suffer more or less from indirect taxation. The tax on cigarettes, tobacco, beer, and whisky has become extremely high and so the price has gone up, and twopence-halfpenny for a letter is a very large fee to pay, particularly for one who carries on a considerable correspondence. All these changes definitely mean that the income buys less than it did, and that the standard of living is to that extent reduced.

Let us examine this whole matter quietly and fairly from our own point of view and that of the country. Great War pensions were fixed in 1919. At that time the cost of living was 215. As I have stated before, by 1933, at the time of the great slump, it had dropped to 136. Readers will remember that during this slump practically all salaries and wages, and even unemployment allowances, were cut, and in practically all countries in Europe, Great War pensions were cut also. Even in some of our Dominions, Great War pensions or allowances were reduced in certain cases. But here in Britain no cuts in pensions or allowances were made, so that during the period of the slump disabled ex-service men were relatively better off than the rest of the community, and actually better off than millions who were unemployed. Now that the cost of living has risen again, and during the past few months it has been a steep rise, disabled ex-service men are relatively worse off than a good many people, and are actually worse off than a vast number of skilled and semi-skilled men in industry, whose wages have risen.

I do not think we can expect that our standard of living will be maintained in war-time at the pre-war level. The fact that the whole of the nation's productive power, represented by factories, foundries, blast furnaces, machine shops, and so on, must be used primarily to provide arms, ammunition and supplies for the fighting forces means that there will be less goods available for the civilian population, and the fact that shipping space has been reduced by enemy action, and by the ships having to travel in convoy, thus taking much longer to reach their destinations, means that reduced supplies of many things which used to come from overseas will be available. Thus there will be less goods, less food, less

tobacco, and so on, for the civilian population. The Government has introduced rationing for certain important commodities for industry and the consumer, in order to see that in this time of scarcity what is available is fairly distributed. I have no doubt that when the Government, with—it must be remembered—the full approval of both the Labour and Liberal Opposition, raised the tax on such articles as tobacco, beer, whisky, etc., to a very high level indeed, that they deliberately wanted to reduce consumption. Tobacco comes from abroad, so does sugar, which plays a large part in the making of beer, and so do some of the grains used in both whisky and beer. I have no doubt that the Government wants us to use less of these articles so as to increase our national power to ship into the country essential war materials and foods. So this taxation is partly intended to raise revenue to pay for the war and partly intended to reduce our consumption, or lower our standard of living.

What do we think of this? Well, obviously we all dislike having our standard of living reduced. We dislike giving up our small comforts, such as tobacco, beer, etc., to any extent, but the fact remains that these sacrifices directly help the winning of the war, and directly help to see that our boys in the Army, Navy, and Air Force are properly equipped. None of us would want them to undertake their hazardous and arduous jobs without the best equipment and supplies that the nation can give them. I think, therefore, we must make up our minds to cut down our consumption, not only because we cannot afford to continue it, but also in the knowledge that we are definitely helping to make an end to the present disturbed conditions in the world and bring about better times.

But the time will come when the sacrifice called for from disabled ex-service men will be excessive by comparison with that being made by others in the community, and we will then be justified in pressing for an increase in pensions. I have already begun to prepare the way for this. Indeed, the first word I uttered in Parliament the other week was to raise this question with the Minister of Pensions. I set out below the questions and answers which took place in the House of Commons on May 2nd:—

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER asked the Minister of Pensions whether he can make any statement as to the Government's intention to raise the rates of disability pensions paid to Great War ex-service men to meet the rise in the cost of living?

SIR WALTER WOMERSLEY: I would refer my hon. and gallant Friend to the answer given by the Minister of Pensions in this House on 31st July, 1928, on the question of the stabilisation of Great War pensions. It was then stated that, while the rates of those pensions would not be reduced, they would be liable to increase if the cost of living should ever exceed that of the year 1919, on which Great War pensions were fixed. That figure was 215, while the figure to-day is 178. The hon. Member will appreciate that there is at present no justification for increasing those rates.

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER: May I ask my hon. Friend to bear in mind that this class of the community suffers a deprivation when the cost of living rises, that many of their sons are at the war, and that they themselves, being disabled, cannot be employed at the higher rates which many other people are now receiving; and will he therefore give the matter further consideration?

On the face of it, we have got nothing out of this exchange of questions and answers, but if you read them carefully you will see that there is more than a hint that the pensions will be raised when the cost of living reaches the figure of 215. You will remember from the table quoted earlier in this article that it now stands at 178.

Every person in the community must make sacrifices, and even disabled soldiers must give up a little of the expenditure they used to enjoy, but my own feeling is that, for the reasons I have given, the Government ought to consider their position, and I shall continue to press the matter.

The pensions proposed to be granted to men disabled in this present war are on a lower scale than those being received by men of the Great War. Our first reaction to this is to say that it is wrong, and that the young fellows should have the same as the veterans, but before arriving at this conclusion we ought to think the matter over a little. We do not yet know whether the number of men likely to be disabled in this war will be numbered in thousands or hundreds of thousands. Until the problem can be measured it is wise for the country to go carefully, and not to commit itself to a burden which it may not be able to bear, and it must be remembered that there is always a chance that very large numbers of civilians, A.R.P. workers, fire brigades, police, and others may also be severely disabled, and they will, of course, have to be provided for. We do not want the standard set for

the disabled man of the Great War to be brought down in a financial crash. What we want is to maintain the standard of the Great War man and, if possible, improve it, and then, as we see the size of the problem, work up the standard of the new men to that of the veterans.

But meantime there is one matter in relation to the new men upon which I disagree with the new Warrant. The conditions under which pensions will be granted to men of the present war are a good deal stiffer than those for men of the Great War, and all of us know that they were difficult enough. If it had not been for the Pensions Department of St. Dunstan's, under the direction of Mr. Askew, and with the assistance of Mr. Banks, which so skilfully put forward claims for our men, and all the good work of the British Legion Pensions Department for other ex-service men, a great many would not be receiving pensions which they are now getting. Accordingly, on the same day in Parliament I asked some questions about conditions for the new men. These questions and answers are set out below:

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER asked the Minister of Pensions whether he will amend the 1939 Royal Warrant so that it will not be more difficult for new ex-service men who claim that they are suffering from conditions attributable to or aggravated by war service, to prove their case than it has been for Great War ex-service men under the 1919 Warrant; and whether he will provide independent tribunals to which the rejected claims of ex-service men for war pensions, etc., may be referred by way of appeal?

SIR WALTER WOMERSLEY: Both the matters referred to by my hon. and gallant Friend have been under discussion with my Statutory Advisory Committee, as a result of which I am at present considering the terms of the article of the Royal Warrant dealing with the first point. A general system of appeals to independent tribunals in war time must, as I have explained to the House, present great difficulties of several kinds, but the Government will no doubt consider the question after the war in the light of the conditions then prevailing. In the meantime, all appeals by rejected claimants are carefully considered, and where suitable, referred to a panel of independent medical experts.

SIR IAN FRASER: In particular reference to the independent medical appeal, which the Minister has suggested was possible, is it not a fact that those medical persons are paid by the Ministry? Will not the Minister consider, as an interim step, creating a really independent medical opinion?

SIR WALTER WOMERSLEY: The medical specialists are independent. They are nominated by the Royal College of Physicians or the Royal College of Surgeons. Although it is true that they are paid by the Ministry, we have no power over these people at all, and we never interfere with them.

Parliament and the whole nation is, of course, primarily concerned with the war effort, and rightly so, but we must not forget the old soldiers, sailors, and airmen, and in particular we must remember that their average age is now approaching fifty, and that, as they get older, their disabilities will weigh more heavily upon them and their wives. And we must see to it also that any new fellows who come to St. Dunstan's, or who are wounded in other ways, get a square deal.

IAN FRASER.

From Matron

MY DEAR BOYS,

I really am very ashamed of myself for letting you down as I have done these past few weeks, besides being so disappointed to miss so many of you when you went to Ovingdean.

Anyway, I am getting on grand now, and once I am able to leave the nursing home and get away for a good pick-me-up, then I hope to get the doctor's permission to come back.

The wonderful kindness I have received from everyone will always remain a very sweet memory, as will all your most kind and charming letters, lovely flowers, and cheery messages, for which I want to thank you and your wives from the bottom of

my heart, for not only did they help and cheer me, but they made me feel like—well, to quote some words from Gracie Fields' "Aspidistra" song—"the very proudest Matron in the world"!!

My love to you all,

Your affectionate and grateful,
MATRON.

Time is Getting Short

Closing date for Derby Sweepstake tickets, Monday, June 3rd. Applications to London Headquarters, please, in envelopes marked "Derby Competition."

The draw will be made at Headquarters on Thursday, June 6th, and holders of tickets drawing horses will be notified the following day.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

ASHALL, Signalman D., 2nd S.T.C.
 ASHALL, Signalman F., Royal Corps of Signals.
 BAGSTAFF, Sergt. Cyril, Cambridge Regiment.
 BAILEY, Gunner A. D. (Ramsgate), Royal Artillery.
 BAKER, Arthur (Derby), R.A.F.
 BAKER, Albert (Derby), Northamptonshire Regiment.
 BAKER, A. P. (Chaddesden), Royal Air Force.
 BOOTLE, John, late H.M.S. *Barham*.
 BROGAN, Leading Aircraftman R., Royal Air Force.
 BURTENSHAW, L/Cpl. I. G., Coldstream Guards.
 CHAFER, H. C., Merchant Service.
 CLEVITT, Driver H. R., Royal Army Service Corps.
 COLLINS, Gunner H. (Jarrow), Royal Artillery.
 COONEY, Private H., Royal Sussex Regiment.
 DAVIS, Driver W. G., Royal Army Service Corps.
 DAWSON, Sapper G. W. (Newmarket).
 DOWSON, L/Cpl. Charles, Green Howards.
 DOWSON, Gunner Harry, Royal Artillery.
 DUNCAN, Private D., Royal Army Medical Corps.
 FISHWICK, Fusilier W., Royal Irish Fusiliers.
 FLEMING, J. F. C., A.M.P.E.
 FOSTER, Gunner R., Royal Artillery.
 FULLER, Private H. (Bedford), Beds. and Herts. Regiment.
 GREEN, Trooper George (Sheffield), Royal Tank Regiment.
 GRIFFIN, Gunner E., Anti-Aircraft Regt., R.A.
 GROGAN, Gunner H., Royal Artillery.
 GUNN, L/Cpl. I. D., Royal Army Service Corps.
 HAMLETT, Private C., Royal Army Medical Corps.
 HOWARTH, Trooper W.
 HURST, Private R. H. (Gt. Longstone).
 JACKSON, Private F. E. (New Malden), East Surrey Regiment.
 JOHNSON, Private A. J. (Derby), Militia.
 KENNEDY, Sapper A., Royal Engineers.
 KNIGHT, Cpl. Talbot, Royal Air Force.
 KNIGHT, Leading Aircraftman Ronald, Royal Air Force.
 LAST, Private E. E., Royal Army Medical Corps.
 LEE, Private J. H. (Durham).
 LOMAS, Gunner A., Royal Artillery.
 MCANDREW, 2nd Lieut. H. J., Royal Army Service Corps.
 MCQUIRK, Signaller P. J., Royal Corps of Signals.
 MECKIN, R., Royal Navy.
 MURPHY, Fusilier T., Royal Northumberland Fusiliers.
 NANCARROW, Private W. H., D.C.L.I.
 NICHOLLS, Signaller F. R., Div. Signals.
 PAYNE, Private E. G., Hertfordshire Regiment.
 PLUNKETT, G. R., A.T.S.
 ROBINSON, L. (son of A. Robinson, trainée), Royal Air Force.
 RODEN, Pilot T. G. V., Royal Air Force.
 SEPHTON, Gunner S.
 SHAYLER, A. B. George, S.S. *Ashanti*.
 SHURROCK, Gunner S. V.
 SIMMONS, A., S.D.R.A.A.
 SIM, W. G. (Aberdeen), H.M.S. *Jackal*.
 STRACHAN, P. W. L., Royal Air Force.
 STRAND, Gunner E. J.
 TOMLINSON, Staff-Sergt. F. C.
 TRIGGS, Private L. J., Infantry.
 WELTON, Gunner K., Royal Artillery.
 WELTON, A., S.S. *Clan Cameron*.
 YUILE, Private R., Scaforth Highlanders.

St. Dunstan's Comforts Fund

UP to the present, we have the names of 211 sons of St. Dunstan's men serving with the Forces, and by the time this REVIEW is published, we shall have sent out about 140 parcels.

From time to time parcels have been returned owing to a change of address, of which we have not been notified. We are anxious to avoid this for the sake of the Post Office—and parcels do not improve in travelling, however carefully they may be packed—so will you please let us know directly there is any change in your son's address.

Young St. Dunstaners

Betty Rogers, daughter of Mrs. Rogers and our late St. Dunstan, T. E. Rogers, of Kingsbridge, Devon, was married to Mr. W. M. Foxworthy on March 23rd, at West Alvington Church.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. T. Waldin's daughter, Jean, was married on Easter Monday to Mr. Christopher A. Norman, at the Chapel of St. Cross, Winchester.

★ ★ ★

Five of the sons of our late St. Dunstan, T. Watt, of Montrose, are serving with the Forces.

★ ★ ★

John Bootle, son of our late St. Dunstan, has been home on leave. He was saved from the torpedoed H.M.S. *Barham*.

His eldest sister, Marie, was married in January to Flight Sergeant T. G. Ross, who has made several flights over Germany.

★ ★ ★

Olive Cass, daughter of T. E. Cass, of West Hartlepool, married Mr. Cyril Naylor on March 25th.

★ ★ ★

Our good wishes to young William Healey, of Bradford, Manchester, who is boxing for the Amateur Fly-Weight Championship at the Pool Arena, Wembley, on May 23rd.

★ ★ ★

Marine W. H. Loram has been transferred from H.M.S. *Diomedes* to H.M.S. *Ceres*.

★ ★ ★

Privates A. H. Woodrow and F. E. Woodrow have both been promoted to the rank of Lance-Corporal.

Braille Magazines

THE "National Braille Times" is to be discontinued, and in its place there will be—as before the outbreak of war—two publications, the "National Braille Mail," giving the news of the week, and the "Braille Radio Times," giving the wireless programmes.

Will every reader of the "National Braille Times" let St. Dunstan's have a note of their requirements at the earliest possible moment, saying if they wish to have the "National Braille Mail" or the "Braille Radio Times," or both publications.

Owing to paper rationing, the National Institute for the Blind has to limit the number of copies of "World Digest."

This magazine is very popular among St. Dunstaners, and we should be glad to know of anyone who would be willing—when he has finished reading his copy—to send it to another reader.

This request does not apply to anyone who is already passing on the magazine to other readers.

Will any readers who can do this, please write to Miss Pain, at Ovingdean.

Important Notice

IN view of the increased postage rates, postcards will be used for brief communications, and acknowledgments will not be made of letters which do not call for a direct reply. Will men kindly note that receipts can be sent to us in an open envelope for a penny stamp. Receipts can always be returned in letters to Portland Place or Raglan Street, and it will be in order to hold them back for a short time so that they may be included in such letters.

Sir Ian back in the House Again

OUR Chairman took his seat in the House of Commons on Thursday, April 18th. He received a warm welcome from members of all parties when he went up to the table to sign his name and shake hands with Mr. Speaker. He has received many congratulations from friends in all parts of the world, including many ex-Service men.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. Roberts, of Rhyl, April 24th; Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Brett, of Aldershot, April 27th; and Mr. and Mrs. F. Aubrey, of Bristol, May 22nd.

Honour for New Zealand Masseur

DONALD MCPHEE, who has been practising massage in Auckland, New Zealand, for nearly twenty years, has been appointed by the Government as a member of the Physio-Therapy Advisory Committee to the Medical Committee in connection with the New Zealand Army Physio-Therapy Services. His friends will join with us in congratulating him upon this honour which has been conferred upon him.

Other News

E. P. Horan, of Dublin, won a first prize at the National Show recently with his Alsatian. She is not a guide dog, but Horan says she now realises that he is blind, and never lets him bump into anything while she is with him.

★ ★ ★

Congratulations to F. W. Matthews, of Soberton, who has been raised to the position of Knight Order of Merit in his Lodge of the Royal and Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes.

★ ★ ★

W. Ruddock, of Northallerston, who is one of our deaf St. Dunstaners, has just organised a most successful Dance in aid of the funds of St. Dunstan's, with the help of Mrs. Ruddock and some good friends in the neighbourhood. Ruddock also acted as M.C.

Competition Corner

The solution to last month's problem was as follows: The wise man added a camel of his own for the time being, making eighteen. He then gave one-half (9) to the eldest son, one-third (6) to the second son, and one-ninth (2) to the youngest son. He then took back his own camel.

A. McElligott, writing from the Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Chepstow, was the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, and the prize of 10s. 6d. has been sent to him.

Marriages

MCCARTE — PARRICK. — On Wednesday, April 10th, at Ovingdean Church, H. McCarte to Mrs. Parrick.

ROLT — MALLETT. — On April 19th, at Eaton Bray Parish Church, H. Rolt, late of Dunstable, to Miss E. M. Mallett.

Buying a Pup

by H. MARSDEN

I CAN vividly recall my first purchase of a pup. I had been brought up among dogs, chiefly spaniels and retrievers, but up to the age of eleven I had never owned one of the many that belonged to father. In those stern Victorian days I was not allowed to handle one of them, although at that early age I probably knew more about many breeds of dogs than did some grown-ups.

So at the age of eleven, as I have said before, I became the owner of my first pup.

In the village in which I lived—a village known all over the Midlands for its whippets, then used for rabbit-coursing—there resided a noted dog fancier who went by the name of "Darky George." As a dog trainer there was none better.

Reverting again to the pup, I met Darky George who, in advancing up the hill towards me, appeared to be making a series of contortions and back-heels at the bottom of a bag of straw which he carried on his back, the bottom of the bag almost touching the ground. When he got close up to me I at once perceived the cause of his antics. Hanging on to the bottom of the bag by its teeth was a white puppy, which refused to let go, in spite of the bumps George gave.

I stopped, and so did George, wiping the sweat from his face with the words "Damn the pup." I laughed at the spectacle for, though George had stopped, the pup refused to loosen his hold on the bag. It appeared a matter of life and death to him.

Impulsively I said to George, "How much for the pup?" His reply was staggering, well knowing the quality of the dogs which passed through his hands. "Tha' can have the darned tyke for half-a-crown." I at once agreed, and proceeded to the bag and made to pick up the pup.

I was immediately bitten for that action by the tiny white tyke, who immediately fastened his tiny milk teeth in the bag again.

With very little effort, however, he was detached from his prey, but not without many snarls and vicious attempts to re-attack the bag. Finally, I managed to get it safely under one arm and, accompanied by George, set off home to settle his account. On the way, George informed me that I was now the owner of a reight darn good bull and terrier pup, which he had bought on his last trip to Staffordshire. It was well bred

and he would gamble that, when it was full grown, it would lick any dog its weight.

At that age "Jack," as I called him, was over 50lbs. in weight, and would much rather have a fight than his dinner. At the age of 18 months Jack was "red-hot," but I could do anything with him except stop him having a scrap when he met another dog. Later I learned that my one-time pup had been engaged in meeting all-comers in the "pit."

That was my first pup, a bull-terrier, and to-day, forty-five years after, I still own the same breed, two grand specimens, of the best blood in this country.

National Egg-Laying Test

Report for the seventh period of four weeks, March 26th to April 22nd, 1940

Position	Name	Test score value
1	Holmes, P. ...	606
2	Smith, Alan W. ...	595
3	Hill, R. E. ...	552
4	Holmes, P. ...	552
5	Powell, G. ...	550
6	Jarvis, A. ...	537
7	McLaren, D. ...	535
8	Fisher, T. M. ...	523
9	Fisher, T. M. ...	505
10	Campbell, J. ...	448
11	McLaren, D. ...	435
12	Jackson, G. C. ...	424
13	Smith, Alan W. ...	421
14	Carpenter, E. H. ...	416
15	Chaffin, A. ...	407
16	Jarvis, A. ...	377
17	Woodcock, W. J. ...	375
18	Benning, A. ...	352
19	Jackson, G. C. ...	328
20	Watson-Brown, M. ...	274
21	Stamp, W. C. ...	255
22	Hammett, H. A. ...	223

The position of the birds in the National Laying Tests to the end of the seventh period are:—

P. Holmes	...	Total of 135	First
D. McLaren	...	" 122	Second
R. E. Hill	...	" 118	Third

Births

FITZPATRICK.—To the wife of B. Fitzpatrick, of Millom, on April 12th, a son.

HOLLAND.—To the wife of A. C. Holland, of Heswall, on May 6th, a daughter.

PETERS.—To the wife of W. Peters, of Liverpool, on March 23rd, a son—Leonard.

Death

JUDD.—We offer our deep sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. W. Judd, of Hillingdon, whose three-weeks-old baby son died on May 13th.

Welfare Department Changes

Mr. T. E. Swain has taken over supervision of both the Northern and Southern Areas, and is accordingly Welfare Superintendent for the whole country. Mr. H. M. Day has been appointed Assistant Welfare Superintendent.

This change has taken place because Mr. Ottaway's services are required in connection with a survey that is being made of new occupations that may be followed by the war-blinded. This survey is being conducted in conjunction with the London School of Hygiene, on the recommendation of the Medical Research Council. The London School of Hygiene is a Department of London University whose special function is to make scientific studies of working conditions, and their officers accordingly have very considerable knowledge of industrial requirements.

Mr. T. C. Angus, D.F.C., D.Sc., has been appointed by the School to help in this inquiry, and Mr. Ottaway will devote practically the whole of his time to it. His long experience and knowledge of all the activities of St. Dunstaners over the past 22 years will be of the greatest value. Mr. Ottaway will continue to be a member of the Welfare Committee so that his advice may be fully available to Mr. Swain and Mr. Day.

Our Camouflage Netters

A WORD of praise to our gallant band of camouflage netters. They are all doing splendidly in spite of the fact that the time of training has been only five short days.

One hundred and sixteen men are now doing this work. They have been taken from all trades, but the majority are wool rug makers, the Government having taken over our balance of wool. One and all are making a big success of their war-time job. The work is terribly hard on the hands, but they grin cheerfully and put up with it. On an average, fifty nets are turned out in a week.

Miss Morris is in charge of the camouflage netting department at Brighton, in addition to her duties as Sister-in-Charge at Portland Place and, of course, as Sports Sister.

Miss F. M. Deane, well-known to all members of the Music Department, has recently married Mr. Alan Pilkington. Her new address is Dean Wood, Newbury, Berks.

6 Mile Walk

THE second Walk of the season, over a distance of 6 miles, was held on Saturday, April 20th.

Mr. Swain, who came from Brighton for the occasion, introduced Colonel Eric Ball to the competitors, and a little later Colonel Ball started them off.

Dr. E. Chittenden Bridges presented the prizes at Headquarters after the race.

RESULT:

Competitor	Actual Time	H'cap Time	H'cap Allowance	Position in H'cap
A Section				
A. Brown ...	53.52	53.52	Scratch	3
J. Jerome ...	56.8	52.23	3.45	1
W. T. Scott ...	60.8	55.23	4.45	5*
J. Triggs ...	60.29	54.59	5.30	4
T. Rouse ...	61.39	53.9	8.30	2
J. Coupland ...	63.41	56.26	7.15	7
R. H. Cook ...	67.3	55.33	11.30	6†
			*Fastest Loser	

B Section

T. ap Rhys ...	58.3	55.33	2.30	6†
			† Tie, Fastest Loser	

Who Says St. Dunstan's Men are Old?

Four of us were on Regent's Park lake the other evening when we got held up at the Dardanelles by some single scull boats. W. Robinson, stroke at 4, called out to one of them, "Where do you think you are bound for? Narvik?" Back came the stinging reply: "I've done my 'blue pencil' bit and it's time you did yours!"

This was our four: W. Robinson, J. Macfarlane, W. T. Scott, and H. Glendennan.

St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

THERE was a grand attendance for the first Bridge Drive of the season, held at Headquarters on Saturday afternoon, April 27th. We mustered eight tables, which included a contingent of four enthusiasts from Brighton. We owe our thanks to Mr. Field for conducting the proceedings. It was a partner drive, and the winning pair was F. Winter and A. Ozanne, the second pair being J. Hughes and A. J. Waller. The mystery prize was won by H. Gover and Mrs. Gover.

H. G.

For Sale

DOUBLE LADIES' TANDEM.—Good condition for road. Carriage paid to purchaser's address. £3 10s. Enquiries:—H. Ollington, 351 Garratt Lane, S.W.18.

“ In Memory ”

LANCE-CORPORAL LAWRENCE BOWLES
(*8th South Lancashire Regiment*)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of L. Bowles, of Liverpool.

Bowles was wounded at Albert la Boissel, in July, 1916, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in September, 1916. Before he joined the Army, however, Bowles was a sea-faring man.

He was trained as a mat-maker, at which occupation he worked for many years, but latterly, owing to ill-health, he was unable to do very much work of any kind. After several severe attacks of chest and heart trouble, he died in the Liverpool Hospital on March 25th.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades was sent from London. We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife and family of five children.

PRIVATE JOHN HEAPY
(*Coldstream Guards*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of J. Heapy, of Heywood, Lancs.

Heapy was wounded at Cambrai in November, 1917, and admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918. He was trained as a mat-maker, but for a number of years has not been able to follow any occupation on account of ill-health. He suffered considerably, and after much hospital treatment he came down to our Home at Ovingdean. He was later transferred to the Sussex County Hospital, but returned to the Home a short time before his death, which occurred on March 31st, 1940. He was buried at Brighton, and a wreath from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades was sent. We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife and four children.

PRIVATE JAMES DALE
(*Royal Fusiliers*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of J. Dale, of Stoke-on-Trent.

Dale did not come under the care of St. Dunstan's until March, 1933. He had sustained very severe head wounds, and was additionally handicapped by deafness and the loss of his left hand. He was never able to take any serious training, as he was practically bed-ridden, but he learned wool rug-making and Braille at home, and took a keen interest in both subjects, in spite of his great suffering.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades, and we extend our sincerest sympathy to his wife and family.

PRIVATE JAMES PERCIVAL
(*Royal Defence Corps*)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of one of our oldest St. Dunstaners, J. Percival, of Salford, Manchester. Percival died on March 27th at the age of 74.

Before he enlisted in 1914, he had already served for eight years in the Army, enlisting in 1883. His final discharge came on January 11th, 1918.

He came under the care of St. Dunstan's in May, 1924. He was not able, on account of his age, to attempt any kind of heavy work, but was trained in light basket-making. He has been able to do very little for a considerable period, but he visited Brighton from time to time.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent. We extend our deep sympathy to his wife and family.

STOKER ALBERT JOHN HEAD
(*Royal Navy*)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of A. J. Head, of Brixton Combe.

Head was serving in the Navy in 1914, and the hardships and exposures he suffered led to blindness and the complete breakdown of his health. He came to us some time afterwards for training in boot repairing and poultry keeping, and he worked at the latter occupation until the time of his death. Head's health had not been too good of late years, but his death on April 4th came as a great shock to his relatives and friends, as it occurred after only a few days' illness.

The funeral took place shortly after, and was arranged with the help of the local branch of the British Legion, for whose assistance Mrs. Head is most grateful. Many relatives and friends attended the funeral service, and there were a large number of wreaths, including one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We send our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Head and her family.

PETTY OFFICER ALBERT C. E. MATTHEWS
(*Royal Navy*)

WE deeply regret to record the death of A. C. E. Matthews, of Dover.

During the war, Matthews served in the Submarines and he suffered severe hardships, as a result of which his sight became affected and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in 1927.

He was trained in basket-making, and worked at this occupation up to the time of his death, which took place suddenly on March 22nd. The funeral was carried out a few days afterwards at Buckland Churchyard, and was attended by many relatives and friends, the latter including Mr. and Mrs. A. Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Stevens, two St. Dunstan's comrades and their wives. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and there were many wreaths, including one from Sir Ian and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Matthews and her daughter.