

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

NO. 280—VOLUME XXVI [NEW SERIES] DECEMBER, 1941

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

St. Dunstan's Throughout the Empire

CHRISTMAS is a time when we think of absent friends, and particularly of absent members of the family. There can hardly be a family in the land which has not certain absent members. Maybe it is a son or daughter on service, or in a munition factory away from home. I am told that there are over 500 boys and girls, being the sons and daughters of St. Dunstaners of the Great War, who are on service.

And in the wider family of St. Dunstan's there is separation too, due to war conditions. We have not been able to hold the Reunions of peace-time. We have not had the same numerous visits to Headquarters paid by men on their way to Brighton, and we have not had the gathering together of large numbers under our roof in our beautiful seaside home. Parts of the family of St. Dunstan's, it is true, have met together at our Convalescent Homes in Dorset and Blackpool, and new members whom we have welcomed into the family as a result of this war have been gathered together at the Training Centre and Hospital at Church Stretton.

But it remains a fact that the circumstances of war have separated us to a considerable degree, and it is therefore all the more important that we come together in spirit on the occasion of Christmas.

In the last war the main battlefield was in Europe, and the other battlefields round the Mediterranean basin were in constant contact with us, for the seas were more open than they are now. The consequence of this was that the great body of war-blinded from the English and Scottish County Regiments, from Irish and Welsh Regiments, from the units recruited in our great cities, from the Artillery, the Engineers, the Navy, and the Air Force, were accompanied at St. Dunstan's by men of all arms from the Empire Forces. Practically without exception they came to St. Dunstan's, and some even who were repatriated to their own country during the war years were sent back to St. Dunstan's afterwards. So St. Dunstan's was in very truth an Empire organisation. In this war it will be the same again in spirit, for all the countries of the Commonwealth are making their common sacrifice in the war effort. But in practice there will be differences. The Mediterranean is no longer the open sea that it was. The welfare of the blind in the Dominions has developed, very largely we may claim, as a result of the return of St. Dunstaners to those countries, and the consequence of these factors is that a considerable

number of Dominion men will probably go straight back to their own countries to be educated and trained there.

But apart from claiming, as we legitimately may, that the very development in the blind world which makes their training in their own countries possible was inspired by St. Dunstan's and fostered by returned St. Dunstaners, we are also proud to point out that the arrangements for their education and training in the Dominions have been the matter of discussion between Dominion Governments and St. Dunstan's itself. Even before the war broke out I had, on behalf of the Council of St. Dunstan's, offered to Dominion Governments to give every possible help to any of their men who were blinded in these islands, or, having been blinded in other theatres of war, had been sent to Great Britain. These offers were gratefully accepted from all corners of the world, and there followed many consultations in which our advice was sought as to the right method to deal with those cases which went direct to their homes.

So St. Dunstan's is still an Empire organisation, and its influence and spirit still has its effect wherever the Union Jack flies.

At Christmas time I think of all St. Dunstaners in the United Kingdom and in the Dominions. I am very proud of this body of men who, suffering a common disability, have set an example of courage and patience and steadfastness which has had its effect upon our fellow citizens, and upon the cohesion of our Empire.

There comes to me by almost every mail a number of letters from the ends of the earth from old St. Dunstaners, wishing good luck to the men at home, sympathising with us and them in our difficulties, and calling to mind the good times spent together so long ago. And there have come too during recent weeks some Christmas presents, for which we are all very grateful.

Generous gifts of food from Australia, for which we have to thank Mr. Lynch and the Australian Red Cross—similar generous gifts from South Africa, for which we express our thanks to Mrs. Bates and the South African Red Cross, and a magnificent present of some thousands of Christmas puddings from Colonel Baker and the blinded soldiers of Canada. One Christmas pudding has already been sent—and if they arrive in time and are not torpedoed, a second will be sent—to every St. Dunstan's family in the United Kingdom. And it may interest old St. Dunstaners to know that these puddings will be sent not only to them, but also to every orphan of our comrades of the Great War who have passed on, to every new St. Dunstaner and his family, and to the families of a certain number of prisoners of war whom we have heard have been blinded, and are therefore presumably St. Dunstaners-to-be in the future.

In passing, let me say with regard to prisoners of war that I have, with the help of the Red Cross and the War Office, instituted something in the nature of an educational and friendly social service to blinded soldiers who are prisoners of war. I am sure all St. Dunstaners will agree with me that we should do everything we possibly can to relieve the monotony of, and give encouragement and comfort to, prisoners of war who are blinded. I am sending them braille so that sighted prisoners may teach them how to read, and am writing to them telling them about St. Dunstan's and the future that lies before them, and I am sending each of them a braille watch. Readers will imagine, I am sure, how very greatly these gifts are appreciated.

From the whole of the St. Dunstan's family here in the Old Country we send our sincere thanks to our comrades in the Dominions for their gifts and their good wishes.

The thoughts of St. Dunstaners the world over, and all of us who work at St. Dunstan's, whether it be at Head Office, in our various establishments, or in important duties all over the country will be focussed upon the unity of St. Dunstan's, and Lady Fraser and I send to all St. Dunstaners and friends everywhere our very best wishes for as happy a Christmas as work will allow, and for good luck and good news in the New Year.

IAN FRASER.

Church Stretton Notes

The Salopian Alpinists have not had much luck lately with the weather. Thursdays have been almost invariably wet, but, in spite of the warnings of the weather-wise, forth they set after tea, when the shades of night are falling fast, and return cheery, though in slightly better plight than the wilful young climber of Excelsior fame.

The Football tournament is still raging, but we hear that the "Bashers" have established such a lead now that they cannot be beaten, and we hope to give the result next month.

The Musical Society has been very busy practising sea shanties and glees, as well as solos. Dr. Hull, the Organist of Hereford Cathedral, paid us a visit, and was so pleased with what he heard that he has promised to try to be present at the "Breaking-up Concert" on December 12th.

We have had several Concerts this month: the R.A.O.C. Band from Codon are such firm favourites with us that the room was packed for their Concert on the 7th, and we were not disappointed. Then, on the 24th, we had an extra special "Ensa" party, including such well-known artistes as Tudor Davies, Ruth Patter, and Laleham White. The items included excerpts from "La Bohème," "Il Trovatore," "Samson and Delilah," and piano and violin works by classical composers.

On the 12th the Raven Club gave us another enjoyable evening at Ward's Cafe, and on the 22nd we invited them to Longmynd for a dance and buffet supper as a slight acknowledgment of their constant kindness.

F. King has come to teach Braille, and we now have six St. Dunstaners on the teaching staff.

Mrs. Cohn, more familiarly known as "Koko," is leaving us at Christmas, after fifteen years as V.A.D. and in the Linen Room. She will be greatly missed and we all wish her every happiness.

A. H. Robinson, a trainee from the last war, who is leaving us at Christmas, has lately become engaged to Miss Cheveralls, who came to Tiger Hall as a patient, after being injured in an air-raid whilst nursing in Hastings. Happily, she has recovered useful sight and has been able to take a post in Church Stretton.

In this connection it may be remembered that we challenged Belmont to do the hat trick by producing a third bride. Now Tiger Hall has stolen a march on Belmont and claims that Mrs. Pickering, as Secretary to Mr. Davenport, spends her days at Tiger Hall: Mrs. Berry (V.A.D. Ginner) was a patient there when her engagement was announced, whilst Miss Cheveralls would never have met her fiancée had she not also been a "Tiger." How's that, umpire?

We congratulate the following on passing tests:—

Typing.—R. Dow, R. Dufton, W. Nixon, D. Baker, Miss Sleigh, C. Cooper, M. Goundrill, N. Corboy, H. Pugh, W. Woodget.

Braille Reading.—B. Cole, W. Cowing, P. Campbell, D. Campbell, F. Reid.

Braille Writing.—F. Reid, F. Dickerson, S. Musty, D. Pearson.

The following changes have occurred at Church Stretton during November:—

Admitted to Hospital

Pte. A. Matthews, K.O.S.B., London (26); H. C. McCrea, Stoker 2, R.N., Belfast (19); Sapper J. J. Dale, R.E., Hindley, near Wigan (21).

Admitted to Training

Dr. Snape (last war), London; A. T. Hedger, Fire Watcher, Boreham Wood, Herts; J. Blakeley (last war), Liverpool.

Discharged from Hospital—

J. Parowicz; Sergt. J. Ritson, Spr. Wilkinson, and J. L. Davies (all hoping to take up civil employment).

Greetings from Church Stretton

Everyone is asked to be sparing in the use of Christmas cards, and that makes it impossible to send good wishes and thoughts to all our friends.

Will each reader of the REVIEW accept this little notice as a personal message to himself from all friends at Church Stretton.

Talking Book Concession

As a result of representations made by Sir Ian Fraser, H.M. Customs and Excise announce that, continuing their policy of exempting from Purchase Tax special apparatus for blind people, Talking Book machines are not chargeable. This applies to goods delivered on or after November 3rd, 1941. Records for the Talking Book are already exempt from tax.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

ALEXANDER, Pte. John (Dalbeattie), K.O.S.B.
 BATES, A. (Oakengate), Royal Air Force
 BEYDE, Gunner A., Royal Artillery.
 BOOTH, A/c. 2 E. (Dukinfield) Royal Air Force.
 BUCHANAN, A/c. 1 (Matlock), Royal Air Force.
 BURNS, Anthony (Salford), Royal Navy.
 BURNS, James (Salford), Royal Navy.
 BURNS, Joseph (Salford), Merchant Service.
 CHAMBERS, A/c. 2 J. A. (Northenden), Royal Air Force.
 CHAMBERS, L/Cpl. D. J. (Northenden), A.T.S.
 CHAMBERS, Signalman L. (Northenden, Corps Signals.
 CLARKE, Ordinary Signalman S. W. (London, S.E.), Royal Navy.
 EDWARDS, Sig. R. D. (Denbigh), Royal Artillery.
 GILL, L/Bdr. C. (Teddington), Royal Artillery.
 HALL, Ordinary Seaman A. W. (Chilton), Royal Navy.
 HAMLETT, A/c. 1 A., Royal Air Force.
 HAMLETT, Pte. C., Royal Army Medical Corps.
 HINTON L/Cpl. R. J. (Malvern), Royal Army Service Corps.
 JOHNS, Eileen (Chesterfield), A.T.S.
 JORDAN (see YOUNG).
 LAMBOURNE, A/c. 2, Royal Air Force.
 LATH, A/c 2 S., Royal Air Force.
 LORAM, A/c. 2 S. C. (Brixham), Royal Air Force.
 MACPHERSON, Sergt. James (Windsor), Royal Air Force.
 MECKIN, Eleanor, W.A.A.F.
 MCGUIRE, Pte. J. (Drogheda), Cambridgeshire Regt.
 MCGUIRE, A.B. P. (Drogheda), Royal Navy.
 MORTIMER, A/c. 2 H. (Hull), Royal Air Force.
 MURPHY, Fusilier G. (Bedlington), R.S.F.
 MURPHY, H. (Bedlington), Tank Troop.
 NELSON, Pte. C. W. (Newcastle), R.A.O.C.
 NELSON, Fus. T. (Newcastle), R.N.F.
 NOLAN, Sapper B. H. (Hinstock), Royal Engineers.
 PINK, Marjorie (Axminster), W.R.N.S.
 RENDELL, Pte. L. W. (Winnie), A.T.S.
 SMITH, Driver S. G. (Blackpool), Royal Engineers.
 STANNERS, Geoffrey, Royal Army Medical Corps.
 SWINGLER, A/c. 2, Royal Air Force.
 WAITE, A/c. 2 Wilfred, Royal Air Force.
 WERNHAM, Oliver, Royal Air Force.
 WILLIAMSON, Gunner F. T. (Warrington).
 WOODHOUSE, Dorothy (Derby), W.A.A.F.
 WOOLDRIDGE, Pte. F. P., Border Regiment.
 YOUNG, John (stepson, M. Jordan, Cullercoats), Royal Navy.

Escapes

The son of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Perrett, of Devizes, was on the *Nelson* when it was attacked some while ago, fortunately escaping without injury.

Mr. and Mrs. Loram's son, Jack, a Stoker Petty Officer in the Royal Navy, has twice been torpedoed, losing everything.

One of the two serving sons of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wainman (a St. Dunstaner of the present war) was also torpedoed while on convoy work. He, too, lost everything, but is now safe and sound.

Prisoner of War

Tom Murphy, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, of Bedlington, previously reported missing, is now known to be a prisoner of war in Germany.

Promotions

Eric Griffin, son of our St. Dunstaner at Enfield, has been promoted 2nd Lieutenant, Royal Artillery. He came safely through Dunkirk. ★ ★ ★

The daughter of G. Smith, of Leicester, has been promoted to L.A.C. in the W.A.A.F.

The Comforts Fund

A Young St. Dunstaner's Thanks

Matron Pain has received the following letter from A.B. W. H. Robinson, son of our Grimsby St. Dunstaner, who is serving on H.M.S. *Jervis*, and which, Matron says, is typical of many of those she is receiving from the sons of our men in all parts of the world:

"I feel it my duty to write and thank both you and my father's comrades for the very nice present I received yesterday. I can assure you it was very greatly appreciated, more so as mail from the Home Country is so few and far between.

"We lads here are doing our bit to the best of our ability, as I'm sure our fathers would want us to do, and which they so gloriously did during the last war, so that when this turmoil is over we can all unite with those who we love so dearly, and live for what thousands of brave men have died for—peace.

"The very best of luck to you all 'till we meet again."

Melplash Notes

This will be our second Christmas here, and everyone has settled down happily.

We are fortunate in having secured the services of Sister Ruttledge, to take the place of Sister Bradley, who left us to get married, and to whom we extend our good wishes for her future happiness. Sister Ruttledge has very quickly adapted herself to the ways of the men and is popular with all. We hope she will remain with us.

Our thanks are due to all our Good Companions who still continue to take the men out for walks and car rides, and a hundred and one other things.

Good wishes for Christmas and the New Year from all at Melplash to St. Dunstaners everywhere.

In Memory of Sir Arthur

On the morning of Tuesday, December 9th, Sir Ian Fraser, accompanied by Lady Fraser, Drummer N. Downs, and Head Orderly T. Watson, visited Hampstead Cemetery, where a wreath of poppies, in the form of St. Dunstan's Badge, was placed on Sir Arthur Pearson's grave.

Young St. Dunstaners

Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. ap Rhys, of Bangor, who is at Somerville College, Oxford, has been granted an award to rank as an exhibitioner of Somerville College. This is a result of much hard work in the long vacation. Their second daughter, Ceridwen, has passed her school examinations with distinctions, and is now studying for a degree in economics. Ann, a younger daughter, is also doing extremely well and shows every sign of following in her sisters' footsteps—she has already won a scholarship at the County School.

★ ★ ★
 The youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Brookes, of Southampton, has won a scholarship to Taunton's School, Bournemouth.

★ ★ ★
 Godwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Taylor, of Stourbridge, has passed the final examination of the Birmingham University and Midland College, and is now a fully-qualified teacher.

★ ★ ★
 The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Stamp, of Keelby, Lincs., who is still an apprentice and in the Home Guard, was selected to fire for his Company in an All England Contest for Home Guards. His team drew with Warwick as "best cards" throughout. (In a League match, young Stamp scored 99 out of 100.)

Brief Notes

T. E. Skelly, of Batley, had a splendid notice in the local paper recently. It gave details of Skelly's own career and of his fight against heavy odds—he is an invalid—and refers to his three sons, all of whom are in the Forces.

★ ★ ★
 A. Pink, of Axminster, is a Section Leader for the fire-watching party in his district.

St. Dunstaner's Aunt Dies at 108

Mrs. Ellen Fletcher, of the Queen's Road Homes, Croydon, believed to be the oldest woman in Britain, has just died at the age of 108. Mrs. Fletcher, who would have been 109 next April, was the aunt of our St. Dunstaner, E. Beckham, of Kenton.

The *Daily Express* wrote: "Mrs. Fletcher's hobby was to knit comforts for the forces, and she drank a glass of beer every day, which, she said, was why she lived so long.

"When the homes were struck by a bomb last year she said: 'Napoleon couldn't frighten my mother and this young fellow Hitler is not going to frighten me!'"

Mr. Godfrey Robinson

Sir Ian Fraser has received the following letter in reply to a message of congratulation sent to Mr. Godfrey Robinson on November 10th, upon his installation as Sheriff of Hull:

Guildhall, Hull.
 November 11th, 1941.

DEAR SIR IAN,
 Very many thanks for your telegram of congratulations and good wishes from St. Dunstan's on my installation as Sheriff of the City and County of Kingston-upon-Hull.

I mentioned St. Dunstan's in the few remarks I had to make yesterday, and realise that if it had not been for the training and assistance which I received at St. Dunstan's in the early days I should never have been able to tackle new problems with so much confidence.

With all best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
 GODFREY ROBINSON.

Christmas Teasers

Can you set out six matches so that every one touches all the others? (Five minutes for this one.)

★ ★ ★
 Below is a message of ten words. One letter occurs eleven times and it has been omitted. The remaining letters have been closed up so that you don't know where the words begin and end. Here it is:

iemerookedoemaitypoudsioemi

(Answers next month.)

My Work in an Aircraft Factory

The following article is reprinted from the December number of *The Tribune*.

★ ★ ★

I think the best way of beginning this article would be to say that I have had no previous training for my present occupation. I received a course in joinery at St. Dunstan's, and followed this trade until the outbreak of the present war. Owing to the difficulty of procuring the necessary timber, I was forced to curtail my work very considerably. Then I received a letter from St. Dunstan's asking if I would like to take up some kind of employment in an aircraft factory. It was pointed out that this would mean working away from home, but after discussing the matter with my wife, we decided that we must be willing to make some sacrifice, so I agreed to give the work a trial and I came to this factory in June of the present year.

I am employed in the Inspection Department, where all the parts of an aeroplane are thoroughly examined for faults before they are assembled. Up to the present my work has been to examine bolts and nuts of all sizes and shapes, and spar plates. First let me describe how I examine a bolt. I take this in my right hand, then place it between the thumb and fore-finger of my left hand, and by this means I am able to feel whether the shank, *i.e.*, the part of the bolt between the thread and the head, has any rough places or other blemishes. Then I test it for thickness. This is done by means of a gauge, known as a "snap gauge," which has two straight sides rounded off at the bottom and left open at the top. Across the opening are two small rods, which are fixed into one of the sides, and a space is left at the other side the exact thickness that the bolt should be. These rods are placed one above the other, the lower one being slightly longer than the one at the top. I place the bolt in the space at the top of the gauge, and if it falls through easily and stays in the space underneath, it is the correct thickness. Should it pass right through the two spaces it is too thin and is thrown out. If it should not pass through either of these two spaces it is too thick and is put on one side. The next operation is to test the thread in the same way as I tested the shanks. Then I test for thickness by means of a gauge known as an "agra." This gauge is almost the same as

the snap gauge, except that instead of rods there are two pairs of small wheels with grooves in them, which are to fit the sizes of threads being tested. The operation is the same as for the shank, *i.e.*, the thread has to pass the first pair of wheels smoothly and easily and stay on the pair of wheels underneath.

With regard to the examination of nuts of all shapes and sizes, and many other small parts, such as tubes with an inside thread, I use what is known as a screw plug gauge, which is best described as a small dumb-bell, which it resembles in shape. At each end of the gauge there is a thread—one the exact size of the thread in the nut. This is known technically as the "go." The thread at the other end is slightly larger, and is known as the "nogo." I put the "go" end into the hole and turn it, taking care not to get it "cross-threaded." Should it be of the right size, the gauge will fall through smoothly. If it is too large it will be slack to the "go" end of the gauge; then I try the "nogo" end, and should this go in it is too large, and must be thrown out. I now come to the "spar plates." These are used for fixing the wings of the aeroplane to the main spars, and are therefore of very great importance, and must be correct in every detail. They are of all shapes and sizes, and have bolt holes bored through them. My job on these plates has been to test the holes to see that they are of the correct diameter. This is done by means of a plug gauge, which is similar to the screw plug gauge, with the exception that where the latter has a thread worked on it, the plug gauge is left smooth. I also have to look out for marks and scratches, also for flat side on the ends that are rounded off. I have also been trusted with the examination of other parts, such as castings of all kinds, tubes, etc., so my work never gets boring.

I believe that I am the first blind person to be employed on this work in the country, and therefore it is of very great importance, both to my comrades at St. Dunstan's and to all blind people, that I should make a success of this job in order to prove to all concerned that sightless people of ordinary capabilities can and should be absorbed into industry. I should be lacking in appreciation, not only to the Council of St. Dunstan's, but to my employers, if I did not express my warm thanks for the

splendid chance they have given me to prove to all concerned that we are capable of performing useful service if only given the opportunity. I should also like to thank all my colleagues at the factory for the splendid co-operation and help they have given me, and for all the kindness they have shown to me.

T.W.C.

For Wives Only

A milk substitute recommended by the wife of a St. Dunstaner:—

Put one tablespoonful of coarse oatmeal into a jug and pour over it a pint of boiling water. Stir briskly, then strain through a wire sieve, then through a piece of muslin. This oatmeal milk can be used in the same way as ordinary milk and no one would guess the difference.

From Mr. Swain

TO MY ST. DUNSTAN'S FRIENDS,

How many of you have, I wonder, attempted to write a letter of thanks for publication? That is what I'm endeavouring to do now—to thank all of you who have subscribed to my farewell presentation—and it is not easy to say all I feel in a few words.

When I was asked what I would like, I said "Above all things, a radiogram," and a radiogram has arrived. It is a push-button model with an exquisite tone and lots of gadgets to play about with.

Nothing I can say in print would be adequate to express my thanks to you all, I am full of gratitude. It will give me very many hours of pleasure and enjoyment, and when it is admired, I shall be so proud to say it is a parting present from my St. Dunstan's friends.

Retirement has compelled us to sell Duck Bottom, and we have moved into a much smaller cottage, said to be some 400 years old. It has a large garden and faces a common. When any of you are this way do come and see us. In addition to a very warm welcome, there will be a magnificent radiogram for you to listen to.

My wife joins with me in wishing you and yours a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Sincerely yours, T. EVELYN SWAIN.
Cobblers, Haddenham, Bucks.

Blackpool Sends Greetings

As happy a Christmas as possible and very best wishes for the New Year from Blackpool to all St. Dunstaners.

National Health Insurance Acts

St. Dunstaners who are contributors to the above will be interested to learn of an amendment which becomes operative on January 5th, 1942. This amendment increases the rate of Sickness and Disablement Benefits by 3s. per week, but also increases the contribution by 2d. per week. The Council of St. Dunstan's has agreed to assist all men who are voluntary contributors by paying one-half of this increased contribution.

As from January 5th next, contributions will be at the rate of 2s. per week, of which 1s. will be deducted from Pension, instead of 11d. as at present, the balance of 1s. being paid by St. Dunstan's. The Ministry of Pensions has been notified of this alteration and request all insured persons to exchange their books at their Post Office on December 31st, 1941.

St. Dunstaners who became voluntary contributors for Old Age and Widows' Pensions (Black-coated Workers' Act) are not affected by this amendment, as their scheme does not include Sickness and Disablement Benefits.

A Christmas Competition

The Editor has devised the following competition, which it is hoped will appeal to St. Dunstaners, since they are such keen listeners.

Below are the names of eight B.B.C. announcers. St. Dunstaners are invited (a) to vote for them in the order of their personal preference, and (b) to place them in what they think will be the final order of popularity, to be decided by the votes of the competitors themselves.

ALAN HOWLAND	JOSEPH MACLEOD
BRUCE BELFRAGE	WILFRED PICKLES
ALVAR LIDELL	FREDDIE GRISEWOOD
FRANK PHILLIPS	ELIZABETH COWELL

Entries should be made out as follows:
On the left hand side of the paper : On the right hand side :

I prefer them in the following order : I think the final result will be :

1. Howland	1.
2. Belfrage	2.

and so on. and so on.

A National Savings Certificate will be awarded to the sender of the correct, or nearest correct, forecast.

Entries must be sent to the Editor at Regent's Park, and the closing date is Saturday, January 10th, 1942.

" In Memory "

PRIVATE WILLIAM CASLIN
(Royal Welch Fusiliers)

WITH deep regret we record the death of W. Caslin, of Liverpool.

Caslin was discharged from the Army in 1917 but did not come under St. Dunstan's care until early in 1941. He was then too old to attempt any training, and after a short time at Church Stretton and Melplash, he went to live with his sister in Liverpool.

Recently we learned that he had been taken ill and admitted to hospital, but his death, which took place on November 10th, 1941, was unexpected.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent for the funeral. We extend our sympathy to Mrs. Sinnott, his sister, who looked after him at the end of his life.

Caslin was a single man.

PRIVATE GEORGE MARSHALL KING
(2nd/4th Leicestershire Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of G. M. King, of Leicester. One of our oldest St. Dunstaners—he was well over 70 years of age—he kept his wonderful spirits right up to the end.

Although discharged from the Army in 1915, King did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1920, as he had taken a certain amount of training under the Leicester Association for the Blind, and actually carried on work with this institute for a considerable time. Of late years, however, he had not been able to do very much. He was not in very good health for a few months before his death; he became rapidly worse, and he died in hospital at Melton Mowbray on October 30th. A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades was among the flowers at the funeral.

Since the death of his wife in 1937 he had been cared for by two of his daughters, Mrs. Peters and Miss Elsie King.

We extend our deep sympathy to his family.

Birth

POTTS.—To the wife of H. S. Potts, of Combe Martin, North Devon, on November 11th, a daughter—Pauline Mary.

Deaths

We extend our deepest sympathy to the following:—

PERRETT.—To H. A. Perrett, of Devizes, whose father has recently died.

SIMPSON.—To Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Simpson, of Edlington, near Doncaster, whose youngest daughter passed away on November 8th, at the age of 42 years.

Died of Wounds

Our deep sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. T. Butler, of Distington, whose son, Sergt. W. Butler, of the Tank Corps, has died of wounds received while serving in the Middle East.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following St. Dunstaners and their wives who have celebrated, or are shortly celebrating, their silver wedding:

Mr. and Mrs. W. Horsnell, Charlton, Adam, Somerset, August 28th; Mr. and Mrs. S. Bocking, Oldham, November 25th; Mr. and Mrs. T. Dickinson, North Moulsecoombe, December 12th; Mr. and Mrs. W. Sebbage, Moulsecoombe, December 17th; Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Spiers, Oxford, December 26th; Mr. and Mrs. Furniss, Bolton, December 30th.

Blind Persons' Concession Tickets

The Concession Tickets issued by the London Passenger Transport Board to St. Dunstan's men and their guides, for travelling on trolley buses, trams and buses, will expire on December 31st, 1941. All tickets now current will cease to be available after that date, and new tickets available from January 1st, 1942, to December 31st, 1944, will be issued on the receipt of completed application forms by the Board.

Will each holder of such tickets, who has not received an application form, apply for this to Mr. Askew, at Tyttenhanger Park, London Colney, near St. Albans, Herts.

War Damage Claims

If there is any St. Dunstaner whose property has been damaged by enemy action, and who has not received a form of claim in reply to his original V.O.W. 1 form, he should apply at once to the local Town Hall or Council Offices for a C. 1 form, fill it up and post it to the Regional Office at the address given on the form, unless, of course, he knows that St. Dunstan's has taken action for him.

Most St. Dunstaners have notified Headquarters of their claims, and the Estate Department has acted accordingly, but if any St. Dunstaner is in doubt as to his position, will he please get in touch with Mr. Lale, at Tyttenhanger Park.