

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Pensions Rise for New St. Dunstaners

ST. DUNSTANERS will recall that when this war broke out, the Government fixed the pension for men totally disabled in this war at 32s. 10d. per week, that is to say, considerably below the £2 per week flat rate pension received by the Great War blinded private soldier. From the beginning we protested that the rate for this war should be the same as for the last war.

In June, 1940, the rate was raised to 34s. 2d. per week. St. Dunstaners will have heard over the wireless that I raised this matter again in the House of Commons in January this year, and received a favourable answer, for as from the first pay-day in February, 1942, that is to say this month, the rate has been increased to 37s. 6d. per week.

St. Dunstaners of the old war will rejoice that our new comrades have received a rise, and will realise that this is a step in the right direction. But, of course, we cannot be satisfied with this and we will continue to press for the principle that the same pension should be paid for the same disability in both wars.

I have made many speeches in the House, and have asked many questions, with a view to showing that the £2 per week flat rate is not enough for the veterans of the Great War, having regard to present standards of living. I have argued that the many rises in wages throughout the country should be followed by some increased benefit for disabled veterans of the Great War.

I know that a rise all round in the flat rate, in accordance with the cost of living, would be popular with all St. Dunstaners, but I cannot help thinking that the best single concession we could get from the Government would be the recognition of all wives and children.

At present the wives' and children's allowances are only paid if the man was married and the children were born before he was disabled. In my opinion, the allowances ought to be paid whenever he marries and whenever the children are born. It does not seem to me right for the country, or for the man, that he should have to maintain his wife and children on a single man's pension. I am accordingly trying to interest my friends in the House in this proposal, with a view to bringing it forward at the most propitious moment. St. Dunstaners should recognise, however, that this involves a fundamental change of pensions policy, and that it is not a reform which can be expected without much hard work. We shall, however, carry on educating public opinion, in Parliament and the country, and will tackle the Minister of Pensions whenever possible. St. Dunstaners can help by interesting British Legion Branches in the matter, for while we look after our own men's

pensions claims, the Legion represents the limbless and other totally disabled men who need the same help.

St. Dunstaners Decorated

Amongst our new St. Dunstaners are three who have received decorations. John Robert Barlow, of Sheffield, received the D.C.M. for valour in the field in the Middle East.

Air Commodore Patrick Huskinson, who as a fighter pilot received the M.C. in the last war, was awarded the C.B.E. in the New Year Honours List for valuable work in the design of bombs. He was blinded some months ago in a London air raid, and although he has been retired from the R.A.F., has been retained in an important administrative post in the Ministry of Aircraft Production, where his knowledge of armaments is of the greatest value.

Lieut.-Commander R. C. B. Buckley, R.N., on January 27th was awarded the George Medal for coolness and courage while engaged upon important and dangerous work. Lt.-Commander Buckley was blinded in the Crete action.

All St. Dunstaners will, I am sure, offer sincere congratulations to these three gallant men, whose distinction brings honour also to St. Dunstan's.

In the Great War many St. Dunstaners were decorated. Their honours included one V.C., ten M.C.s (one with bar), two D.C.M.s, twenty-eight M.M.s (one with bar), one Order of St. George, one Order of St. Leopold, one Order of St. Vladimir, two Croix de Guerre, and one Medaille Militaire.

The war-blinded men of our Allies who came to St. Dunstan's in the last war held among them three Orders of Leopold II, four Croix de Guerre, and two Medailles Militaires. It will be remembered that Jan Lasowski, a Polish blinded soldier of the present war, was awarded the Virtutii Militari, which is sometimes called the Polish V.C., for gallantry at Narvik, and a French sailor, Alphonse Evanno, has been awarded the Croix de Guerre for his bravery at Dunkirk.

As in the last war, when a small number of Belgian soldiers came to St. Dunstan's because their country had been overrun, so in this war St. Dunstan's is giving its help to the small number of officers and men of the Allied Forces who may be blinded and brought to this country. Already we have admitted a Polish soldier who was blinded at Narvik, a Polish officer who has lost his sight through hardships endured during his escape through many European countries to Britain, a sailor of the French Navy who was blinded while his ship was evacuating French and British soldiers from Dunkirk, a French soldier who was evacuated from Dunkirk in an English hospital ship, and a Dutch despatch rider.

We are glad to be able to render this service to our gallant Allies separated from their homes, and whose countries cannot look after them when they have been blinded fighting in the common cause.

IAN FRASER.

Notes and News

Congratulations to A. J. Radford, of Castle Cary, who has collected £100 for the Red Cross in six months.

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We have heard with deep regret that Mr. and Mrs. E. Denny, of Pretoria, have lost their daughter-in-law.

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J. Moore, of Limerick, is proud of his family's war record. Three sons, three grandsons, and four grand-nephews, are all with the British Forces.

We have also heard with regret from F. Frank, of Yeovil, that his brother, Capt. T. V. Frank, of the Merchant Navy, who was recently made an O.B.E., lost his life when his ship was sunk by enemy action.

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The first indoor Morrison shelter in Bolton was erected at the home of our St. Dunstaner, J. Thompson, and the *Bolton Evening News* published a first-class picture of him, with his daughter, taken as it was being assembled. These shelters are particularly useful as they can be used as tables.

Church Stretton Notes

The snow started on exactly the same date this year as last, so we prepared to dig in for a month. Remembering that four weeks' laundry was then stranded in Shrewsbury, the staff, we understand, spent anxious moments calculating how long their stocks would last should history repeat itself! Two willing squads answered the S.O.S. to clear our paths—they were regaled with tea and cake. Some of the Alpinists tobogganed in the field, and the Medical Commandant appeared on skis.

On January 16th we were entertained by an E.N.S.A. party, who gave us a couple of enjoyable hours.

As there are but two boot-repairers in Church Stretton to cope with all local needs, we hailed with relief the opening of our own workshop, under Instructor Kitson. He and his pupils are dealing speedily and well with an endless parade of boots, boots, boots!

The Joiners' Shop, too, is very busy; somehow the impenetrable Frank Ralph copes with about a dozen pupils at a time, often raw recruits, keeping them busy and generally unscathed. Lack of competition from abroad has thrown us back on to home-made articles, and both here and in the Basket Shop, under our old friend, W. Burman, we are full up with orders.

We have good news of our St. Dunstaners employed in the aircraft factory, somewhere in the South, where Stephenson and Paddy Campbell have joined Paddy Ashe and T. Chamberlain since leaving us at Christmas. Stephenson writes that he and Paddy work at the same bench; they are allowed to smoke and sing at their work, and their output exceeds their quota, but then, as Stephenson remarks, "he was always nifty with his hands!"

Miss MacAndrew is giving English lessons, as she did in Regent's Park days, and there are rumours that French and Science have their devotees. "The Professor" and Mrs. Graves run a weekly bridge class, and piano, organ, and "all other kinds of music" are studied under various voluntary teachers.

We are naturally very proud of the award of the George Medal to Lt.-Commander Robin Buckley.

We congratulate the following on passing tests:—

Typing.—Dr. Snape, Dr. Rosenberg, L. Nicholas, Lt.-Commander Buckley, L. Bagshaw.

Braille Reading.—A. Colclough, R. Alty.

Admitted to Training—

Fire Watcher M. V. O'Neil (London), 46; Home Guard J. J. Padley (London), 16.

Transferred to Training—

Stoker 2 H. C. McCrea, R.N. (Belfast), 19.

Old St. Dunstaners Admitted for Training—

L. Clark (St. Helens), P. Lowe (Adlington).

Running a Candy Stall in Canada

Miss Agnes Horne is a blind girl in Vancouver, British Columbia, who is a regular correspondent with our Chairman. In a recent letter she tells how she runs a Candy Store, and we think her experience will be of some interest:—

"My 'Concession Stand' has given me endless happiness. May I tell you of it? I am in the Mercantile Building—eight floors of offices and display rooms. Through the front door there in the main hall is my stand, 4ft. by 15ft. I have no advertisement—none, that is, other than two illuminated signs—one tells what I sell and one who I am and who sponsors me. The Stand is bright, attractively displayed, and clean. For myself, I am friendly with my customers, but one's attitude depends upon one's own personality. All Stand operators are pleasant—I'm chummy but not to that degree where business is neglected. I have cigars, cigarettes, fine-cut and pipe tobacco, bars, life savers, matches, newspapers and magazines, soft drinks—anything and everything that will sell, including razor blades, hand lotion, tooth paste, stationery, aspirins, combs—but, of course, gum, chocolate bars, life savers, soft drinks, cigarettes, fine-cut and pipe tobacco sell far the best. Those with some vision sell coffee, tea and sandwiches."

"Reviews" Wanted

If any St. Dunstaner has any copies of the REVIEW for October, 1940, and January, February, and June, 1941, the Editor would be grateful for them. No other REVIEWS are needed.

Promotion

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Condon's daughter, Joan, has been promoted to Staff Sergeant in the A.T.S.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

AUSTIN, Pte. Derrick (Higham Ferrers), The Buffs.
 BIGGADIKE, Pte. R. D., The Buffs.
 BIRCH, Corpl. Harry (London, S.W.6), Royal Air Force.
 BLYDE, Gunner A., Royal Artillery.
 BOLTON, Rifleman R. (Cromer), Rifle Brigade.
 BURGESS, A.C.2 R. (Bristol), Royal Air Force.
 CHAMBERS, Sig. L. (Manchester), Royal Corps of Signals.
 CHAMBERS, C. (Manchester), A.F.S.
 CHIVERTON, Gunner E., A.T.S.
 COLE, A.C.2 L. J. (Southampton), Royal Air Force.
 CROWLEY, Marine M. J., Royal Marines.
 DOLBY, R. (Palmer's Green), Royal Navy.
 DOLBY, K. (Palmer's Green), Royal Navy.
 HOLMES, Pte. S. (Burnley-in-Wharfedale), R.A.M.C.
 HUMBLE, R., Royal Navy.
 HURST, Pte. R. H. (Derby), Welch Regt.
 HURST, Phoebe (Derby), W.A.A.F.
 JACKSON, Trooper R. F. W. (New Malden), Household Cavalry.
 JACKSON, Pte. F. E. (New Malden), East Surrey Regiment.
 JACKSON, A.C.2 W. W. (New Malden), Royal Air Force.
 KEHOE, Aiden (D. Power, Waterford), East Surrey Regt.
 LAKER, Gunner L. J., Royal Artillery.
 LAVELL, L.A.C. A. (Hereford), Royal Air Force.
 LAVELL, Sapper A. (Hereford), Royal Engineers.
 MEARS, Pte. A. L. (Old Chilwell), Sherwood Foresters.
 MOORE, Lieutenant John (Limerick), Army Transport.
 MOORE, Cpl. Michael (Limerick), Royal Air Force.
 MOSS, Pte. James (Pelsall), Worcestershire Regt.
 MOSS, Pte. Jack (Pelsall), Worcestershire Regt.
 MOSS, Gunner Edward (Pelsall), Royal Artillery.
 MOSS, Miss May (Pelsall), N.A.A.F.I. (R.A.F.)
 PALMER, A. H. (Thornton Heath), Royal Air Force.
 PLUNKETT, Marine R. (St. Leonards-on-Sea), Royal Marines.
 PRIOR, Gunner S. A. (Portchester), Royal Artillery.
 RENDELL, Ordinary Seaman H. G., Royal Navy.
 ROYLANCE, Pte. J., Royal Air Force.
 SIDA, Peter, Royal Navy.
 SMITH, Joyce (Guildford), W.A.A.F.
 STRAND, Doris, W.A.A.F.
 SWEENEY, Recruit Doreen, A.T.S.
 WARIN, Pte. J. (East Rainton), R.A.O.C.
 WEEDALL, Deck Boy Arthur, Royal Navy.
 WILLIAMSON, Petty Officer Telegraphist H. (Manchester), Royal Navy.

Killed on Active Service

We have heard with deep regret that the son of our late St. Dunstaner, F. W. Bootle, was lost when H.M.S. *Barham* was sunk last November.

Young St. Dunstaners (contd.)

Joan Gatrell, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gatrell, of Wandsworth, was married to Mr. J. W. Walker on January 31st last, and Winifred Juniper, who is in the A.T.S., recently married Sergt. Robert Bassett, of Torquay.

Young St. Dunstaners

Cedric Mellor, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Mellor, of Addiscombe, running for Tyrian, was one of the first two men home when Oxford University beat London University Tyrian Club by nine points in their recent seven-mile cross-country run.

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J. E. Parker, of the Star and Garter Home, Richmond, tells us that both his boys have joined the Sea Cadets. They are promising young boxers.

★ ★ ★

Kathleen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Smith, of Parbold, was married on January 22nd.

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After being torpedoed for the second time, R. Humble's son has just enjoyed a well-deserved ten days' leave.

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A young St. Dunstaner who is a prisoner of war is Willie Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Hill, of Gloucester. Miss Oliphant sent him some music, and he writes: "It seemed as if the books brought into our room the smell of the country and of the green, shady lanes of old England, which we all love so well. We talked of the happy hours we spent at school, and we laughed and joked as we sang the old songs so well known by us all."

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Edna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Heeley, of Leeds, has passed her State Finals and is now a fully-qualified State Registered Nurse at Sheffield Royal Infirmary.

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Mrs. R. Noble's daughter married Mr. Schelling, at St. Paul's Church, Middlesbrough, on December 27th.

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Fred McAndrew, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McAndrew, of Bournemouth, has passed the Intermediate Science Examination.

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Peter Nicholas (Bognor Regis) has been accepted for the position of Meteorological Assistant (Civilian) with the Air Ministry.

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Archie Mackenzie, second son of Sir Clutha and Lady Mackenzie, who is to become a doctor, has successfully passed all his 1941 medical examinations.

Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes

To help the unfortunate. To succour the weak. To render assistance to those of the Brethren who are in difficulty or need.

What better objects could any organisation have? These are the principles that guide the R.A.O.B. in its intercourse with the Brethren, and they are those which have animated man since the earliest ages. The benevolence of the "Buff," as they are generally called, is not only confined to its members. During the war, 1914-18, generous donations were made to Sir Arthur Pearson for the newly-formed St. Dunstan's, a sum which ran into five figures being donated. At the beginning of this war, I had the honour of being present on the Horse Guards Parade when no less than twenty fully-equipped ambulances were presented to the Government, at a cost of £10,000, and some of these having been lost in France, a further three have since been added to this total. All this has been done, and more, from a fund known as the War Charities and Ambulance Fund. Hundreds of members have been assisted from this fund after being blitzed in air raids.

But all this is only a very small part of the Order's activities. We have some wonderful convalescent homes, which have now been placed at the disposal of the Government, but in peace time are free to members of the Order. What is acknowledged to be the finest orphanage in the country is also in full operation at Harrogate, in Yorkshire, and the orphans of members are here given a splendid start in life, winning scholarships and going on to secondary schools, the Order paying all expenses.

The Lodges of the Order are scattered all over the British Empire, and a member may be sure of a welcome where he sees the letters R.A.O.B. displayed.

Another fine activity of the Order is its War Memorial of the last war. This is not an edifice of stone, but a living memory in the shape of grants to aged members, of annuities up to £25 per annum. These annuities are paid from the interest on investments, and therefore will go on for ever, while the capital sum is being yearly added to. Cottage Homes are also being

provided, fully furnished, so that an aged member may spend his remaining days in comfort and sure of a roof as long as he lives. If his wife survives him the Order sees to it that she is not left in want.

The foregoing is only a small part of the work of the Order; there are many local activities, and the Minor Lodges, as they are called, are constantly rendering assistance where it is most needed. A great number of St. Dunstaners are members of the R.A.O.B., and quite a number have gained high honours and degrees by service. The Minor Lodges are most interesting, and it is not all business. During the period known as Liberty Hall, very fine talent is heard; every Lodge has its minstrel, and some are renowned pianists. There is no part of the work of the Order which a blind man cannot enjoy and take part in, as witness the fact that I have performed every ceremony in the Order, and have been the Chief Officer of two different Provinces, as well as President of the Knights Chapter and many other Offices, culminating in my election in 1940 to the highest office in Grand Lodge, *viz.*, Grand Chamberlain of England. I have not mentioned this to boast in any way, as most readers of the REVIEW are already aware of the honour conferred upon me. Our Chairman, Sir Ian Fraser, who is a Brother, was present and witnessed my installation to this position, and I feel sure that he would be the first to advise any St. Dunstaner to become a member if he wants some little recreation one night a week. There is no subscription, but the Initiation Fee is 10s. 6d., and it is customary to register at a cost of sixpence each time one attends a Lodge.

If any of you are interested, and wish to become members of the R.A.O.B., please write to me about it, and I will do the same as I have always done for St. Dunstaners, and put you in the right way to joining, giving you all the information in my power without divulging anything that a non-member should not know.

Best wishes to all Brother Buffaloes for the coming year, and please convey to all your Lodges the fraternal greetings of

BRO. W. LOWINGS, R.O.H.,

*Past Provincial Grand Primo,
 Past President, Knights Chapter, and
 Grand Chamberlain of England.*

The Only Gate in the Road

From the "Sunday Dispatch," January 18th:—

"Only one iron gate remains in that long street, the Fulham Palace Road. The others have all been taken away for scrap. The one remaining stands before the house of 58-years-old Frederick Walter Butler, a St. Dunstan's man, blinded in the last war and a cripple.

"When the contractors called to take the gate away, Mr. Butler was most upset, because for years he has wheeled himself to his gate every morning and then leaned on it to speak to passers-by.

"His sister asked the foreman if it was possible to leave this gate. The foreman did so, and a Ministry of Labour official said yesterday that in the circumstances they were quite agreeable to leave the gate."

A New Year's Party

From the "Brighton and Hove Herald," January 17th—

"Over 100 war-blinded men of St. Dunstan's, residing in the Brighton and Hove district, accompanied by their wives and escorts, were the guests at a most enjoyable New Year's Party at St. Anne's Church Hall on Saturday afternoon.

"The excellent programme arranged by Major Alan Saunders, who is the Sussex Welfare Officer for the troops, was greatly appreciated by all present, and included the Western Brothers, Miss Barbara Beaufort, a Male Voice Choir, and the Band of a famous Canadian Regiment.

"In a message of New Year's good wishes from Sir Ian Fraser, C.B.E., M.P. (Chairman of St. Dunstan's), and Lady Fraser, who were unable to be present, Sir Ian stated that, in spite of war-time difficulties, St. Dunstan's was doing everything possible to carry on normal after-care and trading services, and that they were all looking forward to returning to the home at Brighton after the war.

"The thanks of the guests to Miss Hesketh Jones (the St. Dunstan's Welfare Visitor for the South of England), Major Saunders, the artistes, and to all the friends of St. Dunstan's who helped towards the success of the afternoon, were admirably expressed by Mr. W. H. Ottaway, of St. Dunstan's headquarters."

Canine Notes

To what extent is dog breeding being carried on now in the country? Things were bad enough up to the spreading of the war to the U.S.A. and then the Pacific. These latter happenings will, I am afraid, practically put an end to the very slight amount of breeding that has been practised previously.

Very little breeding has been done, not only owing to the many ramifications the war has made into the business, but also, with no Continental market to cater for after 1940, a big slump set in and hundreds of stock dogs ceased to exist. The loss now is of the very lucrative market in the U.S.A., and of the Far Eastern market.

It is at once apparent that the high-class breeding stock, once so numerous in this country, is now at a very low level. Many breeders have joined up, and no doubt more will follow, *i.e.*, of both sexes. Then there will be fewer dogs left. Crufts' and all Championship shows went by the board immediately we declared war on Germany. That was the beginning, and the pedigree dog business will take longer to recover after the cessation of hostilities than was the case after the last war. Really good breeding stock will be at a premium, although at the moment there is little or no demand for puppies, owing to the general upheaval in the world.

I imagine the case will be the same with the U.S.A., as all their champions will have to go into cold storage. For how long? All I can say at the present time to breeders is, if you have to breed to keep the continuity of your strain, you must do so, but only from the best specimens. I have not bred a puppy yet, as the marketing prospects are so hopeless.

H. MARSDEN.

Silver Weddings

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Leeman, Louth, August 10th; Mr. and Mrs. E. Laker, Haverhill, October 14th; Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Cooper, Hull, January 20th; Mr. and Mrs. J. Horridge, Westthoughton, February 15th; Mr. and Mrs. J. Yarwood, Wythen-shawe, March 17th.

Congratulations to all these St. Dunstaners and their wives.

Make a Note of this

St. Dunstaners who are in receipt of the Constant Attendance Allowance should, in the event of their being admitted to hospital, send their Ring Books to Mr. Banks, at Church Stretton, in order that he can take over the payment of pension, and so save a good deal of unnecessary trouble and worry through the overpayment of this allowance. There is a printed slip in every man's Ring Book to the effect that in the event of his being admitted to hospital or a similar institution, the Ministry of Pensions must be notified. If the book is sent to Mr. Banks this will not be necessary.

The Brighton Road

Why has the Brighton road so often been chosen for athletic events, etc.?

King George IV decided to live by the sea, and he chose—like a wise man—Brighton; naturally, a large number of people followed the Crown, and many more fashionable people came to Brighton when the King was there. Others came for business purposes, for the well-to-do made business brisk, whilst others came to see the King take his strolls along the sea-front; those who had no other means of getting here from London walked it. Thus began the "Walk to Brighton."

On many other roads there can be found a "long mile" or a "short mile," but 'tis said that on the original Brighton road the milestones and telegraph poles are not a fraction out. The old Southern Counties' Walking Association used to do their training on the old Brighton road.

GEO. FALLOWFIELD.

Mr. Kessell

From "The Times," February 10th:—

"The Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House yesterday, presented a silver salver and other gifts, on behalf of the Council of Pearson's Fresh Air Fund, to Mr. Ernest Kessell as a mark of appreciation of his 50 years' services as honorary treasurer."

On December 3rd, Mr. Kessell was the guest of the Lord Mayor of Nottingham, when a telegram congratulating him upon "his remarkable record," was received from His Majesty the King, who is Patron of the Fund.

Birth

PEACOCK.—To the wife of F. P. Peacock, of Stokesley, on January 27th, a son.

National Laying Test

Report for the third period of four weeks, December 8th, 1941, to January 4th, 1942

Position	Name	Test	
		Score	Value
1.	Carpenter, E. H.	...	325
2.	Jackson, George	...	286
3.	Chaffin, Albert	...	282
4.	Jarvis, Albert	279
5.	Smith, W. Alan	...	276
6.	Hammett, H. A.	...	263
7.	Fisher, T. M.	254
8.	Chaffin, A.	...	252
9.	Fisher, T. M.	250
10.	Campbell, John	...	228
11.	Jarvis, A.	...	215
12.	Holmes, Percy	...	212
13.	Holmes, Percy	...	190
14.	Capper, A. H.	...	166
15.	Jackson, George	...	156
16.	Watson-Brown, M.	...	123

"Daddy" Watts

Mr. Ottaway writes:—

Mat-makers will have many happy memories of J. Watts, who passed away early in February at the age of 86.

He was one of the Technical Visitors selected by Mr. T. H. Martin to visit St. Dunstan's men in their homes, and he was always welcome there.

He was a happy man because he had selected the path of goodness and was ready to be the servant of men because he was the servant of God. He was loyal to all, patient, firm and ready to help in work or difficulty.

After his retirement he frequently visited many of his old "boys," and we shall all remember his kindly humour, which was extended even to our shortcomings.

Marriage

COLLINS—GLOVER.—On February 5th, at Worthing Registry Office, W. H. Collins, of Sompting, to Mrs. Florence Ethel Glover, widow of our St. Dunstaner who died several years ago.

Deaths

We extend our deep sympathy to the following:—

LONG.—To P. Long, of Ballincolling, Co. Cork, whose wife passed away on January 21st.

McINTOSH.—To C. McIntosh, of Terregles, Dumfriesshire, whose father died suddenly in the street on New Year's Day.

“ In Memory ”

JOHN WILLIAM MILEHAM
(H.M. Minesweeper)

WITH deep regret we have to report the death of J. W. Mileham, of Gorleston-on-Sea.

This fine old St. Dunstaner was a fisherman before the last war, having previously served His Majesty in the Norfolk Regiment in the 1880's, and then served on a minesweeper in the Great War. He was discharged in 1916 with his sight damaged, but it was not until 1936 that he came under St. Dunstan's care.

He was not able to learn any occupation on account of his age and health, but he kept up many interests in his seaside home, and in his blue jersey and seaman's cap he was a familiar and popular figure in the town.

His death occurred in Gorleston Hospital on November 22nd, after a sudden, brief illness. He was 75 years of age.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his wife and her family.

PRIVATE WILLIAM JOSEPH HIVES
(Royal Army Service Corps)

WE record with deep regret the death of W. J. Hives, of London, W.11.

As a result of his service in the Great War, Hives lost his sight and some time afterwards he came to St. Dunstan's. In view of his age—he was then over 60—he was not able to take up any of the usual occupations. His health kept fairly good until the last few years, when it was obvious that he was going down hill, and early in January he was admitted to hospital, where he died after a few days. He was 71.

The funeral took place on January 17th, at Sheen Cemetery, and was attended by relatives and friends, including a St. Dunstaner and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. F. Polley. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Hives in her loss.

PRIVATE FRANCIS GALLAGHER
(Royal Defence Corps)

WITH deep regret we have to record the death of yet another of our oldest St. Dunstaners, F. Gallagher, of Middlesbrough.

Formerly in the shipbuilding trade, Gallagher enlisted in 1916, and was discharged in October of the same year on account of damaged sight. He did not, however, come under St. Dunstan's care until 1921, when he was already an elderly man and could only attempt special wool rug work. Of late years he has been very deaf and was obliged, on account of his age, to give up even rugs, but he and his wife carried on very happily together until he was taken ill a few weeks before his death, which took place at his home on January 4th, at the age of 76.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent for the funeral. We extend our deep sympathy to his widow.

SERGEANT-MAJOR GEORGE MEDLAND
(Royal Army Service Corps)

WE deeply regret to have to record the death of G. Medland, of Rhyl.

Medland first joined the Army in 1883, when he was a boy of 14½, serving with the Gloucester Regiment. He was invalided out after the South African War in 1901. He re-enlisted in September, 1914, and was discharged as a result of damaged sight in 1916. He did not come under St. Dunstan's care, however, until two or three years later. He was never very strong and did not take up any strenuous training, but learned a little netting and braille. He was a sick man for many years before his death, and had been in hospital for a considerable time. He died on January 21st.

Medland was a widower and he leaves one daughter, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

Owing to the very bad weather conditions, the wreath sent from Sir Ian and his comrades did not arrive in time for the funeral, but was placed on the grave afterwards.

RIFLEMAN ALFRED WILLIAM GROCOTT
(4th Rifle Brigade)

WE record with deep regret the death of A. W. Grocott, of North Kensington.

Grocott was wounded in the Great War and, as a result, lost his sight. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1917, and took up basket-making, but he did not continue long at this. For many years past he has done splendid work at netting, being one of our very best netters. Latterly his health has not been too good, and several times recently he has been admitted to hospital. His death came quite suddenly, on January 25th.

The funeral took place on February 2nd, at Kensal Green. A St. Dunstaner friend, W. Abbott, of Willesden, was present, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's. We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Grocott and her children.