

# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

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## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

A NUMBER of St. Dunstaners have written from time to time asking me to represent to the Ministry of Labour that their assistants in shops or on poultry farms, or in other businesses, should not be called up. Where the assistant is of military age I have sometimes been successful in securing deferment for a period. The Ministry points out, however, that such deferments are only of a temporary nature to enable the employer to find other assistance, or re-adjust his affairs. Where the assistant is a good deal older, and particularly where it is a woman, there is more chance of getting a longer deferment.

The fact that the employer is blind does not of itself entitle him to special consideration, but I have always found the Government officials willing to give some weight to this factor where useful work in the national interest is being undertaken.

The reason why I have mentioned this matter is to tell my St. Dunstan's friends that the limited help I can give them is at their disposal, and to warn them that in every case they must write to me as soon as their assistant is registered, or is called for a medical examination or interview. If the matter is left until calling-up notices have been served it is too late for any intervention to be successful.

### Pensions

The process of persuading or wearing down the Minister of Pensions is a long and tedious one. Since we last succeeded in getting the pension of new war cases raised to 37s. 6d. a week we have made no further progress, but my friends and I in the House of Commons continue to press the matter whenever opportunity occurs. Until the pension for the men of this war has been made the same as that for the men of the last war, it will not be practical politics to raise such general questions as an increase all round to meet the rise in the cost of living or family allowances, but I also keep these matters in the minds of the House and the Minister by constant repetition of them.

On November 26th I again asked the Minister about making the pension the same for the two wars, and pointed out that many working men had received half-a-crown a shift or a day, and that it wasn't much to ask that young blinded soldiers should receive half-a-crown a week. The Minister replied with the stale answer about the cost of living,

of which we are all so tired. A St. Dunstaner who read a newspaper report on this subject commented on this in a recent letter as follows: "The Minister of Pensions is rather like a gramophone record which has got stuck in one groove, and keeps on saying, 'The cost of living has not gone up . . . The cost of living has not gone up . . . The cost of living has not gone up.'"

### Percy L. Way

There are many blind men to whose good work in earlier generations or in our own we St. Dunstaners owe much. Notable among these is Mr. Percy L. Way, Principal of the National Institute for the Blind School of Massage. Blinded by a shooting accident when he was a boy, he has had a distinguished career. He was a pioneer in the art and practice of massage, he is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, and, as I have said, he is Head of the School. I think every St. Dunstan's masseur in this country and in the Dominions was taught by him, and all will agree that they owe much of their success to him. He recently celebrated his sixtieth birthday and his many friends, particularly in the massage profession, joined together at Mrs. Chaplin-Hall's suggestion to make a presentation to him. My wife and I asked him to lunch on his birthday and told him that we hoped this presentation did not mean that he was retiring. He assured us that this was not the case. I am particularly glad to think that the new blinded soldiers of this war who are to become masseurs will benefit by his teaching and his wide experience of life, and from his example as an outstandingly successful blind man.

There have been six massage pupils amongst new St. Dunstaners. One, Douglas Calder, has just qualified and starts out in the world at the beginning of the New Year. Congratulations and good luck to him.

### The Review is Later this Month

I am sorry the REVIEW should arrive after Christmas, but we could not get it ready until the last minute because we wanted to include the latest Church Stretton Notes up to the end of term, and then we were advised that it was unwise to post right on top of Christmas.

Nevertheless, at Christmas time my wife and I will be thinking of all St. Dunstaners and their families and we will drink a toast to absent friends all over the world.

IAN FRASER.

### Look After Your Watch

A watch repairer in the North draws our attention to the fact that many accidents to St. Dunstaners' watches are caused by them being carried loose in the pocket, when they have only to bend for the watch to slip out. Repairs are so difficult now, and the supply of new watches is becoming almost impossible, that we advise all men to take extra precautions against damage in this and other ways.

### Tandems Wanted

Three St. Dunstaners—one of this war—urgently want to buy a tandem. The Editor will be very glad to hear from anyone wishing to sell a machine.

### Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following, who have celebrated silver wedding anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Alexander, Dalbeattie, August 17th; Mr. and Mrs. H. Barnard, Leytonstone, December 2nd; Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Beattie, Hornsey, December 17th; Mr. and Mrs. A. Brown, Exeter, December 19th; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mahony, Church Stretton, December 25th.

### R.A.O.B. News

Congratulations to S. C. Loram, of Brixham, who, on December 19th, was raised to the 4th degree by the Prince of Orange Lodge, Brixham.

### Church Stretton Notes

By the time these notes appear we shall have started our Christmas holidays, and we of Church Stretton send our best wishes for 1943 to our fellow St. Dunstaners at home and overseas.

The Entertainments Committee, after more than a year's good service, resigned, and a meeting was held to elect a fresh Committee. Efforts were made to persuade the outgoing members to serve again, but each in turn refused the honour, and no one seemed very keen to take office, probably realising what thorns beset the path.

However, Miss B. Sleight and H. Pugh, H. Priest, and C. Womack screwed up their courage to the sticking point, Mr. J. Walch consenting to join them for a short time to "put them wise" to their various duties. We wish them smooth passages and all success.

A few days later, Mr. Kitson read a paper on Astrology, this having been suggested for discussion. He claimed to have an open mind on the subject, but evidently thought there was something in it, and warned his audience to distinguish between faith and superstition. Knowing how eagerly Sunday paper readers want to know what the stars foretell, we were not surprised to learn that Petulengro had made a lucky hit with one of the members at a seance at Blackpool; and soon we were drifting off towards palmistry and kindred "black arts," until Mr. Nugee brought us back to the point with records of comets which had "foretold the fate of kings."

Before the meeting broke up, Mr. Nugee announced that he was in touch with speakers on various subjects for discussion in the New Year, and we left the hut to find our way through a thick fog, which no guiding star could pierce, even for the most trusting astrologer.

R. Dufton was with us again in mid-November. Last spring he was one of the star turns of our Debates, and gave us two enjoyable talks on technical subjects, so we were glad when he kindly consented, at extremely short notice, to address us once again, and we spent an interesting hour learning about "Plastics," a subject which had, till then, been a closed book for many of us. We were glad to learn that he is still in the executive job in a war factory

which he took up some months ago after his St. Dunstan's training, and that he finds the work interesting.

The Raven Club, which is now, to our sorrow, leaving Shrewsbury, invited us all to a farewell tea-party on the 25th. As a memento of two years of happy friendship and monthly hospitality, they presented us with a magnificent silver rosebowl, for annual competition.

On October 3rd, Reinder Waas, of the Royal Dutch Brigade, who is at present at Church Stretton, opened a Fête, held on behalf of St. Dunstan's by the people of Silverdale, Stoke-on-Trent. The magnificent total of £45 10s. was reached.

### End of Term

We closed the term with our customary festivities of Concert, Dinner, and Dance.

On the 11th the Choir, under Mr. L. White, gave us a two-hour programme, again compered by Joe Walch, with Miss Jones and Miss Walch at the piano. The hut was filled to overflowing with an appreciative audience, including Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Mr. Askew, and officers of the local regiment. H. Pugh played a medley on the piano until the curtain rose on the Choir, looking highly professional in their white coats. Among many good turns, Micky McCrea almost brought the house down with his Irish songs, which he not only sang but acted. Sea Shanties by the Choir were as popular as ever, and came in for much applause, and "Silent Night" brought an appropriate note of Christmas. Sir Ian thanked the artistes and their helpers on behalf of the audience. Miss Sleight replied for the Choir.

On Monday, the 14th, over a hundred sat down to dinner, each wearing a sprig of well-berried holly. The tables were prettily decorated, and the fare testified to the skill of our Chef, Mr. Carroll, and his staff. When the Christmas pudding and mince pies had disappeared, Sir Ian rose to give the toast, "The King," and then sketched the growth of St. Dunstan's during the past year. Besides the men in training here, we had twenty-eight prisoners of war in Germany and one in Italy wearing our badge, other new men in South Africa, at Tembani, from the African Campaign, and yet others in India and Cairo.

Many had left us this year to become useful citizens, and we had men under

treatment in Tiger Hall, some of whom would come in to training, whilst some would be discharged, cured. We had also Centres at Melplash and Blackpool, and finally the old St. Dunstaners of the last war; to all these he would ask us to drink the toast, "St. Dunstan's."

He spoke of our Director of Training who, in one year, has firmly established himself by his wise guidance and kindly personality.

Mr. Davenport, he said, had come up with us from Ovingdean, and even before that had been our Ophthalmic Surgeon. We were grateful to him for skilful treatment which had, in many cases, brought wonderful results. With these he must couple the names of the two Matrons, Miss Pain and Miss Postlethwaite, who had won our affection and regard. They were backed up not only by the Staff, but by the men themselves, and these last, radical though they might profess to be, were very conservative in their fight to maintain the traditions of St. Dunstan's.

The Director of Training thanked Sir Ian for his speech, and reminded us that last year he had said that, much as it might be due to the staff, it was on the trainees themselves that the work of St. Dunstan's mainly depended, and he was more convinced than ever of the rightness of this opinion, and thanked the men for their loyal co-operation throughout the year. This year Sir Ian came of age as our Chairman, and he had celebrated the event by writing a book, *Whereas I Was Blind*, which had just been published and most favourably reviewed, and every trainee would receive a copy as a Christmas present—the very best he could possibly have. He said he had found the work to be most interesting and inspiring.

Mr. Davenport then replied for Tiger Hall. We were, he said, always welcome at Tiger, but although there had been many fresh patients, fewer than last year had availed themselves of the invitation to return from Longmynd!! The invitation would still be extended during the coming year.

H. Pugh then asked the two Matrons to accept a gift from the men. The choice of book tokens was indeed a happy one, for both these ladies are omnivorous readers. They rose in turn to express their thanks.

Sir Ian thanked the Chef, the Orderlies, and the Kitchen and Dining Room Staffs

for their part in making the dinner such a success, and we then made for the Hut, where dancing continued until nearly midnight, with a Cabaret and light refreshments.

Owing to our growth in numbers and limited accommodation, we were unable to invite the Tigers on the 14th, but they were entertained by "Longmynd" three evenings later, and those of us who have availed ourselves of that hospitality of which Mr. Davenport spoke know well that their dinner at Tiger on Christmas Day—when we have gone on holiday—will be worthy of the traditions of St. Dunstan's.

At last we have found another game to supplement the evergreen Dominoes, and a Cribbage craze has set in. So great is the enthusiasm for "One for his Knob" that the players are making their own cribbage boards, and bridge has gone into temporary eclipse.

Woodget and Dickerson are leaving to take posts as telephonists in the New Year. We hope they will give us a ring, telling of success in the near future. Blakely is returning home as a basket-maker.

Since the autumn of 1941, Miss McAndrew has collected £56 for the Red Cross from St. Dunstan's, Church Stretton.

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Congratulations to the following, who have passed tests:—

**Typing.**—W. Burchall, Miss S. Black, G. Fullard, V. Formstone, G. Cock, B. Bentley, C. Womack.

**Braille Reading (Interline).**—S. Barton, S. Blackmore, R. Waas.

**Braille Writing.**—R. Dow, M. O'Neill.

**Admitted to Training.**—Cpl. R. A. Fullard, Royal Scots Regt. (23), Wolverhampton; Ambulance Driver G. H. Piper, Home Defence (39), Littlehampton; Post Warden C. J. Green, Home Defence (60), London; Capt. J. M. Rees, Merchant Navy (48), Pontypool.

**Admitted to Hospital.**—A-Sgt. L. D. Cadman, The Black Watch (R.H.R.), (27), Featherstone, Yorks; Pte. S. V. Tutton, Wores. Regt. (26), Pentre, Rhondda, Glam.; Dvr. L. H. Champion, R.E. (33), Camberley, Surrey; L.A.C. F. Pestell, R.A.F. (35), London.

**Admitted to Hospital and discharged** (on leave prior to training).—Dvr. E. W.

Dudley, R.E. (24), Croydon (transferred from South Africa); Gnr. R. L. Vincent, R.A. (21), Thorpe, Surrey (transferred from South Africa).

**Discharged from Hospital** (returning to Civil Employment).—Sgt. R. Goodall, Dvr. L. H. Champion; (On leave prior to training), J. Howie, L. Cadman; (Hoping to resume civil employment), T. Sellars.

**Discharged from Training.**—Cpl. J. Lasowski.

### Blackpool Notes

This is Blackpool Home calling the British Isles, at least the St. Dunstan's part of the British Isles.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Blackpool visited us on Friday, October 30th. When they arrived we had a Lounge full of very jolly people, "troops," escorts and staff. The Mayor was deeply touched by everything he saw, and seemed rather overcome by the Guard of Honour when he left. Little Bill Gardiner, the grandson of S. Smith, of Blackpool, presented the Mayoress with a bunch of chrysanthemums.

On November 24th, Mr. Samson, who is a great friend of St. Dunstan's, brought along Tony Eaton's band and the Concert Party—a grand evening. Mr. Samson has also brought the R.A. band here a few times, and they have provided excellent concerts and played wonderful music for our dancing. The Grand Hotel dances have started again, and this is one of the attractions of a Blackpool holiday—the "troops" just love them.

Quite a number of the men find when they come here that their sons in the Forces are stationed not far away, so there are many happy meetings—one likes to feel also that the sons of St. Dunstaners look us up if they are anywhere near.

We manage to keep a very full house, in spite of the inclemency of the weather, and we welcome the new St. Dunstaners from Church Stretton, who, I think, like the briny breezes of Blackpool.

Christmas will soon be upon us and we are looking forward to jolly days.

All at the Blackpool Home would like to broadcast Christmas Greetings, and wish all St. Dunstaners a happy 1943.

B.V.D.

### Melplash Notes

A large party of men and escorts arrived at Netherbury on the morning of November 15th to attend a Remembrance Day Service, and also lay their wreath on the Cenotaph.

The parade was also attended by the Home Guard and Civil Defence units.

Colonel H. L. Kitson, O.C. Home Guard, and Captain L. H. Carter, R.N., Civil Defence, asked "Will St. Dunstan's honour us by leading the parade?"

Our men, escorted by Orderly Mitchell, Sister E. Rutledge and the girls, were ready. At the order "St. Dunstan's, by the left, quick march!" the boys of the old brigade swung into step to march to the Cenotaph, where our wreath was laid by R. Cowley and W. Dec.

Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year to all St. Dunstaners from Melplash. F.M.M.

### Sir Arthur Pearson Anniversary

On the morning of December 9th a deputation of St. Dunstaners, accompanied by Mr. Askew, visited Hampstead Cemetery, where a wreath of poppies was laid on Sir Arthur's grave. Messrs. M. Burran and N. Downs, St. Dunstaners, and Head Orderly T. Watson, made up the party.

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On December 13th a special service was held at the Longmynd, Church Stretton, which was carried out by four St. Dunstaners. The Rev. Andrew Nugee, Chaplain of St. Dunstan's, took the service, C. A. Thomas played the music for the hymns, T. Milligan read the Lesson, and the Chairman gave a brief address on the life of Sir Arthur Pearson.

Every seat in the hut which we use for the services was taken.

### Promotions

Joan Fallowfield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Fallowfield, of Southwick, who joined the W.A.A.F. at the age of 17½, has been promoted L.A.C.W.—and gained it before she was 18.

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Joyce Nash, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Nash, of St. Leonards-on-Sea, has been promoted to the rank of Corporal in the W.A.A.F.

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Cadet N. T. Bell, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Bell, of Canvey Island, has been promoted to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant, Royal Artillery.

### Notes and News

Our masseur, J. Boyce, of Belfast, has joined the Home Guard and is doing first aid and stretcher work.

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We have heard with regret of the death of Frank Maclean, the blind New Zealander, who will be known to a number of St. Dunstaners who trained with him at the N.I.B. He was in practice at West Wickham with his wife.

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A. Sterno, of Bath, will shortly celebrate a 25th anniversary. He has been twenty-five years in his shop. A customer told him he heard two men talking in a Salisbury train one day, when one said, "Go to Sterno, of Bath." An advertisement for Sterno, and for all St. Dunstan's boot-repairers.

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Sir Ian Fraser's recent duties overseas included a mission to the United States and Canadian War Departments. While engaged upon these duties he was authorised to wear uniform and was promoted to the rank of Honorary Lieut.-Colonel. It is understood that, in accordance with custom, he will retain the formal use of this designation.

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A cry from the heart from G. M. Riseley, of Tasmania. He says thousands of pears are wasted near his home, and he and his wife are anxious to make them into "Perry," a beverage made on the same principle as cider from apples. Could anyone, St. Dunstan or St. Dunstan's wife, supply a recipe?

### Letter to the Editor

To the Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR SIR,

Re the Harry Champion broadcast. It was in the old St. Dunstan's lounge, in 1916, when Chirgwin, Marie Lloyd, and Harry Champion gave a concert to the "boys." St. Dunstan Wise was the man I believe he has passed on. I was sitting outside the French windows making a string bag with three silks, red, white, and blue. Harry Champion was watching me, and when I took out my watch to see the time he started to sing "Any old Iron," afterwards remarking "I am handing over a nice fat cheque, and this will make you smile."

Yours sincerely,

Sompting, Sussex,

W. H. COLLINS.

### Killed on Active Service

With deep regret we have heard of the death of Jim McPherson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McPherson, of Windsor, who was killed as a result of his plane crash-landing after a raid on Italy. He was seriously hurt and died in hospital a few days later.

### Missing

We have heard with regret that Alan Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Hall, of Chilton, Berks., who is in the Royal Navy, is reported missing, and that Mr. and Mrs. Abbott, of Willesden, have been notified by the Admiralty that their son, who was serving with H.M. Submarines, has been missing since September.

### Wounded

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. H. Brown, of Reading, have heard that their youngest son, Howard, is in hospital suffering from injury to his left foot. He was blown up by a mine in Libya.

### Sons and Daughters in the Services

BATES, Pte. J. (Oakengates), Devonshire Regt.  
 BATES, A.C.1, Royal Air Force.  
 BILLINGTON, A.C. Reginald, Royal Air Force.  
 BILLINGTON, R. G., Royal Air Force.  
 BOND, C. W. (Bath), Royal Navy.  
 BRAZIER, Edward T., Royal Air Force.  
 BROWN, Kathleen (Exeter), W.R.N.S.  
 BROWN, Lce.-Cpl. W. T. (Wellington), 10th Army.  
 COBBELL, —, A.T.S.  
 COLLINGE, Pte. G., Pay Corps.  
 COLLINS, Pte. Herbert (Jarrow), Pay Corps.  
 DIMOND, O.S. Sydney, Royal Navy.  
 EDWARDS, Sig. R. D. (Denbigh), Royal Artillery.  
 FEARN, A.C.1 J. T., Royal Air Force.  
 FISHWICK, Pte. W., Parachute Battalion.  
 FISHWICK, Seaman H., Royal Navy.  
 GIDNEY, Sapper T., T.B.R.E.  
 GOBURN, Pte. P. C. C., I.T.C.  
 HALL, V.A.D. M. (Chilton), R.N.A. Hospital.  
 HARRIS, I. (Charlton Kings), Royal Signals.  
 HILL, Lce.-Cpl. J. E. (Gloucester), Queen's Own Hussars.  
 LATH, A.C.1 Samuel, Royal Air Force.  
 LATH, Gunner L., Royal Artillery.  
 MARSHALL, Leading Steward (Southend), Royal Navy.  
 O'BRIEN, Driver E. (Skelmersdale), R.A.S.C.  
 POWELL, A.C.2 George (Stretton), Royal Air Force.  
 SELBY, Apprentice Wm. (Cardiff), Merchant Navy.  
 SHEPHERD, Trooper (Intake), R.A.C.  
 SIM, Leading Seaman W. J., Royal Navy.  
 SKELLY, A.C.1 R., Royal Air Force.  
 WILLIAMS, Cpl. Betty (Hampton), W.A.A.F. (M.T.)  
 WILLIAMS, Sergt. H. V. (Hampton), R.A., A.A.  
 WOOLDRIDGE, Nora, A.T.S. (Pay Corps).

### Birth

SQUIRES.—To the wife of E. J. Squires, of Ringwood, on November 28th, a daughter.

### Sir Ian Fraser's Book

We reprint from the *Sunday Times* a review of Sir Ian Fraser's book, which was published on December 11th. Mr. Edward Shanks, the well-known reviewer, says:

"When I picked up Sir Ian Fraser's book I could not help the reflection that this is a sadly opportune moment for its publication. And, of course, that is the reason why Sir Ian thought this an opportune moment for writing it.

"It may be said without exaggeration that among the many great services Sir Ian has rendered to his fellow sufferers this narrative of his own experiences and observations will rank very high. One of the first books he had read to him after his misfortune was the life of Henry Fawcett, the blind man who became Postmaster-General. His own should provide a like inspiration for all those who to-day are following him 'into this world of the blind.'

"There are two sides to Sir Ian's record. One is a cool, clear, and objective statement of what the blind can do and what can be done for them. The other is a statement (and I think that to this, too, the same epithets apply) of what the new world into which they have entered means to them. Sir Ian tries with extraordinary acuteness to analyse the difference between this new world and the old. How much do the blind visually remember? Are they, and, if so, why, more subject to sleeplessness than other people?

"I think the act of getting into bed, turning out the light, closing down a curtain upon the outside world, as it were, suggests sleep to the ordinary seeing person, and that this very powerful suggestion or association of ideas is a potent factor in the first and all-important business of getting off to sleep. With me this switching-off process is absent. But there are other reasons for sleeplessness too, though they are not exclusive to the blind. Lack of exercise is often the cause of sleeplessness, and blind people, on the whole, take less exercise than others."

"The dry but moving precision of that is repeated when Sir Ian tells us how he found it possible to ride, and when he offers some useful observations on the

best ways by which blind people can play cards.

"This book is one which is hard for a seeing person to review. I have tried to imitate the author's own cheerful detachment. That would have been much harder did I not feel that the spirit in which he writes throughout is not only genuine, but also must make itself felt as such by all who read him—or have him read to them."

The book is produced in an attractive, dark blue binding, and there is a frontispiece photogravure portrait of the author. On the back of the dust jacket are the words, quoted from the book:

"... Now I look back over twenty-five years of blindness and find myself writing a book, and I begin to wonder why?"

"I want to write a book for the same reason as prompted me, when I was a child, to want to ride a horse; or later on, when I was a boy, to want to drive a motor car; or later still, to want to fire a revolver or climb a mountain. It is, I think, the urge to do something which you haven't done before, and which you hope you may prove to yourself and to others that you are able to do. In the ordinary way I do not suppose I should have attempted to write this book until I was sixty-five or older, and had retired from public affairs. I am moved to write it now, when I am only forty-five, because the outbreak of this war is already bringing some scores of young men, and women, too, into this world of the blind in which I have lived so long. Their journey into the valley of shadows, their quiet, patient courage, their adaptability and their resurrection—for it is nothing less—into the world of men and women moves me strongly, reminds me of my own experience, and makes me want to set it down, partly, I think, to ease my own mind and partly because I hope it will be helpful to them."

St. Dunstan's Committee has decided to present a copy of this book to every St. Dunstaner. This will involve the printing of a special edition and, due to war conditions, there will accordingly be some delay before the copies are ready. The publishers have kindly undertaken to produce this edition at cost price, and the author has given up all royalties and commissions on these copies.

## “ In Memory ”

PRIVATE ROBERT H. ATKINSON  
(*Royal Engineers*)

With deep regret we record the death of R. H. Atkinson, of Alderholt, Dorset.

When he first became a St. Dunstaner, his health was not very good, and for this reason he did not take up any training, but he was very interested in poultry, a few of which he kept for household use.

His death on November 13th came as a shock to us all. He collapsed whilst out walking with his wife.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the flowers at the funeral.

Our sympathy is extended to his wife, her daughter and son-in-law, with whom she will in future be living.

GUNNER PERCY BRELSFORD  
(*Canadian Field Artillery*)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of P. Brelsford, of Bournemouth.

He was wounded in France in 1917 and at St. Dunstan's was trained in mat-making, but he gave up this occupation in favour of poultry-keeping and gardening, at which he employed himself until 1933. Since then he has followed his hobbies of fishing and draughts, taking part in many competitions.

Brelsford went to Blackpool at the end of September for a holiday and it was a surprise to us all to hear the sad news that he had passed away.

The funeral took place at Blackpool, and the service was conducted by the Rev. George Chadwick. Many beautiful wreaths were sent and members of the staff at the Blackpool Home attended the service.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his widow and her sons—two of whom are serving with His Majesty's Forces—in their bereavement.

PRIVATE JAMES HORRIDGE  
(*Labour Corps*)

We record with deep regret the death of J. Horridge, of Bolton, Lancs.

Enlisting in the first year of the Great War he was discharged in 1919, but he did not come under St. Dunstan's care with impaired sight, as a result of service, until 1925.

He at first carried on a little music shop but of late years, because of head trouble, had only been able to do light basket work, finally having to give this up on account of ill-health. He had been a sick man for a long time and he died at his home on October 23rd.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and daughter.

CORPORAL PERCY LOWE  
(*North and South Lancashire Regiments*)

We deeply regret to record the death of P. Lowe, of Adlington, Lancs., which occurred at our hospital, Tiger Hall, Church Stretton, on November 15th.

Enlisting at the age of eighteen, he served first with the 4th North Lancashire Regiment, but was subsequently transferred to the South Lancashire Regt. He served in France from January, 1916, to June, 1918, gaining the Military Medal and the Croix de Guerre. He was slightly wounded at one time, and later was very badly gassed, which resulted eventually in the loss of his sight. He carried on at his work, however, for some time, and did not come under St. Dunstan's care until 1939, although we had been in contact with him for some years before this. He made a very valiant attempt to carry on as long as possible.

A comparatively short time ago he went to Church Stretton to take up training there, but was taken ill and admitted to Tiger Hall, where he died. He was liked by everyone and will be much missed at Church Stretton, where a Memorial Service was held, although the body was taken home for burial.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and son, Kenneth.

C.Q.M.S. LESLIE EDWARD TURNER  
(*7th Gloucestershire Regiment*)

We record with deep regret the death of L. E. Turner, of Burnham-on-Crouch.

Enlisting in 1914, he served overseas and was severely wounded in Mesopotamia in 1917. He came to St. Dunstan's and, after his transfer to After Care, took up a post as masseur in the Downham Market Auxiliary Hospital. He gave this up in 1921 to take over a small business.

We did not hear from him for over twenty years, but when he did get in touch with us again his health was far from good. He died on November 4th.

His funeral took place at Burnham-on-Crouch, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his friends at St. Dunstan's.