

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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WAR PENSIONS

Call for Action

THERE was a full-dress debate on war pensions in the House of Commons on March 23rd. Sir Ian Fraser opened a vigorous attack upon the pensions policy of the Government and was supported by members of all parties. The matters raised in the debate are of such interest to St. Dunstaners, old and new, that we are including as a supplement to this month's REVIEW a verbatim report of the whole debate from the Official Report, which is commonly called "Hansard." We urge all St. Dunstaners and their friends to read this, although it is a long document, for we feel sure it will repay the effort.

For nearly twenty years, but particularly during the past three years, Sir Ian has pleaded and advocated the disabled men's cause by speech and question in the House of Commons. He has become the recognised leader of this cause in the House, and members of all parties have rallied round him. A few months ago he was elected Chairman of the House of Commons Branch of the British Legion, which is a non-party rallying point for those who are interested in ex-Service matters.

We will not attempt to summarise the matters dealt with in the debate in view of the supplement. Sir Ian Fraser authorises us to say that, although no actual concessions were promised or gained, he regards the debate as a successful tactical operation in a much larger campaign. The House of Commons has been roused to give full and considered thought to this subject, and the Government has been compelled to foreshadow concessions which will undoubtedly be forthcoming as time goes on.

No small help has been given to the movement for improvement in war pensions by the newspaper press of the whole country. Hundreds of papers carried long and detailed stories of our Chairman's speech, and scores of them ran favourable leading articles the next day. This movement of public opinion cannot be without its effect.

But action is required now and this is where St. Dunstaners can help. Every St. Dunstaner, or friend of St. Dunstaners, is urged, after he has read the debate, to take the copy to other ex-Servicemen who are his friends and who live in his locality, to ask them to read it and then to talk the whole matter over with them. It is suggested that they should then form a deputation, if possible with the help of the local branch of the British Legion, to call upon their own Member of Parliament and to put to him the points which are made in the various speeches.

Members of Parliament are very much occupied with war-time matters, but it is their duty to attend to proposals brought before them by their constituents, and nothing will

move Parliament to bring pressure upon the Government more certainly than representations made in the constituencies to the Members themselves.

Now is the time for action, and every St. Dunstan or other ex-Service reader of this magazine is urged to play his part. No recriminations, and no personalities, should enter into these representations, but a plain, straightforward case, based upon the arguments so clearly brought out in the debate, and, if possible, upon personal cases known to the members of the deputation, are what is required.

We would like to make it clear that unity is strength and that the more 100 per cent. disabled men, that is to say, the war-blinded, the limbless, and others, on whose behalf representations are made, the better. That is why we suggest our own readers make contact with other ex-Servicemen.

Each deputation may formulate its own programme, based upon the debate generally, and its own knowledge of local cases, but we suggest the following points:—

1. Appeal tribunals should be set up at once.
2. Conditions and rates of pension for this war should immediately be raised to Great War levels.
3. Wives' and children's allowances should be paid whether the man marries before or after his disability.
4. Attendance allowances should be paid to more of the 100 per cent. disabled, and should be more generous in amount.

Further copies of the Pensions Debate can be had on application, and readers are requested to write to the Editor, and say if they have been able to take any steps on the lines suggested and, if so, what they have done and with what result.

We are sure that our Chairman will go on with the good work in the House of Commons. It is up to ex-Servicemen all over the country to see that the good work they do in the constituencies backs up this important campaign.

Brief Notes

L. Jackson, of Heswall, is now Chairman of the Heswall Branch of the British Legion Benevolent Fund, as well as President of the British Legion Club, Heswall.

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Our sympathy to Tom Smith, of Durham, who was bombed out in a recent raid; to F. A. Whitehouse, whose house suffered considerably, although fortunately he and his family were not injured; and to H. Finkle, who had an unpleasant experience when the back of the house was badly damaged, but was unhurt, thanks to a table shelter.

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Recent visitors to Headquarters have been Miss Solomon, Cpl. Major Dawkins, and Mr. Ernest Kessell. All send good wishes to their St. Dunstan friends.

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W. N. Stephenson, of Woodley, near Reading, a new war St. Dunstan, made a fine speech about St. Dunstan's at a big Civil Service Club Dance at Gillingham—his home town.

G. M. Jordan, of Rhymney, one of our shop-keepers, raised £3 10s. for Mrs. Churchill's Aid to Russia Fund by a raffle of odd pieces of jewellery.

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Orderly Gibbon, who was rushed to hospital recently for an emergency operation, is making very good progress.

New War Young St. Dunstaners

The birth of a baby girl, on January 24th, to the wife of one of our trainees, W. Glover, of Birmingham, makes the fourth baby born whilst men were still in training. The others were:—

G. Etherington, Windlesham, daughter (Stephanie), May 15th, 1942.

H. White, Stockport, son (Graham), September 22nd, 1942.

C. Womack, Sheffield, son (Neville Roger), December 24th, 1942.

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The birth of a daughter—Penelope—to the wife of Pilot Officer D. C. Tufnell, now of Bristol, is also announced. She was born on April 14th.

Church Stretton Notes

March has slipped by under such genial conditions that some braille lessons have already been given out on the terrace, and winter clothes have become a burden. The Alpinists have been out early. On Saturday their most venturesome expedition developed into a kind of steeplechase, half the party, including Matron Pain, landing precipitately in the stream at Callow Hollow. Happily this is not far from the Crown House, at which they were considerably overdue for tea.

The neighbourhood is watching with interest quite a considerable number of our totally-blinded men who are learning to walk independently in the village and still further afield.

We have had talks during the month, not only from the Chairman but from another old St. Dunstan, Rex Furness, stressing the importance and joys of gaining independence.

The latter was an analytical chemist before the Great War, during which he lost his sight as the result of an accident at the Government factory where he was working. He trained at St. Dunstan's and is again superintending work in a Government factory. After speaking of the many ways in which blind men have become useful and normal citizens in daily life, he took as his subject the use of chemicals in daily life: (1) for food, as fertilisers, and in certain "ersatz" foodstuffs; (2) for clothing—synthetic cottons and silks being manufactured by chemical processes from wood-pulp; (3) in medicine, and, finally, death-dealing weapons. For this last the scientist is not wholly to blame—in some cases those very inventions he originally devised for the benefit of the race have been adapted by others to deadly ends.

On the 15th Sir Ian gave us a very clear outline of the Beveridge Plan. He stipulated that he was merely stating Sir William's proposals, and not giving either his own or the Government's views upon them. We all appreciated his sympathetic and lucid answers to the many questions put to him. He had planned another long week-end here, but the debate on Pensions was fixed for the 22nd. However, he found time to outline his views and hopes on this subject, and we took the opportunity to wish him luck.

On the 26th, "Tony" Naumann gave a most interesting account of his all too short career in the Rifle Brigade. After an intensive course of training in Scotland, his regiment started for an unknown destination, and arrived eventually at Casablanca. Before reaching the battle-front they had time to appreciate the beauty of Algiers, and to learn the good qualities of the inhabitants. Harassed officers verified details of the ninety odd maps with which each had to struggle, and practised those languages they had been studying in preparation on the voyage. The troops had to learn to adapt their rolling stock to the locality, and to scale the Atlas Mountains. Then into battle, and a frank account of the speaker's own feelings and his speedy knock-out and return to England, and his transfer from one hospital to another—more than once being moved suddenly, owing to bombing of the buildings. He spoke most appreciatively of the doctors and nurses, both French and English, under whose care he has been. There was a lively discussion afterwards, mainly on technical matters.

Another old St. Dunstan, Duncan Maclean, of Brimpton, near Reading, who is a lay-preacher, has been staying with us, and gave the address at our Morning Service on the 28th.

The final of the Cribbage Tournament was played on March 8th, when F. King beat P. Saywell, after a close contest, by 2 to 1. Lady Buckmaster called on F/O. Chas. Cooper to present the silver cup which he had given for the competition, and F. King, in thanking him, said that this was a game which depended not only on luck, but on skill, which required constant practice.

Congratulations to the following, who have passed their tests:—

Braille Writing.—R. Waas, G. Cock, H. White.

Braille reading (Interline).—F. Morgan, E. Ward, A. Wigglesworth.

Typing.—T. Powell, B. Bell, J. Daley, J. Riley, J. Delaney, R. Vowles, V. Dale.

Admitted to Hospital.—Pte. B. Kilsby (41), Royal Berks Regt., Northampton; Spr. W. E. Cunningham (33), R.E., Liverpool; Sgt. E. R. Ettridge (27), K.R.R.C., Twickenham; Pte. F. R. Fribbins

(26), Gloucestershire Regt., Marlborough; Spr. J. P. Hancock (31), R.E., Evesham; Cpl. L. Howard (25), Hussars, Abingdon; Sgt. L. Thompson (25), R.A., Gateshead; Pte. O. Huttunen (37), U.S. Air Force, Ohio; Gdsman. T. Dinning (26), Grenadier Guards, Doncaster.

Discharged from Hospital (all to return later for training).—Spr. Cunningham, Sgt. Ettridge, Pte. Fribbins, Spr. Hancock, Cpl. Howard, Sgt. Thompson.

A Great Little Man

Passing of Dr. Harold Snape

Flying Officer Wall, who is at present a patient in St. Dunstan's Hospital at Church Stretton, writes:

A large gathering of staff and St. Dunstaners assembled in the little Chapel hut at Longmynd on Saturday, April 10th, to pay homage to the late Doctor Harold Snape, who died in a Manchester nursing home after a serious major operation. The Padre, the Rev. Andrew Nugee, conducted a short memorial service, which coincided with the burial of Dr. Snape in Manchester.

"Snapey," as he was affectionately known, was a lovable character, full of witticisms, who loved a good joke and often told one against himself, and was greatly esteemed by all who knew him. His friends were many, for no one could fail to be captivated by his plucky outlook on life, the manner in which he got down to his studies at St. Dunstan's, to find, as he termed it, "a new world," when his sight had failed and caused his retirement from practice.

Dr. Snape would, had his sight not been sadly impaired by the ravages of mustard gas suffered in the first Great War, been an invaluable member of society in the present conflict, but this was not to be. Though he often quietly conjectured on what he could still have done, he did not give up. Outwardly he was never despondent; always he was "dear old Snapey," ever ready to lend a helping hand, ready to join in anything that was afoot for the enjoyment of others similarly handicapped.

"Snapey" was small of stature, but he had a great heart, gigantic courage, colossal will-power, and fully deserves the eternal rest to which he has gone. Yes! Doctor Harold Snape was a great little man.

Resignation of Dr. Bridges

St. Dunstaners will hear with the deepest regret that Dr. Bridges has, for reasons of ill-health, been compelled to resign his position as Medical Officer.

The following correspondence has passed between our old friend and Sir Ian Fraser:

36 ASHBURN PLACE, S.W.7.

April 1st, 1943.

DEAR SIR IAN FRASER,

Owing to continued ill-health, I am reluctantly compelled to place my resignation in your hands after nearly thirty years' association.

It has always given me the greatest pleasure to meet you and your colleagues on all possible occasions, and to enjoy your long continued friendship.

Please give my best wishes to the old St. Dunstaners, and the best of good luck in the future, both to them and to you and your wife.—Yours very sincerely,

E. CHITTENDEN BRIDGES.

REGENT'S PARK.

April 8th, 1943.

MY DEAR DR. BRIDGES,

I learn with very deep regret, on personal as well as St. Dunstan's grounds, of the ill-health which makes it impossible for you to carry on with your work for us, and I accept your resignation with very great sorrow.

This feeling will, I know, be shared by all St. Dunstaners, whose confidence you have gained over a period of nearly thirty years. Your sound medical advice and friendly counsel have been a very great contribution towards their happiness, and they would like me to send you their most heartfelt thanks and good wishes.

Yours very sincerely, IAN FRASER.

To Relatives of Blinded Prisoners

Mrs. A. Bright, the mother of Pte. Bertram Bright, a blinded prisoner of war, writes:—

"For some time I have thought how comforting and encouraging all next of kin of men in Stalag IX A/H could be to each other if we could correspond. I visited Church Stretton last year and saw for myself the splendid work our boys are taught.

"I shall be very pleased to receive and answer any letter from the next of kin of a blinded prisoner. My address is: 216 Frenshaw Grove, Birmingham."

St. Dunstaners at the Mansion House

On Wednesday, April 7th, one hundred St. Dunstaners were the guests of the Lord Mayor, Sir Samuel Joseph, and the Lady Mayoress, at luncheon at the Mansion House. The party consisted almost entirely of young men and women of this war from the Training Centre and Hospital, accompanied by some of the nursing and orderly staff, and a number of other newly-blinded men who have finished their training and are now working in various parts of the country. Although it was primarily a party for men of this war, St. Dunstaners of the last war were represented by those who are at present instructors at Church Stretton.

Outside the Mansion House the red carpet—only used on State occasions—was laid, and boys of the City of London A.T.C. mounted a guard of honour. After the traditional reception by the Lord Mayor, standing in his robe of office, there was an impressive procession to the Egyptian Hall, where luncheon was to be served. On the table was the famous gold plate. Preceded by the mace and the sword of state, the guests moved slowly behind the Lord Mayor, who had on his arm Mrs. Violet Formstone, a young munition worker who was blinded in a factory explosion. Behind walked the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by Lieut. A. Naumann, who was blinded in the Middle East.

The many distinguished guests included H.R.H. Prince Bernhard, Lady (Arthur) Pearson, the Minister of Pensions, Sir Walter Womersley, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Dudley Pound, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Keyes, and the Minister of Food, Lord Woolton.

Throughout the whole of the proceedings, Mr. John Snagge, of the B.B.C., gave a commentary. "At most Lord Mayor's functions," he told his listeners at one point, "there is a ceremony known as the Loving Cup. It is so old that nobody knows the origin of it. The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress are now going to drink a token loving cup with the two distinguished guests. Behind him at his back stands the Lady Mayoress to see that he is in no way attacked. The two distinguished guests have now drunk, each in turn being protected by their neighbour, and having bowed to one another, they sit down. Normally the

loving cup is filled with the wines used for the Lord Mayor's Banquet, but to-day the contents are known to nobody but the Lord Mayor's staff, not even to Lord Woolton" (laughter).

After lunch, Sir Ian Fraser, speaking for Lady (Arthur) Pearson, the President, and the Executive Council, expressed thanks to the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress. "For more than a quarter of a century," he said, "there has been a partnership between the State and St. Dunstan's. It is the State's part to provide compensation—and, I think, do a bit more than that (applause)—and it is St. Dunstan's to provide re-education, training, resettlement, and after-care." Sir Ian added that although this was a party for the newly-blinded, he felt sure that all old St. Dunstaners would welcome it as an honour to their organisation and would be with them in spirit (applause). "We will remember this day all our lives," he said. "I have to do with many public functions, but I have never come across one in which the head people, that is in this case the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, have taken so much personal interest over every detail to see that their guests were comfortable. We thank you for your great kindness to us, and we all join most heartily in drinking your very good health."

The Lord Mayor, in reply, said that they were glad to have the opportunity to show in some small measure respect and admiration for St. Dunstan's and all associated with it. To those present he said, "We thank you from the depth of our hearts for the services you have rendered so gallantly to our country and our cause, and we wish you the very best of luck in the new life which you are learning to face with such skill, such brightness, and such courage."

Sir Walter Womersley, Minister of Pensions, said that he would do everything he possibly could to make life tolerable for the war-blinded, and as comfortable as it could be made. He felt that the greatest work he could do for the disabled men and women who came out of this war was to help them to help themselves.

Later, by the generous co-operation of the B.B.C., a variety show was put on, which was also broadcast. Then followed the popular "ITMA" show, which was reproduced in the exact studio atmosphere.

South African Notes

Several newcomers have been admitted to "Tembani" since my last REVIEW notes:—

Pte. Frederick Barnard, Brigade Workshops, T.S.C. (S.A.)

Driver Michael Burns, R.A.S.C.

*Sergt. Edgar Ettridge, King's Royal Rifles.

Rifleman Alfred Franklin, Rifle Brigade.

*Pte. Frederick Fribbins, Gloucesters.

*Corpl. Leslie Howard, Hussars.

Sergt. John Innes, Gordon Highlanders.

Captain Leete, R.A.F.

*Sergt. Leslie Thompson, Survey Regt.

Pte. Leslie Weeks, Royal Sussex Regt.

The summer holidays were enjoyed by all. Only one St. Dunstaner left us for the whole period—Sergt. D. Pretorius. His stay away from St. Dunstan's has been lengthened by the fact that he has had to be admitted to Brenthurst Hospital, Johannesburg, for plastic treatment. Driver Larry Watkinson has recently joined him there for an operation to his injured hand. Private Jack Vincent has also had a spell in hospital to have some shrapnel removed from his head.

All were glad to get down to work again in spite of the many "good times" they had.

E. CHADWICK BATES.

* Since returned to England.

(With Mrs. Bates' Notes came a long article by Jimmie Ellis upon the holidays. We very much regret that lack of space has prevented us from printing this. We look forward to having another of his entertaining articles next month.—Ed.)

The Broadcast from South Africa

The broadcast from "Tembani" on Saturday, March 20th, was very successful. The item was introduced by the woman announcer as "Greetings from St. Dunstan's, South Africa—messages from men of the Forces who have been convalescing at the St. Dunstan's Home, Cape Town, for their friends and relatives in this country." Then followed personal messages from thirteen new St. Dunstaners whose homes are in Great Britain. All of them sounded cheery and happy. When the last man had spoken, the announcer said: "In the studio with the boys this afternoon is Mrs. Chadwick-Bates, Chairman of St. Dunstan's Home. Mrs. Bates wants to say a few words about the activities of the boys," and Mrs. Bates' familiar voice was heard saying, "Now that is the end

of the messages to-day, and all of you who have been listening to them will be glad to know that the boys really have been speaking the truth. They are fit and happy, and besides putting in the necessary time at their studies, at which they are making excellent progress, they do thoroughly enjoy the dancing, bathing, and other forms of recreations. The summer weather here is beautiful and is building them up to that condition of perfect health and independence in which they all hope to return to their dear ones."

The announcer then said "The boys will now sing the 'Tembani' song," and over the air it came:

*We're always on the outside,
On the outside, always looking in.
We'll never know how fortunes are made,
For the sun always shines
When we're in the shade.
We're always on the outside,
But we'll keep on trying till we win,
'Cause we know one day we'll be on the inside
Instead of the outside always looking in.*

Things We Are Asked

G. Fallowfield, of Southwick, writes:—

"Who designed the St. Dunstan's badge, and its colours?"

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First, a word of explanation as to the origin of the badge itself. In the very early days, men in training wore a badge in the shape of a blue oblong, surrounded by laurel sprays, upon which were the words, "Soldiers and sailors blinded in the war. St. Dunstan's stands for Victory over Blindness." Sir Arthur Pearson then decided that a further badge was needed for those who had passed from training to After-Care, and he invited suggestions. A number of designs were submitted, and Miss Pain tells us that from these, two were selected which were somewhat similar. The present badge is a combination of these—a flaming torch, encircled by a shield, with the name "St. Dunstan's" across it. The designs were submitted by Miss Doris Prince, cousin of Miss Prince, of the National Library for the Blind, and by Mr. Vail, a member of St. Dunstan's staff.

The earliest reference to colours is in ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for June, 1917, when it was announced that St. Dunstan's rowing colours were blue and white, and were selected by Miss Mace (now Lady Fraser) and Mrs. Lipscomb.

Derby Sweepstake, 1943

Our annual Sweepstake is again open. As usual, tickets will be 2s. 6d. each, and may only be held by St. Dunstaners. The allocation of the prize money will be as follows:—

Ten per cent. of the total contributions subscribed to the Comforts Fund for the sons of St. Dunstaners.

The remainder will, with the exception of the actual cost of printing and postage involved, be distributed as follows:—

Fifty per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.

Twenty per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.

Ten per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.

Twenty per cent. to be equally divided among those who hold tickets drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

In the case of the three big prizes, the prize money will be paid in War Savings Certificates, with the exception of the first £5, which will be paid in cash. The smaller prizes for runners will also be paid in cash.

Applications for tickets can be made at once, and will be received up to the first post on Friday, June 11th. Every application must bear the name and address of the sender, and must be sent to the Editor of the REVIEW, St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Regent's Park (Irish St. Dunstaners see below).

Postal orders must be made payable to St. Dunstan's and crossed.

The draw will take place at Headquarters on Wednesday, June 16th.

TO ST. DUNSTANERS IN IRELAND

To avoid the possibility of applications going astray, St. Dunstaners in Ireland are advised to send their requests to Mr. Macauley and not to Regent's Park.

National Laying Trials

Report on fifth period of 28 days from
2nd February to 3rd March, 1943

Position	Name	Test Score	Value
1	George C. Jackson	...	451
2	Alfred E. Coman	...	416
3	John Campbell	...	390
4	Percy Holmes	...	389
5	E. H. Carpenter	...	363
*6	David McLaren	...	350
*6	A. Jarvis	...	350
8	T. Gregory	...	322
9	Albert Chaffin	...	310
10	T. M. Fisher	...	297
11	R. E. Hill	...	241
12	W. Alan Smith	...	226

*Tied. Average per bird, 62.80.

The Test Manager reports: "St. Dunstan's men are to be congratulated on the showing of their birds, and they also have the distinction of being the only section in the Test with 100 per cent. alive."

Reported Missing, Presumed Dead

Our deep sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. A. Welton, of Cleethorpes, who have received news that the ship on which their eldest son, Alfred, was Chief Engineer, has been sunk. There were only three survivors, so far as is known.

Reported Missing

We have heard with regret that William, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Robinson, of Tottenham, has been reported missing in North Africa, and that the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Boswell, of Gainsborough, has also been reported missing.

Reported Prisoner, Now Safe

We have heard with pleasure that the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. O'Hara, of Clara, Eire, who was posted as a prisoner of war some months ago, is safe and well and is now with the Middle East Forces.

New War Marriages

COPELAND—ALEXANDER.—On April 3rd, one of our earliest St. Dunstaners of this war, Leslie Copeland, married Miss Kathleen Lily Alexander, whom he met at the aircraft factory at which he has been employed since his training at Church Stretton. Pte. G. Zipfel, now of the R.A.M.C., acted as best man, and other guests were Matron Pain and Matron Davies, Miss Lloyd, Social Visitor, and St. Dunstaners T. Rogers, J. P. Smith (Enfield) and H. S. Eames. Mrs. Hackett, and Mrs. Sorley, good friends of St. Dunstaners from the aircraft factory, were also present.

THOMPSON—URRY.—Leslie Thompson, late of the Eighth Army, who was blinded at El Alamein, was married at Gateshead on March 24th to Miss Doreen Urry.

VINCENT—PAYNE.—Leslie Vincent, who was blinded and lost both hands at Tobruk, was married on March 31st to Miss Gwendoline Payne, to whom he had been engaged for three years. Before coming to St. Dunstan's, Vincent, like Thompson, spent some time in the South African Home. Sergt. Alan Nichols was best man and Sir Ian and Lady Fraser were among the guests at the reception. Considerable publicity was given in the Press to both weddings in view of Sir Ian's references to them in his speech in the House of Commons.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE CHARLES ROBERT GRAY
(11th Royal West Kents)

WITH deep regret we announce the death of C. R. Gray.

Wounded in France in 1916, as a result of which he was rendered blind as well as suffering the loss of both legs, he was able to get about by means of a propelled chair.

“Charlie,” as he was known, had for many years been a permanent resident at St. Dunstan's Homes, where his cheerfulness made him a great favourite. His death on March 7th has left an empty place at Melplash, and the “boys” and staff will sadly miss him.

The interment took place at Melplash Churchyard, the service being conducted by the Rev. Earle, of Mapperton, and was attended by his sister and brothers and many friends and staff at Melplash, including St. Dunstaners, W. Spencer, J. Hiscock, E. Millis, W. J. Burnett, and C. White.

Among the many wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his relations in their bereavement.

The Rev. Arthur H. Pope, Vicar of Melplash, writes:

“Charlie” had been a St. Dunstaner for over twenty-four years, so he was quite one of the “old brigade.” In spite of having lost his eyesight, and legs, not to speak of a body riddled by shot and shell, he was always cheerful, and never complained of his misfortunes. Any morning on entering the lounge, a game of dominoes having finished, “Charlie” could be heard singing away to his heart's content. And then a little chat with him—“How goes it to-day, Charlie?” The answer was always the same, “O.K. Not too bad, not too bad at all”—cheerful and bright, and full of old remembrances—his various jobs, and especially his beloved “'orses.”

“Charlie” will be missed—his cheerful outlook on life was a very great help to his comrades, and must have been an inspiration to all who knew him. He was a type of good old Britisher.

His poor, shattered body returns to dust, but let us pray that his “soul goes marching on.”

PATRICK MULLEN
(Royal Irish Fusiliers)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of P. Mullen, of Dublin.

Enlisting as early as August 27th, 1914, he was discharged from the Army in August, 1917, with defective vision. He was, however, too ill for training and he led a quiet life in his own little place in Dublin, until his sudden death on Wednesday, March 10th. He was buried at the Mount Jerome Cemetery, Dublin. Mr. Macauley represented St. Dunstan's, and a wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades was placed on the coffin. He was a widower, and we extend our sincere sympathy to his two sons.

PRIVATE BENJAMIN WHITTAM BAILEY
(Royal Defence Corps)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of B. W. Bailey, of Burnley.

Enlisting in December, 1914, he served for three years until he was discharged with defective sight, but he did not come under St. Dunstan's care until 1931, when he was no longer a young man. He did, however, master mat-making and wool rugs, with which latter occupation he was occupied during the last years of his life.

He was taken seriously ill some months ago and his death occurred at his home on March 16th. A wreath was sent from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades. We extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Bailey and her two sons.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following, who are celebrating silver weddings:—

Mr. and Mrs. J. Butler, Waterford, January 16th; Mr. and Mrs. H. Eames, Hurst, near Reading, March 23rd; Mr. and Mrs. Purvis, Seghill, Northumberland, April 8th; Mr. and Mrs. “Tiny” Fleming, May 18th.

“Good Companions” Killed in Raid

We have heard with deep regret that Mrs. Lee and Miss Knight, who will be remembered with great affection by many St.

Dunstaners who met them at Ovingdean, have lost their lives as the result of enemy action. They were two of our most faithful “Good Companions.”

Birth

ASHMORE.—To the wife of J. Ashmore, of Loughborough, on March 30th, a son—Leslie John.

Death

WALDIN.—We offer our sincere sympathy to T. Waldin, of Winchester, whose wife passed away on March 31st, after a long illness.