

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 296—VOLUME XXVII [NEW SERIES]

MAY, 1943

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

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Sir John Caulcutt

ON April 29th Sir John Caulcutt died after a few days' illness, at the age of sixty-seven. He was one of Britain's leading bankers, and was chairman or member of a number of very important Government committees, including particularly some dealing with finance, currency, and banking, in the Colonial Empire. He was Chairman of Barclays Dominion, Colonial and Overseas Bank, which is responsible, amongst other things, for banking for our troops in the Middle East and North Africa. His death is a great loss to the banking world and to the nation.

St. Dunstan's also loses a very good friend and adviser, for Sir John Caulcutt had been a member of our Council since July, 1937, and Chairman of our Finance Committee since September, 1939.

For many years I had myself taken the chair of the Finance Committee, but as far back as 1937 we began to make plans for the outbreak of war. We knew that, if war came, St. Dunstan's would have many new financial problems, and we felt that we needed strong technical help. I asked various friends in the House of Commons, whose judgment I valued, to recommend a man, and Sir Dennis Herbert, now Lord Hemingford, who was Deputy Speaker, put me in touch with Sir John Caulcutt. I well remember the friendly but shrewd and critical questions he asked me about St. Dunstan's before he would join us. That same attitude has characterised his services for us. As Chairman of our Finance Committee he always had time to give advice. On his own initiative he would make recommendations or give decisions. He was not one of those men whom you had to drag away from a thousand interests to get five minutes of his time. Once he took on a job he attended to it with meticulous care and genuine interest. Sir John was not responsible for our appeals, though he took a great interest in them, but under the wise guidance of our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Fisher, Chairman of Barclays Bank, and one of the leading figures in the banking world, Sir John was responsible for all our financial policy, financial controls, and investments. He leaves the structure of St. Dunstan's much stronger than he found it, and he leaves the happiest memory amongst those who were privileged to be his friends.

I learn that this is true also of all the organisations with which he was connected. I do not suppose he could have wished a better epitaph.

Prisoners of War

Amongst the prisoners of war recently repatriated from Italy were five who are, or may prove to be, St. Dunstaners. Four have already been admitted to our Hospital at Church

Stretton for examination and boarding, have now gone on leave, and will be returning for training after a good holiday with their people. The other is a Maori serving with the New Zealand Forces, who was repatriated to Egypt, and we presume is on his way to his own Dominion. Whether he will call in for a time at St. Dunstan's in South Africa, while waiting for a ship we do not know at this stage.

While these men were in Italy we did the best we could to see that they were supplied with braille watches, braille reading matter, games, and typewriters, but partly because repatriation has always been very much in the minds of the Italian Government, and has, in fact, taken place on two occasions, and partly for other reasons, we did not succeed in doing as much for our men in Italy as, I am happy to think, we have been able to do for our men in Germany.

The men recently admitted to our Hospital were Fusilier C. Bilcliff, Private I. A. Darling, Gunner J. A. Lee, and Corporal J. Jolly. I am sure all St. Dunstaners will give them a special welcome after the hard and lonely time they have had. We sent to meet these men, and Corporal Jolly told a story which all St. Dunstaners will enjoy: Their Maori friend, Private Tai Paul, used to hide their braille book between the coverings of his stool when visitors came to see them. When the visitors departed they resumed their studies. The stool, however, was always reserved for visitors. Gradually the braille "dots" flattened and then vanished. Their studies had to cease.

Prisoners in Germany

There are now nearly thirty blinded prisoners of war in Germany. St. Dunstan's has done everything possible in co-operation with the Red Cross and the Y.M.C.A. to provide them with material for studies and for passing the time, and I am glad to report that we have to a large extent been successful. Practically all the men in Germany are now good typists and braillists. Some are studying ordinary educational subjects, and some are reading for a future career. Only the other day I heard that they had received boot-repairing and carpentry outfits, and in a recent letter, which is printed on another page of this issue, I learnt how well the jazz band is going. This sounds a cheery story, and I do not doubt that the men themselves, under the helpful guidance of Lieut. Lord Normanby, who has become an honorary member of St. Dunstan's staff, and guides and directs the school, and Major Charters, the well-known ophthalmic surgeon, who looks after the men's sight and health, are maintaining a good morale and an optimistic outlook. That this is so is the finest tribute to their own patient courage and good humour. We keep in touch with the next-of-kin and give them friendly advice and help whenever it is needed. We realise how long some of them have been prisoners, and we are doing everything we possibly can to ameliorate their situation. St. Dunstan's, no less than the next of kin, looks forward to the day of their return and hopes it will not be long delayed.

I had the pleasure, a day or two ago, of meeting the Marchioness of Normanby, Lieut. Lord Normanby's mother, a most charming and gracious lady, who takes the keenest interest in St. Dunstan's and in St. Dunstan's prisoners of war.

IAN FRASER.

Notes and News

Leslie Webber, a St. Dunstaner of this war and now a telephonist, has become engaged to Miss Dorothy Hallam, daughter of our Great War St. Dunstaner, W. Hallam, of Edgware, who is himself a telephonist.

★ ★ ★

When civilian blind authorities in Exeter arranged a service for their own people and St. Dunstan's men in the vicinity, L. Johns, of Exeter, was asked to read the Lesson. He did so most efficiently.

Congratulations to J. Dennick, of Bengeworth, Evesham, who has had conferred upon him the honour of Third Degree in the Earl of Coventry Lodge, No. 4215, R.A.O.B.

Help Wanted

Mrs. Rodwell, wife of our St. Dunstaner at Tring, where they have a hotel and café, would be very glad indeed to hear of anyone, exempt from national service, who could help her generally. She would have a good home, in very pleasant surroundings. Their address is: Tring Hill Café, Tring, Herts.

Church Stretton Notes

The great event last month was our luncheon at the Mansion House, to which the Lord Mayor had invited one hundred St. Dunstaners of the present generation. This comprised not only those in training, but many who have been fledged and are now scattered over the country. The whole day, from breakfast at 5.45 a.m., was a triumph of organisation.

One thing that impressed the sighted escorts—and they had no opportunity to catch sight of everyone—was the number and appearance of the present war St. Dunstaners who have already left us and are taking an active part in national life—looking so well and prosperous, such types of the ideal St. Dunstaners, that our hearts swelled with pride, as they had done at the Silver Jubilee gatherings.

All good things come to an end, though happily not in remembrance, and our return journey, as comfortable as the outgoing, seemed much shorter. It was remarkable that, instead of suffering next day, as we expected, from the "hang-over," everyone seemed alert and keyed up to a full day's work.

The fortnightly talks are very well attended, and the discussions, which are started in the official question time at the end of the lecture, are generally continued less formally in the Lounge.

On the 2nd, Professor McInnes, of the Department of History, Bristol University, spoke on "Anglo-American Relations." In spite of losing his sight at an early age, he has travelled much in both countries, and his reckless career at Oxford on a bicycle in his undergraduate days was proverbial. He pointed out that, although English is the language of the United States, only a small proportion of the population is even of English origin, and we cannot expect their political sympathies to be 100 per cent. pro-British, nor that they should understand our mentality better than we understand theirs. It is, in fact, surprising that we should agree so well.

On the 16th, Colonel Kenny, who was for many years Administrator in Burma and has an intimate knowledge of the Japanese, gave a most interesting lecture on "The Japanese in Burma." He traced the history of their penetration into other Asiatic countries and their relations with European Powers, putting their case forward so disinterestedly

that he was accused of almost beautifying them—this he hastened to disclaim. He scouted the idea that the Jap can only imitate and not originate, quoting, for example, his invention of the machine gun idea centuries ago, his methods of marine warfare, and his strategy of infiltration.

We have had a social evening given by the Ludlow Ladies, and the Ludlow Rotarians invited several men to lunch. On the 4th, The "Sentinel" Works invited us all to a concert and tea at their canteen in Shrewsbury.

The Musical Society, under Jock Steel, has had two evenings and has started a Choral Society.

The Jazz Band adds continually, both to its repertoire and the variety of its instruments, and plays for dancing once a week.

On Thursday evenings there is a well-attended practice of hymns for the following Sunday.

Duncan McLean gave the address at the Service on the two Sundays that he was here, and we hope that we shall hear him again.

On Palm Sunday, after service in the Hut, the Radio Padre, The Rev. Selby Wright, addressed us in the Braille Room. He travels among all denominations in the Army in Great Britain.

His "parish" includes all varieties of regiments, from isolated units on the coast or lonely hill-top to crowded depots and barracks—his work is varied and unceasing. In half an hour he opened our eyes to the complexity of his task. Another half hour was allowed for question time, which brought several interesting questions, to each of which he gave a ready answer.

Everyone in the Community subscribes to the Red Cross "Penny-a-Week" Fund, and our indefatigable Treasurer, Miss McAndrew, has forwarded a cheque for £17 10s., which has been subscribed in the past four months.

An unusually large number are leaving us this term, some to work at home, others as telephone operators, and yet others to work in factories. We wish them all success and happiness.

The following have passed their tests:—**Braille Writing.**—R. Waas, G. Cock, H. White.

Reading (Interline).—S. Hey, B. Priest.
Reading (Interpoint).—M. Delaney, S. MacNamara.

Typing.—V. Dale, L. Cadman, S. Tutton,

South African Notes

Only one newcomer to St. Dunstan's, South Africa, since my last REVIEW Notes: Gunner Leslie Robinson, Royal Artillery.

I see that Weeks' Christian name was inadvertently given as Leslie in the last Notes—his name is Joseph.

Sergt. Pretorius returned as a married man, and Mrs. Pretorius has returned to Cape Town with him. He was married at Groote Kerk on February 20th, to Miss Hennie Wolmarans, and is now hard at work in the endeavour to complete his training by July.

The Carpentry Shop is becoming very popular and has as many pupils as can be taken every morning of the week.

We were all sorry to lose six of our number, who left by hospital ship a few days ago. By the time these Notes appear all of these St. Dunstaners will be at Church Stretton continuing their training.

E. CHADWICK BATES.

The following has been contributed by Cpl. Jimmie Ellis:—

The Evening of Wednesday, February 17th

Wednesday evening at "Tembani" is Guest Evening, and we invariably have some form of entertainment. On the evening of Wednesday, February 17th, we were entertained in quite a different way from the usual party or musical artists. The guest of honour on this occasion was an old St. Dunstaner, Advocate Bowen, Lawyer and Member of Parliament. He had come to give us new St. Dunstaners a talk on "Victory over Blindness."

Before commencing his talk, however, Advocate Bowen had an important duty to perform. Acting on behalf of old St. Dunstaners in England he presented our Matron, Miss Hester Pease, with a silver salver. At the top was engraved the St. Dunstan's badge, and underneath was the following inscription:—

"Presented to Miss Hester Pease as a token of affection and appreciation from all St. Dunstaners in her area in England, on the occasion of her departure to St. Dunstan's, South Africa. February, 1931—May, 1942."

The house was full this evening, our already large family being augmented by many old St. Dunstaners and their wives, and when Advocate Bowen called for three hearty cheers for Miss Pease we made the windows rattle.

After a short interlude, Advocate Bowen went on to tell us some of his experiences during his twenty-five years of blindness. He told us how, for no particular reason, he had a desire to take up law, and how people had tried to dissuade him from attempting this long and arduous study. He even consulted the great General Smuts, who also thought that this would be a bit too much for an ex-railway clerk, especially a newly-blinded one, and that poultry farming would be the very thing. And so he took up poultry farming. He told us many amusing anecdotes about his work in this sphere, and where poultry was concerned he described himself as the world's complete idiot. After eighteen months at St. Dunstan's he married one of the V.A.D.s and together, in the face of all opposition, they went to Cambridge. He was successful and came back with law degrees, having done the supposedly impossible.

He told us how the first St. Dunstaners, following in the footsteps of Sir Arthur Pearson, had refused to allow their handicap to limit their enterprise. He urged that we new St. Dunstaners must emulate our more experienced colleagues in always striving to stretch the bounds of limitation.

He told us how St. Dunstan's had blazed new trails in the world of darkness, and that, as a result of these ventures, blind institutes all over the world changed their methods to conform with those of St. Dunstan's. The keynote of his talk was a quotation from the book, *Victory Over Blindness*, in which Sir Arthur Pearson described the spirit of St. Dunstan's as "A cheerful disregard for a grievous handicap, and a determination to overcome it."

Advocate Bowen's eloquence was easy and flowing, but in his more serious moments he spoke with such earnestness about the traditions of St. Dunstan's that he has created a lasting impression on all his listeners. The talk was enlightening and inspiring, and I know that all of us new St. Dunstaners derived infinite encouragement from it.

J. ELLIS.

Correspondence Invited

A. T. Brooks, of St. Anthony's, 8 Harvey Road, Bournemouth, would welcome correspondence with two or three men now being trained at St. Dunstan's.

From Miss Pease

18th February, 1943.

TO MY DEAR BOYS AND THEIR WIVES,

I do not know how to tell you all what I felt last night when I was presented with your gift to me of a most beautiful silver salver, bearing an inscription and St. Dunstan's badge. This loving thought for me will be a lifelong remembrance of my happy days amongst you, and will always be one of my most treasured possessions.

One of our old boys, Advocate Bowen, M.P., made the presentation, and then spoke about St. Dunstan's in the old days. It was lovely to feel, while so far away in Africa, that the great tie of St. Dunstan's, of both the last and present war, united us all so closely, and that we are, though all so separated, just one big family.

I so enjoy and look forward to your letters, though I know there is a big chance some will never reach me. You are often in my thoughts, and if only some 6,000 miles of submarine-infested waters did not divide us, how warmly Mrs. Bates and I would welcome you for a South African holiday!

Again I want to thank you for my lovely gift and the thought which prompted it, which I so deeply appreciate, and I only wish I could come round and thank you all personally and show it to you . . . as it is I am asking a St. Dunstaner of this war to personally carry my dispatch from Africa to you. I have entrusted this to very capable hands . . . but if he forgets it . . . ! My love to you all,

H. K. L. PEASE.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following: Mr. and Mrs. C. Stevens, Ashford, March 23rd; Mr. and Mrs. Dennick, Bengeworth, April 2nd; Mr. and Mrs. R. Noble, Middlesbrough, May 4th; Mr. and Mrs. H. Meckin, Salterbeck, May 6th; Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Hill, Bristol, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Dawson, Carlton, near Newmarket, May 20th.

Marriage

CARLTON—SHEPHERD.—On Saturday, April 24th, at the Roman Catholic Church of St. Ann's, Regent's Park, Clifford Carlton to Miss Constance Ann Shepherd. Among the guests were two new war St. Dunstaners, L. Webber and "Jock" Reid, L. Clark (last war), Mrs. Hodson, and Mrs. Sassoon.

War Pensions

Since the debate which we reported last month, Sir Ian Fraser and his supporters of all parties in the House have continued an active campaign. There have been many questions, all calculated to keep pressure on the Government. Sir Ian has represented that there are important matters, such as the raising of the pensions of this war to the levels of the last war and an improvement of the attendant allowance, which might be dealt with at once. And there are other matters, equally important, which involve big changes of principle, such as the payment of wives' and children's allowances to all 100 per cent. cases whenever they marry, and the general relationship of war pensions to modern standards of living and welfare, which he thinks should be considered by a Select Committee.

In view of the fact that the Government was delaying any reply to the debate, Sir Ian put down a motion calling for a Select Committee. Within a few hours this motion was supported by over sixty Members of all parties, and the number has now risen to well over one hundred.

The latest move before we go to press was reported in the *Daily Telegraph* of May 7th, as follows:—

Westminster.

"Better war pensions were again demanded of the Government in the House of Commons to-day.

Sir Ian Fraser (Cons.) asked the Minister of Pensions if he would increase the rate of the attendant allowance and extend it to all men of both wars who had been disabled in the highest degree.

Sir Walter Womersley replied that the question was one of those raised in the recent debate to which he was giving his attention, but could give no indication of when he would reach a conclusion.

Mr. Erskine-Hill (Cons.) asked for a statement on the British Legion (Scotland) declaration of policy.

"The declaration, which involves fundamental changes in the pensions system, was only received a week ago," Sir Walter Womersley answered, "and I am not at present prepared to express an opinion on it."

Sir Ian Fraser later asked Mr. Eden, Leader of the House, whether time was to be found to discuss the motion calling for a Select Committee to examine the pensions

system, to which more than one hundred members have put their names.

Mr. Eden replied: "The Government feel doubtful whether this is a moment at which a Select Committee could be set up with advantage." He added if the House wanted a discussion, it might be possible to arrange one without taking the motion.

Sir Ian Fraser insisted that it would only waste the Government's time to debate the subject generally unless they were prepared to make concessions. "Because I and my friends would be compelled to ask for another day on which to demand a Select Committee," he explained.

There was a determined ring in his voice and a murmur of approval from the House, which led Mr. Eden to undertake in his most conciliatory manner to consider the matter." * * *

We learn that a number of St. Dunstaners have welcomed the call for action in our editorial of last month, and are taking steps, in conjunction with others, to get in touch with their M.P.s.

St. Dunstaners' Orchestra in Germany

The following letter has been received by Sir Ian from Driver E. Nash-Larkham, a prisoner of war in Germany.

"When I lost my sight it was one of my ambitions to have an orchestra of my own. For a time it was not possible. Then eventually I met my fellow St. Dunstaners. Alas! they had only a guitar. Later, thanks to the Y.M.C.A. and St. Dunstan's, a piano and accordion. After a time, with much gentle persuasion, various members of our school were brought together. More instruments were produced from various sources, with the result that we played our first two pieces in front of Lord Normanby on February 15th. Needless to say, I felt extremely proud. We have, by public ballot between ourselves, adopted for our signature tune the song, 'Smile, Darn You, Smile.' My ambition will not be fully attained until I am able to present it to you and our friends in England personally.

"Thanks to the magnificent operation which Major Charters performed upon me, I have almost regained normal vision. But deep down in my heart my interest will always remain with my comrades who are not so fortunate as myself. I still wear my badge very proudly. I also attend my lessons in the braille school as usual."

Killed in Action

With deepest regret we have heard that Mr. and Mrs. A. Robinson, of Tottenham, whose son had been posted as missing, have now heard from his Commanding Officer that he was killed in a tank engagement.

Promotions

Fred McAndrew, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McAndrew, of Bournemouth, has obtained his commission and is now a Pilot Officer in the Royal Air Force.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Briggs, of Norwich, now serving with the Eighth Army, has been promoted to Lce.-Sergeant.

Dick Leonard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, of Woodingdean, Brighton, who has been serving in the Middle East for over two years, has been promoted to the rank of Captain.

Mr. and Mrs. "Terry" Roden's son is now a Flight Lieutenant in the R.A.F.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

AUSTIN, Pte. D. W. (Wellingborough), Royal Norfolk Regt.
 BAKER, Pte. A. (Chaddesden), Royal Air Force.
 BAKER, Pte. W. (Chaddesden), G.S.C.
 BECKHAM, Joan, W.R.N.S.
 BEST, Pte. N. A. (Goole), P.T.W.
 BILLINGTON, L-Cpl. A. H.
 BREWER, L-Bdr. T. (Preston), A.A. Regt.
 BREWER, A.C.2 L. D. (Preston), Royal Air Force.
 BREWER, Stoker H A. J. Taylor, Royal Navy.
 BRIGGS, L-Sergt. Fitter (Norwich), Royal Artillery.
 COLEMAN, L.A.C. P. (Northampton), R.A.F.
 COLLINS, Pte. H. (Jarrow), Pioneer Corps.
 CUBITT, L.A.C.W. L. D., W.A.A.F.
 CUBITT, Pte. J. F., A.T.S.
 CUBITT, Gunner S. R., Royal Artillery.
 DIMOND, O.S. S., Royal Navy.
 DIMOND, O.S. R. J., Royal Navy.
 GILL, Bomdr. C. E., Royal Artillery.
 HEALEY, O.S. J. (Manchester), Royal Navy.
 IRVINE, L.A.F. B., R.N.A.S.
 ISAAC, Cpl. H. (Glasgow), Royal Air Force.
 LEEMAN, Nevill, Merchant Navy.
 LEEMAN, 2nd Wireless Operator, Merchant Navy.
 MOSS, Driver A. (Bolton), Royal Engineers.
 MOSS, L.S.B.A. J. E. (Bolton), Royal Navy.
 NANCARROW, Freda, W.R.N.S.
 O'BRIEN, Pte. F. D. (Skelmersdale), Hampshire Regt.
 O'BRIEN, Driver E. (Skelmersdale), R.A.S.C.
 OWEN, A.C.1 Arnold (Liverpool), Royal Air Force.
 PEACH, A.B. F. C., Royal Navy.
 PIMM, A.C.2 S., A.C.T.W.
 PORTER, A.C.2 A. H. (late Southampton, now Kingston), Royal Air Force.
 PORTER, L.A.C. E. F. (Kingston), Royal Air Force.
 POWELL, A.C.2 G. (Stretton), Royal Air Force.
 SAYERS, T. (Bletchley), Royal Air Force.
 SIM, L.S. W. J. (Aberdeen), Royal Navy.
 SMITH, Pte. E. (Newbury), Pioneer Corps.
 SWINGLER, A.C.1, Royal Air Force.
 WEEDALL, Radio Officer A., Royal Navy.

Reading Braille

In the February REVIEW and other journals, Sir Ian Fraser asked for information and advice on increasing his own speed, and the best method, should there be one, of learning to read braille. Helpful letters have come in from all quarters. Here is a summary of the replies, taking those of St. Dunstan's men first:—

There does not appear to have been any uniformity in their teaching in the early days of the last war. Some were taught to use both hands, some the left and some the right, but practically without exception all now use one hand only. This is probably due to the fact that the use of one hand is less tiring mentally, but there are other reasons. One is that those who are craftsmen find that one hand becomes coarsened; a telephonist points out that the dialling finger becomes roughened, and he advises those taking up telephony to read with the left hand in any case, since there is the advantage of looking up braille records with the left hand while the right can be dialling a number. It must be remembered, too, that many St. Dunstaners, through other wounds or loss of a hand or arm, were forced to learn with one hand.

Generally speaking, each one-handed reader uses his fore-finger, and best speeds average just under three minutes for a page of interpoint.

An exception is a St. Dunstaner who was taught to use the right hand, but after a close study and practice of the system—including braille music and French braille—now uses both hands. He says:

"While a person may read quite well with one hand or the other, I am convinced that to read correctly, and with speed, one must be able to read with both hands, and, as with good readers, with the first and second fingers. When this is adopted the right hand moves some words ahead of the left. The reader reads the word his left hand is resting upon while his right is travelling and getting the sense of the following words. In my opinion, while it is more difficult to learn, it is the only method whereby clearness of sense and speed can be attained."

His average speed is two-thirds of a minute for a page of interpoint.

One-handed and both-handed users agree on two golden rules for attaining accuracy

and speed—practice, and reading aloud as often as possible. In the anxiety for speed in reading to oneself, there is the tendency to do a certain amount of guess-work. Reading aloud corrects this, and even slow practice eventually increases speed, as one St. Dunstaner (a one-handed reader) points out. He proof-reads braille, a necessarily slow job, and after two years found that his speed had increased, the inference being that careful reading had given his finger a keener perception of outline.

Practically without exception the replies from the civilian blind showed that those who had lost their sight in early life had been taught to use both hands, and had continued to do so. Generally they used the two fore-fingers. The fastest could read a page of interpoint in three-quarters of a minute, and there were many who averaged one to three minutes. Those who had gone blind late in life used one hand only, and were usually self-taught.

To sum up, it seems that two-handed reading may be the ideal, but one-handed reading seems to suit most of those who go blind in adult life. As one correspondent puts it, "The way of increasing one's speed is to widen one's field of touch." Furthermore, the use of more than one finger is a safeguard against injury, a considerable advantage when the smallest cut or abrasion is sufficient to put an end to one-finger reading for a time. Where, however, one-handed reading is necessary for any reason, it is possible to increase speed by regular practice and reading aloud. The fingers should be kept as soft and sensitive as possible, and suggestions included the use of lanoline or glymiel jelly, and a finger stall or gloves when rough work is being done.

Lastly, one correspondent wrote: "If Sir Ian wants to increase his speed, he must get rid of his Talking Book."

A Reminder

The closing date of the Derby Sweepstake (open only to St. Dunstaners) is Friday, June 11th.

The draw will be made on Wednesday, June 16th, and those drawing a horse will be notified the following day.

Tickets are half-a-crown each. Applications should be sent to the Editor at Regent's Park.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE PERCY FARRAR DIXON
(Royal Engineers)

WITH deep regret we record the death of P. F. Dixon, of Batley.

Enlisting in the Royal Engineers in 1915, he served until September, 1918, when he was discharged from the Army with damaged sight. He had been partially blinded during a gas attack in France.

He came under our care in 1920 and was trained as a poultry farmer; he was also taught a little basket-making. He carried on with his poultry farming until some months ago, when he had to take things very quietly on account of failing health. He suffered greatly for some time before his death. He died at his home on April 21st.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades was sent for the funeral. Members of Batley Conservative Club, of which he was an honorary member, acted as bearers.

Among those present at the funeral were St. Dunstaners T. E. Skelly and H. Gunson, both of Batley, accompanied by Mrs. Skelly and Harold Gunson.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Dixon in her loss.

SAPPER HERBERT WILLIAM HALE
(Royal Engineers)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of H. W. Hale, of Croydon.

As a result of wounds received at Sanctuary Wood, in 1916, he was totally blind. He commenced business as a boot repairer, in which his son helped him a great deal. He was a keen and energetic worker—a fine type of St. Dunstaner. His wife, in spite of her disability—she was paralysed—was also a great help to him, and did the stitching of the boots. Her death in 1941 was a great loss to him. He had led a very quiet existence since. His death came suddenly on April 3rd, after he had been admitted to hospital the previous day.

At the funeral, which took place locally, a St. Dunstaner—B. Ingrey—and Mrs. Ingrey were present. A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his family.

PRIVATE JOHN W. MARCH
(Labour Corps)

WE have to record with deep regret the death of J. W. March, of Sunderland.

No longer a young man when he enlisted in October, 1914, he served for some four and a half years; as a result his sight was seriously damaged. He did not, however, come to us until October, 1927.

He was trained as a boot-repairer and mat-maker, and carried on with these occupations for a very considerable time, reaching a high standard.

Since 1938, however, he led a quiet life. Early this year he was taken ill and he died in hospital on April 10th, 1943.

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

Young St. Dunstaners

Marriages

Jack Edge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edge, Burley, to Miss Dorothy Bracewell, March 20th.

Bertie Hammett, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Hammett, Carterton, to Miss Patricia Brimelow, March 13th.

Alec Jack, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Jack, on March 27th.

Clare Jerome, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. K. Jerome, Harwell, to Mr. Edmund Horsfall Skinner (Royal Armoured Corps), on April 3rd.

Amy March, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. March, Sunderland, to Mr. George Charles Gossing, March 23rd.

George McFarlane, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McFarlane, Barnhill, to Miss Margaret Bruce, December 31st.

Sheila Paterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Paterson, Thirsk, to L.A.C. Reed, on April 17th.

Joan Sayers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Sayers, Northampton, to Sergt. R. Price, Dragoon Guards, on February 20th.

Deaths

NORTHCOTT.—We extend our very sincere sympathy to E. Northcott, of Chadwell Heath, whose wife passed away very suddenly on April 29th.

★ ★ ★

We have heard with regret of the death of the widows of two St. Dunstaners—Mrs. Searle and Mrs. Dennis (Grimsby).