

# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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For Men and Women Blinded on War Service.

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

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## Chairman's Victory Day Message

In a message to St. Dunstaners in the Homeland, Sir Ian Fraser said:—

**T**HIS is a day for remembrance and rejoicing. The whole family of St. Dunstan's shares the grief of its members whose serving sons and daughters will not come back, but I think we may all rejoice that the European war and the threat to our Homeland is over. St. Dunstaners themselves, and members of their families, have rendered valuable and gallant service, and we are as entitled as any to share in the Victory. We must now look to the future with confidence and hope.

## British Legion Conference

We go to press before Whitsun, so we cannot report the Conference until next month. It is a significant Conference for ex-Service men, because this is the last session of this Parliament, and it is important that Government and country should know what the Legion wants for ex-Service men and women before the General Election.

There are over two hundred resolutions, dealing with pensions and allowances, employment and housing, and a variety of other important subjects. The first resolution is a comprehensive claim for improvement of the war pensions system generally, and it will be moved by Sir Ian Fraser. It reads as follows:—

No. 1.—This Conference is of the opinion that the time has now arrived for a complete overhaul of the various Warrants dealing with pensions for death or disablement of members of the Armed Forces of the Crown and Auxiliary Forces, with a view to rectifying existing anomalies and making adequate provision for our disabled comrades and the dependents of the fallen. It is therefore resolved that the Government be requested to appoint a Select Committee for this purpose, and that the Legion be given an opportunity of submitting its policy, including the following main points:—

- (1) Payment of family allowances at Ministry of Pensions rates to all war pensioners, irrespective of the date of marriage or birth of children, with contingent pension rights for widows where husband's death is due to war service.
- (2) Supplementation of flat rate pension in cases where the standard of living of a severely disabled pensioner or a war widow is unduly lowered as a direct result of disablement or death, in accordance with the scheme outlined in the General Circular and the "British Legion Journal" for August, 1944.

- (3) Payment of a minimum personal pension of £3 10s. a week for pensioners unemployable as a result of war disablement.
- (4) Supplementation in cases of need of pensions granted to war widows incapable of self-support by reason of age, infirmity or the care of children, in order to ensure that no widow is in receipt of an income of less than 40s. a week.
- (5) Establishment of the principle that notwithstanding any war disability pension and allowances or war widow's pension and allowances in issue, war pensioners and war widows should receive full benefits for contributions paid under projected State Social Insurance Schemes.

St. Dunstan's will be well represented at the Conference, for in addition to Sir Ian Fraser, who is National Vice-Chairman, there will be a number representing branches from different parts of the country. We expect to see W. A. Muggeridge, Charlie Durkin, P. J. Sparkes, and A. C. Evans, of Newport, who have been familiar figures at many Conferences, and Ernest Russell, from Leeds, who belongs to the younger generation.

### Between the Conferences

In view of the Annual Conference of the British Legion, to be held at Whitsun, it may be of interest to readers to note the progress which has been made in pensions and other ex-Service matters since the last Conference was held in 1943.

*July, 1943—*

Acceptance by the Government that onus of proof was on the Government, and not on the applicant, for a pension, as heretofore.

Acceptance by the Government of disabilities caused by accidents sustained while travelling to and from home on short leave.

Assimilation of rates of new war pensions and family allowances to those in issue for the Great War, i.e., £2 for a private, 10s. for his pre-injury wife, 7s. 6d. for his first child, and 6s. for each succeeding child.

*August, 1943—*

Supplementation of Great War and New War pensions by 10s. per week for seriously disabled men unable to earn over £1 per week by reason of their disability, with full allowances for wife, where marriage takes place after disability, and for children whenever they may be born.

Setting up of Pensions Appeal Tribunals for New War appeals.

*March, 1944—*

Acceptance by Government that constant attendant allowance should be paid to trainees during their holiday periods.

*April, 1944—*

Increase from 6s. to 7s. 6d. per week in allowances for second and subsequent children.

Lowering of age limit of child and increase

to maximum of £80 per annum for education allowances.

*August, 1944—*

Percentage increase in Service pensions of long-service men.

Increase in disablement pension of Great War long-service men who, because of their Service pension, are not in receipt of full disablement pension.

### Mr. Roosevelt

The following cable was sent by Sir Ian Fraser to Mrs. Roosevelt, upon the death of her husband, Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States:—

"I feel sure that all men and women who have physical difficulties to contend with will feel as I do that they would like to express to you their admiration of your husband's victory over handicap. So great was his moral strength, so outstanding his physical endurance, that during his lifetime we hardly gave this matter a thought. No doubt, that is what he would have wished. We feel we have lost a friend and one who has set an example that will for all time help all those who have lost the use of any faculty. The blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen of Britain send you and your family their deep sympathy in your personal loss.

(Signed) IAN FRASER.

### Sir Ian and Lady Fraser

#### A Second Grandson

The birth of a second son is announced to Mrs. Anthony McDonald (*nee* Fraser), on April 21st—Neil.

### Derby Sweepstake, 1945

The closing date of the Derby Sweepstake is **Friday, June 1st**, and St. Dunstaners are advised to send in their applications as soon as possible. The draw will take place on Wednesday, June 6th, and those drawing horses will be notified the following day. The race is to be run on Saturday, June 9th.

### Appointment

Lieut.-Col. E. H. W. Elkington, Adviser in Ophthalmology, Canadian Military Headquarters, has been appointed an additional Consultant Ophthalmologist to St. Dunstan's. Col. Elkington, who before the war was a well-known eye specialist in Victoria, British Columbia, has visited our Hospital and Training Centre several times, and his appointment will be received with pleasure and satisfaction.

### News from Canada

Captain Fred Woodcock, of Winona, Canada, who was blinded and taken prisoner at Dieppe, is shortly to take up duties with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, as Field Secretary.

After returning from Germany, where he has been a prisoner of war with many other St. Dunstaners, who studied under Lord Normanby, Capt. Woodcock came to Church Stretton for a few months before returning to Canada.

### Blinded Prisoners' Doctor Home

Major David Livingstone Charters, R.A.M.C., the eye specialist, who twice refused to leave Germany so that he could attend wounded prisoners of war in his camp, is now home at Birkenhead after being released by the Americans.

Major Charters was doctor in charge of the camp where blinded prisoners of war, now repatriated, were assembled together in a little "St. Dunstan's colony," under the guidance and care of Lord Normanby.

Immediately on his return, Sir Ian Fraser sent Major Charters a telegram of welcome, and expressed the hope that Major Charters would visit our Training Centre at Church Stretton in the near future.

### Promotion

Congratulations to David Beattie, our Australian airman now at Church Stretton, who has been promoted to Warrant Officer.

### Other News

R. E. Naman is a telephonist at Salford Labour Exchange and when the Regional Controller visited the Exchange recently he introduced our St. Dunstaner to Sir Godfrey Ince, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour, who was very much impressed with his work at the switchboard.

★ ★ ★

When Sir Ian Fraser attended a meeting in his constituency recently, he met an old St. Dunstaner, J. Wood, of Grange-over-Sands. Sir Ian's mention of him as an old friend brought applause from the audience, who know him well as a first-rate boot repairer, a regular supporter of Grange F.C., and a prize-winner in the Grange Allotment and Garden Association annual competition.

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C. E. V. Dale, of Midhurst, has raised the magnificent sum of £269 7s. for the British Red Cross by a draw for a bicycle. This is £75 more than his effort last year.

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Mrs. A. H. Kay, wife of our St. Dunstaner, has sent £26 10s. 6d. to St. Dunstan's, the result of a Dance and Competition she and her husband arranged at Letchworth.

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J. Cooney, of Worthing, was at Buckingham Palace on VE Day to see his son, Michael, decorated with the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal.

### Home Again

Thomas Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, of Benwell, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has returned home after nine years. He has been a prisoner-of-war for the last three-and-a-half years.

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Mr. and Mrs. G. Hill, of Gloucester, tell us that their son, William, is home from Germany after five years as a prisoner-of-war. Their other boy, John, who has been serving in Italy, has been awarded the Military Medal.

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The son of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lee, of Sacriston, has reached home from a prison camp.

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Welcome home, too, to Arthur Horsnell (Taunton), who was taken prisoner at Crete; to the son of E. Taggart, who has been a prisoner in Germany since May, 1940; and to W.O. R. S. Beattie, of Hornsey.

### Church Stretton Notes

Since the last Notes were written, four weeks of steady work this term already make the previous fortnight's Easter holiday seem a long time ago. Everyone came back from it looking much refreshed, including those—about a dozen—who accepted the hospitality of Tiger Hall.

We have already welcomed about thirty new trainees this term, with more to come shortly; but Matron still finds accommodation for all, and Miss Lloyd fits in full and congenial time-tables for each by some magic process! Church Stretton still houses necessary increases in staff somehow.

There is a special welcome for Mr. R. W. Stanners, M.A., Lecturer from the Royal Geographical School in Cambridge, our new Director of Education, who has been giving us part-time help and who, it is hoped, will be joining us regularly in the middle of June. His appointment, with his wide experience, will surely be a big help here.

Workshops continue growing; four capstan lathes and three routers are now being worked. Weaving and leather-work are in full swing as occupations, and there will shortly be news of other branches, both of industry and handicrafts, starting.

Elocution lessons are now part of the telephone training. Is it not odd that in speech we are sometimes apt to allow an untidiness we should never tolerate in, say, our clothes or our hair!

Among visitors, two distinguished Russian surgeons, with an interpreter, inspected all our departments with great interest, and were entertained by Sir Ian and Lady Fraser. One of them has performed no less than eighteen operations on handless wrists, splitting the bone to form the equivalent of rigid fingers.

The Musical Circle's evening, on April 18th, was obviously greatly enjoyed. The Eric Harrison Trio, and Miss McArden, soprano, received a great welcome, and seemed happy to have so appreciative an audience.

The St. Dunstan's Social at the Central Hall, on April 26th, was a big success. There were six tables of dominoes, the prize being won by Desmond Coupe; two tables of cards, and about a dozen dart players, prize-winner, Bill Reisch. Refreshments at 9.30, followed by a fearsome

Spelling Bee, from which Ron Parsons triumphantly bore off the well-earned prize.

Khaki has reappeared in the streets of Church Stretton; members of the three Welsh Regiments are very welcome at the St. Dunstan's Sunday Services, and noticeably strengthen the singing.

Pioneers have dug up the plots between our huts, fencing them against invading sheep, before putting in cabbages and marrows. It will be an exhibition "allotment"; but the one grass plot will be much in demand for al fresco lessons, if we get a return of April's heat-wave.

The Croft Hermits have been again, this time with a triple bill—"Out goes She," "Sham The Devil," and "Saturday Night." We are indeed lucky to have such good and faithful friends.

Air Commodore Dacre, our Commandant, is visiting West Africa, at the invitation of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to consider how blinded West African ex-Servicemen can best be helped.

Play-readings have re-started with "Rope," given at Longmynd.

Dance invitations have been gladly accepted to Lewis' Hall, Shrewsbury, Meole Brace and Mortar Training Centre. Visiting entertainers include the Codden Band and Concert Party and Edgar Harrison's Band, with Wally Evans and Freda Round. A lunch-time show, with Nat Mills and Bobby, Betty Sergeant and Wally Evans; also dance bands from Nesscliff, R.A.O.C., K.S.L.I. and Monkmoor Rhythm Aces.

Wedding bells have been ringing for Ted Barton and Marjorie Pitt-Watson, and David Bell and our Sybil from the Orange Tree; all happiness to both couples.

Test for concentration.—Put on headphones, switch on radio and type a good letter. You won't be the first to succeed!

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

**Typing.**—J. May, A. Serdet, A. R. Waters, W. James, J. Kirkby, I. White, C. White, T. Daborn, R. Lawrence, C. Paddick, W. Watkinson.

**Braille (Interline).**—E. Brown, R. Tickner, P. Dent.

**Interpoint.**—J. Koehorst, D. Coupe.

**Writing.**—B. Josey, R. Robinson (American), F. Howes, P. Bagwell.

### Hospital Admissions

L/Cpl. E. L. Bugbee, King's Shropshire Light Infantry (Harefield); L/Cpl. Rowland Goodhead, R.A.S.C. (Sheffield); L/Cpl. F. A. Bennett, Recce Corps (London, E.7); Pte. W. C. Resch, Calgary Highlanders (British Columbia, Canada); F/Sgt. D. N. Beattie, R.A.A.F. (N. Queensland, Australia); Gunner R. C. Hales, Royal Artillery (Sudbury, Suffolk); L/Cpl. S. Wilgan, Polish Engineers; Pte. A. L. Stroud, Queen's Own Royal West Kents (London, S.W.8); Cpl. J. A. Pilkington, Royal Engineers (East Ham); Pte. J. H. Martin Devonshire Regt. (Birmingham); W/Sgt. R. Brook, Engineer Commando (Dartford); Gunner H. King, Royal Artillery (Dunstable); Pte. L. L. F. Scott, Black Watch of Canada (Saskatchewan); Sapper E. Barber, Royal Engineers (York); S/Leader, H. T. N. Christal, R.A.F. (Hampton-in-Arden); Pte. E. Woofenden, Leicestershire Regt. (Leicester).

### Talking Books

#### Latest Additions to the Library

##### Fiction—

BIRMINGHAM, G. A. *Poor Sir Edward.*  
DEEPING, WARWICK *Old Pybus.*  
FARJEON, ELEANOR *Brave Old Woman.*  
MARRAY, D. L. *Regency.*  
WELLS, H. G. *The Invisible Man.*

##### Non-Fiction—

FRASER, SIR IAN *Whereas I was Blind.*  
GUEDALLA, PHILIP *Mr. Churchill.*  
LOCKLEY, R. M. *Way to an Island.*  
SUYN, HAN. *Destination Chungking.*

#### American Publications

##### Fiction—

CHRISTIE, AGATHA *N or M?*  
DICKENS, CHARLES *Oliver Twist.*  
GREEN, ANNA K. *The Leavenworth Case.*  
GREY, ZANE *Raiders of the Spanish Peaks.*

##### Non-Fiction—

Old Testament: Genesis, Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon.  
A KEMPIS, THOMAS *The Imitation of Christ.*  
MACAULAY, THOMAS *Historical Essays.*  
MORTON, H. V. *Women of the Bible.*  
PEPYS, SAMUEL *Diary (Edited).*  
Poems, Selected: Browning, Keats, Milton, Shelley, Wordsworth, etc.

SHAKESPEARE *Midsummer Night's Dream.*

" *Romeo and Juliet.*

" *Julius Caesar.*

" *Othello.*

### Domestic Help Wanted

The Editor would be glad to hear from anyone who would be interested in a temporary post in the house of a St. Dunstaner and his wife at Eastbourne. Remuneration and board for three months is offered in return for services.

### Young St. Dunstaners

#### Marriages:

Lilian Robinson (Grimsby), on April 17th, to A.B. Charles Bradsell.

Angela Thompson (Bexhill-on-Sea), on April 24th, to Staff Sergt. H. A. Raymond, R.C.E.M.A.

Petty Officer Kenneth Bowring (Weymouth), on January 8th, to Miss Joan Louise Welch.

Henry Baker (Billericay), on March 31st, to Miss Edith Frances Wood.

★ ★ ★

Joseph Burns, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Burns, of Salford, who was Third Officer in the Merchant Navy, and has now been invalided out, has been mentioned in despatches for his gallantry during the invasion of Normandy.

### Sons and Daughters in the Services

BAMBER, Pte. A., Army Dental Lab.  
BARNARD, Commando M. N. E. (Wanstead).  
BARNARD, Pte. (Wanstead), I.T.C.  
BELCHER, Sgt. A. (Hampton), Royal Artillery.  
BELCHER, Gunner (Hampton), Royal Artillery.  
BELCHER, Elsie (Hampton), Women's Land Army.  
BELCHER, Joyce (Hampton), W.A.A.F.  
BENNETT, Signm. A. J. (Dover), Royal Signals.  
BLYDE, Pte. T. S., R.F.T.  
BONNER, D. W., Royal Navy.  
BRYER, Pte. E. C. (Yate), Training Battrn.  
CHAPPLE, Sgt. F. E. (Gravesend), Royal Air Force.  
CLAY, R. (Nottingham), Fleet Air Arm.  
COLLEY, Pte. G. B. (Luton), Training Centre.  
DIMOND, Pte. W., Training Corps.  
DODDS, O-Steward T. (Newcastle), Royal Navy.  
FOWLER, Pte. F. (York), Pioneer Corps.  
GOBOURN, Pte. E. D. C. (Cheltenham), Training Battrn.  
GROVES, Marine A. E. (Ashford), Royal Marines.  
HALL, A.C.2 F.W. (Enfield), Royal Air Force.  
HENRY, Pte. J. C. W. (Roehampton), P.T.W.  
JOHNSON, Signm. C. (Ashton-under-Lyne), Royal Signals.  
KIRK, Rfn. C. T. (Lancing), K.R.R.C.  
KIRK, L.A.C. J. (Lancing), Royal Air Force.  
MACPHERSON, A.C.W. Isabel (Windsor), W.A.A.F.  
NEWTON, Sgt. E. I. A. G. (Portsmouth), Royal Air Force.  
NOBLE, Sapper J. (St. Albans).  
SCHOELLER, Cpl. Richard, B.L.A.  
SQUIRES, Trooper E. R. D., Armoured Division, B.L.A.  
STORER, Petty Officer L. (Rugby), Fleet Air Arm.  
STORER, Maurice (Rugby), E.N.T.U.  
TAYLOR, Leading Seaman C. A. (Colchester), Royal Navy.  
TAYLOR, L.A.C. A. G. (Stourbridge), Royal Air Force.  
TAYLOR, Sgt. H. D. (Stourbridge), Royal Air Force.  
WHITHAM, Cadet R. (Hull), O.C.T.O.  
WHITHAM, L.A.C.W. E. (Hull), W.A.A.F.

## Letters to the Editor

### Keeping in Touch

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

DEAR SIR,

The following story concerns the late Geordie Anderson, who will be remembered by many of our readers.

Geordie, during one of his spells at our old Brighton home, was on his way out for a drink one night; having a little vision, he offered to take another man. The offer being quickly accepted, the pair toddled off and were soon climbing the wall trying to find the entrance to "The Barley Mow." Presently a lady arrived on the scene, enquired where they wanted to go, and if she could help. "Yes, we want the boozier," replied Geordie in his broad Northumbrian dialect. "Come along, I'll put you right." They walked along, soon the lady opened a door, pushed them in, saying: "You're alright now." "Two pints" ordered Geordie; but you can imagine his disgust when they were handed two cups of coffee! The lady had mistaken his boozier for bazaar, and had taken them to the Church Hall, where a bazaar was being held.

Geordie's remarks on the common sense of Brighton ladies are not for print.

Church Stretton.

T. ROGERS.

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

DEAR SIR,

Our late deaf friend, G. J. Wheeler, was staying with me in London when the wife said a large bough from an old apple tree wanted cutting off. I climbed the tree, she handed me the saw, and with a stick indicated where to cut it, and I did so. Unfortunately, it fell with the tops in our neighbour's garden, so I told Wheeler to pull when the wife tapped him on the back, as I was going into the other garden to lift the top over the fence. I got amongst the top, but found it a trifle heavy and awkward, but the wife had tapped Wheeler and he began to pull. "Stop him," I shouted, but the more she banged him on the back the harder he pulled, and it was impossible to talk to him, since he held the bough. By the time I got back into our garden, Wheeler had pulled in the bough and about 30ft. of the old fence.

I went to see Dr. Bridges another afternoon, and feeling rather groggy, fell asleep

in the lounge. I was violently awakened by our late friend, Bill Tovell, who said: "We're just going to listen to the Manchester November Handicap." "Well," I snapped, "I can't hear it, can I?" "No," he replied, "but you are snoring and we can't either!"

Yours sincerely,

G. FALLOWFIELD.

Southwick.

### From the Chairman's Post-Bag

DEAR SIR IAN,

In your Notes a few months ago, you appear to be a little hazy about the early inception of ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW, and I thought it might interest you to learn something more definite from one who was directly responsible for its birth and early development.

Somewhere in the mildewy archives of St. Dunstan's may be found a record of a Debate, about March, 1916, in which the subject was "What is the best means of keeping the men who have left St. Dunstan's in touch with the old house and its activities. At the Debate all were unanimous in the belief and desire that some satisfactory liaison should be established between past and present St. Dunstaners, and my suggestion of a magazine was generally accepted as being the most practical idea. So popular was the proposal the Superintendent, who was then the late Mr. C. E. Rose, approached me and invited my co-operation in putting into effect what was, until then, just an idea. He enlisted his daughter's help and, with real enthusiasm, we three set about our first issue, they being responsible for the real editorial side, while I accepted the task of exciting my comrades' enthusiasm. By begging, bullying, and persuading, I gathered in original material, and secure many permanent subscribers. The demand for that first copy was more than double the quantity printed, and its circulation grew at each succeeding issue. In recognition of my modest efforts, my name appeared as Editor, but, please believe me, I never felt any claim to such title; the Superintendent and his daughter did the real stuff and I the donkey-work. In those days the REVIEW was a self-supporting, and paying, concern; every copy sold at sixpence, and every St. Dunstan's man received 3s. 6d. per article

accepted for publication. It was most gratifying to me, who had worked for those early copies, when, after the sixth issue, we were able to hand to Sir Arthur the modest sum of just over seven pounds as a gift to St. Dunstan's funds, the profit made out of the REVIEW.

Yours sincerely,

W. GIRLING.

### St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

The eighth season of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club is going along very steadily.

The Club had entered a team of four in the Tournament Bridge Association's Handicap Competition. In the first round we were drawn against Mr. Abraham's team, and were successful in winning the match. In the second round we played Mr. J. C. Thomas's team, and after a most enjoyable match we were beaten. We were sorry to be out of the competition so early, but we shall try again another season. It was a good experience. We are hoping that, during the present season, we shall be able to play many matches with other clubs, for we feel sure we need such experience.

P. Nuyens and R. Slaughter were the successful champions in the League competition for the season, 1943-1944. Congratulations! R.P.C.

### Thanks, my Escort

*Seems like an age since I espied  
The beauty of the countryside,  
Where dwell the tall and stately trees,  
Beneath whose shade I sit at ease,  
And in the coolness of their arms,  
Had gazed on the lonely farms  
That nestled in the valley.*

*I sat and rested there awhile,  
Away from town and man,  
Then walked and crossed the rustic stile,  
To where the lane began.  
I turned and looked at one old tree,  
A thrush perched on its bough,  
I thought that bird it smiled at me,  
Alas! these things I see not now.*

*Yet thoughts like these I treasure fond,  
The rumbling cart, the chestnut mare,  
The babbling brook which joined the pond  
To nourish lilies there.  
And all these things so dear to me  
Your lips and eyes make clear to me.  
So thanks so much, my escort kind,  
I'll soon forget that I am blind.*

BERT PRIEST.

### Wounded

We hear with regret that the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Polley, of Southall, has been wounded and is now in hospital at Taranto.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Howarth, of Alton, was wounded in Germany, but is now home for convalescence.

### Missing

We have heard with regret that Fred Bennett (Bristol), of the Coldstream Guards, has been missing in Italy since April.

### Marriages

BARTON—PITT-WATSON.—On March 20th, E. Barton, of Ulverston (new war), to Miss Marjorie Pitt-Watson, at the Parish Church, Alloa.

BELL—PAGE.—On April 28th, David Bell, of Edinburgh (new war), to Miss Sybil Page, at St. Alkmund's Church, Shrewsbury.

BURNHAM—SMITH.—On March 31st, at the Parish Church of Holy Trinity, Oxford, A. Burnham, of Oxford (new war), to Miss M. J. Smith.

GALLAGHER—HEFFER.—On March 29th, D. Gallagher, of Newcastle-on-Tyne (new war), to Miss Joan Mary Heffer, at the Methodist Church, Sutton, Surrey.

MCDONOUGH—FAHERTY.—On April 19th, John McDonough, of Clifden, Co. Galway, to Brigid Faherty.

MORTON—JONES.—On March 10th, J. A. Morton, of High Wycombe, to Miss C. M. Jones, of Dartford.

WHITE—JONES.—On April 2nd, J. White, of Chesterfield (new war), to Miss Elsie Jones, at Heath Church, Chesterfield.

### Golden Wedding

Special congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Smith Thompson, of Wakefield, who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on April 27th.

### Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following, who have celebrated their silver wedding recently: Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Jolly, Leyburn, January 24th; Mr. and Mrs. F. V. Hesketh, Greenford, April 21st; Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Baker, Billericay, April 25th; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Mitchell, Hove, May 1st; Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Matthews, Soberton, May 5th; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Scott, Winsford, May 20th; Mr. and Mrs. E. Daniels, Norwich, May 24th.

## "In Memory"

### Corporal Albert John Henry Lake, *Cheshire Regiment*

With deep regret we record the death of A. J. H. Lake, of York, who served with his regiment from September, 1914, to January, 1915, when his sight was injured; he did not, however, come to St. Dunstan's until March, 1918. He then trained as a poultry farmer and netter, but in late years his poor health had only made a little rug-making possible. His death occurred suddenly on March 6th.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the flowers. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Lake, who is herself in very poor health.

### Private Duncan Alexander Purvis, *Royal Army Service Corps*

We record with deep regret the death of D. A. Purvis, of Leeds.

He served from November, 1915, until October, 1918, when he was discharged with damaged sight. This became so defective that he was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits three years later. He was trained in boot repairing and, later, mat-making, but his poor health forced him to give up both occupations. He had gone to Middlesbrough for a little break, but he was taken ill and was brought home, where he died on March 28th.

Among the flowers was a wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his wife and eight children.

### Richard Pidcock, *7th King's Royal Rifles*

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of R. Pidcock, of Loughborough.

Enlisting in March, 1915, he was discharged the following year, after being badly wounded at Delville Wood in September of that year. He came to St. Dunstan's in November, 1917, and trained as a boot-repairer and mat-maker, and he carried on this work right up to the time of his sudden death on April 3rd.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades was among the flowers at the funeral, which was attended by St. Dunstan G. Swindell and Mrs. Swindell.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to his widow and family of five.

### Private Frank Horace Barnett, *49th Australian Imperial Forces*

We have heard with deep regret of the death of F. H. Barnett, of Brisbane, Australia.

Wounded at Pozieres, on September 5th, 1916, he came to us two months later and spent some eighteen months at St. Dunstan's before returning to Australia. He had been trained as a shorthand typist, but he did not take up this work. He married in 1918 and carried on poultry farming extensively. He was keenly interested in the Brisbane Blinded Soldiers' Association, and was the local representative at the Annual Conference in 1936. Of late years he had been a very sick man and practically an invalid.

He leaves a widow and one son, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

### Lance-Corporal Alfred Hodgkins, *2nd Northamptonshire Regt.*

With deep regret we record the death of A. Hodgkins, of Fareham.

Serving from 1914-1918, he was wounded in France by shrapnel in March, 1918, and came to us the following July. He was trained as a poultry farmer, but gave up this occupation in 1926.

He was ill for some time with pneumonia and pleurisy, and he passed away on March 26th. The interment took place at Fareham Cemetery, a wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades being amongst the flowers.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to his wife.

## Births

DAVIES.—To the wife of L. Davies (trainee), on April 12th, a son.

FOYLE.—To the wife of S. Foyle, of St. Neots (new war), on May 13th, a son.

FRANCIS.—To the wife of G. W. Francis, of Morley, Leeds, on May 6th, a son.

PHILLIPS.—To the wife of W. H. Phillips, of Peckham, on April 29th, a son—William George.

## Death

MCGUIRE.—Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. P. McGuire, of Drogheda, whose eldest son, Thomas, died in hospital on April 18th, after an illness of only one day.

## On Active Service

With deep regret we have heard of the death of Stanley Pimm, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Pimm, of Wickford. He was a sergeant navigator—"one of our finest navigators," wrote his Commanding Officer.

We have also heard with deep regret that Major Ian Mackenzie, Royal Engineers, son of Sir Clutha and Lady Mackenzie, of New Zealand, has been reported missing on operations.

## Reported Missing, now Known to have Died

We have heard with deep regret from the widow of our late St. Dunstan, C. J. Jeffries, that their boy, who has been missing since the fall of Singapore, is now known to have been killed while trying to escape from the camp in March, 1942.