

# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

No. 318—VOLUME XXIX [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

## St. Dunstaners and the Election

**I**N 1933, Sir Ian Fraser introduced and Parliament passed the Blind Voters Act. Before this Act was passed, a blind person who wanted to vote had to disclose to the Presiding Officer and the agents of the candidate the name of the candidate for whom he wished to vote, and his paper was marked for him. This procedure still stands and can be used if desired, but the Blind Voters Act introduced a new and better procedure, which is as follows :—

In any Parliamentary or Municipal Election, a blind voter may take to the polling booth a companion, who may be any other person having a vote in the constituency, or his or her father, mother, wife or husband, brother or sister, son or daughter, such persons being 21 years of age, to mark the ballot paper.

If the blind person wishes to make use of the new method, he must tell the presiding officer so, and that he has brought a companion to mark his paper. The companion must then fill in and sign a simple declaration, which will be given him by the presiding officer. This declaration merely states who the companion is, and that he will keep his knowledge of the vote secret.

Commenting on this measure at the time, Sir Ian said : " Many blind people do not want the agents of the candidates to know which way they are voting. The vote is, after all, a secret, and if somebody has to know how the blind man has voted he would much rather it was his own trusted relation or friend."

On Wednesday, May 30th, Sir Ian visited the Home Office and consulted with high officials and the Home Secretary, with a view to making clear how men at present in our Hospital at Stoke Mandeville or at St. Dunstan's itself would be able to vote. The next day he asked a question in the House of Commons, as follows :—

If the Secretary of State for the Home Department had any statement to make as to the method whereby soldiers, sailors and airmen who are still serving, but who are in hospital, and also those who have recently been discharged, but are still retained in hospitals or in training institutions like St. Dunstan's, may register their votes at the forthcoming General Election.

Sir Donald Somervell replied : Any person on the Service Register may apply to vote by post if his application is received not later than four days before nomination day. As the qualifying date for the May Register was January 31st, this will cover the position of all persons who have made service declarations and were not discharged prior to that date.

This is not very enlightening, but instructions have been given to the staff at Church Stretton and Stoke Mandeville to see that everybody who is on either the Civilian Register or the Service Register shall be helped to register his vote if he wishes to do so.

The Blind Voters Act was only one of our Chairman's many activities which have been of value to St. Dunstaners and the blind community generally. There was also the Wireless



Telegraphy (Blind Persons Facilities) Act, 1926, which gave to every blind person in the land a free wireless licence, and also, as is well known, he has been a champion of ex-Service men generally during his long and active public life.

Sir Ian Fraser is what might be called an old hand at electioneering. He fought his first battle in 1922, when he was twenty-five years of age, for the London County Council, winning for the Conservative cause a seat that had been held by Liberals for thirty years. This was North St. Pancras. He entered Parliament for the same constituency two years later, defeating a Socialist. He was in turn defeated by the same Socialist in 1929, but came back again in 1931 and again in 1935. He has thus fought five major elections, of which he won four and lost one. In 1937 he resigned his Parliamentary seat in order to take office as a Governor of the B.B.C., for in those days of peace Members of Parliament were excluded from such positions. In May of 1940 he was returned unopposed under the Party truce for the Lonsdale Division of Lancaster, which constituency he is fighting again this time. A few weeks later he was re-appointed a Governor of the B.B.C., under the authority of a special certificate issued by the Prime Minister, certifying that the appointment was required in the public interest for purposes connected with the prosecution of the war.

St. Dunstan's, like the British Legion, has no Party Politics, but we need champions of the ex-Service cause in all parties in the House of Commons. That is why many, we are sure, in the St. Dunstan's family and in a wider ex-Service field outside will wish him good luck.

## The Birthday Honours

### St. Dunstan's Represented

As we go to press we learn with great pleasure of the award of the M.B.E. (Member of the Order of the British Empire) to Miss Dorothy Lloyd, Head of the Braille Room at Church Stretton, and of the B.E.M. (British Empire Medal) to our St. Dunstaner, G. W. Killingbeck, head instructor at St. Dunstan's Hospital Unit at Stoke Mandeville.

Miss Lloyd, a member of the British Red Cross, will be known to many St. Dunstaners who passed through the braille room during the last war, and those who came to us between the wars. She is now Head of the Braille Room at Church Stretton for the men of the new war.

Killingbeck represents that fine body of St. Dunstaners, the doubly handicapped. He lost his left arm as well as his sight in Italy in 1918. For some years he was a member of St. Dunstan's propaganda staff, but in 1943 he responded to the appeal for braille instructors for the new men, and went first to Church Stretton and later to Stoke Mandeville, where he is now head instructor.

He is typical of many St. Dunstaners of the last war who are acting as instructors in braille and typewriting, braille shorthand, and all kinds of handicrafts to the new men. Their skill, their patience, and, above all, their fine personal inspiration, has been an

outstanding feature of our work in this war, and in honouring Killingbeck, His Majesty has honoured them as well.

We warmly congratulate Miss Lloyd and our St. Dunstaner upon the honour which has been conferred upon them.

## St. Dunstan's, India, Post Bag

Correspondence between St. Dunstan's outpost at Dehra Dun and its men does not altogether follow the traditional lines we are accustomed to at home. Here is a letter to Sir Clutha Mackenzie from Sepoy Turab Ali, writing from his home in Bengal, where he is absent on leave:—

"Sir,

Take my respectful Good Morning and also send it to my Honourable Major. Then, I most respectfully beg to state, it is more than one month that I left your kind honour. This long absence from your honour gave me much pain. I was quite all right with your blessings. But unfortunately I was attacked with malaria for which I got admitted in the hospital in my village. By the grace of Almighty God and also by your blessings I am now feeling better. I will post a letter to your kind honour after my recovery, then you will kindly send me my pass. With your blessings I have finished the work for which I took the money from you. Bless me so that I may meet you soon. Kindly send me your blessings by return post."

## Derby Sweepstake, 1945

### A Record Entry

All records for the St. Dunstan's Sweepstake for St. Dunstan's men only have been broken this year. No fewer than 2,774 tickets were sold, six hundred more than the previous highest total in 1931.

The draw took place at our Massage Hostel at 12 Park Crescent, on Wednesday, June 6th, and was made by St. Dunstaners Llew Davies and Paddy Humphreys, in the presence of Matron Walker, Mr. Mace, Commander Smyth, the Editor of the REVIEW, and many massage trainees.

The sale of the tickets produced the sum of £346 15s. As announced, ten per cent. of the total has been devoted to our Comforts Fund, which therefore benefits to the extent of £34 13s. 6d. After deducting £10 1s. 6d. to cover the cost of printing and postage, the sum of £302 remains to be distributed in accordance with the rules as follows:—

First (50%)	£151 0s.	C. E. BEAUFOY (2033).
Second (20%)	£60 8s.	E. J. SUMMERS (2552).
Third (10%)	£30 4s.	G. A. BROWN (1664).

Blue Water and Forester did not start in the race, leaving £60 8s. (20%) to be shared among twenty-four runners. Holders of these tickets therefore receive £2 10s. 4d. each.

Congratulations to all the lucky prize-winners in this record Victory Derby.

The full result of the draw was as follows:

Horse	Name	Ticket No.
AUDENTES	D. MCCARTHY, Stoke Mandeville	2357
AVALANCHE	BOB COOKE, Church Stretton	2104
BLACK PETER	A. MORGAN, York	1241
BLUE WATER	T. ASPINALL, Stoke Mandeville	2274
CHAMOISSAIRE	H. GREATREX, Stoke Mandeville	2322
CONCENTRATION	H. A. HAMMETT, Oxford	1251
COURT MARTIAL	G. A. BROWN, N.W.2	1664
DANTE	C. E. BEAUFOY, Little Stretton	2033
EDENBRIDGE	W. SANKEY, Aberystwyth	228
FORDHAM	P. BAKER, Church Stretton	2236
FORESTER	E. BECKHAM, Kenton	113
GAEKWAR'S PRIDE	G. J. BOULTWOOD, Romford	2688
HIGH PEAK	E. FOSTER, Croxley Green	1751
MANUCHEHR	S. W. TUTTON, Rhondda	530
MIDAS	E. J. SUMMERS, Eastleigh	2552
PAPER WEIGHT	S. GAME, Blackpool	183
PRECIPTIC	T. ROGERS, Church Stretton	471
PREDICTION	W. DALE, Midhurst	2174

PRINCE VAL	W. WILSON, St. Helen's	1670
RIO LARGO	W. BIGGS, Leicester	600
RISING LIGHT	F. MORGAN, Bristol	386
ROYAL CHARGER	G. J. BOULTWOOD, Romford	43
SAPPER	E. J. LLOYD, Cardiff	1716
SORRENTO	M. DELANEY, Park Crescent	1910
SUN STORM	A. H. RODGERS, Barrow	2384
THE CHISELLER	A. C. RODGERS, Wrexham	1012
TRAIN BLEU	T. MILNER, Liverpool	701
VICINITY	G. L. DOUGLAS, Osterley	810
WOOD NOTE	M. BURRAN, W.1	2374
THE FIELD	S. ASH, Exeter	1608

## Ex-Prisoners Meet

Twenty-five St. Dunstaners, who were prisoners of war, were the guests of the Chairman at a lunch on May 5th to welcome home from Germany Major David L. Charters, the Liverpool ophthalmic surgeon, who twice refused repatriation so that he might continue his treatment of them in the German camp, and to thank also Lord Normanby, who, after teaching himself braille, organised the braille and instructional school, with the use of materials sent by St. Dunstan's and the Red Cross.

Captain E. Holloway, who also comes from Liverpool, and was blinded while serving with the Merchant Navy, expressed the sincere thanks of the men to Lord Normanby and Major Charters, sentiments which were warmly supported by B. Bright, L. W. Cook and D. Parmenter on behalf of all the ex-prisoners.

Among those present were Mr. H. G. M. Strutt, of the Comforts Section, British Red Cross, who acted as braille correspondent and liaison officer throughout the men's captivity, and Rifleman Diamond, who acted as an orderly to the blinded men in their camp. A regretted absentee was the well-known Australian cricketer, R. G. Williams, who had instructed the men in braille.

## National Egg Laying Trials

### 8th Period, 23rd April—20th May

Position	Name	Test Score
1	G. C. Jackson ... ..	919
2	C. McIntosh ... ..	735
3	P. Holmes ... ..	731
4	J. Campbell ... ..	727
5	T. Gregory ... ..	724
6	A. Jarvis ... ..	681
7	M. Watson-Brown ... ..	622
8	A. Chaffin ... ..	593
9	E. H. Carpenter ... ..	565
10	W. Alan Smith ... ..	526
Average per bird, 121.18.		



### Church Stretton Notes

Assuredly no one will ever forget the deeply-felt suspense of Monday, May 7th—the breathless attention to every wireless report. Had we arrived at the historical moment? Were we really “in at the death” of the diabolical nightmare in Europe?

Wise forethought had prepared suggestions for the two-day holiday here, whenever it might come. So on the Tuesday morning our huge Central Hall was full to overflowing for the short Thanksgiving Service, conducted by Padre Nugee—exactly what we needed. Then the Bursar, Mr. Bartlett, read Sir Ian's letter announcing, among other things, that every trainee would receive £5, of which he could draw £1 at once; but not even a queue of about two hundred could upset Mr. Banks' calm efficiency! Picnics and tandeming being debarred by thunderstorms, an impromptu afternoon party in the Hall was handy for the ever-open Canteen. An evening dance completed a Great Day. On the Wednesday, a special morning Cinema Show, and *such* an evening Celebration Concert (entirely without outside help). The audience were seated round little tables, continuously supplied with both eats and drinks; they obviously enjoyed being called on to give tongue in well-known choruses between all the items. An impromptu Competition between representatives of Longmynd, Denehurst, Brockhurst, the V.A.D.s and the male staff—judged by the audience—was a novelty that caused much interest, partisanship and admiration for the volunteers. Jack Newton, of Longmynd (just arrived!) won the prize with his song, “County Down.” Bob Bridger's attempted obligato accompaniments to songs *unknown to him* surely deserve a medal for courage! Mr. Claude Bampton's “Song of Victory” went with a rousing swing which augurs well for his success with it in the Gaumont-British Competition. A grand two days—“Let yourselves go, but not too far!”

Everyone will have been thrilled reading of the recent Aries polar flight from Shawbury, near here. Hearing that Harry Devonport, formerly a member of Wing Commander McKinlay's crew, was here, the aerodrome officers invited him and Mr. Carter over to lunch, and to be present at the Aries' return. She landed within

one minute of the time wirelessed from one hundred miles away. “Hallo, chaps,” said Wing Commander McKinlay, on stepping out of the plane; and, after a bath, he joined them all as though a non-stop flight of over 4,000 miles in eighteen and a half hours was nothing unusual!

All who knew George Allen, the first trainee to go out from our upholstery department, will congratulate him on doing well in his job at Armstrong's, of Hull, ships' furnishers, earning Trade Union wages. And Bill Phillips, at Beresford and Hicks, is also making a success in the same line and is now teaching an apprentice.

It is so nice to have Thelma and Brenda back at Belmont, and helping trainees with extra braille reading; what a number of helpers St. Dunstan's has produced!

The Musical Circle maintains its regular monthly fixtures; Thorpe Bates was the guest artist at the last concert.

Another Massage Class has left us for Part II of their training in London—Rex Theobald, Paddy Humphreys, Bill Shaw, and Llew Davies. The best of luck to them, as they surely deserve.

A Dramatic Company from the R.A.P.C. gave us a jolly good performance of “Without the Prince” one evening. Many thanks.

Further social evenings have been arranged—a big one at the Central Hall, including a Quiz, and another at Denehurst. What happens when you cross the 80th meridian (a) from east to west, and (b) from west to east?

Visiting musical entertainers have included the Arden Singers' Variety Concert; the B.B.C. Midland Light Orchestra, Conductor, Rae Jenkins; Issy Bonn; R.A.O.C. Coddon Band and Concert Party from Donnington; Felix Mendelssohn and his Hawaiian Serenaders (the real thing); and dance bands from the K.S.L.I., Monkmoor R.A.F., the Mortar Training Band, and Shrewsbury and Shawbury R.A.F. Dance invitations accepted from Condover R.A.F., British Legion, Dorrington, Mortar Training Centre, Shrewsbury, and Shawbury R.A.F.

Congratulations to the following, who have passed Tests:—

**Braille Writing.**—A. H. Bosley, T. Niccol, J. White.

**Braille Reading (Interpoint).**—A. Cartwright, T. Rogers, J. Walch.

**Braille Reading (Interline).**—J. Doughty, T. Daborn, P. Matthews, L. Robinson, E. King, P. Spencer.

**Typing.**—D. Beattie, H. Chrystal, A. D. Moore, D. McConnell, R. Gadsby, J. Cruse, J. Brimelow, H. Hines, J. Colbert, W. Kennedy, C. R. Wilson, T. Tatchell, J. C. Carney, R. Pilon, G. Stanley, M. Lees, D. Ferguson, A. Cartwright, T. Tasker, A. R. Cook, R. Phillips.

### From the Chairman's Post-Bag

The writer of the following letter is Corporal M. E. Barrett, who was blinded in the fighting in the Middle East, and was trained at Tembani, South Africa.

DEAR SIR IAN,

In your last letter you asked me to tell you something about my farming operations.

First of all I must tell you that I have the initial advantage of being thoroughly familiar with the land I am farming. I have lived here all my life with the exception of the years at school and in the army.

The land I am farming is about 3,400 acres in extent, and a large proportion of it is under agriculture. Our chief crops are wheat, mealies and fodder crops for the cattle in winter. We also grow quite a lot of potatoes, sunflowers, beans, and such like whenever one of the main crops fail, which is fairly frequently.

I will not pretend that the handicap of blindness is not a great one. There are, however, many things which a blind man can do for himself just as efficiently as one who can see. For instance, the condition of soil and its suitability for planting can be judged just as well by feel as by sight, perhaps better; in the same way the condition of crops and their degree of maturity can be equally well judged. The one thing one misses is the general effect of large fields, and the process of judging is, of course, slower and more laborious. Farm machinery, provided one has a bit of a mechanical mind, can be repaired quite effectively. I run my own mills, sawmills, etc., worked partly by steam and partly by diesel engine power.

As a side line I run a fair sized herd of Jersey cows for dairy purposes, and, of course, for our own use as well. The

condition of animals can be just as well judged by feel, provided you know what to look for, as by any other means. Milking, if you wish to do it personally, presents no problem.

Perhaps a word on recreation would not come amiss. Apart from horseback riding, which is part of my daily routine, my chief form of sport is fishing. It affords me no end of pleasure. Whether fly, lure or bait fishing, in fresh or salt water, I find that I can compete with a fair measure of success. This is perhaps due to the fact that I was a keen fisherman before I was blinded, but I do think that many other similarly handicapped men could get immense pleasure from fishing if once they started.

I would like to say, in conclusion, how tremendously I appreciate all that St. Dunstan's has done for me in giving me a new outlook on life, and imparting to me some of its wonderful spirit.

M. E. BARRETT.

Leribe, Basutoland, South Africa.

### St. Dunstaner's Broadcast to Holland

At the end of April our Dutch St. Dunstaner, Reinder Waas, made a short record in Dutch for the B.B.C., in which he told his countrymen of St. Dunstan's and of his training here. This was to have been broadcast on the Overseas Service on May 8th, but as this proved to be VE Day it was postponed. On May 15th, therefore, his relatives and friends in Holland were delighted to hear his voice on the radio—but more delighted to meet him again in person, for Rein was given a fortnight's leave and he arrived home just in time for his broadcast, although he just missed hearing it himself.

Rein found his relatives fairly well, considering the circumstances, and he asks us to pass on to his St. Dunstan's friends his family's warmest good wishes.

### New War Placings

H. Greasley, of Coventry, has started inspection work with Morris Motors; Rufus Jones, of Forestfach, Swansea, is now working on a hand press with Messrs. R. T. Metal Productions, Ltd.; C. Hobbs, of Kingsbury, has begun work as a telephone operator at the Midland Bank Stationery Department; A. Morgan, of Tanghall, Yorkshire, is back on his pre-war job with Messrs. Rowntree & Co., as a cocoa nib hopper worker.



## The British Legion Conference

Men of two wars attended the British Legion Conference, which was held in London during Whitsun week. Brigadier General E. R. Fitzpatrick and Sir Ian Fraser were appointed chairman and vice-chairman respectively.

Here are some points from the speeches which were given prominence in the British Press:

Major General Sir Frederick Maurice (President): Speaking generally, and remembering what they have been told of the slump and unemployment after the last war, the Servicemen were sceptical of promises. They wanted a secure peace and the means of maintaining it. They meant to see that their sons and grandsons would not have to go through World War III.

Brigadier General E. R. Fitzpatrick: Two vital questions affecting the return of ex-Servicemen to civilian life had yet to be settled by the Government—their acceptance of a training for membership by trade unions, and preference in employment. The Minister had given certain assurances about the position of men and women after training, and had stated that he was prepared to discuss the matter further with the Legion, so the door was left open.

Major Sir Brunel Cohen: The Legion, if it was to have the confidence of the public and remain true to its aims and objects, must represent the men and women of this war in at least equal proportion to those of the last.

A resolution asking the Government to appoint a select committee for the complete overhaul of Service pensions, proposed by Sir Ian Fraser on behalf of the National Executive Council, was carried unanimously. It urged that pensions should be supplemented up to £600 a year, so that the standard of living of those who earned more before the war should not be radically reduced, the payment of family allowances at Ministry rates to all war pensioners irrespective of when the marriage took place, with contingent rights for war widows, and payment of a minimum personal pension of £3 10s. a week for unemployable disabled pensioners.

The Conference decided by an overwhelming majority not to amend the Charter to include Home Guards.

## Young St. Dunstaners

### Marriages

Gertrude Loram (Brixham) on May 31st, to Trooper Ernest Bugbee, Royal Canadian Armoured Regiment.

Sapper T. W. J. Gidney (Morden) on May 22nd, to L-Cpl. N. George, A.T.S., by special licence.

Nora Billingham (Northampton) on April 14th, to Signaller Ronald Perrin, R.N.

Josephine Mary (Joy) Sephton (St. Helen's), on May 9th, to Cpl. William Whitaker, U.S.A.A.F.

Irene Rose White (Wembley) on May 21st, to A.B. Norman Battley, R.N.

In March, Arthur Kempe (Redruth) to Miss Mary Laity.

In December, 1944, Dunstan Champniss (Bovingdon) to Miss Mary Livingstone-Logan Smith.

June 3rd, Joan Betty Ollington (Earlsfield) to Frederick Charles Smith, late R.E.

June 16th, Tom Tuxford (Redditch) to Nurse Pat Warner.

Reginald Barnes (High Wycombe) on May 20th, to Signalwoman Joan Gant, A.T.S.

### Home Again

Welcome home to the ex-prisoner of war sons of F. P. Fishwick, of St. Helen's, J. Donnelly, of Blyth, P. Featherstone, of North Ferriby, J. Williams, of Hampton, E. Fearn, of East Leake, T. Murphy, of Bedlington, P. T. Maskell, of Rochester, and to Donald Curtis, the nephew of T. H. Marshall, of Worcester, whose home is with Mr. and Mrs. Marshall. W. J. Galloway's son is also home in Oxford after being a prisoner for four years, and there was a grand reunion with his brother, who has also arrived home for a month's leave from Italy.

### Wounded, but on Service Again

Mr. and Mrs. H. Lee, of Moorends, near Doncaster, had a grand surprise just after VE Day, when their son, whom they knew had been very badly wounded, but whom they hadn't heard from for some time, arrived home unexpectedly. He is better now and is back in Holland again.

### Promotion

Congratulations to Gordon Clare, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Clare, of Brockenhurst, who has been appointed Staff Captain, Royal Engineers, Technical.

## Sons and Daughters in the Services

BATTEN, Gunner D. (Bridgwater), R.A.  
 BENNING, L.A.C. A., Royal Air Force.  
 BENNING, Sgmn. R., Allied Airborne Army.  
 BEST, Trooper L. W., Royal Tank Regt.  
 BEST, Pte. G. A., Royal West Kents.  
 BROOKES, Pte. C. V. (Southampton), P.T.W.  
 BURDIS, L.A.C. W., R.A.F. Regt.  
 CHAMPNISS, A.B. A. C., Royal Navy.  
 CHRISTIAN, Pte., A.T.S.  
 CLEVITT, Cpl. R., R.E.M.E.  
 COLE, Pte. F. L. (Southampton), Royal Fusiliers.  
 COATES, Pte. V. (Hutton), Beds. and Herts. Regt.  
 COLLYER, L.A.C. W. (New Barnet), Royal Air Force.  
 COLLINGE, Spr. W. T., Royal Engineers.  
 COOK, L.A.C. A. (Waltham Cross), Royal Air Force.  
 CURNOW, A.B. William (Camborne), Royal Navy.  
 DOLBY, Tel. T. O., Royal Navy.  
 DOLBY, Tel. K., Royal Navy.  
 DUNCAN, Sgt. D. A. (Carshalton), Royal Air Force.  
 DURKIN, Pte. M. R., A.T.S. (M.T.T.C.)  
 EXALI, Cpl., Royal Air Force.  
 FALLOWFIELD, Pte. Marjorie, A.T.S.  
 FARMERY, P.O. E. J., Royal Navy.  
 FEARN, Marine George, Royal Marines.  
 GAME, Bandsman E., Queen's Royal Regt.  
 GAME, Craftsman C. H., R.E.M.E.  
 GIDNEY, Sapper J., Royal Engineers.  
 GULSELEY, Leading Radio Mechanic, R.N.A.S.  
 HAMMETT, Sgt. A. H.  
 HANDLEY, Cpl. R., R.A.C.  
 HILLS, Corporal Kathleen (Ramsgate) W.A.A.F.  
 JONES, Driver M. I. (Slough), T.B.D.  
 KEEGAN, Spr. P. (Cork), T.R.E.  
 KEMPE, Spr. S. P. (Redruth), Royal Engineers.  
 KIRBY, Lieut. A. (London, S.W.20), R.A.  
 MACPHERSON, Pilot Officer W. J. (Windsor), Royal Air Force.  
 MEGSON, Cpl. R. W., S.E.A.A.F.  
 MORTIMER, L.A.C. H. (Hull), Royal Air Force.  
 MURPHY, Fireman J. (Glasgow), Royal Navy.  
 OLDFIELD, Pte. T., P.T.W.  
 PARKER, A.B. R. G. (Oxford), Royal Navy.  
 PARNELL, Marine J. A. (Thundersley), Royal Marines.  
 PAUL, Sgt. W., Royal Air Force.  
 PAUL, Cabin Boy John, Royal Navy.  
 PEACEY, L.A.C. S. M. G. (Southgate), Royal Air Force.  
 PETERS, Dvt. S. (Liverpool), Royal Artillery.  
 PLUNKETT, R. M., Royal Navy.  
 POWER, L-Cpl. John (London, S.W.), Green Howards.  
 SCALLY, Marine J. C., Royal Marines.  
 SHEPHERD, L/M. I. (Leighton Buzzard), Royal Navy.  
 SHIELDS, O.S. J. (Leigh), R.N.A.S.  
 SMY, Seaman Harry, Royal Navy.  
 SPACKMAN, C.S.M. (Dagenham), Royal Fusiliers.  
 SPACKMAN, Cpl., Italian Pioneer Coy.  
 SPACKMAN, C-Sgt. G., D.L.I.  
 SPACKMAN, Pte. M., A.T.S.  
 SPACKMAN, Bdr., R.E.T.D.  
 SPACKMAN, Pte. E., A.T.S.  
 TARLETON, Gnr. R., School of Artillery.  
 TIBBS, Pte. L., R.A.S.C.  
 THOMPSON, Sister E. M. (Bexhill), Nursing Service, B.L.A.  
 THORPE, Driver R. H. (Chelmsford), R.A.S.C.  
 WERNHAM, L.A.C., Royal Air Force.  
 WHITELAM, Cadet P. T. (Westcliff), Royal Air Force.  
 WILLIAMS, Pte. W. L. (Birmingham), Lancs. Regt.

## A Suggested Broadcast on the coming Braille Championship

Hello Listeners! This is your announcer, Dot Dodger, broadcasting on wave-length 1.2.3.4.5.6. from Puzzlem, where a goodly number of dot-chasers are gathered for the Braille Championship. The course has duly been prepared with malice aforethought. First, let me give you the low-down on the strange fraternity who use this mysterious method for education and mental exercise. Though they may be observed forcibly saluting lamp-posts, bassinets, or anything else that may be in their way as they range abroad, or climbing walls looking for the entrance to a building, they are mostly quite normal, walking in the upright position, and taking food and drink through the mouth (especially the latter).

Well, there's been plenty of excitement. Pumicestone Pete and Vaseline Val have had a special preparation; and, while they didn't seem very happy about their effort, they appeared to go rather better than usual. Then we had Sensitive Sam—his style and speed were extremely good, but I thought his verbal technique lacked polish. Next came Hard Touch, looking a trifle heavy as usual, for weight has always been his trouble; I thought his getting over the ellipsis a trifle ponderous, whilst his approach to the brackets was a little uncertain, but he finished much better than he expected. There seems to be a stir down there! Yes, it's Nifty Digit, the favourite—he's just taking his stance—he's off, moving very smoothly—now he's gathering speed. Ah! that asterisk steadied him up a bit, but he has recovered and is forging ahead. "What do you think, Dr. Moon?" "Well, it's a little advanced for me, but they all seem to have done extremely well; I wouldn't like the judges' task of deciding who is the winner."

And there we must leave them; the result will be broadcast in a later bulletin. So this is Dot Dodger wishing the best of luck to all dot-chasers.

## Honour

Mr. and Mrs. H. Meckin's son, Harry, a paratrooper, has won the immediate award of the Military Medal. Harry has been wounded in the hand and arm, but is going on well.



## "In Memory"

Private Harold George Weeks, *Royal Field Artillery*

With deep regret we record the death of H. G. Weeks, of Bristol.

From September, 1914, to April, 1918, he served with the Royal Field Artillery. He came to St. Dunstan's in July of that year and was trained in mats and netting. He continued with netting until the beginning of this year, when his health began to fail; he became suddenly worse and he passed away on April 12th.

The funeral took place at the Kingswood Parish Church. There were many wreaths, including one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Our very sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Weeks and her family.

Corporal Samuel H. Queate, *E.A.S.C.*

We deeply regret to announce the death of S. H. Queate, of Port Elizabeth, South Africa. He had been in failing health for a considerable time, and he passed away peacefully after a heart attack on March 18th.

This St. Dunstaner, who served in East Africa during the Great War, was not admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits until 1931. His blindness was a direct result of his war service, but he retained useful sight for some years after the war. He did not come to St. Dunstan's, England, for training, but was settled as a poultry farmer by the South African Committee. He spent a few weeks at "Tembani" in 1943, and many St. Dunstaners who were there then will remember him.

St. Dunstan's was represented at his funeral by members of the Port Elizabeth Committee. Wreaths were sent from the Chairman and Members of the S.A. Committee, the Port Elizabeth Branch, and Mrs. Chadwick Bates.

We at St. Dunstan's in London join with South Africa in extending our deep sympathy to his widow.

### Births

EVANS.—On May 23rd, to the wife of W. G. Evans, of Glascote, near Tamworth, a daughter, Sandra Peta.

FRANCIS.—On May 6th, to the wife of G. W. Francis, of Morley, a son.

HOLLAMBY.—On May 15th, to the wife of L. Hollamby, of Oldham (new war), a son.

NICOL.—On May 18th, to the wife of J. Nicol, of Hebburn, Durham (new war), a son, Joseph Hart.

WHYTE.—On June 6th, to the wife of F. Whyte, of Johnstone (new war), a son, Michael.

### Marriage

HIGGS—BATES.—On May 12th, at Warfield Parish Church, T. Higgs (trainee) to Miss W. Bates.

### On Active Service

With deep regret we hear that Richard Curnow, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curnow, of Cambourne, was drowned at sea on December 14th last, through enemy action. Richard was a First Class Stoker in the Royal Navy.

### Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Levett, Worthing, May 12th; Mr. and Mrs. L. Clarke, St. Helens, June 14th; Mr. and Mrs. W. T. West, Minster, June 16th; Mr. and Mrs. C. Durkin, Blackpool, June 26th.

### A Fine Family Record

G. Lawlor, of Leamore, near Walsall, must surely hold the record for his serving sons. He says himself that his family is known in the district as the Fighting Lawlors. Here is their proud record.

William served as a coxswain to Lord Louis Mountbatten on board H.M.S. *Kelly* until she went down with all guns firing at Crete. The crew had to dive into a sea of blazing oil, with the enemy machine-gunning them until they were rescued. William had severe face burns and is now invalided out.

Matthew was a sergeant in the Royal Ulster Rifles; he was at Dunkirk and was invalided out.

George, serving in the Royal Navy as a Sick Berth Attendant, was injured while carrying wounded ashore; he too is invalided out.

Patrick, who has served for some seventeen years with the Army and Navy, is now a Petty Officer.

Thomas is Acting Petty Officer in the Royal Navy.

Frank is a Leading Air Fitter in the Fleet Air Arm.

Henry (seventeen) has just joined the Merchant Navy, Arthur is a member of Walsall Naval Cadets, and Christopher, aged twelve, is still at school.

Lawlor himself is a veteran of the Boer War.