

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Welcome!—Australia and New Zealand

BEFORE the war broke out our plan, which we had worked out in some detail, included invitations to the Governments of the Dominions to make use of St. Dunstan's in Britain for the training of any of their soldiers, sailors and airmen whom they found it convenient to send to us for short or long periods. We offered to undertake this training free of all cost to Dominion Governments or to the men concerned.

We have had the pleasure of welcoming a substantial number of Canadians for varying periods, all the South Africans for full training, two Australians for brief visits, and one Australian and one New Zealander for full training. Those from the Commonwealth have also included three members of the Eire Army. From the Empire we have welcomed individuals from India, Malaya, Sudan, and Sarawak.

The greater part of the Australian Armed Forces were fighting in the Pacific, and thus returned direct to their homeland from the scene of operations, and their Government did not think it wise to send blinded men half-way round the world in time of war solely for training at St. Dunstan's—a policy with which, at the time, we fully agreed.

I now learn that there are 65 or 70 young men of the Australian Armed Forces who have been blinded in the recent war, and I have written to the Australian Government renewing our invitation. The situation in New Zealand is somewhat similar, and I have repeated our invitation to the New Zealand Government also.

Both these countries have taken steps to rehabilitate their blinded men, and St. Dunstan's, New Zealand, is, I hear, an admirable establishment. In Australia, every effort has been made to provide training where this has been possible, but geographical and other difficulties have made the setting up of a training centre after the St. Dunstan's pattern impracticable. A number of Australians have been individually trained in hospital or in civilian institutions, or by firms who have given them employment.

I do not claim that our method here in the Old Country is better than in any of the Dominions, but merely that it is different; mainly because of our very large numbers. I have explained to the Australian and New Zealand Governments that during 1947 our establishment at Ovingdean will be in full swing, with a very great variety of re-education, training, entertainment, and so on, and have expressed the keen desire, which I know will be shared by St. Dunstaners at home, to welcome their colleagues from the Dominions. Our blind world is so small that it seems a pity for any young blinded person not to see and share in the full activities of St. Dunstan's before he settles down for a lifetime of blindness.

I am taking steps to enrol all Australians and New Zealanders, who are willing and eligible, as St. Dunstaners, whether they come to us for training or not, but my earnest hope is that we shall see a good many of them here this year. Apart from the benefit which I believe they will gain as blind men, they will, I feel sure, bring us their own contribution of vigour and independence, which will be of value to us.

Older St. Dunstaners will certainly agree with me that the presence in our midst of large numbers of Australians, New Zealanders, Canadians and South Africans during and after the first war was a source of great strength, and no little liveliness, to the St. Dunstan's which we remember.

As I write these Notes the news breaks that Australia has made a gift of twenty-five million pounds, and New Zealand a gift of ten million pounds, to the Mother Country as a contribution to the Pacific War. Here, indeed, are generous gifts for which all in Britain will say "thank you."

Clear Listening

I often hear blind friends of mine listening to the wireless or a talking book with the volume fairly loud and the tone control fairly low. Tastes differ, and each must find what suits himself, but may I suggest an experiment?

Turn the tone up a bit and reduce the volume, and I think you will find that it is much more pleasant and far less tiring. The explanation is that intelligibility, or clearness of speech, is dependent to a large extent on the consonant sounds, and these are carried by the higher frequencies, and are masked by booming bass. Another tip is to sit near the loudspeaker, say about a yard away and as nearly as possible facing it, for these higher frequencies travel out from the loudspeaker in straight lines. Imagine the sound coming out like a beam of light from a motor head-lamp. If you sit in the beam you hear much more clearly.

Talking to the Deaf

Our family of St. Dunstan's includes a number of doubly handicapped men. There are, for example, those who have lost hands as well as sight, those who are bedridden and those who are deaf as well as blind. Our organisation, by its policy and our staff in their daily actions, do everything possible to give special help to these men, and I know also that St. Dunstaners themselves go out of their way to be of practical assistance whenever possible.

I write this note to call attention to a particular direction in which I think we might all of us do a little more, namely, by learning the deaf and dumb language so that when we meet one of our fellows who has this double handicap, we can talk to him in his own special language.

It is not enough to say "good afternoon," find him a chair or get him a cup of tea. What he wants is a jolly good conversation, and this can only be achieved if a large number of people amongst whom he moves can talk the deaf and dumb language on his hands fluently. I confess with some personal shame that for many years I could not do this myself, but I have recently learned to do it a little, and I am getting better at it.

It has occurred to me that a great many St. Dunstaners are good brailleists, and no doubt some of our blind and deaf colleagues are good at braille also, and I have asked our Research Committee to consider whether a machine could not be made for use at West House, Blackpool, and Ovingdean, which would enable an ordinary St. Dunstaner to talk in braille to a blind and deaf St. Dunstaner. Picture these two sitting one at each side of a table. The ordinary St. Dunstaner has the keys of a braille machine in front of him. As he writes the dots appear on a piece of paper on the other side of the table where the blind and deaf man is sitting. With a little practice, I think a fluent conversation could be carried on, the ordinary St. Dunstaner using braille, the deaf St. Dunstaner replying verbally.

If this could be perfected, we might make it possible for a large number of St. Dunstaners to talk fluently to our few blind and deaf colleagues. Let us remember, however, that no machine really takes the place of an intimate, friendly talk on the hands.

IAN FRASER.

St. Dunstaner Honoured by Americans

John Taylor, of Bristol, was, on February 18th, decorated with the Silver Star for gallantry in the field, which is the highest award the United States can give to a British serviceman. The presentation was made at the American Ambassador's private house by Major General C. L. Bissell, Military Attache to the U.S. Embassy.

John won the award for his bravery while serving in Germany under the American Command. During an engagement, though severely and painfully wounded, he saved his tank and its crew when it was hit and set on fire.

On the morning of the day he was decorated, the Chairman welcomed him at Headquarters and drank a toast to his success. In the evening a number of St. Dunstan's friends, including Matron Lang, Gwen Obern, and Mr. and Mrs. A. Mackay, entertained him at the Cumberland Hotel.

Holiday Camps

H.M.S. *Daedalus* has written to say they enjoy St. Dunstaners' visits. Will they come again?

They provisionally offer us two periods, each of one week, twenty to twenty-five beds each time.

Saturday, July 5th to 12th.

Friday, Aug. 29th to Sept. 5th (Friday).

The second week is specially arranged in the hope that some St. Dunstan's trainees will be able to come. It looks like having to draw for beds. The best hope of avoiding this is to know numbers as soon as possible. I suggest the August week should be mostly for 1939-45 St. Dunstaners.

The Camp fee will be announced next month. It will not exceed £1. There will be the usual help with fares.

Please write to me as soon as you can: Mrs. Spurway, The Vicarage, Titchfield, Fareham, Hants.

Braille Radio Times

Mr. A. Mackay, Welfare Superintendent, thanks all those St. Dunstaners who wrote to him making suggestions with regard to the "Braille Radio Times." He has been in touch with the N.I.B., its publishers, and has put forward your suggestions—in fact, some of them have already been incorporated and others are receiving serious consideration.

Broadcasting

G. Brereton, of Derby, is broadcasting on the North Regional programme, 449.1 metres, on April 3rd, in "Stay at Home," and on the 4th with Eddie McGarry's Band.

Have You Made Your Will?

Once again St. Dunstaners are reminded of the advisability of making their will. So many cases come to our notice where, through the oversight of a St. Dunstaner in not making his will, considerable delay occurs in dealing with the estate, with the result that hardship is caused to the widow and other members of the family.

If you have any money or property, however small, you should make a will. It is so much easier for those who are left.

A common mistake is for a St. Dunstaner to think that his widow will take everything belonging to him if he does not make a will. This is not so in all cases, as if the estate is over £1,000 even distant relatives may be entitled to a share.

Why not have your will prepared now? Mr. Rice, of Headquarters, will give you advice and draw a simple will for you without cost.

St. Dunstan's can act as Trustees if you so wish, and will be pleased to do so, again without any charge to you or to your family.

Placements

J. Dickey, of Liverpool, with the I.C.I. Alkali, Ltd., Runcorn, cleaning and dismantling machinery; F. Baugh, Long Eaton, as an upholsterer with Everest Upholstery, Ltd.; W. Atherton, Salford, as an upholsterer, with Messrs. Norman Lister & Co., Manchester.

Thirty Years Ago

From the "St. Dunstan's Review," March, 1917—

Captain F. Russell Roberts has accepted the appointment of Adjutant to St. Dunstan's, and took up his duties last week.

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The hard frost and the skating that accompanied it were much enjoyed by St. Dunstan's, both officers and men indulging in sports on the ice. The Canadians naturally felt at home; but, oddly enough, the Australians took to it quite naturally and appeared thoroughly to enjoy it. Early morning boating will begin in March, and we shall expect soon to hear of fresh talent which will enable us to maintain the reputation of St. Dunstan's on the Thames.

Ovingdean Notes

The great "switch off" which has affected the Training Centre for three weeks, has held up training in that the machinery in the Workshops came to a standstill, and the Industrial Trainees had to indulge in some form of handicraft to occupy their time. Happily the situation is now improving. It was fortunate that we had a stand-by diesel engine, which was retained after the A.R.P. Room had been cleared. This engine supplied essential electric services during the cuts.

Among our new trainee arrivals is a Sudanese, Ahmed Abdullah el Eissa, who is blind and handless, and has come into training with his brother as his attendant. He is the first Sudanese to become a St. Dunstanian and in warmly welcoming him we could also welcome some of the sun of his country!

The Freemasons of Brighton, Hove and District gave a dinner and dance at the Royal Pavilion for all trainees who were able to attend on Tuesday, February 11th, partners being invited to the dinner and concert. It was a lavish evening's entertainment, with an excellent concert—Max Miller as surprise Guest Artist producing great amusement and hilarity.

Another entertaining evening was a dance organised by the British Legion, Shirley Street, for thirty trainees and partners on Thursday, February 13th. These dances have always been much enjoyed by all trainees for the friendly atmosphere created by these kind people.

Yorkshire received the "limelight" on Friday, February 14th, when ten Yorkshiremen were invited to the Brighton, Hove and District Yorkshire Association Dinner and Dance, indeed enjoyed by all present.

Thursday, February 20th, was the "Gala" night for Ovingdean "Stag Party," when twenty men were invited from the N.F.S. College, Saltdean, to take part in a very pleasant evening, with competitions in darts, dominoes, etc. Entertainment was provided by F. White (monologues), T. Venn (banjo), Tug Wilson (piano accordion), B. Mather (songs), plus community singing, which proved very popular.

Thirty trainees and partners attended an excellent dance at Langford's Hotel, Hove, on Thursday, February 27th, given by Mr.

Doswell (manager). An extremely good evening with delightful eats and refreshments—everything, in fact, "pre-war."

This month's play reading was "Call It A Day," by Dodie Smith. The cast included our "star" reader, Miss Berry, Mr. Anderson, Miss Mortimer, Mr. MacDermot, Miss Arning (in a riotous part), and Miss Carlton (producer) herself. It was received by a very appreciative audience.

A series of lectures which are given by the Central Office of Information at Ovingdean, every Thursday, are greatly enjoyed by a good percentage of trainees. Subjects such as "Plastics in the Future," "Town and Country Planning," "United Nations," etc., plus interesting debates on the Dominions by officials of these countries, supply us with much food for thought.

Sunday Collections

As a result of the collections taken in the Ovingdean Chapel during the last two terms, £4 17s. 6d. has been sent to each of the following societies, making a total of £19 10s.: Pearson's Fresh Air Fund; National Deaf-Blind Helpers' League; R.A.F. Benevolent Fund; King George's Fund for Sailors.

Test Results

Ovingdean

Typing.—C. Wood, A. Snook, E. Anderson, D. Giffard, C. Brennan, G. Yakins, S. Jones.

Preliminary.—W. Miller, C. Campkin.

Advanced.—L. Hoult (Australian), R. Owen.

Avenue Road

Typing.—Frank Boldero, J. James, Stanilas Sosabowski.

Advanced Reading.—S. Sosabowski.

Cat Gives Warning of Fire

When fire broke out in the home of J. Carney, of Dunstable, during the night, Mrs. Carney was awakened by the cries of their cat and was able to put the fire out, although not before some damage had been done. The fire was caused by clothes left to dry before the fire.

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The Editor sincerely thanks all those who were good enough to respond to the appeal for December REVIEWS.

Blind J.P.s

Sir Ian Fraser and Squadron Leader W. T. Curtis-Willson, J.P., gave evidence to a Royal Commission on Justices of the Peace in London, on February 28th. Lord Justice du Parcq presided.

Sir Ian said he recalled about a dozen cases of men who were blind who were Justices of the Peace. The qualifications required for a successful J.P. include intelligence to understand facts and evidence, to assess their value and draw conclusions from them, and the ability to get the facts into the mind. A blind man, he said, was not handicapped in judging facts. Blind people could hold information in their minds for a long time. He admitted that they might be handicapped in looking at plans, but pointed out that a blind magistrate would not be sitting on a Bench by himself. "Members of the Bench, for instance," he said, "may look at a witness and say, 'She is a good-looking girl and looks straight enough,' and be influenced by those facts, but the blind man might be able to say, 'She is a liar.'"

Sir Ian submitted that there may be from time to time blind men who by reason of their training and ability might make suitable Justices in spite of their handicap, and it was not in the nation's interest, or in their own, to exclude them solely on account of blindness. He recommended that such persons should not be excluded from appointment to the Bench solely on that account, though the handicap of blindness should be taken into account with all other handicaps, physical or mental, in determining fitness for the post. He urged the Royal Commission to consider this recommendation sympathetically, having regard to the fact that it is the policy of this country, supported by all parties, to encourage the employment of disabled persons in all occupations for which they are fitted. In reply to a question from a member of the Commission as to whether a person being judged by a blind magistrate might think he was not getting justice, Sir Ian said, amid laughter, that he might prefer to be judged by a wise blind man than by Colonel Blimp.

Squadron Leader Curtis-Willson, who has had nine years' experience on the Bench, and who has been totally blind for the past five years, associated himself entirely with everything Sir Ian had said in

his report and replies, and he revealed how he was to have been one of four magistrates chosen to administer justice in Brighton had the Nazis invaded this country during the war. In his experience, he said, the number of cases in which it is essential for the magistrate to see some document which forms part of the evidence are very few. He begged the Royal Commission not to make it impossible for blind people to be appointed as magistrates. He asked that they should be given the opportunity to follow the experience and example of men like Milton, Sir Arthur Pearson, and Sir Ian Fraser, all of whom had risen above their handicap to give public service to their fellows.

Mr. Orbell, Chairman of the Brighton Licensing Bench, paid a tribute to Squadron Leader Curtis-Willson's ability as a J.P. He and his colleagues, he said, had been amazed at the marvellous facility with which he had absorbed the details of Acts of Parliament and extracts necessary for his duties as a magistrate.

At the conclusion of the evidence, Lord du Parcq and the members of the Commission thanked the witnesses for their valuable evidence and warmly shook hands with both.

Cup Final Tickets

We have the promise of a very small number of Cup Final tickets (to be played at Wembley on April 26th). There will be a ballot for them and those St. Dunstanians wishing to take part in the draw should send in their names to Corporal Major Dawkins, at Headquarters, as soon as possible and not later than April 14th.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following upon their anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Boase, of Bradford, September 11th; Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Pratt, Merton Park, February 7th; Mr. and Mrs. F. Ralph, Saltdean, February 12th.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Meighen, whose silver wedding was announced last month, live at Dollis Hill, of course, and not Dulwich Hill, as printed.

Grandfathers

J. H. Warren, Macclesfield, and A. Massey, of Reading.

Brighton Notes

We shall not talk of the fuel crisis at West House, but of more cheerful things. That means, too, that we must not mention the weather, for although we have been much more fortunate in the South than the rest of the country, it is still not exactly a happy topic for discussion. Enough to say that we hope for that promised thaw early in March!

In spite of all these things, or perhaps because of them, we have continued to have plenty of entertainment provided by our friends in Brighton and visitors to West House have been many.

Our first concert of the month was arranged by Mrs. Mercer, and was enjoyed by all of us. This was followed on the 6th February by another show, this time arranged by Mr. Jack Sullivan. This was on the occasion of an "At Home," held to welcome Mr. L. Fawcett as our Commandant.

St. Dunstaners and guests were entertained until midnight, and again the programme was relayed to the Sick Ward. Clifford Rawson, S. W. Wyndham, Fred Mason, Mary Orme, Tommy Venn, Fred White and Jack Sullivan were all on the "bill." Later in the evening Ted Ray and Jane Corder arrived, after the end of the show at the Brighton Hippodrome, and Joan Wood, The Gandy Brothers and the Musical Elliotts, who had been appearing at the Grand Theatre rounded off the programme. These artists were given a special welcome for so kindly coming along at such a late hour.

Our good friends of the Yacht Club sent along some beer for the men, and Mr. Joe Gluckstein very kindly presented ten cigarettes to each man.

On this occasion we were very pleased to welcome Matron Pain and several members of her staff, together with a party of twenty men from Ovingdean.

On February 11th we were invited to dinner, concert and dance, held at the Royal Pavilion, by the local Masonic Lodge and, as usual, we had a most enjoyable evening.

A St. Valentine's Dance, at which we organised a fancy hat contest, was held at West House on the 14th. The prize winners were: Most Original, Bobby Collins (made by Mr. King); Coal Scuttle, complete with shovel, labelled "What! no coal, Mr. Shinwell?" (cost of hat 7½d.);

Prettiest Hat, Douglas Whitehead (made by "Prim"); Spring Hat of hand-made rose-buds.

The lounge was gaily decorated for the dance by the Lounge Staff, who also made many of the fancy hats.

Letters to the Editor

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

DEAR SIR,

The braille issue of the REVIEW, we are told, will be late, due to the shortage of materials. Also I learn a new weekly paper is to be issued when materials are more plentiful. If materials are so scarce, why do "Hora Jocunda" and "Hampstead" contain the same stories as each other so frequently, and often are published again in "Progress"? Also, why are stories published over and over again? Not only do we need more in variety but this is a deliberate waste of paper, time and money.

Yours sincerely,

GEO. FALLOWFIELD.

Southwick.

The Blinded German

Although the correspondence on this subject is now closed, we feel that the following letter, which has come to us from Neil W. Campbell, of New Zealand, is of special interest and we therefore print it:

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

DEAR SIR,

I would like to put a direct question to the blinded German. It is: As a German, do you feel guilty for the frightfulness and indescribably horrible suffering and death imposed on humanity in peace and war?

He seems to think he can have relationships as though his nation had not foully violated everything against God, when they knew what they were doing. A recent broadcast from the B.B.C. asserted this of young German religious students.

Yours sincerely,

NEIL WM. CAMPBELL.

Wellington, New Zealand.

Another German Writes

Through an English friend, we have received a request from another young blinded German who would like to correspond with an English St. Dunstaner. He is Georg Ochs and he was blinded in Russia. He writes:

From the Chairman's Post-bag

DEAR SIR IAN FRASER,

I hardly know how to begin my letter to you, but I do wish to express my very, very grateful thanks for all your kindness to me. Yesterday I received all my baskets and material. I feel so happy now I can start to work. Sir, my parents and my wife wish me to say how very thankful to you they are, and I, too, know it's you I have to be thankful, for re-establishing me in life.

I hope soon to move in a newly-built flat, and there I have a large room for my workshop. My radio is fine and I spend many happy hours of pleasure and listening to the B.B.C.

I hope you will publish my little note, as I can never thank St. Dunstan's enough, also Matron Pain, Commandant, Mr. Burman and staff.

With gratitude and kind remembrances,

Your sincerely and thankful

St. Dunstaner,

FRANS OOSTHOEK.

Rotterdam, Holland.

DEAR SIR IAN,

This is just to let you know that at the monthly meeting of the Church Stretton U.D.C., held last Monday, February 3rd, I presented, on behalf of yourself and the Council of St. Dunstan's, the Plaque which commemorates St. Dunstan's stay in Church Stretton from 1940-1946.

I was asked by the Chairman, Dr. McClintock, to express to you the thanks of the Council, and to say that the Plaque will be hung in the entrance hall of the Silvester Horne Institute.

I think you already know the wording of the Plaque, but in case you should wish to be reminded, it was as follows:—

"This is to place on record the thanks of St. Dunstan's, whose men and women, blinded in war service, enjoyed the hospitality of Church Stretton during their training here between the years of 1940-1946."

The plaque was very nicely executed by a firm in Shrewsbury who specialise in such work, and provides, I think, a fitting and lasting memorial of St. Dunstan's sojourn in these parts.

Yours sincerely,

C. P. O. BARTLETT.

Church Stretton.

"After leaving school I had entered a commercial training school, but now I could no longer use the trade I had learned. After a thorough training in an institute for the blind, I decided to study. I first took my beloved wife from mid-Germany, in the district of Halle. Now I am in my second term of the study of Law.

"Several of my comrades—there are five of us at the University who were blinded by the war—have gone into contact with blinded American soldiers, in order to learn about blindness in America. I would like to try the same with an Englishman, to compare notes and perhaps to start a friendly correspondence. I can write English and also understand it, although my knowledge is still limited. The Englishman could, however, easily write to me in English with a typewriter, or in braille.

"I would be very grateful if you could fulfil my wish and give me the address of a blind soldier—who is also, if possible, a student."

The Editor will be glad to give the address of this young German to any St. Dunstaner who would like to correspond with him.

From Jimmy Ellis

(who receives a prize of One Guinea for it)

Without referring to our cards, how many of us know our identity number? Not many. I was looking up mine the other day and was amused to find the index letters preceding the number are the following: O. I. C. Rather funny for a St. Dunstaner, don't you think?

Skylark

*Oh, winged monarch of the sky,
Thy note so clear and pure as gold,
On thy light wing far born on high
Thou sheddest dew from thy wing's fold.
Such song no symphony excels,
As thou dues herald forth the dawn,
Thy praise sincere and clear the bells,
With bird-like psalm doth hail the morn.
Now lost in that expanse of blue
Caressed, and draped by haze and cloud,
Thy harmony so faint yet true
Descends beneath thy silver shroud.
The world below thy lofty heights
Awakes to greet the birth of morn,
To rise, and gaze at heaven's light,
To praise thee for the song of dawn.*

J. GANNON, Ovingdean.

This also receives a prize of one guinea.

"In Memory"

Private William Smith, *Bedfordshire Regiment*

With deep regret we record the death of W. Smith, of Brighton, at the age of eighty-five.

He enlisted soon after the 1914-1918 war broke out, although he had already served for three periods in the Army. His sight failed and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1926, but he was never robust and he was not able to train.

He had lived for many years with his sister, and he died at her home on February 23rd. Our sincere sympathy goes out to his sister in her loss.

The parents of "Steve" Bishop, of New Southgate, whose death was reported last month, send a special word of thanks to the many friends he gained while under the care of St. Dunstan's.

Mrs. McKenna, of Denton, Manchester, whose husband died recently, tells us that although he enlisted in August, 1914, he had previously joined the Army in May, 1900, and had served in the South African War, being discharged unfit. We are glad to make this correction in our records.

St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

The past few weeks have been a very busy time for the Bridge Club. Our Annual Meeting was held at Headquarters on Saturday, February 22nd. In the unavoidable absence of the President, Sir Ian Fraser, Mr. A. Mackay took the chair. All the reports were most satisfactory, the balance in hand being about £25. Our thanks are due to the retiring Treasurer, P. Nuyens, for his good work. N. Downs and R. Coles were re-elected as Secretary and Captain respectively, and F. Rhodes was appointed as Treasurer.

A donation of £5 13s. 9d. was made to the Deaf-Blind Watch Fund, and this sum will enable the officials to purchase a watch.

Various matters were discussed at length and the many points raised concerning the season's programme were left to the Committee.

A new contact was made in February, when a team opposed the Broomfield Bridge Circle. A pleasant afternoon was spent, the visitors being the winners. A team also took part in the open Bridge Club Competition, organised by the *Sunday Graphic*, and put up a creditable performance. We also visited Cadby Hall during the month and spent a most enjoyable time, but this time we were the winners. Then, on the first Saturday in March, H. Armstrong, who is a great friend to the Club, invited the members of the Bridge Club to a Bridge Drive at the Hampstead Town Hall. A good number of the members availed themselves of the opportunity, and the many kindly people at the Town Hall worked splendidly to give us all a very good time. It was indeed gratifying, for even the undersigned was successful in

winning the top lowest. A good year lies ahead of the Club, and I do hope that all members will avail themselves of the opportunities afforded to them by the pleasant Saturday afternoons. R. P. COLES.

Birth

KOEHORST.—On February 18th, to the wife of J. Koehorst, London, N.W.6, a daughter.

Marriages

ATHERTON.—On February 15th, W. Atherton, of Cronton, near Widnes, to Miss Mary Garratt, of Church Stretton.

COLLINS.—On January 14th, W. H. Collins, of Sompting, to Miss Margaret Hollingworth, of Blackpool.

MOORE.—On November 2nd, Alan D. Moore, of Fareham, to Miss Ann Lennon.

Deaths

FOXON.—To W. H. Foxon, of Woodgate, Leicester, whose mother, with whom he lived, passed away on February 20th.

KILSBY.—To G. Kilsby, of Hendon Way, whose wife passed away on February 18th, after a short illness. Mr. and Mrs. Kilsby had celebrated their silver wedding only three weeks previously.

WALTON.—To T. W. Walton, of Goring-on-Sea, who lost his wife on February 9th. They, too, had celebrated their silver wedding only a fortnight before.

Killed on Active Service

We have heard with deep regret that Stanley Boothman, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Boothman, of Salford, and late of the Merchant Navy, was killed in Palestine on August 31st. Our sincere sympathy goes out to his parents.