

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

No. 346—VOLUME XXXI [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

THE NEW YEAR HONOURS

Ex-Servicemen Represented

CAPTAIN William Appleby, who was probably the first Great War disabled veteran to take his place as a leader of the ex-Servicemen's Movement, received an O.B.E. (Civil Division) in the New Year Honours. Captain Appleby has been a member of the National Executive Council of the British Legion since its inception. He was, in fact, the founder of the Comrades of the Great War, an organisation which was later merged with other ex-Service bodies to form the British Legion. Captain Appleby was blinded in July, 1915, while serving with the 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers, and has represented the British Legion on St. Dunstan's Executive Council for many years.

Another honour which will give immense pleasure to all St. Dunstaners is the award of the M.B.E. to Mr. Leslie Banks, Pensions Officer at St. Dunstan's since 1932. Mr. Banks served in the London Rifle Brigade in the 1914—1918 war, and was severely wounded. He joined the staff of St. Dunstan's in 1917 and in his capacity of Pensions Officer has had charge of all details relating to the claiming and administering of pensions for blinded men and women of both wars, and has supervised the great amount of work involved in the very substantial payments which we make on behalf of the Ministry of Pensions. He has rendered personal service to practically all the St. Dunstaners of both wars and in the recent war he has been in close personal touch with all the newly blinded men and women and has done much to help them.

Amongst others who were honoured is Mrs. Newton Driver (M.B.E.), whose name will be known to so many ex-Servicemen from overseas, and to many disabled men who took advantage of the hospitality of her English-Speaking Officers' Club in London.

Mr. A. Baxter, the founder and national President of the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association, received the O.B.E.

Mr. Sydney Parsons

The sad news reached us this month of the death of Mr. Sydney Parsons, one of St. Dunstan's oldest friends.

Mr. Parsons has been connected with our men's sports since the last war. He was a familiar figure at practically all our sporting events. He would act as a judge at a road walk, general sports day, or regatta, but he gave us valuable help in numberless other ways. It was his proud record that he did not miss one of our Road Walks.

His last wish was that a donation should go to St. Dunstan's, instead of flowers at his funeral. In sending this, his office colleagues at the Ministry of Supply wrote: "Mr. Parsons had many interests but none was dearer to him than that of the men of St. Dunstan's."

Mr. Parsons died at University College Hospital on December 19th. Although few knew of his illness, St. Dunstaners N. Downs, Ron Phillips and Tommy Milligan visited him there, to his great pleasure.

The Grange, South Mimms

There were festive scenes at The Grange, South Mimms, on December 18th—the end of the Christmas term—when a party was held at the Training Farm before the trainees went home for the holiday. Wives were asked to come along too, an invitation which was most popular, since many were seeing The Grange for the first time.

A large Christmas Tree provided a gift for everybody, and everybody, too shared in the contents of a wonderful food parcel which had been sent from South America. This, again, was a particular pleasure to the wives.

A running buffet—splendidly organised by Mr. J. A. Roney, Superintendent, aided by his wife and the staff—provided some wonderful refreshments. Games, singing and dancing kept the party going at a high level. It was a tremendous success.

Among the guests were Mr. A. Mackay, Welfare Superintendent, and Mrs. Mackay, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Ferguson, and Mr. George, our Joinery Instructor, who visits the Farm, and Mrs. George.

Mr. Percy L. Way Retires

Mr. Percy L. Way, for thirty-one years Principal of the National Institute for the Blind School of Physiotherapy, has retired, and on December 5th, at St. Dunstan's Headquarters, S. C. Tarry, of Wansdworth, on behalf of St. Dunstan's physiotherapists, presented him with a cheque as a mark of their deep esteem and affection of the men of two wars whom Mr. Way had trained in physiotherapy. Sir Ian Fraser also presented him with a cheque as a token of admiration and gratitude for all he had done for St. Dunstaners during the time he had been Principal of the School.

Placements

Alfred Snook, Bristol in a shop; D. Atkins, Hemel Hempstead, as a capstan operator with Messrs. Scientific Projections, Ltd., S.E.3; N. Crane, Warrington, as an upholsterer with Mr. C. V. Jones, Warrington; L. Trevelion, in a shop at Margate; D. Giffard, in a shop at St. Leonard's; Sam Moore, Plumstead, as a capstan operator with Messrs. Fry's (London), Ltd.

News In Brief

Leslie Shorter and his wife concluded their honeymoon in auspicious style when they were among the guests of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh at an afternoon garden party.

H. White, of Stalybridge, is a very busy man indeed—on his board, by day, and with his Council work nearly every evening.

W. E. Brooke's volume of short stories, to which we referred last month, will be issued by the National Library under the title of *The Puncher, and other stories*.

Wilfred Pickles sent a Christmas card to all St. Dunstaners who have "Had a Go" in his popular radio feature.

The National Institute for the Blind has announced that a braille newspaper for the deaf-blind is to be published in Britain in 1948.

Charles Negus, won the Wellingborough Pensioners' Social Club dominoes championship, beating everyone, including the president.

F. A. E. Hawes, of Swindon, who is an assembler at E. K. Cole, Ltd., has started a Works Magazine which he edits, and he represents his firm on the Swindon Committee of Industrial Relations. He is also one of the foremost members of a Discussion Group which has just been formed at the Works.

Billy Biggs, of Leicester, is retiring from his role of voluntary organiser for St. Dunstan's. With the presentation of a cheque for £112 from Saffron Lane Working Men's Club on December 8th, his total collections have reached £10,000.

E. Woofenden, who is doing a splendid job on assembly at the Farad Works, Leicester, was written up by local newspaper men and his story was broadcast on Midland Regional.

J. Wood, of Grange-over-Sands, gained four prizes for vegetables and flowers at Grange-over-Sands Chrysanthemum Show.

Wanted

ELECTRIC RAZOR wanted. Warren, 24 Overton Drive, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

News from South Africa

Mrs. E. M. Chadwick Bates, O.B.E., made her annual visit to Pretoria on December 4th and it synchronised with the visit of Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery to the Administrative Capital of the Union.

Mrs. Bates celebrated her visit by entertaining St. Dunstaners Denny and Higgs and their wives to dinner at Polley's Hotel, Pretoria. Mrs. Kathleen D. Battle, who has done such wonderful work for St. Dunstan's in Pretoria during the past twenty-five years, was a guest.

Denny and Higgs are the only two St. Dunstaners in Pretoria and always look forward with pleasure to visits from Mrs. Bates which, of necessity, are so few and far between, as her Headquarters are at Cape Town, one thousand miles distant. Field Marshal Lord Montgomery received a wonderful reception in South Africa and many St. Dunstaners were presented to him.

E.D.

Extract from the "Umtali Advertiser," S. Rhodesia, December 23rd (sent to us by Mrs. H. J. Hutcheon):

For two years, "Bill," an African grey parrot with a fiery red tail and a vocabulary of 700 words, not all polite, has been the inseparable friend of Mr. R. W. Bowen, the blind Cape Town M.P. He was given the freedom of his master's house and gardens and, because of his clipped wings, could wander where he wished.

But one day recently, Bill found his wings had grown. He gave them a preliminary flap. To his surprise he found himself "airborne." After a trial spin round the garden, he decided to make a longer "recco" and so without benefit of weather reports, wind velocities, etc., Bill took off.

How far and how long Bill flew no one knows, but four days later a woman resident in Three Anchor Bay, three and a half miles away, heard someone screeching, "Pine-apples, tomatoes, very cheap, lady. Don't buy from the other chap, he's a crook."

She went to see, but instead of a hawk there was Bill, waddling down the street. She recognised him as the bird for whose recovery Advocate Bowen had offered a £25 reward.

Bill "came quietly." He was obviously tired of fending for himself. There was a joyful scene when bird and master were re-united. "Vote for Bowen, hurrah,

hurrah—What a naughty boy you are," Bill screamed, and scampered madly in his box when he saw his master. He did not even "cuss" once when his wings were clipped as he was hauled out.

Mean Thefts

Two St. Dunstaners have been concerned lately in mean thefts.

Poultry farmers in particular will sympathise with William Young, of High Spenn, Co. Durham, who was robbed of fifty-eight pullets out of his stock of three hundred birds. A gang of poultry thieves is suspected.

George Shed, who has a shop at Hurstpierpoint, was luckier, thanks to his own quick-thinking. After serving a customer, he went to put the money in the till when he heard a movement. He put out his hand and caught the arm of a 14 year old boy who was in the act of taking some cigarettes. The boy has since been ordered to an approved school—it was his third offence.

Talking Book Catalogue in Braille

The Talking Book Catalogue is now available in braille, price sixpence, and can be obtained from Miss Ashton, Talking Book Library, 12 Oval Road, Camden Town, London, N.W.1.

Thirty Years Ago

From "St. Dunstan's Review," January, 1918:

"The production of the St. Dunstan's Revue, "Dispensary Boys," in the Marylebone Lounge of the College on December 11th, was such an unqualified success that it is to be repeated twice in January, and will visit several of the London Hospitals. The Revue, the first scene of which was laid in a hospital ward "somewhere in Chelsea," contained representations of all the best known St. Dunstan's people who work down there. A. Smith made a very realistic "Mrs. Lipscomb." Sergt. Thornton as "Miss Preston" caused much amusement by his manner of reading the newspaper, while Miss Saunders and Rowley, in other well-known characters, were excellent. The Hospital Visitors, represented by Colling and Miss Thellusson, were very laughable, and Hamilton as the "Cuckoo," a doubtful St. Dunstan's case in bed, showed that he is a real comedian. Other characters were played by Messrs. Corboy, Housden, Blaney, Twigg as patients, and various sisters of the College in other characters."

Letters to the Editor

THE EDITOR,
DEAR SIR,

I was interested in the letter in your November issue about a climbing holiday in the Lake District. I have not been to the Lakes, but have spent a similar holiday which I thought might interest your correspondent. Whilst visiting my wife's home in Western Canada this summer, we were lucky enough to be able to spend three weeks in the Rocky Mountains. We did a lot of walking and quite a bit of climbing, and my experiences were very similar to those of your correspondent. The climbing was, of course, slower, but not much more difficult than for the rest of the party. I was particularly struck by the impression that I was able to make of the scenery. By listening to my companions describe various views, and by the feel of the moss over which we were walking and the smell of the pines or the noise of the rushing mountain stream and the cry of a wild animal, I found that I was able to get a very vivid picture of my surroundings.

Your correspondent's enquiry about places to stay has prompted me to write this letter. We stayed at a Youth Hostel, and I thoroughly recommend this to any other St. Dunstaner who is interested in a walking or tandem holiday. One has to be a member of the Hostelling Association to be able to stay at one of their hostels, but there is only a charge of 1s. 3d. a night for a bed. One has to do one's own cooking, but this is no difficulty if one goes with a party. The Y.H.A. is an international organisation, and therefore provides a means of travelling abroad at a cost which is at least worth considering.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL NORMAN.

Cambridge.

THE EDITOR,
DEAR SIR,

Whilst visiting Brighton shortly before Christmas my wife had the misfortune to have her handbag stolen. Amongst other articles in the bag was a copy of the programme of a play we had recently seen. The title of the play was "Outrageous Fortune."

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE A. WEBBER.
Uxbridge.

Letters to the Editor

THE EDITOR,
DEAR SIR,

Having received a visit from a burglar, I thought the knowledge gained from the experience might be worth passing on to other members of our family of St. Dunstaners. The object lesson learned may serve some of the older members, who, like myself, have been married some years, yet may also prove useful to some of our younger members.

We who have been insured for years have, I think, been very similar in habit; just paying the premium and letting it go at that; ignoring the fact that our homes have gained in value over the passage of years, particularly with present day costs of replacement. I valued my household effects in 1930, paid the charges, and in 1944 increased my premium on valuation, but not enough. Now I anticipate not receiving the full amount lost.

I therefore do most seriously ask my colleagues to look into things and if they are not fully covered, then to have things readjusted to make sure that if they suffer from the activities of marauders, they will not suffer financially.

Just one word more. When we leave St. Dunstan's, we have a typewriter, a radio and a Stainsby; even if they are on life loan, they are still our responsibility and should we lose them, we are morally bound to do our best to replace them.

I would point out that the visits of the intruders do not take long, so make sure the house is secure, even if it will be only left unoccupied for an hour. The job at my own home took place within a known time of three quarters of an hour.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN A. MUDGE.
Tottenham, N.17.

(This is excellent advice and in fact, applies to loss by fire as well as by burglary. Mr. Lale, at Headquarters, is our Insurance expert, and he is always ready to give advice to St. Dunstaners in such matters and to arrange insurance policies for those who ask him to do so.—Ed.)

"E.K."

Mr. Ernest Kessell was a recent visitor to Park Crescent. Many St. Dunstaners met him at the London Reunion. He is trying to make us believe that he celebrates his 80th birthday next month. He looks a young sixty.

West House Notes

Heigh ho; heigh ho; and off to play we go! From the beginning of September we look forward to Christmas with mounting excitement, and events came one after the other.

On December 7th we held a Memorial Service to our Founder, at which Lady (Arthur) Pearson and Sir Neville Pearson were present. Sir Neville read the Lesson. Our St. Dunstaner, Charlie Thomas, sang solos and later a duet with his daughter, Brenda, who was also his accompanist. The address, a tribute to Sir Arthur, was given by Jock Boyd; he made a moving speech and spoke with great feeling, echoing the thoughts of all St. Dunstaners of both wars.

The first big occasion to remind us that the festive season was on its way was the annual dinner given by the Grocers Federation, and knowing the lavish hospitality accorded by our loyal friends, the Grocers, this evening drew an all time record crowd. Some 470 St. Dunstaners, Staff and friends sat down in relays to an excellent dinner, and afterwards enjoyed the dancing and games. The speeches were brief, but nevertheless there were expressions of warm-hearted friendship on the part of the Federation and deep gratitude and appreciation on the part of St. Dunstan's. We were honoured with the presence of the Mayors of Brighton and Hove, the President of the National Federation of Grocers, who expressed greetings from members of the Association all over the country, and our own President, Sir Neville Pearson, who, in a fine speech, thanked the Federation on behalf of St. Dunstaners, spoke of the great debt of gratitude which St. Dunstan's owed to the Association for their generosity and lasting friendship over the long years. Our thanks were reiterated by Matron Ouseley, Commandants Dacre and Fawcett, and our own Jack Boyd.

Another dinner and grand party was given at the Belvedere Hotel by the management. Fifteen St. Dunstaners, escorted by members of the Staff, enjoyed a good dinner, darts and dominoes competitions and a jolly evening was rounded off with a sing-song round the piano. Incidentally, I think our hosts were rather amazed at the skill of some of our darts players.

The trainees at Ovingdean sent us an

invitation to their End of Term Dance, and at our own dance, on the last Friday evening before Christmas, some fifty young ladies from the Brighton Training College gave us half an hour of really delightful carol singing. We were also entertained on December 21st by a programme of carols, arranged on this occasion by Rodney White.

The Christmas programme commenced on the 23rd with an excellent play-reading, given by the Staff. "The Butler Walks" was unique in as much as it was written by one of our own fellows, W. Muggeridge, of Hayes, Middlesex. We congratulate him on a thrilling story, and the players on their really professional performance.

Christmas Eve brought our old friends, Jack Sullivan and Mr. and Mrs. Barnard, who came to entertain us. The programme included carols rendered by Miss Catherine Ramsden, Matron and Miss Meldrum. This was all very good practice for our own very important Carol Broadcast on Christmas Day.

Christmas morning found everyone spruced up in their Sunday best, and returning handshakes from all sides. In place of the usual morning coffee, we sipped a glass of port, supplied by our friends of the Grocers' Association, and awaited the arrival of Santa Claus, complete with red coat and white beard. He made an exciting entrance in the Conservatory, riding a real sledge loaded with presents and a surprise in the form of a real Christmas Fairy, with wings and wand, in the person of little Susan Fawcett, aged 3½ years. It was a great thrill for her to be a fairy, and we could tell by the delight in her voice as she handed us our presents how much she enjoyed it all—even though she could not quite make up her mind whether or not Santa Claus was her daddy. Eager fingers undid the parcels to find a collection of most useful gifts. It goes without saying that no one was late for dinner, a good old-fashioned Christmas dinner of turkey, Christmas pudding (no one swallowed the silver coin in each piece), mince pies and, of course, Christmas crackers. The toasts were drunk in a glass of West House punch. Telegrams and messages of greetings were so numerous that Commandant and Matron took it in turn to read them out. They included a telegram from Sir Neville and one from Sir Ian and Lady Fraser.

The important part of the evening was, of course, "West House on the Air." This half hour of carol-singing, broadcast on the Light Programme of the B.B.C., went off without a single "technical hitch." Solos were sung by Miss Catherine Ramsden, who often sings for us in our Chapel, and Harry Costigan. Miss Ramsden chose "Silent Night, Holy Night," and Harry Costigan, accompanied by Orderly George Ball, L.R.A.M., together more than did justice to the beautiful song "Nazareth." It was gratifying to know that 'phone calls and messages of congratulation came pouring in as soon as the broadcast was finished. When the red light was out, and the tension over, on with the party again, with fun and games until midnight, and so to bed, feeling very tired, but happy.

The Saturday evening following Christmas found the Lounge and Conservatory full of all kinds of weird and wonderful apparitions. This was our Fancy Dress Ball. The costumes were good, both from an original point of view and that of pretty design. The winner of the men's section was Ernie Deaville, whose massive frame looked too cute for words in a frilly skirt, with his tiny bow and arrow and a star on his forehead—he was unmistakably Cupid. Harry Costigan took second prize as a surgeon (equipped with some gruesome-looking hammers and saws). The third went to Percy Ashton, who was the last word in "Spivs."

We were all in the party mood by Sunday evening, and thoroughly enjoyed a very excellent Show put on by the Staff, entitled "Ousel's Odd Bodds." Whether it was gentle digs at the Staff and Men, or songs old and new, the whole programme went with a swing, and we offered a vote of thanks to those sporting members of the Staff who took part.

The next few days saw a steady but unobtrusive influx of Scotsmen—the gathering of the Clans to celebrate Hogmanay and on New Year's Eve, as we said goodbye to the old year with high spirited revelry. Did we say spirited? During the evening there were high jinks—particularly when we had competitions in the Hokey-Cokey and Jitterbug, and the Highland Fling brought forth barbaric noises from the throats of every Scot present. The impromptu Romeo and Juliet scene, enacted when Matron tried to bamboozle Jim Ellis

into thinking she was an amorous maid from the Servery was a case of the joke being on the joker, because Jim really led Matron up the garden path!

Merriment was at its height when we stood round with our goblets charged with rum punch, waiting to drink in the New Year, and so ended another year at West House, crammed full of so many happy memories for hundreds of St. Dunstaners all over the country.

It would be criminal neglect, although space is so limited, not to mention our Christmas decorations, and the good people who put in so much work on them. The centre piece in the conservatory was the Lounge Sister's Office, which grew a thatch overnight and took on the appearance of a village pub, complete with a sign proclaiming that "Bunny's Arms" was open to all. The pub was complete in every detail, except that there was NO BEER—but it is safe to assume that most whistles were whetted before the parties began.

This lovely Christmas and New Year meant lots of hard work and organising on the part of the Commandant, Matron, and every one of the Staff, and we have no doubt they were all thoroughly exhausted when it was over, and we do thank them most sincerely for giving us such a lovely time. There are several others who did Trojan work too. Miss Pooley, who, together with Mrs. Hillman, wrapped all our Christmas parcels, Mrs. Brodie, and Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, who worked so strenuously to provide us all with just the right costume for the Fancy Dress Ball. To them and all the other friends we have made at Brighton we should like to send our greetings for a happy New Year. J. E.

★ ★ ★

Matron Ouseley wishes to thank all St. Dunstaners who sent her such lovely Christmas cards.

★ ★ ★

Low-down!

To be sung to the tune of "Tennessee."

The carpets on the floor
Make us love Matron more.
We hear Commandant say
Don't take them rugs away
When you go back, when you go back
From your hol-hol-holiday!

"POP" HUMPHREYS.

Prize Winners

Whist—

1st Resident Gentleman, Garrity ;
1st Guest Gentleman, Walch.

1st Lady, Rouse (playing as Lady); 2nd
Lady, Mrs. Davies.

Booby, Gentleman, Bob Young; Lady,
Mrs. Van.

Dominoes—

Guest, 1st James ; 2nd Frank.

Marker, Miss Westwood.

Resident—Orrell, Waddell, Wise, all tied
and shared prize.

Marker, Miss Parkinson.

Fancy Dress—

(Judged by Mrs. Pratt and Mrs. Lacey).

1st Men, Ernest Deaville, Cupid; 2nd
Men, Harry Costigan, Surgeon; Three
Chair cases, Tommy Tuxford, Baby; Jock
Boyd, Sailor Boy; Jim Fay, Ghost of West
House.

Escorts—

Mrs. Austin, Indian Squaw; Diana
Carter, Jane Austen.

Judged by Mrs. Jock Boyd and Mrs.
Frank Braithwaite.

Staff, representing Books—

Sister Harvey, Just William; Sister
Bradley, Black Narcissus.

Prizes presented by Mrs. Malone.

Mrs. Brodie and Mrs. Taylor were
presented with a tray and basket by Cupid,
with our thanks for collecting Fancy
Dresses.

To Men with Amputations

No doubt the majority of St. Dunstaners are aware that, in certain circumstances, supplementary clothing coupons are available, but for those who are unaware of the regulation it should be explained that disabled persons, subject to excessive wear and tear of clothing arising from the use of artificial limbs, are entitled to receive an issue of supplementary clothing coupons. Applications should be addressed to: The Board of Trade, I.M., Department 2, 91 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, and such application should be renewed annually.

Should there be any difficulty in obtaining these coupons, Mr. Banks at Ovingdean will be only too pleased to assist.

Ovingdean Notes

This month at Ovingdean seems to have consisted of a series of parties.

On Wednesday, December 3rd, the Lancastrian Club held a dance at the Royal Pavilion and invited a party of our Lancashire trainees. It was a very jolly reunion for many of our men had attended similar functions held by this Club.

The Grocers' Association gave their Christmas Dinner and Dance on December 10th. It was the highlight of this term's outside entertainment. Everyone looked forward to it and, after a very excellent dinner, found their way as quickly as possible to the Ballroom, to dance until the party broke up at 11 o'clock.

The Girls' Training College gave their end-of-term Dance on the 15th, and a very pleasant evening was spent by a party of our trainees.

In spite of these gay times, much work has been done, and those who wished were able to attend a series of very interesting and informative lectures.

The St. Dunstan's Choir gave us an excellent Concert on December 16th.

The term ended on a very festive note with our Dinner and Dance on December 17th. We were very pleased to have with us on this occasion our new President, Sir Neville Pearson. Votes of thanks were passed to those who had worked so untiringly to provide such a really good dinner, and decorate the room so gaily. The dance will long be remembered with its novelty numbers and spot prizes.

We should like to send our hearty good wishes to the trainees and staff who have left us this term.

National Laying Test

Report for the second month from
November 10th to December 7th

Position	Name	Test Score
1	Clarke, T. ...	169
2	MacIntosh, Charles ...	136
3	Chaffin, A. ...	127
4	Fisher, T. M. ...	126
5	Jarvis, A. ...	120
6	Woodcock, W. J. ...	114
7	Smith, W. Alan ...	74
8	Holmes, Percy ...	64
9	Jackson, George C. ...	61
10	Gregory, T. ...	34

Average per bird to date, 17.72.

"In Memory"

A.B. Victor Augustus Cooper, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve

With deep regret we record the death of V. A. Cooper, of Southwick. He served for five years in the 1914—1918 war and came to St. Dunstan's in 1936, when he was trained as a netter. He had, however, been ill for a long time, and he passed away in hospital on December 12th. Our deep sympathy is extended to his widow and two young children.

Private Matthew Oldroyd, 9th Yorks and Lancs. Regt.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of M. Oldroyd, of Coldnorton. Wounded at Messines in 1917 where, in addition to his loss of sight he also lost a leg, he came to St. Dunstan's the following year and was trained as a netter. He passed away on January 19th. Our deep sympathy is extended to his sister, with whom he lived.

Births

- ASHBY.—On January 1st, to the wife of E. Ashby, of Coventry, a daughter—Jane.
- COOKE.—On January 11th, to the wife of G. W. Cooke, of Stoke-on-Trent, a son—John Edward.
- CORRIGAN.—On January 11th, to the wife of J. Corrigan, of Leeds, a daughter.
- WATKINS.—On December 1st, to the wife of D. L. Watkins, of Durban, South Africa, a son—Christopher James.

Deaths

- Our deep sympathy goes out this month to the following:—
- MORGAN.—To A. Morgan, of Tanghall Estate, York, who lost his wife on January 13th.
- RYAN.—To J. Ryan, of Forest Gate, whose wife passed away on December 23rd.

Marriages

- DOWNWARD.—On December 23rd, H. Downward, of Edinburgh, to Miss Jean Moira Ross.
- POTTS.—On December 23rd, H. Potts, of Whitwell-on-the-Hill, to Miss Jackson.
- TAYLOR.—On January 10th, J. Taylor, of Eccles, to Miss Mabel Cawthorne.

Grandfathers

D. Murphy, Glasgow; W. Samworth, Edgware.

Golden Wedding

Our warmest good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. J. Brockerton, of Coleraine, who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on December 31st.

Unfortunately, our St. Dunstaner was taken ill on the day on which it was celebrated and is still seriously ill. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Young St. Dunstaners

J. R. Brown's son is playing football for Nuneaton and District Boys in the English Schools Shield (Fourth Divisional Round).

The son of A. Williams, of Chepstow, has been mentioned in despatches while serving in Burma.

Arthur Weedall has qualified for the Ministry of Civil Aviation Radio Officer's licence and has taken up flying duties.

Marriages

- Daniel McCarthy (Fordingbridge) to Miss Evelyn Angel on August 16th.
- Arthur Charles Horsnell, Charlton Adam, on December 27th, to Miss Peggy Eileen Vowles.
- On January 17th, Sergt. W. Dimond (East Grinstead) to Miss Norma Wakerall.

Sweet Sixteen

A Cockney Sketch

*I've put 'is photo on the mantelpiece;
Mum said I could, and she's a judge of men.
Eric's 'is name, I fell for 'im at once
An' I'll never, never fall in love again.*

*Eric! Oh, Eric's sich a lovely name,
An' 'e looks so nice stuck on the mantelpiece;
Mum seems to like 'im just the same as me.
I wonder why? . . . 'Tain't orfen she agrees.*

*As for my last boy, Bert . . . 'is photo's gone
Down on the dustbin where the rubbish is;
Mum said that was the properest place for 'im,
'Cos she never could abide 'is ugly phiz.*

*But Eric's photo's on the mantelpiece,
The place of honour, 'cos 'e's nice and good.
I'm going to marry Eric by and by,
I loves 'im so . . . 'cos why? . . . Mum said I
could.*

R. J. VINE.