

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

A YEAR ago I wrote that Mr. Ernest Stanford, C.B.E., was partially retiring but was continuing as a Consultant, Lieut. Commander R. C. B. Buckley, G.M., taking his place as Appeals Organiser.

On December 31st, Mr. Stanford finally retired, although I am glad to say that he has accepted office as a member of the informal Chairman's Committee which advises upon our appeals policy and efforts from time to time.

No member of the staff of St. Dunstan's has served us better than Mr. Ernest Stanford during the past nineteen years, and a great part of our success has been due to his exceptionally able control of our Appeals Department. He will be missed by thousands of Honorary Organisers throughout the country as well as by the staff of the Department, who looked upon him as a most kindly, considerate employer.

Our loss will be the gain of others because, as well as holding the important office of Vice-Chairman of Crawley Development Corporation, he is an active member of numerous other organisations both in Crawley New Town and elsewhere, and without doubt he will be able to give them more of his time as a voluntary committee man and social worker.

As Chairman, I can say that I have not had a more effective or more agreeable colleague and that I owe him a debt of gratitude for his splendid work and sound advice.

St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstaners owe much to Mr. Stanford and we all wish him good health and contentment in his retirement.

★ ★ ★

My appeal on Christmas night on the Home Service and Light Programme for the Wireless for the Blind Fund has raised £25,123. I am glad to say this is a substantial improvement on the last two or three years, but of course it does not approach the figures of ten or twenty years ago before television took so many people away from the sound programmes. There were so many thousands of letters that it was not possible to identify them all, but a few St. Dunstaners and friends of St. Dunstan's wrote to me personally or put something in their communications which enabled them to be picked out so that they were brought to my notice. This suggests that there may have been many more which were snowed under by the avalanche and I would like to say how grateful I am for these gifts, which had a special significance.

I had almost got out of the habit of listening to the wireless except for the news in the morning, but in recent months, since I have been at home in the evenings more frequently, I have

started listening again and have even found myself listening to the sound track on a television film or two. Two things concerning the sound track on television surprise me. One is that I do not miss nearly as much of the story by not seeing the picture as I would have expected and the other is the really shocking quality of the reception whether it be of speech or music. This bad quality I expect is due to the fact that most of the brains and money in the B.B.C. and the I.T.V., and in the design and manufacture of the television sets themselves, has gone into the picture, for following the tradition of the cinema, the sound is of secondary consideration.

I notice that people who can see the picture hear the words much better than I do though my hearing is acute and sensitive; this is, no doubt, due to the fact that seeing people do a great deal of unconscious lip-reading as well as being aided by the actions and expressions.

* * *

By the time you read this, I will be in South Africa visiting my family business. I shall meet a number of St. Dunstaners, more particularly at a Reunion in Johannesburg, and will give them the best wishes of their colleagues in the Old Country.

FRASER OF LONSDALE

National Insurance Retirement Pensions

A new alternative method of paying Retirement Pensions quarterly in arrears by crossed postal drafts which can be paid into the pensioner's banking account is to commence on February 1st next.

Those St. Dunstaners who are in receipt of the Retirement Pension and wish to have their pension paid in this way should apply now to their local Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance Office, if they have not already done so.

H. D. RICE.

From All Quarters

S. W. Wain, of Derby, celebrated his 90th birthday on January 6th. He is now permanently at Pearson House and is our oldest living St. Dunstaner.

* * *

A. G. Loveridge, now of Warehorne, near Ashford, Kent, who retired from the North Thames Gas Board last October after twenty-two years, had this tribute paid to him in the "Thames Gas Magazine." "Staff and customers alike at the Finchley Road branch," it said, "miss the cheery manner of Mr. Arthur Loveridge, who retired on October 12th."

* * *

J. R. Burton, of Portchester, with Mrs. Burton, has taken part in twenty concerts in the last three months at "Peter Pan" clubs and old people's organisations and homes, and has several bookings for the New Year.

Bookings for Holidays at Ovingdean, Northgate House and Port Hall

I would like to remind St. Dunstaners that all applications for summer holidays at St. Dunstan's Homes this year should reach the Area Superintendents by March 15th.

As usual, priority will be given at Ovingdean to St. Dunstaners whose holidays are fixed by their employers, and their children will receive priority at Northgate House according to the length of the period which has elapsed since a holiday was last taken there.

The Homes will be closed for cleaning and staff vacations as follows:

Northgate House: June 14th to July 13th inclusive.

Port Hall: August 22nd to September 18th inclusive.

Special Fortnights:

St. Dunstaners who wish to spend a holiday at Ovingdean at the same time as other trainees of their year may do so during the following periods:

1915—1916: 11th to 25th September

1917—1918: 19th June to 3rd July

1919—1920: 29th May to 12th June

1921—1922: 24th April to 8th May

C. D. WILLS

Welfare Superintendent

Ruby Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Payne, of Mitcham, Surrey, December 25th. Many congratulations.

London Club Notes

On Thursday evening, December 18th, about thirty-five St. Dunstaners with their escorts, plus several friends, assembled at the Club Rooms for our Christmas party. People commenced to arrive round about 5.30 and by 6 o'clock the party was in full swing. There was endless variety of good things to eat and drink, and one of our trainees, David Grey, did an excellent job on the piano; everyone was kept in a cheery mood. We were very pleased to number amongst our guests, our Chairman, Lord Fraser, with Lady Fraser, and Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Lloyds.

Our very good friend, Mr. Jacques Brown, once again brought along some first-rate artists to entertain us. We had the pleasure of listening to four grand lads from Canada, the Maple Leaf Four; they regaled us with several numbers from their repertoire and a real good job they made of it. We also had the pleasure of listening to the celebrated accordionist from Norway, Tellefson. It was a real treat to listen to the wonderful music. Then there was our very old friend, John Blythe, the teller of stories, and what stories! A grand lad, John!

Just before Lord Fraser departed, he very kindly thanked the artists for their services.

The members and their ladies each received a gift from the hands of Santa Bob Willis.

To sum up—an excellent evening in every way.

I would like everyone who contributed in any way to accept the most grateful thanks of the Committee and myself.

SAM WEBSTER,
Chairman.

Personal

Dear St. Dunstaners,

Very many thanks to you all for the lovely Christmas cards which you sent me. There were so many of them that I cannot send a personal word of thanks, much as I should like to.

It is always a special pleasure to hear from St. Dunstaners overseas, whose letters bring back so many happy memories to us here.

With my very best wishes for a happy New Year to St. Dunstaners and their wives and families everywhere.

Yours sincerely,

FRANCES RAMSHAW.

Dear Northerners,

As I have received so many greetings cards and calendars from you all, it has now become impossible to write and acknowledge each one individually. However, I do appreciate your kind remembrance of me at this time and thank you all most sincerely.

A very happy and prosperous New Year to every one of you.

Yours very sincerely,

M. A. MIDGLEY.

Dear St. Dunstaners,

The Southern Area office at H.Q. is still a blaze of colour from the delightful array of Christmas cards and calendars which several hundred of you and your families have so kindly sent. Thank you so much. We all particularly appreciate the warmth of the good wishes expressed.

I did hope to write and thank you all individually but perhaps this letter in the REVIEW will reach you more quickly and it will also give me an early opportunity of sending you our greetings for 1959.

Yours sincerely,

PHYLLIS J. ROGERS.

Result of Christmas Competition

The acceptances simply poured in! Here is the Christmas dinner which the Editor offered you:

Hors d'oeuvre
SMOKED SARDINES
Soup
OYSTER SOUP
Fish
BOILED SALMON
Poultry
ROAST TURKEY
Vegetables
ROAST POTATOES
CAULIFLOWER
Sweets
LEMON PIE
ICE CREAM
Savoury
WELSH RAREBIT

The three lucky prizewinners, who will receive two guineas each are, E. Harbottle, of Barnsley; S. C. Tarry, of London, S.W.4.; and D. Wardle, of Northampton.

Grandfathers

J. C. Carney, of Dunstable; S. A. Worlidge, of Dollis Hill; a third grandchild for J. Daly, of Liverpool.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My horoscope in the *Sunday Pictorial*, for December 14th, stated people born under the sign of Cancer could expect a windfall, travel was indicated and sudden decisions necessary. At the week-end I received a wire that gave me the opportunity of my first Christmas at Ovingdean. Simultaneously with the invitation came a rather large order for mats for a school. The latter could not be a windfall but there was one in another communication that I had been paying excess rates and would receive a cheque. I decided that the chance of Christmas at Ovingdean came before the order and, hey presto! I have been on the magic carpet for a wonderful Christmas party—very acceptable and refreshing to an old-timer whose family has flown away.

Jim Shaw's reunion with a comrade also had some similarity with an experience of mine at the Coronation Review of ex-Servicemen. I had gone to London with a British Legion friend and before coming home we adjourned to a house of refreshment. We were eating our sandwiches and drinking our beer and talking things over when I had a tap on the shoulder, and a man said I reminded him of a pal in the First War. I mentioned my enlisting regiment, the 5th Dragoon Guards (1st Reserve Cavalry), to which he replied that he was sorry, but his regiment had been the 1st K.O.Y.L.L. "That's funny," I said, "for when we were dismounted in 1915 I was attached to them," and he immediately said that I was the chap they called, "Texas Jack," who joined them in 1915. He had forgotten my surname but we were old chums in the same platoon. That was a sheer coincidence, but my life has been a series of coincidences.

Rejected for Greenwich Naval School in 1901, because of a cyst on my left eye, I had the cyst removed in a scrap at school, but Jerry knocked that eye out anyway. Migrating to Canada, and later to the United States, I came home in the only ship available from Port Texas near Galveston—the S.S. St. Dunstan, of the "Saint" line of ships sailing from Liverpool. I finished my military career, being in the board room for final discharge to St. Dunstan's on November 11th, 1918, as the maroons went off signalling the end of the war.

Probably, if I had not had that "live" cyst on that predestined eye, I would have been in the Navy and never had these unique coincidences, so who says that horoscopes are all hooey? I wonder what my horoscope would have said in 1901?

Yours sincerely,

Castle Cary.

A. J. RADFORD.

The Moon System

Many of the older St. Dunstaners who visited Brighton soon after the end of the First World War may recall the elderly blind man who used to "park" himself on the Front near the Fish Market and as soon as he heard anyone approaching would read aloud a few sentences from a raised type book. At the time, with our minds full of "dot chasing" they probably thought, as I did, that this system of raised letters was only intended for the lower grade of blind person. Now, after some forty years I say...to blazes with my, or our preconceived notions.

During a recent spell of convalescence at Ovingdean, I thought I would fill in some of the time and have a "bash" at this Moon system of reading. You can imagine my surprise and pleasure, after three weeks' reading in the Braille Room, half an hour morning and afternoon, to find that I had got through. I was now able to read again after all these years. I am nearly sixty-nine.

In the case of the older man what nicer and easier way to read again than the Moon system!

It may be interesting to note that Dr. Moon (the inventor of this system) used to live in Brighton and some of his books are still being printed there.

There are many up-to-date features and stories in the Moon books.

A capital New Year's resolution.

Carterton, Oxford.

H. A. HAMMETT.

★ ★ ★

At Reading Fatstock Show, G. W. R. Shepherd, of Whitchurch Hill, won third prize in the Pork Carcass class.

★ ★ ★

J. Bocking, of Morecambe, presented a bouquet to the Mayoress of Morecambe when she and the Mayor officially opened a special house for the blind at which they can meet, do handicrafts and have social gatherings.

Round the Clubs

Cardiff

The Cardiff Club held their Annual Christmas Dinner on January 3rd at the Bristol Hotel.

A special invitation was sent to our Lady Visitor, Miss Blebto, which was accepted and we were all very pleased to welcome her.

Our party enjoyed real Christmas fare, cooked and served in very pleasant surroundings. After dinner we lifted our glasses in a toast to Her Majesty the Queen. Our chairman, Mr. J. Caple, gave a short address in which he thanked everyone who had helped to make the event such a success. Everyone present received a gift, which was handed over by Miss Blebto, and there were many surprises to show one another as the gifts ranged from collar studs to canned beer and braces for the gents; the ladies received jewellery and household requisites. No one knew where the presents really came from but we do know who brought them into the room. "Father Christmas" thought of everything, only the "tree" was missing.

The little "Private Bar" did a roaring trade.

Balloons were bursting, games and dancing went on and everyone was gay and happy. All too soon as the clock struck the hour of 11, our party came to a close but it will always be remembered as an outstanding success.

ARTHUR LANE, *Hon. Secretary.*

Liverpool

One of the happiest and jolliest events in the calendar of the Liverpool Club is the Christmas Party. This year's celebrations were held on Saturday, December 13th, and were attended by all members and their wives and escorts. We were pleased to have with us once again as Guest of Honour, Miss B. Vaughan-Davies, also Miss P. Everett and Miss Broughton, Welfare Visitors to this area.

After enjoying an excellent meal, at which crackers were pulled with great gusto, our President, Captain E. Halloway, proposed the toast to Her Majesty the Queen, Duke of Lancaster. This was followed by a cheery and warm-hearted welcome to our guests by the Chairman, Bill Simpson, and replied to with her usual charm and wit by B. V.-D. herself.

Formalities over, we settled down to enjoy

the high spot of the evening, being, as always, the very excellent entertainment provided by Mr. George Lamb and his friends. It was indeed a wonderful show and voted by all to be the best ever.

Miss Davies then presented, on behalf of the Club, prizes to the winners and runners-up of our Club competitions and those of the Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Competitions. After this a box of chocolates was presented to each of the ladies; there were handkerchiefs for the men, and the children present also received gifts from the Club. The evening came to a close with the joining of hands for Auld Lang Syne.

Liverpool Club sends greetings for a happy and prosperous New Year to all St. Dunstaners and their families and also to the members of St. Dunstan's Staffs.

T. MILNER, *Hon. Secretary.*

Manchester

The series of Club meetings for 1958 was completed on December 17th, when the Christmas party was held at the Wellington Hotel, Manchester, which has been the Club's headquarters since March, 1958.

We regretted that two members were unable to be present owing to sickness, but it was pleasing to see our Club room filled with members and their escorts bent on having a very pleasant evening, and we were especially pleased to welcome as guests Miss Everett, our Welfare Visitor, and Miss Vaughan-Davies, who really does enjoy mixing with her old friends of St. Dunstan's.

The evening commenced with a general mixing of members and escorts with their friends as a prelude to taking their places at the tables for the serving of a full Christmas dinner, beautifully prepared and supplied straight from the kitchen to the complete satisfaction of all present.

By the time these notes appear, the Club's Annual General Meeting will have been held and we extend an invitation to St. Dunstaners who are not already members to consider taking part in our activities, and to give encouragement to the Committee and officials.

JIM SHAW, *Secretary.*

Sutton

On December 20th the Sutton Club held a very successful Christmas Party, its first real party of this kind. Our President, Lady Onslow, welcomed as our honoured guests, Lord and Lady Fraser.

In congratulating us all on the success

of our Club, Lord Fraser particularly referred to Lady Onslow, "who has also been such a long term good friend of St. Dunstan's," and Mrs. Spurway, "I can't imagine how she helps everyone at St. Dunstan's, wherever they are on almost every occasion."

Amid applause, Lady Fraser presented the Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial prizes to the winners.

Charlie Luker later entertained us with his conjuring tricks and Diane and her Company brought many laughs with their witty sketches. Altogether it was a thoroughly enjoyable party. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the wives for the help they have given us during the time the Club has been running. And I must also thank Miss Stevens for all the help she quietly gives us at all our meetings.

Future meetings:

January 24th, February 21st, March 21st, April 25th, May 23rd, June 20th.

TED DUDLEY, *Chairman.*

"Sister McCarthy"

The news of the death of Mrs. R. Sheehan, better known to St. Dunstaners, particularly of the First War, as "Sister McCarthy," will come as a great shock to her many friends.

Mrs. Sheehan, a trained nurse, was Dispensary Sister first at the old West House, then at Ovingdean, and during the war years at the Blackpool Home. In the sad days of 1937 and 1940 it was she who nursed Matron Thellusson and Matron Boyd-Rochfort in their last illnesses.

In 1943 she married our St. Dunstaner, Robert Sheehan, to whom will go the sympathy of the St. Dunstaners all over the country who knew and loved her and who will grieve at her passing.

Talking Book Library Unadventurous New Year

First I must apologise to readers in that this particular column is simply clearing up releases from 1958 and presents to them but a limited variety of reading matter.

Since new releases now come to me in batches of 20 and more it is not surprising that this column is in a permanent state of trying to catch up with what is new. Pray excuse, therefore, what is fated to be a sort of squirrel in a cage performance on my part. Autobiographies, history, and religion, tempered by four promising

"also released," make this month's total.

"Count Your Blessings," by Sir Brunel Cohen, reader Arthur Bush, is the autobiography of one of the most outstanding legless men of the 1914-1918 war. The British Legion has occupied a great part of his life and involved him in much interesting travel and in meeting celebrities all over the world. He seems to be a man who earned the knighthood conferred upon him. *Cat. No. 309.*

"Scotland Yard," by Sir Harold Scott, reader Arthur Bush, is something more than an autobiography of a Chief Commissioner, as it discusses, most interestingly from the inside, the establishment and organisation of our C.I.D. *Cat. No. 403.*

"In the Steps of St. Francis," by E. Raymond, reader Eric Gillett, has a great fascination because it is the biography of he whom a large number of people consider to be the greatest of the saints. Perhaps this book will make or has made the number even larger. *Cat. No. 575.*

"The Scrolls from the Dead Sea," by Edmund Wilson, reader Alvar Lidell, is disappointing in that it whets the appetite then rather leaves one flat. The feeling the book inspires that at any moment some of the mystery of Christ's missing 18 years will be torn away comes to nothing, but this book covers so small a portion of the writings found, that the hope remains that Jesus Christ spent the greater part of that 18 years studying and absorbing the true religion of the Essene sect. Besides a little information about the contents, the adventure of finding the Scrolls and extricating them from acquisitive Arabs is interesting in itself. *Cat. No. 572.*

Also released:—"Love was the Reason," by Molly Seymour, reader Peter Fettes. *Cat. No. 614.* "Three Houses," by Angela Thirkell, reader Marjorie Anderson. *Cat. No. 121.* "They Came to Baghdad," by Agatha Christie, reader Peter Fettes. *Cat. No. 425.* "Genevieve," by J. D. White, reader Duncan Carse. *Cat. No. 116.* "The Story of Australia," by A. G. L. Shaw, reader Colin Wills, is a brief and interesting history of the founding of the states in Australia, their expansion and progress and eventual Federation. It has been a colossal struggle but the advent of the aeroplane this century has made the sky the limit in the future development of this huge continent. *Cat. No. 453.*

"NELSON."

High Water at Ovingdean

From the *Evening Argus*, Brighton, January 8th:

"Blind St. Dunstaners had to be temporarily evacuated from the main floor of their Training Centre at Ovingdean to-day when a burst water pipe threatened to cause a flood. Brighton Fire Brigade were called to stop the flow and prevent water from entering the lift shaft.

"Said a spokesman at St. Dunstan's: 'It was not very serious really... We moved some of the men off the main floor and soon had the water mopped up. The men were able to come back and now we are drying out nicely.'

"Said a Fire Brigade spokesman: 'There was quite a bit of water sloshing about at one time but no damage was caused.'

The Missing Witness

Breakfast swiftly swallowed—

Chewing makes one late

Joining in the queue for

Mag. tricilliate.

'Spensary door is open—

'Bring in your pains and ills—

Chronic indigestion?

Try our new Pink Pills!"

In the Lounge the hubbub

Shakes the very walls,

Paper-reading! Letters!

Endless bells and calls!

Suddenly—it happens!

All Niagara breaks—

Waters from a hydrant

Pouring forth in lakes!

"Get the men out quickly!

Women and children last!

Never mind which way, girls!—

Get them moving—fast!"

On a raft Miss Taylor

With the "Walk Book" sits.

"Staying in this morning?

Wear your Frogmen Kits."

Dear Miss Carlton chants sea-

Shanties (rather low!)

Pausing now and then

Takes all her breath to row,

Mrs. Mac is firing

Rockets of distress

As the rising waters

Claim her new grey dress.

Liftman, going down; sings

"Pussy's in the well"—

"Tired of dialling 999—

Surfacing" shouts Kell.

Round and round like goldfish

In their kiosk, small

Swim the Osborne family

In the Entrance Hall.

Commandant arriving,

Suns up in a flash—

Something must be leaking!

Save the petty cash!"

V.A.D.s go diving

From the curtain rails,

"Chiefy" hoists a tea cloth—

And away he sails.

Fire Brigade, arriving,

Swiftly stems the flow,

Finding scenes of havoc

Everywhere they go.

On the grand piano

Barnacles and slime.

From the swinging lampshades

Men begin to climb.

★ ★ ★

Meanwhile quite oblivious,

Three floors overhead,

I am on a "day-off"

Snoozing in my bed!

"SMITHIE", V.A.D.

Births

BEATTIE.—On December 22nd, to the wife of J. Beattie, of Mobberley, Cheshire, a son—Colin Timothy.

NEWTON.—On January 10th, to the wife of R. Newton, of Oldham, a daughter.

Marriages

GOLDING—WOOLARD.—On January 17th, M. Golding, of Thornton Hrath, to Mrs. M. Woolard.

SEYMOUR—CROWTHER.—On December 31st, W. Seymour, of Tufnell Park, to Mrs. Hettie Crowther.

Deaths

Our deep sympathy goes out to the following:—

HIER.—To J. Hier, of Kenfig Hill, near Bridgend, South Wales, whose wife died on December 21st, after a long illness.

SHALLCROSS.—To C. Shallcross, of Mouldsworth, Chester, whose father died on January 13th, at the age of 87.

SHEEHAN.—To R. Sheehan, of Bridgwater, Somerset, whose wife died on November 7th. Mrs. Sheehan will be remembered by many St. Dunstaners as Sister McCarthy.

UNDERWOOD.—To W. Underwood, of Alton, whose mother has died at the age of 86.

"In Memory"

Private Leslie Joseph Appleton, *Beds. and Herts. Regiment.*

With deep regret we record the death of L. J. Appleton, of Pinkneys Green, Maidenhead, at the age of forty.

He was a prisoner of war in Japanese hands, returning home in 1945, and when he came to St. Dunstan's he was in very poor health. He was a chair case, but nevertheless learned and enjoyed a little rug work. During his thirteen years at home, he had spent almost twelve of them in various hospitals. He entered Stoke Mandeville Hospital five years ago and it was there that he died on December 27th.

He leaves a widow and two young daughters to whom our deepest sympathy is sent.

Sydney Llewellyn Ball, *Munitions Factory.*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of S. L. Ball, of Neath, Glamorgan; which occurred at his home on January 4th. He was 68.

He lost his sight as a result of an accident in a munitions factory during the last war which also resulted in other grave disabilities, including that of deafness. Because of his heavy disabilities, training of a serious nature was not possible, but he was able to do a little weaving at home. He bore his many handicaps with great courage.

To his widow and family we send our deep sympathy.

Private Herbert Horace Burnett, *Labour Corps; previously Royal Fusiliers.*

With deep regret we record the death of H. H. Burnett, of Enfield, at the age of 75.

He came to St. Dunstan's in 1936, and trained on wool rugs, and for some years he did this. In 1943 he took on work at home for a factory, and the following year entered a factory where he stayed until he was put out of work by a fire there. Since then he had made wool rugs and only ceased doing them when he became ill a few months ago. He entered Chase Farm Hospital and he died there on January 12th.

Our deep sympathy goes out to his sons and daughters who have cared for him almost continuously since the death of his wife in 1951. One of his daughters is married to our St. Dunstaner, George Dennis, of Enfield.

Private George Kilsby, *Army Service Corps (Motor Transport).*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of George Kilsby, of Brighton. He was 75.

He came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1921, and trained in telephony. He took a post and continued as a telephonist until his retirement in 1948. His wife had died a year earlier and for a while after retirement he was semi-permanently at Brighton. He remarried in 1950 and settled in the town. On December 23rd, he entered Pearson House for a period of complete rest but he died there suddenly on December 31st.

Our deep sympathy is offered to Mrs. Kilsby in her loss.

Private William McIvor, *King's Own Scottish Borderers*

We record with deep regret the death of W. McIvor, of Maryport, Cumberland, at the age of 72.

Enlisting in August, 1914, he left the Army in 1918 and it was not until 1955 that he came to St. Dunstan's, and his age and health then made training out of the question. He was able to spend part of each year at Pearson House but despite his poor health his death was unexpected.

To Mrs. McIvor and her family our very sincere sympathy is sent.

Private William Peters, *King's Liverpool Regiment*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of W. Peters, of Huyton, Lancashire. He was 65 and he died in hospital on December 14th.

He enlisted in June, 1915, and was wounded in France in September, 1918. He entered St. Dunstan's the following February, and trained as a mat maker and netter and he had followed his crafts for many years although he had been in poor health for some time. One of his greatest interests was the keeping of pigeons. He was a keen fancier.

He leaves a widow and family to whom our deep sympathy is extended.

Private Frederick James Robbins, *Labour Corps.*

We record, with deep regret, the death on December 24th, of F. J. Robbins, of Almondsbury, near Bristol. He was 61.

He came to St. Dunstan's only in 1951 when his health was not at all good. He had previously been employed making wool rugs for the Gloucester County Blind Association and he continued to do this as a hobby.

Our deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Robbins and her family,

H. A. Henderson, *New Zealand Forces.*

Colin William Hooton, *New Zealand Forces.*

We have heard, with deep regret of the death, in November, of H. A. Henderson, of Auckland, New Zealand, but no further details are available.

We have also heard with deep regret of the death of C. W. Hooton, also, of Auckland, New Zealand, who served with the 3rd Echelon in Egypt, and was discharged from the Forces in 1944.

Our deep sympathy goes to their relatives.