

# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

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## The New Prince

The following telegram was sent on February 19th by our President, Sir Neville Pearson BT., to Her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of the birth of her second son:

"All members of St. Dunstan's under Your Majesty's gracious Patronage send their heartfelt congratulations on this happy day.

NEVILLE PEARSON,  
President.

The following reply was received from the Private Secretary to Her Majesty:

"The Queen, as your Patron, and the Duke of Edinburgh sincerely thank all members of St. Dunstan's for their kind message of congratulations on the birth of a son to Her Majesty and His Royal Highness."

Private Secretary.

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## How a semi-sighted parish priest tries to compete with his handicap

*by The Revd. A. C. NUGEE, Senior St. Dunstaner Padre*

I HAVE been asked by the Chairman to write this for the REVIEW, but I realise that having some sight puts me in a class apart from most of my fellow St. Dunstaners, and especially from those of us who, like myself, are parish priests. Their problems may be similar to mine but they are much more acute, but their people know they cannot see and so react accordingly; I can see—though not a lot—but I try to carry on as if I could see well and that, at times, leads me into difficulties which perhaps the totally blind do not have to face.

The parish work is dealing with people all day long, in their homes, in the street, individually and in groups, and the chief problem is that of recognition.

And here I am against the Englishman's—and woman's—instinctive dislike of saying who they are.

On my first Sunday at Crowthorne, in 1946, I tried to explain to my people my difficulty and said to them, "If you will take a leaf out of the book of the B.B.C. war-time announcers and say, 'Good morning, Vicar, and this is so-and-so saying it,' I shall soon get to know you." But would they? Only one. I marry someone, shall we say, on a Saturday afternoon and talk to the bride's mother in all her best in the vestry, but when I meet her in her working clothes on Monday, how am I to recognise her? And of course, she thinks it a bit strange if I don't know her at once. I go into a room full of people and probably know everyone there but cannot tell who anyone is, and being used to my going about as if I had good sight, they do not come up and make themselves known to me. This leads to some awkward and amusing moments. As my sight has gone back on me quite a bit recently, I have taken to a white stick, more as a warning to people on the road than for protection to myself, and that does help quite a bit.

What about the conduct of services? Well, of course, without braille one would be absolutely sunk, and with the fixed and regular forms of service of the Church of England, not only are the congregation spared from the individual whim and fancy of the minister, but the minister soon gets to know by heart the Services and though I always have the braille in front of me, I do not read it as I go along. There are snags there of course. My greatest fear is that I shall find myself at the altar with the wrong books, and that in fact did happen once, with the book for Matins instead of that for the Holy Communion. That morning I had to take the whole Service by heart, and when you haven't the braille in front of you how easy it is to forget. But the books, generally speaking, are handy in size and it is easy to find one's way about in them. But reading braille in the extreme cold when one's fingers can hardly feel the dots is no joke, and in the height of summer when one's fingers are sticky with perspiration and will not slide over the braille, one's fluency can be reduced very considerably. In one's own church one can arrange things to suit oneself. I have had a table specially made at a convenient height for reading, from which I can take Matins and Evensong, but when I go to other churches the snags are many. The prayer desk is nearly always too low for comfortable reading when standing; the slope of the lectern is nearly always too upright, the support for the bottom of the book is nearly always too deep so that the last line of braille is almost unreadable. So whenever I go to another church to take a Service I always get there in good time to go over the course, so to say, and find out in advance the difficulties, the unexpected steps and so on. You never know what you are going to find in a strange church. As regards reading the lessons, I like to do that, but I also like to give the layman a chance; some read very well, some do not. I look on reading the lessons and the epistle and gospel at the Communion as a kind of consecration of my skill to the service of God, in this most important part of my ministry, the reading of His Holy Word.

What worries me most in the conduct of services is when I have to take some unusual type of Service. I put it into braille. I read it through time and time again, but I never feel at home with it. There are four different ways in which a braille sheet presents itself to one, and only one of those ways is the right one, and when I have to deal with several loose sheets for some special service, how muddled they can get.

Here is an anecdote about reading the lessons. One Sunday evening in my Northamptonshire church the electricity failed during the Magnificat. The organ stopped. The choir and congregation petered out. I did not expect this as I thought they would have known it by heart. So I went on with the second lesson. This surprised my people no end, as, though they were well accustomed to seeing me read braille, they had never realised it could be done in the dark.

Then about reading and studying. The parish priest should do as much of this as he can find time for in his other multifarious duties. I do not use braille for this. I prefer to use the two good eyes I have in my wife's head. I took her to the theological college with me forty years ago and she did all my reading for me then. I taught her to read Greek. She did not know what she was reading, but she made the right noises, so I understood.

Then the preparation of sermons. In this case the man who cannot read has an advantage over the man who can, because his memory can be trained to an excellent pitch. The subject

is given me from the readings for the day, or in some other way. I spend as much time as I can in prayer and thought over it. Sometimes I type out what I would like to say, sometimes I write short braille notes, but I never use any notes at all in the pulpit. Braille notes are useless then. If you take your finger away from them you are sunk, as it takes a long time to find your place again.

The parish priest has to be chairman of his Church Council and here again lack of sight is no bar provided that one has a good secretary of the P.C.C. I find my memory is quick enough to remember the salient point of any subject which is under discussion, and the important items of any financial problem before the Council.

For the pastoral side of my ministry, visiting my people in their homes, I walk. I do not often envy the freedom of the sighted priest who can ride his cycle or drive his car. I may not often go to the houses on any given day that I had planned to visit, but I meet lots of my people about the place and often can do as much in a chance meeting in the street as in a more formal call on a house.

In all that I have said about how I try to compete with my handicap it is obvious that I should be able to do very little without two things which do not depend on myself. First the understanding and help of my people, which they have always given me most generously, and secondly the never failing support of the Grace of God who has called me to be His Minister and Who has never failed me.

To Him and to my people I owe it that what might have been a heavy cross to bear me down has become a stout staff to bear me up.

### Reunions—1960

All Reunions will be held at 12.30 p.m. for 1.30 p.m. lunch, with afternoon tea, unless otherwise stated.

Date	Reunion	Member of Executive Council Presiding	Hotel
Sat. March 26th	NEWPORT (Miss Blebta)	Colonel Ansell	Westgate
Sat. April 9th	WINDSOR (Miss Stevens)	Sir Neville Pearson	White Hart
Sat. April 23rd	DUBLIN (Mrs. Thompson)	Lord Fraser	Jury's
Fri. April 29th	NOTTINGHAM (Miss Broughton)	Lord Fraser	Victoria Station
Sat. April 30th	LEEDS (Miss Broughton)	Mr. D. G. Hopewell	Queen's
Mon. May 9th	EDINBURGH (Mrs. King)	Mr. D. G. Hopewell	Roxburgh
Wed. May 11th	NEWCASTLE (Mrs. King)	Mr. D. G. Hopewell	Royal Station
Sat. May 14th	BIRMINGHAM (Miss Blebta)	Sir Neville Pearson	Queen's
Wed. May 25th	BLACKPOOL (Miss Everett)	Mr. D. G. Hopewell	The Casino
Fri. May 27th	CHESTER (Miss Broughton)	Mr. D. G. Hopewell	Grosvenor
Sat. May 28th	MANCHESTER (Miss Everett)	Sir Neville Pearson	Grand
Fri. June 17th	EXETER (Miss Webster)	Lord Fraser	Rougemont
Sat. June 18th	BOURNEMOUTH (Miss Webster)	Sir Brian Horrocks	Grand
Tues. June 21st	CANTERBURY (Miss Stevens)	Lord Fraser	County
Thur. July 14th	IPSWICH (Miss Cox)	Sir Neville Pearson	Great White Horse
Sat. July 16th	LUTON (Miss Cox)	Colonel Ansell	George
Wed. Sept. 21st	BRIGHTON (Miss Jones)	Sir Neville Pearson	Grand
<i>Evening Function</i>			
Fri. Sept. 23rd	LONDON (Miss Dodd)	Sir Neville Pearson	Lyons Corner House, Coventry Street.

### "World Without Shadow"

St. Dunstan's film of this name, made at Ovingdean by Mr. Anthony Asquith, just over two years ago, will be shown in Maidstone during the week beginning April 4th and at Rugby during the week beginning April 11th, in both cases at Granada cinemas.

Other bookings are not as yet known, but St. Dunstaners may like to keep a close watch on their local Granada programmes.

### Camp Reminder

The Lee-on-Solent Camp at the Royal Naval Barracks will be from Friday, August 19th to Saturday, August 27th. Entries as soon as possible please. Camp fee, £2. Rail fares refunded over first £1.

(Mrs.) A. SPURWAY.

The Vicarage,

Tel. Dorking 73191 Holmwood, Dorking.

### London Club Notes

*Bridge.*—The Harrogate Week will be held this year from September 10th—17th. Arrangements have been made for our party to be accommodated again at the Dirlton Hotel, Ripon Road, and the terms per day will be 28s. 6d. inclusive.

As we must make our final reservations at the hotel, will all members who would like to join the party send in their names to Mr. Bob Willis as soon as possible.

The St. Dunstan's Bridge Congress will take place at Ovingdean during the week-end of Saturday, November 19th, and not November 12th as provisionally arranged in the Fixture List.

Will all bridge players who are interested and wish to enter for the Sir Arthur Pearson Cup competitions—namely, for Pairs and Teams of Four—send in their names to Mr. Willis, at the London Club, at the same time giving the name of the partner they have arranged to play with. This will enable the Committee to make the Draw and ensure the smooth running of the competitions at Brighton. If I have any single names, I am afraid I cannot guarantee a partner, but I will do my best. G.P.B.

### The New £1 Notes

St. Dunstaners will recall that towards the end of last November, when the Bank of England announced that the new £1 and 10s. notes which were to be issued, would be the same size, representations were made to the authorities by the Royal National Institute for the Blind and St. Dunstan's that this change would seriously handicap blind people in distinguishing between the different denominations. Subsequently, Mr. J. C. Colligan, Secretary-General of the R.N.I.B., and Mr. A. D. Lloyds, Secretary of St. Dunstan's, had a further discussion with the Bank officials and in an announcement now made, the Bank state that all notes in the new series will be of different sizes.

The new £1 note to appear on March 17th will be the same length as the existing one but about half an inch narrower. The dominant colour is green and incorporated is a portrait of the Queen—the first time the reigning monarch's head has appeared on a Bank of England note.

A similar portrait will appear on the new smaller ten shilling notes which are not expected to be issued until towards the end of next year.

### Some Thoughts on St. Dunstan's 45th Birthday, March 26th, 1960, by our Chairman

"I am 62 years of age, forty-five years ago I was 17, now I have a grandson of 18; so, roughly speaking, there are two generations in 45 years.

When I was a subaltern of 18 years of age the captain of my company was 28 and we called him 'the old man.' Thus, up to a certain point, age is relative and depends very largely on how you feel.

St. Dunstan's essentially consists of two generations of blind ex-servicemen, separated by a gap of 25 years, so that the Second War men are of the same generation as the children of the First War men. But the older you get the less difference there is between ages and in St. Dunstan's we are beginning to forget the two generations and are coming to regard ourselves as one body of men, bound together by common service and common experience.

I do not think any brotherhood of the kind has existed in the world before, or has been so successful and widespread.

On the occasion of our 45th birthday, I call to mind the Founder, Sir Arthur Pearson, his band of assistants—a few of whom still survive—the first group of men who came in from France and Belgium, and then, with a jump of twenty-five years, the first few who came to the Second War St. Dunstan's in 1939.

Much has happened to all of us but we are still much the same, meeting the same difficulties and overcoming them or getting round them.

As we look back we are apt to think that the world was a better place in an earlier age and to sigh for what we call 'the old times,' but I think this is a mistake because I consider the world of to-day a very much fairer, kinder, more tolerant and better place than it was when I was a boy. A great many people are better off than their fathers were, and it is just possible that we may pass the next twenty-five-year mark in 1971 without a third World War, more horrible than ever, blowing us all to pieces.

Dangerous as the world seems to be, there is a feeling which, I think, must be in all men's minds, that another war would be too dangerous and this fear may keep it away. That, at any rate, is, I am sure, the prayer of all of us."

### Derby Sweepstake, 1960

Applications are once again invited from St. Dunstaners and St. Dunstan's trainees for tickets in St. Dunstan's Review Derby Sweepstake. The attention of everyone is drawn to an important new rule, namely, **that every application for tickets must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.** This rule has been made necessary by the increasing amount of clerical work involved and will have the added advantage of cutting down administrative costs, thus increasing the prize money.

Tickets are 2s. 6d. each and application for them should be made as soon as possible and will be received up to the first post on **Wednesday, May 18th.** Each application must bear the name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, and with a stamped addressed envelope enclosed, must be sent to the Editor, *St. Dunstan's Review*, 1 South Audley Street, London, W.1.

Postal orders should be made payable to St. Dunstan's and crossed. Do not send loose money unless it is registered.

Tickets will be issued consecutively. The total money subscribed, less the cost of printing and sundry postage and stationery expenses, will be distributed as follows:

- 50% to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse;
- 20% to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse;
- 10% to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse;
- 20% to be divided equally among those drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

No prize won in the Sweepstake will be paid to any person other than the person to whom the winning ticket was sold.

The Draw will take place at the London Club on the evening of Thursday, May 26th.

### Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The following passage was in a letter to me from abroad:

" . . . . You say in your letter you were taken out by a *Sister* and this *Sister* took you in for a drink; this, I take it, was into what you call a "Pub" in England. Is St. Dunstan's a Roman Catholic institution and do you go about with nuns and do nuns go into "Pubs" in England? . . . ."

Yours sincerely,  
G. FALLOWFIELD.

Southwick

### Imperial Service Medallist

Recently retired after forty years as a telephonist with the Ministry of Labour, Clement Ellis, of Ilford, was, on February 27th, presented with the Imperial Service Medal "in recognition of outstanding services." The presentation was made by Mr. G. E. D. Ball, Controller of the London and South Eastern Region of the Ministry of Labour, at a special ceremony at Ilford Employment Exchange and reference was made to it in the B.B.C.'s South Eastern News on March 1st.

### Unemployable War Pensioners Earnings Limit Raised

During the Lords Debate on the Queen's Speech last October, Lord Fraser asked that the attention of the Minister of Pensions might be called to the earnings limit for the unemployable War Pensioner, and in subsequent correspondence with the Minister, suggested that the time had arrived for the raising of such limit.

On March 1st the Minister of Pensions, the Right Hon. John Boyd Carpenter, announced in the House of Commons that the Government proposed to increase the maximum limit on earnings for the purpose of eligibility for the War Pensions Unemployment Supplement from £52 to £104 a year, and that the change would become effective in two or three months' times when the necessary amendments had been made to the War Pensions Instrument.

The intention of the earnings figure is that the unemployable pensioner should not be discouraged from engaging in some occupation of a homecraft nature which might earn him a little money, and those St. Dunstaners who receive the Supplement and for whom we provide homecraft work will be hearing from us on the matter as soon as possible.

### Braille Tests

*Repeat Senior Test:* F. Collingwood; J. Macfarlane; W. Leonard; E. Slaughter.  
*Senior Braille Reading Test:* S. Tutton.  
*Advanced Test:* C. Hobbs; J. Holden.  
*Writing Test:* J. Holden; F. Greenaway.

### Fifty-six Years Married

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. Gard, of Plymouth, who celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary on February 29th.

### Golden Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. F. Mowtell, of Cramlington, March 5th. Many congratulations.

## Talking Book Library March is Here

Hereunder is a vague idea of four books released lately.

"Monkey Tree in a Flower Pot," by Ursula Bloom, reader Eric Gillett, is indeed an odd title. The story concerns the lives of a mother and a daughter, to whom the monkey tree was presented by a great-aunt. Presenting the tree, the great-aunt casts doubts on the parentage of the daughter which, because her husband was not her daughter's father, worries the mother more than somewhat. The tree, planted out, grows strong and mother is wont to sit brooding under its shade. An incident in her daughter's schooling re-fleshes the skeleton in mother's cupboard and she has a nervous breakdown. Then the daughter, in her adult life, learns her mother's story and against her own inclinations avoids the pitfall her mother fell into. That is a very bare outline admittedly, but there is a deal of kindness and understanding in the actual narrative. *Cat. No. 519*

"The Murder of Roger Ackroyd," by Agatha Christie, reader Laidman Browne, is a Hercules Poirot puzzler which is intriguing, but which I, poor naïve wretch, consider to be something in the nature of a cheat. I must say no more, but think you will understand what I mean when you read it for yourself. *Cat. No. 13.*

"One Pair of Hands," by Monica Dickens, reader Barbara Jefford, should be sub-titled "Memoirs of a Cook." I am I think, quite a male male and I found the anecdote and incident entertaining throughout—and instructive. *Cat. No. 526.*

"The Secret of the Swinging Boom," by E. M. Robinson, reader Arthur Bush, devolves into a highly intriguing story of jewel smuggling in which, at first, all the innocent characters have their turn as suspects. Abruptly a sudden denouement accelerated by a twinge of jealousy, reveals a sordid and tragic little conspiracy. All of this is set in the holiday sunshine of the south of France amidst a small yachting fraternity. *Cat. No. 518.*

"NELSON."

## Marriages of Sons and Daughters

On January 2nd, Patrick Taylor, Shepshed, Loughborough, to Miss Patricia Burke.

## National Library for the Blind

We have received details of the 31st E. W. Austin Memorial Reading Competition, which will be held on Saturday, May 7th. Of interest to St. Dunstaners are the following classes:

*Sturme-Wyman Challenge and Medal Competition* (open only to previous winners of the Open and Medal Classes). **Readers entering for this class may not enter other classes.**

*Class A.* Advanced readers in competition for the Blanesburgh Cup.

*Class B.* Other readers in competition for the Stuart Memorial Cup.

*Class C.* Readers who have lost their sight since 1939 and who have learnt to read Braille since the age of 16 (and who do not feel competent to enter the more advanced classes), in competition for the Lady Buckmaster Cup.

*Open Competition.* A special competition open to all readers eligible to enter Classes A and B and to all previous winners of Classes A, B and C, for a reading from the works of Rudyard Kipling.

*Class D.* Moon.

*Class E.* Deaf-Blind Readers.

As usual, unseen passages will be read and prizes awarded for fluency, ease of diction and general expression. (Should entries in any class be very limited, prizes will be awarded only if merited.)

Intending competitors should send their names to the Secretary, National Library for the Blind, 35 Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.1, *not later than Friday, 29th April, 1960*, stating in which class they wish to enter.

## Grandfathers

J. L. Dennis, of Thornton Heath—Maureen had a son on January 31st; G. Dunwoodie, of Newcastle-on-Tyne; H. H. Langton, of Bottesford, another grandson; a third grandchild for H. H. Singleton, of Highbridge, Somerset, and a fifth for D. Edwards, of Natch, near Sandy, Bedfordshire.

## Great-Grandfather

Another great-grandchild—the fifth—for P. Sheridan of Wishaw.

## Family News

We have heard with regret that Mrs. Brown, widow of A. Brown, of Exeter, who died nine years ago, died suddenly on December 30th while staying with her daughter Kathleen, at Sevenoaks.

## Tales of Ind His Highness

Many years ago His Highness visited an Indian branch of a famous London store. He was accompanied on his tour of the building by a senior member of the firm's staff and starting with the top floor, they inspected the furniture, hardware and leather departments, and proceeding to a lower floor, His Highness saw the tailoring, men's outfitting, soft furnishings and gowns and lingerie, at which they gave a hurried glance. Finally they came to the ground floor and the visitor showed considerable interest in the jewellery department; this was not surprising for His Highness was reputed to be the richest man in the world and the possessor of a fabulous collection of gems and pearls. After visiting the guns, stationery and sports departments, the couple stood at the top of a short flight of marble stairs at the bottom of which was, on the right, a large department for groceries, tobacco, confectionery, etc., and on the left, drugs, perfumery, etc. "Is there anything Your Highness would like to purchase?" asked his guide politely. "Oh yes," said His Highness and, indicating the groceries, tobacco, confectionery with a sweep of his right arm, "I will take all that," then, indicating the drugs, perfumery, etc., "... and all that."

After His Highness had left the building, an urgent cable was sent to London duplicating all the goods purchased by him. Is this story true? Quite true—for the guide was my father.

DUNCAN McALPIN

## The Shell-Mex Party

On February 24th, Messrs. Shell-Mex Ltd., gave their party for blind telephonists. The programme was cocktails at Shell-Mex House, followed by dinner and a visit to the Drury Lane Theatre to see "My Fair Lady."

Messrs. J. E. Blackwell, of Bridgwater; J. E. Fleming, of Sudbury; Leslie Northwood, of Plymouth; H. Pettym, of Leeds; W. G. Phillip, of Plaistow, and G. Poole, of Preston, all of whom are St. Dunstan's-trained telephonists at the company's branches, were among the guests, with Sir Neville and Lady Pearson, Mr. A. D. Lloyds, Mr. C. D. Wills, and Commander and Mrs. R. C. B. Buckley.

## 420 Miles Special Delivery

On March 7th, our South African St. Dunstaner, Jack Vincent, set out from London to deliver a three-foot high tractor 420 miles away. The tractor, called the Wheel-Horse, is a scaled-down version of a full-sized agricultural tractor designed for use by smallholders, market-gardeners and owners of large gardens. It can do all that a tractor should—cut grass, plough fields, pull rollers, etc., but its size makes some people refuse to take it seriously. To prove that the Wheel-Horse can do a man-sized job of work, Jack undertook to deliver the latest model to his Scottish agents in Paisley on a trailer towed by another Wheel-Horse.

Originally trained as a physiotherapist, Jack became more interested in agriculture and seven years ago founded his firm, Garden Machinery Ltd.

## Brighton News

St. Dunstaners will like to know that the 1960 Annual Outing arranged by the employees of the Brighton, Hove and District and Southdown Bus Companies will take place on Wednesday, July 13th.

★ ★ ★

On Wednesday, January 3rd, at the British Legion Headquarters, Brighton, a presentation took place of the British Legion Gold Badge to Arthur Fitzjohn (well-known to many St. Dunstaners for his long association as an escort at Pearson House).

Our warm congratulations to Mr. Fitzjohn who has the proud record of more than 25 years of devoted service in British Legion activities. The Legion's Gold Badge is a coveted award and not lightly earned, but we know Mr. Fitzjohn is a very worthy recipient.

## We Hear That—

H. Bridgman, of Allenton, recently had a long write-up in one of the Midland evening papers about his life, service record and British Legion activities. It went on, "Two certificates proudly hang on the walls of 1 Walton Avenue—one is a first-class award given by the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers at their London exhibition in 1930 and the other is a certificate of merit awarded two years ago for work shown at Earls Court, London."

### Manchester Club Notes

The winners in the Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Games Competition for 1959 were as follows:

*Dominoes:* H. W. Bramley and J. Mooney  
*Darts:* S. Russell and J. Shaw  
*Cribbage:* J. Shaw and W. McCarthy

The first-named in each section takes the Cup.

Because of the state of health of his wife, Mr. W. McCarthy relinquished his appointment as Hon. Treasurer; Mr. H. Frost has been appointed to the office for the remainder of 1960.

Again the Committee extends a warm welcome to St. Dunstaners living in the Manchester area to come along and support the Club at its meetings; these are held on the first and third Wednesdays in each month, at the Wellington Hotel, 6(a) Nicholas Croft, Manchester 4, at 7 o'clock in the evening.

J. SHAW,  
Hon. Secretary.

### The Long Walk

#### St. Dunstaner's Fine Effort

From the *Brighton and Hove Herald*, March 19th:

In his brave bid in the Butlin 1,000-mile walk competition from John o' Groats to Land's End, 61-year-old St. Dunstaner, Mr. G. C. P. Hewett, of Arundel road, Peacehaven, was finally forced to give up after covering 560 miles. He was then in 26th position.

An infection of his right ankle—a legacy of his 3½ years as a prisoner of war of the Japanese—caused his retirement.

It was not until the last moment that plans were completed for his entry for the race, and by the time he reached John o' Groats other competitors were already battling along the icy roads.

As Mr. Hewett decided to walk during the day and rest by night, he actually set off 14 hours behind other competitors.

He covered an average of 43 miles daily. After his retirement Mr. Hewett was taken to Land's End to be there when the winner arrived. He was complimented by Mr. Billy Butlin on his fine performance.

★ ★ ★

All his St. Dunstan's friends will join in congratulating George Hewett on his magnificent effort.

### Dawn Across the Sky

*I was crossing a belt of marshland where once  
the sea had flowed,*

*Where long ago the Roman galleys sailed and  
the Viking ships had come,*

*'Twas the darkest hour before the dawn with the  
light of the stars growing dim,*

*And a church clock in the distance was striking  
the hour of four,*

*The air was still with a slight ground mist,*

*And the frogs 'long the marsh streams were  
croaking.*

*The scene beyond was well known to me when the  
sun was high in the sky,*

*A sandy bay, with a blue-grey sea, with white-  
sailed ships a-sailing,*

*And far beyond, the horizon was very hard to  
define.*

*To the left were the chalk cliffs of Foreland and on  
top a well-known town,*

*All this was obscured by the darkness, but I knew  
the dawn drew nigh,*

*At first I saw a long curved line which clearly  
marked the horizon,*

*And next the rim of the sun appeared as the light  
spread upward and outward,*

*And then the full orb looking large and red as it  
shone through the mist of the morning,*

*And as it rose higher it changed to gold and the  
white scene was transfigured,*

*The sea now had a silvery sheen and its ripples on  
shore were clearly seen,*

*The sails of the ships and the chalk of the cliffs  
were whiter than I had seen them ere this,*

*And the buildings of the town were more clearly  
outlined as the windows reflected the gold of the  
sun.*

*'Twas like the birth in the mind of a new idea,  
or the dawn on the soul of new truth about God.*

W. C. HILLS.

★ ★ ★

F. A. Morton, of Peterborough, who last year sent some waste paper baskets to the Queen Mother, has made a baby basket for the new Prince. Mr. Morton has received the following letter from Her Majesty's Lady-in-Waiting: "I am commanded by the Queen to thank you for the lovely baby basket which you have sent for Her Majesty's baby. It is beautifully made and I have to send you the Queen's sincere thanks."

### Mr. A. Mace

The name, friend, is common, but that quality of truth in friendship which Mr. Mace extended to St. Dunstaners during his many years' service as Superintendent of St. Dunstan's Physiotherapy Department is rare.

The admirable courage and helpfulness which he showed and extended to those of us who had had the misfortune to be bombed-out during the air-raids on London is beyond praise. He was a loyal, faithful friend, ever just and helpful to all whose care and welfare was entrusted to him and he will, I'm sure, have an honoured place alongside the other proven friends in "St. Dunstan's Hall of Fond Remembrances."

It has been sad of late, particularly for us older St. Dunstaners, to note that time appears to be in a hurry to take our valued ones home to their soft, long sleep. Tennyson admirably portrayed the present feelings of many of us when he wrote, "But O for the touch of a vanished hand, And the sound of a voice that is still."

TERRY RODEN.

### Marriage

JEROME—RIPLEY.—On February 27th, S. K. Jerome, of Didcot, to Mary Vivien Ripley. Mr. and Mrs. Jerome will live at Cookham.

### Births

FARNEN.—On February 15th, to the wife of H. Farnen, of St. Leonards-on-Sea, a son—Peter.

LILLEY.—On February 21st, to the wife of J. Lilley, of Thornton Heath, a son—Nicholas John.

QUINN.—On February 23rd, to the wife of E. Quinn, of Offally, Eire, a fourth daughter.

SPENCE.—On February 18th, to the wife of J. Spence, of Ballycastle, Northern Ireland, a son.

### Deaths

Our deep sympathy is offered to the following:

CONDON.—To C. T. Condon, of Basingstoke, whose wife died on March 10th.

DICKINSON.—To Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Dickinson, of Southport, in the loss of a beloved baby grand-daughter, Maria, in Africa.

JONES.—To A. J. Jones, of Penrhydeudraeth, in the loss of his brother on February 28th.

WORTHINGTON.—To J. Worthington, of Stockport, whose mother died on February 16th.

### "In Memory" (continued from page 10)

#### R. D. McKee, 1st Echelon Regiment

We have heard with deep regret of the death of R. D. McKee, of Hamilton, New Zealand. He died in hospital on 1st October last. It was only early last year that he had been admitted to St. Dunstan's.

He had served in the Second World War and was a prisoner of war for over three years. He returned to his pre-enlistment occupation of farming when he was discharged from the Services. He leaves a widow to whom our deep sympathy is sent.

#### S. G. Ebsary, Australian Forces

We have heard with deep regret of the death of an Australian St. Dunstaner, S. G. Ebsary, of Claremont, Western Australia.

Our deep sympathy goes out to his widow.

#### John Ramsey McGill, New Zealand Forces

We deeply regret to record the death of J. R. McGill, of Whangaparaoa, North Auckland, New Zealand, at the age of 71.

Enlisting with the New Zealand Forces in September, 1916, he was wounded on the Somme in November of that year and he came to St. Dunstan's in September, 1917, to learn poultry-farming. He returned to New Zealand in August, 1918, where he settled as a poultry-farmer in Canterbury, later purchasing a dairy farm near Auckland which was most successful. In January, 1938, he disposed of his farm and returned to settle in Scotland with his wife and daughter. Later he moved south to Hertfordshire where he worked on a farm as his contribution to the war effort. In 1947 he and his wife were to return to New Zealand but Mrs. McGill died very suddenly on the eve of their departure. He returned alone and subsequently remarried, living in retirement at Whangaparaoa.

Our deep sympathy is sent to his widow and to his married daughter, and to all his fellow St. Dunstaners in New Zealand who will miss him greatly.

## "In Memory"

### Private Robert Luther Dunn, *West Riding Regiment*

We have to record with deep regret the death of R. L. Dunn, of Strensall, Yorkshire, which occurred in hospital on March 9th. He was 67.

Enlisting in March, 1916, he served until January, 1919, but he did not come to St. Dunstan's until February, 1950. He was then living in Hull. He did not take any training with us as he had a post as mill foreman at the Universal Oil Company, Hull, and he remained there until his retirement in February, 1956, at the completion of thirty-two years' service. His health was not good—he was a mustard gas case—and for over three years prior to his death he had been in a number of hospitals—the last one, where he died, for nearly two years.

Our deep sympathy is extended to Mrs. Dunn.

### Private Frederick Fleming, *10th London Regiment*

We deeply regret to announce the death of F. Fleming, of Ipswich. He was 81.

He saw service from April, 1915, until February, 1919, but did not come under St. Dunstan's care until June, 1956, when the serious state of his health ruled out any training. His death occurred on February 21st. His courage and cheerfulness in his long years of ill-health had made him much loved by all his neighbours.

Our deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Fleming.

### Bombardier George Edwin Fox, *Royal Field Artillery*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of G. E. Fox, of Horndean, Hampshire, at the age of 72.

He was a serving soldier when the 1914-1918 war broke out—he had enlisted in October, 1907—and he served throughout the war, being discharged in 1918. It was not, however, until July, 1932, that he came to St. Dunstan's. He trained as a joiner and worked at his craft for many years until his health began to fail. In 1954 he gave up entirely and his condition had worsened gradually. He died in his sleep on February 18th.

Our very sincere sympathy goes to his widow and married step-daughter.

### Private Frederick Hunt, *Royal Army Service Corps*

We record with deep regret the death of Frederick Hunt, of Hove. He was 74.

He was an old soldier, having enlisted in January, 1904, and he came to St. Dunstan's in April, 1929, where he trained in telephony. He took a post with the Hall of Masons in London and he continued here until his retirement in 1953. He moved to Hove and was very happy in his retirement. His death on March 7th was the result of an accident. He was knocked down by a van when out for a walk and he died in the Royal Sussex County Hospital the same evening.

Our deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Hunt and to his children by a former marriage.

### Private Samuel Jennings, *5th West Riding Regiment*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of S. Jennings, of Heaton, Bradford, at the age of 64.

He served with the Regiment from April, 1915, to December, 1916; he had been wounded in September of that year. He came immediately to St. Dunstan's where he trained in boot repairing and mat-making, and he followed these occupations for a few years as well as keeping a few poultry. He then concentrated on mat-making until ill-health compelled him to give up. He had for many years been a sick man.

He leaves a widow and grown-up family, to whom our deep sympathy goes.

### Corporal Frank Pattison, *The King's Liverpool Regiment*

With deep regret we record the death of F. Pattison, of Liverpool. He died at his son's home on February 14th at the age of 79.

Although he saw service from 1914 until 1918, it was not until as recently as 1957 that he came to St. Dunstan's, his age then preventing any training.

He was a widower and our deep sympathy is offered to his family.

### Private E. S. Shilleto, *Labour Corps*

We deeply regret to record the death of E. S. Shilleto, of Portslade, at the age of 84.

He enlisted in August, 1916, and came to St. Dunstan's in September, 1921. Although he took poultry training, he did not undertake the full course, but on his return home, backyard poultry was his main interest. He lost his first wife in 1930. In 1953 he married Mrs. Ackland, the widow of another St. Dunstaner. He was admitted to Pearson House a few weeks ago and he died there on March 5th.

We send our deep sympathy to Mrs. Shilleto, and to his children by his first marriage.

(Continued on previous page)