

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

No. 548—VOLUME XLIX

NOVEMBER 1964

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

A DISTINGUISHED Canadian St. Dunstaner and one of the founders of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Colonel E. A. Baker was the first President of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind and held office for thirteen years. He has just retired, with the congratulations and thanks of all the delegates who attended the World Assembly in New York recently. Colonel Baker was given an overwhelming ovation for he was much loved, greatly respected and highly honoured, and he has been made the first honorary member of the W.C.W.B.

Mr. A. D. Lloyds, Secretary of St. Dunstan's, was there, and he told me what a fine speech Eddie Baker made on this occasion.

He has been succeeded as President of the World Council by Mr. Eric T. Boulter, Associate Director of the American Foundation for Overseas Blind.

We of St. Dunstan's are proud to think that both Baker and Boulter are St. Dunstaners, and we wish the latter the best of luck in his new post.

The theme of this year's World Assembly was "The Problems of the Blind in a Changing World," and Mr. Lloyds read a paper on "Modern Programmes for Blind Persons with Other Disabilities," which was very well received and was thought to be a most valuable contribution; this is a subject in which St. Dunstan's has done much practical and useful work.

War Pensions Improvement

As soon as the Queen's Speech was published, I noticed that it contained references to improved pensions for the old and the sick, but no mention of war pensions. I therefore put down a question in the House of Lords as follows:

War Pensions

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: To ask Her Majesty's Government, whether, having regard to the promise in the gracious Speech that there will be a major review of the national schemes for social security, they will undertake a major review of war pensions, including the basic rate, the special allowances and the provisions for war widows.

LORD MITCHISON: As Lord Fraser will be aware, certain aspects of the war pensions scheme are already under review by the Committee of which Lord McCorquodale of Newton is the Chairman and Lord Fraser is himself a distinguished member. The undertaking given in the gracious Speech to increase rates of benefits applies also to war pensions, and I can assure the noble Lord that the position of war pensioners will be kept in mind in connection with the major review of the social security schemes.

LORD FRASER: The Committee to which the noble Lord referred is, if I may say so, an excellent Committee, and I would ask the noble Lord whether he is aware that many of us are glad that it is continuing under this Government, having been set up by the previous one. Is the noble Lord also aware that it has extremely limited application and, quite properly, limited terms of reference? My question is a much wider one, and I hope I may take it from what the noble Lord has said that on this day, which happens to be November 11th, we are receiving an assurance that disabled men will continue to receive, as they have done under every Government for the last fifty years, some measure of special consideration in the matter of their rates of war pensions.

LORD MITCHISON: I would entirely agree with the noble Lord's comments on the value of the Committee and on the limited character of its functions. I hope I have answered the question he had in mind, so far as I can at present, in the previous remarks I made—namely that the increases contemplated immediately will apply to war pensioners; and, secondly, that their position will be taken into account in the review that is contemplated and indicated in the gracious Speech. I have no reason to think that this Government more than any other will be lacking in recognition of the value of the services which have caused the war pensions to be awarded.

LORD FRASER: I thank the noble Lord.

This question had been on the Order Paper for a week or more while the Government was making up its mind what to put in the Autumn Budget. Whether my question and the meetings I have had with Mr. Wilson and the Minister of Pensions during that week had any effect upon the Chancellor, I do not know; be that as it may, I am glad to express warm thanks to the Government for having included war pensioners in the rises that are proposed to take effect next March, and also to Lord Mitchison for having indicated that there would also be a further review. They have been very prompt and I am sure all St. Dunstaners will be pleased.

The new Minister of Pensions, Miss Herbison, accepted my invitation to come to a meeting we held in London on Friday, November 6th, 1964, of St. Dunstan's welfare, technical and other staff who were gathered for a Conference. This was, I think, Miss Herbison's first engagement with an ex-service organisation and I expressed our gratitude for her interest. Miss Herbison met all our representatives who were there, and expressed herself as full of admiration for St. Dunstan's work, and each of us affirmed our intention of co-operating with the other to the fullest extent.

I have asked Mr. Rice to give me a note on the details of the Budget as far as they are known at present, and this is what he says:—

"The standard rate of National Insurance Benefits for a single person will be increased from £3 7s. 6d. to £4 0s. 0d. a week, and the rate for a married couple will go up from £5 9s. 0d. to £6 10s. 0d. a week, and the War Pension for 100 per cent disablement will be increased by 20/- from £5 15s. 0d. a week to £6 15s. 0d. a week, and the Chancellor has promised that the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance will present her National Insurance Bill and will give further details about the War Pensions increases within the next fortnight." It is hoped, therefore, to give full details in next month's REVIEW.

Degree for War-Blinded Student

Very warm congratulations from all of us to Maurice Aldridge who last month obtained a B.A. Honours degree at Oxford University in English Language-Philology.

Maurice came to us ten years ago as a boy seaman who had been blinded in an accident on a battleship when he was only seventeen. While he has been with us at St. Dunstan's he has obtained G.C.E. qualifications to enable him to get into Oxford, and he has now got a distinguished degree there. Furthermore, he is staying on another year to work for his degree of B.Litt., and it is his hope that thereafter he will get a job teaching Anglo-Saxon at University level.

I think this is a very remarkable achievement and wish him continuing good luck; I should also like to praise his wife who has helped him a great deal in these rather abstruse and difficult subjects.

Bowling

The other day when paying a general visit to our establishments at Brighton, I met the members of the Committee of the Bowling Section of St. Dunstan's Brighton and District Club.

I was very interested to learn of the great pleasure they get from bowling locally and in occasional away matches. They have the use of the King Alfred indoor rinks in winter, and are the guests of the St. Ann's Well Bowling Club, Hove, in summer, and I express the warm thanks of St. Dunstan's to the authorities of these Clubs.

Mr. Frank Rhodes, the Chairman of our Club, told me that recently a St. Dunstaner from Northampton who had gone to Ovingdean for a holiday had expressed an interest in bowls and that our men had encouraged him, started him off at the game, and presented him with a set of woods. I learned that in the Stores at Ovingdean there is a number of sets of woods which have been presented to us from time to time, and that some of these are in very good condition.

I have often written in these Notes about the importance to a blind man of joining a local club near his home and where, apart from entering into the fun and games, he can make friends and enjoy the social life. If there is any St. Dunstaner who thinks he might be interested, we could arrange to have a set of woods put in good shape and sent to him, and no doubt I could find out who the chairman of the local bowling club is and write an introduction.

Frank Rhodes and his friends tell me that with a little trouble and some help and instruction, it is possible to become a good bowler and that it is very good exercise and a most friendly fraternity.

Fiftieth Anniversary Celebrations

All St. Dunstaners will have received a letter from me about the arrangements we are making to celebrate our Fiftieth Anniversary next year. With this letter a stamped addressed postcard was enclosed so that you could let our Welfare Department know whether you and your wife or escort would be attending one of the special Reunions we have arranged.

Many of these postcards have been returned, but I ask those who have not yet done so to complete them and let us have them back without delay. This is most important, as we must know the numbers who will be coming and also whether overnight accommodation will be necessary.

FRASER.

Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Service

The 43rd anniversary of the death of Sir Arthur Pearson, Bt., G.B.E., Founder of St. Dunstan's, falls on Wednesday, December 9th, and a Service of Commemoration will be held in the Chapel at Ovingdean on Sunday, December 6th, at 11.30 a.m. At the Service, which will be conducted by the Reverend W. J. Taylor, the Lesson will be read by our President, Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., and the Address this year will be given by Mr. Robert Young.

★ ★ ★

On the morning of Wednesday, December 9th, a party of St. Dunstaners will leave Headquarters for Hampstead Cemetery, where a wreath will be placed upon Sir Arthur's grave.

Subscriptions of not more than one shilling towards the wreath should be sent to Mr. Lloyds at 191 Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

Remembrance Day, 1964

St. Dunstaners were among those present at the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph on Sunday, November 8th, and at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall on November 7th.

Brighton Club Notes

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10th, 1964, at 7 p.m. All St. Dunstaners in the Brighton area, with escorts, will be warmly welcomed. Our President, Mrs. Dacre, will be in the Chair.

FRANK A. RHODES,
Chairman.

Bridge Club Notes

The 26th Annual General Meeting of the Bridge Club was held at Ovingdean on Friday evening, November 13th. In the absence of Commandant Fawcett, Mr. Field took the Chair. G. P. Brown, the out-going captain, and H. Gover having declined invitations to stand as captain this year, the following officers were elected:—

Captain: P. Nuyens.

Treasurer: S. Webster.

Committee Members: M. Delaney, R. Fullard and H. Gover.

A hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Jock Brown for his splendid work as captain for the past six years.

The Bridge Congress

The 26th Bridge Congress was held at Ovingdean during the weekend of 14th November, starting on the Saturday morning. Mr. A. E. Field, the Tournament Director, writes:—

"There were 28 'Professors' and 10 'New Boys' (beginners, if you like). The Sir Arthur Pearson Cup for Pairs was won by Messrs. M. Delaney and A. Caldwell, and the Teams of Four by Messrs. C. Kelk, B. Ingrey, L. Douglas and S. Webster (all Professors, of course!). The 'Drummer Downs' Cup (in which the new boys were playing with the Professors for partners) was won by Messrs. Webster and Caldwell.

"There is always a very warm welcome for any St. Dunstaner who likes a game of cards—these Bridge Weekends are sociable and instructive. Watch the REVIEW for an announcement of the next instructive weekend in the New Year, and send in your name. Everything is laid on."

★ ★ ★

The Congress ended with a hearty vote of thanks to Matron and "Mrs. Mac" and their helpers, and to Mr. Field, Mrs. Field and Mrs. Stokes.

As these notes were written just as the REVIEW was going to press, full results of the competitions will appear next month.

Important Notice

Bridge beginners living in the London area are always welcome on Saturday afternoons at the London Club, with or

without an escort. If advised in time, we will provide them with a game.

Will anyone wishing to come along with his playing partner for the Christmas Bridge Drive on December 5th please inform Paul Nuyens at once at Headquarters.

To Wake

Deaf St. Dunstaners

As a result of a conversation at Ovingdean about a year ago between Mr. George Fallowfield and Commander R. C. B. Buckley, an "alarm clock" for our deaf St. Dunstaners has been devised by St. Dunstan's Research Department

It is, in effect, a simple time switch that can be set to the nearest quarter of an hour up to twelve hours ahead. It is coupled with a vibrator and the whole housed in a wooden case. Although the sound of an ordinary alarm clock would not register, the deaf St. Dunstaner will be awakened by the sensations of the vibration from the device which is placed under the pillow. The time switch has a braille "watch" face.

Prizewinning Fisherman

Tom Daborn, of Bexleyheath, competing among 287 fishermen in the recent three-day Dover Boat Festival, carried off two prizes—the heaviest three days' catch of flatfish, 4 lb. 0½ oz., and the heaviest one-day catch of flatfish, with a 2 lb. 8½ oz. plaice. This is the second time he has won the Jarvis Rose Bowl (the three-day trophy).

And Prizewinning Gardeners

At the Deansbrook Show, H. Perkins, of Edgware, Middlesex, took three first prizes, three second and one third, all for vegetables, as well as the Challenge Cup for the best all round exhibits. (Mrs. Perkins won two first prizes for cakes.)

H. F. Goodley, of Pulham Market, won seven prizes in all for his flowers and vegetables at the Blind Show in Norwich.

Leek specialist, S. Purvis, of Seghill, Northumberland, took three first prizes in recent shows.

F. Fulbrook, of Edgware and District Chrysanthemum Show, Open Class, one first, two seconds, two thirds.

The Handless Reunion

We lads and lassies again wended our way to Brighton on October 15th for another wonderful Reunion and became just one of a bunch, indeed anyone in the Winter Garden with hands and eyes was the odd man out.

I understand the weather was exceptionally kind to us, I say this because we only had time to appreciate it at Kempton Park Races, where incidentally, the amateur tipsters in our midst had, shall I say, an off day!

Commandant, Matron and Staff entertained us to dinner with their customary warm sincerity in the Canteen on the day of arrival, where our friend Tommy Gaygan gave his maiden speech, thanking them for such a grand welcome. After the cigar (thanks to the Commandant) a coach was laid on facilitating additional frothy refreshments if desired.

On Friday our instructive and interesting discussions progressed and took shape quite smoothly with Bill Wrigley as Chairman for his first time. Well done, Bill. In the evening at "The Arlington" no chairman needed, just an open throat for swallow and voice. Our friend Miss Dagnall tickled the ivories.

Saturday we may call "Splinter Group Day"; the main attraction as aforesaid was Kempton Park Races with delicious food and drink. Some chose the theatre, others visited friends.

Sunday filled us all with great expectations, an innovation arranged by our good friend Mrs. Dacre, who piloted us through the Sussex countryside, rather more of it than initially intended, but the circular tour was well worth while. Our hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Evan Cook in Cuckfield, entertained us lavishly in delightful surroundings with their charming friends, lots of champagne and delicacies specially and carefully prepared for us, and deeply appreciated. None of us handless were born with a silver spoon in the mouth. However, we all have one now, a memento from Mr. and Mrs. Evan Cook, for which we are grateful.

On Monday, Lord Fraser introduced us to Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, now on St. Dunstan's Council, who, with Commandant, Mr. Lloyds, Mr. Wills, Dr. Fletcher, Mr. French, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Dufton, Mr. Houlgate, were all in attendance and made

their various contributions to our Meeting in the afternoon. In the evening these gentlemen were present and we were particularly pleased to have with us for the first time Lady Fraser, also Mrs. Dacre, Matron Blackford, Matron Babonau, Mrs. Mac, staff, wives and escorts at the Dudley Hotel, where we all enjoyed our traditional Farewell Dinner. After an address by Lord Fraser and Dr. Fletcher, Lord Fraser presented the Air Commodore Dacre Trophy to J. Majkut who won our Rifle Shooting competition (kindly arranged by Jack Jarrold) with a score of 74, R. Brett was second with 72 and D. Bell third with 71. Well done, gentlemen.

It was a wonderful, happy, exciting Reunion, and on behalf of my colleagues I say thank you very much indeed to the Nursing Orderlies and everyone who contributed to our Reunion—you gave us great joy.

BILL GRIFFITHS.

★ ★ ★

Bill was too modest to add what Lord Fraser had said at the meeting. The Chairman, in his speech, said: "I know you don't want sentimental praise but I must tell you that all of us at St. Dunstan's who have only one handicap to contend with have the greatest admiration for you with your grievous double and sometimes multiple disabilities . . . You are an example to many who don't make proper use of all their faculties. Any invention, or device, wherever it may be found, will be studied and no reasonable expense or trouble spared to make it available to you, if it is practicable, to help you at home or in your job."

Cardiff Club Notes

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on Saturday, November 7th, 1964, and the election of officers was as follows:—

Chairman: Mr. A. C. Evans.

Secretary: Mr. D. Stott.

Treasurer: Mr. R. Parsons.

Committee: Mr. A. Wheeler and Mr. H. Pople.

Mrs. Parsons and Mrs. Blackmore will continue to oblige with the refreshments.

Our usual games of dominoes, cards and bingo, which we all thoroughly enjoy, completed the afternoon.

D. STOTT,

Secretary.

Letters to the Editor

DEAR EDITOR,

May I use a small space in your columns to have a short chat with my fellow St. Dunstaners who use braille, please?

Hello, Chaps.

Since making the acquaintance of the "Dots" at Church Stretton over twenty years ago, I have developed quite a liking for the little "teasers" and an increasing appreciation of their value. I feel sure this experience is pretty general and many of you have made outstanding use of them.

In the course of a year or so teaching others to use them, in which I have received the greatest help from Miss Byolin and Killy before they retired, and Les White, to whom my sincere thanks, it occurred to me that many of you have found practical and interesting uses for them, which you might like to share with us all and particularly those following in our wake. For example, you may have devised Accounts Systems, or systems for keeping tabs on your musical or sound records. If so, how about letting our good friend, the Editor, publish them or let us have them at the Braille Room, where we can pass them on with your compliments with the credit to you.

Good wishes from Ovingdean.

Yours sincerely,

MARK KINGSNORTH,
Braille Room, Ovingdean.

DEAR EDITOR,

My wife and myself would like to thank all St. Dunstaners who sent us congratulations on the occasion of our Golden Wedding. We had letters from Lord and Lady Fraser, Miss Midgley, Miss Everitt, Miss B. Vaughan-Davies and her companion, "Rags," who were so attentive to us at the Blackpool Home in the old days.

We would like especially to thank the members of the Liverpool St. Dunstan's Club for the lovely flowers and for the gift which they presented us with—an electric pop-up toaster, which will be very useful and will be in service every day.

We never knew we had so many friends, and again we sincerely thank you all.

Yours sincerely,

JOSEPH AND ETHEL BLAKELY,
Liverpool.

Autumn Deaf Reunion

Desirous of practical experience with her study in dotology, Matron Blackford personally Brailled the programmes for the Autumn Deaf Reunion.

The show started with an evening meal at Ovingdean on October 29th, at which Miss Ramshaw was a warmly welcomed guest. After very good eats, Commandant Fawcett started off his speech with "Although there are only four of you, we like to think you will enjoy yourselves as much as you have done at previous Reunions." The mentioned four were Billy Bell, Joe Jordan, Cliff Stockwell and Wally Thomas.

The following morning the deaf wags were driven to Portsmouth for a tour of Nelson's flagship *Victory*. The party picked their way to the top deck of this floating museum and grouped around the famous spot, where, it is claimed, little Horatio put a telescope to his blind eye and announced "I see no ships"—and the crew chorused, "Only hardships." Then the muffled-drums wormed their way below; having to walk backwards down the stairs and bend almost double when going along the low, narrow corridors. Thanks to the patience of their guide, Able Seaman Gerrard, and V.A.D. escorts, our men had an interesting and happy tour.

The activities for Saturday and Sunday included walks, rifle shooting, domino tournament, a drive and tea with Matron Avison and staff at Pearson House. At 12.45 on Monday, looking spruce and wearing big smiles, the aforementioned four with their staff escorts, rode up on the lift to the top floor. They were introduced to the medical member of St. Dunstan's Council, namely Dr. Hunt, who is well-known and held in high esteem by many St. Dunstaners. Then the mob sat down and did justice to the excellent lunch. At 3.30 the fellers enjoyed tea and a good old gossip with Mr. Wills, Miss Rogers and Miss Midgley. At 6.30 dressed like spivs and as excited as Cockneys at a fox-hunt, they clambered aboard the transport and set off to an hotel to enjoy their Farewell Evening Dinner. In his after-dinner speech, on behalf of himself and colleagues, Joe Jordan expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to Commandant, Matron, Mrs. Macdonald and Ovingdean staff, also to the Welfare Staff, for their kindness, understanding and great efforts

to make the Reunion a wonderful success. There was also a vote of thanks to those St. Dunstaners and wives who have kindly learned the Manual, and so making life easier and happier for the deaf St. Dunstaners whilst at Ovingdean.

"ONE OF THE PLUG-LUGS."

Shooting Competitions for Double Amputees and Deaf-Blind, October, 1964

Double Amputees:

Each man had 10 shots each, the possible score being 100. Here are the top three scores:

J. Majkut, 74;
R. Brett, 72;
D. Bell, 71.

Deaf-Blind:

10 shots each:
Wally Thomas, 42;
Billy Bell, 37;
Cliff Stockwell, 32.

Midland Club Notes

Our Meeting held on Sunday, November 8th, was rather a quiet one. We did not have a very large attendance, probably due to the fact that it was Armistice Sunday and some of our members had attended Armistice services and therefore did not feel like coming along to the Club as well, as it was rather a cold day.

However, we did complete our Domino Knock-out Competition, and the final result is as follows:

Champion: W. Castle (First War).
Runner-up: W. Southall (Second War).
Consolation prizes go to A. Cook (First War) and D. Faulkner (Second War).

Our next meeting, the Christmas meeting, will be held on Sunday, December 13th. Let us have a good turn-out for this meeting, chaps.

D. E. CASHMORE.

Grandfathers

J. T. Kerr, of Rhos-on-Sea; W. Read, of Bedfield, Suffolk; P. Wood, of Hyde; two grandchildren for J. H. Martin, of Boreham Wood—David's wife has given birth to a daughter, and Patricia has had a son; the twenty-first grandchild for R. Chandler, of Richmond, Yorkshire; R. Edwards, late of Feltham and now of Ovingdean, has had a second grandchild.

Miss Ivy Coultate

St. Dunstaners will hear with deep regret of the death in hospital on October 19th of Miss Ivy Coultate, who had been connected with St. Dunstan's since its foundation in March, 1915, until her retirement in December, 1948. Miss Coultate was an Appeals Representative for St. Dunstan's for many years, but she had been associated with our Founder, the late Sir Arthur Pearson, since as far back as 1913 when Mr. Pearson (as he then was) carried on his work for the National Institute for the Blind at his office in Bolsover Street.

Mr. Ernest Stanford, C.B.E., represented St. Dunstan's at the funeral at Shepperton-on-Thames on October 26th.

Family News

Our deep sympathy is sent to the family of our late St. Dunstaner, T. Callaghan, of Woodbridge, Suffolk, who have suffered a further bereavement by the sudden and unexpected death of Mrs. Callaghan, only five months after the death of her husband.

★ ★ ★

Peter Theobald, Ipswich, has obtained his Higher National Diploma and the third part of the examination of the Institution of Electrical Engineers. He is now a Graduate Member.

Caroline Bulbrook, Portadown, N. Ireland, received a silver cup for her excellent progress in her studies.

Prizes, too, for Leslie Nicol, of Hull—for Art and English.

Marriages of Sons and Daughters

Alan Baugh, Stafford, on October 3rd, to Valerie Haley.

Sandra Evans, Derby, on October 24th, to John Moore.

Patricia Lee, on September 5th, to Brian Lawrence.

Jean Nabney, Belfast, on October 23rd, to Ross A. McKerron, of Forres, Scotland.

Sylvia Wheeler, Cricklewood, on April 25th, to John Shannon.

Clarke Scott, Belfast, on August 15th, to Jean Niblock.

Silver Weddings

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Preedy, of Enfield, September 23rd; Mr. and Mrs. J. Delaney, of Taunton, November 4th; Mr. and Mrs. H. Holden, of Hindley, Lancashire, November 6th. Many congratulations.

"In Memory"

Owen Daly, Royal Army Medical Corps

With deep regret we record the death of Owen Daly, of Brighton, within three days of his 73rd birthday.

Enlisting in 1915, he served throughout the First War until 1919. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in October, 1948.

He was a very frequent visitor to Ovingdean, but in recent years he had been in very poor health. He was recently admitted to St. Frances Hospital, Haywards Heath, where he died on November 2nd.

Our deep sympathy goes to Mrs. Daly in her loss.

George Thomas Edmonds, Royal Army Service Corps

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of G. T. Edmonds, of Ewell, Surrey, at the age of 56.

A Second War man, he served from April, 1942, until June, 1946, and he came to St. Dunstan's in September, 1955. He was already a sick man, but we were able to help him with hobbies, and he was particularly interested in his greenhouse. Latterly he had spent a lot of his time in a wheelchair, but he also enjoyed many visits to Ovingdean. His death came quite suddenly on September 20th.

Our deep sympathy is sent to Mrs. Edmonds and her daughter.

Alfred H. Ide, Royal Sussex Regiment

It is also with deep regret that we have to record the death of A. H. Ide, of Chichester, at the age of 84.

Enlisting in November, 1914, Mr. Ide was discharged from the Army in May, 1916. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in July, 1917, but he had been so badly wounded that he was affected mentally and he has, since that time, remained in hospital. During the past few months his health had become much worse, and he died on November 9th.

Our deep sympathy is sent to his four children and especially to his son, Mr. H. Ide, and his family, who had visited him regularly.

Births

LANG.—On October 25th, to the wife of M. B. Lang, of Liverpool, a son—Paul.

Deaths

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the following:

ADAMS.—To A. Adams, of Blackpool, in the sudden death of his wife after a very brief illness.

BERISFORD.—To F. Berisford, of Whitmore, near Newcastle, Staffs., whose wife died suddenly on October 25th. Mrs. Berisford had been in poor health for some considerable time, but her death was unexpected.

JAMES.—To R. W. James, of Poole, Dorset, whose wife passed away in the Royal Masonic Hospital, Ravenscourt Park, on October 16th.

JORDAN.—To S. J. Jordan, of Luston, near Leominster, whose youngest son died in hospital in October.

SIMPSON.—To E. Simpson, of Salford, who mourns the death of his mother. She died very suddenly on October 5th.

SWANN.—To J. Swann, of Cosby, Leicester, whose father died in hospital on October 12th after a long illness. He was 81.

Return to Hong Kong

After 24 years, A. Rahim, of Greenford, Middlesex, has returned to the island of his birth.

Born in Hong Kong in 1917, Brian went to sea and it was in 1942, while serving as a quartermaster aboard the 8,000 ton military transport, *H.M.S. Nanking*, that he was taken prisoner during an action with a German destroyer and was to spend the next three years in a Japanese p.o.w. camp. As a result of his experiences there, he lost the sight of both eyes.

When he was repatriated, he came to St. Dunstan's, Church Stretton, where he met and married his wife, Ruth.

Now Mr. and Mrs. Rahim have just spent a wonderful holiday in Hong Kong with his brother, Sahban, and have been able to see all his family, including his grandmother who is 94. Brian says, "From what I have heard of Hong Kong today, it is just like New York without its Empire State Building by day, and a sparkling fairyland by night. What a sharp contrast with my old memories!"