

# The Bookhams Bulletin

Organ of the Bookhams Social Service Bureau

No. 38

MARCH 1943

One Penny

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## Editorial

Since December three important Reports have been issued dealing in the main with social security and unemployment. First and foremost the Beveridge Report recommending various schemes for the elimination of poverty, need want, but there has already been so much discussion among Trade Councils, groups of the Workers' Educational Association, the Co-operative Guilds and many other organisations together with strong opposition by Insurance Companies and Approved Societies, that it is unnecessary here to go into the pros and cons, apart from the space required. But a further report issued quite recently, known as the Tomlinson Report, dealing with the training & re-habilitation of disabled persons, should have first consideration in the proposed new order of social security.

The recommendations set out in the Tomlinson Report provide adequate training for all classes of disabled persons such as industrial war, cardiac, pulmonary tuberculosis, blindness, deafness and psychosis.

Such reforms and undertakings in this direction would undoubtedly be the first step in relieving the anxieties of all classes of disabled

persons, bringing about a stability of purpose and social security.

The Rushcliffe Report also opens up a new vista in the lives of those engaged upon hospital work. Providing new amenities and higher scales of pay, this would also ensure encouragement to those who wish to enter the nursing services.

It may be asked "How does the Social Service Bureau & Citizens Advice Bureau come into the picture?" It can be safely said that having one's fingers upon the pulse of the population, information is eagerly sought by the public.

Just before the outbreak of war the net expenditure by local authorities was as under (in millions of pounds):

Hospitals	....	....	14
Maternity & Child Welfare			33
Mental Welfare	....		6
Non-Contributory Pensions			44
Unemployment	....		41
Poor Relief	....	....	47
Education	...	....	106
National Health	....		3
Widows, Orphans & Old			
Age Pensions	...		14
Housing	....	....	20

Such was the scheme of things.

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## **Citizen's Advice Bureau Leatherhead & District**

A large proportion of questions asked at the Bureau deal with Service matters such as furlough, pay, civilian clothing, additional clothing coupons, medical attention registration for employment, and many other problems.

Amongst these are: What articles of clothing can be taken away upon being invalided from the service? A man may take a pair of boots, all underclothing and necessaries. Before leaving hospital or his unit if in need of plain clothes, these are provided free of cost. A cash allowance is not issued unless the soldier declares he has plain clothes and signs a

statement to that effect. A great-coat is supplied free, if discharged unfit between Oct. 1st and March 31st if he is not in possession of one, or alternatively a cash allowance of £1.

When on leave pending discharge, can I obtain medical treatment if necessary? Applications should be made to the nearest Military, Naval, Royal Air Force E.M.S. hospital.

Not only the needs of the civil population can be advised and helped, but also service personnel can be assured of the facilities of the Citizens Advice Bureau, the address of which is Surrey House, Church Street, Leatherhead, or telephone Leatherhead 3291.

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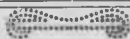
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Quite recently a pamphlet was issued by the British Legion as a guide for those men and women who have been discharged from the forces, and the Hon. Sec. of the Effingham & Bookhams branch of the British Legion will be glad to forward a copy on application.

For the address refer to Local Organisations on last page of this issue, or the Legion Hall, Lower Road, Effingham.

Services personnel needing information and advice can always apply to Citizens Advice Bureau.

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### Spring is Here ?

Up to the time of writing, the winter has been extraordinarily mild and consequently some people are hoping that winter is finished, but it would be very strange if it were, and there may still be some cold spasms to come. Easter is very accomodating however as it arrives very late in April, and the members of the Bowling Club are looking forward to the opening day on the 23rd of that month, which is St. George's day, as the game of bowls is one that helps considerably in alleviating war and other worries, as well as being the most sociable of games. New members of either sex and of any age will be heartily welcomed, and details of membership can be obtained from any member as well as the Hon. Sec., Mr. R. Andrews, Five Beches, Dorking Rd., Bookham.

### Those Glorious Children

It is supposed to be the desire of the individual to leave this world better than he found it, and in many cases this is fulfilled by a natural change which takes place without any effort of his.

Amongst such improvements, one I consider is generally noticeable, namely the style of dress for children which some mothers have adopted during the last few years. It seems to lift the little ones out of the drab old rut which prevailed previously. The pixie hoods and leggings or slacks, assisted by the large range of colours employed, make our streets more picturesque when the kiddies are out walking. The children who are the citizens of the future, promise well as regards health, and their beauty is enhanced by the clothing they now wear.

Since slacks became so popular women have launched out into colour schemes, but the mere man is still fond of his black, blue, grey etc. One thing however the women must be careful about in their gay colours, and that is the garments must on no account lose their newness, as a pair of faded wine-coloured slacks look much worse than if they were made of more sober coloured material.

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*Don't forget "Wings for Victory" week is May 1-8*

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## An Open Letter

Ladies & Gentlemen,

If through the medium of the *Bookhams Bulletin* I can use this means to enlist your sympathy and practical assistance, it is not only my duty, but also that of every member of the public to bring pressure upon the government in order to bring about justice concerning War Disablement Pensions. The chief points are:

1. The rates of pensions to be payable for the present war to be not less than those of the last war.

2. The immediate setting up of Pensions Appeals Tribunals.

3. Alternative pensions for those disabled men and women, widows and dependants, whose standard of living has been reduced by reason of death or disability from war service, similar to the War Service Grant.

4. Pensions to be granted to wife and children when marriage or birth of the children has taken place after disablement, subject to safe-guarding.

Women's Institutes, Co-operative Guilds, Trades Councils and other organised bodies can assist by framing resolutions and sending them to their Member of Parliament. Such efforts can produce the results to render fair play for the present disabled men and women, the widows & dependants.

Should any information upon the present scales of pensions be required, I shall be glad to give all the assistance possible.

W. A. Muggeridge,

Local War Pensions Committee.

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## WINGS for VICTORY

The words conjure up a spectacle of unparalleled grandeur. Hosts of beautifully stream-lined man-built birds of immense power, speeding through heights of blue or over the white scatterings of a cloud. Their roaring progress is superbly directed by intrepid youth, trained to the finest point. They carry the instruments of death and destruction, nevertheless their mission is the re-birth and stabilisation of a saner and safer world. Each is marvellously controlled from earth, and to us groundlings an occasional glint of wings and a rising hum of engines are some manifestations of this control, yet a wider control lies also within our own power. We have a real part to play in the coming drama,—lending our money. The Prime Minister has called this "a stern and terrible year." Overwhelming air superiority is vital and must be paid for. The National Savings Campaign is directed this year to this paramount need. Many of us are feeling the war's various demands upon our lives—restrictions of food, comfort, leisure, but what are these in comparison with the agonies suffered under Nazi domination, or dare we even name them when reminded daily of far greater sacrifices that are gladly endured by "the few." Bend then to support the burden; thrust the hand deeper into that pocket. Saving becomes easier if you are in a Group, so join one now; there

is one in your road, the air raid warden will tell you the address. If you are a member, use all your influence to get new ones, and to reduce all kinds of needless spending. Group secretaries are specialists in "mopping up pockets of resistance." Be a living advertisement of saving—don't talk about it, though here at last is something worth gossiping over.

The "Wings for Victory" week in this district is fixed for May 1-8 but an early preparation for a stepping up of savings is projected. Further details of the forthcoming campaign will be given at a public meeting at the Baptist Hall, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3rd. It is expected that an operational pilot of the R.A.F. will be there to describe his flights over enemy territory, and there will also be an entertainment by the Fetcham Women's Institute.

Bookham started in March 1940 with 7 groups and saved £5644 that year. More groups were formed, and 33 groups in 1941 saved £23,284 and £30,988 last year, the last total includes the Tank Week's total of £15078 for the Bookham Crusader.

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## Introducing George & Bob the Country Gardeners

Hullo, Bob, have you planted your onion seed? Yes, George, my onion bed was prepared last November, dug and well manured with hops, a good substitute for stable manure, which I got from the brewery although it can be obtained from your local nurseryman or seed merchant. The bed was sown on the 18th February as I believe in planting onions early as well as parsnips. I used Bedford Champion seed, but you can't plant so early on your clay soil. By the way, did you take my tip last season and use some artificial fish manure for your crops? Yes Bob, and got a big increase in onions, leeks, beet and potatoes, as well as very good results from all my green stuff with its aid. I put it on when the soil was workable and planted my onion seed a week later, and was glad I took your advice. Did you take my tip with your light soil and use agricultural salt for your leek and beet crops? I did, and had the best crop of both that I have ever had from my soil, so I shall always use it in future. I put it on as you said when my beet was well up and thinned out, about 2ozs. to the yard run and about a month later repeated the application. For leeks I used the same quantity two or three weeks after planting them into their permanent bed, and the second application of 2ozs.

to the yard run in September.

How did your tomatoes turn out last season after using fish manure? You know, George, this fish manure is good stuff, besides containing humus it also contains a good percentage of potash, and I feel sure it was this that helped to ripen the fruit off quicker. They say that potash is essential for tomatoes to harden up the plant and help to ripen the fruit, and I found that fish manure also helped the steady growth so necessary to ensure a healthy plant throughout its life. I used about 2ozs. to each plant when I put them in, and a tablespoonful to each when the first truss was forming fruit and again as the second and third trusses came along. I kept the manure from the stem of the plant so as not to cause injury to it.

As you of course know its a mistake to plant out tomatoes before the first or second week in June, and yet I see so many of my neighbours make this mistake, which is a big risk to gamble with the weather in this way after paying a good price for your plants. And again I see so many people buying tall, thin, light green stem plants; these I always avoid and buy the short sturdy type with dark green stems.

But there, we could talk for an age, and as the wife wants early lunch, will see you later. So long, George. So long, Bob.

—Bob.

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Wolverley, L. Bookham Tel. 502
- Bookham Youth Committee (as above)
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Mr. Andrews, Five Beeches,  
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