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MR. E. DUNCAN SIMONDS.

MR. E. DUNCAN SIMONDS.

Born on the 1st June, 1917, it is an interesting coincidence that the publication of the portrait of Mr. Duncan Simonds in this issue should commemorate his birthday, and our congratulations are extended to him on this anniversary.

The abbreviated record of the principal events in Mr. Duncan Simonds' life, which follow, will illustrate that the spontaneous popularity which he has won and the universal high esteem in which he is held are founded on a solid base of achievement which could not fail to gain admiration and inspire the great confidence which is reposed in him.

Educated at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford, Mr. Duncan Simonds joined the firm as a pupil in the Brewing Room on the 1st September, 1938, and settled down to an intensive study of the entire brewing and bottling systems. In February, 1939, he became a member of the Honourable Artillery Company and was called up for service with the Territorial Army on the 1st September, 1939, when the declaration of war was imminent.

Commissioned in March, 1940, Mr. Duncan Simonds was posted to the 4th Regiment of Royal Horse Artillery in Egypt in the same month, and served with the Regiment in Egypt and North Africa until June, 1943. He was wounded at Tobruk in January, 1941, and was twice Mentioned in Despatches. It is significant of his prowess that he became an Instructor in Gunnery and instructed in Artillery Schools in Cairo, Italy and Larkhill. He was appointed Lieutenant in September, 1941, Captain in July, 1942, and obtained his majority in 1944.

Mr. E. Duncan Simonds' appointments to the Directorates of this Company and of the Cirencester Brewery, Limited, were announced in our last issue. An account of his recent marriage appears in this number.



MARRIAGE OF MR. E. DUNCAN SIMONDS

WITH

MISS C. MONICA STEVENS

AT

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, WESTMINSTER.

(Photographs on pages 144 and 145).

Before a very large congregation of relatives and friends on Saturday, May 3rd, the marriage of Mr. E. Duncan Simonds with Miss C. Monica Stevens was solemnised in St. Margaret's, Westminster, that grand old Church with historical associations, and the scene of numerous magnificent ceremonies. But, surely, never were the floral decorations more exquisite than on this great day. The masses of arum lilies surrounded by delicate pink blossom and green foliage, were the perfection of artistry, harmonising with the grandeur and ethereal beauty of the chancel. Over all hung that indefinable atmosphere of sanctity and happiness which enveloped the principal figures in the ceremony.

To the strains of the organ playing the "Trumpet Tune" entered the bride, looking radiantly beautiful, and escorted by her father. The service proceeded with the customary dignity associated with weddings in that ancient edifice. The Archdeacon of Sherborne (the Revd. J. C. Chute) and Canon J. B. Barker officiated.

At the close of the service, with the organ playing the Wedding March, the bride and bridegroom, with bridesmaids in attendance, headed the procession down the aisle, a spectacle of grace and loveliness, which will long remain in the memories of those who were fortunate enough to be present.

The reception was held at Claridge's, and about five hundred guests attended. The bride and bridegroom left in the afternoon to spend the honeymoon in St. Jean de Luz.

The bridegroom is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Simonds and the bride is the younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stevens, of Holmwood, Kingston Hill, and Crown Slip, Seaview, Isle of Wight. The bridesmaids were Miss Molly Butler, Miss Nadia Henly and Miss Erica Simonds, niece of the bridegroom. Mr. K. F. Simonds, brother of the bridegroom, was best man.

THE MARRIAGE OF MR. E. DUNCAN SIMONDS WITH
MISS C. MONICA STEVENS.



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The Bride and Bridegroom.



Reproduced by kind permission of The Queen's Press, 3 & 4, Royal Opera Arcade, Pall Mall.
The Bridesmaids.