

THE NEWS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1944

ALPERTON BOY CHOSEN FOR ALL LONDON TEAM

To Play At Bristol

A 16½-year-old Alperton footballer has been elected to play for the London Federation of Boys' Clubs in a match against the Federation of Bristol Boys' Clubs at Bristol on January 27. He is Stanley Puddephat who lives at 4, Stanley Park Drive.

He thus becomes the first Wembley boy to secure such representative honours and the first boy footballer to be chosen to play for London from outside the London area.

The honour is richly deserved. Puddephat plays at left-half for the Alperton Youth Centre, of which he has been a member for two years. He is a two-footed player and comes from a local family that has a football background.

Stanley's father and uncle, who were popular players with the old Wembley Institute club years ago, played at inside-right and outside-left respectively.

There were three other Alperton Youth Centre players considered by the selection committee:

K. Coote (centre forward), T. Rowley (right half), and B. Marks (centre half). Mr. Eddy Mansfield, the Centre's Leader, told "The News" that while the honour has come to Puddephat, it is also shared by the Alperton Youth Centre. "Young Puddephat has a football brain, he is a keen reliable player and a loyal member to the Centre," said Mr. Mansfield.

The Alperton Youth Centre play in the Western Section of the London Federation of Boys' Clubs, it is their first season as members, and they remain unbeaten in seven games, having only drawn two games and stand second in the league table.

FACTORY-MADE HOUSES ON THE OPEN-SPACES

ALLEGED PICK- POCKETING AT DOG RACING

Wembley Man Appeals

A WEMBLEY man, William T. Boynton, aged 67, of Berkhamstead Avenue, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment at Wealdstone last Friday for being a suspected person found loitering at Wembley Stadium on November 25, with intent to pick pockets.

Charged with Boynton was William Ford, of Marylebone, who was sentenced to three months' imprisonment and Ernest Pemberton, of Twickenham, who was fined £25 and £10 10s. costs. Boynton and Ford were released on bail pending an appeal.

They were defended by Mr. L. R. Hardy and Mr. W. Fordham appeared on behalf of Pemberton. All three pleaded not guilty.

Miss A. W. Knight, prosecuting said that Detective-Sergeant Brinand of Scotland Yard was keeping observation at the Stadium during a dog racing meeting, in company with another officer, when he saw Pemberton collide with a man who had just left the paying out window of the totalisator. Pemberton was joined by Boynton and Ford and they stood near the paying out windows watching people draw their winnings.

One racegoer drew a number of one pound notes and put them in an inside pocket and walked away, at the same time slowly studying a race card. The officer alleged that the three accused separated, Pemberton went on

The Wembley Borough Council and the Ministry of Town and Country Planning do not see eye to eye over the location of factory-made houses on certain public open spaces.

The Town Clerk wrote to the Minister informing him that the Council proposed to erect 428 of these houses and received a reply which the Post-war Housing Committee of the Council say they cannot accept and also consider their suggestions better than the Ministry's. This is what the Ministry indicates.

The six acres at Woodcock Hill (the Tenterden Sports Ground), 26 acres at East Lane (the Cardinal Vaughan and Imperial College of Science Sports Ground) and 18 acres in the vicinity of The Paddocks, are suitable as sites for factory-made houses, and they will comment on the Council's proposals when the appropriate stage is reached in the negotiations between the Council and the Ministry of Health.

The Council Committee are convinced that it would be a retrograde step to cover three open spaces with factory-made housing colonies and that the original proposal to use the frontages only of certain open spaces was preferable, apart from savings arising from proximity to main roads and services.

The Wembley Council also communicated with the Middlesex County Council asking for consent to the proposed scheme. The County Council replied that the matter would be dealt with in January.

This is how the position stands at the present. The Town Clerk is writing to the Minister of Town and Country Planning expressing concern in regard to the selection of three open spaces and urges that the Minister supports the Wembley Council in its decision to erect the houses on open spaces frontages.

In the meantime the Borough Engineer and Surveyor is pre-

ARNHEM MAN WHO WAS MISSING IS A PRISONER

THE mother of 20-year-old David Williams has received a batch of four cards from him. They were sent from Stalag 1XC and this is the first intimation that David, who took part in the battle of Arnhem, is safe.

So far as the War Office is concerned, Mrs. Williams has heard nothing since David was reported missing. He was a member of the Parachute Regiment and before joining the forces, was employed at the Town Hall in the Public Cleansing department. His home is at 66, Bellamy Drive, Belmont.

His cards tell that he was wounded in the foot, but has since fully recovered. He is working hard, feeling 100 per cent fit and well, receiving good food (thanks to the Red Cross parcels), but only 25 cigarettes a week. David asks for information that may be received of any colleagues that were with him at Arnhem.

SALE OF WORK AT ST. JAMES' CHURCH HALL

The Mayor and Mayoress of

Report from "The Wembley News", 29 December 1944, of plans to build 'factory-made houses' in the Borough of Wembley.

(The site 'in the vicinity of The Paddocks' would eventually become the Pilgrims Way prefab estate.)

Reports from the "Willesden Chronicle" in 1945:-

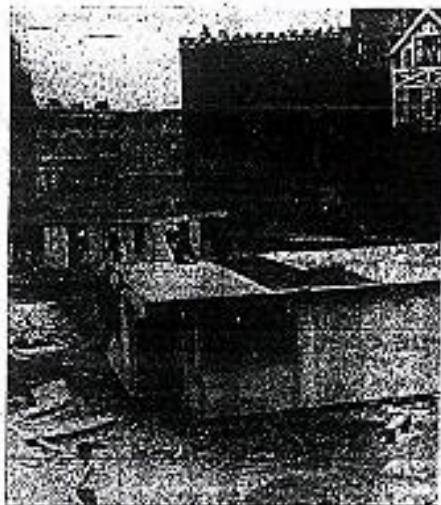
German P-o-W's at work preparing prefab sites at Roundwood House, 22 June >



DRY-MADE HOUSES IN WILLESDEN

No Draughts and Many Cupboards

The erection of the factory-made temporary houses allotted to Willesden has begun. Most of them will have the British "Uni-Seco" type, but some will be American wooden houses.



FATAL ACCIDENT AT HARLESBEN

Residual Appeal to Wirrers

Here are two factory-made houses. The Terrace site, just at Kilbury Priory Park Road, are seen.

Victory Social in W.

< Work in progress on Uni-Seco prefabs in Kilburn, 3 August.

Factory-Made Houses "Are Marvellous"

FIRST WOMAN TENANT'S COMMENT

OVER FIVE MONTHS AFTER WORK BEGAN ON THE SITE, THE FACTORY MADE HOUSES IN PRIORY PARK ROAD, KILBURN, HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND WERE OCCUPIED AT THE WEEK-END.

ONE OF THE FIRST WOMEN TO SEE HER FUTURE HOME WAS MRS. J. DURDEN WHO INSISTED "IT COULD NOT HAPPEN TO ME, I MUST BE IN A DREAM." SHE HAD NOTHING BUT PRAISE FOR THE HOUSES AND COULD HARDLY FIND SUFFICIENT SUPERLATIVES TO DESCRIBE THEM.

Mrs. Durden and her husband, a discharged soldier, had been trying for over four years to find a house, as their previous flat in Harrow Road, Stenage, was shared with another family. When they were told they could have a factory-made house they could hardly believe their eyes and ears, and were at the housing offices before they opened on Monday last week.

During the week they spent most of the time in cleaning and making ready for the great day when they would move in.

EFFICIENT KITCHEN.

The small but very efficient kitchen excited Mrs. Durden most, for nothing had been forgotten and everything was in the right place. Although she had not been used to an electric cooker, Mrs. Durden felt sure she would like it. Cupboards she found in every room, some of them automatically heated from the central heating system.

Apparently the house is faultless, but the garden consists of six inches of earth over a bed of bricks and stones.

In every room there are points for electric fires, and a small coal stove in one room heats the water and operates the central heating system. Storage space for the coal is provided in a small hut at the back. It can also house a pram, garden tools or a bicycle.

MORE PRAISE.

Mrs. J. Knight, who is seen moving in, in the accompanying photograph, agrees with her neighbour in



The smile on Mrs. J. Durden's face shows how pleased she is with her new factory-made house. This picture was taken a few minutes after she had entered it on Saturday morning. With her are her two baby girls and her mother.

praising the houses and says "They are marvellous, there is everything to please the housewife."

She, too, had been looking for a house for several years, and had suffered from overcrowding in Kensal Rise, where she shared a flat with another family.

Work on the Priory Park site began on May 1. On June 16 the site was handed over by the Town Council to the Ministry of Works, who erected the houses in a very short time. Then they lay idle for weeks, because of the shortage of fittings. Their arrival made the completion and decorations possible. That alone we are told took 100 man-hours per house.

Eventually they were finished, gardens laid, fences erected and the tenants moved in on Saturday.



German Prisoners in Willesden

Striped German prisoners at war began work in Willesden on Monday preparing sites for temporary houses at Chesham Road, Kensal Rise, Onda Avenue, Cricklewood and Roundwood House, Cricklewood, Harrow. They are under armed guard and are employed by the Ministry of Works. The picture shows them on the job at Roundwood House.

COUNTY C.D. VICTORY REVIEW

Willesden Represented at "Stand Down"

GENERAL SIR F. PILE TOOK SALUTE

Five thousand men and women representing all branches of Civil Defence took part in a Victory Review and commemorative service at Wembley stadium on Sunday afternoon to mark the official "Stand Down" of the war.

< First tenants move into "The Terrace", Priory Park Avenue, Kilburn, 26 October.

Photograph of the Coronation street party at Pilgrims Way, from "The Wembley News", 11 June 1953:-

THE NEWS, THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1953

IT WAS PARTY TIME THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH



All the children on the pre-fab estate at Pilgrims-way, Kingsbury, were invited to this party—and all 200 of them came.

A report of this event on another page of the newspaper wrote:

'Probably the biggest street party held in Kingsbury on Saturday was the one organised for 200 children of the Pilgrims-way pre-fab estate. Six members of the Harlem Globe-trotters team arrived at mid-day to open the party and give an exhibition of their basket ball wizardry. They also judged the fancy dress parade. Their choice was: Up to five years old, Patricia Craig (Elizabeth the 1st); 5-10 years, Pamela Bignell (Gypsy Girl); and 10-15 years, John Gibbons (Long John Silver).'



To the adults the prefabs have been a temporary expedient to help solve the post-war housing problems, but to the children shown here, outside the Kingsbury-road row which is next on the Council's programme for demolition, the little bungalows have always been "home."

Pre-fab tenants look forward to moving day

Council will not put money down drain

FEW tears will be shed when residents of pre-fabs in Kingsbury-road, Kingsbury, are re-housed in a few months' time. Most of them can hardly wait to find out the moving date and where they will be going.

Pre-fabs on the corner of Old Kenton-lane were dismantled last year. Now, in a two-year drive, the Council intends to remove from Kingsbury the remainder of the buildings which were put up as a temporary post-war housing expedient.

First to go will be the line which leads up to Kingsbury Swimming Pool. Next demolition men will start on the Silver Jubilee estate at Townsend-lane and later North Wembley and Alperton tenants will be re-housed. The sites will be returned to their original purpose as open spaces.

Eagerly waiting

A News reporter who called on tenants at Kingsbury-road found most of them eagerly waiting to hear their moving date.

Many of the families have lived for 13 years in houses which were intended to last only ten years. In some cases the families are large and tenants feel they have been living under cramped conditions with a lack of privacy and security.

Their privacy has been shattered by the large windows which enable passers-by to see in and the thin walls which allow voices to carry out into the open. Some have been burgled and the families feel the buildings have been easy prey for the thief.

Throughout this time tenants have considered the buildings

as temporary homes. No-one thought they would be there so long.

Home for eleven

Home for the past 13 years for Mrs. M. Cole, her husband and nine children has been a pre-fab at 324, Kingsbury-road. It has two bedrooms and a lounge.

Her children's ages range from below school age to well into the late teens. They have to use all three rooms as bedrooms.

Mrs. Cole said this week that she was hoping to get a house in Kingsbury where they would have a little more space.

"It has always been a struggle, especially first thing in the morning, when we have no room to move until the lounge is cleared," she said.

Her next-door neighbour, Mrs. S. Browne, of 322, Kingsbury-road, said that since people moved into the estate they had had more children which had increased the problem of overcrowding. She and her husband have five children in their pre-fab home.

Other residents along the line of buildings complained of the lack of amenities and the bad state of repair the prefabs were in. They were all repaired a few years ago but were now in need of more attention.

Only a few will be sorry to leave the buildings and one of their main reasons is that they will lose the playing fields at the back which make a beautiful view, and their neighbours.

Tenants' request

Eager as they are to leave the pre-fabs, nobody wants to leave Kingsbury. They have all asked to be re-housed in the district.

BECAUSE it is proposed to remove the "prefab" bungalows from Roe Green and Silver Jubilee Park, Kingsbury, within the next two years, no gutters will be repaired or replaced unless the defect causes dampness or the gutters become dangerous. There are 20 "prefabs" at Roe Green and 67 at Silver Jubilee Park.

The gutters are to be renewed on the bungalows at North Wembley-terrace and Vaughan-terrace, North Wembley, at a cost of £80.

Wembley Council is responsible for the safe custody of the bungalows, their fittings and equipment during the period between their vacation and their removal by the Ministry of Works.

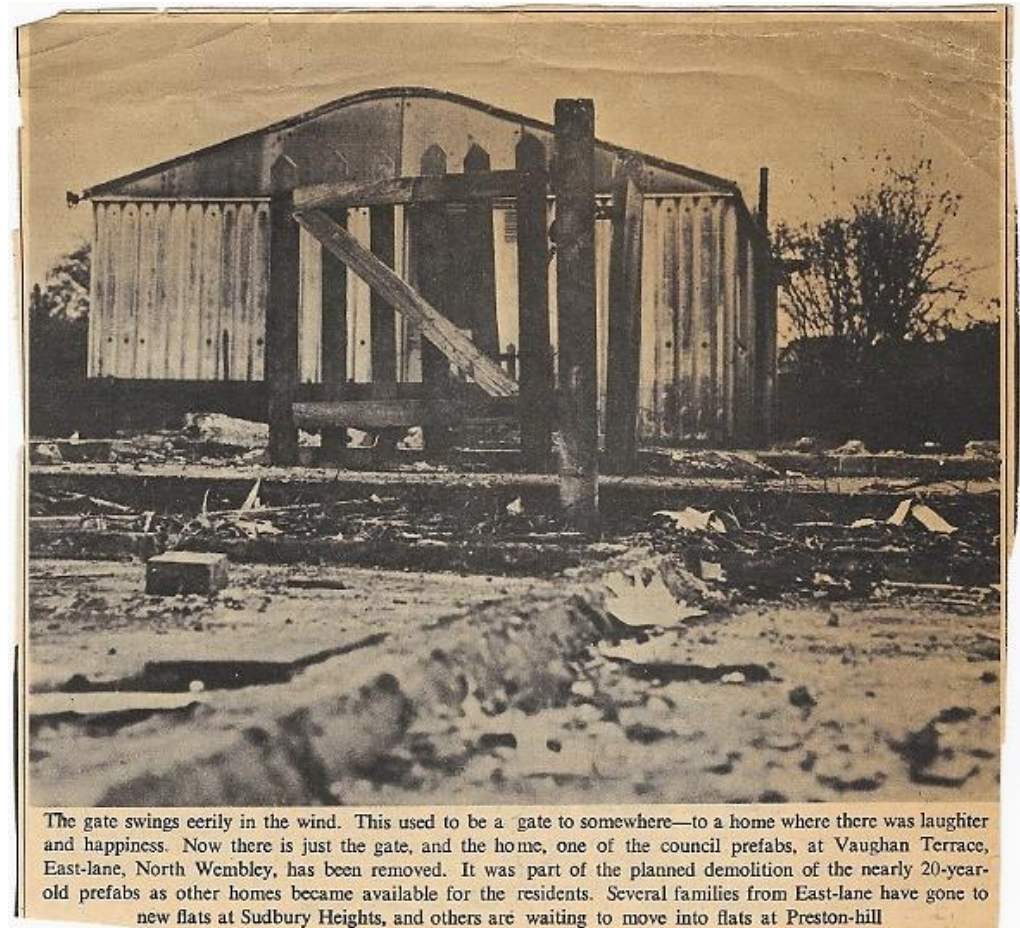
Cookers, wash-boilers and refrigerators taken from the bungalows will be stored in one of the council's garages at Piper's-green, Kingsbury. The housing manager will ask if the council can be absolved from its responsibility for the equipment, while it is in storage, and if the Ministry of Works will pay the rent of the garage used for storage.

Families now living in the prefabs will be rehoused on Wembley Council estates.

The demise of the Vaughan Terrace prefabs in East Lane, at the end of 1964, is pictured in both Wembley newspapers:-



< "The Wembley News", 31 December 1964.

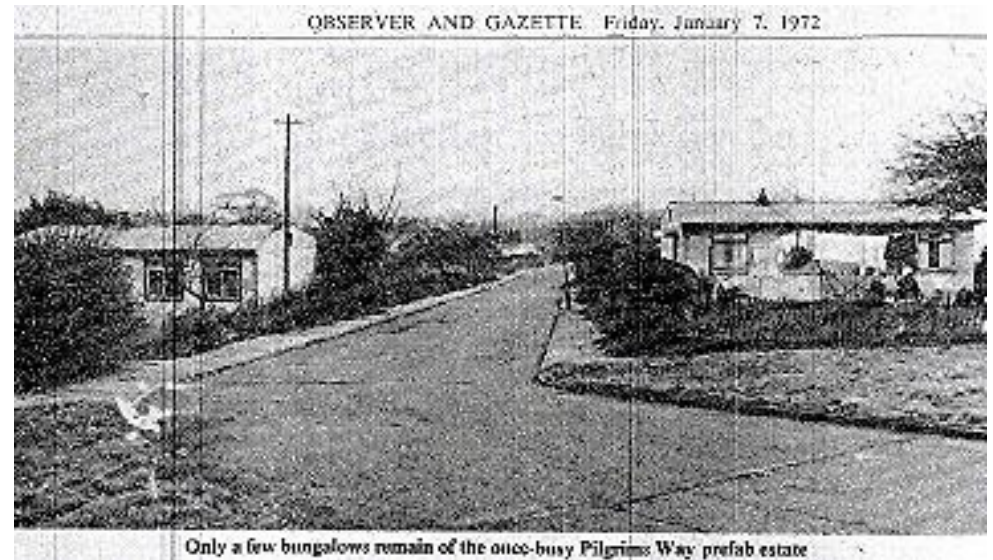


The "Wembley Observer", 1 January 1965 >

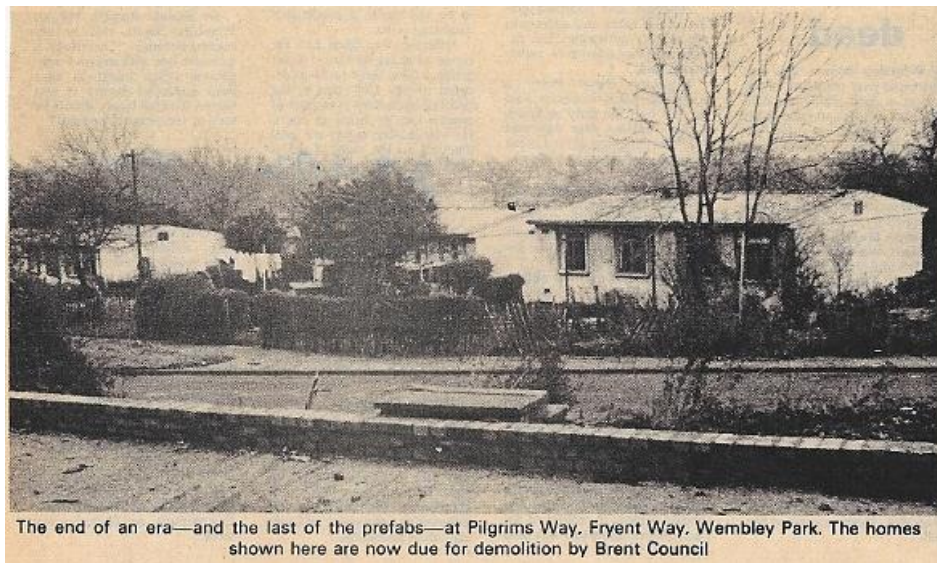
Reports on Pilgrims Way, the last of Wembley's prefab estates, in 1965 and 1972:-



**< The beginning of the end, “Wembley Observer”,
26 November 1965.**



‘Only a few remain’, “Wembley Observer”, 7 January 1972 >



< ‘The end of an era’, “The Wembley News”, 28 January 1972.