



Herbert (Bert) Alfred Hurlstone

5 Park Grove

Sydney's older brother Herbert, born 1893, was an apprentice to a manufacturing chemist when he was 17 according to the 1911 census.

We cannot find any evidence that he served in the armed forces. He may have applied to a Military Service Tribunal to claim that his position should be "Protected" and that he was of more use remaining within the civilian workplace. Certain occupations were protected from military service – these included train drivers, ship builders, farmers and clergy.

We have a letter from another local soldier – Thomas Moreton Cooper of 94 Kedleston Road – written from the front in France to his family in June 1917, asking:

“How does Bert Hurlstone stand in regards military duties, is the reason of his marriage because he expects to be “called up” soon, or is he exempt through his professional calling?”

Herbert's work record suggests he served his apprenticeship with Davies Sons & Co. in Derby, then worked as an assistant at Cope & Taylor in Derby from 1912-1914.



Cope & Taylor, 3 Market Place, Derby, about 1910
(WW Winter / www.picturethepast.org.uk)

He passed his Major examination in July 1915 and became a Pharmacy demonstrator at Chelsea Polytechnic. Later in 1915 he joined John Bell & Croyden, in Wigmore Street, London and eventually he became their pharmacy manager. In 1928 he joined the London staff of Burroughs Wellcome & Co., a famous pharmacy company.

Bert married Hilda Cooper Denston in June 1917 in Derby and after the war ended they had two children, Deryk and Ruth, both born in Hendon. Sadly, Bert died in Hendon after a short illness on December 13, 1933 at the age of only 40, when Ruth was only about 10 years old.