

Herbert William Bennett



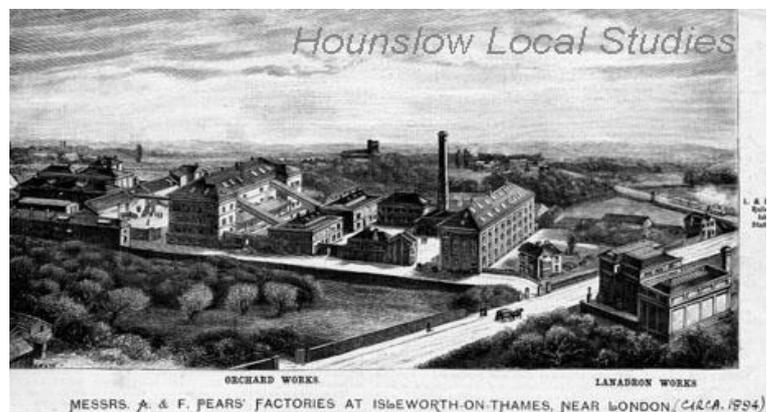
Herbert William, born in 1879 in Mile End Old Town, was the 9th of 10 children of Daniel Bennett (1832-1891), a coal maker, a labourer and then a coal weigher, born in Marylebone, who married Elizabeth Stokes, born in Terling in Essex (1834 -1910) in May 1857 in Stepney. The family lived in Mile End and then moved to Isleworth after Daniel's death, living first at 17 Linkfield Road by 1901, and then 35 Linkfield Road by 1911. See below for a photo of the house taken in 2017. In 1911, Herbert William was then the Head of the House, living with his sisters, Julia, 52, a housekeeper, who died in 1919; Emma Lydia Wood, a widow, aged 45, she had married Alfred Charles Wood in 1898 in Leytonstone, he died in 1899; Edith, aged 39, a forewoman at the Soap Works, previously a haberdasher's shopwoman in 1881, and Annie, aged 29, a packer at the Soap Works. Herbert was a tea salesman in 1901 and a farm labourer in 1911, probably at the local market gardens. Herbert's other siblings were: Charles Daniel (born 1861, an optical engineer in 1881),

Frederick David (born 1863 and a tea salesman in 1881, he married Laura Sophie Randall in 1891 and in 1901, he was a bonded warehouse keeper's clerk. He died in 1903 in West Ham); Alice Louisa (born 1868 and in domestic service in West Ham in 1891), Catherine (born 1870) and Joseph Hilton (born 1877). Edith (1872-1952) and Emma (1867-1949) continued to live locally and in the 1939 register had moved to 23 Highfield Road, Isleworth.



Left: 35 Linkfield Road, Isleworth in 2017

Below: the Pears Soap factory close to Linkfield Road, where two of his sisters are likely to have worked.



Herbert William served initially with the Essex Regiment, but is recorded in service with the South Staffordshire Regiment, First Battalion, when he died on 6th October 1917. His siblings included details of his death in the Middlesex Chronicle two weeks later, on 20th October 1917: "In fond and loving memory of our dear brother Herbert William (Bert) of the South Staffordshire, who died from shrapnel wounds in the head at 41st Casualty Clearing Station in France on 6th October. Peace, perfect peace with loved ones far away; in Jesus keeping, we are safe and they." Herbert is likely to have been involved in the Battles of Ypres and is commemorated in the Godewaersvelde British Cemetery in France, close to the 41st Casualty Clearing Station and also in St John's Church, St John's Road, Isleworth.