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SOCCER'S TOP HAMS MUST GO!

BRITAIN plays host next year to the world, competing in the birthplace of soccer for the game's greatest trophy—the World Cup.

We gave soccer to the world. When I left Egypt after Army service I asked a local friend what he would remember most about the British.

"What else," he said, "but soccer?"

There are only two gifts this nation has given to mankind for which it honestly gives thanks. The other is William Shakespeare.

England has never yet reached the last eight of the World Cup competition. If we were not exempt from qualifying rounds because we are host nation, we would have difficulty qualifying again.

The sleek footballer machines of Europe and far flung territories like Brazil will come here next year and show us a new game, merely based on what our fathers taught their father.

Arrogance

It is a game at which they are excellent, and we can only watch and wonder.

WHY?

The basic reason is the downright arrogance of British soccer administration, which still resents the fact that new nations have overhauled us as champion sportsmen.

Until 1939 we refused to take part in the World Cup, because we felt it would lower our dignity. Keeping out of world soccer before the war in this way put us back 30 years, and we failed to keep up with the way this dynamic game changed in speed and tactics. THAT WAS ARROGANCE.

We are members of the world body which controls football, but our players still play circus tricks with free kicks, and charge goalkeepers. The world body has long ago outlawed these things, and all the world understands about it, except here. THIS IS ARROGANCE.

Soccer in this country has a proud past. It was moulded in great traditions, but what has happened now is that these very causes of our greatness are strangling the game's standing and prosperity.

Soccer was devised and fostered by amateurs. Professional footballers were brought in almost as hired labourers.

Whereas the rest of the world recognises that soccer must now be managed by hard-headed professionals, we STILL have amateurs at the centre of control. The Football Association is run by men who are no doubt well meaning, but still think of the game they love as some kind of intense hobby.

And in the Football League, the people who hold sway from the directors' rooms of our great clubs are not footballers, but toffee makers, stockbrokers, tradesmen, comedians and butchers.

Uproar

A real professional like George Edwards, a Welsh international, recently had to apply for special permission to be a representative on the Welsh F.A.

When Coventry's Jimmy Hill, another pro., was sent by his club to represent them at a Football League meeting, there was uproar. Most outspoken critic of having professionals anywhere near the centre of things was butcher Bob Lord, of Burnley.

Annually the general committee of the Football League reject recommendations for the im-



Ramsay: safe?

provement of the standing of the game. Bonus point for goals; four up and four down in the league contest—sensible moves to cut out defensive football—are turned down by amateurs whose main anxiety is to retain the status quo.

This year they have acceded on the question of substitutes. I forecast that this move will be judged to have failed at the end of the season.

It has been introduced in such a slipshod way that the observer is entitled to ask whether the Football League general committee really WANT it to succeed!

Successful operation of the substitute rule is simply a matter of enforcing a 10 minute break between a player going off and a substitute coming on. It only requires thought to work it out.

As things stand, it will take Alf Ramsay the whole of his time to stay in control of England's team by the time the World Cup is played. If 600 professional managers must go at the whim of the local socialites who sit on club boards, how safe must even he feel in the employ of the Football Association?

Nearly so many managers have been dismissed from the services of football clubs since the last war.

I am convinced that the doldrums in which British soccer finds itself is more to do with the behaviour and pronouncements of amateur directors like Lord and Tommy Trinder, of Fulham, than with the alleged misconduct of players.

The chairman of the Football Association, Joe Mears, is another amateur who recently found himself in a very embarrassing position over the "payments to amateurs" dispute because he is also chairman of Chelsea F.C.

THE DAY OF THE AMATEUR IN PROFESSIONAL SOCCER IS OVER. THE DIRECTORS' ROOM BUMBLERS MUST GET OUT AND STAY OUT.

There are, of course, many good men in football club board rooms. But the system encourages the emergence of men who have nothing worthwhile to give to the game.

WHATEVER THEIR GOOD REASONS FOR WANTING TO BE IN FOOTBALL MANAGEMENT, THEY MUST HAVE THE SENSE TO SEE THAT IN THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE 1966 WORLD CUP, THEIR OCCUPATION OF SEATS OF POWER IN THE WORLD'S GREATEST SPECTATOR SPORT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

Ernest Adkins takes over page one with a plea to save the nation's greatest game



Joe Mears, of Chelsea



Tommy Trinder, of Fulham



Bob Lord, of Burnley



Comment

The size of a football

AT any rate on Saturdays, the cheerfulness of the average Englishman has something to do with the result of football matches.

If we have seen our favourite team take a thrashing, then we will be subdued. If we have watched them rise to heights of skill and effort in victory then we are elated.

Even the millions who stay away from the game take careful note of the results afterwards, and are affected by them. All round the world men from Carlisle, Plymouth, Newcastle, Cardiff and Stockport follow the fortunes of their teams with an intensity which increases with distance.

A political economist may dismiss soccer as unimportant in any report of the state of the nation. He would be wrong.

He misjudges the Englishman. He is not at heart a man who will only give of his best when his conditions for life and work are ideal. In fact the better he is paid the more aggravating an animal he is likely to be.

Not just pools

But give him something to stand in the rain about on a Saturday afternoon; show him 22 men fizzing with expertise and purpose on a football field, and you will touch a spring in him and lift his whole spirit. It isn't just the prospect of winning the pools!

There are few rules about the reasons why men will or will not live full lives. In the end it is as likely to be something to do with the quality of our beer, the health of our kids, and the state of our football, as it is to do with the affluence of our society.

THAT'S WHY THE MEN IN CHARGE OF FOOTBALL HAVE ON THEIR ANCIENT SHOULDERS A RESPONSIBILITY BIGGER THAN THEY KNOW.

METHODIST GETS TOP JOB IN NORTH WITH B.B.C.

FOR the first time, the B.B.C. has appointed a Free Churchman to be in charge of religious broadcasting in one of its English regions. He is the Rev. R. A. Short, a Methodist, who is to be the new religious broadcasting organiser in the North.

Previously religious broadcasting organisers in England have always been Anglican priests. Mr. Short, who is a religious broadcasting assistant with the B.B.C. in the North,

succeeds the Rev. Peter Hamilton, who has resigned after 12 years with the religious department.

The appointment is part of the B.B.C.'s new religious policy. Mr. Kenneth Lamb, the present head of religious broadcasting, is the first layman to hold the position. Open competition for senior posts is obviously part of his less rigid approach to denominational affairs.

Mr. Short, who is 39, said: "The Church's main task is to

be in the world and to deal with it, and to think that you can do this any more denominationally is an anachronism."

Before joining the B.B.C. in 1961 he was minister of Elvet Methodist Church, Durham, and chaplain to Methodist students at Durham University. He used to take night school classes for prisoners at Durham Prison. He trained as an architect at Liverpool University before entering the Methodist Church.

GIVERS OF PERU EXCEL THEMSELVES

A REMARKABLE advance in Christian Stewardship is recorded in the annual report of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Lima, in the Anglican diocese of Chile, Bolivia and Peru.

The congregation of this Anglo-American chaplaincy consists of no more than 250 communicant members, but during

the past year their direct giving and offertories increased by £1,330, and as well as being entirely self-supporting they raised £3,430 for outside Christian work of various kinds.

Among different fields of parochial expenditure a medical and dental service was maintained in one of the worst slums of Lima, two full-time Peruvian

welfare workers were employed, classes were held in literacy, sewing and domestic science, and contributions were made to diocesan funds and towards the furnishing of the Bishop's residence.

The congregation also gave £440 to the wider work of the Anglican Church outside South America.

Veg. and fruit is the right diet

DEAR SIR.—In connection with your report last month of Dr. Woodard's address on the subject of faith healing, may I say what I believe is the cause of a lot of our modern troubles?

It is simply that we all tend to eat too much of the wrong food. For the last few years I have been a vegetarian; that is I eat only vegetable produce and fruit, and have cut out meat, fish and fowl. It is my conviction that this is the diet mankind is supposed to follow, and I do feel a world better for it.

It is a scientific fact that we use far too much water and land for rearing cattle for beef, and that we could make a far more economic use of natural resources if we used these resources for producing vegetables and fruit.

Scientists in India are beginning to see that this is perhaps the only way of solving that great land's hunger problems. There are two reasons why they don't forbid meat eating: the meat packing industry is very influential, and doctors have the odd prejudice that meat is the only effective source of protein.

Eventually, however, we must see that meat for food is poisonous to the human system, and its consumption is a mere physical stimulant.

VEGETARIAN,

Somerset.

Catching Religion

Dear Sir, It was very good to read your comment for September. For years I have been saying that the real value of school is nothing to do with what is taught, but what is caught.

It is nothing less than the truth to declare that religious education depends more on the quality of the people who teach it than the material they teach.

Congratulations on the wisest words I have read on this controversial subject for a long time from John Duncan, too.

HENRY COBBAM

Bristol

His servants hate him

Dear Sir, I pick up my pen in a rage. Two bodies of public servants have me almost sick with anger this morning.

The Post Office for many reasons—but chiefly for failing to operate on Bank Holiday and thus delaying a most important piece of domestic information.

And my bank—for refusing to accept a request that they should keep one counter-hand free from the long job of handling business payers-in, for people like me who merely want a quick fiver out.

Why do my servants hate me so?

FURIOUS

Kent.

Letters

THE DISEASE OF ROAD ACCIDENTS

SIR,—Your recent comment on the causes of road accidents, seemed to me emotional and exaggerated. Modern inventions, such as the car, if abused, can have terrifying results, but they are here to stay. The car is an example of one which has vastly extended our powers while requiring little physical effort.

The moral challenge, which as Christians we are very much concerned, is in how we use them. Motoring demands the learning of new skills, the adjustment to new dimensional speeds; and psychologically, recognition that one's driving personality may be expressing undesirable traits, which under social conditions are normally repressed.

It is false to suggest that the car is used merely for selfish pleasure. It has given freedom, undreamed of a century ago, to people of modest means; an aid to their work, their education and to necessary recreation. It is all the more terrible that, as a famous surgeon has said, road accidents are "a man-made disease" accounting for more deaths of men of 17-40 than any other.

Despair

Undoubtedly your article was aimed at rousing us from a quite extraordinary apathy; but one of the causes of this apathy may be a sense of helpless despair that nothing can be done.

On the contrary, much has been done. Taken per car on the road we have halved casualties over the last 20 years. We cannot be complacent about this.

I would suggest that, as individual motorists, we try to increase our skills in driving, to be aware of psychological factors which impair our skill, powerful emotions such as anger, aggression, anxiety and fear; factors which slow down our reactions, fatigue, age, alcohol and drugs. We can be responsible about training our children; first road - drill, secondly as cyclists, thirdly to

see that they have first-class instruction in driving, and sound vehicles; and encourage them to take pride in their skill and courtesy as drivers.

Secondly, we need to help to develop informed and responsible public opinion. Here, your paper might help, if you feel this matter is a moral issue, as I do. We need accurate facts and informed opinion from psychologists, driving instructors, police and car manufacturers. Some manufacturers are awakening to the need to design safe cars which will minimise the effects of accidents. Some research is being done. We can encourage this by publicising good work being done, and being prepared to demand, and pay for, better standards of safety in design.

A moment

It might be helpful to discuss how we treat driving offenders. Most cases are not so much the sadistic monsters your article suggests, but people like ourselves, appalled to find a moment's carelessness, inattention, fatigue or irritation, or an ill-considered judgment, has caused injury or death. Apart from flagrant cases of criminal selfishness or disregard for law, more driving education and tighter medical checks, particularly to the inexperienced, or those of advancing age may be more helpful.

We must learn to be aware of the causes of accidents, self critical of our driving personalities, always anxious to increase our skills; choose our cars for safe design, and have them regularly serviced and checked.

Yours truly,

BETTY GEORGE,
Mapledurham
Reading.

RELIGION TAKES TOO MUCH TIME

DEAR SIR,—for what it is worth, my view is that religious education in schools does a great deal of harm to young minds, and it ought to be discontinued.

The teaching of religious views is not the business of the state, whatever religious views you care to mention. School time is precious enough, as I know from my experience as a teacher, and there are a dozen and one subjects I believe ought to be included in the syllabus if there was enough time. The

trouble is that we haven't got time because of the traditional periods which have to be set aside for worship and religious lessons.

True religion, as you rightly say, should pervade the whole school, and if a teacher hasn't conveyed a spirit of reverence and humility in her lessons about history and geography, then no amount of time for scripture will help her get it over.

TEACHER,

Huddersfield.

VARICOSE ULCERS & ECZEMA

Is your leg painful with wounds or ulcers which do not heal?
Is your leg raw, sore, inflamed and burning?
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FOR OVER 50 YEARS TREMOL HAS BROUGHT SUCH RELIEF TO SUFFERERS AND EARNED THEIR GRATITUDE AND PRAISE. THEIR EXPERIENCE SHOULD BE YOUR GUIDE.

Think what it means to you to be free from leg trouble and to walk in comfort. You will do your housework with ease and your shopping becomes a pleasure. No embarrassing anxiety when you are at work or with your friends. Banish your leg trouble and you can take part with your friends in sports, recreation and social life. You can share the freedom and happiness of holidays. A new life is opened out to you.

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SAVED WIFE—NOW HIS KIDNEY MACHINES HELP OTHERS

A MAN whose wife's life was saved by an artificial kidney machine which he made for her is spending all his spare time building cut price kidney machines for British hospitals.

He is 37-year-old Mr. Ronald Heppell, of Collins Meadow, Harlow, Essex.

He says: "I owe her life to the experts who made it possible for me to build the machine which saved her."

"Now I want to repay the debt by helping some of the hundreds of British people who cannot get treatment yet because of the shortage of machines."

Mr. Heppell has had one of his machines tested by the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where his 35-year-old wife Olga had treatment after a kidney removal. Now the hospital has ordered four more from him.

Testing

And Fulham Hospital, London, which has been testing another of Mr. Heppell's machines, has ordered two more from him. Yet another is being used at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead.

Mr. Heppell, a jig-boring machine operator, built Britain's first home kidney machine for his wife last November. It was paid for by public subscription.

Now he is the first man in Britain to build similar machines for hospitals which have had to import them from America.

He spends five to six hours every evening in his little workshop—and can turn out a complete unit for £1,150, compared with more than £2,000 paid for an American equivalent.

A spokesman at Fulham hospital says: "We have used Mr. Heppell's kidney machine for several months and find it completely satisfactory."

"The only difference between his and the American machines is that his price is still much lower, although the Americans have reduced their price by 800 dollars

Surgeons praise part-time technician

since Mr. Heppell began making his machines.

"But I understand that he is to cut his price even more as soon as he finds a simpler way of producing the machines."

Mrs. Heppell will have to use the "home help" kidney machine which her husband built for her for life.

She says: "I never dreamed that Ron would be capable of turning out such a scientific machine. It was made possible by the doctors who designed it."

"Now Ron is repaying them for saving my life. I only hope many other people will benefit in the same way as me."

Population nicety

Out of deference to religious views, the United Nations has decided not to push birth control policies. But it will respond to requests from any country.

M. Phillippe de Seynes, Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, made the U.N. line clear to 700 delegates at a world population conference in Belgrade.

LANDLORD PASSES ON DOLLS OF THE WORLD

THE landlord of the 200-year-old Bakers' Arms at Winchester, bearded Frank Major, has become a real life Father Christmas all the year round. For Mr. Major is helping to bring happiness to the disabled children at a home at Twyford, near Winchester.

He and his wife, Marjorie, have collected more than 100 dolls from all over the world and have given them to the children's home.

Servicemen and merchant seamen who frequent the pub offered to bring something back whenever they went abroad.

In spite . . .

An exhibition of work made by blind and handicapped people in Waltham Forest is planned for November.

"My husband had a collection of guns," explained Mrs. Major. "So I decided to collect dolls. When a customer asked me what I wanted him to bring back, I would tell him to bring a doll."

The dolls have been brought back by customers from China, Japan and Africa apart from European countries.

Mr. Major, a former chef at the Press Club in London, added: "Each year we give the Round Table about £40 collected from the fruit machine."



Faith pedlar Dave will open Christian night spot

MR. DAVE EASTWOOD, a Birkenhead garage proprietor, is to give up his business to become resident manager of Manchester's first Christian coffee club.

The club, "The Catacombs," opens on October 24 in converted cellars, beneath a city centre warehouse in direct competition with other late night commercial clubs.

Mr. Eastwood, who is 26, married, with two young daughters, has been chosen by a group of Manchester businessmen sponsoring the club to lead what they call this new "religious encounter with a city's night life." He will be paid £20 a week.

Thousands

The club's opening on a full-time basis—earlier weekend trial runs have attracted thousands of young people—will coincide with a new campaign to control the activities of some of the city's many other coffee clubs.

Mr. Eastwood clearly has the talents to make an impact on the catacomb dwellers. To hesitant supporters he offers orthodoxy: he is a Methodist local preacher; does not smoke or drink; evangelical, and certainly ecumenical.

To those demanding new methods, impressive initiative, he has been an advertising artist, salesman, Y.M.C.A. staff

A seat in the stand

Old age pensioners have been offered the chance of free seats in the grandstand for home matches of Luton Town Football Club.

Vesper, a voluntary organisation which does welfare work for old people in the area, has bought 20 season tickets and has invited applications from pensioner fans who would like to make use of them.

Each week during the coming season 20 names will be drawn out of a hat to decide who shall have the free seats.

worker, semi-skilled factory hand, production manager and boasts an intimate knowledge of Merseyside's clubland and its rhythm groups.

Pop music

He has no preconceived glamorous impression about "The Catacombs." Popular music by itself will not start a revival, but he intends to use such amateur gospel rhythm groups as the Witnesses, the Crossbeats, and the Gospel Four. He wants Jesus to be discussed as freely as the Beatles.

The club, which will be staffed from a rota of about a hundred young people, will have religious talks on three nights. It may run its own employment exchange to help and encourage unemployed teenage tramps to find work.

"The Guardian."



Dave Eastwood
Methodist Recorder picture.

MR. SUCCESS!

Mr. Ronald Gregory, aged 51, of Terrace Road, Tideswell, Derbyshire, a bedridden invalid for 23 years, has passed G.C.E. "A" level in advanced mathematics (pure mathematics and theoretical mechanics).

Three years ago he took G.C.E. "O" level in physics, English and mathematics.

Mr. Gregory, who has to lie flat on his back, formerly worked as an engineer. His ambition is that "eventually I shall be given examination papers to mark myself."

The Vicar of Tideswell, the Rev. D. Rice, invigilated.

Children should be . . .

A feature of Gravesend's 120-year-old Emmanuel Baptist Church, which is to be reconstructed at a cost of £6,000, will be a sound proofed room on one side of the vestibule. It will be equipped with a loud speaker and double glazed observation windows so that mothers with young babies may hear the service without their children distracting the rest of the congregation.

Mums' course

Mothers who want a break from housework to study shorthand and typing at a college of further education will be able to take their babies with them. A creche is being provided as encouragement at the Dacorum College at Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

"DEAR SAILOR— THANKS FOR THE PADDLE"

DOZENS of "thank you" letters from children staying at a convalescent home in Bournemouth decorate the crew quarters on board the luxury liner Northern Star, now sailing on another voyage to Australia.

When they departed from Southampton the crew left behind a £450 present for the youngsters of House Beautiful — the only home in the country run by the National Sunday School Union.

The sailors of the Northern Star "adopted" the children when the ship was commissioned three years ago. Since then they have saved £650 to provide extras for the children.

They were ashore between voyages just long enough to see the opening of their latest gift, a £450 paddling pool built in the grounds of the home which accommodates 50 children at a time and deals with some 400 four to 12-year-olds a year.

Letters from the children were still being sent as the liner left for Australia. Many of them began simply: "Dear sailor . . ." Other youngsters sent the crew crayoned drawings of the pool.

Special

Before the paddling pool project was launched, the sailors had sent four tricycles, two bicycles, dolls' prams and train sets to the home and provided £140 for an extension to the playground.

"We wanted to give the children something special and then the matron came up with the idea of a paddling pool," said chief radio officer Robin REID. "Everyone on board saved hard to reach the target."

The matron, Miss May THORNTON, added: "We were all thrilled about the pool. The sailors have been wonderful to the children."

Country life

A "farmyard corner" is to be set up in the new town for Londoners at Houghton Regis, near Luton, in an attempt to help children fit more easily into country life.

Under the guidance of Mr. Glyn Ball, of Hillborough Primary School, Houghton Regis, a corner of the school grounds will be used to keep chickens, pigs and goats. A calf is also to be bought, but it may have to be housed on a local farm instead of the school premises.

The children will feed and look after the animals as part of their normal school course.

Science aids aged

Radio will be used by residents of an old folk's home being opened at Wilmington, near Dartford, Kent, to summon staff. Attendants will carry receivers. A spokesman for the county council, which built the home at a cost of £100,000 said the system meant staff could receive a signal from any part of the premises.

Changeover - 1

LEGISLATION alone will not affect that change in men's hearts and minds which will lead to real community living. The Christian believes that the answer lies in what the New Testament calls repentance, in the redemption which Christ brings and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Only when men are so reorientated that God comes first, others next, and self last, can the basis be laid for a community worthy of that name.

—Dr. Donald Coggan, Archbishop of York.

Changeover - 2

THE Government should accept that it cannot change the nation's social habits.

—Daily Express.

Not again?

I AM absolutely convinced that there is every reason why this country should be one of the greatest countries of the world once again and there is no reason why we should hang our heads."

—Mr. James Callaghan, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Cannons to right . . .

THE attitude of many British workmen is that of almost complete indifference to his work, his rate of production, and often to the quality as well . . . I do not think he realises the responsibility he has for the national interest.

—Lord Thomson, the newspaper owner.

. . . Cannons to left

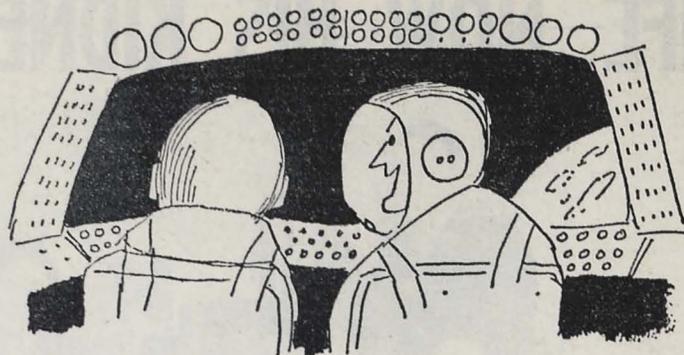
MANAGEMENT is too often not professional, not efficient, and reluctant to be stirred out of a peaceful quiet existence, not anxious to change because change means new problems, new risks, new worries . . . It is not difficult for slothful management in an entrenched position pretty well to maintain profits, without all the problems which arise from the necessity to change to more efficient production, selling in new markets, and promoting new marketing techniques.

—Lord Thomson, the newspaper owner.

Bugs know best

THE electro-mechanical processes utilised by a hopping flea or a buzzing mosquito are still immeasurably ahead of any modern power contrivance in the range of human inventors.

—Professor Arthur Ubbelohde, of the Chemical Engineering and Technology Departments of Imperial College, London.



chatstarters

Being recent quotes which are not necessarily Christian News views, but which could start useful discussions.

Extravagant

THERE is after all only one TV serial, whether it is called Compact, Coronation Street or Emergency—Ward 10, and to change the actors and furniture—which is all a new serial amounts to—is an unnecessary extravagance.

—Peter Black, "Daily Mail"

Going soft?

SINCE medical care has been largely free, many individuals have forgotten commonsense, self-help or spiritual help for minor maladies or personal problems.

—Conservative research group study of general medical practice.

Mr. Confidence

WE know where we are going. We are going to have independence on the 1961 constitution. We believe this is imminent in the near future and nothing will stop us.

—Mr. Ian Smith, Rhodesian Prime Minister.

THE PUSHERS

GREAT technological advances are made not necessarily by those with profound insight into the secrets of nature, but by those with alert, enterprising, ingenious but quite unacademic minds.

—Sir Cyril Hinshelwood, President, British Association for the Advancement of Science.

DRINK/DRIVE MOCKERY

AS one travels round the countryside one can see car parks being built and extended in order to increase the facilities for the motorist to drink. This makes a mockery of the slogan "If you drink, don't drive."

—Mr. G. Griffiths, High Chief Ruler of the Independent Order of Rechabites.

Surely he's not quitting?

DO you think television is going to stay important? I can see it becoming just part of the wallpaper in five years' time. The best thing that could happen to it would be to reduce the hours to three hours programming a night.

—Richard Dimbleby, quoted in the "Daily Mail."

WELL FED AND FED UP

THE history of revolution shows that when conditions get better people become more openly dissatisfied.

—Dr. Seymour Levantrian, sociologist at Pennsylvania University.

BOGY GOD

MANY professing agnostics are nearer belief in the true God than many conventional churchgoers, who believe in a boggy that does not exist, whom they miscall God.

—Dr. Leslie Weatherhead, former president of the Methodist Conference, in a new book, "The Christian Agnostic."

Fortissimo 0 0

I FEAR that in this age we are getting everything louder and louder. As musicians, we watch with interest, and sometimes with trepidation, the electronic influence, because unfortunately it seems so often that electronics are there to make everything louder. The human voice used to be considered a pleasant thing on its own, but the microphone has made it possible for poor singers to hold the attention of the audience.

—Sir Malcolm Sargent.

ONE OF THE BOYS

FOR Plato was a social and intellectual snob rolled into one, a combination irresistible to the English.

—Mr. J. C. Dancy, Master of Marlborough College.

PRIORITIES

WHEREAS £60 a year is now being spent per child in white South African schools, the corresponding figure for Bantu schools is £6 10s.—actually £2 less than in 1954.

—Sir Edward Boyle, former Minister for Education and Science.

Work it out . . .

TO be dental officer to 45,000 Malayan aborigines is a daunting prospect: 1,440 million teeth hardly bear thinking about.

—London letter, "The Guardian."

Creative

PLUMBING is an essential part of creative activity; worthy of the highest intellectual effort.

—John Wren-Lewis, a scientist.

A WOMAN'S DESERT HUNCH MEANS NEW LIFE FOR HOMELESS

by Geoffrey Murray

IT all began because Winifred Coate, a retired teacher who formerly worked in Jordan for the Church Missionary Society, held fast to her hunch that there was water in a desert which the experts were certain was entirely dry.

The site she had settled on was completely barren, with not a tree or a blade of grass in sight. Yet Winifred Coate was convinced that it could be made fertile through irrigation from water in the locality. What made her so sure that water was present was the ruin of an ancient castle in the neighbourhood.

The former school-mistress argued that no one would have built a fort there unless water was available because otherwise it could not have been defended.

To Winifred Coate this was not an academic question. For a long time she had been helping Jordanians, including Bedouin, Palestinian refugees, and former Trans-Jordanians to find work.

This activity had taken her out of teaching and had be-

come her whole-time concern. She was particularly troubled by the difficulty of putting would-be farmers to work in a country where fertile land is not easy to find, and so she had conceived the idea of farming the desert by means of a village settlement and co-operative.

Curious

But to farm the desert requires water—much water. That was why she was so curious about the old, ruined fort in the midst of a wilderness. But all the experts she consulted assured her that to search for water in that locality would be a hopeless task.

So Winifred Coate called in a water diviner, himself a refugee from Palestine. They tramped together over the arid ground. Suddenly his divining rod plunged downwards. It was a

sign that water was present. As they walked on, it became clear, if the rod was to be trusted, that here there was abundant water.

Trial borings were made. Water was tapped, and this was found, when analysed, to be exceptionally pure. And so the Abdelyeh Village Project, as it has come to be called, was born.

Even now, after four years' work, it is still at the beginning stages, but with support that is being given by members of the World Council of Churches through the Division of Inter-Church Aid, Refugee, and World Service, there are real prospects that soon it will be supporting 150 families who will be given the title deeds to their houses and smallholdings.

Already, wells have been dug, pumps installed, reservoirs built, and irrigation pipes laid over the desert site. The land has been cleared of stones and

the plots laid out. Trees, mainly olives, have been planted and the first nine Jordanian families to settle have begun to raise vegetables. Even a dairy has been built on the most modern lines and stocked with 17 cows and two bulls bought in Holland as part of a gift from the British Council of Churches. Other donations have been received from New Zealand, OXFAM, and Save the Children Fund.

Personal

King Hussein of Jordan has taken personal interest in the project and visited the site when the first families moved into their new homes. About 50,000 fruit and forest trees have been planted, and the first sales of vegetables, fruit and milk have been encouraging.

Miss Coate estimates that it costs about £1,200 to settle each family. About two-thirds of this represents the cost of the house, land, tools, fertilisers, trucks and transport, free water and wages until the plot becomes productive, and the rest is for working capital for the man to handle himself. Part of the money is placed in a savings bank account in the farmer's name against emergencies.

But the outcome of this investment is that each family, which may number eight or ten members, becomes self-supporting and has an assured future. About 30 more families could be settled within this co-operative venture.

One consequence of Miss Coate's faith in her hunch is that other farming enterprises have been set up independently in this desert region because of her faith which led her to strike water.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

IT is evident that the wages-and-prices policy Mr. Brown has worked so hard for is a dead duck. As I write, news comes of a threatened strike if a wages claim is not met. A few days ago it was reported that "top professional civil servants—some earning £7,250 a year—are pressing for a massive pay rise of up to £45 a week."

The social status scramble goes on, as single-mindedly as ever. And how can it be otherwise, when so many forces in our society pitch us into the scramble? And the more we scramble, the more (nationally and very often individually) we get into debt. It is a gigantic self-contradiction, yet we do nothing about the springboards—consumer goods advertising in particular—from which we dive into it.

—John Hight, British Weekly.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE ANGLICANS
FREE CHURCHES AND ROMAN CATHOLICS
OF CAVERSHAM

First birthday

THIS NUMBER of the "Caversham Bridge" marks the beginning of our second year. I hope that we can truthfully say we are fulfilling the objects we had in mind when the paper was launched of reporting on the constructive things that happen in our community life rather than on the seamy side, and of being a visible expression of the way in which the Holy Spirit is breaking down the barriers between separated Christians.

The existence of the "Caversham Bridge" depends upon a great deal of voluntary work by many busy people, and this first birthday seems an appropriate occasion for saying thank you to those who help in the actual production of the paper and to the much larger number who carry the "Bridge" each month to over 3,000 Caversham homes.

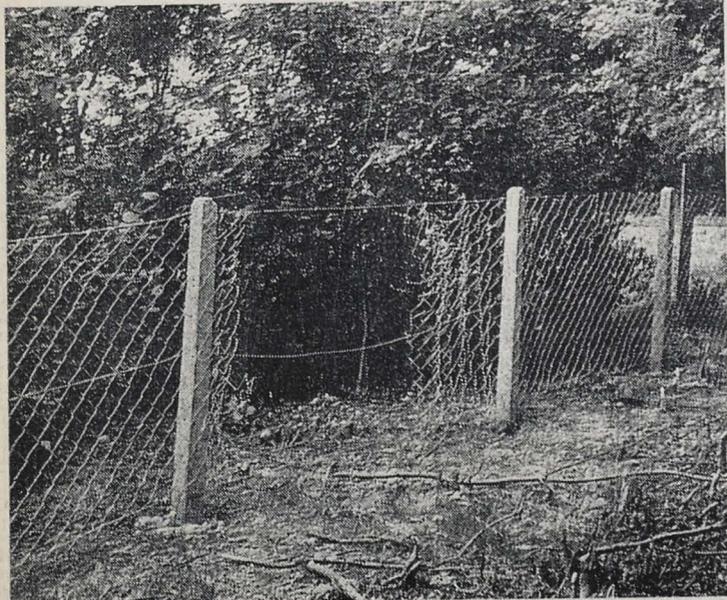
When it is realised that over 200 distributors help in this way it is inevitable that each month some will be ill or on holiday; yet the work of circulation each month has been carried out in nearly every case with commendable speed and thoroughness. No one intent on doing business in Caversham can any longer afford to ignore the "Bridge" as an advertising medium of real importance.

On another page we appeal to our readers to help with the Bridge Scheme of practical help. This is a courageous venture which all the Christian congregations of Caversham are supporting. But it can only achieve what it sets out to do if it has the practical co-operation of all our readers. Please study this feature carefully and send in your reply.

A few pessimists thought that this newspaper would never survive. Not only have we survived but we start our second year knowing that the "Caversham Bridge" is read with interest by all who have any concern for our common life in Caversham. And our aim in our second year must be to make it an even better paper.

THE "BRIDGE" HAS COME TO STAY.

John Grimdale



Birthday Message to the Caversham Bridge from Howard Green, Editor of Reading's New Daily Newspaper, The Evening Post

ON BEHALF of the staff of the EVENING POST I am delighted to send to The CAVERSHAM BRIDGE sincere congratulations on your first birthday. As an editor I am particularly happy to see that your circulation is rising and that you have a minimum readership in Caversham of 12,000: may this increase continue in the years to come. This unique experiment in ecumenism is a clear indication that a newspaper, no matter how small, can make a significant contribution to Christian life in a local community.

With such a noble aspiration as this THE CAVERSHAM BRIDGE deserves to succeed. The staff of the EVENING POST, which is particularly interested in publishing ventures within its circulation area, sincerely hopes that THE CAVERSHAM BRIDGE goes from success to success in the years to come.

Sad school holidays In Bug's Bottom

By PAUL GORIUP

THESE have been one of the saddest school holidays for the small children of the Pye built estate at the extreme end of Hemdean Road, once known as "Bug's Bottom." The woods which stretch from Grove Hill and behind Briar's Close have been used in the past—for all intents and purposes—as a pleasure ground for children of this estate, which neither the council nor the builders ever thought of providing to keep them off the roads during their free time and school holidays.

Dog owners, complying with the new by-law which prohibits the ignorant animals "to soil public places and open spaces," conscientiously took the dogs for walks in the woods in an effort not to offend public taste. But they have been poorly rewarded.

A six foot chain fence has been erected cutting off the woods from one

end to the other "to mark builders' property and to prevent vandalism in the woods," as the council's planning office puts it, although the Education Committee knows nothing of the latter.

It seems it should have been erected three years ago but for the slowness of the builders. Golden three years for the kiddies and doggies of this end of Hemdean Road!

Since the fence has been erected, they have been beaten back to play on pavements and in front of three semi-circles of houses at Valley Close, Briar's Close and Woodberry Close. Not even there are they safe from intrusion by delivery vans and cars parked in front of the houses. The frustration led to somebody cutting two huge holes into the ugly fence—probably to justify the charge of vandalism.

The council apparently means to preserve a public path along the woods from Grove Hill, erecting yet another ugly fence a few feet away from the one put up by the builders. The woods will remain cut off, however—to provide perhaps more opportunity for cutting holes and vandalism.

But if it took the builders three years to fence off their land, how long will it take the council to provide this public path? Nothing has been done yet to provide an alternative. At the moment it is a complete shut-out. By the time we get it, we shall probably use it as old age pensioners. By then our children will certainly not need it.



Two boys show how easy it is to climb the fence into the wood they used to play in.

Photo: Fred Walker

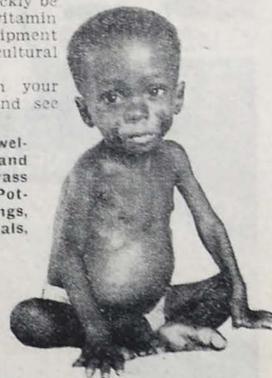
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The new six foot chain fence cutting off the woods from the Pye-built estate at "Bug's Bottom." Our photograph shows the huge hole already made by someone in the fence to give access to the woods.

Photo: Fred Walker



YOUR LETTERS COMMUNITY CHEST

Dear Editor,

Your open letter of July, and Peter Emery's reply in August both were of very great interest. You are right, Sir, in urging that the job of financing voluntary and charitable organisations must be tackled and, I think, Mr. Emery's suggestion is the perfect answer.

As is often the case with great ideas, the Chest was being independently discussed in at least three separate quarters of the town and, therefore, there must be many people who will be interested in the outcome of a meeting held on Wednesday, August 25, to discuss the possibility of setting up one in Reading.

His Worship the Mayor was in the chair, and, at a well-attended meeting representing 25 organisations, the idea was unanimously adopted. We now are moving swiftly to convene the first meeting of the Steering Committee.

The meeting realised that we must think BIG and plan BIG: that initially the Chest must be a new appeal, in addition to

what is being done already; that as it grew wealthier it might absorb the appeals of smaller groups, who eventually would possibly get double the figure they are now valiantly raising by their own efforts. All groups would retain complete autonomy.

A distinction was drawn between Reading's own groups and the Reading Branches of National appeals. Also, it was stressed that a new sports pavilion, or a new roof for the Parish Church would be the subject of a special effort by the Chest, and not a charge on its general fund.

Chests already operate in Porthcawl, Harlow and Plymouth but not, from all accounts, of the magnitude of those in U.S.A. May Reading be first on this side of the Atlantic to possess an enormous Chest in keeping with the tradition of our cousins.

R. H. GOSTAGE
182, Gosbrook Rd., Caversham
(Chairman Berks and Reading Federation of Community Groups).

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NATTERBOX...

I AM delighted to give you the results of my summer egg recipe competition. Both winners have already received their prizes.

I hope you enjoy trying out their recipes.

First prize of £1 Sainsbury's gift token goes to Mrs. H. Thomas, 12, Kidmore Road, Caversham. Here is her recipe:

Eggs with mushrooms
Melt 1½oz. butter and just colour in it 1½lb. sliced mushrooms. Then add three level dessertspoonfuls of flour, mix well together and moisten with 1 pint chicken stock. Cook gently for five minutes and then add three dessertspoonfuls cream seasoned with salt, pepper and chopped parsley. Pour into a shallow fireproof dish then break in five eggs, evenly spaced out, sprinkle each with salt and pepper and a small teaspoonful of grated cheese. Bake in a hot oven for about five minutes.

I also asked for two recipes to use whites and yolks of eggs separately. Second prize of 10s. Sainsbury's gift token goes to Mrs. D. H. Vincent, 12, Albert Road, Caversham.

To use the yolks: **Butterscotch Tart**

Brown tablespoonful butter in a pan. Stir in 1 breakfast-cupful brown sugar, and then tablespoonful flour. Remove from heat and add breakfast-cupful and a half of milk, and well beaten yolk of two eggs. Return to heat and stir until it thickens. Pour into lightly baked pastry cases and return to moderate oven to brown. To use the whites: **Banana Cream**
Two or three bananas.
1 pint yoghurt.
Two tablespoonfuls cream.
One dessertspoonful sugar.
Two egg whites.

Mash the bananas and mix well with yoghurt, cream and sugar. Whip egg whites until stiff, fold into the mixture. Serve in glasses.

As a postscript—I am very pleased to hear that the multiple stores in Reading have been given permission to open six days a week (with five day working for staff) I understand that Marks and Spencer have already taken advantage of this. It is obviously the right step forward. I hope my little campaign on these pages has helped and that other stores, especially the large ones, will follow suit.

KATIE RUSSELL.

Drop us a line

Everyone turns to the correspondence columns in a newspaper.

We welcome letters from readers either about the contents of the "Bridge" or about aspects of Caversham life. Send them to the Editor at Caversham Rectory, Reading.

AROUND CAVERSHAM

Our sincere congratulations to MRS. SLADE, of Donkin Hill on reaching her 90th birthday. She will be well known to many members of St. John's, who may like to know that she still plays the piano, even though she cannot get along to play the organ. When I called she was busy answering some of the many cards and letters she received last Wednesday.

ARTHUR EMMONS, Cubmaster, who lives in Woodcote Way, has just come back from his 50th Cub camp. Starting at the age of nine, he has remained with the 22nd Reading, Caversham St. John Pack and is doing valuable work. He and his wife feel that their Cub camps are appreciated both by the boys and their parents and, despite the enormous amount of work involved, get tremendous satisfaction out of their efforts. We look forward to hearing more of Mr. Emmons' activities in the future.

Another champion for Caversham—MR. W. J. HORNE, of Mayfield Drive, is the bowling champion of Berkshire, a county with no mean achievements in this field. He also reached the semi-finals of the All-England championships, and we certainly wish him every success in this field in the future.

We are proud of our young people in Caversham, and wish every success to ELIZABETH (ANGUS) JEFFERY, of Highmoor Road, who is off to Nigeria with the Voluntary Service Overseas, to teach for a year under the auspices of the British Council in Ibadan. When she returns she will be going to the Royal Free Hospital as a medical student. In all this we wish her every success and look forward to having a full report from her when she returns from Nigeria.

CHRISTOPHER COX is another of our young people who is leaving Caversham shortly to take up an appointment in Newcastle as a Journalist with one of the Thompson newspapers, "The Journal." It is a pity we cannot keep him on the staff of "The Bridge," but we hope he will let us have contributions when he has time. We shall follow Christopher's career with interest and look forward to the day when we shall see his name in the national dailies.

Among the national prizewinners in the 1965 Scripture examination organised by the National Sunday School Union is Judith Miller, aged 11, of the Baptist Sunday School, Judith, who is the daughter of Mr.

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and Mrs. Bernard Miller, 20, Highdown Hill Road, Emmer Green, was placed third in her age group.

From a long list of school leavers, many with successful "A" level results behind them, we pick a few names and tell you where they are off to:

Mary Cunningham, 94, Mayfield Drive, goes to Ealing Technical College for a language and secretarial course; David Cropp, of 39, Blenheim Road, to Birmingham University; Jill Moore, 52, Highmoor

Road, to the Guildhall School of Music, and her sister, Jenny, to the Froebel Institute at Roehampton; David Ormrod, 74, Albert Road, to New College, Oxford (via a V.S.O. camp in Greece); Cheryl Allies, 6, Woodcote Road, to Dudley Training College; Susan Pilgrim, 64, Highmoor Road, to Southlands Training College, Wimbledon, and Christine Morris, 125, Hemden Road, to Huddersfield Training College. Avril Carter, of 27, Kidmore End Road, goes to St. Gabriel's Training College, London; Janet Dicker, of 15, Woodcote Road, is to study Social Sciences at Nottingham University.

We hope that all these, and the many others we have no room to name, will gain full benefit and enjoyment from their college days.

ROUND THE CLUBS

MAPLEDURHAM YOUNG WIVES' GROUP will meet on Thursday, October 7 at 7.45 p.m. at the Memorial Hall. Miss D. Grange, Health Visitor for Health Education will explain the cervical smear screen test for cancer of the uterus. Anyone who is interested is warmly invited to this meeting.

CAVERSHAM AFTER-NOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD has been pleased to send its second donation this year to the Reading Samaritans. A sum of 18 guineas has been forwarded as the result of a cheese and

wine party recently held at 52, Highmoor Road.

At the next meeting of the Guild at Church House at 2.15 p.m. on October 21, Mr. Bernard Ross will give an account of a 12,000 miles journey across Australia.

New members are always welcome. Please phone Reading 71019.

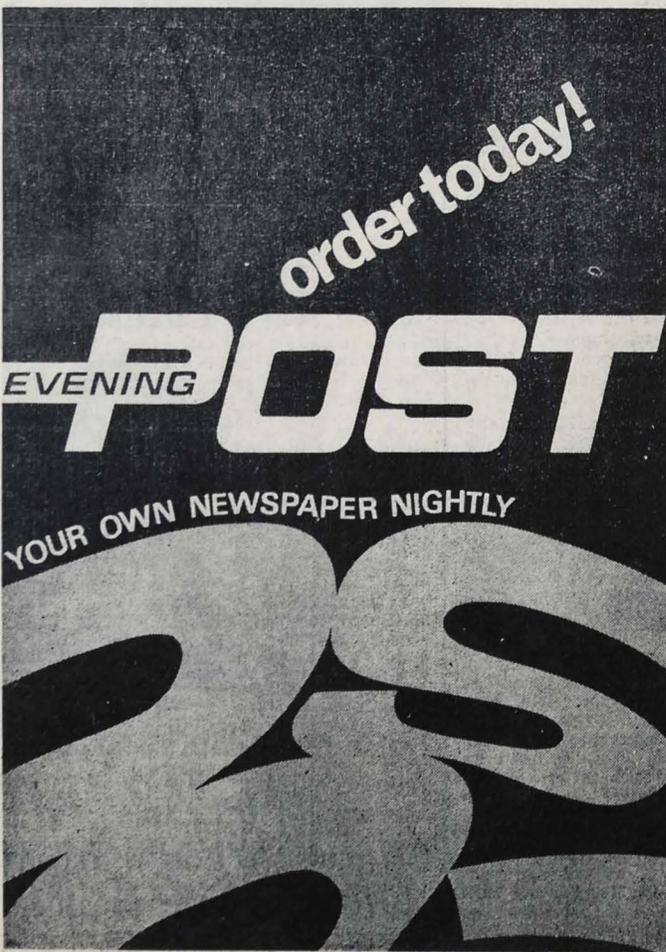
The next meeting of the MAPLEWOOD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE will be held in St. Andrew's Hall on October 19 at 2.30 p.m. The speaker, Mrs. B. Wilson, will remind us that Christmas is not far

away by demonstrating Christmas decorations.

The competition, homemade Christmas crackers, calls for initiative, so do bring one along to help make a show.

The Jubilee Scrapbook still needs your cuttings, photographs, or a holiday postcard, and if you have painted a room lately or made curtains, then bring a card with colours on it, or a snippet of your new material.

Enquiries should be made to: Mrs. Louise Crowder (Press Representative), "Canadel," Upper Warren Avenue, Caversham. Tel. 73460.



order today!

EVENING POST

YOUR OWN NEWSPAPER NIGHTLY

The CAVERSHAM BRIDGE has now been in existence a year. It is a unique venture—it is the only newspaper of its kind: a combined effort by all the churches.

It excites a good deal of interest in Caversham and Reading, and in many other parts of the country and abroad.

This illustrated page shows some of the people who produce and distribute the paper.



The Board of Directors of the Caversham Christian News Limited—the company which produces the "Caversham Bridge"—meet regularly to discuss and plan the paper. Our photo shows a board meeting in progress. Left to right: Miss E. M. F. Alderson, J.P., Mr. H. J. Pilgrim, Mr. A. J. Hindle, Mr. J. A. Hargreaves, the Rev. J. G. Grimwade (Editor), Mr. W. C. S. Harrison, Mrs. M. Clift. Also on the Board are Mr. B. Millar and Mrs. J. Mair, J.P.

Bridge builders

We have a team of over 200 voluntary distributors. They are more than just paper boys—they aim to become friendly visitors to the people on their round.

We hope that many more people will volunteer to do this job, which may become closely linked with the BRIDGE SCHEME outlined on the centre pages.

Should you wish to help please get in touch with any of the Distribution Managers or with any of the Organisers of the BRIDGE SCHEME.

Our reporter, Winnie Darter and photographer, Fred Walker, interview six people involved with the distribution of the CAVERSHAM BRIDGE to find out how worthwhile they find the job.

Circulation Manager:

Mr. W. C. S. Harrison,
Brendon House,
Westonbirt Drive.

Area Managers:

North Caversham:
Mrs. House,
62, Peppard Road.
Central Caversham:
Mr. J. C. E. Tainsh,
The Knock,
Warren Avenue.
Heights:
Mr. F. Dicker,
15, Woodcote Road.
Emmer Green:
Dr. E. Beale,
1, Brooklyn Drive,



MR. HAROLD HITCHMAN, of 153, Upper Woodcote Road, is in charge of the postal subscription section of the "Bridge." He sends out over 100 copies to various parts of the country and as far afield as France, Italy, Australia, Rhodesia and Canada, and thinks it is a splendid publication, though he says he prefers our supplement to the outer pages. This is only natural for a man who has many local interests and has, among other things, been a server for 55 years, is treasurer of the Caversham Missionary Union and of the Children's Society Appeal Committee for Reading.



MRS. ANNE BRAIN, a housewife and mother of three young children, who lives at 9, Burnham Rise, thinks the paper has made a very good start while, at the same time, has not yet a sufficiently Caversham identity to suit many of the readers. She herself considers it still too Anglican and would like more evidence of its ecumenism with articles, probably controversial, about differences of opinion, between the faiths. She would also like to see more items about Caversham places of work and its various amenities, or lack of them.



MRS. GILL BOSHIER, from 35, Wrenfield Drive, a housewife and mother of two girls, is also a telephonist but still finds time to deliver the "Bridge" on her own new estate. She finds the local population constantly changing and thinks it very necessary that they should have a friendly contact with their new surroundings.



MAJOR A. B. RODERICK, after many years in the Army has retired to the new estate in Surley Row, and finds the job of distributing our newspaper there very satisfying. He thinks the "Caversham Bridge" plays a doubly important part in a new estate like his own where the owners need to be put in touch with what is going on in the district and to make contact with the local churches. In most cases he finds himself very well received when he calls to canvass for new readers.



GEOFF MILLER, who lives at 23, Buckingham Drive, is an 18-year-old bank clerk and a member of Caversham Baptist Free Church, and delivers "Caversham Bridge" in Pembroke Place and Cawsam Gardens. He thinks the paper is one of the best of its kind and that the items in it have a sufficiently wide scope to interest anybody. He particularly likes the national and international articles which, he says, obviously appeal to the non-Christians to start with. Geoff is quite sure he could double his sales, given the opportunity.



MRS. JESSIE BLYTHE, housewife and mother of two, who lives at 152, Henley Road, and delivers the "Bridge" near her home, finds it easy to sell but would like some indication from her readers what they think about it. She thinks it an important publication because it reaches out far beyond the church to people who would not normally be interested in church magazines.

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THE BRIDGE SCHEME

- ★ The BRIDGE SCHEME is a social service to be run in Caversham and Mapledurham by volunteers.
- ★ The aim of the scheme is to promote good neighbourliness and to encourage each of us to help others. Some may need aid in sickness or emergencies, others continuing friendship.
- ★ There must be, in the area, great resources of skill, knowledge and goodwill. If these were properly directed, we think life could be made a lot easier for many people.
- ★ The organisers propose to operate an efficient system making full use of these talents and your readiness to help. They want to see that needs are met by the right people at the right time.
- ★ We do not intend to compete with the official Social Services. We hope to co-operate with them and fill in the gaps.
- ★ Anybody may join the scheme—or ask help from it. There will be no restrictions because of religious belief, race or colour.

THE NAME

This scheme was originally to be called the FISH SCHEME, which is the name of the pioneer venture at Headington, Oxford (the fish being an ancient Christian symbol).

But the name caused uncertainty and confusion, so it was decided to adopt as a new name THE BRIDGE SCHEME.

We hope this new title will be more easily understood. It may well be associated in people's minds with this newspaper, which is to sponsor the scheme. And it suggests at once one of the purposes of the whole enterprise, which is to link people together in meeting needs and in friendly co-operation.

HOW IT WORKS

- A master list of helpers showing details of what help is offered and when it is available will be kept by the Central Organiser. Duplicate copies will be kept by the area organisers for cross reference purposes.
- There will be five areas: Mapledurham; North, East, South and West Caversham.
- Requests for help may come from you directly, or from neighbours, distributors of the "Caversham Bridge," or clergy. They will go first to the Central Organiser who will allocate the job to the helper most conveniently placed.
- The scheme has already started. Several requests have already been dealt with. So far 75 helpers have volunteered. Many more people will surely want to offer their services. No helper will be called upon too frequently. Not all offers of help will be taken up immediately, but it will be of great value to know we can call upon you if necessary.
- Will you please study the illustrated questionnaire on the loose sheet opposite this page? When you have decided, fill in the form and return it to

the distributor who brings your "Caversham Bridge"

OR to any of the organisers of the scheme.

OR to your priest, pastor or minister. Their addresses can be found on this page.

MESSAGE FROM READING'S MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

MANY PEOPLE thought that the post-war welfare legislation would mean the end of voluntary work and the social services, but we now realise that although there has certainly been a change in the type of contribution which the volunteer can make, the opportunities are greater and more challenging than ever.

It appears that the more highly developed our statutory services become, paradoxically the more obvious are the gaps to be filled by volunteers. There are many community problems such as loneliness, mental disorder, physical handicap, old age, etc., where official services can become even more effective by the co-ordinated help of the volunteer worker.

I was therefore, very pleased to hear of your BRIDGE SCHEME. Even in the name you have managed to convey the essential role of good neighbours as people who are bridging the gap between those who need help and those who can give it.

A. Gatherer, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.
(As well as being Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Gatherer is Chief Welfare Officer and Principal School Medical Officer).

Message from the General Secretary of the Reading and Berkshire Council of Social Service

I HAD the privilege of observing the preparations for the Bridge Scheme and of taking part in its inauguration. I am now very pleased to have this opportunity of conveying the good wishes of the Council of Social Service for the further progress and success of the planned neighbourly service which the scheme envisages.

From a practical viewpoint it seems clear that those who join the service will wish to know about and keep in touch with the Statutory Welfare Services and those of the voluntary organisations in the same field. As I see it, unity in action will assist the service to gain in strength and usefulness and at the same time lose nothing of real value.

ELIZABETH EDGAR

Who to contact

CENTRAL ORGANISER

Mrs. K. P. Besley,
38, Priest Hill, Caversham, 72374

AREA ORGANISERS

- Dr. E. V. Beale (North Caversham),
1, Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green, 71644
- Mr. F. C. Moore (South Caversham),
52, Highmoor Road, Caversham, 72694
- Mr. K. J. Nicholls (East Caversham),
190, Henley Road, Caversham, 77405
- Mr. W. A. Vincent (West Caversham),
12, Albert Road, Caversham, 72965
- Mrs. G. Thompson (Mapledurham),
205, Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, 71328

THE CLERGY AND MINISTERS OF CAVERSHAM

ANGLICAN

Rector:

The Rev John Grimwade
Caversham Rectory. Tel.: 71703

Assistant Clergy:

- The Rev. David Clift, 25, Ilkley Road. Tel.: 72070.
- The Rev. Raymond Hutchinson (Priest-in-Charge of St. Barnabas')
St. Barnabas' House, 33, Grove Road. Tel.: 73095.
- The Rev. Roger Packer (Priest-in-Charge of St. Andrew's)
St. Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel.: 72788.
- The Rev. John Stevinson (Priest-in-Charge of St. John's)
St. John's House, 9, South View Avenue. Tel.: 71814.

BAPTIST

The Rev. L. S. Lewis, 8, Kidmore Road, Caversham
Tel.: 73633.

INDEPENDENT CONGREGATIONAL

Pastor R. J. Eccles, 119, Peppard Road, Caversham.
Tel.: 74529.

METHODIST

The Rev. E. B. Wright, 17 St. Anne's Road. Tel.: 72223.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

The Rev. W. O'Malley (Parish priest).
The Rev. E. J. Morgan (Assistant priest).
The Presbytery, 2, South View Avenue. Tel.: 71787

THE BRIDGE SCHEME

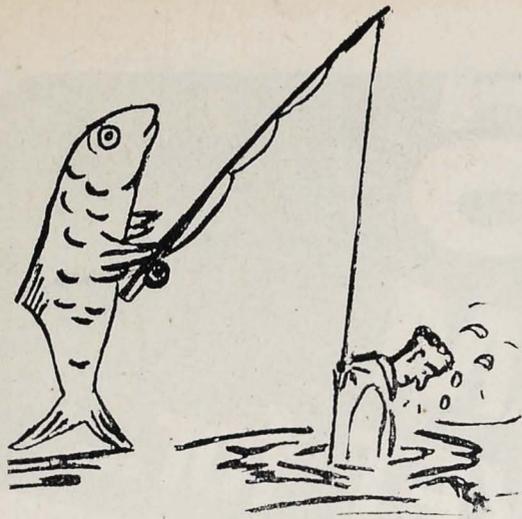
EXPLANATION

On this page are some ways in which you can take part in the BRIDGE SCHEME.

Before you start ticking the boxes please turn to the centre-page and read carefully the explanation of the scheme.

When you have decided that you would like to help, and have indicated your choice, please return this whole page to any of the people listed at the foot of the centre-page explanation. Your answers will be carefully indexed for immediate reference.

If you would like to use any of the services offered PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE to contact the organisers.



In an emergency only...

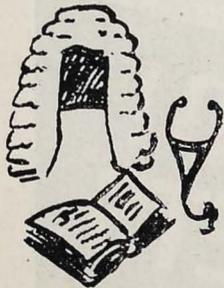


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- Deliver and collect children from school
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- Baby sit



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- I will provide transport for special outings
- or to and from church for elderly and infirm members by rota



If you have any bright ideas or suggestions to make, or would state any other ways in which you would like to help Caversham, please add them here

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CAVERSHAM'S TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

By Coun. R. H. Bristow

(Councillor for Caversham Ward)

THE EDITOR of "The Bridge" commented recently on traffic congestion in Caversham.

As I view the problem, and I must stress this is only my view, the position can only be altered by a very long term plan. But there are some ways in which we can start thinking about the problem.

The road programme already planned includes a roundabout at Peppard Road end of Caversham Park Estate. It also allows for the completion of Richfield Avenue to Caversham Bridge with traffic signals at the junction. Other road improvements include St. Peter's Hill, Henley Road (from Donkin Hill to Westfield Road) as well as the installation of traffic signals at Berrys Corner. The committee did consider installing temporary signals at this point but decided to await the acquisition of property in Church Road to allow a major scheme to be put in hand. The provision of temporary signals might possibly have delayed the main scheme and much of the cost incurred would have been abortive. But I do consider the Henley Road improvement imperative; I dread to think of mothers pushing prams along the inadequate pavement with heavy transport and Thames Valley buses thundering past.

Effective move

The first effective move to help the general situa-

tion will be the introduction of traffic order No. 7 within the next year which will control the parking in certain streets within Caversham village as well as a limited amount of one-way streets. These traffic orders are usually met with mixed feelings hence the length of time one has to await for their introduction.

Serious thought will also have to be given to the provision of car parking in Caversham, especially if the shopping facilities are to be increased.

The whole question of congestion should include public transport routes as they are so inter-related.

More bridges?

But one of the biggest problems, in my consideration is that Caversham has access to Reading by means of only two river bridges approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile apart. I would suggest the building of two more river bridges. The first at the east end of Reading

between Sonning and the mouth of the Kennet at approximately the Central Electricity Power Station. Later another bridge at The Scours to the west of the town with access to Norcot Junction and Caversham Heights.

Both of these bridges would, incidentally, fit in with the planned road from Norcot Junction to Shepherd House Hill via Richfield Avenue, Caversham, Vastern and King's Meadow Roads. The bridge from Shepherds House to Henley Road would allow easy access to Emmer Green via the Caversham Park Estate and would allow the bypass of Reading to the east and London Road.

The question we all have to answer is how much and how soon we can afford to remedy the situation caused by the tremendous increase of motor transport.



Photo: Fred Walker

NEXT MONTH

The "Caversham Bridge's" expert on road traffic problems will write

Streams of converging traffic and parked cars at the junction of Bridge Street, Church Road and Church Street provide one of the worst bottlenecks in Caversham.

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Mr. Richard Hayward, of 9, Ilkley Road, strides across Reading Bridge on his way to work — walking.

For 15 years Mr. Hayward has walked DOWN to work—at the telephone manager's office in Reading. For the last 3½ years he has walked DOWN and UP TWICE a day — he comes back for lunch as well. He estimates the daily distance as seven miles—and it only takes 10 minutes longer than going by car or bus. Why does he do it? Mainly for exercise, although he says he prefers not to take his car into Reading unless he has to—because of the traffic.

When you've read your "Caversham Bridge" pass it on to a neighbour, friend or relative.

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PARISH NEWS

St. Barnabas losing Priest-in- Charge

THE Rev. Raymond Hutchinson, priest in charge of St. Barnabas' will be leaving Caversham shortly to go north. He is to be rector of Dutor, in the diocese of Argyll and the Isles. Mr. Hutchinson will be working in a very different parish to Caversham. He will be responsible for an area which like Caversham has four churches but which although 35 miles in length has a population very much smaller than he is accustomed to here.

ST. ANNE'S Fr. Vincent Flanagan leaves

IT is with sincere sorrow that St. Anne's congregation learned of the transfer of Fr. Vincent Flanagan to Abbey Hulton.

During the three years that he worked at St. Anne's he had endeared himself to all who knew him. He was always pleasant to meet and easy to approach, always placid and understanding.

We know that it will be helpful to him in facing the trial of leaving people and place which he had come to know and appreciate and settle in a strange corner of "The Vineyard" that he will have the best wishes and prayers of everyone at St. Anne's with him.

To his successor, Fr. Eric J. Morgan, transferred from St. Edward's, Selly Park, Birmingham, we extend a warm welcome. At the same time we can assure him that he will not find it difficult to feel "at home" among the people and clergy in Caversham.

ST. JOHN'S No Small Change

ALL the members of St. John's will be visited during the next two weeks by another member of the congregation asking them to take part in No Small Change. During this six week course, they are going to try and discover what God is calling His people at St. John's to do or to become. We ask your prayers in support of this venture. We have received the following message from Mr. R. N. Fisher, Church Warden of St. John's, Reading—

"On the Wednesday evenings in Lent we of St. John's, Reading, embarked on our No Small Change study course. We soon found the methods suggested in the Study Guide interesting and worth-

TEN FUTURE PARSONS VISIT CAVERSHAM

TEN students from Lincoln Theological College are on a visit to Caversham for 10 days. The object of their visit is to learn something of the work of a large parish and to share in its activities. They are staying in different homes throughout the parish, visiting many people, and helping with this month's circulation drive for the "Caversham Bridge."

On Saturday morning, October 2, the Bishop of Reading will breakfast with them and answer their questions after first celebrating Holy Communion in the parish church. Accompanying them is the Rev. Martin Baddeley, tutor at the college.

while, and even good fun. We found these meetings most valuable in helping to make us articulate in our faith. All sorts of other ideas are buzzing around in our heads as a result; new ideas in worship and presentation of the Gospel, more chauffeurs for elderly people, special services for immigrants, road wardens, strengthening contacts with neighbouring churches. We expect the conclusions you will be led to as a result of your course will be quite different from ours but we are sure you will find the exercise as enjoyable and spiritually refreshing as we did."

WHERE NEXT? Our Scouts are either imaginatively led or else have to get as far as possible from their previous sites. Last year they camped in Scotland, this year in Cornwall, where they had a well situated camp site, two hundred yards above a small pri-

vate beach, but better still, near a friendly Girl Guide camp. They had many varied activities: they did some work for badges, in which the Seniors went on a 25-mile hike with full kit. They had a wide game and two camp fires with the Guides. They had an unimaginable day when the boys reverted to kind, cooking their meals without utensils and sleeping in home-made shelters.

They visited Truro, Penzance, Land's End, St. Ives, Falmouth to see Tinkerbell, Fowey for a firework display, and Mevagissey, while some walked 16 miles to Polperro and back. All in all there are a lot of places they can't visit next year.

ST. PETER'S

ST. PETER'S WIVES will meet on October 19 in Church House at 8 p.m. when Miss Dorothy Graham, headmistress of E.P. Collier Primary School

will be talking about new methods of teaching in infant schools. Anyone who is interested will be welcome.

SAINTS DAYS. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the following times: St. Michael's Day, Wednesday, September 29, 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. St. Luke's Day, Monday, October 18, 7.30 p.m. St. Simon and St. Jude's Day, Thursday, October 28, 9.30 a.m.

Caversham Hill Chapel

WITH summer holidays behind, we now apply ourselves to that which is before us — the autumn work in the Church. The Youth Club and the Women's Fellowship resume after the holiday suspension. Likewise the Ladies' Friendly Meetings re-start. Unlike many Sunday Schools, ours is continued without a break. The most important event in September was the Harvest Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, 26th; the special preacher was the Rev. Oliver Sainsbury, of Worthing. For the past six years it has been our custom to sell the harvest produce on the Monday evening, devoting all the proceeds to some worthy cause—usually to Oxfam. This buying of harvest produce is in fact a very sacrificial act on the part of the purchasers who pay exorbitant prices for things they seldom want, often buying back items they have already given.

(Continued on page 7)



MR. AND MRS. R. H. CUNNINGHAM, who celebrated their golden wedding on September 6, were married at St. James' Church, Clacton-on-Sea. Mr. Cunningham, who was a civil engineer before his retirement, spent most of his working life with the G.W.R. and had two years' Government railway service in Ceylon in 1928-30. He retired as resident engineer in 1952. His wife is well-known in the Mothers' Union, of which she was treasurer for nine years.

Photo: Fred Walker

PARISH NEWS

But it is a definite service for God and we are conscious of the approval of God and we are sure of His love when we recall that "the Lord loveth a cheerful giver"—this aptly describes those who participate in this. It is amazing how much is raised by so few.

This then is the Mission of the Chapel on the Hill—to preach the Gospel of God's love—for this is our commission; and also to practice the Gospel in practical methods—for this is our responsibility. And by this dual means, to extend the Kingdom of God amongst men.

Former Rector visits parish

CANON NASH, for 19 years Rector of Caversham until his retirement in 1962—will be returning for the first time to preach in his former parish church on Sunday, October 3. This day is kept as the Parish Dedication Festival. All four congregations of the parish will combine for Evensong in St. Peter's at 6.30 p.m. that night with united choirs when Canon Nash preaches.

WOMEN'S MEETINGS.

Among the various meetings this month one stands out—on October 9 at 8 p.m. the women of St. John's organisations are meeting with the St. Anne's Marian Group, and the Gosbrook Road Methodist Women's Fellowship in St. Anne's Hall for a film show given by Canon S. C. Robinson, called "Beautiful Brittany."

ST. ANDREW'S

ST. MARY'S MISSION, Ovamboland, in S.W. Africa is closely linked with St. Andrew's. This much is widely known. Recently several people have said that they would like to have more detailed knowledge of St. Mary's. On Monday evening, October 11, at 8 p.m. in the Church Hall there will be an "Ovamboland evening." This will include a new film made at the mission and one or two brief informative talks. This evening will also be combined with the Missionary Sale, held in previous years at Harvest Festival. In addition, a visiting preacher from U.S.P.G. will speak about the Church in S.W. Africa on Sunday, October 10.

The Sunday School prizegiving will take place in the Church Hall at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 24. After the prizegiving the Sunday School will present a pageant entitled "The Church's Year."

A gift of two white collection bags has been made to St. Andrew's. The district committee would like to express its thanks to the anonymous donors.



Photo: Fred Walker

M.U. at Emmer Green

THE four Caversham branches of the Mothers' Union hold a combined meeting on October 13 when Mrs. A. D. Walmsley speaks on Personal Relationship at 2.30 p.m. in St. Barnabas' Hall.

Toc H Boys' camp

AS a special effort to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Toc H movement, the local Reading and Caversham branch arranged for an indoor boys' camp to be held at Brading in the Isle of Wight in August.

Ten local boys between the ages of 10 and 13 took part, and were joined by a similar number from Cardiff. Four of the boys were from Caversham: John Coles, a member of St. Peter's Sunday School, Gary and Gerald Minge, who attend St. Anne's and Barry Hill from Harvey's Nurseries. There were also four boys from our neighbouring parish of Mapledurham, Phillip Durrant, Alan Tucker, Robert Joyce, and Kenneth Landsey. Two other boys, Alan Hiscock and James Frewin live at Whitley. The Cardiff boys were also of the same ages, and all would not have had a holiday otherwise.

The camp was led by Peter Shock and John Harris (of Edinburgh Observatory), and much assistance was given by unexpected visitors which added quite pleasant surprises to the routine of the holiday.

Miss Carol Maynard, 55, Albert Road, Caversham, and Mr. Hugh Rees Roberts, from Wales, pictured after their marriage at St. John's Church, Caversham. The Rev. H. J. H. Stevinson officiated.

Travellers' Tales

The Editor, in recent months, has received a number of accounts of overseas travels. He thanks all those who have submitted these but shortage of space makes it unlikely that such contributions can be published.

We record

BAPTISED

ST. ANDREW'S

August 15:
Mark Wise.

ST. ANNE'S

August:
Herbert Theo Geoffrey Wingate,
Lee Margaret Methbven,
Dominic Steele,
John Edward Noone,
Sean Joseph McCarvill,
Duncan Wheeler.

MARRIED

ST. PETER'S

August 7:
William Solman and Julia Moreland-Green.

August 14:
Colin Pilgrim and Cheryl Pearce.

August 28:
Alan Bateman and Linda Walker-Warren.

ST. ANDREW'S

August 14:
Colin Smith and Jacqueline Habbits.

August 21:
Colin Norris and Jennifer Wells.

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24: Mr. L. Gray.
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Rev. L. S. Lewis.
Mr. L. Harrison.
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Prizewinners at the 24th show of the Caversham Horticultural Society held at Balmore Hall on Saturday, September 4. Left to right—front row: Mr. F. R. Norrell, show secretary (Flower Cup), Dr. C. Vickery (Flower Arrangement Cup), Mr. G. Turner (Medal for gladioli), Mr. H. H. Leatherdale (Cup for fruit), Mr. J. W. May (chairman), Mrs. P. Gale (Cup for miniature flower arrangement), Mrs. S. Turner (Vegetable Cup). Back row: Mr. L. G. Cropp (Medal for flowers), Mr. L. F. Booker (president).

Photo: Fred Walker

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Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death.



by Denis Rice, our Roman Catholic writer

OCTOBER is one of two months specially set aside in the R.C. calendar for honour of the Virgin Mary. Appropriately enough, the other is May.

Of course, many Christians would deny that honour of Mary is ever appropriate. Almost nothing more distinguishes R.C.s from most Protestants than attitudes to the Mother of God. And yet, nothing is so similar about the two sides as the amount of ignorance and prejudice lurking beneath the opposing attitudes.

Recently I was giving a lecture in a Church Unity course. I was speaking about changes in the R.C. Church. At question-time a woman eagerly got in first with, "How can a university man like you believe in the Immaculate Conception?" As I

had not mentioned this topic in my lecture, I felt able to put a question to her. "What do you mean by the Immaculate Conception?" I asked. My questioner mumbled into an embarrassed silence which showed complete ignorance of the term she had used. Her question had showed prejudice just as complete.

Honour

The Protestant will see R.C. attention to Mary as "mariolatry;" he will not attempt to appreciate the profound Biblical theology that supports due honour to God's mother. The R.C. answering such attacks will not admit the truth that often there are excesses and imbalance in Marian devotions. He will accuse the Protestant of "blaspheming Mary's name;" he will not try to understand that the Protestant does have a cor-

rectly jealous emphasis on Christ.

Today, the sharpness of these two positions is breaking up. Prejudice and polemic are giving way to exploration and discussion. Both the warmth and the honesty of the Christian Unity movement have demanded that the problem of Mary be faced by the denominations.

On the Protestant side there has been the realisation that dogma against Mary can be as incomplete in terms of Christian revelation as dogma for Mary. The importance of the Virgin Mother of God is found in the Orthodox Church as well as in strands of Anglicanism and Lutheranism. This has shown that the special place given to Mary by Romans, is not a Christian deviation, but a Christian tradition. Here I want to outline important elements in the Roman teaching about Mary.

CLEARING THE AIR ABOUT THE MOTHER OF GOD

First, Mary is a creature. There can be no worship of Mary. Such worship would be blasphemous and evil. Anything that can be easily mistaken as worship of Mary is scarcely less evil. The correct attitude of the Christian to the Mother of Christ is one of honour. As God, in His humanity, honoured His mother, so followers of Christ honour her as the human through whom God-made-man came to work the redemption of the world.

Invitation

It is not simply that Mary was found "fit" to be Christ's mother. Much more, she freely accepted the invitation. Her motherhood implied the use of the creature's greatest gift—free will. Too often, Mary's acceptance of motherhood is preached in terms of her virginity. It would be better to preach it in terms of her conformity to God's will, and of her service to humanity.

Clearly, the virgin motherhood is important in R.C. tradition. But its importance has been mishandled sometimes in a tangle of pious prudery about sex. The theology of Mary has been little more than an underwriting of a bad theology of sex and morality.

The first fruit, she promises the fruit of the Redemption in us; her liberation from sin becomes ours through our baptism in Christ. This theme is carried further by the teaching of the Assumption—that, after death, Mary was taken, body and soul, to heaven.

In Mary's assumption is seen a promise of the resurrection of OUR bodies at the end of time.

Mary is also a figure or type of the People of God. Through her, a Jewess, the People of the Old Testament bore the Messiah, Christ. And as she speaks of the Old, so she speaks of the People of the New Testament, the Church. As she bore Christ to the world of men, so the Church, the People of God must show Christ to men.

These are profound theological themes, yet they have a simplicity that bears meditation. R.C. teaching sees grounds for them in scripture and in the very ancient tradition of the Christian Church. They seem, and are, a long way from the exaggerated attention to Mary which can still be found in R.C. circles, and not only in hot climates!

Obscured

Indeed these very themes, rich in theological insight about the Incarnation, Redemption and the People of God have been obscured by the exaggerations. It is a

sign of determination to produce the correct balance that the current Vatican Council defeated attempts to give Mary a distinct document, and pressed, instead, for the consideration of her to be part of the document on the Church.

Emotion

It will take some time and much hard work before the new insights spread. Typical of the emotion that is loaded into the subject of Mary is the fact that some R.C. opponents of the Vatican Council criticise it for devaluing Mary. Arguments of this sort are more concerned with debating points than with theology. The Council's task is to rephrase Roman theology clearly in terms of Christ, or "to reproduce the spirit of the Gospel."

It does not seem too repugnant an idea that the Mother of Christ can speak to us of the Son she bore, reared and watched die. Nor too fantastic that in answering the call to Mother God she can teach her fellow men something of the Gospel's spirit. It is interesting to note that the simplest and commonest prayer to the Virgin (above) using scripture, gets the balance right: concentration on Mary's special relationship to God, and on her relationship, a creature, with the rest of humanity. There is no emphasis on virginity.

Unionist Bishop is "worth his pint"

by James Rothwell

IN a frame on the Bishop of Blackburn's desk is his Transport and General Workers' Union membership card. Whenever his duties allow, he attends his branch meeting, for this was no gimmicky give-away membership. Dr. Charles Robert Claxton, Bishop, takes his union duties very seriously.

At Christmas time he is to be found leading the lunch time carol service in the canteen of the local Royal Ordnance Factory. During the Wakes Week he leads a Mission on the beach at Blackpool. He and his wife, as part of the Mission, join other families at the Tower Circus, where his friend, Charlie Cairoli, has been the red nosed clown for years.

Friends

Last year's Mayor of Blackburn, Councillor Frank Bramwell, kept a pub with what he called a "good working class clientele." He and the Bishop formed a firm friendship as they met on official occasions. After a long day, the Bishop, still becasocked, would call on his friend for a drink and a chat with the other customers. In all these activities nobody could ever accuse Dr. Claxton

of being patronising. He feels that if he is to do his job, he must, as he says, be with people when they are enjoying their own pleasures and discussing the problems that affect them.

The Bishop is no stranger to the other side of industry. Large firms and organisations include him in their guest lists at their annual dinners, where he is well known for his grasp of the problems that face employers.

Although her health is not so good, Mrs. Claxton helps her husband in his desire to know the people to whom he ministers, by holding open house for all sorts of unlikely groups of industrialists, trade union officials, professional people and foreign visitors.

There is no currying of favour in the Bishop's approach. If he sees something he thinks is wrong, he says so fearlessly and



without favour. He had a go at some of the summer shows in Blackpool. Some of the performers were upset, but there was support for the Bishop from many who, by no stretch of the imagination could be called churchgoers.

He has told teachers, educational administrators, employers, the unions, what he thinks is wrong in their fields, and has been respected because of his knowledge of the problems.

Critical

When his picture appeared in the Lancashire Evening Telegraph showing his right fist, swollen by a pint of the best local bitter, there was some criticism voiced by those who call themselves the faithful. A neat answer came from a brawny foundry worker as he replaced his lost sweat in Frank Bramwell's pub.

"I reckon a fella as works as 'ard as 'e does, deserves his ruddy pint of a night."

The correct lesson of Mary's virginity is closely related to that of her motherhood: virginity which is not in the service of humanity is literally sterile. It is probable that faulty preaching about virginity has caused the popular confusion between virgin birth and immaculate conception.

The virgin birth means that Christ was conceived in Mary's womb not by the sperm of a man but by the direct action of God.

The immaculate conception refers to Mary's being preserved from original sin—the sin inherited by all descendants of Adam. Mary was conceived in her mother's womb by a normal act of sexual intercourse; but from the first moment of her life was exempt from the inheritance of human sinfulness.

Confusion

The confusion of these two beliefs has one grain of sense in it. Mary's freedom from sin and her virginity (she could have been free from sin without being a virgin) both have their meaning in her motherhood of Christ. It was fitting that God's mother should be privileged with freedom from original sin. There is fittingness, too, in that the potential of Mary's sexuality should have been used only once—for the miraculous bearing of God.

Mary's motherhood looks back and forward in the story of God's dealings with men. She is spoken of as "the first fruit of the Redemption;" she co-operated in the Redemption by the very bearing of the Redeemer, or freedom from sin was the working in her of her son's redemptive act. But in her special relationship with Christ, there is her special relationship to us.

WHICH HAND?

Every child knows the game where you are asked "which hand will you choose?"

If you are lucky you choose the hand with a gift in it. Throughout the developing countries many hands are offered in friendship to millions of poor and often illiterate people.

We in this country are not lacking in compassion but have we enough sense of the urgency of the situation?

If we were hungry, desperately poor, our children sick and dying and with no hope of helping ourselves without aid, which hand would we grasp. The one with visible gifts of food, cash and healing or the one with mere promises of future aid?

Starving men don't look to the future, they only see their immediate need.

If we have any real compassion for the suffering millions overseas we should all do everything we possibly can to fill both hands of our workers out there with all the things they need. No hungry child must ever, in his need, ask and find them empty handed. Nor must these dedicated workers be faced, through lack of supplies, with the agonising need to turn away the sick and suffering folk who plead at their doors.

Your gifts can decide if they are to have FULL or EMPTY HANDS

WAR ON WANT

9, Madeley Road, London, W.5

Many generous souls live on a limited income. A mention in your will, will provide life to tiny children LIFE not DEATH.

If you pay tax at standard rate a covenant would add 14/- to every £1 at no extra cost to you.

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(Dept. N.C.N.)
79 NEW BOND STREET, W.1
Hyde Park 8866

The Salvation Army are traditionally associated with the work of rescuing "misfits" from the messes into which they stumble.

Here is a page-long account of the work of a much less well known group. You may feel that what the Simon Community is doing is just as worthwhile.

The article is by PETER CATTERICK, of the Church Times.

LONDON — Where ambulances collect men from cocoons of newspaper — and sometimes find them dead

Epidemic skid

THE world can seem a desolate and depressing place on a cold night. And this can be particularly so if you are a person with no place to call your home, no money, and no friends to whom you can turn for help.

One man who found himself in this tragic position was Harry X, aged 79, and, had you made your way to Waterloo Station between two and three o'clock in the early hours of a morning last winter, you would probably have found him leaning up against a luggage trolley shivering with cold.

Earlier he would have been sleeping on a station bench. But having, in the past few hours, been twice "moved on" by the nightly police patrol, he would be too frightened to return there.

Eventually, if he still had the energy, he would shuffle off towards the telephone booths, close the door behind him, and collapse on the floor in a further attempt to get some sleep before dawn.

Regularly during the winter months ambulances call at Waterloo to carry away such folk as Harry. They have been found curled up in a cocoon of old newspapers and rags, apparently asleep. On closer examination they have been found to be dead — killed by a combination of malnutrition and the freezing weather.

Now take a look at a second person — Joe — a bachelor in his early forties who comes from Scotland. Joe is an alcoholic. He started drinking meths eight years ago when he lost his last regular job, and has been addicted to it ever since.

Seek for him at night, and you will discover him in a drunken stupor huddled together with other meths drinkers around a roughly constructed fire on a Stepney bomb-site.

Dustbin

When he comes round in the morning he will stagger off to scavenage some scraps of food from a dustbin before moving on to a backstreet shop where, for a few pence, he will obtain more meths. Then, bleary-eyed, his face discoloured from the effects of the liquid poison which is slowly killing him, he will shuffle back to his bomb-site or to some damp and decaying cellar beneath a derelict building, where he will again drink himself into insensibility.

Some months ago Joe received treatment in a mental hospital. But after his discharge he automatically returned to Stepney, because no facilities existed to offer him the security and the loving care and attention which he so desperately needed.



This methylated spirit drinker shared a disused kiln at night with a dozen stray cats. The Salvation Army are in touch with him.

Harry X and Joe are not unique people. They are just two of over 90,000 men, women and children who are homeless or destitute in Britain today.

In a report, "Non-Citizens of 1964," published on Christmas Eve last year by the Simon Community Trust with backing from the Homeless in Britain Fund of Christian Action, it was stated that, unless some drastic steps were taken by the Government and by society at large, then the number of down-and-outs, the "submerged tenth of society," the "twilight people" — call them what you will — would continue to rise at an alarming rate.

For, said the report, local authorities have been unable to cope with a situation which has assumed the proportions of a national epidemic.

Based on statements supplied by social workers from all areas of Britain it revealed, among others, the following appalling and tragic problems:

● In London alone more than 12,000 men are living in hos-

tels and common lodging-houses, while around another 1,000 men and women sleep "rough."

● Of nearly 2,500 prisoners released from Wandsworth Prison in 1961, 1,300 were homeless. And forty per cent. of all persistent offenders were without homes on discharge.

● Many discharged mental patients are permitted to wander around the country without proper care and supervision, and the report accuses local authorities of having failed to provide adequate facilities for people discharged under the 1959 Mental Health Act.

● Many institutions run by denominational organisations

normal life in society, then one must live the sort of life they are forced to live, and one must suffer the agonies and humiliations they have to suffer.

"Only by so doing will you ever gain a dosser's trust," he says. "But, once you have obtained his trust, then you can go on to help him work out the answers to his problems. We must break down the suspicion, the hostility and the resentment which these men have towards other members of the community who wish to help them."

It was in an attempt to put his philosophy into practice that in 1960 Wallich-Clifford and two friends launched their "Mission to the Misfits" — or as it is more widely known, the Simon Community Trust.

One of the first homes established by the Community was in North West London, at St. Joseph's House, a terraced property near Kentish Town.

"When a new man arrives we never question him too far," I was told. "We only ask him his Christian name. 'We have elastic-sided walls, and no-one in need of a meal or a bed is ever turned away.'

At ease

Men may stay at St. Jo's, which is deliberately run on "skid-row" standard to help them feel more at ease, for as long as they like. And it is interesting to watch how they change after two or three days in residence. Regaining some of their self-respect, and encouraged by the friendly and informal atmosphere, they will wash, don clothes and help with household chores.

No scheme for rehabilitating the men is put into operation while they are at St. Jo's. But if, in due course, they ask to be moved on to one of the Community's higher grade homes with a view to seeking eventually a permanent job and place to live, then no one is more pleased than the Director, — who, on the other hand, is prepared to offer his men a permanent home and permanent care if he feels they need it.

"Social misfits are not generally lazy, vicious or bad people," he says. "They are simply those who lack the stamina, the ruthlessness and the general know-how demanded by our modern materialistic society."

CHURCH GROUPS CAN PROVIDE NEW HOMES

SINCE the turn of the century, religious communities throughout the United Kingdom have been concerned with the provision of housing for special categories of needy people, whose requirements could not have been taken care of by the general housing programme.

By forming voluntary and charitable, non-profit-making Housing Societies and Trusts, the churches and other religious bodies have been providing specialised housing, hostels and accommodation for such categories of needy people as immigrants, the homeless, the aged, discharged prisoners and the physically handicapped.

There are now well over 100 established societies and trusts which have been founded by, or with the help of, religious organisations. Whilst acknowledging the efforts that have been made by religious organisations in the past, it is believed that much more can be done in the future. It is maintained that more new voluntary and charitable housing societies, and an expansion of the schemes of existing associations, will make a considerable contribution to meeting the need.

From 1961 to 63 a standing committee of the London Council of Social Service, the London Churches Group, made a special study of housing and the homeless in London. Impressed by the magnitude and continuing nature of the problem and with the opportunity of united action by religious bodies, the group asked the British Council of Churches to take the initiative, giving particular consideration to the set-

ting up of non-profit-making voluntary housing associations. The group was convinced that:

- (1) If the churches can produce even a few homes by their own action it will be a real contribution, especially towards helping families with low incomes who remain the chief victims of homelessness.
- (2) The pastoral care of the homeless and the aged presents the Church with unique responsibilities and opportunities.
- (3) There is nothing like being actually involved in housing people for acquainting one with the realities of the housing situation. Knowledge of the facts is greatly needed if local churches are to be stimulated to effective action.

Acute

It was because of these recommendations to the British Council of Churches that the British Churches' Housing Trust was formed. The founder members are drawn from the Anglican and Free Churches, the Society of Friends, the Roman Catholic Church and the Jewish community.

The initial objective of the Trust will be to stimulate the formation of new housing associations through both local councils of churches and individual religious organisations, to meet the most acute needs in local areas.

Advice is obtainable from the Trust at 10, Eaton Gate, London S.W.1.

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Youth Against Hunger

THOUSANDS of young people will be taking part in the Youth Against Hunger Campaign through the joint committee set up by the Christian Aid and Youth Departments of the British Council of Churches.

The committee plans to link the youth of Britain in thought and effort with youth overseas. Information will be made available and guidance given in obtaining extra material to expand their knowledge of the facts. As well as helping to inform and educate, the joint committee formed by the Christian Aid and Youth Departments of the British Council of Churches is promoting a practical form of aid.

The usual thing is to give or raise the money so desperately needed to finance farm schools or trade training centres but the process of giving does not normally teach anything about the difficulties and challenges facing those who are helped.

Overcome

To overcome this, the "Young Neighbours Service" will enable youth in Britain to identify itself through personal service with the needs and strivings of youth in four countries in South America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Under the Young Neighbours Service, groups or individuals are asked to offer their time and talents to their own communities during the month of November. In every town and village there are people who would like to have things done in house or garden but cannot afford the money they would normally be expected to pay.



EDITOR MARRIES

The Editor of "Christian News," Mr. Ian Gregory, was married in Aberdeen in August to Miss Patricia Donaldson.

The couple are seen here after the ceremony outside the Congregational Church where they first met.

COLOUR TELEVISION? —NOT FOR ME

by Goggles

FOR one will do without colour television.

Television is as good a commodity as any about which to make a final stand against the gradual corrosion of the human being's power of imagination.

Let me nail a colour to a television mast — colour television is undiluted snobbery.

Surely you can see it all now — the grand advertising campaigns persuading us all that we really haven't moved with the times unless we can see it all in tele-tubes; the little vans buzzing brightly from house to house advising all and sundry that the Smiths and the Joneses are "one-up neighbours."

We'll hear the old rumours that Mrs. so and so down the street paid the man five bob to sit in his van outside her house, to fool everybody that SHE at any rate was going red, white and blue, to make neighbours green.

In the trade they will tell you about people who at the beginning of the telly age paid to have

aerials put up, but couldn't possibly afford actual sets.

It's hard to think of any programme which will be improved for the addition of colour. Would we still have Park Lane if we'd been able to see it in the Pink, as it were?

Could Emergency Ward Ten take on new immediacy if the little light really did flash Red for danger?

Vivid

Which colour system would make the best job of picking out the Purple passages from the murk of Coronation Street?

The flat page of a book used to be enough to conjure the most vivid mental pictures for human beings who wanted entertainment. And I would submit that a good novel is still the best pure entertainment.

Radio used to have us glued in for sound broad-

casts which stimulated the imagination. Did we REALLY recognise when television arrived that all those years we had only been half alive?

I think not. I believe the search for refinements in home entertainments has contributed to the tremendous boredom of people nowadays. It is fantastic when you consider what a hugely exciting age this is. The fact remains that when a machine takes over from the imagination then it is a disappointment and a fraud.

So when the time comes for us to welcome the blandishments of colour for our tellys, I will use my imagination, and it won't take very long to work out how the money colour would cost could be used to make life even modestly bearable for somebody else.

Somebody, somewhere, who hasn't yet got round to being able to afford, or read, a daily newspaper.

A letter from Auntie Julie

THE DOORS THAT OPEN

BY THEMSELVES!

Dear Children,

My friends Sally and Paul were out with their mother shopping. It was a nice day and they had been round all the shops quickly so that they could get back to their garden to play.

Mother had bought a lot of things, and both Sally and Paul were loaded down with parcels and bags. So when they were coming out of the last store they all wondered who could possibly open the door. It was one of those big glass doors which you have to look very carefully to see because if you don't look out you can walk smack into them!

Paul said "I'll open it," and he put down some of his bags so that he could do it. But as he walked towards it the door opened by itself! Paul was astonished, and so was Sally. But mummy

said: "It's one of these new doors with a photo electric cell device. When anybody walks towards it they break a beam and the machinery starts which opens the door."

Heavy key

Paul began to think then of all the different kinds of doors there are. The one at home was so big and he wasn't tall enough yet to reach the handle. The doors of the Church he went to with the family were huge, and the vicar had once shown him the key — it was terribly heavy. Once when he went to London he went on the underground railway and was frightened of being caught in the sliding doors. Once he HAD

been caught in the doors of a lift, but they seemed like magic doors, too, because when they caught him, they opened again, as if to say: Oops, sorry!

But his favourite door was the door to his bedroom, because when he was safely tucked up in bed, or playing there, he could have it closed and pretend he was all alone in the world.

All the same he was glad when Mummy shouted that it was time for tea. It was so good to know that at the other side of the bedroom door were cream cakes, the garden, the television, and their dog, Simon.

Wouldn't it be awful to live in a room with no doors, so that you could never get out? Of course, there just aren't rooms like that.

THE LIES WE THINK ABOUT THE IRISH!

HOW would you react if your husband came home one day and announced he'd been offered a job in Northern Ireland. In the last few years, more and more firms have moved to development areas, and families of "key workers" are faced with this problem.

And the development area which offers the most favourable terms to firms setting up new factories is probably Northern Ireland. So just supposing your husband or father suggested uprooting the family and moving to the Emerald Isle, what would you think...?

In the minds of a surprisingly large portion of the English, the Irish are an uneducated race living in long, low, whitewashed hovels. They all keep pigs in their kitchens, hens in their bedrooms, and worship the horse. Moreover, they live on potatoes, drink nothing but Irish whiskey. When they're not communing with the Little People, or looking for four-leaved shamrocks, they fill in time with a little peat-cutting in the bogs, or weaving.

Needless to say, it's all lies, and even 200 years ago was a pretty distorted view. It does seem to rain a lot in Ireland, which is about the only preconceived idea most English people have that is true. And they say that the winter is usually mild.

Heaven

The Northern Irish are as British as the rest of us — although they do have a certain character and friendliness of their own. If you do go to live in Northern Ireland, you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Government incentives to new firms are extremely generous, and they do all they can to help workers get houses and supply them with all the information about shopping centres and schools they need.

During the last week I talked to several business-

men in English firms who had settled in Northern Ireland, and found them nearly all more Irish than the Irish. One, Mr. J. G. Thomason, managing director of a firm making girdles and belts, said that it was "heaven on earth" living in Ireland.

Badges

Both he and his wife were extremely happy and have a lovely house, large garden and a small golf course in their own grounds.

Another managing director, Mr. N. T. Clerke, of William Franklin and Son Ltd., who make badges for Boy Scouts and Girl Guides throughout the world, and also do corsetry and ribbons,

started off by saying, "I used to be an Englishman."

Mr. H. A. Hall, of Johnson and Phillips Ltd., said that after two years living in Northern Ireland none of his family wanted to return to England. Mr. Hall's wife, who used to teach English, found that her local W.I. in Groomsport had a committee almost entirely of Englishwomen. Now they want to form a group to welcome wives of industrialists and key workers when they first come to Ireland. They feel they could meet wives on their arrival and tell them about the shops, where to find things, and so on, and generally look after newcomers. Sounds a good idea.

Joan Best

"YOUR MONEY OR YOUR LIFE!"

The old challenge in a modern context. For we need more money to help our great work progressing

Also we need more people (18 and over) to do the work of caring for children. Can you help?

National Children's Home

Chief Offices:

Highbury Park, London, N.5.



She's digging other people's gardens so that a small boy on the other side of the world can call her "Mum"

A 30-YEAR-OLD MOTHER OF THREE YOUNG CHILDREN IS DIGGING GARDENS FOR THREE SHILLINGS AN HOUR TO HELP RAISE THE £180 AIR FARE WHICH WILL BRING HER A FOURTH CHILD.

To finance Operation Stork, as it is called, she looks after one or two gardens a week and earns 15s. to £2.

She also gathers dead wood from a nearby forest to save spending money on coal and coke. Also, she works at potato and pea picking on farms.

In addition she has to look after her three children, Stephen, aged four, Wendy, eight, and Susan, 10, and her 36-year-old husband, Ernest.

The aim is to adopt Kim, a four-year-old orphan at a mission in the Philippines.

Risk

Stephen and his two sisters can hardly wait to see Kim. For months they have only had a picture of him.

Mrs. Ricketts, of Wheat-sheaf Road Hunsdon, Hertfordshire, says: "I want Kim with all my heart. I could have another child to save myself all this hard work in gardens and farms."

"But I don't want to risk having a baby because Stephen nearly died shortly after he was born and spent three months in hospital while doctors fought to save him."

"The same thing could happen again. Apart from that, I want Kim to have a brother of his own age. I think he and Stephen will be good for each other. Stephen needs a playmate—and we want another son."

Mr. and Mrs. Ricketts first heard about Kim a year ago through friends at the

Catholic mission in Quezon City where the boy lives with 260 other orphans.

Mr. Ricketts, founder of the World Gardening Club, has members at the mission who told him about Kim, the only boy there of Stephen's age.

Mr. Ricketts, a factory night worker, has to work 60 hours a week to earn his wages of £20. His World Gardening Club has members in 20 countries with the aim of creating goodwill for English people.

FAST AID TO FLOODED CHILE

Flood disaster in Chile robbed half a million people of their homes and killed hundreds.

On receipt of a report from Santiago on the flooding of 80 per cent. of Chile, the World Council of Churches' Division of Inter-Church Aid appealed by telephone to Christian Aid in Britain and its other related agencies elsewhere.

In London it was quickly decided to put £15,000 at the immediate disposal of the World Council to help cover the costs of purchasing and airlifting urgently needed blankets and drugs for distribution by Ayuda Christiana Evangelica. Christian Aid also placed an order with a British firm for several thousand blankets. These were to be flown out to Chile by airfreight without charge in view of the grave nature of the emergency.

Neutral Aid

In roughly every fifth family in Britain one person must have hospital treatment for mental disorder at some time, according to "Questions on Our Minds", a booklet by the National Association for Mental Health, published at 2s. 6d.

The association is a voluntary organisation working to promote mental health and to aid the mentally disordered. Its booklet is intended for the layman.

Fish Church

An unusual design has been chosen for the new St. James' church at South Gundagai, in the Australian diocese of Canberra and Goulburn. It will be shaped like a fish, which was the secret sign of Christians in the days of the Roman persecution. Another feature of the new St. James' is that the window behind the altar will be clear, so that the congregation will see the countryside as they worship and will thus be reminded of the community of which they form a part.



Marriage menders' busy year

FOR every two married couples who sought a divorce during 1964, one consulted a marriage counsellor for help in dealing with their difficulties.

This means that the National Marriage Guidance Council helped more than 16,000 couples.

Nearly 65,000 young people in clubs and schools attended talks and discussions on personal relationships, and more than 2,222 engaged couples attended marriage preparation talks.

The council held a record number of 21 selection conferences, and the 281 candidates who attended represented an increase of 35 over the previous year. Of that number, 127 were accepted for training—15 more than last year and a proportion (46 per cent.) which was slightly higher. The great majority were under 50 years old.

A WAVE, A TOOT, THEN A TELEVISION SET!

A CERTAIN little white-haired old lady is not likely to forget the Good Samaritan busmen of East Grinstead.

S.A. BLACKS MAORIS

Dr. Verwoerd has scotched suggestions that the South African Government would permit the inclusion of Maoris in the New Zealand Rugby team due to tour South Africa next year.

The Prime Minister said that just as South Africa respected New Zealand's traditions in playing against Maoris in New Zealand, so the New Zealanders, as South Africa's guests, should respect South Africa's traditions against multi-race sport.

His audience cheered.

Living alone, it makes her day to wave to the bus crews as they pass her home. The drivers on a route from Reigate to Stone Quarry give her a friendly toot as they pass.

One day they discovered that she was paralysed and almost friendless, so driver George Creasey and his mates decided to do something to brighten up her world.

Cried

The 126 members of the Sussex garage staff all "chipped in" to a special fund and saved enough money to buy her a television and radio set. At the presentation she cried for joy. Since then the staff have given her presents at Christmas. Driver Creasey is not new to the job of brightening up people's spirits as during the last war he entertained thousands of troops in an Army unit.

Martin, six and dying for a slide, stirs it up at Liss



Martin Hough, "I want a slide very badly."

MARTIN HOUGH, aged six, decided that Liss Parish Council, Hants., was not doing enough for the children in the village. He also decided to stir the councillors up and wrote to the council about the lack of equipment in the children's playing ground.

He told them that some of the equipment was broken and that many local children would like a slide.

Martin, of Station Road, Liss, addressed his letter to the council chairman, Mrs. M. E. Smith.

She said: "I was surprised to get the letter. But I was also pleased to see that someone so young was taking an interest in his village."

"I have written to Martin and told him that I would also like to see a slide in the recreation ground and that one day he might be lucky."

Youngest

When Martin's letter was out before the parish council meeting, it decided to take no action, but it commented on the initiative shown by him.

Mr. Fred Watts, clerk to the council, said: "Martin is the youngest correspondent we have ever had."

Martin's comment: "We want a slide very badly because some of the other equipment is broken."

"I wrote the letter because we are all disappointed at having nothing to do."

Parish backs housing on church land

Bromley (Kent) Parish Church is sponsoring a £200,000 redevelopment scheme in Church Road, Bromley, a short distance from the church.

The site of the former vicarage building and church institute will be redeveloped with a square of "good quality" housing, comprising 15 three-storey terrace houses and four flats, overlooking Martins Hill recreation ground and the Shortlands valley.

The redevelopment will also include a new Church Hall holding 200 people. The vicarage has not been in use for several years.

Going up

Total world food production in 1963 was about one per cent. higher than in 1962 and 10 per cent. higher than in 1958, reports the United Nations Statistical Yearbook, 1964, now published.