

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE 6d.

January, 1966

Incorporating National Christian News

Page one

Topiquotes

BOXING now solely entails the management of dolts by gangsters for gangsters.

—Alastair Cooke, on the American boxing scene.

★ ★ ★

PEOPLE simply will not hear or read what one has said or written, but base their comments entirely on what they have imagined.

—Bernard Levin.

★ ★ ★

IF a law were passed tomorrow banning swearing and were enforceable the cost of the National Health Service might be doubled in a week. I reckon that all things being equal if you were to match a thousand swearers against a thousand non-swearers, you would find the swearers comparatively free from all kinds of disorders like ulcers and skin eruptions.

—Professor John Cohen, of Manchester University.

★ ★ ★

UNHAPPY Christians are, to say the least, a poor recommendation for the Christian faith; and there can be little doubt but that the exuberant joy of the early Christians was one of the most potent factors in the spread of Christianity.

—Dr. Martin Lloyd-Jones, Minister of Westminster Chapel.

★ ★ ★

BETTER than Christian Councils and Archbishops should make mistaken pronouncements than that they should remain silent in the face of injustice and hatred.

—New Christian editorial.

YOU MUST GO, NURSING NUNS TOLD

NUNS have been told to give up a district nursing and midwifery service so that the Welfare State can operate the service instead.

For 82 years the Community of the Nursing Sisters of St. John the Divine have worked among the people of Deptford, South East London. Last year three nursing sisters of the Community delivered more than 300 babies there. Home visits to patients numbered 1,500.

Now Labour controlled Lewisham Council is going to streamline home nursing and midwifery services in the area, and have told the sisters that from next April their service will no longer be required.

Exploited

Health Committee chairman Fred Bullion told the Council that the nuns' work had been exploited in the past, and the new arrangements would be better for the community.

● The decision is at the centre of a political row in Deptford.

● Members of the public have protested.

● A petition has pleaded for the nuns to be allowed to go on with their work.

Mother Superior of the order, Mother Margaret Faith, told "Christian News": "In this aspect of the Welfare State there is not to be a place for us. I am sure that the people of Deptford will be well served under any new arrangements that are made. There is, of course, plenty of other work for us to do, and we are most anxious not to appear to be complaining."

BISHOP RAVES AT "STICK-IN- MUDS"

HITTING out at the Blackburn Diocesan Youth November Conference, Dr. C. R. Claxton, Bishop of Blackburn, said: "There are too many passengers in the Church. If you do not want to work for the Church for God's sake get out."

The task of the Church today was amongst the starving multitudes of the world. More and more people abroad were worshipping together on a non-denominational basis.

"Stick-in-the-muds in England seem only too content to worship in different churches making little effort towards church unity," he commented.

Children aid Choi (1)

Members of the Christian Education Movement at Haslingden County Secondary School, Lancashire have "adopted" one-year-old Choi Mal-Sun, the youngest of five children of a poor Korean family.

They have contracted to send an annual gift of £15 to Choi, whose brother and elder sister work as rag collectors to supplement the family income of £2 a month.

Where the Good Book is thoroughly RED

COMMUNISTS in North Korea are smuggling copies of the Bible into South Korea and Hong Kong.

They have printed them themselves—but they are Bibles with a difference.

The Rev. James Roe, Bible Society Asian secretary, says some copies have anti-Western blasts printed among the verses as if it were scripture.

Others appear to be standard copies of the Gospels, but contain anti-American cartoons.

Papers, too

The purpose is to get Communist propaganda past the customs. Publications including "Time," "Newsweek" and "The Times" are also being used in this way.

"It is convincing proof of the value the Communists place on the printed word as a means of forming opinions," says Mr. Roe.



These men are training to be ministers of religion

● WHY?

On page 5 Geoffrey Brown says that clergymen are among society's most valuable members.

● WHY?

Not for the reasons you might think.

● **THE COMPUTER**—Slave or master? A professor looks to the future.

—Page 3.

● **JOHN DUNCAN** looks at a book which has got Christendom agog.

—Page 4.

● **A LIVERPOOL SONG MAN SAYS:** I know what the kids are thinking.

—Page 6.

COMPUTERS CAN AXE JOBS — UNION

COMPUTERS and automation can be either a blessing or a curse, according to a report from the Association of Supervisory Staffs, Executives, and Technicians. They can relieve boredom and drudgery, but they can also bring "heavy unemployment."

The report states that

computers have led to serious redundancies in the United States. In Britain ten years ago, 37 clerks were displaced when Lyons began to prepare its payroll by computer. Later the same computer displaced between 200 and 300 more clerks when it took over another company's wage

bill.

But ASSET believes that the British computer industry must be encouraged to grow to create many more technical jobs, but only in the context of a planned society where people receive the benefits "and where computers are not installed solely for increasing profits."

THE REVOLUTION OF THE COMPUTER

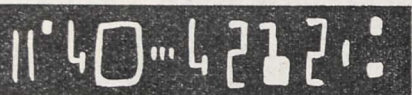
Comment

OUR grandparents didn't worry much about how to use their leisure hours. They knew what they were in the world for. A working man did 10 hours a day hard labour on six days a week. He came home dog tired, cuffed and cussed his children, drank, ate and slept.

There weren't any white tornados for women, either. They didn't ask questions of a fate which caught them into childbearing, making do, and perpetual scrubbing and washing.

One worked, slept, ate, had children, and died.

Basically, everything depended on whether there was work. When there was, the skies lifted. When there wasn't, they glowered

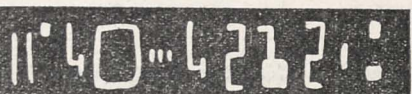


Now, before we have properly grasped the meaning of the industrial revolution which enmeshed our forbears, another revolution is upon us. It will change our lives like the coming of cogwheels changed theirs.

It is the revolution of the computer. Already we are confused by what computers will mean in our lifetime and that of our children. But as Professor Singleton pointed out to "Christian News" (see page three) we have got them to take out of human hands responsibilities which we find unpleasant or difficult.

The computer is snuffling about in the roots of human life. It is making us ask the basic question: What are we for?

It's more than a question of how to use leisure hours. If machines work for us and electronic brains think for us, where do people fit?



We will arrive sooner or later at a point where work is done for us by and large by things we have created. A small number of specialists will watch the machines, and press the buttons in a world which COULD flow with milk and honey for all.

Stripped of pre-occupation with work, we will have time to think what the show is all about. We are either by-products of nature, or God's children.

Feed that one into a computer, and stand back . . .

OLD 'UNS NEED INCENTIVE TO STAY FIT!

- By N. S. Power -

IT is possible that, like me, many men in their forties followed with interest last season the fortunes of the Somerset batsman, Bill Alley. He had a (for him) poor season with the bat, after a superb one in 1964. But he was still an effective bowling Alley; for most of the summer he was in the County Averages short list. And in Minor County Cricket there is at least one 60-year-old among the wickets.

Then there was Stanley Matthews: there is still Borotra. Such heroes help a forty-year-old to feel he can still chance his arm, making up in cunning, perhaps, what he has lost in fire.

My point is this: we are (we are told) an ageing population. We have a new science (geron-

tology) to help us grow old gracefully. Yet many people give up sport younger than ever before. We have lately had record breaking swimmers in their younger teens. At what age will they retire? Twenty? Twenty-five? At this age the girl prodigies will mature and lose the vital seconds as they gain the vital inches! The men will find the stop-watch ticking on as their superb dedication wanes.

Housewives

One result is that the accent, in sport, is more and more on youth. No harm in that! But why not give an incentive to us old stagers to keep fit and have more fun doing it? Why not a civic tennis championship for housewives over forty? That would get rid of many unwanted inches and, for many, add a new zest to life.

Some of us can hope for a little more cricket; if we are wise we keep our hand in at

chess or bowls for future reference! But, meanwhile, what vanishing skill and zest for life might not be revived by a table tennis tournament for the over forty-fives!

To give a personal example: at 21, after over a year in the Oxford University Swimming team, I was invited to train with the Olympic Possibles. At once I retired from serious swimming. It wasn't lack of patriotism. It was partly because I enjoyed club cricket much more than first-class swimming and because nerves were stretched to breaking point at times while the water was always too cold. (The open air "Shiverers" S.C. pool at Brighton in June has to be experienced to be believed. No wonder they call it that!).

But another reason was that it seemed so hopeless. There were five or six people who would always beat me however hard I trained. They just had a better physique. Yet swim-

ming for fun has remained a pleasure for thirty years. Now, in my fiftieth year (and feeling about 18 at times) I can't help wondering how the others have fared! Perhaps D. A. Young, the former Australian Champion (who always beat me easily) has fulfilled his promise to put on weight?

Surely C. A. Gunter, erstwhile Cambridge Captain, is a bit slower on the turn? In a class for my age, it might be worth having a bash again, even if young girls are beating the times we thought good in the thirties.

Worth it?

And it would be fun to try (over a shorter distance of course—say fifty yards) just to see how fit one could get, given an incentive. Don't my contemporaries also, sometimes, long for the fun and thrill of a sporting event again?

It would be interesting to have a medical view on all this. Perhaps we should just be inviting a premature thrombosis! Even so, I am not sure that the fun might not be worth it.

FACTORY FARMING IS THE ONLY WAY AHEAD

DAVID UPTON

presents a
personal view

WHAT a lot of utter rubbish is talked about factory farming by some people! With the world population exploding at the present rate, factory farming is the only solution to the problem of feeding the masses, and is a step towards feeding the already starving millions.

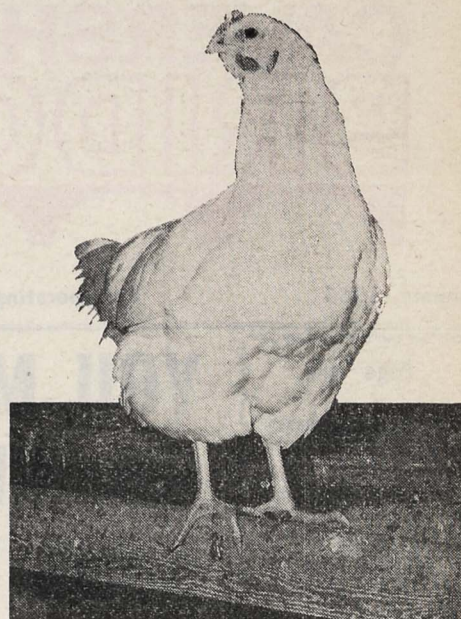
As most of the criticism of factory farming is levelled at the battery hen, I shall confine my observations to this fortunate creature.

Fortunate? Yes. Compare the lot of the regularly fed battery hen kept in a warm environment with the lot of the shivering "Free Range" hen perched uncomfortably on some worm-infested dung heap.

Fetish

Hens HATE cold, damp conditions and the battery bird is kept under ideal conditions supervised by the finest nutritional and veterinary brains in the world. I can assure readers that I would rather eat a hygienic battery egg than one produced by the wretched free range bird.

Quite apart from the fetish for free range eggs demanded by the back-to-nature brigade, the low priced egg asked for by the housewife cannot economically be produced under free range conditions. A free range hen would, in all probability, lay only about 130 eggs in a year. When compared with the 230 eggs a



battery hen lays, it becomes obvious that the free range system cannot continue if we are to continue getting the food we require.

One opinion estimates that if all the hens in this country were kept on free range, apart from the fact that there would not be enough to go round, the cost to the housewife would be in the region of 15s. a dozen.

The battery hen is a happy bird. Anyone who knows anything about poultry knows that a bird which is NOT happy will JUST STOP LAYING EGGS.

The Animal Health Trust has told the Brambell Committee which is looking into intensive livestock production that much of the recent criticism of factory farming has been based on subjective, ill-informed and misleading impressions.

Nonsense

Like the British Veterinary Association, which has already published its findings, it can find little evidence to support charges of cruelty levelled against factory farming.

The Animal Health Trust explains that the intensively kept pig or hen lacks the capacity for original thought and the animal therefore lacks the ability to long for

so called natural conditions. The opponents of factory farming assume that because THEY would not like to be confined to a cage, the battery hen does not like it either.

This is maudlin and illogical nonsense, as the battery hen is an ultra healthy bird.

No sign of birds with their insides pecked out in a battery cage!

Just remember, you anti-factory farming people, that it is the job of the factory farmer to keep his birds in prime condition. If the birds are unhappy, they will not lay and the factory farmer loses his money. It is in the interests of the economy of this country that factory farming should continue, and continue it must.

There will continue in the future to be an increasing loss of agricultural land to building, which in itself can only mean more intensification.

A return to 'free range farming' would mean costs to the housewife of something like this:—

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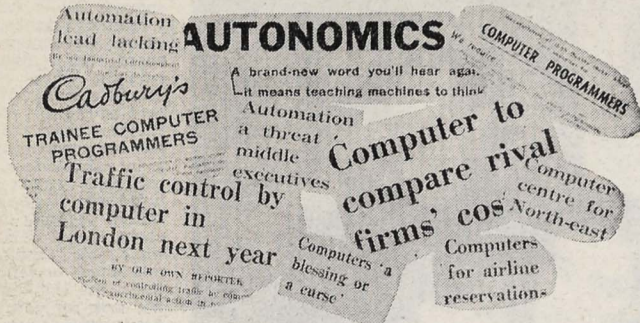
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**IS MAN ON THE VERGE OF MAKING A MACHINE CAPABLE OF DOMINATING HIM?
ARE WE GOING TO MAKE COMPUTERS SO COMPLEX THAT HUMAN BEINGS
WILL BE THEIR SLAVES AND NOT THEIR MASTERS?
SCIENCE FICTION SEES THE POSSIBILITIES OF SUCH DEVELOPMENTS. DO
FACTS FIT SUCH A VIEW?**

COMPUTER REVOLUTION



Dock Church would be "fine hall"

A COUNCIL is being urged to buy a former naval church and turn it into a dance hall and civic theatre. The church at Sheerness (Kent) is expected to be put up for sale soon by the Naval Lands Department.

Sheppey Publicity Committee wants Sheerness Council to buy the church, and is suggesting an approach be made to the Arts Council for financial help.

"It is a fine building and would be ideal for an all-purpose hall for the town," says Mr. Tom Pratt, chairman of the publicity committee. "We understand that if action is not taken, it may become a factory warehouse."

The church—St. Paul's Dockyard Church, was built in 1885, and when the dockyard closed in 1960, it was taken over temporarily by a civilian congregation which moves into a new church in a few weeks' time.

Their first home—a caravan

The newly wed Vicar of Foulridge, Lancashire, Rev. Brian Selvey, and his bride are making their first home in a caravan in the village churchyard.

Only recently the Vicar and his bride, formerly Miss Gillian Parrott, were the first couple to be married in Blackburn Cathedral after Princess Margaret attended the re-hallowing of the nave.

Mr Selvey was chaplain to the Cathedral as well as youth officer and editor of the monthly magazine "Cathedral Life." His new church, St. Michael and All Angels, has an enormous stone-built vicarage that won't be ready for occupation for three or four months. The couple will spend the winter in the caravan behind the empty vicarage.

Behind the Look of Prosperity . . .

Christians take off town's blinkers

BEHIND the prosperous veneer of MAIDSTONE lie poverty and neglect. Despite much dedicated work within the social services, the needs always seem to outstrip the personnel and funds available. There is a shortage of trained voluntary help, without which the statutory services cannot be fully effective.

These are some of the conclusions of a survey report entitled, "Maidstone—A Closer Look."

The survey was commissioned by the Maidstone and District Council of Churches, conscious that although the Church has a vital role to play in supplementing the social services, it lacked reliable and informed opinion as to where the needs lay.

The far-reaching and specific recommendations at the end of each chapter indicate that much remains to be done by organisations and by individuals to provide satisfactory community care. The released prisoner with nowhere to live, the old person lonely and unvisited, the "latch-key" children whose mother is working full-time, the engaged couple who cannot qualify for the housing list, the commuter's wife tied to her home and baby for eleven to thirteen hours a day—none of these escape the attention of this most comprehensive survey.

Bowling

In its chapter on young people the report advocates ten-pin bowling alleys and late-night coffee bars. Not all the problems raised have such an immediate answer, however. There is a poignant case study about a hopelessly ill old couple, unmarried, who wander from place to place begging because they cannot legally be accommodated together under any official arrangements, and who seem to spurn all other attempts to make permanent provision for their needs.

The survey has aimed at discovering the scope and degree of co-ordination between a large number of statutory and voluntary social services in the town. It has also attempted to consider how the social services might best be developed to meet changing circumstances and social needs, and what part the churches could play in this development.

One of the principal findings is that there is a lack of co-ordination between the voluntary welfare services in the town.

A particular activity suggested

in which the churches could play a major role is in providing an Emergency Help Service. The investigation uncovered the time lag which exists in so many cases of need before the statutory and voluntary organisations can be brought into action.

BITTER at St. Ann's, but it's MILD now

A BREWERY is saving a church £150 a year in fuel bills—by circulating fermenting steam through its central heating system.

The steam is piped from the Tetley-Walker brewery into the cellars of St. Ann's church, Warrington, Lancashire, which is next door.

The steam first heats the brewery, boils unfermented beer and cleans empty beer casks.

After heating the church it is piped back to the brewery as hot water, converted back into steam and used again.

The brewery offered to provide the steam when the church boiler broke down. A new one would have cost more than £1,000.

Good neighbours

The Vicar the Rev. Harold Sanderson, said: "We pay a nominal fee. It is a first-rate example of good neighbourliness between industry and the Church." The vicar frequently goes round the brewery to meet the workers.

Professor W. T. Singleton, of the University Designate of Aston, told "Christian News": "There is no question of competition between computers and human brains. The human brain is much more complex than any computer is likely to be for a very long time."

Professor Singleton has outlined the shape of technological development and assessed the place of computers as he sees it.

"There are three areas of human activity in which 'things' have come to human assistance," he says. "These are muscles (levers, up to complex machine tools and transport systems), senses (clock to radar, including instruments for measuring temperature and speed), and decision making."

"Automatic processes and computers substitute for processes which man is either not good at, or dislikes, in this area of making up our minds, calculating, and tackling boring repetitive duties."

"None of these things

has any purpose except to serve human needs.

One of the dangers of computer design is that

some people may see them as ends in themselves. They are not;

they are slaves which never tire or get bored.

"The designer of a computer faces the problem of what he wants it to do, and we are all involved in this because we have to decide which jobs human beings still are going to want to do themselves."

"Automatic systems comprise so much hardware and the human beings who operate them. The machine has to be 'set up' and it is impossible to make that process automatic, and it has to be maintained by people who understand it."

Design process

"There is another area of human activity in which we are just beginning to see the possibility of computers taking part, and that is the area of creation and design."

"There is no reason in principle why machines cannot become involved in the design process itself. In other words they could design machines which are more complicated than themselves. This is where science fiction comes into it, and you have the concept of turning a machine loose and off it will go on its own."

"It's no use saying you

can always stop it by pulling the plug out. The machine will build in a

power supply of its own,

just as the human being

has its own power

supply in the body."

We have to

decide which jobs

human beings still

are going to want

to do themselves



Professor Singleton

"I am not pessimistic about all this. It's exciting, isn't it? We hope to start a course soon on what we want computers to do. We must remember that machines are not LIKE human beings. They are different altogether, and so there is a communication problem between us and them."

How we work

"This is another problem we are going to face: how do you talk to computers? It is extremely difficult to tell them what you want them to do."

"What we are trying to do is get the design of computers orientated to the needs of human beings

who use them, and also we are using the whole business to find out more about how human beings work."

"There is an enormous shortage of people who can design and analyse computer systems, and we have to start training people. I do not know why there is a sense of mystery about computers. They are simple things, basically. I think the newspapers tend to romanticise these things, and there is a constant need for people to be encouraged to accept these machines into the normal business of everyday life."

WEDDINGS—BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

A booking fee for weddings has been started at Burnham, Bucks, parish church. Couples who book a date for their wedding more than three months in advance will have to pay a two guinea fee and if they break the booking they will lose their money.

The fee has been introduced by the vicar, the Rev. James Wildman, because of confusion caused by cancellations.

Couples are now reserving dates so far in advance that he is taking bookings for next March.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

EDITOR: The Rev. J. G. Grimwade, The Rectory, Caversham, Tel. 71703.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Mr. J. A. Hargreaves, 11 Berrylands Road, Caversham. Tel. 71478.

CIRCULATION MANAGER: Mr. W. C. S. Harrison, Brendon House, Westonbirt Drive, Caversham. Tel. 72331.

COMPANY SECRETARY: Mr. H. J. Pilgrim, 64, Highmoor Road, Caversham. Tel. 74017.

CAVERSHAM'S FUTURE

The article we publish this month by Ald. Evans will perhaps serve to stimulate our thinking about the future of Caversham. There are still many people who remember the Caversham that was once an Oxfordshire village, and recall the unsuccessful fight to remain separate from Reading. But for many more people Caversham's past means very little, and when they think of Caversham they think of it as little more than a pleasant residential area. But now it seems that the time for enlargement is coming as the population grows so rapidly just outside our present boundaries. For some outside there is a natural dislike at being put into a larger unit of civil administration, for others a feeling of impatience at being deprived of amenities which a neighbour a few doors away can have because rates are paid to a different local authority.

A SHARED CHURCH?

The Christian Church has also to think in terms of an expanding community. What is to be the future pattern for the work of the Church of England for an area that includes Mapledurham, Dunsden and Kidmore End, and how would the present co-operation that exists be effected if these parishes found themselves in a different diocese to Caversham as could conceivably happen? And is there any justification for unilateral action by any denomination in a new area such as Caversham Park Estate? If a common place of worship can be shared by Anglicans, Roman Catholics and Free Churchmen at London Airport, the Guards Chapel and Keele University why cannot this be done on a new housing estate?

I should hope that whatever form our Church work takes on that estate it will be planned in conjunction with our friends of other traditions. But how do the non-Anglicans feel about this? Are we all to "go it alone" as though the Holy Spirit was not speaking to us through the ecumenical movement? I hope that "Postbag" will be able next month to give the views of some of our readers about this matter.

John Grimwade

Distributors please note

The next edition of the CAVERSHAM BRIDGE will be published on Wednesday, January 26. Please deliver your copies early.

FAREWELL TO THE HUTCHINSONS

by Roving Reporter

WHEN I asked Ray Hutchinson what he considered the most important thing about his job, he hesitated momentarily and then replied: "I think, perhaps, caring and having time."

This isn't mere lip service — the Hutchinsons do care. When Ray and Elizabeth Hutchinson and their son, Patrick, depart for Scotland early in December there will be, for them, no automatic switching off of the problems of St. Barnabas', Emmer Green, and its inhabitants, and the things they have tried to do. And just what have they tried to do? There is little need to tell anyone who knows them. Starting with a successful attempt to increase public worship in the district—which Ray Hutchinson considers a vital factor in a Christian life—they have worked outwards in the community, organising, bringing people together, trying to solve individual problems and, very often, just listening. Their home has had an ever-open door for all who need them.

Nobody can say that Ray Hutchinson lacks principles and, when necessary, is prepared to act accordingly; this he has done, but always he has tried to do it with kindness and humility. They will be sadly missed in Emmer Green, but the new priest-in-charge at St. Barnabas' will find a larger and livelier congregation for their having been here, and a friendlier community.

It is unfortunate for us that their stay has been comparatively short, but our loss is Duror's gain. Though their departure is partly fortuitous and partly for reasons of health, they have very definite reasons of a less personal nature for wishing to go north of the border. They both believe that in these times perhaps a little too much emphasis is placed on the need for young clergymen



Photo: Fred Walker

The Rev. Raymond Hutchinson who has left for Scotland was Priest-in-Charge of St. Barnabas', Emmer Green, for two years. He is seen here with his wife, Elizabeth and son, Patrick.

in industrial and urban districts, and country districts are beginning to get left to elderly clergymen under the mistaken impression that there isn't much to do. There will be

no taking life easy in Duror; the parish is large and scattered and, as Ray says, the message is just as important for 200 people as it is for 2,000. Apart from the regular

inhabitants there is, of course, an enormous influx of visitors during the summer; it is sometimes forgotten that people on holiday have more time to spare and, rightly or wrongly, more time to attend church. This may even be the only chance in the year when the church has the opportunity to get a message across, and if only one person returns home with a spark of intuition of what it is all about, it will be a worthwhile job. Despite their missionary experience in India, the Hutchinsons do not look for vast conversions; they count themselves lucky if they get across to only one person of the many they meet. By these standards it would be difficult for them to think that their work here has been wasted.

We wish them every success in their new parish and look forward to hearing news of them from the many people from Emmer Green who hope to visit them in Scotland.

KEITH CHURCHER

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CAVERSHAM PRAYS AND WORKS FOR UNITY

THE ABBOT OF DOWNSIDE, Dom Christopher Butler, an old boy of Reading School, and brother of Mr. Bernard Butler, the well-known district warden of St. Andrew's Church, will preach in St. Laurence's Church, Reading, on Tuesday, January 18, at 7.30 p.m. Although the church can seat several hundred it is expected to be packed on this occasion for this outstanding ecumenical event in the life of Reading.

In Caversham itself the Churches have planned two events of interest.

On Thursday, January 20, in Balmore Hall, at 8 p.m., a panel consisting of the Rev. J. G. Grimwade (Anglican), the Rev. L.

Three big events are planned in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18-25) which Christians of all denominations observe throughout the world.

Lewis (Baptist), the Rev. E. Wright (Methodist) and the Rev. W. J. O'Malley (Roman Catholic) will answer questions on different traditions of Christian worship: on Sunday, January 16, it is hoped that selected members of all congregations will have attended one service in a church other than their own and will then come ready to question the panel.

BRIDGE SCHEME

The last event of the week takes place in St. Anne's Hall on Thursday, January 24 at 8 p.m. As the meeting held in that hall during the week of prayer in 1964 led to the formation of the BRIDGE SCHEME OF SOCIAL SERVICE it is intended that there shall be an act of Dedication conducted by the lay members of the different churches who are supporting the scheme. A special form of service has been devised for the occasion, and it is hoped that all who have offered help in this scheme will come together to seek God's Blessing on this common venture, for Caversham Christians not only pray for unity but work in unity.

Alderman Evans talks about Borough boundary extensions

Proposals are now being considered for increasing the present borough boundaries.

Fifty-four years ago similar proposals were made involving the people of Caversham.

The Incorporation Act of 1911 extended the Reading boundary to include Caversham and Tilehurst and also altered the Oxfordshire County boundary to take Caversham into Berkshire.

What were the benefits to the community? The old Caversham bridge was replaced by a new one and an additional one erected in George Street. The whole cost was borne by the population of Reading. Before, public transport stopped at Caversham Bridge. Today there are six bus services to different parts of the area.

Two small schools served the area. There are now seven.

Most roads were unadopted; nearly all now are brought up-to-date and maintained by the public at large.

Would the same services have been available to Caversham if the Act of Incorporation had not taken place?

The Corporation of Reading is now a big business with an annual expenditure of £10 million, with 13 aldermen and 39 councillors acting as directors, with a highly skilled number of officers to administer the policy laid down democratically by the council.

Each new road increases the responsibility of and cost to the local authority. Street lighting, drainage, cleaning and repairs must be carried out. Refuse must be collected and disposed of. Police must be employed to keep the peace; also midwives and cemeteries to bring us in and take us out of the area, whilst it is essential to maintain an efficient health service to protect us from pest and plague.

Last year the council lent on mortgage terms £2½ million to persons to buy houses in addition to providing an additional 808 council houses by September, 1967.

In order to provide all these essentials the Corporation has to borrow and the capital debt now stands at

£22 million or £184 2s. 5d. per head of the population. In 1931 it was £3½ million.

The rate levied last year was £19 5s. 10d. per head of the population. The sharp rise is due to many factors: increased responsibilities imposed by central governments and increases in the price of materials and wages. Reading being a county borough does not rank for government grants for the maintenance of roads and we have 138 miles of roads to maintain within the borough.

The second method of raising money for corporate purposes is by levying a rate due when levied, but in order to accommodate ratepayers, made payable each half-year. Last year the amount collected was £2,902,409. The total income for every £1 raised was: from rates 6/9; Government grants, 5/9; other income, 6/8 and from balances, 10d. For every £1 spent it went on education, 8/9; highways and public lighting, 1/2; police and fire service, 1/4; sewage and sewage disposal, 8d.; housing, 2/7; public health and social services (includes baths, museums, libraries), 2/11; other services (including housing mortgages, loans, building dept., administration of justice, markets and cemeteries), 2/7.

The cost of each ton of refuse collected and disposed of is 35/3, the yearly cost being 15/- per head of the population or 42/- per premise.

The council recently decided to centralise and install modern equipment for the treatment of sewage at Manor Farm at the cost of £4½ million with £1½ million to be added during the next two years.

Plans are on the stocks for the provision of a new civic centre to cost £4 million. This is much overdue; the staff now employed in 13 different offices with rent at a very high level. A new ring road is planned to run from Valpy Street to Mill Lane, under Coley Street and out at Caversham Road, to cost £2 million and in addition to erect a multi-storey car park costing £100,000.

So does the experience of the past five decades prompt us to continue to extend our boundaries or must we consider the appropriate time to stop is now?

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GOLDEN WEDDING



Photo: Fred Walker

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Coleman celebrated their golden wedding on December 6, 1965. Married at Cliff Town Congregational Church, Southend, they moved to the Reading area in 1940 and Mr. Coleman retired from the Thames Valley Trustee Savings Bank in 1959 where he was on the head office administrative staff in Reading.

ROUND THE CLUBS

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

In common with other guilds, Caversham Heights Guild held their A.G.M. in November.

Members elected to serve on the Executive Committee were: Mesdames Birt-whistle, Bliss, Clarke, Dawes, Lott and Strange.

A gift stall in aid of the Royal Lifeboat Institute was attractively decorated with the flag of the Swanage Lifeboat, lent by them for the occasion. The sum of £10 was raised.

The evening ended with a performance of a very amusing play called "Mothers' Day," by J. B. Priestley, given by the Drama Group from Reading Afternoon Guild.

★ ★ ★

January 18 is the date of Maplewood's 11th birthday when a party will be held in St. Andrew's Hall at 2.30 p.m. It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend and join in the fun.

Mrs. Harvey Harris, our speaker, is giving a talk entitled "I Married A Film Director." (Louise Crowder. Tel. 73460)

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Photo: Fred Walker

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Short of ideas for Christmas ornaments? Why not copy Annette Taylor, of Cromwell Road, who has discovered that, apart from being suitable for covering ceilings, Polystyrene tiles cut out into most fascinating shapes which can easily be glued together to make snow-houses, snowmen, and anything else you can think of. The tiles, at 5d. each, are a foot square; the only other things you need are a 1s. 6d. tube of glue and a very sharp razor or knife. These tiles are on sale at our Caversham hardware shops. Watch out for some of Annette's handiwork in one of their windows

EMMER GREEN YOUTH CLUB

ON SATURDAY, December 11, the members of the Emmer Green Youth Club entertained about 100 local old-age pensioners to a Christmas Party in St. Barnabas' Hall.

The party took place from 2.30 till 5.30 p.m. and included entertainment from club members who

provided musical and singing acts. A full tea was served at which the Mayor and Mayoress were present. Cigarettes, ices and sweets were handed round and many prizes were won by the guests. In addition each pensioner was given a gift to take home, and a coach was provided for those who needed transport.

This was the fourth "Over 60's" Christmas Party that the club has been able to provide, and each one has done much to bring closer together the younger and older generations. There is no doubt that club members have as much fun in preparing for the party as their guests have when they come to enjoy it, and it is hoped that these happy occasions will be repeated many more times in the years ahead.

ST. ANNE'S SCHOOL

SINCE the new playing field opened with a match between St. Anne's and St. James's, the school team has had a remarkable run of success.

Caversham Park were beaten by four goals to nil; Katesgrove by four to nil and Newtown by seven to nil. Their best match of the season, so far, was against Oxford Road ending in a draw, one goal each. This was a delightful match to watch and also an exciting one as Oxford Road has an excellent team this season.

In November the pupils enjoyed an interesting film shown by Cadbury's. The fourth year pupils went on an education outing, visiting Westminster Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and the British Museum.

Two talks on road safety were given by the Borough police, one to the infants and one to the juniors. These were illustrated by films and should prove helpful to the youngsters at a time when there is so much need for care on the roads.

Miss Elizabeth Murphy has resigned from the staff for reasons of health. Everyone connected with the school will be sorry to see her leave and all wish her a long and happy retirement.

She will be replaced by a Miss Elena S. O'Neill who has taught for some years in Newcastle.

STELLA NASH

STELLA NASH, now 17 and still at school, showed no signs of becoming an athlete until her second year there, though her parents say she had all the makings when only nine months old. In fact she was running before she had cut her first tooth.

Since 1963 she has represented Reading in the County Sports at 100 yards, long jump and relay team and was chosen twice for the All-England sports. She was advised to try throwing the javelin and has had a measure of success with this too. Earlier this year she was the joint winner of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon ladies doubles badminton trophy and was runner-up in the singles.

Stella is the current holder of the Fred Hatch Cup (held three times by Ann Packer) awarded by the Reading Athletic Club to the lady athlete gaining most points in the club championships.

In spite of being a school prefect and hockey captain she still finds time to be a regular Sunday School teacher at Caversham Hill Chapel.

Talking Point

THE MEANING OF PRIESTHOOD

by Roger Packer

THE EXISTENCE of the CAVERSHAM BRIDGE and the BRIDGE SCHEME are examples of denominational friendship and co-operation. But being on friendly terms with one another is still a long way from unity. It is a great thing to have affirmed those beliefs which we have in common and we should not forget the wide measure of agreement. Sooner or later, however, the issues that continue to divide us must be allowed to come to the surface. One of these issues is priesthood.

A few years ago I visited a large Roman Catholic Church. In the tract case I picked up a pamphlet "Are they priests?" with the sub-title "The Question of Anglican Orders." The message of this publication can soon be stated. Anglican priests, in the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church, are not true priests. More recently, I heard a fellow Anglican talking about the current proposals for reunion with the Methodists. "We ought to make it clear," he said, "that the Service of Reconciliation is a service of ordination. Are we making Methodist ministers priests or not?"

of all believers, confession to a priest and justification by faith. There is widespread knowledge of the fact that in the New Testament the word priest is used only of the work of Christ Himself; and that no particular order or form of the ministry — including bishops — has explicit scriptural authority. Because these issues already exist in the minds of regular worshippers, they ought to be thrashed out at the same level.

CONTROVERSY CAN HELP

Religious controversy can lead, as the history of the Church has shown, to hate and persecution. To that extent it ought to be avoided. But controversy is not necessarily a bad thing. When steps are taken by two churches towards unity, each church owes it to the other to state what it believes with clarity and precision. There is no church which needs to take this to heart more than the Church of England. The discussion of controversial topics, approached with humility and patience, can lead to clarification of thought and the discovery of truth.

There is a danger in Caversham, as everywhere else, that closer relations between denominations will grow at the expense of principle. Now that we are in charity it is time to start speaking the truth.

OBSTACLE TO UNITY

Priesthood, and the various claims made on its behalf, is one of the chief obstacles to unity. In the history of the Church there have been few subjects which have caused so much bitterness between Christians. Many of the resulting fears and prejudices are with us to this day. What is the nature of Christian priesthood? What is a priest? Some people may think that because these are theological questions they ought to be left to the experts. I disagree.

For there are many lay people in all churches who are familiar with, and react in various ways to, such ideas as apostolic succession, the priesthood

Plans for new Coffee Bar

The present trend in youthful circles seems to lie in coffee clubs and bars. The Baptist Young People are determined not to be old-fashioned, for under the enthusiastic leadership of Bob Cowland and Peter Rose, efforts are being made to transform a Victorian organ loft in the West Memorial Institute into an ultra-modern coffee bar. A bold colour scheme has been worked out and many bizarre suggestions have been made regarding the furnishings, but more of this at a later date.

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BAPTIST

SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.
2.45 p.m. Toy Service.
6.30 p.m. Christmas music by the choir.

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.30 a.m. Morning Service.

CAVERSHAM HILL

CHAPEL

CHRISTMAS DAY

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.

METHODIST

CAVERSHAM AND CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS

CHRISTMAS DAY

11.00 a.m. Morning Service.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S

CHRISTMAS EVE

Midnight Mass.

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. 9.30 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. Mass.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. Mass.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27 (St. Stephen)

St. Anne's and Our Lady of Caversham:
9.00 a.m. Mass.

**The Chairman and Editorial
Board of the
CAVERSHAM BRIDGE
wish our Readers,
Distributors and Advertisers
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and New Year**



This striking Crib, made last year by girls of Queen Anne's School, will again be seen in St. Peter's Church.—Photo: Fred Walker.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

ST. PETER

CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00 p.m. Children's Gift Service with
Blessing of Crib.
11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.

CHRISTMAS DAY

7.00 a.m., 8.00 a.m. and 12.15 p.m. Holy
Communion.
9.15 a.m. Parish Communion.
11.00 a.m. Matins.

ST. JOHN'S

CHRISTMAS EVE

11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.45 a.m. Family Eucharist.
11.00 a.m. Family Carol Service.

ST. ANDREW

CHRISTMAS EVE

3.00 p.m. Children's Gift Service.
6.00 p.m. Solemn Evensong and Blessing of
Crib.
11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. and 11.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. Family Eucharist.

ST. BARNABAS

CHRISTMAS EVE

11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. Family Eucharist.

ST. MARGARET, MAPLEDURHAM

CHRISTMAS EVE

11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. Parish Communion.
10.00 a.m. Family Service.
11.00 a.m. Matins.

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. 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

Pastorate vacant.

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

Confessions before Christmas

St. Peter's

The Rector, Thurs., Dec. 23, 8 p.m. Fri., Dec. 24, 5.30 p.m.
The Rev. D. Clift, Thurs., Dec. 23, 5.30 p.m.

St. John's

The Rector, Mon., Dec. 20, 5.30 p.m.
The Rev. H. J. H. Stevenson, Tues., Dec. 21, 8.15 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 23, 2.45 p.m.

St. Andrew's

The Rector, Wed., Dec. 22, 6 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 23, 8.45 p.m.
The Rev. R. J. Packer, Wed., Dec. 22, 7.30 p.m., Fri., Dec. 24, 5 p.m.

St. Barnabas'

The Rector, Mon., Dec. 20, 4.30 p.m.

St. Anne's

Dec. 24, 11—1 p.m., 3—4 p.m., 6—8 p.m.
Our Lady of Caversham, Richmond Road
Dec. 24, 5—6 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 26, ST. STEPHEN'S DAY CHURCH OF ENGLAND

On this Sunday there will be certain alterations to the times of the services, and a number of normal services are cancelled for this one day only.

ST. PETER'S

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.45 a.m. Parish Com-
munion.
11.00 a.m. Matins.
6.30 p.m. Evensong.

ST. JOHN'S

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.45 a.m. Family Eucharist.
6.30 p.m. Evensong.

ST. ANDREW'S

9.15 a.m. Family Eucharist.
6.30 p.m. Evensong.

ST. BARNABAS

9.15 a.m. Family Eucharist.

★ ★ ★

The clergy would be pleased to know as soon as possible of the names of those sick and elderly people who wish to receive the Sacrament in their homes at the festival.

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NEWS FROM THE

Baptist Anniversary

On Sunday, November 21, 1965 the Baptist Church celebrated its 93rd anniversary when Dr. G. Henton-Davies, Principal of Regent's Park College, Oxford conducted the services. At the evening service Dr. Davies stressed that the Christian Church was too obsessed with itself. Throughout its history it had waxed and waned and had attached far too much importance to its current state with the result that it was either elated or despondent. He urged the congregation to attach more importance to that which was behind and above the Church, namely the Kingdom of God, which remained steadfast and unaltered irrespective of external pressures.

Community hymn singing

On Sunday, December 12 the Baptist Church co-operated with the Reading Hospitals' Broadcasting Service in producing a recording of hymns, Bible readings and prayers which will be relayed to patients in the Reading hospitals on Wednesday, January 5. The recording took place immediately following the evening service and was well supported by members and friends.

St. Andrew's news

Please note the following dates and functions:

On Sunday, January 2 there will be a Service of Lessons and Carols at 6.30 p.m. in place of Evensong. Lessons will be read by representatives of various organisations in the district and there will be plenty of carols in which the whole congregation can join. Please support this and make it a family occasion.

Thursday, January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany. There will be Holy Communion at 6.30 a.m. and Family Eucharist at 7.30 p.m. at which the preacher will be The Rev. C. J. Eldridge-Doyle who is the Local Area Secretary for the Missions to Seamen. Refreshments will be available afterwards.

On the following Saturday, January 8 at 7.30 p.m. there will be

the Epiphany Party. As with the Carol Service we hope to make this a district occasion in which members from all adult organisations can participate.

The Mothers' Union will meet at 3 p.m. on Monday, January 3 for a Carol Service followed by tea. Young Wives and their children will be welcome.

The New Year Party for St. Andrew's Fellowship will be on January 27 at 7.45 p.m. Everyone who attends is asked to wear a head-dress depicting a film, play, song or book title.

St. John's news

The Christmas season is concerned with the worship of God and giving thanks for His amazing love for us. It is therefore right that this month the chief things of note should be the opportunities for expressing this. We must be careful not to forget we will be meeting together to give worship and thanks to God not for our own enjoyment.

Dec. 19: 11 a.m. Children's Gift Service — parents are of course welcome. The gifts will be given to Smith Hospital, Henley in time for the children there to receive them on Christmas Day.

Dec. 21: St. Thomas: Holy Communion 7.30 p.m.

Jan. 1: Feast of the Circumcision and New Year's Day: Holy Communion 9.30 a.m.

Jan. 2: Sunday. 6.30 p.m. Service of Carols and Lessons.

Jan. 6: Epiphany — one of the greater days in the Christian's year, on which we thank God for making Himself known to us, as we remember His leading of the wise men on their long journey to see and worship the Son of God.

Holy Communion 10 a.m.

Sung Eucharist 7.30 p.m. followed by refreshments.

Jan. 9: Sunday: note especially, 11 a.m. Children's Epiphany Carol Service — parents are welcome.

Jan. 16: Sunday: we begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity by joining the Methodists in Ardler Road for their Evening Service. There will therefore be no Sung Evensong at St. John's at 6.30.

This year we will once again be taking gifts of food to some of

New Priest-in-charge for Emmer Green



Photo: Fred Walker

The Rev. Malcolm Cooper will succeed the Rev. R. Hutchinson as priest in charge at St. Barnabas'. Mr. Cooper was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford, and trained for the ministry at Lincoln Theological College. He was ordained in 1963 and is at present serving as assistant priest in the parish of Spennithorne in Wensleydale in the diocese of Ripon. He is married and has two children. Alterations are being made to St. Barnabas' House and Mr. and Mrs. Cooper plan to move to Caversham as soon as the house is ready for them.

the elderly and house-bound living in this district, so that they can have a little extra to celebrate Christmas, and as a token of our remembrance of them.

There will be a table at the back of the church, where you can place your gifts from Sunday, December 12 to Sunday, December 19. Some of the most appreciated gifts appear to be tea and sugar, and of course various tinned foods.

St. Peter's news

The Christmas Eve Toy Service at 4 p.m. will again include the lighting of the tree and the blessing of the crib. This is always a popular service and it is designed especially for children. The toys that are brought will be given to the children in Battle Hospital. It will be much appreciated if toys could be done up stating the approximate age for which they are

suited and whether for girl, or boy or either.

The newly confirmed are to be the guests of the congregation at the parish supper and party which follows the Parish Communion at 7.30 p.m. on the Feast of the Epiphany (Thursday, January 6). Tickets for other members of the congregation are now available.

The preacher will be the Rev. Colin Morris, Chaplain of Pembroke College, Oxford.

The Mothers' Union will be entertaining a number of lonely people when they have a party on Tuesday, January 11, in Church House.

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols takes place on Sunday, January 2, at 6.30 p.m. The lessons this year are being read by representatives of different aspects of the business, industrial and professional life of Caversham.

It is easy to complain about our public services, so it is worth

CHURCHES

recording that when the church boiler was found to be out of action on a recent cold Saturday night, a phone call brought prompt attention from the fitter on night duty and quite a long repair job was done which was not completed till 10.30 p.m. The result was a warm church the next morning.

Holy Innocents' Day, Tuesday, December 28: Holy Communion 8 a.m. (not 7 a.m.). The Circumcision, Saturday, January 1: Holy Communion 8 a.m. St. Paul's Day, Tuesday, January 25: Holy Communion 7 a.m. On St. John's Day, Monday, December 27, Holy Communion is at St. Andrew's at 8 a.m., and there will be no service at St. Peter's.

North Caversham Baptists

A second attempt at outreach was held towards the end of October, when about 700 houses within a chosen radius of the church were contacted, either by a personal visit, or by invitation to a reception evening held on October 30. This effort at interesting folk in the area in the church was felt to be worthwhile, some useful contacts having been made.

On the evening of October 30, the programme commenced with a Fact and Faith film, "City of the Bees," and this was followed by ample refreshment. The evening concluded with a short epilogue by Rev. Denis Boxall, who also conducted the Sunday services on the following day.

Methodists' renew covenant

Throughout the Methodist Church, the first Sunday in January is the occasion of a service "for such as would enter into or renew their covenant with God." Introduced by John Wesley in 1755, it has been a fruitful source of blessing ever since. Part of the covenant service is incorporated in the proposed service of reconciliation for Anglican-Methodist reunion.

The service reminds us of God's promises to us in Christ, and of our pledge to live no more to ourselves—"I am no longer my own, but thine," and it culminates in the Holy Communion. Other Christian denominations have on occasions used the covenant service, particularly as a fitting conclusion to retreats and conferences.

On January 2 the covenant services will be held at 11 a.m. at Caversham Heights and 6.30 p.m. at Gosbrook Road.

Watchnight services, though not Methodist in origin, were introduced by John Wesley as a monthly vigil in 1740. Later they were held only on the closing night of the year, but in some places used to last for three hours. This year's united watchnight service cannot be expected to last so long. It will be held at Gosbrook Road, and will begin at 11.30 after a social hour.

A popular family occasion is the Carols by Candlelight service at Caversham Heights, which this year is held on December 19 at 5 p.m. in the afternoon.

WE RECORD BAPTISED

ST. JOHN'S	ST. ANNE'S
November 14	November
David Aberly.	Keith Brownlow.
Nicholas Marriott.	Francis Kucera.
Diane White.	Ann Brown.
ST. ANDREW'S	NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH (Adult Baptism)
November 21	Christine Prior.
Jonathan Horton.	CAVERSHAM METHODIST
Graham Milne.	October 31
Clare Hollings.	James Tucker.

MARRIED

ST. PETER'S	ST. JOHN'S
October 2	November 20
Geoffrey Down and Mary Cooper.	David Slade and Maureen McLennan.
October 23	ST. ANNE'S
David Archer and Carole Deacon.	November
November 13	Davis Bearman and June Brown.
Francis Huddy and Monica Woodford.	CAVERSHAM METHODIST
November 27	September 20
Alan Townsend and Claudia Weatherill.	Eric Harney and Sally Green.

BURIED

ST. PETER'S	ST. JOHN'S
November 10	November 9
Frederick Phipps.	Gladys Martin.

METHODIST CHURCHES

PREACHING APPOINTMENTS

Caversham	Caversham Heights
December	
26—Mr. B. Bosler	11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright
Rev. E. B. Wright	6.30 Mr. J. Clark
January	
2—Mr. F. W. Button	11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright (1)
Rev. E. B. Wright (1)	6.30 Mr. P. Smith
9—Mr. D. H. Wark	11.00 Miss M. Broadhead
Mr. J. Hollingum	6.30 Rev. E. B. Wright
16—Mr. W. G. Sampson	11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright
Rev. E. B. Wright	6.30 Rev. S. J. Dain
23—Rev. E. B. Wright	11.00 Rev. E. C. Elliott
Rev. E. C. Elliott	6.30 Rev. E. B. Wright
30—Miss G. M. Weekes	11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright
Rev. E. B. Wright.	6.30 Rev. J. O. Cochran

Note: (1) Covenant service.

CAVERSHAM NORTH BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

(Kidmore Road)

PREACHERS FOR JANUARY

Morning	Evening
2 Mr. P. Elford.	Mr. P. Elford.
9 Mr. L. F. Gray.	Mr. M. J. Mortimer
16 Mr. L. Booker.	Mr. W. Morrow.
23 Mr. E. Christie.	Mr. E. Christie.
30 Mr. J. Stone.	Mr. L. Scott.

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Evening Service at 6.30 p.m.

Communion following Family Worship on third Sunday each month.

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

PREACHERS FOR JANUARY

Morning 11 a.m.	Evening 6.30 p.m.
2: Mr. W. Morrow	Dr. Gray
9: Mr. R. Lochhead	Rev. N. Lewis
16: Mr. W. Morrow	Mr. J. Milward
23: Mr. W. Morrow	Mr. L. Gray

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UNDERSTANDING THE MUSLIM

by Betty Gaukroger

WHAT is the Muslim attitude to the Christian faith? The Koran has many references to Jesus, who is revered as a prophet, and called Son of Mary, Messiah, Word, Servant and Spirit of God. The birth story, the accounts of miracles are to be found, but no reference to the Crucifixion, since this is indeed a "stumbling block" to the Muslim.

"They declared 'We have put to death the Messiah Jesus, the son of Mary, the apostle of Allah.' They did not kill him nor did they crucify him, but they thought they did."

The Trinity is anathema to the Muslim, who so reverences Allah that he will have no equal to him. Christians are praised for their kindness, but their divisions are deplored, and they would be far better to accept Mohammed as a later and more complete revelation of Allah.

To some degree Muslims are fatalists; such is the power of Allah that all that happens must be because he so wills it—little room here for the magnificent Christian conceptions of the God of Love, who suffers in the sufferings of His children, His friends.

Inferior

Women are the inferior of men. "A male shall inherit twice as much as a female." "Men have authority over women because Allah has made the one superior to the other . . . Good women are obedient . . . Women are your fields, go then into your fields as you please."

The prophet Muhammad, according to the strict teaching of the Koran, is not divine, but "second only to Allah." On many mosque walls the name of Allah is at one side of the "Mihrab" or niche marking the direction of Mecca, and the name of Mohammed on the other. So the prophet is the supreme intercessor with Allah for all Muslims, sinless and an object for devotion.

There is of course little doubt that he was responsible for rais-

ing the standards of his people immeasurably, from idolatry, loose morals and a war-like self-centred life; yet few who are not fanatics could accept that he was, or could be, a worthy object for devotion and a model for imitation.

Muslims living in a non-Muslim state find great difficulty in following their beliefs fully, and there must be great frustration and tension among many in England and other such countries today. The differences in attitude to the opposite sex between a Muslim society and western societies, to name but one point of antithesis, are so striking as to lead many young Muslims to despise either our so-called Christian standards today, or to reject their own, and not be able to find any others to adopt.

Dangerous

Nothing is more dangerous than a moral behaviour. We should be well advised to consider what face we present to the sincere Muslim in this country, and to ask ourselves whether the words of our Lord regarding those who cause little ones to stumble, may not apply to us. May we not ponder on, and take to ourselves the words of the last Surah in the Koran: "Believers, turn to Allah (God) in true repentance. Your Lord may forgive you your sins and admit you to gardens watered by running streams, on a day when the Prophet and those who believe with him will suffer no disgrace at the hands of Allah. Their light will shine in front of them and on their right, and they will say 'Lord, perfect our light for us, and forgive us. You have power over all things.'"

"Praise be to Allah, Lord of Creation, the Compassionate, the Merciful, King of the Last Judgment. You alone we worship, and to you alone we pray for help. Guide us to the straight path, the path of those whom you have favoured, not of those who have incurred your wrath, not of those who have gone astray."

METHODISTS' BOOST FOR POP-BROKE KEN

THE Methodist Relief Fund is setting up a trust to give £5 a week for a year to an ex-member of a group which has found the pop world not a golden pathway to riches, but a sad and disillusioning experience.

Twenty-four-year-old Ken Hardacre, of South View, Great Harwood, Lancashire, toured the country with the "Rocking Vickers" in their bid to become idols of the pop world while his 22-year-old wife, Valerie, and their baby, lived on national assistance.

Now hundreds of pounds in debt, Ken has quit the group. He and his wife and baby faced the future penniless and broken-hearted until the Methodist Church stepped in.

The lure

Ken says: "The Church has been wonderful to us. I have wanted to quit the group for some time but there was always the lure of big time success and the shining lights of show business."

When the "Rocking Vickers" collected a fee for a ballroom or nightclub booking, Ken found there was always something to be bought with the money. It was one long whirl of spending and fast living. By the time what money was left over was shared out amongst the group

members, there was often only £2 or £3 left for a week.

Ken had almost made a decision to quit the group when they had some success with a record. He stayed on hoping for a break-through which would put him and his wife and family on their feet. But there was no big pay out from the record.

Uniyawn . . .

An experiment which brought Anglicans and Methodists together for combined services at St. Nicholas Church, Bourne-mouth, is being dropped after two years because of lack of support.

Pot Luck

Girls of the Farrington School, Chislehurst, Kent, have sold 44,000 copies of their recipe book "Pot Luck." With the proceeds, about £3,000, they have bought a mobile nutrition unit, which is being sent to India by the Save the Children Fund.

Pete Lewis, leader of the Raiders song and string group, of Liverpool, has won a national reputation for his dramatic contribution to youth worship (see below).

"Christian News" invited him to describe some of his impressions of young folk and their faith.



CHURCHES ARE FOR EVERYBODY

THE attitudes of young people to the Church are often non-existent. They haven't found it necessary to think about it.

They either attend and accept it as something they don't have to understand, or don't attend and feel it unnecessary to. Some, however, attend discussion groups in the Church; at Confirmation classes, Sunday School, Communicants Guild or Bible Class or at some Christian Centre outside their Parish Church.

What occupies the thoughts of those outside this group? Most young people want to be popular with their friends and think a lot about how to "get off with" a nice specimen of the opposite sex. It is also very important to "get on" at work or school and to strike a good relationship with work mates, school mates, Church friends and drinking partners, etc.

Without it

Many of our "with it" types spend much time on "Ban the Bomb" meetings and marches. I question how much they think about its aim other than just not wanting war, which I think none of us want.

There are "without it" types whose interests lie in classical music or church music, who wear clothes of a more sober type also a type whose personal relationship with Christ is continually strong and speak the language of the Bible in ordinary conversation. Others are solely interested with the welfare of their team and how to keep physically fit from day to day.

Now to those who think about the Church and have a definite attitude to it. What do they see of the Church first? Those outside see a building usually old in design and find the peace and stillness inside. Others see it in action at services of worship or Sunday School, youth clubs and other societies. Maybe they see some of the congregation out on "walking days" or at Christmas, singing in streets

and hospitals. Some attend to seek a bit extra "properness" to their baptism, marriage and death.

Thees, thous

At these meetings what goes on as a rule? We sing hymns, hear readings from the Bible, and prayers from the Prayer Book or elsewhere. There is usually a talk given by the Vicar who quite often also reads the lessons and takes the prayers. The accompaniment of the hymns is usually by organ and a choir leads the singing as they also do for the psalms. Lessons are read from the Authorised Version of the Bible and Prayer Book prayers, and psalms include a lot of "Thees and Thous," "Saiths and Begats."

One Church usually has a limited repertoire of prayers and hymns, which we soon begin to know off by heart, and when the Vicar says "Let's join in the general thanksgiving prayer," we can say it without looking at our books. The Vicar usually talks on a text taken from the Bible for 20 minutes, on the average, and we hear a lot of Biblical terms and Church vocabulary phrases.

We find it more easy to join in the service the more we go, which encourages us particularly when we are asked to sing in the choir, or read a lesson.

How much do we learn about the Church at home, in school or elsewhere?—very little as a rule. There is TV if we watch religious programmes. Home learning otherwise is negligible unless we live at a vicarage or board at a Church School. Most schools' R.I. or often Divinity periods are involved with reading the Bible stories best known, or following Paul's journeys.

Discussion

At College we may rise to the heights of discussion of the questions of the day, sex and its rights and wrongs, colour problems, death penalty and its abolition, effect of smoking on cancer, maybe even the age at which one should be confirmed in a church group.

Young people thinking all this over have come, all the same to see the Church not only as a place of worship dating from C.1750 but a centre where new people coming for the first time find a welcome and a spirit of tackling life together with a common law for life.

Church is a place relevant to life, a meeting place as well as a worshipping place, a discussion place as well as a place of sermons and preaching. A place of refreshment centre as well as a place where collections are taken and a place of recreation, of music and dancing of all types where all ages can meet together to feel equally part of, with Christ at the centre of all, linking us all together.

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Cookery Corner

Savoury tomatoe pie

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Filling: 1 lb. tomatoes; 1 onion; 1/2 oz. fat; 1/2 teaspoon salt; 1/2 teaspoon pepper; 3 eggs; 4 oz. grated cheese; 1/2 teaspoon mustard.

To make pastry: sift the dry ingredients into a medium-sized bowl, add fat in one piece, then water. Break down the fat with fork, and mix until dough is formed. Turn this on to a floured board and roll out, using plenty of flour, to line a one-pint pie plate. Prick the base lightly and bake for 15-20 mins. at 400°F or gas Mark 6.

Prepare the filling: reserve two tomatoes for garnish. Peel tomatoes and onion and slice thinly. Heat the fat and saute the tomatoes and onion, with salt and pepper added until tender. Pour into the baked pastry case. Beat the eggs quickly and add the grated cheese and seasoning. Pour over the tomatoes and bake for 10-15 mins. at 375°F or gas Mark 5. Serves 4-6.

Letter for children

SOME PEOPLE WILL SWALLOW ANYTHING!

Dear Children,

There are some things you must not swallow on any account. A little friend of mine had not been taught that lesson properly, so one day when a moth accidentally flew into his mouth and down his throat he wondered what on earth he was going to do about it!

He had seen his mummy put things for dealing with moths into the wardrobe. So he rushed upstairs, found two mothballs and swallowed them, as well! It WAS a silly thing to do and as soon as his mummy found out they had to take him to hospital to have the nasty things removed. People don't eat mothballs.

You remember that awful tale of the old woman who swallowed a fly? Burl Ives sings about her. She swallowed all sorts of things to catch the fly, and finally swallowed a horse. She died, of course!

Won't swallow it

I expect that most of you have your pet hates about food. With me it was always cabbage and carrots, until I was old enough to realise how good they are for us. Well, nothing in the world will make you eat things you really hate. There are some things you won't swallow at any price.

Just as we are careful about the things we allow to get into our tummies we ought to be careful about the things we allow to get into our minds. There are some people who will BELIEVE anything, too! If you told them that their house was really built of green cheese they'd believe it.

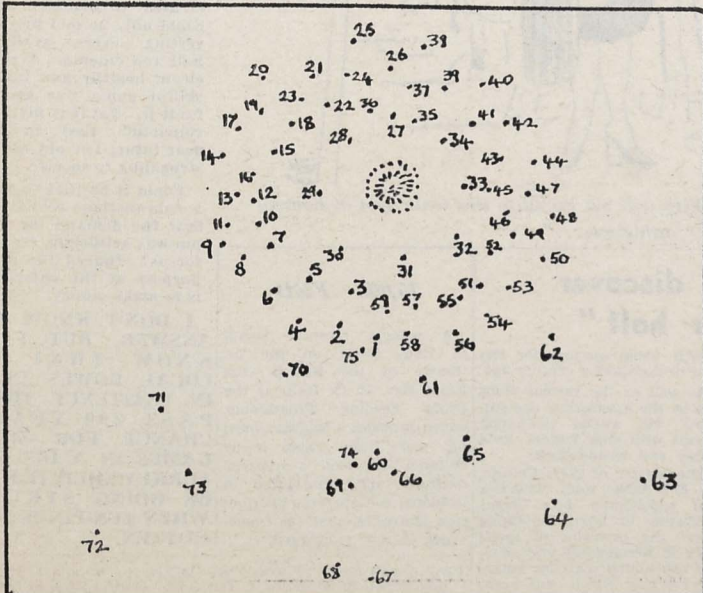
It's a matter of choosing between good and bad ideas about people, and about the world we live in. There are some ideas about that are so bad that if they were food you'd always leave them on the side of the plate, and never eat at all.

Your nice pictures are coming in, from last month's colouring contest. Next month we will tell you who the winners are.

Your friend,

AUNTIE JULIE

P.S. Join these dots together and see what you can make.



When the old films look quite recent

By GOGGLES

UNLESS it is the surest sign yet of the decline into old age of this critic, I am pretty certain that the "old films" don't look quite so old any more.

It is a strange experience to have the mind switched back five or six years by, for instance, a small screen showing of "The Smallest Show on Earth."

There's a favourite game we are now playing in our house. It is guessing where, and with whom, we saw the old films. For the life of me I couldn't recall where I saw Margaret Rutherford, Peter Sellers, Bernard Miles, Virginia McKenna and Bill Travers when their cameo of fun first came out.

The trouble is that you sit there wondering about it, until the film is over, and you are in perpetual danger of missing the best bits turning over in the mind whether it was in Brighton with Aunt Phoebe or Manchester with the kids.

INCIDENTALS

Talking about memory, I hope you saw "Two Days in London" produced by Christopher Ralling and edited by Michael Bradsell. This was a record of the incidentals on the day when Sir Winston Churchill was laid to rest at Bladon.

It was magnificently conceived and produced. Who would have thought that part of the impeccable military performance on the day was pre-faced by the necessity for a big Scottish Sergeant to bark so loud at his little stock of men packed into a coach?

And when last did you see the human face so expressive, thoughtful, and lost in long corridors of conjecture as some we saw here?

Guess how much we spend feeding Fido, Tibbles & Co— £125,000,000 a year!

by Joan Best

IN affluent Britain there aren't many families without a dog. If you've just been shopping for your dog—carefully choosing the meat with the Most Bounce-giving Vitamin Content—it might interest you to know just how much of the housekeeping money goes to the dogs.

It all adds up to £50 million on food, from biscuits to frozen meat. If you think that's a lot, it's as well you're not a cat lover. £75 million goes to feed our cats, and another £25 million goes on "accessories."

But that's not the whole story. It's often assumed that dogs are the most popular domestic animals in this country. Actually, it's birds that get top rating—figures show that there are about six million "age birds, five million cats and four million dogs.

Then there are hamsters, rabbits, tortoises and fish, tropical and otherwise; and most little boys regrettably like mice at some time or other. To say nothing of white rats, and the odd snake or two. It's estimated that in all, we have about 20 million domestic pets, and import about 100,000 animals a year.

It is not only the pets that benefit from all the care and attention lavished on them and, incidentally, it's not only women who are soft-hearted about animals. Pets are big business when it comes to catering for them, with enterprising firms vying for your custom. In its turn this pet bonanza brings in the money to advertising coffers as account executives dream up all sorts of things to tickle your imagination. And all the time the tax men wait in the wings for their cut!

Fishy

query

THE big question at the moment in the world of fish, is who was the actual innovator of our national dish—fish and chips? It may not seem of shattering importance, but it matters to the National Federation of Fish Fryers. Once they've found the "oldest fish and chip business in the world," they're going to give it a plaque to put on the wall.

You might think there would be fish and chip shop proprietors all over Britain clamouring for their shop to be recognised as the world's oldest. But, so far, it has proved a difficult task.

There is a 102-year-old business at Mossley, Lancs., it claims to be the oldest chip potato restaurant in the world. But chip potatoes aren't the same as fish and chips. It wasn't until 1865 that this particular establishment brought the two together.

If you know any old fish and chip shops—let the Federation

know. Who can tell? You may have the oldest fish and chip establishment in the world right on your doorstep!

Outsize

analysis

THEY'RE using computers to find out how to sell clothes. A chain of clothes shops recently hired one to give them advice. And one of the things it told them was that an outsize salesgirl has difficulty selling to a thin woman, and a thin salesgirl has difficulty selling to a large woman.

I could have told them that without asking a computer. But Mr. Reg Selby, an official of International Computers and Tabulators, said: "It came as quite a surprise." It seems so obvious that a thin girl gives a fat one an inferiority complex. Being a man, Mr. Selby's never had the unnerving experience of being told by a girl who looks as if a size 10 dress would wrinkle around her ankles, that the dress Modom wants isn't made in size 14.

The computer came up with one or two other interesting facts. Did you know that more secondhand shoes are sold in Coventry than anywhere else? I wonder why? And glamorous black underclothes sell well in seaports like Liverpool, but decorous matrons of Midland towns like Birmingham don't care for them.

Bye bye

house-fly

THE days of the house-fly are numbered. The other day delegates from 16 countries met at Brighton and discussed how to get rid of pests.

However much you want to be nice to animals, you must agree that houseflies should be stamped out. Or swatted out. Or something.

After all, if left uncontrolled, the common housefly produces progeny per pair of something like 50 every two weeks. Within a cycle of eight weeks, 1,000 nasty, unhygienic, bothersome, buzzing flies becomes 1,000 million flies.

The insecticides keep the numbers down for a while, but the insects soon become resistant to them. The answer, apparently, is to breed sterile flies. At a factory in Mission, Texas, they are doing just that. They are then dispersed by planes over infected areas and reduce the fly population to nil within eight weeks.

As far as I'm concerned they can start dispersing them here any day they like.

Unromantic

era

THIS is surely the most unromantic era. On the one hand, it won't be long, we're assured, before we have men on the moon, shattering the romantic aura which surrounds it.

Poets and songwriters will be left without a moon to rhyme with June; it's no good telling someone the moon is made of cheese when there are men around who've been there and know it's not. And the Man in the Moon will be just another lost illusion when there's a rocketload going there each week.

And then, spring brides, the epitome of romance are rapidly becoming a thing of the past. For some time now it's been nothing but naive to think of early April marriages as anything but a bid for a tax rebate.

After all, as a single girl you can claim a whole year's allowances against half a year's pay. Get married halfway through the tax year, in October or November, and you can claim a whole year's wife's relief against the six months' pay. So you get two years' tax allowances out of one year's pay—and forget about the romance.

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FIREWORKS LAUNCH YOUTH AGAINST HUNGER EFFORTS

FIREWORKS parties, film shows and folk song parties, jazz concerts, hunger marches and many other ideas were used by Christian Aid supporters to launch their contribution to the Youth Against Hunger Campaign.

Groups throughout the country are operating the "Young Neighbours' Service" sponsored by Christian Aid and the Youth Department of the British Council of Churches. Most have chosen to support one or two of the four special youth projects in Chile, Hong Kong, the Lebanon and Nigeria rather than all of them.

BLACKBURN has a long-term plan of service; the climax will be a pageant presented by young people in Blackpool Tower.

The Arrows and the Ambassadors, two youth groups attached to BROMLEY Parish Church are working hard doing odd jobs at 4s. an hour to collect £100 for Chile.

New hymn

COVENTRY'S "Operation X" was launched on a grand scale by the Coventry Council of Churches with speeches from the Bishop of Coventry, Jimmy Hill, manager of Coventry City Football Club and Basil Heatley, the Olympic athlete. Among the folk hymns sung was a new one by Mary Edwards called "Song of the Dispossessed" written specially for the Rippers, who sang her winning entry in Christian Aid's 1965 Beat

and Folk Festival. A group of 12-14 year olds performed a dramatic mime based on Studdert Kennedy's hymn "Indifference."

HOLYHEAD will end their work in the Young Neighbours' Service with a Singing Festival.

LEEDS have a particularly ambitious campaign to educate as well as help the local community. They are adapting Christian Aid's Young Neighbours' Service to use the special skills of supporters such as teachers, artists, recording engineers and typists as well as doing the usual household tasks. Supporters of Christian

Aid and the Youth Department of the British Council of Churches are also taking a very active part in the Youth Against Hunger Campaign in many other parts of the country including ASHFORD, DERBY, GLOUCESTER, GRANTHAM, LIVERPOOL, POOLE, SHEFFIELD and WARRINGTON. Nowhere is there a shortage of jobs to be done; more volunteers to help do them will be welcomed by the Y.A.H. Secretary, Miss Angela Shears at Christian Aid, 10, Eaton Gate, London, S.W.1.

ARMY GETS ON WITH PROJECTS "IN FAITH"

ENCOURAGING beginnings to the Salvation Army's announced plans to develop 28 new social projects in 15 big population centres of Britain were reported by Colonel Arnold Brown, head of Salvation Army Public Relations, at a Press conference held to comment on the progress of the Army's Centenary Appeal.

In faith that the three million pounds total required for all the projects would be subscribed by a sympathetic general public, work has already begun on a number. The site for "Booth House" hostel in London's East End has already been cleared and working plans prepared; this hostel will accommodate 300 men, making a total accommodation for 600 with the already existing premises.

Escape

An eventide home for 40 aged women at Sydenham would open early in 1966, as would a hostel for young women at Denmark Hill. The adaptation of a building into a hostel accommodating 50 overseas students at Paddington is well advanced and the opening is expected in February next year.

A Salvationist Goodwill Centre at Stratford and "Faith House," a house in King's Cross for women and girls seeking escape from involvement in London's night life, are already operating.

In the provinces there are many signs of help for the

Army's ambitious programme. At Southampton, for instance, the local council has expressed interest in amalgamating its own provision for homeless men with that provided by the Army. At Nottingham an imaginative social complex is envisaged which will incorporate the house where William Booth was born.

Assistance

The Centenary Year decision to invite sympathetic non-Salvationist businessmen and influential citizens to serve in an advisory capacity to the Salvation Army is also being widely implemented, reported Colonel Brown. In 14 of the 15 project areas, advisory boards are now operating and assisting the Army in matters of planning, property and finance.

The Press conference was preceded by the showing of a new Salvation Army film depicting some of the social problems in Britain outlined by the Army's recent social survey TRAGEDIES OF AFFLUENCE, and showing how Salvationists seek to meet the situation.

PERFECT NON-SPORT MUST SOON FACE A STRUGGLE



Girls take a lunch break looking for a strike.

Ernest Adkins surveys the passing sport scene

YET ANOTHER AMERICAN IMPORT, "DRAG RACING," A FORM OF HIGH SPEED SPRINTING OVER SHORT DISTANCES IN A SOUPED-UP CAR THAT IS LITTLE MORE THAN ENGINE, WHEELS AND CHASSIS, WILL BE THE LATEST CRAZE IN 1966.

The publicists will give us the full treatment—this is the opportunity for which we have all been waiting—to demonstrate our ability to drive a fast car, (we all believe we can do better than Jim Clarke), preferably before a galaxy of admiring females. It will become the pastime of the "in crowd" and the with-it kids, and then just as surely it will become as archaic as the Yo-Yo and the Hula-Hoop.

It has been suggested in the national press that these contemporary activities will continue to increase in popularity even to the extent of ousting from public favour the more traditional sports. It is my humble submission that the reverse is nearer the truth.

In the immediate post-war years speedway enjoyed its biggest boom, attracting a vast following from all sections of society.

Speedway had all the ingredients of a successful spectator sport: thrills, spills and ready-made heroes in such great riders as Graham Warran and Alan Hunt. The behaviourists inform us that all spectator sports are dependant on a very strong identification appeal (we see ourselves in the role of hero) and yet although speedway was able to provide ample opportunity to exercise this latent emotion it has now lost much of its appeal.

In recent years, we have been introduced to gokarts, hydroplanes and auto-cars; all still command a following, but only among the specialists who probably prefer it that way.

The greatest innovation of all has undoubtedly been Ten-Pin Bowling. It is the ultimate non-sport.

Perfect

All the family can join in, and the environment is near perfect. Everything is done to ensure the bowler's comfort—warm pleasant surroundings—licensed bars—rest rooms—restaurants—music—the lot. In fact bowling provides all the facilities that the traditional games so blatantly lack.

The sport was an instant success, the promoters created a demand that could only be met by converting every available hall and cinema. A good, clean, healthy and highly skilful game, one cannot fault it. Yet it is my firm conviction that in the near future ten-pin will be struggling to survive.

Could it be that there is a subconscious realisation that the demand for ten-pin was artificially created for us? Indeed the main purpose of the enterprise is to make money.

I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER, BUT I DO KNOW THAT MY LOCAL BOWLS CLUB, IN EXISTENCE THESE PAST 200 YEARS, CHANGE FOR THEIR GAMES IN A DISUSED TURKEY SHED. IT WILL BE GOING STRONG WHEN TEN-PIN IS FORTOTTEN.



"I wonder when Ernest Adkins will get round to this little spot of homely athletics..."

Students to discover "The other half"

A group of undergraduates from Cambridge University is to spend a week in London's dockland to "see how the other half lives."

About 20 students from Clare College are to live in with a leading social organisation in Bermondsey to help to run clubs for the young and elderly and to see local people at work and play. The scheme is organised by the Bede House Association, which has close ties with college, which helped

launch social services for the poor in dockland a century ago.

As well as the various clubs run by the association, the students will attend discussion groups with club leaders, local clergy and businessmen.

The Master of Clare College, Mr. Eric Ashby, said: "This is a real opportunity for undergraduates to learn something about the problems of social work in Bermondsey and about the continuing need for voluntary service, which still exists within the welfare state."

15,000 FED

A project recently begun in Hong Kong on the initiative of the Bishop (the Right Rev. R. O. Hall) is the Child Feeding Programme, which provides a mid-day meal for more than 15,000 needy children. The food is prepared centrally and transported in insulated containers to distribution centres. A small fee (sometimes waived) is charged.

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