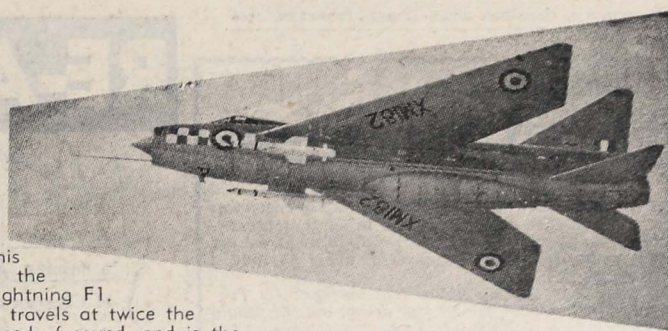


CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

6d.

February, 1966

Incorporating National Christian News



This is the Lightning F1. It travels at twice the speed of sound, and is the standard Fighter Command plane. Its work is to "get up high and break up bombers." It costs millions to supply and operate a squadron of planes like this.

Professors report: "More are poor"

POVERTY in Britain is widespread and increasing, with the incomes of millions "substantially below the average earnings of our society," a report says.

Language barrier hits hospital

A UNITED NATIONS of foreign doctors on the staff at Kings Lynn Hospital, Norfolk, is posing problems for ward and departmental sisters.

Nurses who have difficulties in dealing with overseas house officers with their limited knowledge of the language and hospital procedures have written to the matron saying they feel unable to carry out their duties adequately.

On the hospital staff are nine Pakistanis and Indians, three Burmese, one Chinese, a Cypriot, a Tibetan and a New Zealander.

Now a small working party has been set up to tackle problems which arise out of the many nationalities working at the hospital. It will meet once a week to iron out difficulties.

But did you hear about the hospital where 34 different countries were represented on the nursing staff? See page seven.

It estimates that there were 7,500,000 poor people in the country in 1960, or roughly one in seven of the population.

The total number of persons in households living below the basic assistance scale increased, the report estimates, from about 600,000 in 1953 to about 2-million in 1960.

The report says the reasons for the growing numbers with substantially below-average earnings are the increasing proportion of the aged and middle-aged in the population; the increase in chronic sickness among men aged 55 to 65; and the increase in large families.

Failure

The report was made by university professors after they had studied Ministry of Labour figures.

They underline the failure of National Assistance to meet all needs and say that plans to help children in poverty have not been given due emphasis in the political parties' policies.

The prisoners

At the end of November there were 817 women in prison and Borstal institutions in this country compared with 28,667 men.

THE GREAT AND THE BROKE

- Is it a scandal that hospital patients have to be crowded into wards and risk cross infection.
- It is a scandal that prisoners have to sleep three in a cell.
- We are ashamed, of course, about our housing record, old people's homes, schools, police recruitment problem, pathetic road network, the comparative pittance spent on the arts, and dozens of other things that make life worth living.

THE SHORT ANSWER TO ALL THESE DAMNABLE BLOTS ON THE NAME OF GREAT BRITAIN IN 1966 IS THAT MORE MONEY MUST BE SPENT ON THEM.

But there is not enough money to go round. Every intelligent person who campaigns for his or her particular improvement pro-

This paper is not pacifist. Certainly in the past we feel that the only solution to evils that existed was to fight them with guns and bombs.

Today, however, one's confidence in military superiority as the means of resolving evils in the world situation has been shattered. Moral issues somehow no longer seem to be clear. War is now almost as horrible morally and physically as Belsen itself.

We don't know and we can't know, that pacifism is the answer. But even the most ardent anti-pacifist would agree that universal disarmament is the only long term answer to world problems, and we have to start somewhere, and sometime.

IS IT REALLY WORTH LIVING IN A UTILITY WORLD OF INADEQUATE PUBLIC

Page One Comment

gramme knows that for the money HE needs there are a dozen other equally valid claims.

There would, of course, be more money to go round if we increased national productivity, or if the government increased taxation. But the greatest help would be a drastic cut in the amount we spend on defence.

For in 1964-65 the defence estimates were for £1,692 million, and they are likely to grow bigger.

While this country carries such a burden there will never be enough money to spare. The situation now is that the money we are pouring out on defence is draining the lifeblood from those institutions that help to make the country worth defending.

SERVICES IN ORDER THAT WE MAY HAVE THE DOUBTFUL FEELING OF SECURITY THAT A GUN IN OUR HAND GIVES US?

Can we be sure that defence of our way of life won't result in the agonised "double think" of American fighting in Vietnam, which we feel is morally indefensible?

WOULD COMMUNIST DOMINATION OF THE WORLD BE A WORSE EVIL THAN THE MEANS WE ARE PREPARED TO EMPLOY TO PREVENT IT?

These are big questions. Christianity must have the courage to answer them. We can't help feeling that every one of them has to be answered: NO.

You may feel differently; which shows how difficult the whole question is. We'd welcome your letters...

TOPIQUOTES

Dominee P. Coetzee, Moderator of the Dutch Reformed Church, objecting to a city council's plan to make rain scientifically by firing rockets:

"It will shock people profoundly in their faith. I will never approve of it."

★ ★ ★

Announcing a day of prayer for rain, Dr. D. J. Barnard, an official of the Dutch Reformed Church in Orange Free State:

"We must ask frankly and in all sincerity what is the deep-set cause of the oppressive crisis. It would undeniably seem that our sins are the cause. This terrible drought is an impressive visitation of Holy God."

★ ★ ★

Political commentator, Wayland Young:

"At present, the United States halfheartedly and this country whole-

heartedly are trying to prevent other nations acquiring weapons which they themselves acquired long since and do not apparently propose to reduce. It is a foolish temperance preacher who goes into the pulpit with a bottle in his hand."

★ ★ ★

H. M. Robinson, in a letter to a newspaper:

"The other day the Queen was pleased to approve of the abolition of hanging in this country. Soon afterwards we read that she has been pleased, through the Governor General of Malawi, to approve of public hanging in that country."

★ ★ ★

Christopher Nankivell, of Dawley, in a letter to the Guardian:

"Sir—You do not publish the horse-racing results. Why do you publish the Honours List?"

INSIDE

- Doctor on factory farming.
- Lazy Valentines.
- On being a councillor.
- A psychiatrist warns on drugs.
- Children's contest results.
- World cup ballyhoo.



This is Birmingham Accident Hospital. The building in which it is situated is almost 120 years old. Doctors there regard the provision of a new hospital as an urgent priority. Plans for a new hospital have been formulated for three years. It won't be opened for 10 years yet. Why? No money to spare...

Personal Opinion...

No way to happiness

By Percy Burnell

IT is both sinister and grossly misleading to encourage growing boys and girls in the belief that promiscuous sexual activity will ever result in what we are all wanting from life—Happiness. It never has and it never will.

In marriage sex has a two-fold purpose: (1) Procreation to keep the human race going; but the family must be wisely planned. (2) To be experienced as the highest physical expression of love. This, however, is the union of two complete personalities, not merely the gratification of desire. Indeed, that may not be love at all.

Love does not seek to gratify itself but, rather, does it seek to promote the highest good of the beloved partner, and help towards the fulfilment of perfect happiness. Promiscuous sex activity does not do these things. It is selfish. It knows no such thing as sacrifice—without which there is no love.

My word to all teenagers will always be, abstain. Exercise self-control—restraint—discipline. You'll be stronger characters for it, and one day you'll enter marriage free from regrets and agonising guilty feelings consequent upon promiscuous sex adventure—and there won't be an unwanted baby to care for, either.

Bishop fights to visit his people

THE Anglican Bishop of Kimberley, the Right Rev. C. E. Crowther, wants to visit an African reserve north of Kimberley to "continue humanitarian work among needy Africans there."

The bishop, a British subject, said he had decided to apply after learning from a local newspaper correspondent that a local acting Bantu affairs commissioner had said that he would not be granted a permit. Bishop Crowther, aged 39, was the centre of a controversy

before Christmas after he visited about 85 African families who had been moved to the reserve from a squatters' camp in a disused diamond mine in Kimberley.

After it had been reported that a local shopkeeper had been prevented from distributing food supplied through a relief fund, the bishop drove in unimpeded with a lorryload of food on Christmas Eve.

Doubted

Bishop Crowther said that a reporter had told him that the local commissioner had also said he doubted if he would get a permit if he applied to Pretoria.

"The idea that a bishop can be refused to minister pastorally to people in his ecclesiastical jurisdiction presents an issue of principle," the bishop said.

"What in heaven's name have things come to if a bishop of the church can be refused permission to distribute food to starving people?"

Now parents can stay with sick children

Four "come and stay with your child" flatlets have been completed at Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, Surrey.

Long stay children will now have the opportunity of enjoying family life when their parents come for a visit over several days.

Children about to be discharged will also move into the flatlets with their parents so that doctors can assess whether the child is ready to go into the outside world.

REACTION

Why Prof.

Ayer is

a member

of Christian

Action

L^o

In a radio interview

Prof. A. J. Ayer, presi-

dent of the British

Humanist Association, said

that he was a member of

Christian Action because

I think the movement is

worthwhile. He said he

thought that he was a

humanist and not a

theist, but that he was

not a member of the

British Humanist

Association, but that

he was a member of

Christian Action.

He said that he was

not a member of the

British Humanist

Association, but that

he was a member of

Christian Action.

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British Humanist

... HIS FAITH BECOMES MORE CERTAIN

I AM not often stimulated to write a letter to the Press—but if the remarks of Professor A. J. Ayer are as reported in your issue of December, 1965—then I feel bound to comment.

Of course Professor Ayer is entitled, as we all are, to his opinions, to hold whatever beliefs or lack of beliefs he likes.

But surely it is the height of arrogance to assume—as he appears to do, that only people of the left want to better the world—and get rid of poverty, illness, poor housing, hatred, bitterness and malice; those of us who are Christians and Conservatives want and work for all these things just as much as Professor Ayer and his people of the left.

MISTAKEN

Finally his likening his beliefs with those of the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Woolwich and people who think like him, is not applicable to the majority of Christians—who while not doubting the sincerity integrity and courage of the Bishop and Professor Ayer—are convinced that they are utterly mistaken in their interpretation of Christ and "Caritas."

The more I see of people—in sickness and in health—in life and in death—the more certain I become of the love of God, and our dependence on Him, and the fulfilment of the life to come.

S. F. LOGAN DAHNE, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. Conisboro' Avenue, CAVERSHAM Reading.

FACTORY FARMING IS THE ONLY WAY AHEAD

DAVID UFTON presents a personal view



Can we assume that animals are machines?

I WAS interested in the article in Christian News, "Factory Farming is the only way ahead." Public opinion has shown they are not satisfied with the factory farming methods from the humanitarian point of view, and the Brambell Committee was set up to investigate.

Edward Carpenter, the Archbishop of Westminster, and myself had an interview with Mr. Peart, the Minister of Agriculture, and we gave him the enclosed letter:

WE are grateful for the Brambell Report and the frank recognition which it presupposes that systems of agriculture and treatment of animals are finally subject to the moral law; and, therefore, that even the stepping-up of production cannot in itself justify particular methods. It seems to us, therefore, that the first and overriding necessity is to see that its positive recommendations are written into the law of the land, and that an effective machinery be established for its implementation.

IMPORTANT

What seems to us important in the Brambell Report is:-

- 1) Recommendation of partial bedding for all animals except pigs (why not pigs?).
- 2) Recommendation for roughage for all calves over one week old.
- 3) Banning of all deficiency diets.
- 4) Banning of debeaking and tail docking as a substitute for good management.
- 5) Training in welfare of animals in all agricultural courses.
- 6) The setting up of standing farm animal

welfare committees.

We hope that once the Brambell Report has been implemented this will encourage the Minister to ensure:-

- 1) That all animals be given free exercise in the open air and sunshine with free access to grassland. (Dr. Thorpe in an excellent appendix has stated that we ought not to carry our domination of animals beyond the point where they cease to exercise their natural faculties. This we contend can only be done by the provision of exercise appropriate to the species. This would automatically get rid of all battery cages and other unpleasant features such as dim lighting, high humidity, tethering, etc.).
- 2) That farms, as commercial undertakings, should be subject to licensing.
- 3) That the number of animals kept per acre should be controlled as is being attempted by the Germans.

DISTORT

Finally, in respect of the conditions to which animals are being subjected, the ultimate question must be how far it is legitimate to distort the whole rhythm and pattern of their existence. Any form of domesticity, of course, does this in a measure and it is important to realise this: but this would not, in our judgment, justify ANY manipulation to ANY extent. A limit must be set somewhere.

It seems to us that the psychology engendered in a mechanical age has spilled over into our treatment of animals and the assumption is now uncritically made that the animals can be treated as if they were machines, that is, manipulated and conditioned solely for human convenience. It is not a matter of battery owners being particularly cruel men; but of all of us being caught up in a new psychological approach.

DOUGLAS LATTO, M.B., Ch.B., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., M.R.C.O.G.

Derby Road, CAVERSHAM, Reading.

He said (IN JUNE)...

Roman Catholic DENIS RICE asks



WHY SEPARATE SCHOOLS FOR US?

THE contemporary English R.C.s have spent many parabolic "crisis" of obedience in the R.C. often for

traces of R.C. Bri' for la e

A SUBSTANTIAL increase in the number of Roman Catholic school places was demanded at the annual conference of the Catholic Teachers' Federation of England and Wales, meeting at Loughborough.

A motion re-affirmed that it is "a basic principle of Catholic education that Catholic children should be taught in Catholic schools by Catholic teachers."

They say...

It also pledged the federation's support to the Catholic authorities in "their efforts to ensure that the supply of school places and teachers is adequate to meet the demand."

If the highest hopes of many teachers and members of the Church hierarchy are to be fulfilled and all Catholic children are to be educated in Catholic schools, the provision of places will have to be more than doubled in the next 15 years.

The latest figures show that about 750,000 pupils attend Catholic schools, while the number of Catholic children

of school age stands at just over one million. It is estimated that this number will rise to more than 1,500,000 by 1980.

Finance remains the key to the school building programme. It was estimated at last year's conference that the Catholic community had spent £50 millions since 1944 as its direct share towards the cost of school building.

The teachers have repeatedly supported demands for 100 per cent. State grants instead of the 75 per cent. which is the base line for most new secondary schools and for replacing primary schools.

Such parents will say that the R.C. school was deficient both educationally and religiously. They make important criticisms of the school's attitude to religion. They instance undue control by a priest who has no professional competence in education. They query the reliance on corporal punishment. They comment on the absence, or effective neutering, of parent-teacher associations.

If they do send their children to a non-Roman school, they have technically broken the Roman Church's law. In some English parishes they will be given a regular pupil reminder of the gravity of their sin.

Finally, I believe, there is another, more crucial aspect of "integration." In England and Scotland we live in a mixed religious community. It is to non-denominational Universities, factories and offices that our school children pass. It is a mixed community they must serve in Christ; a mixed community in which they must worship and do witness to their faith. In this contemporary context, I have the deepest misgivings about my Church's line of education apartheid.



DEAR SIR/MADAM: IN ANSWER TO YOUR APPLICATION FOR THE POSITION OF VALENTINE...

It's all done by cards these days. There are cards for birth, marriage, death, baptism, communion, Easter, Christmas, Father's Day, Mother's Day, being ill, birthdays, forgetting birthdays, and passing jam making exams. Nobody's activity graph can oscillate without there being a suitable card to mark it for them.

And now, in the shiver-me-timbers month of February, here looms St. Valentine's Day. The witless will select cards which say in floral profusion those things which with all their costly education they cannot find the words to say for themselves.

It cannot surely be long before somebody introduces a gaudy card which says:

I, _____, being single, aged _____, in my right mind, and solvent, make request of you, _____, that you should be my husband/wife (cross out which does not apply), and that we enter a period of engagement with a view to matrimony in _____ weeks/months/years. I make declaration that I desire/love/need/like/cannot live without/could get on better with you, and look forward to an early reply.

Comfortable beldames employed by the card firms all the year round to pen sickly variations on the eternal theme will voice for countless lovesick souls the secret declarations of their ardour.

With the increase in general education

one might have expected a flood of new love letter writers. Why should a young woman nursed tenderly through her infant readers have to resort to somebody else's gibberish when she wants at last to state in words the most important thing she will ever know?

Have they really used my taxes all these years to assist the peasant in his struggles with mere tax returns, notes to the milkman, English sub-titles, and the Bond pulp books? I am dismayed.

Will nobody write a letter to their love? Not even a short letter, beginning with endearment they honestly feel, and ending with sincere tokens of devotion? Must we give up, and hand over this mammoth privilege to the mass repetition printing presses?

Is the love you feel for her really the same thing as can be expressed by another man for His beloved.

A plague on the cards that have sullied the fair name of Valentine. Reach me vellum and quill. What I feel, I will write with my hand.

LAURENCE
YARDLEY.

Landlords appoint adviser to tenants

A LONDON property group has appointed a welfare worker to help 12,000 flat dwellers with their problems.

She is 43 years old Mrs. Gwyn Foster, who will earn £1,000 a year.

She has been given the job by a privately-owned London property group, the Freshwater Group of Companies.

It is thought to be the first appointment of its kind.

A spokesman for the landlords said recently: "We often become deeply involved in our tenants' lives, apart from their financial problems.

"But many tenants are frightened to approach their landlords—and the problems get worse.

"The difficulties of one tenant in a block can easily affect the others and cause unnecessary unhappiness."

Most of the flats are in the Greater London area.

Humane

Mrs. Foster said at her home in Chessington, Surrey: "I think it was very humane of the company to plan help for their tenants in this way."

Mrs. Foster has been a welfare worker for ten years.

Girls build a "do-it yourself" mural

TEN thousand stones of all sorts, shapes and sizes, collected during holidays, have been incorporated into a wall mural at the North London Collegiate School, Stanmore, Middlesex.

The stones came from all over Britain and some even from north America and Israel. Measuring 32 feet long and eight feet high, the mural is based on the Psalm of Praise, No. 148. It is built up from 64 two-foot square blocks which every class at the school took part in making.

Each concrete block was rendered with coloured cement mixed by the girls themselves. Miss Philippa Threafal, an art mistress at the school, said: "We really used the psalm to get all the various creatures of the earth into the mural. Once we settled on the theme, the thing just grew."

Workmen have now built the mural into the wall of the school courtyard. Started in 1964, all the work has been done after school hours or in lunch breaks.

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Old Church to become idea centre in N.E.?

ALL SAINTS', Newcastle-upon-Tyne, may have a new future as a centre for inter-church studies, services, and the arts.

Canon Peter Hamilton, formerly religious broadcasting officer for the North Region of the B.B.C., who is now an adviser to the Bishop of Newcastle, has prepared a scheme to adapt the church for these uses.

If the Bishop approves the proposal, Roman Catholics, the Free Churches, and possibly Jewish communities on Tyne-side will be asked to co-operate in running the scheme.

The Canon's idea is that All Saints' should become a centre for the free exchange of ideas, without a propagandist bias, attracting people who, though not necessarily churchgoers, hold the traditions and values of Christianity.

Among the activities he envisages are conferences,

formal debates, informal discussions, seminars, lectures, performances of music and drama, including broadcasting, and liturgical experiments.

As a parish, All Saints' is one of the four oldest in Newcastle, but the present building dates from 1786-96.

Neglected

All Saints' is probably Newcastle's most neglected building. It has not been used for services for seven or eight years. But recently it was restored at a cost so far of £27,000.

Under redevelopment plans, the buildings around the church are to be demolished and will be replaced by offices, university halls of residence, restaurants, and a theatre. The church will become once again the central feature of the city's principal business district.

TEAM WILL HUNT JOBS FOR COLOURED YOUNGSTERS

A SPECIAL youth employment committee to deal with the problem of finding jobs for coloured school leavers is being formed in north-west London.

The man behind the idea, Mr. Leonard Archer, youth employment officer for Marylebone and Paddington, expects the number of coloured school-leavers to double in the next two years.

Already a working party has been set up and has circulated youth employment committees in the district. Mr. Archer said: "We will look at means of persuading employers to give jobs to coloured youngsters, many of whom were born here.

"Fortunately, employers seem to be more tolerant now, but next summer 8,000 children will be looking for jobs in our area of which 10 per cent. will be coloured.

Increasing

"I believe that the problem of integration will solve itself but I am waiting for the other youth employment officers to report back," he added.

In five years' time the number of immigrant school leavers is expected to be 20 per cent. of the total.

They don't welcome aid

Hundreds of old age pensioners in the Banbury area are failing to collect national assistance to which they are entitled because they are too proud.

That is the claim of the local National Assistance Board which has sent out about 700 letters in an effort to get in touch with the old people.

Mr. J. Hawkins, the local assistance board manager, said: "Old people often have a terrific yearning for independence which makes them forego any allowance."

Bank cheers up after car "strike"

RESPONSE to an appeal for blood donors among Ford car workers at Dagenham, Essex, has been described as "magnificent."

Mr. Robert Jones, deputy regional organiser at Brentwood blood transfusion centre, says that more than 200 workers volunteered. Stocks of blood at the Brentwood "bank," which serves the north-east metropolitan hospitals region, have improved after a worrying spell.

Mr. Jones says: "We have never yet been in a position where operations have had to be postponed in this region, but we were recently having to make special efforts to send letters to people in order to ensure reasonable intake." He adds that there is now a "fair response."

Calling all ma's

Midwives in the Medway Towns in Kent are to have radio telephones installed in their cars, which will be in direct contact with the ambulance service system.

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- PSORIASIS may be hereditary, may occur with puberty, may follow injury exposure, shock or worry, or may be due to faulty nutrition, and faulty elimination. It may also be persistent and recurring and sufferers often despair of ever having a clear and healthy skin.
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- THINK what a healthy skin means to you. No unsightly scale, no distressing patches of redness, no irritation and no more embarrassing anxiety when you are at work or with your friends. With a healthy skin you can work with pleasure, you can join freely in sports, recreation and social activities, you can dress with pride and share the freedom and happiness of holidays. A new life is opened out to you.

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Enquiry Department 6A.

208 GREAT CLOWES ST., BROUGHTON, MANCHESTER 7

Safely back to normal with the re-adjustment Fellowship

SIX years ago a young Dutchwoman called Elly Jansen, who had already trained as a social worker and as a nurse, was reading for a degree in theology at the London Bible College. A friend asked her if, in her spare time, she would do something for people just out of mental hospital who were trying to re-adjust to normal working lives.

She was so struck by the little that was available to such people that she rented a small house in Richmond, Surrey, where they could stay while they looked for a job and then for a place of their own to live.

Within a few months she was snowed under with letters from local authorities and doctors asking her to find room for more and more people, both men and women, for whom they felt she could provide both the haven and the launching pad that were so needed. Her studies were postponed and all her time devoted to her new work.

MOVE ON

She never sat for her finals but she founded the RICHMOND FELLOWSHIP, which has set up six houses in as many years and whose patrons today are the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. There are about 20 residents and four staff to each of the houses. The residents are aged between 16 and 60. Most have full-time jobs and contribute to their expenses, according to income. When they feel ready, they are encouraged to move on to a place of their own.

Two of the people Elly Jansen has helped—an ex-resident and one who has only recently joined—describe what the fellowship means to them. Howard, a robust man in his late thirties, who stayed at the fellowship a few years ago, looks back objectively to the time when he came out of hospital:

"I'd simply lost touch. I'd been in and out of hospital for about eight years and I needed some practical help in getting hold of accommodation and finding myself a job. I got to hear of the fellowship through the social worker at the hospital. It was somewhere I could stay while I looked for a job. You don't usually find people want to go back to the same job after they've been in hospital."

"I did a six months' rehabilitation course in accountancy, then I worked in an accounts department for a couple of years. Employers are far more open-minded than they used to be. They're willing to give you a try. I tell them the whole story."

"No, I wasn't sorry to leave the fellowship. The main thing is to get on and stand on one's own feet. Most people share a flat or a house when they leave. I went to a

hostel because while I'd been paying ten pounds a week to stay at the fellowship I hadn't been saving much. "At the moment I'm doing a course in chartered secretarialship, and next Wednesday I'm starting a new job for a social service organisation. What I hope to do eventually though is work for the fellowship."

Bruce is a thin neat man in his mid-twenties with an expressive brown face. When he speaks of the fellowship he is less matter-of-fact than Howard. To Bruce, who is staying there now, it means something more personal:

"I was completely at sea really. I wasn't just accommodation I needed—it was a home, a place that could give me some kind of security. Once I'd been able to fix up an appointment Elly saw me herself and only three days after I moved in. I had to have a full report from the psychiatrist. They must have that—it's much better if they know what's happened to you."

"I left my job yesterday. I was teaching art at a school. I just couldn't handle it. I wouldn't have been able to hold it down for as long as I did if I hadn't been staying here for the last eight weeks. Now the doctors have told me not to look for a job for a few weeks, but I want to get started on one soon. I'd like to have a shot at restoring paintings. I've discussed it with the other residents. We pool our ideas, you see."

FOUNDATIONS

"It's the evening meal that one looks forward to most. We all have it together. Then one can always bring people in to dinner. I have no inhibitions about asking people to come in at the weekends to help us paint the walls and redecorate the place. Not long ago we had to lay the foundations of a new house. A group from a peace organisation came over and helped us for nothing. This saved us a tremendous lot."

"We have group meetings or house meetings once a week. They're not compulsory, but if one possibly can one should come. The Church takes quite a lot of interest in the fellowship's work. I'm an Anglican, not terribly active but I'm hoping my faith will grow while I'm with the fellowship."

NOTE: Enquiries, donations and offers of help may be made to the secretary, Richmond Fellowship, 21, Lancaster Park, Richmond, Surrey.

Drugs are the modern doctor's most valued weapon in the fight against human maladies. Physical and mental conditions appear to respond to their use. But have we come to rely on drugs too much?

In this article, a leading psychiatrist suggests that we have. The writer is H. Edelston, M.D., D.P.M., Consulting Psychiatrist with the Mental Health Service of Bradford.

What is one to think of the delinquent boy of nine who proudly told me that his doctor had given him some "anti-stealing pills"?

I AM not against the use of tranquilisers, or other kinds of sedative, in mental disorders. I am very much against their misuse and abuse: one of the besetting sins of medicine today.

There is more than one reason for my criticism of present practice. Take first the more superficial material considerations which are very relevant, though not fundamental. Our statisticians have told us how many pounds per head are being spent on the various drugs; perhaps someone in the N.H.S. will work out one day how much of this is just waste. For my part, I can only parody the war-time slogan: Is your medicine really necessary?

I would ask someone to think more seriously too about the secondary effects of all this drugging. What happens to a person taking powerful chemicals, over a long period of many years and often in steadily increasing doses, simply to suppress his unpleasant feelings?

For that is what it amounts to in all too many cases.

called in. The latter promptly prescribed a new set of drugs! So the patient came home as badly off as before

It will be said that there are many benefits and even "cures" effected by these drugs. May I state categorically that I have yet to meet a patient really cured by mechanical-chemical means: and I have been in practice as a psychiatrist for many years now. The symptoms

misuse—of tranquilisers gives us a way of shutting our eyes to them. At one time we could blame material conditions: poverty, poor housing, bad working conditions and so on. Though there is still room for improvement in many places, these are not nearly so important as they were. In fact their elimination, through better wages, better housing and material comforts generally, has shown up only more clearly how our troubles arise through our personal-psychological failings: our conflicts with our

encountered induces a due sense of humility and an awareness of one's limitations.

Not for me the simple exhortation "only believe and all will be well." In any case what is one to believe these days? Or suppose one knows the right thing and cannot carry it out? I well remember the exasperated mother of an intelligent 12-year-old boy, who was idly drifting in a manner too reminiscent of his inadequate father: "I know I shouldn't lose my temper with him," she cried to me, "but I do. What now?"

And what if, like so many including myself, one is not a Christian believer at all! Whatever one's beliefs, there are the cardinal virtues of patience and tolerance which one learns to exercise in helping people. Even these at times are stretched to breaking point and everyone has to admit his failures. What to do with the "failures"—those who do not, perhaps cannot respond, is the most serious problem of all.

THE DANGEROUS LIE ABOUT DRUG 'CURES'

Medical men are well aware of what is called the "side effects," i.e. new symptoms caused by the drugs themselves, for which they offer other drugs to control (=cover) these untoward symptoms. And so it goes on: till instead of a patient with a psychological disorder one has an addict who cannot live at all without his drugs.

The parallel with alcoholism is uncomfortably close. With this to aggravate the situation: drugs are free "on the Health Service," and patients are actually encouraged to take them as a "cure" for their ills. More than one patient has so protested, in his defence, on finding he could not do without his pills.

NEW SET

Indeed my G.P. friend told me about sending an addicted patient of his into hospital to be detoxicated and have her drugs withdrawn: which was very satisfactorily achieved by the general physician.

Yet on discharge his patient brought back a fresh supply of tranquilisers—of a different kind! On enquiry at the hospital he learned that after the successful withdrawal of the drugs, the consultant psychiatrist had been

smothered—yes: though these are often still visible, to the trained eye, not far below the surface. But cure? No.

A serious medical fallacy lies in the false analogy between physical and mental "disease." Some mental disorders are dependent on physical i.e. structural damage, but only a few. For the most part psychological disturbances arise out of unresolved or badly resolved conflicts of living.

A real and lasting cure of these disorders can only be realised by the resolution of these conflicts in a healthier way than heretofore. True this is not always possible: but it should be the FIRST consideration before offering the solace of drugs. Smothering the symptoms (and the conflict) with sedative-tranquilisers is a bad second, essentially no better than drowning one's sorrows in drink.

What is one to think of the delinquent boy of nine who proudly told me that his doctor had given him "some anti-stealing pills." Or the little coloured child of less than five, given drugs to suppress his temper tantrums. (Our enquiry brought out that her father had deserted her mother and the latter was now in the mental hospital. A kindly but ineffectual foster mother had been unable to cope, and the child was taken into care...)

The origins of much mental disorder lies in the conflicts of life itself. The use—or rather

fellow beings, or within ourselves.

UNHAPPY

This, to my mind, is the meaning of the large increase in neurotic disorders over the past decades.

Many writers get so far, then leave it: as though they had now settled everything. But as I see it, the REAL PROBLEM JUST BEGINS HERE, particularly in this our 20th Century civilisation with all its attendant ills.

Many solutions are offered for our unresolved conflicts but their inadequacy is underlined by the steadily increasing numbers of unhappy discontented people as well as those afflicted by nervous and mental ailments.

The Church must accept its share of the general indictment, for though there is much talk of the need for a religious revival, no sign of its appearance is at all apparent. Pious exhortations have no effect: and whilst prayer has its undoubted value, I can only quote "an ounce of help is worth a pound of prayer."

When one tries to help people—as has been my professional duty these past 30 years—the appalling personal problems

The problem of evil, as I would call it, cannot be denied. Sweeping the dirt under the carpet never did work for long, and less so than ever today. The new policy of smothering with drugs is no better than the old habit of drowning with drink (which still goes on).

How to deal with the dark underworld that analytic psychology has exposed in human relations is the basic religious problem in our 20th century of material prosperity.

Promises of better things in the next world, or threats of worse in the shape of Hell fire are no longer believed. Perhaps in this sense their religion has failed the people as much as people have failed their religion.

I have no easy solution; only Winston Churchill's "Blood and sweat and tears." Or to quote a lesser known but older and more profound religious text of a 2nd century rabbi: "The day is short, the work is great and the labours are sluggish; the reward is much and the Master is urgent. It is not for you to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it."

There is enough "work" for all of us, Christians and non-Christians alike, to keep us busy for our time, and for many years to come.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

TIGHT ROPE WALKER

JANUARY is the month for pantomimes and circuses. We watch with admiration the skill of the juggler, acrobat and tight rope walker. But some of us do not only perform in January: we have to walk on a tight rope all the year round.

On many occasions in this column I have criticised the Church of which I am both by birth and conviction a member. This month I want to suggest that the Church of England priest is like the tight rope walker, the curiosity of many who are spectators so far as any organised religion is concerned.

If the Church of England does not give a lead in oecumenical matters we are told the other churches cannot do anything effective in that field. If it gives a lead someone is sure to say "Another C. of E. ruse to bring the others to heel."

If the clergy spend time visiting the sick and those in trouble they are told they are not giving a lead in the life of the community: if they are seen entering the town hall they are shot at for neglecting their parochial duties.

If the clergy are found saying their prayers the cry goes up "Nice to be some people." If they are found in a local factory someone is bound to say "We expect our priests to be spiritual people."

If the clergy try to re-state the Christian Creed in contemporary terms they are branded as atheists: if they uphold the traditional pattern of worship they find that only a small minority can understand what the Christian Faith is all about.

If a priest tries to make the machinery of the Church less cumbersome he is told not to waste time on committees: if he does not show such a concern he is accused of trying to make a 12th century machine work in the present age.

Yes—any priest or layman who is closely involved in the life of the Church of England must learn to walk on a tight rope. But how much more exhilarating to walk on a tight rope than to sit in the ranks of the spectators.

John Grimdale

Talking Point

THE ENGLISH are avid readers of newspapers. More families take a daily paper in this country than anywhere else in the world. This is presumably why Lord Thompson, a Canadian, came over here and made himself a millionaire by selling newspapers. Now he is launching a series of 26 new daily evening papers of which Reading's vigorous "Evening Post" is the first.

So it seems sensible that Christians should trade on this English foible and start publishing newspapers of a popular kind. A modern newspaper with its photographs, type-variations and layout is an ideal means of communicating facts and opinions about people and events.

Many regret the passing of the old church "magazine" type of publication: but the range of its contents was very narrow, and its appearance, size and print were uninviting. The "Caversham Bridge" aims to do a different job completely; one that is much more in keeping with our new vision of the Church's work, that of serving and caring for ALL the people in the local community, not JUST the churchgoers.

A newspaper is well fitted to express this breadth of concern, especially when it is produced by all the Christian groups in a locality. It can show that matters of common interest such as housing and traffic and schools are as important to thinking Christians as are services and sewing circles. By identifying itself with a particular area (in our case, Berkshire north of the Thames), a Church newspaper can do much to weld into a community those who lived within it. This is a valuable job in these days of high mobility and unneighbourly self-dependence.

Finally, I am certain that a newspaper like ours, if it shows itself to be genuinely interested in people and their problems within the community as a whole, will bring enjoyment, help and food for thought to the many people of goodwill around us who are unable or unwilling, for various reasons, to associate themselves with the worship and social life of any particular church.

DAVID CLIFT.

PROFILE OF LADY SIBLY

by Roving Reporter

INTERVIEWING and writing profiles is not always an easy task. Often, one comes away from an interview with an impressive list of achievements and a thorough biographical history, but very little impression of the person interviewed.

In fact, quite the reverse is true of Lady Sibly, and one is tempted to abandon details and concentrate on the vivid impression she leaves behind, even on a short acquaintance, of a completely relaxed person with a great love of beauty and an absorbing interest in other people. She has been a Reading magistrate for many years and is at present Chairman of the Bench, and one can imagine her gently probing into the facts behind a case. In short, she has all the qualities which many a dedicated social worker would envy. It is not surprising to learn how kind and helpful she is to new members of the Bench, many of whom are nervous of their new responsibilities.

Many Caversham people will know that Lady Sibly came to Reading in 1929 when her husband was appointed Vice Chancellor of the University. Before that he had been at Swansea and London, and Lady Sibly speaks with enthusiasm of their days at Swansea when her husband was Principal of an entirely new college. Her own interest in education was, of course, very much fostered in this way and it is no wonder that her interest did not cease on

her husband's retirement in 1946. She herself is a Governor of the Grove Secondary School.

Her relaxed air is obviously deceptive, when one hears of all her many activities. Besides keeping home for her son who is himself a senior lecturer at the University, she finds

time for many other interests and is, I understand, closely concerned with Family Planning work in the area. Of one thing she is very proud — she was a founder member and first Chairman of the first Reading branch of the Townswomen's Guilds. Today, of course, there are ten branches of this flourishing organisation.

Her love of beauty is obvious to anyone visiting Lady Sibly at her home, and again it is not surprising that she has a keen interest in rose growing. Living close to

the golf course, she is a member of the local club while, at the same time, enjoying the advantages of a lovely view from her windows.

Needless to say, she is a very valued member of her own neighbourhood and it was a fortunate chance that brought her to the Emmer Green area. She is, I may add, a modest, almost shy, person, so it might be fitting to round off this profile with an apology for any aspect of Lady Sibly's active life in Reading which I have omitted.



Photo: Fred Walker

"BRIDGE" READERS SEND GIFTS

ALMSHOUSES RESIDENTS SAY

THANK YOU

THE RESIDENTS of the almshouses in Westfield Road have asked us to publish their thanks for the many parcels received by them this Christmas — they have never had so many gifts before and attribute it to the publicity given by "The Bridge" to the state of the almshouses.

But when is something going to be done to improve the actual state of the buildings? This is what the residents really want to know.

Distributors please note

The next edition of the CAVERSHAM BRIDGE will be published on Wednesday, February 23. Please deliver your copies early.

VOTE

The Anglican parish of Caversham is holding its annual elections in February this year. This is a month earlier than usual so that these important meetings will not clash with the special Lenten study groups. If your name is not already on the electoral roll you can still add it if you act quickly and fill up the form you will find in any

of the four churches. You may even consider standing yourself as a candidate for election to the Church Council. In the past year the Council has had many important decisions to make, and it is essential that careful thought should be given to nominating the right people to serve on the Church Council and District Committees.

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETINGS AT 8 p.m.

Monday, February 7, St. Barnabas District in St. Barnabas Hall.

Tuesday, February 8, St. John's District in St. John's Hall.

Wednesday, February 9, St. Peter's District in Balmore Hall.

Thursday, February 10, St. Andrew's District in St. Andrew's Hall.

ANNUAL VESTRY AND PAROCHIAL MEETING AT 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, February 17, Balmore Hall.

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YOUR ESSO BLUE DEALER

Who'd be a Head Teacher?

H EAD TEACHERS come in for admiration and criticism. There is a common image of them sitting behind a desk, issuing orders and looking grand. But is this so?

The CAVERSHAM BRIDGE hopes to do something towards dispelling this image by publishing the graphic timetable in a local headteacher's morning. We wish to add that the names used are entirely imaginary.

The school door was opened by a beaming prefect. "The telephone rang," he said. "Miss White says she will be late for school as she's had a puncture on Caversham Bridge." Miss White brings two other members of my staff.

I told the prefect to put up the hymn "Fight the Good Fight"...

The telephone rang again. It was Mrs. A. "Sorry Roger can't come to school today. He's been sick all night."

I expressed my sympathy, rang off, glanced through a pile of letters, and then made my way to the hall where the children were quietly filing into prayers. The next 10 minutes were serious.

I noted with pleasure that the staff was complete. Obviously Miss White's passengers had helped to change the wheel.

Back in my room I settled down to deal with correspondence. It was 9.25 a.m.

9.26—The school caretaker. A window in the corridor had been broken. Would I arrange for it to be boarded up before evening? I telephoned to the appropriate

on guard and a basin handy and went back to correspondence.

9.50—Hasty knock—"Wendy's been sick." Rushed to medical room—alas, she had missed the basin! Sent for the caretaker who competently dealt with the situation. telephoned Wendy's mother who was not at home, located her at her place of work, telephoned for taxi.

10.20—Wendy's mother arrived. I warned her about concussion, recommended her to call a doctor, and off they went in the taxi.

10.25—Telephone call from parent. Would I please tell Stanley not to meet her as arranged at the bus stop in Reading but to go to tea with his gran instead?

10.30—I abandoned correspondence and went to each

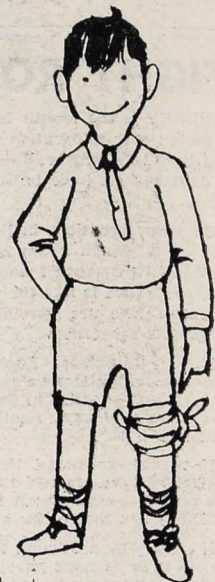
out coffee. Two girls brought 7½d. and a French 2fr. piece they had found. A teacher reported that someone had eaten John Smith's lunch, and another teacher brought in Bobby Jones with a nasty cut on his knee. I attended to this in the medical room and he went off proudly limping, with a nice big bandage to show his friends.

10.50—End of "break." I drank cold coffee and went to the library to hear a group of backward children read.

10.52—The clerical assistant reported that a traveller had called with the latest books published by his firm. I sent readers back to their class and returned to my room. Informed traveller that I could spare him five minutes. He was a good salesman and it was 11.15 before leaving a stack of specimen books, leaflets and catalogues, he departed.

11.20—Telephone call from Education Office. I tried tactfully to put a good case for an increase in staff and was equally tactfully told that this was unlikely.

11.30—Five children from class five brought their writing books to show me proudly that they had earned stars. I expressed approbation, took them back to their classroom and expressed it again. Children and teacher glowed. They were doing fractions, using Cuisenaire apparatus and I couldn't resist taking over. We had a lovely time with thirds and eighths until the clerical assistant came to say that there was a visitor. This turned out to be a policeman making enquiries about some damage to a garden in the neighbourhood. It was soon proved that the children concerned



were older than those in my school.

12.30-1.30—Dinner in three sittings. Teachers supervise meals while women helpers "mind" the rest of the children.

It was raining and classrooms were filled with pupils occupying themselves with various recreations. Teachers gaily predicted trouble in the afternoon—children need to stretch their limbs and get fresh air. I patrolled the classrooms, quelling squabbles, and learning a lot about the children's home lives. At 1 p.m. the rain stopped and the first and second "sittings" roared out into the playground, while I and the third sitting had our dinner.

1.30—Bell for afternoon school. I collected from my room the notes of a lesson for class eight and was leaving when Allison and Jenny appeared. Jenny sobbing convulsively. She had sat down in a puddle and was very wet indeed. I changed her pants and skirt for dry ones.

And so it goes on...



Wendy's mother arrives

department, found the number engaged, and made a note to discover the culprit.

9.30—Small boy with note. "My mum says I mustn't do P.E. 'cos I've got a cold." I explained the fallacy of thinking that P.E. is bad for colds and returned to my letters. Drafted notice about next Parents Evening and asked the clerical assistant to duplicate it.

9.40—Two girls. "Miss Brown says Wendy has bumped her head and will you look at it." Told Wendy to lie down, placed a prefect

class making enquiries about the broken window. Nobbody owned up.

10.45 a.m.—Shouts from the playground indicated release from classrooms for "break."

10.46—I walked through the school and sent into the playground two small boys playing marbles, a group of footballers arguing fiercely, four girls gossiping round a mirror, two infants squirting water, one boy swinging on coat pegs, and two playing "HE" along the corridor. Back to my room and poured



Five children from Class 5

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Photo: Fred Walker

Collecting swimming trophies at an almost alarming rate is Mary Russell, of Crawshaw Drive, Emmer Green. Following in the footsteps of Anne, her older sister, 10-year-old Mary already has a fine collection of badges, certificates, cups, shields and at least one broken record for the Reading area. But, in her parents' eyes, the most important of these are the badges for personal survival. These may mean the difference between life and death not only for Anne and Mary but for other children as well, an important fact in a riverside town like Reading.

Indeed, Mr. and Mrs. Russell firmly believe that every child in the district should be given the same opportunity to safeguard their lives. It is for this reason that they were so wholeheartedly behind the swimming pool project which was launched at Emmer Green Primary School about 1958. And once this was built both the girls took full advantage of the opportunities it presented. The headmistress of Emmer Green Primary School, Miss Phyllis Bone, is a firm believer in training children to swim at a very early age, having herself known tragedy at some of her previous schools.

On the Russells' sideboard is a photograph of Mary receiving the cup which is awarded annually by the National Council of Women to the school with the highest number of new swimmers in the year. With a record number of 70 at Emmer Green, they deserved to win the cup; and it is fitting that young Mary should be chosen to receive the award on behalf of the school.

It is interesting to note, too, that Mr. Russell, himself a headmaster of a Reading school, intends to see what can be done about having a pool built at his own school. We wish him every success; if such a thing leads to more children with the capabilities of Anne and Mary, Reading will be a safer and happier place for our children. W.D.



Photo: Fred Walker

JENNIFER BESLEY

We were very sorry to lose Jennifer Besley when she flew off to Labrador at the beginning of January, but it is hard not to envy her. She has gone to work as a nurse for the International Grenfell Association, and her life will be very different from her previous nursing career. She tells me that the settlement is built round the hospital and that most of the social activities centre round it. Among other things she is hoping to be able to help with the local Guides. What she really hopes to do is to be sent out to one of the isolated posts which are manned by two nurses who have to cope with all emergencies in the area and to summon further medical help when it is needed. It is difficult to think of a more exciting career. W.D.

NATTERBOX...

by Katie Russell

I am one of those people with "kith and kin" in Rhodesia. Recent events have dragged a variety of feelings from me. Two have predominated. One is that party politics in this country must have played a much bigger part in this tragic affair than is good for Rhodesia and its neighbours. The other is that English newspapers and broadcasting services are often more biased and one-sided in their reporting of these events, and indeed other international affairs, than is healthy. I often wonder which is worse — to be brainwashed by censorship or by mal-information. At least when there's censorship you know it is happening.

I would like to quote to you one of many letters I have recently received from Rhodesia. This was written on the day U.D.I. was declared and cannot, I'm sure, have been subject to any censor's scrutiny. By the time you read it, it may well be out of date, but perhaps it will interest you as a piece of history.

The letter is written by the Rev. F. B. Rea, now head of the Salisbury Methodist circuit. Most of his working life in Rhodesia, which is over a quarter of a century, has been among Africans, and he was a founder of an African Theological College there. His work in Salisbury involves both Africans and Europeans. He is a brilliant man and known for his liberal views. He writes:—

"The painful events of recent months have made it very difficult to think clearly concerning the issues at stake in Rhodesia.

I have always upheld the 1961 Constitution, and maintained that the African nationalists made a fatal error of judgment when they rejected it. It placed them in a position, where, in the last resort, violent action was the only possible weapon of political action. When violence did come, it was directed by a divided party against each other's followers. This has seriously discredited the nationalist parties and their leaders. I am fully aware that the Constitution has serious defects and that it could only be defended as a workable, mutual compromise.

The (Rhodesian) Government was in error when it sought complete independence. The Church leaders

have been almost unanimous in condemning U.D.I. There has been less unanimity concerning what should be our attitude after U.D.I. Very few of us agree with the British Methodist Society and the British Council of Churches, who appear to have called for British intervention — by force if necessary.

In the Boer War, Britain miscalculated the cost of victory in guerrilla warfare. We know with what tenacity of purpose, invasion would be resisted in Rhodesia.

Britain's tragic dilemma is that it possesses authority without power. Neither the army, nor the police force, is for practical purposes under her jurisdiction. Therefore she cannot establish an alternative Government without an invasion.

For this reason most of us deplore the statement of the British Council of Churches. Moreover, it has made our position as mediators in Rhodesia almost impossible.

Meanwhile there is one word of hope. The picture which outsiders have of Rhodesia is of a land where hatred between Black and White has reached boiling point. Nothing could be further from the facts. All over the country there are widespread areas of harmonious co-operation, cemented by strong personal friendships. The events of recent months have not destroyed these.

What the future holds, none can tell. The one great incalculable in all human affairs is the hidden heaven of the kingdom of Heaven. Continue to pray for us all that this heaven may continue to transform our troubled land."

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Photo: Fred Walker

A happy picture of some of the 120 pensioners who were entertained by Emmer Green Youth Club recently in St. Barnabas Hall. A message was sent from the Queen—it was the fourth party to be given by the teenagers.



Photo: Fred Walker

Pamela Holder, aged 15, of 19, Knight's Way, Emmer Green, sang for the pensioners at their party. Pamela, who is a dental nurse and hopes to make nursing her career, loves music. She is a member of the St. Barnabas choir.

CAVERSHAM PARK, WHICH NOW HOUSES THE B.B.C.'S INTERNATIONAL MONITORING SERVICE.

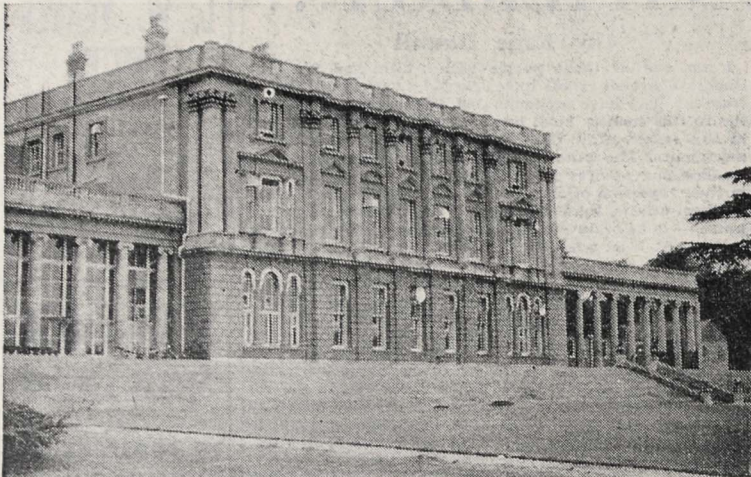


Photo: Fred Walker.

Nobody is quite sure how long a house has stood on or near the site of Caversham Park, but Caversham Manor was created at the time of William the Conqueror, so it is certain that some kind of residence, known as Caversham Castle or Caversham Manor House, existed many centuries ago. Owned originally by the Earl of Buckingham, it was the scene of many historic events, and passed through many hands, before being taken over by the Crown in the fifteenth century. Known then as Caversham Lodge, it was leased to Nottley Abbey but fell into decay after the dissolution of the Monasteries. At this juncture it came into the possession of one of the early Knollys who, presumably, built the mansion where Queen Elizabeth was entertained. After the death of Sir William Knollys it passed to Lord Craven who, in turn, entertained King Charles I, who was virtually a prisoner here.

In 1718 the Manor was purchased by the Earl of Cadogan, who died here and was buried in Westminster Abbey. He was followed by his brother Charles, and it was at this time that the building was destroyed by fire and was renewed in its present form, though it is possible that the colonnades existed before that.

The property was purchased, in 1844, by William Crawshaw, — and was owned by

this Glamorganshire ironmaster and his family until 1920. During this period the mansion was greatly embellished and the grounds were remodelled by Capability Brown. The beautiful cedars, however, go back beyond that time, but what is left of the grounds today still owes much of its beauty to the work of Mr. Brown. In 1850 the house was once more totally destroyed by fire and was rebuilt, as one would expect from an ironmaster, around a great iron frame, giving it the solid appearance it has today. Photographs in the brochure issued at the time of the sale in 1920 show how elegantly it was furnished in those days, and Mrs. Wootton of Cromwell Road remembers cleaning the beautiful chandeliers that hung from the lofty ceilings.

All this was in great contrast to what came after, because the house was then purchased by the Oratory School, which departed during the war, leaving behind a sad memento of their occupation, three graves hidden in a corner of the grounds, but still kept tidy and cared for.

Since that time it has been occupied by the B.B.C. Monitoring Service, and though the elegant furnishings and chandeliers have long since disappeared, the staff still enjoy a wonderful view right across Reading and spend their free time in what is left of a once vast manor.

GARDENING NOTES

BY COURTESY OF THE CAVERSHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SEED sowing in boxes or pots in cool greenhouse or cold frame:— Antirrhinums, carnations and pinks, sweet peas, pansies and violas, larkspurs, stocks, bedding dahlias, verbenas, primroses and polyanthus. Brussels sprouts, summer cabbage, cauliflowers, lettuce, onions, leeks and tomatoes (the last need a little heat).

If soil conditions are right, open ground sowings can be made of early peas, parsnips, broad beans, early carrots, lettuce, parsley, spinach, turnips and radishes. Also shallots, rhubarb and early potatoes may be planted.

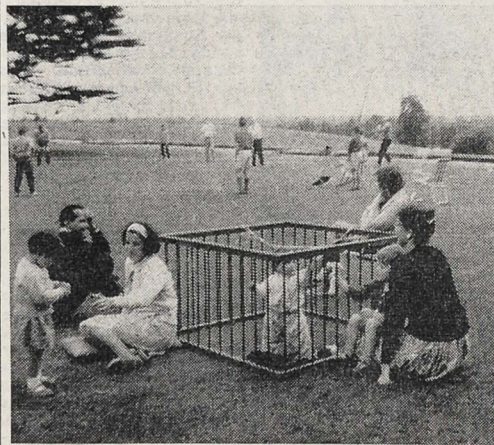
Hurry up and get all the digging finished now, also fruit tree pruning.

Rose beds should be manured with bonemeal and F.Y.M. forked in. Rockeries will benefit from a general tidying up and top dressing with grit and leafmold mixed.

If you want to take cuttings from dahlias, set the tubers up in boxes of peat and sand mixed, in a warm place. Early flowering chrysanthemums can be given similar treatment if you are in a hurry to take off the cuttings. Watch for greenfly. Anemones and ranunculus can be planted in a sunny spot. Look over the gladioli corms saved from last year and throw out any bad ones. If you want to propagate choice varieties, skin the cormlets, soak them in water to which a spot of Jeyes has been added, and sow like single rows of peas.

Following our agitation on these pages we were pleased to see the police NO WAITING notices appear on Baylis Corner and in Bridge Street before Christmas. This has done a little to ease the congestion. We now wish that car owners would be sufficiently public spirited to take notice of the restrictions.

Caversham's Family Holiday BOOK NOW!



The Caversham Family Holiday will take place again this year at Embley Park School, Romsey, Hampshire. The dates for the holiday are August 6—13, and August 13—20. There will be two separate parties of 70 people of all ages, each for one week.

The school is situated in extensive grounds; there are tennis courts, a swimming pool, a lake for fishing, and horses to ride. The New Forest is close, and the sea only 40 minutes' drive away. A coach will be provided for those without cars.

Costs for a week's holiday are as follows:

Adults	6 guineas
Children eight years and under ...	£3 17s. 6d.
Babies under two years	£1 0s. 0d.

For further details please contact the Rev. David Cliff, 25, Ilkley Road. Tel. 72070.

Local authors in seed catalogue

With the onset of the winter hibernation period for human beings the more energetic will be experiencing pipe dreams of their gardens on a beautiful summer evening. Such will tempt them to browse through the beautifully illustrated seed catalogues which are available for the asking or the cost of postage.

We, in Reading, have one of the country's leading seedsmen, Messrs. Sutton and Sons Ltd., at hand and a visit to their Garden Shop in the Market Place will readily produce a copy of their fine catalogue. Examination reveals that it contains a number of informative articles of interest to both gardeners and housewives. The authors of two of the articles are Caversham residents, namely Mr. E. P. F. Sutton of "Pinemead," Upper Warren Avenue and Mr. C. H. Hunt of 268, Kidmore Road.

Mr. Sutton is well known for his many interests in addition to those of the horticultural industry and Mr. Hunt, whilst being an authoritative and practical man in his profession, is also a talented organist and can be heard performing each Sunday at the Baptist Church.

Examination success

Congratulations to Derek Grey, of Woodland Cottage, Lower Henley Road, who has recently won first prize in the City and Guilds of London Institute Craft Examination. Derek, who is 19, is apprenticed as a joiner with McCarthy Fitt Ltd. in Trinity Place, Reading. He also won the Institute's Bronze Medal, and £5 from the Carpenters' Company.

STOP PRESS

Caversham's Family Holiday (see columns 4 and 5). 1st week (August 6-13) now fully booked. Names accepted for waiting list. Vacancies 2nd week (August 13-20).

Saturday, February 19
7.30 p.m.

VALENTINE DANCE

ST. ANDREW'S HALL,
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Admission by ticket only.
Tickets (5/6d.) available from all Caversham Youth Leaders
A Youth Stewardship Presentation

ROUND THE CLUBS

St. Peter's Wives Group

ST PETER'S WIVES GROUP, now over a year old, has steadily grown in numbers. 1965 activities included joint meetings with St. Andrew's Young Wives and the Roman Catholic Marian Group, as well as well as some excellent talks given on a wide variety of subjects.

The January 1966 Meeting was held again with the Marian Group when Dr. K. Murphy, a consultant at the Royal Berks, gave a talk on pre-natal hearing.

On February 1 we shall go to Mr. Stevens' butchers shop to have another of his popular demonstrations on

cuts of meat — this time, beef.

On February 15 Mrs. R. Bowen will help us with ideas and recipes for beef. We hope to have another year of interesting talks, discussions and outings and we are always ready to welcome new members for our Group. There are no restrictions to membership.

Information from Mrs. Barbara Vowles, 3 The Mount. Tel. 73173.

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

CAVERSHAM Heights Guild arranged a social evening for their December meeting. After refreshments were served, Miss Deidre Ibenden played several piano solos, and Mrs. Lott read her favourite poems. The evening ended with carols sung by the Ladies' Choir from Caversham Heights Methodist Church.

Meetings are held at St. Andrew's Hall, on the third Thursday in each month, at

7.30 p.m. and new members are very welcome.

Maplewood W.I.

THE February meeting of Maplewood W.I. will take place on Tuesday 18 in St. Andrew's Hall at 2.30 p.m. A delegate will be appointed for the Spring Council Meeting, and a Sergeant from Reading Borough Police will give a talk on "The Work of Women Police." An exhibition of paintings by members (any medium) will be on show, and a competition for a collage picture will take place, and the winner will be entered for the Group Competition. So do not forget to bring your pictures along to make a bumper show.

Louise Crowder. Tel. 73460.

NEW YOUTH CLUB

There are plans to open a new youth club for anyone living in Caversham between the ages of 11 and 15. Will those who are interested get in touch with Mr. R. Turner, 41, South View Avenue.

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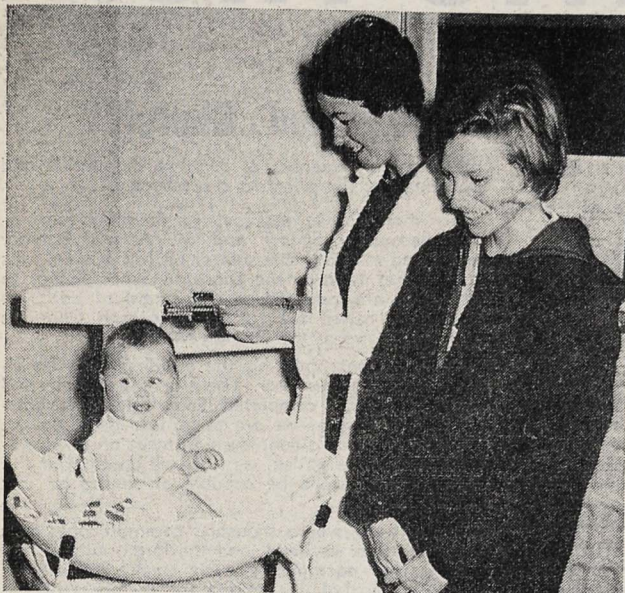
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CHILDREN'S CLINICS



The Health Visitor weighs a baby on arrival, while mum watches. Although not a vital part of the service, most mothers like to know their baby's weight, and to the experts it gives some indication of progress.



These photos, which show a Clinic in progress in Emmer Green, were taken by our photographer, Fred Walker.

At the Emmer Green Clinic, mothers dress their babies in modern and warm surroundings. The Infant Welfare Clinics are held weekly at Emmer Green and in Caversham. A modern much needed new clinic is planned for the centre of Caversham, but more delays have resulted from the latest credit squeeze.



A mother signs her consent to immunisation, watched by a clerical assistant. The two Health Visitors at Emmer Green are helped by part-time volunteers who take a friendly interest in the mothers and their babies, as well as looking after the clinic's records.

IN Caversham and Emmer Green, there are two clinics where mothers and their children are looked after before and after the baby's birth. Our photos show an Infant Welfare Clinic in progress.

These clinics are part of the National Health Service. They were created to keep an eye on the progress of healthy babies and children in the community and to look out for any abnormalities so that expert treatment could be given immediately.

The clinics themselves do not give treatment. They offer advice through the Health Visitor and clinic doctor. When treatment is needed, the family doctor is advised, and through him, a specialist called in. Immunisation is also available in clinics and extensive records are kept of a child's progress. These clinics, which are provided by the local health authority in Reading within walking distance of most mothers with babies, have other functions besides watching a baby's physical progress.

Mothers attend voluntarily, but they find it a useful meeting place, to make friends with other mothers and discuss their problems informally. The Health Visitor is always available to discuss any problem, no matter how small—problems which many people would consider too trifling to take to a family doctor. These Health Visitors like to establish a friendly relationship between themselves and the mothers. Apart from being available in clinics, the Health Visitors also visit some mothers in their own homes.

Attendance at the two Caversham and Emmer Green clinics is good, but often it is the mothers who would most benefit from them who don't attend. While in the Caversham area there is little evidence of problems that come from living in "down-town" areas, there is a great deal of loneliness and anxiety felt by many mothers with young children. It is these mothers particularly which the clinic's experts feel they can help with genuine interest and friendly advice.



Two clinic assistants display to a mother some of the foods available. Baby foods and vitamins are obtainable at the clinics at reduced rates. But although this is the most well-known service which the clinics provide, it is not by any means the most important, and mothers are discouraged from coming only to stock up with cheap foods.



The Health Visitor is mainly concerned with the progress of normal, healthy children, but she is available in clinic sessions to discuss baby problems no matter how trifling they appear. They like to establish a friendly relationship with mothers who attend clinics and reduce anxieties about baby care to a minimum.

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— NEWS FROM ST. ANNE'S—

A call for talks on Combined Church

LOOKING back on 1965, St. Anne's Roman Catholic congregation can take courage from the picture presented, in order to face whatever commitments lie ahead in 1966.

The congregation continues to grow steadily and, due to the number of houses being built, especially in Caversham Park, a more pronounced rate of growth is expected.

The provision of a school and church at

Caversham Park must be considered in the

next few years. Hopes have been expressed

that there may be some combination of

effort between the denominations so as to

avoid the heavy financial burden of provid-

ing churches for each. Though we cannot

forsee any practical solution to this problem,

some discussion on the possibilities would be

helpful

The congregation deserves the sincere thanks of the priests in charge for the generosity shown in

meeting the expenses of running the parish and providing for the priests and presbytery.

Our share of overhead costs for the Hugh Farringdon Secondary School and St. Anne's Primary amounted to £432. The sum of £2,192 10s. 0d. was contributed towards the Diocesan School Fund, to which we are indebted to the extent of £38,000. £489 was raised towards the Diocesan Charities and £192 towards the Foreign Missions.

We are contemplating the building of a Parish Centre during this year. The site is available and plans are almost completed. Some £4,000 is, however needed unless we are to go into debt. As the provision of such a centre would meet an outstanding need in the parish, we have no doubt that the congregation would be capable of taking on this task.

There were over a thousand communicants over the Christmas weekend, and the large numbers receiving the sacraments each week indicates a vigorous spiritual life among the members of the congregation. Were this not so, the parish could not be considered alive or successful.

The opportunity presented by the decision of a momentous Council for more active participation in the Liturgy presents not only an opportunity but a challenge. It is up to us, each and all, to strive towards a more active Christian way of life. We can count on the support we need from the Almighty through prayer and the sacraments.

Round the Anglican parish

Does the Church of England in Caversham follow the national trend in showing a decline in churchgoing?

Evidence is difficult to assess because of the growing population of the parish but there is some evidence to show that we may be following this trend though to a much less marked degree than the country as a whole.

On Christmas Day the communicants numbered 1,447 (in 1964, 1,446), but over the whole year there was a decline of 1,084 from the record figure of 35,021 which was reached in 1964.

St. Peter's and St. Andrew's showed a decrease while there was a small gain at St. John's and an increase of 397 at St. Barnabas, though it is in this district that the population growth is most marked.

There were 68 church weddings, the same number as in 1964, and 93 confirmation candidates (90 in 1963, 95 in 1964). There was a small decrease in the number of baptisms.

These figures show that there are no grounds for complacency. But it must be remembered that two priests were ill in hospital during the year, subsequently leaving the parish, so that we were short staffed for much of the time.

Financially, we can report that Mr. Hitchman, treasurer of the Missionary Union, announces an all-time record in receipts which amounted to £1,539. Of this, £1,177

has been sent to the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel part of this money being for the building of a new church in South Africa.

We have also paid our diocesan quota of £1,335 and sent £497 towards the Bishop of Oxford's Appeal for new churches.

Rising costs are, however, always with us and if many of the plans which the Parochial Church Council have been considering are to be carried out it will be vital that every person who claims to be a member of the Church of England supports with loyalty and generosity the further stewardship campaign which has been agreed upon by the Church Council and which is to be held in the autumn.

St. Andrew's

No Small Change: Have you ever wanted to stand up in church during a sermon and say "I don't agree?" Or perhaps wished for further discussion on some points raised? If so, there will be an opportunity to do the latter (but not the former!) at St. Andrew's on Wednesday evenings in Lent beginning on Wednesday, March 2.

The evening will begin with Holy Communion at 7.30 p.m. at which the priest-in-charge will give an address based on the No Small Change course. After the service the congregation will retire to the hall for group discussion to be followed by an open session. The purpose of this course is corporate self-examination. We hope to look at ourselves with an honest and critical eye

to see how and where we might improve our Christian worship and service. At the end of the course specific proposals will be presented to the district committee or the appropriate body within the parish.

Mothers' Union: There was a good attendance at the meeting on December 7, when one of our own members, Mrs. Pamela Ridley, spoke on "The Changing Pattern of Family Worship." Mrs. Ridley traced, in a most interesting way, the changes that have occurred in the form and content of church services against their historical background. In the discussion which followed questions were answered by the Rev. Roger Packer.

A "Bring and Buy" Sale held during the afternoon raised over £5 towards expenses for the Boro' Court party.

Boro' Court party was held on December 14 when a group of patients were entertained in St. Andrew's Hall. After a meal provided by members of the Mothers' Union, games were played and Mr. Norman Kent delighted the guests with a Punch and Judy show and then mystified them with his conjuring tricks.

The evening closed with carols and a speech of thanks from one of the guests. Every guest was given a small present and more presents were taken back to Boro' Court for those who could not come to the party.

The meetings next month are: February 1: "Recollections of Childhood." February 22: Mrs. Lensworth—"A Visit to the Holy Land" (illustrated with slides).

Fourth Caversham Brownies (St. Andrew's):

On December 1 the parents were entertained in the hall, when coloured slides of Brownie activities both abroad and in Caversham were shown. Mrs. Leslie Moss, chairman of the Caversham branch, gave a talk on the work of the local association and refreshments were served by Mrs. Harden and Mrs. Sharpe.

The Brownies sold cakes, sweets and groceries, and the Christmas presents which they had made were quickly snapped up. £9 was raised as a result of the sale, and this was used to provide Christmas boxes of Christmas groceries for eight old people in the district.

On December 15 a party of Brownies visited the Arthur Clarke Home to sing carols and present boxes of crackers for the Christmas table.

A visit to Wembley to see the ice show "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" took place on December 29.

St. John's

There is a great gap at St. John's.

JOHN and JOAN MOSS and their three daughters JANET, ANNE and RUTH have moved to Woodley.

They were only here for three or four years. But in that time John has been a member of the Parochial Church Council and District Committee, and one of the canvassers in the Stewardship Campaign, where he earned a reputation for straight, forceful but constructive speaking. More recently he has been Chairman of the Men's Fellowship, the Social Committee and one of the "No Small Change" Groups.

THE CHURCHES —

A VISIT TO ROME

by Justine Mair

Mrs. Joan Moss was the founder and leader of the Wednesday Group. One only needs to listen to the members talking among themselves to recognise the quality of her leadership.

Janet has been a regular and faithful member of the Choir, as well as giving her services in baby sitting. Rumour has it that Anne owes her figure to the miles she has cycled delivering messages and that the G.P.O. offered St. John's a large transfer fee for her. Ruth is a founder-member of the creche, and at the age of nearly three is already taking after her father in asking straight questions without regard for company or place!

But perhaps they will be missed most of all for themselves. It was good just to see them around. And there are quite a number of people in this part of Caversham, who owe them more than they will probably dare to admit to themselves for the help given them in times of great difficulty and distress.

St. Barnabas

The Annual Meeting of the Mothers' Union was held on January 12: it was preceded by an admission service in church when Mrs. Alban and Mrs. Bradbury were admitted as members.

A social evening has been planned for Saturday January 29, at 8 p.m. Dr. Rhymer and Mr. Mair will speak and show transparencies of their recent travels, and it is particularly hoped that many of the new members of the congregation will take this chance to get to know us. During Lent there will be a number of small groups meeting in different homes to study the "No Small Change" course — full details will shortly be published about the arrangements.

Wednesday, February 2: Feast of the Purification. Holy Communion 10.0 a.m. All Mothers' Union members are asked to make an effort to be present. Wednesday, February 23: Ash Wednesday. Holy Communion 10.0 a.m. and 8.0 p.m.

St. Peter's

During Lent we shall be inviting every member of the congregation to join one of the many house groups that are going to meet and study the

material known as "No Small Change." Full details will be circulated shortly.

Three special days fall in February. On Wednesday, February 2 we keep the Feast of the Purification. Holy Communion will be at 8 p.m., and all members of the Mothers' Union will try to be present. Ash Wednesday falls on February 23. Holy Communion at 7 a.m. and also at 8 p.m. when the Rector will give an introductory talk about the subject of the Lenten "No Small Change" study groups. St. Matthias' Day falls on Thursday, February 24. Holy Communion 9.30 a.m.

Congratulations to all who helped over the decorating of the Church at Christmas. In addition to the abundance of holly and flowers to which we are now accustomed four other things stood out — the arrangement at the font carried out by Mrs. Duckworth, the superb Christmas tree, a present from Mr. Hutchison, the ingenious flying angels with their trumpets which were designed and made by Miss Nora Griffin, and the striking crib which members of Queen Anne's School made last year but which was displayed so much better this time.

At their Christmas party the Mothers' Union entertained a number of residents from Warren House and Wycheotes. The working party under Mrs. Lewis were able to send a large parcel of baby clothes to the deanery moral welfare association in time for Christmas and Mrs. Wood will be speaking about this work at the next meeting on Tuesday, February 8 at 2.30 p.m. in Church House.

The Feast of the Epiphany was a joyous occasion. We welcomed the chaplain of Pembroke College Oxford as our preacher at the Parish Communion and then had a delightful supper and social afterwards in Balmore Hall, at which it was good to see some new members of the congregation. These evening Parish Communions certainly mean that we are observing the great weekday festivals in a more worthy way, and the traditional jollity of Twelfth Night was thus kept by a combination of worship and fun. The newly confirmed were the guests of the supper. Many thanks to the Social Committee for their hard work.

Most of our recent short stay in Rome seems to have been spent in company with the Pope. This sounds grand, but let me quickly add we were only two of many and were incredibly lucky that with no advance planning everything worked out so well.

Shabby and grubby though the Eternal City may be, the approach to St. Peter's and the Bernini colonnade were magnificent. St. Peter's itself looked wonderful with all the red hangings, the chandeliers and the regilded barrel roof gleamed in the light. There were Papal Guards of course in their fantastic striped uniforms designed by Michelangelo, various other uniforms, gentlemen in waiting hung with decorations and flunkies in scarlet. A more homely touch was added by two sound effects engineers in ordinary rather drab suits crouching by the altar steps.

Presently the Pope was on his way up the main aisle. He came into view, a small, slight figure clad in white with a scarlet silk cloak and was carried in the famous chair. His face is highly intelligent and he struck me as a warm and charming personality. To our dismay, the congregation all started clapping and yelling "Viva il Papa", letting off flash bulbs, and brandishing field glasses. Both my husband

and I felt inhibited and very British and, although excited we just could not bring ourselves to clap or shout. Afterwards I learnt Pope John tried to stop all this, but it was quite hopeless.

The chair was then set down, the wonderful cloak discarded and the Pope mounted the altar steps. He said he had come to the conclusion that the best thing he could do was to urge us to do all we could to strengthen our faith, and, as the successor of St. Peter, he could assure us that this was of fundamental importance. Altogether he was with us over an hour and it was an unforgettable experience.

The next day we had tickets for the Papal Mass and the open session of the Vatican Council. The Bishops in white and gold copes and wearing their mitres packed the stands. Our seats were behind the Papal altar and it was difficult to see much more than the Pope's various mitres being taken off and put on.

Historic occasion

It was an historic occasion as five new Schemas were proclaimed as part of the teaching of the R.C. Church, one being the declaration on non-Christian religions and the Jews in particular.

I understand that although the French and German delegations may have been the most progressive, our own Cardinal Heenan's personality made a great impression on the Council. Those of you who have seen him on TV will not be surprised. The various Schemas were carried by handsome majorities when

it came to the voting, and it must surely be a tribute to Pope Paul's negotiating skill that this was so. A reforming Pope is likely to clash with the highly reactionary Curia, but Pope Paul has announced his intention of making changes here too.

Unity not possible

My husband, as a staunch Church of England man, was anxious to find out whether Christian unity was a viable possibility. So far as he could gather, the answer was not encouraging; there are certain things the Roman Catholic Church could not be expected to give way on without denying she is an infallible Church. If other Christian denominations felt they could not give way over these points, we should have to agree to differ. In case, however, this sounds like too much of a cold douche, let me hasten to add that the present climate of co-operation and goodwill is very apparent in Rome. I well remember some Bishop at the commencement of the Vatican Council in Pope John's day saying he reckoned the points of disagreement only amounted to about seven per cent, and that we should surely concentrate on the 93 per cent. agreement between the various Christian churches. As I see it, this is what we are all trying to do.

A visit to St. Peter's to functions such as we attended brought home to me the Universality of the Roman Catholic Church—so many nationalities and races and colours participated that for the first time it was shown forcibly to me that Catholic does mean universal.

Caversham Hill Chapel

The Caversham Hill Chapel being without a Pastor has to rely on lay preachers to take the Sunday Services, but this is not such a problem as it would seem as Reading is singularly blessed with many gifted Evangelical speakers. During the last few months most of the major Protestant denominations have been represented in the pulpit although in the preaching it is rarely noticeable from which denomination the speaker has been drawn.

The month of February will see several preachers coming from outside Reading; these will include Mr. W. Allen from Hook, Mr. A. Bush from Croxden, the Reverend W. Wheatley from Quaboe Mission and at the Sunday School prize giving on February 20 at 3 p.m., Miss J. Samuels of the Unevangelised Fields Mission.

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THE BRIDGE SCHEME

THE BRIDGE SCHEME was started last year in Caversham, with the co-operation of all the churches. This scheme is a voluntary social service. Local residents are able to help each other by channelling their assistance and calls for help through a central organiser.

We report this month on some of the scheme's recent activities.

A phone call to Mrs. Besley, the central organiser of the Bridge Scheme from a hospital almoner produced a request for someone to play chess with an aged and very sick Caversham resident on his return home from hospital. The Bridge scheme was able to send someone along immediately. The old gentleman has since died.

On another occasion help was given to a family of young children while mother was in hospital, and in

another home mother was taken ill while father was away on business, the small child was looked after and housework and cooking done at short notice.

Five occasional helps of transport have been given recently, and fif-

teen sick and lonely people have been visited.

Perhaps we can help you. Perhaps you can help in the scheme. Whether you want help or can offer it please contact Mrs. Besley, 38 Priest Hill, Phone 72374.

SUE RYDER HOMES

A young patient crippled with rheumatism received treatment in a Sue Ryder Home on the Continent.



Everyone knows of the Cheshire Homes. Less well known are the homes founded by his wife, Sue Ryder, through the Forgotten Allies Trust. 25 such Homes already exist in England or different parts of the Continent for the survivors of Nazi concentration camps and their children. But it is hoped to open another thirty. A prefabricated Home for 40 patients costs as little as £7,000. Miss B. M. Faull of 8, Balmore Drive organises a local Support Group in aid of this work and will welcome help.

METHODIST CHURCHES

Preaching Appointments

CAVERSHAM		CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS	
February			
6	Mr. P. Smith.	11.00	Rev. A. J. Badcock.
	Rev. A. J. Badcock.	6.30	Rev. E. Richards.
13	Rev. E. B. Wright (1).	11.00	Rev. A. Olds (2).
	Mr. H. Speight.	6.30	Rev. E. B. Wright (1, 2).
20	Mr. L. E. Scott.	11.00	Rev. E. B. Wright.
	Rev. E. B. Wright (2).	6.30	Rev. H. R. Tourtel.
27	Rev. F. Hunter.	11.00	Rev. E. B. Wright.
	Mr. E. Ripley.	6.30	Mr. H. Speight.

Notes: (1) Holy Communion; (2) Home Missions.

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

Sunday Services

January		
30	11.00 a.m. Mr. W. Morrow.	
	6.30 p.m. Mr. J. West.	
February		
6	11.00 a.m. Mr. W. Allen, of Hook.	
	6.30 p.m. Mr. W. Allen, of Hook.	
13	11.00 a.m. The Rev. W. Wheatley, Quaboe Mission.	
	6.30 p.m. The Rev. W. Wheatley, Quaboe Mission.	
20	11.00 a.m. Mr. A. E. Bush, of Croydon.	
	6.30 p.m. Mr. A. E. Bush, of Croydon.	
27	11.00 a.m. Mr. L. Gray.	
	6.30 p.m. Mr. K. Woodham.	

WE RECORD

BAPTISED

St. John's
December 5 Arthur Newbery.
December 12 Mark Bailey, Alison Bryant, Martin Homewood.

Caversham Methodist
December 5 Jacqueline Ann Lethbridge.

Caversham Heights Methodist
December 19 Marie Elizabeth Clutterbuck.

St. Anne's
December: Peter Wybrow, Maria Rapuano, David Bernard, Sheila Burns.

INFANT DEDICATIONS
Caversham North Baptist Church

December: Stephen Bangs, Michael Sellers.

CONFIRMED AT ST. JOHN'S, DECEMBER 11

St. Peter's
Valerie Crook, Stephanie Evans, Brian Farr, Susan Fisher, Mary Goddard, Wendy Patricia Hill, David Holloway, Jeanette Holloway, June House, Andrea Jefferson, Genofia Musial, Diane Petheridge, Violet Starks, Marie Ward, Barbara White.

St. John's
Frances Browning, Patricia Dicks, Kathleen Hague, Jane Harris, Valerie House, Paul Howard, Jennifer Maynard, Anne Moss, Arthur Newbery, Susan Nicholls, Muriel Porter.

St. Andrew's
Hillary Brazendale, Henrietta Chapman, Stella Curtis, Patricia Dales, Mary Fowles, Sheila Fry, Frances Hens, David Hogarth, Simon Stevens.

St. Barnabas
Elizabeth Alban, Ian Booth, Alison Galloway, Andrew Risius.

CONFIRMED AT HUNGERFORD, DECEMBER 19

St. Andrew's
Mavis Hazel.

MARRIED
St. Peter's

December 18:
Brian Ridsdale and Anne Mealing.

January 1:
James Allan and Linda Turner.

St. Andrew's
December 11:
Christopher Fry and Elizabeth Sidwell.

St. Barnabas
November 12:
George Bradley and Janice Garner.

Caversham Methodist
November 20:
Eric Harney and Sally Elizabeth Green.

St. Anne's
December:
Patrick Russell and Margaret Lehane.

BURIED
St. John's

December 31:
Florence Emily Good.

St. Andrew's
December 3:
Miranda Clarke.

December 15:
Lily Slade.

St. Barnabas
December 30:
Beatrice Fisher.

St. Anne's
December:
Gladys Frazer-Duff, Edward Barkey.

Caversham Methodist
December 30:
Stanley Stephen George Budd.

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FREE CHURCH

(Kidmore Road)

PREACHERS FOR FEBRUARY

MORNING	AFTERNOON
6 Mr. P. Elford.	Mr. P. Elford.
13 The Rev. D. Hicks	The Rev. D. Hicks.
20 Mr. L. Carter.	To be announced.
27 Mr. P. Player.	Mr. J. Allen and the "Wycliffe Seven."

Family worship at 10.45 a.m.
Evening service at 6.30 p.m.
Communion on 3rd Sunday following morning Family Worship.

Published by the Caversham Christian News Ltd, The Rectory, Caversham (Tel 71795) and printed by Nuneaton Newspapers Ltd., Bond Gate Nuneaton

Learning about the farm



This small girl is at the Farm School and Rural Centre run by the Presbyterian Church of the CAMEROUN.

She's learning more tricks than the art of carrying eggs on her head. The school is fulfilling tremendously important work in raising standards of living, and is on a list for emergency action in Africa by the World Council of Christian Churches.

The whole action programme will cost TEN MILLION DOLLARS. Christians will find the money.

Beauty parlour is feature of homes for aged

A "BEAUTY parlour" — there will be a main dining room with kitchen, a television room and a room for handicrafts, such as paintings, basket work and carpentry.

The council's welfare committee has drawn up a "standard" design for old people's homes of the future and work on the first one, which will cost £89,000, will begin early next year.

The new homes will be built in the shape of a cross with units to accommodate 48 people. In addition to the beauty parlour — "despite their age, women still like to have a perm," said an official

On the ground floor there will be a shop. The tenants will be able to buy sweets, cigarettes, soap, envelopes and stamps.

Mr. N. F. Graville, county welfare officer, said: "The old people will pay about £3 4s. a week, leaving a balance of 16s. from their pension."

"The whole idea is to make old people's homes brighter and more pleasant to live in," he said. "We all feel that this design is a winner and it is going to prove a great success."

What quality of men and women get into Local Government? Because it is hard work, few enough are anxious to tackle it.

Here GEORGE JONAS, former chairman of Birmingham Libraries Committee, outlines the responsibilities of council membership, and suggests that it warrants payment...

ONLY A FOOL...

... WOULD EVER BE A CITY COUNCILLOR.
ONLY A MADMAN WOULD EVER WISH TO
RETURN AFTER LOSING HIS SEAT.

These thoughts are written seven months after I ceased to be a member of Birmingham City Council. For six years I had represented one of the inner wards of the city, a problem ward in the throes of post-war redevelopment.

During this time I had seen too little of my long-suffering wife and family, and found that, as Council commitments increased I had less and less time to do my normal work.

Is it possible to look back dispassionately as to why I became a Councillor and whether or not it was all worth while?

For me it all began at the time of Suez. The nation was passionately divided on the action the Government was taking. It was a traumatic experience. It made me decide that simply to cast my vote at each election was not enough. I had to do more. I would stand for the Council.

The next stage was very easy. My own Ward Labour Party nominated me; a selection panel approved me, and I was selected by Hall Green, the ward where I lived and still live, as their standard bearer for the 1957 and 1958 Municipal Elections.

The ward was a safe Conservative one, the experience very good for me. I picked up a germ (or virus, I know not which) of a disease called politics to which there is no known antidote. In short politics was now in my blood; I was enjoying it.

Incinerator

IN 1959, came a by-election in Ladywood. I was selected, I won, and I was in. As I went to sign the declaration to which each Councillor must subscribe, a friend who accompanied me and who had himself served as a Councillor, said: "buy an incinerator, it is the Councillor's most essential piece of equipment."

Soon the agendas and minutes and letters and circulars and invitations and all the other paraphernalia of the paper war which accompanies all Government activity began to flood through my letterbox and I realised what he had meant.

A Councillor's life has a number of different aspects.

He is first a representative of his ward. In many respects I found this the most stimulating and satisfying part of the whole job. Most people in Birmingham will have read something about Ladywood and about its appalling housing conditions; its terrible overcrowding; its social problems.

For six years I was in the midst of this; holding my Advice Bureau, dealing with letters, meeting many hundreds of people in their homes, attempting to the best of my ability to alleviate where possible the problems which had brought them to seek my help.

Sometimes I could do little to assist, such was Birmingham's housing problem, but the constant contact with the men and women living there, the joy of seeing a gradual but steady change from one of Birmingham's worst slums to new housing estates, schools and play areas, was a great experience. Over the six years I dealt with an average of 30 problems a month.

This part I miss most.

Committees

NEXT, a Councillor must participate in the work of the Council and its Committees. Birmingham has 39 Aldermen and 117 Councillors. It has some 32 Committees each responsible to the City Council, and each in Birmingham, and this is unusual, with a large degree of autonomy.

The Committees range from the large Education and Public Works Committees to Welfare Committees such as Children's and Health, to Amenities Committees such as Parks and Public Libraries.

Each member of the City Council must serve on a number of Committees. The Council itself sits once a month as do most of the Committees. Major Committees have sub-committees as otherwise the work could not be done. These too meet once a month or oftener.

Then there are conferences and delegations and meetings between Committees and so on. All such Council work is done during ordinary working hours.

Soon I found that I was spending two then three and sometimes four half days on Council work.

The real work is done in these Committees and sub-committees. The City Council to which the Committees report is the place for making speeches. The Press are there.

In all but one Committee neither Press nor public is present. Here it is not necessary therefore to strike party attitudes. One gets on with the job. However, real differences be-



tween the major parties remain, and party work is important.

Discussions, public meetings, electioneering, all this also forms part of a Councillor's job. This is evening and weekend work. It too keeps the representative in touch with rank and file thought and opinion.

It works

ON the whole the Local Government system works. It could work much better. Local Government Reform is in the air like so much other reform and is bound to come. Your Councillors and Aldermen, drawn from all walks of life, are amateurs at their Council jobs. They do not know how best to build a road or bind a library book. For this they have the guidance of experts.

The Chief Officials and their staff, hardworking and often underpaid, should know the technical answers. The elected members listen and then decide policy. Should they be paid? Would we get better Councillors, better local Government that way?

Your representative should certainly be paid. At present

those in employment get a totally inadequate allowance and many suffer from real financial hardship.

Those who are self employed receive no money at all. It is clearly unfair that a man should give up his spare time and devote himself to the community's affairs and then find that he and his family are financially embarrassed as a result.

Yet I doubt whether by making payments we shall get better Councillors. We can never pay enough to make being a Councillor a full time occupation or financially worth while and this is right.

WE SHALL STILL THEREFORE NEED THE DEDICATED MAN, THE MADMAN IF YOU LIKE, WHO GETS BITTEN BY THIS DISEASE AND WHO WILL BE PREPARED TO DO IT, FOR WHAT?

I STILL DON'T KNOW. SOMEONE ELSE WILL HAVE TO ANALYSE THAT. IF SOMEONE WILL HAVE ME, I SIMPLY WANT TO GET BACK.

8.0 a.m. is too early for the children of Hoo

CHILDREN in the village of Hoo are to be given an extra couple of hours "lay-in" on Sunday mornings by their vicar, the Rev. Allan A. Tuffin.

For he thinks it is too much to expect them to get out of bed in time for the eight o'clock holy communion service and now plans to hold instead, a sung communion service at half past ten on certain Sunday mornings each month.

Mr. Tuffin said: "I am doing this because I think that it is asking rather much to get them out of bed so early on Sundays when most of them have to get up early during the week to go to school in Rochester, and they have quite a long journey.

When Sunday morning comes they want to have a later sleep.

"Another reason is that quite a number of the children's parents are not church goers and do not want to get up at eight o'clock. They don't like them getting up so early because they are woken up themselves, and, therefore, discourage them from attending."

He continued: "It is aimed to assist young people to keep up their communions. It is also intended to encourage older people who find it difficult to get up at eight o'clock."

"After all, to come to church should not be a penalty. If the service is set so early in the day it becomes a kind of penance because the present temper of life is such that you need a later sleep once in a while."

Refuge at Etiler

By Sally Ayers, a British journalist who recently visited Turkey.

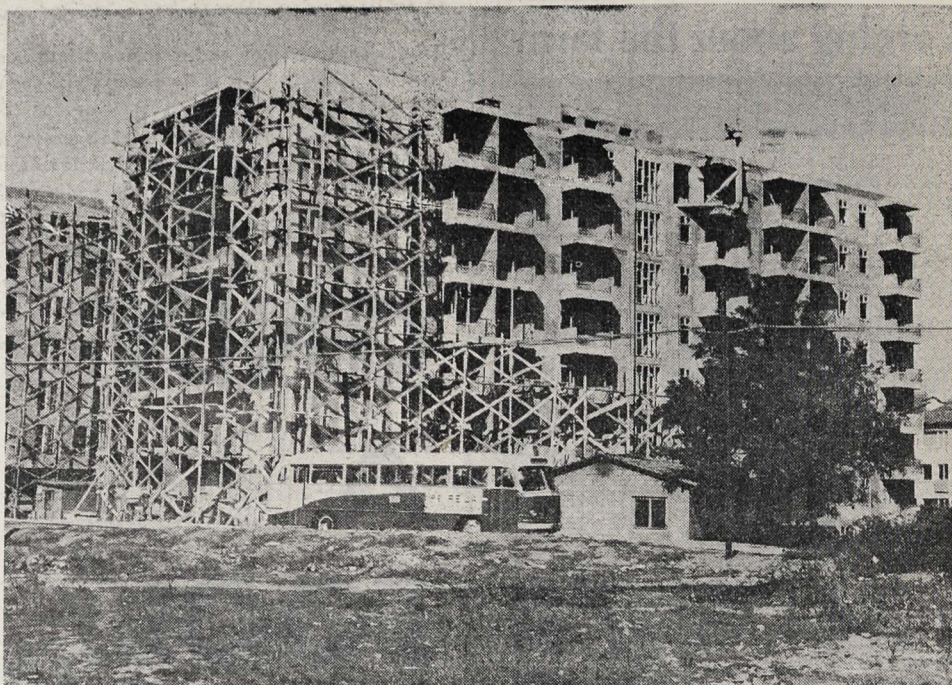
TURKEY attracts refugees from many countries. Some of them are able eventually to emigrate to Sweden, Australia, Canada, or the U.S.A., but generally they are unable to travel for one reason or another.

There are now 2,200 refugees in Turkey from Albania, Bulgaria, Rumania, the U.S.S.R., and Yugoslavia. Some fifteen hundred of them are settled in permanent living accommodation and, where possible, they are working. But 680 are ill, aged, or disabled.

A building now going up at Etiler, a new suburb to the north of Istanbul, will solve some of the refugees' housing problems and should soon be ready for occupation. But there are more applicants than there are apartments available.

The project is being tackled jointly by the World Council of Christian Churches and the United Nations' High Commission for Refugees. Cost: 486,000 dollars.

The flats will be seven storeys high and will contain 127 apartments. Two basement rooms will be put aside for the social activities of the community.



The master asked the class of 13-year-olds to write an essay on the Police. The answers were unremarkable, except for one boy's which consisted of four words, "the police is bastards."

Rather shaken, the master rang up the local Superintendent and arranged for the class to visit the Station. The police went to a lot of trouble to be attractive. Everyone had buns and tea and was allowed to use the wireless apparatus.

The visit was a great success and a little later the teacher again asked the class to write on the police. Among the eulogies, he found one answer of five words, "the police is cunning bastards."

MUCH church youth work may appear like the police's cunning buns and tea. "Self-programming groups," "freedom for social exchange," "no artificial restraints," can mean an abnegation of real responsibility for young people and the provision of clubs where "anything goes."

Young people want freedom, and if they are to mature they need it. They want to be trusted by their elders and rightly demand to be taken seriously.

But they do not want their elders to forgo their own integrity in an attempt to be popular.

We saw the caricature of the spuriously-matey Vicar in "Beyond the fringe" and felt sick. Young people will kick against the standards of the older generation.

TESTING

This is their only way of testing the reality of the standards. If adults get kicked over it may be their fault for being so superficial and insecure themselves. But anything that survives the pressure of teenage scrutiny is worth having. Even while they kick at it they might be respecting and absorbing it.

But teenagers aren't angels. Their own insecurity and restless attempt to encompass

If anything survives the test of teenage scrutiny it's worth having

worlds of experience at once can make them wild, cynical and despairing.

An over-anxious quest for reality finds respite in escapisms. Part at least of the mob fights, sexual promiscuity, wild driving or drinking or dope-taking and hysterical dancing or Beatle-mobbing is explained thus. What can the Church offer in its place?

The Church can only offer its true treasures — love, forgiveness, understanding, and the challenge to goodness which love demands. The goods may be badly displayed. They may be rejected—but not only for this reason.

UNSURE

The teenager may be too self-conscious and unsure of himself to accept the offer of relationship. He may have felt so let down or rejected in the past as to think that anyone in authority is "a bastard." Yet the Church has no alternative but to go on offering relationship and love, and asking (often in silence) for a response of trust.

It takes courage to go offering ourselves to others only to meet with rebuff and rejection. But then that is what the Cross and the Christian faith is all about.

Certainly not condemnation and catechising. Under their bravado teenagers are already distrustful of themselves.

Reprinted from Roundabout, the Parish newspaper of St. Philip and St. James, Plaistow, by kind permission.

HINDUS' HOPE IS A HAPPIER "NEXT LIFE"

By Betty Gaukroger

ONE of the greatest religions in the world today, from the point of view of numbers, is Hinduism. What is Hinduism? The only true way to define it is to say that Hinduism is what the Hindu believes.

Hinduism has, since its earliest emergence in about 2000 B.C., proved itself capable of absorbing new teachings — it has met the challenge of other missionary faiths by declaring that all religions are good, and all ways lead to one divine goal. It equates all beliefs and preaches tolerance.

There is one essential Reality — Brahman, and this cannot be defined except in negatives — whatever one finds to describe Brahman, the true Hindu must answer "not that, not that."

There is something sublime in this insistence that our words and our thoughts are insufficient for the Almighty, but there is too much poverty for the religious life which can never come to grips with its Creator.

For the Hindu, the one Reality exists in each person — God is all and all is God. The identity of course is not complete, otherwise there would be no room for devotion. This life is illusion — constant flux and change. Souls dying return to life again, until they have purged themselves of all attachment to life (or to people).

Unfairness

This rebirth (transmigration) seems to give an explanation of the unfairnesses of life. A man who is born in poverty, or disabled from birth, or due to an accident in life, is working out his karma, and each must try to improve his lot so as to return in a more comfortable and satisfying situation in life.

Not only does the Hindu seek to detach himself by subduing passions; many practise yoga, a

system of controlling body and mind to produce mental calm. When Hindus look at the race of Western civilisation, they think with gratitude of their own habits of quiet and meditation.

Because man finds it difficult to remain in constant awareness of such an indefinable Reality, the great pantheon of Hindu gods and goddesses has grown up, and most Hindus attach themselves to one or other, and pray to their own special god for particular blessings.

Hindus need not worship in temples — their worship is individual. Early morning prayers (before dawn) may take place in the home, or on the river bank and in the latter case, the worship involves also a daily bath. Most houses have a room or a corner of a room for worship, used in the morning, at midday and again in the evening. Images are dressed, washed and treated with much reverence.

Reality...

In addition the Brahmin teachers (gurus) are much respected, and the Hindu will try to visit them regularly for teaching and advice.

Many early Christian mystics thought of God as "unfathomable" while many Hindu saints emphasise the love of Brahman, the refuge for the sinner.

The Christian faith in the Trinity is perhaps reflected in the Hindu analysis of the Ultimate as Reality, Intelligence, and Bliss. Gandhi used the example of Christ to preach "soul-force" which overcomes evil with suffering love... and much more.

Perhaps the point is that as Christians we tend to pride ourselves on our faith's achievements, without ourselves practising that faith as the Hindu practises his own.

CATERING FOR MINORITIES

NOTHING can possibly aggravate people more than the constant featuring on their television screens of sports programmes, when they are not sporty people.

It seems impossible to me that my grandmother does not understand the rules of association football, and I cannot believe that she does not look forward avidly to the feast of soccer with which we are provided at our firesides.

But then I cannot understand the Newcomers, or the Dales, or the Archers, and she would not live more than a week without them, or something like them.

This is worth remembering, I suppose, whenever I get very cross with the television people for perpetually sparing too much time for what I regard as minority interests. Let me refer again, as I must do regularly, to the endless racing nonsense we get on Saturday afternoons. It is a mark of decivilisation that Englishmen must tolerate the ante and post race incidents in such amazingly trivial detail while FOOTBALL is being played.

BEST ONE...

Ideally the cameras should be at six different soccer games on a Saturday afternoon, so that attention could be focused on the one which looked most likely to come to life.

Grandma, of course, would hate it, but she sleeps on Saturday afternoon, which is not the case at 10 or so

when we get some soccer film on B.B.C. 2. I cannot enjoy this properly while knowing the result, and have to go a walk while the classified scores are read out at 5 p.m., in case I can break down resistance and watch it.

LID OFF

Television in this country does cater well for the minorities. Do it yourself specialists were a minority until Barry Bucknell, and that is only one example of how society latches onto enthusiasms and makes minorities bigger. Show jumping, rugby league, swimming, athletics, music, to say nothing of little-known classical writers and nature study—all these have surely lost the minority tag now that television has taken the lid off their wonders.

But two things that have not benefited from tremendous coverage are association football attendances, and church attendances. The world cup and Billy Graham, both on this year's engagement pad, may yet undo some of the damage the cameras do to these great national institutions.

And perhaps we could have television cameras in six or so churches every week, in case one of THEM suddenly came to life!

WATER NEED IS SO URGENT

by Linda Robins

THE nightmare of mass famine has a consort—thirst. Lack of food and lack of adequate water conspire to make two-thirds of the world's population hungry.

Although 71 per cent. of the earth's surface is covered with water, only a comparatively small proportion of it is fresh and so suitable for growing crops and satisfying the thirst of man and beast.

A registered nurse, working in a crude, crowded hospital in Somalia, Africa, has reported to the Congo Protestant Relief Agency: "The patients are in a pitiable state. There are medicines, chiefly antibiotics, but no cleanliness, to say nothing of asepsis, no doctor, no real food, no cover of any kind for the babies—no water, but myriads of flies.

Simple, but...

"The assistants are three women, but only one is good, she is a simple peasant, but she can, and does, give injections of all kinds. It is done their way with almost no water, no alcohol, etc. The babies cannot be nursed because the mothers have no milk and do not understand the necessity of liquids.

"The weather is like an oven, day and night. I am writing with gloves on or the ink would run. It is the almost complete lack of water and the swarms of flies that are so awful."

American voluntary service agencies, established to ease the pangs of a hungry world, have not failed to recognise the correlation between lack of food and lack of water. Church World Service and CROP, its community and self-help appeal, are working with other

service agencies and groups of concerned men and women in countries hampered by the need for water, and they are bringing parched lands to life by supporting water projects—wells, dams, irrigation works, solar stills—with financial, technical, and material gifts.

CROP supplies windmills, food-for-wages for workers, and seeds for planting after the water comes. All these things are gifts of American farmers, businessmen, and families who care about the statistics of hunger that they read in their newspapers.

Windmills, which are disappearing from farms in the U.S.A. since the advent of widespread rural electrification, are shipped by CROP to places overseas that need inexpensive means of pumping water from wells and irrigating fields. Given by farmers, the unused windmills are dismantled, cleaned, and reconditioned before shipment. Eight such windmills, given to CROP by farmers in Nebraska, have been sent to Haiti, Greece and Madagascar for use in agricultural projects developing better farming techniques for the people.

First harvest

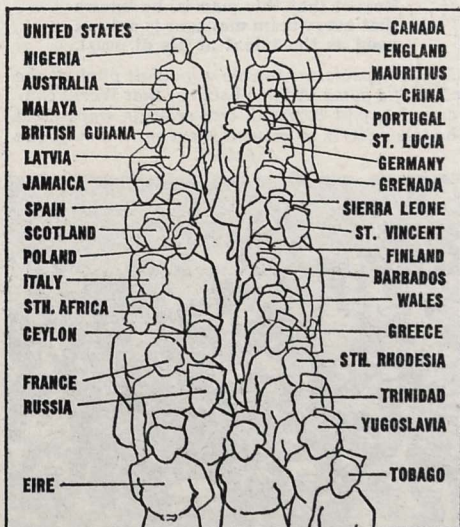
One Church World Service representative overseas has written: "It has been several months since many of the people first received water, and now their initial harvest of beans, raised from seeds given by CROP, is being gathered.

"Talking to the people I could sense their joy and unbelief at their good fortune. Gardens have been made at every available spot and these are worked even in the dusk. They feel that they must work quickly while there is yet water."



COSMOPOLITAN HOSPITAL

Miss Vera Darley, Matron of Claybury Hospital, Woodford Bridge, Essex, with nurses representing 34 different countries. This picture was taken some time ago, and illustrates that British Hospitals are among the most cosmopolitan places in the world.



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For the children

Dilly Daffodil said: "I won't go to sleep"

Dear Children,

There were some excellent entries for our competition. The results and the prizewinners are listed below. Thank you for taking the trouble to send such careful work to me. I wish there could be a prize for everybody, but there were so many.

I always like to think that February is the last month of real winter, and soon we will be coming to another spring and all the flowers will come out.

The flowers go to sleep in the winter, of course, like tortoises and squirrels, and even trees and the grass. Did you hear the story of Dilly Daffodil?

Dilly decided that she just wouldn't go to sleep one winter. She said: "I will stay awake... I will... I will..." And she managed it! While all her brothers and sisters drooped off, and shrivelled up, she stayed awake, and saw things that no daffodil has even seen before. She saw all the fun of fireworks night; she saw carol singers; she saw autumn leaves fall.

And she was so excited, when spring came again, and she thought of all her friends getting ready to wake up.

"What a story I'll have to tell them. What fun they have missed. How they will be jealous of me..." she said to herself.

Spring came, and all the little daffodils sent out their shoots. And Dilly watched them grow, and watched them put out their trumpets, and saw how surprised the early ones were to see her still awake.

And she was just going to tell them the story, when she began to feel terribly tired. And when she opened her mouth to say something all she could get out was "er... snuffle, snuffle... I... er..." and she nodded her trumpet onto her stem, and collapsed, fast asleep.

So when everybody came to look at the lovely daffodils, they said: "Look, there's one that should be out, but it looks dead." And they laughed. And Dilly slept while the others nodded and danced, and she didn't wake up until the following spring, which is when all daffodils should be awake, and she never boasted again about staying up all winter.

All my love,
AUNTIE JULIE.

Colouring Competition winners

Birmingham readers, age 4-8: K. S. Hines (8), 12, Heathside Drive, Kings Norton, Birmingham 30. Age nine and over: Sandra Robb, 30, Gilwell Road, Shard End, Birmingham, 34.

National readers, age 4-8: Elizabeth Bigger (6½), 46, Dundee Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs. Age nine and over: L. Phillips, 16, Pope Road, Wolverhampton, Staffs. All these will receive small prizes through the post.

COMMENDED: Nigel Matthews, Harrow; Susan Cruse, Hampton Hill; Christian Fowles, Reading; Jane Turner, Ecclestone; Philip Bradwell, Manchester; Richard Shephard, Epping; Christopher Smith, Ipswich; David Munn, Bath; Kay Urry, Isle of Wight; Angela Nicholls, Southampton; Martin Snade, Keighley; Martin Peters, London; Kim Marvel, Four Oaks; A. Lavelle, Leeds; Karen Gunther, Oxford; Lee Burn, Ancoats; Andrew Aucock, Chesterfield; Melanie Marvin, Brighton; Ann Kilminster, Bath; Caroline Riley, Reading; Susan Buck, Dagenham; Susan Charnock, Wigan; R. Ellis, Ecclestone; N. S. Davison, Leeds; Linda Abercrombie, London; Diane Frank, Leeds; Dawn Astle, Lichfield; Karen Pryce, Birmingham; Sandra Jordan, Birmingham; Yvonne Usherwood, Birmingham; Sharon Green, Sutton Coldfield; J. Walker, Birmingham; Carole Cooper, Birmingham; Leigh Thorpe, Nuneaton; David Smith, Smethwick; Adrian Carr, Birmingham; Julia Green, Birmingham; Gillian Binns, Birmingham; Susan Bennett, Birmingham; Gail Miller, Wolverhampton; Janet, Birmingham; Sandra Mason, Solihull; A. Johnson, Birmingham; S. Webb, Birmingham; Elizabeth Cumberland, Birmingham; Kim Inley, Birmingham; Andrew Layland, Birmingham;

Alan Rudge, Dudley; Tony Powell, Wolverhampton; Jacqueline Parish, Smethwick; David Eccleston, Birmingham; Maureen Hanke, Stowbridge; Janet Griffiths, Reading; Derek Newman, Lichfield; Christian Baker, Birmingham; K. S. Hines, Birmingham; Elizabeth Hadley, Balsall Common; C. Greenway, Dagenham; Angela Godrich, Lichfield; Alison Hunter, Birmingham; Stephen, Birmingham; J. Vickers, Birmingham; Y. Malin, Birmingham; Paul Perry, Oldbury; Christine Perks, Birmingham; S. Hogan, Birmingham; Janice Hallard, Birmingham; Angela Williams, Birmingham; Anne Smith, Lichfield; Jonathan Newton, Balsall Common; Diane Hathaway, Birmingham; Sandra Hill, Birmingham; John Henderson, Plymouth; Paul Fishburn, Surrey; Stephanie Mallett, Maidstone; Carol Cain, Wigan; Kim Gibbons, Thornhill; Janice Halwood, Wigan; A. Hawkins, Ecclestone; Joy Webb, Plymouth; Susan Kriete, Bishop's Cleeve; L. Halliwell, Ancoats; Elaine McCann, Guildford; F. Bullard, Ipswich; Susan Shepherd, Birmingham; Margaret Winkett, Birmingham; L. Phillip, Wolverhampton; Andrea Slater, Chesterfield; Garry Flowers, Ipswich; C. Randall, Doncaster; Susan, Birmingham; Adrian Smith, Ipswich; Sandra Robb, Birmingham; S. Painter, Birmingham.



England and Kent cricketer COLIN COWDREY seen batting at the Sydney cricket ground against a bowling machine. This year he is again making his cricket power felt in the land of cricket. Here, Cowdrey outlines his faith in God, and the way in which he believes he has been led.

"WHAT are you going to be when you grow up?" You know it, the age-old question from favourite uncle or adoring grandmother.

They stare at you with some amusement, trying to imagine how the "dear little shrimp" could make a living.

At the age of 12, with all the confidence in the world, you reply: "I'm going to captain a ship." or: "Play football for the Spurs." or a thousand and one possibilities.

There are no doubts at all that the chosen walk of life is going to be anything but a bed of roses.

Three years later the same question can put us on the spot. "I don't know, really," stalling madly, "there are so many things..." Yet, so often, the young person has not got anything in mind at all.

In my case, I believe, it was this question posed when I was about 15, which really set me thinking... thinking not only of what job I could do, but about the deeper underlying purpose of living. My school work was unsatisfactory, above average I suppose, but I was no scholar. I had little artistic ability. I had few hobbies. I was sport mad. Every free moment was put to kicking a football or wielding a cricket bat.

Danger

My father was a good games player, and keen that I should do well. Yet he impressed upon me the danger of thinking of earning a living out of sport. It is all so fickle; form is so changeable and injury, of course, can bring about a sudden, abrupt end at any time.

But what could I do? What did I want to do? It was at this point that I was really set to think. I analysed my strengths and weaknesses. I tried to assess the talents that I had been blessed with—blessed with—blessed...

If God endows us with talents, perhaps He has a work for us to do, a path to follow. I was much swayed by several respected preachers, and I was absorbed by Iremonger's "The Life of William Temple."

More and more I was to see clearly the contrast between, on the one hand, living selfishly, carving out

No longer under a jungle law

the career purely for self gain and, on the other hand, the giving of one's self, the seeking to follow a vocation, "losing one's life and so finding it."

It did not necessarily mean dashing off to the nearest tailor to be measured for a "dog collar," although this is both the privilege and the yoke for a few. For a much larger clientele the Church, in its widest sense, means a true life of service in the simple, everyday problems of living. Only in His strength can we hope to last the distance doing His will.

The Peace

This means a dramatic change in outlook. No longer under the law of the jungle, we slowly experience the peace which comes from casting all our care upon Him.

We must not expect a comfortable ride. Materially speaking, we must be prepared for everything that life may throw at us, but we are emboldened to meet it through a confidence born of Him.

This brings fulfilment and a lasting happiness. It is the way Our Lord would have us follow, but it is left to us to choose.

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FORGET THIS BALLYHOO— WORLD CUP ISN'T WON YET

WORLD CUP WILLIE, THE SYMBOL OF ENGLISH FOOTBALL, HAS ALREADY BEEN CROWNED KING OF SOCCER BY THE POPULAR PRESS. ALL THAT REMAINS IS THE FINAL CEREMONY AT WEMBLEY IN JULY, AND SUITABLE COMMISERATIONS TO THE UNFORTUNATE RUNNERS-UP.

This super optimism is presumably based in England's comparatively successful close season tour in 1965, and their win against a weakened Spanish side.

It is epitomised in the "Daily Express," with a headline after the World Cup draw: "Easy, England!"

Such confidence in the national teams is by no means unusual. Every World Cup series since 1945 has been preceded by similar ballyhoo.

The patriotism that prompts fervent belief in the infallibility of the English on the playing field is no doubt highly commendable, but failures which have been inevitable have consequently been regarded as national disasters.

RATIONAL

A more rational approach to the situation will save us all a lot of heartache, and enable us to appreciate our team's performance if it should in the event be successful.

In theory every one of the 16 teams in the competition has a chance of winning, including North Korea, who will regard the scoring of a single goal in this sort of company as a major triumph.

An assessment of the individual talent in the remaining 14 teams leads me to believe that England will do very well to improve upon her past record and reach the semi-final.

It is in England's favour that at the helm is a real professional and master tactician in Alf Ramsey. Realist that this man is, he knows that every team manager is only as good as the talent at his disposal.

English spectators invade a football pitch at the close of a game. Adkins believes that World Cup crowds could be much less orderly, steps must be taken NOW to prevent them getting on to the field.



Picture: "Birmingham Mail."

ERNEST ADKINS knocks the super- optimists



How he must long for players of the calibre of Suarez and Neme (Spain), the fearless Pele (Brazil), a striker on a par with Albert (Hungary) or Seeler (West Germany).

One can only hope for Ramsey's sake, that Jimmy Greaves, the only world class player available to him, recovers sufficiently from his present illness to take part. Method, even brilliantly conceived method, can only achieve so much. There is no substitute for talent and well-drilled talent at that.

Another thing worries me.

Unless the F.A. and the F.I.F.A. take immediate steps to prevent it, the World Cup matches played in this country for the first time could degenerate into the biggest free-for-all the football world has ever seen.

Of all the participants, the English alone continue to indulge in charging of goalkeepers. This action never fails to inflame Continentals, is regarded abroad as highly unsporting, and has been for the last 50 years. The very least that we can do as host nation is to instruct our players to leave goalkeepers alone.

ACTION NOW

The F.I.F.A. must now take action to prevent officials and newspapermen from running onto the pitch (a Continental habit) which usually precipitates a mass invasion by the spectators. Visiting South Americans, Spaniards and Latins will invade our pitches at the drop of a player.

IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO LEAVE LEGISLATION ABOUT THIS SORT OF THING TO JULY, AND EXPECT EVERYBODY SUDDENLY TO CONFORM, AND BEHAVE THEMSELVES.