

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE 6d.

April, 1966

Incorporating National Christian News

THE maintenance of the religious establishment has become an end in itself, and not a means, something more important than Christian principle, Christian action, or even real Christian brotherhood.

—Pierre Berton, in a new book: "The Comfortable Pew." (Hodder—6s.).

EVERY time I exercise a ghost the Press seems to get hold of it.

—Bishop of Exeter in the Sunday Times.

Topiquotes only occasionally represent the views of this newspaper.

Topiquotes

I SHOULD have thought that your esteemed paper would at least attempt to encourage children to interest themselves in strictly spiritual things on the Lord's Day and not on things which although perfectly harmless, are, nevertheless, secular and without any Christian teaching.

— H. J. W. Legerton, General Secretary, Lord's Day Observance Society, complaining that a Christian newspaper recommended watching "Wind in the Willows" on television on Sunday.

ARE thalidomide babies all re-incarnated Nazis?

— Headline "Psychic News."

EDUCATIONALLY, preaching is as clumsy as trying to fill a lot of narrow-necked bottles by throwing a bucket of water over the whole.

— Rev. Fred Milson, Westhill College.

THE game is not a fair one. He can call the Daily Express a "----- awful newspaper" but they can't call him a "----- awful consort."

— Dog Watches Dog, the U.K. Press Gazette.

ROMAN EMPIRE TELEGRAMS

JERUSALEM - EMPEROR

EXECUTED TROUBLEMAKERS GRAVE EMPTY.

FOLLOWERS RALLYING. CLAIM HE LIVES.

IGNORE RUMOURS. DISTURBANCE UNDER CONTROL.

SOON OVER = PONTIUS PILATE +

GPO ● GREETINGS TELEGRAM

BMT157 GTG. 10.40 AM

CHRISTIAN NEWS READERS 319 GAZETTE BUILDINGS
HAPPY EASTER + CORPORATION ST BIRMINGHAM-4 =

Inside :

The great defence debate — Your Letters—Page 2.

Teach children sex at 11?—Page 3.

What does Easter mean?—Page 4.

Success at Blackbird Leys?—Page 6.

Ernest Adkins — Page 8.

THE GREAT AND THE BROKE

Is it a scandal that hospital patients have to be crumpled into wards and... This paper is not pacifist. Certainly in the... that the only sol...

DEFENCE: THE BIG DEBATE

IS IT REALLY WORTH LIVING IN A UTILITY WORLD OF INADEQUATE PUBLIC SERVICES IN ORDER THAT WE MAY HAVE THE DUBIOUS 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...

**Into battle
with the
Cross—AND
a grenade?**

*We'd have a
barbed wire and
bullet society*

SOME Christians believe that Communism is the greatest evil there is and that we must fight it at all costs. I may not agree, but it is a view held by many sincere Christians. But to accept that it would be right to use any means to do so is to accept the views that caused the Inquisition, one of the blackest spots in the history of the Church.

Jesus Christ means many things to many people, but is there a Christian living who does not accept Him hanging defenceless on the cross, suffering indignities and tortures we cannot even dream of, and still crying "Father, forgive..."?

How can anyone equate this with what is being done in Vietnam today, in your name and mine? How can we go into battle with a cross around our neck and a grenade in our hand?

MAUREEN DAVIES
(Miss).

Cromwell Road,
Caversham,
Reading.

**CHEER UP,
ERNEST!**

AFTER reading the article on the World Cup by Ernest Adkins I feel compelled to write to express my disgust.

It's about time a few more things, not only football were regarded with a little less pessimism (which according to my dictionary means "tendency to look at the worst aspect at things").

Surely if the England football team feels that the whole country is behind them, they will make a more concerted effort than if we all held Ernest Adkins' defeatist attitude.

Yours optimistically,

NICK TROMANS,

Oakham,
Dudley,
Worcestershire.

YOUR page one comment "The Great and The Broke" invites comment from Christians, and while agreeing with much that is said about the inadequacy of our public services, there is much in this article with which responsible people cannot agree.

It is not wrong to have defence against aggression, as applied to the free world. The people of this country, by and large believe in the maximum freedom for the individual, consistent with order and justice and this is basically a Christian concept.

Communism does not provide this. It is essentially a materialistic, atheistic philosophy and is the most imperialistic movement in the world.

Do we want to live in a society that has to restrain its citizens by a wall of barbed wire and bullets as in Berlin, where thousands have risked their lives to escape to freedom? Or a system which crushes a freedom movement in Hungary with Russian tanks?

Horrible

This is a creed which has exterminated all opposition but whose supporters we allow to air their views in this country, free from persecution. Therefore Communist domination of the world is an un-Christian evil against which the free world is entitled to defend itself, until multilateral world disarmament can be obtained. Our defence, in any case,

Asking God for bread and rain

IN the March issue of the Christian News I was very interested in John Duncan's piece "Please, God, make it rain."

This article is delightfully provocative, and I fundamentally disagree with the final paragraph. If God is indeed the loving Father, what more natural than to ask Him for everything? It surely implies trust and the recognition of God's omnipotence.

I know that in the Lord's Prayer we say: "Give us this day our daily bread," and there is no mention of butter or jam;

would only be used to repel aggression.

You also state that the American action in Vietnam is morally indefensible. The view of government and opposition in this country is that the Americans are fighting to prevent the spread of Communism throughout South East Asia, and this is a view which many Christians support.

It is a horrible war, as you state, but if communism is allowed to take Vietnam by force, it will attempt to take over other countries in this area.

The recent peace offensive by America proves that it is the communists who want to continue the war because they think they can still win. The only satisfactory conclusion of this conflict would be free elections for Vietnam under the auspices of the United Nations. But the UN is too weak at present, unfortunately.

My view is that the Christian must be responsible and face up to the realities of the world and not hide his head under the sand in a "see no evil" manner.

(Dr.) ROY S. L. TURNER.

Hollow Way,
Oxford.

**Politics has
been taboo**

I WAS interested and pleased to read your page one comment in the February issue. It is a sad thought that although the Church could wield a tremendous influence on a big percentage of the people in our country, it does very little.

If Christianity is a spiritual and physical way of life then naturally we must be interested in vital questions affecting any part of the community. Too often in the past the Church has refused to become implicated in issues which affect the masses of the people, and it has reaped its reward in dwindling congregations.

All the statements made and the questions asked in your editorial are political, and Christianity must be closely concerned with politics. The two things are closely related and are affected by one another. So often in the past politics has been a taboo subject in churches.

More power to your pen, and every success in your efforts.

D. STEWART.

(One of a very large number of non-churchgoers).

Collingbourne Avenue,
Birmingham 34.

Pray for a way to be shown

COMMUNISM or nuclear weapons, any weapons; this is the question. Both are intensely evil, but which to choose in the present state of this imperfect world — destruction of the body, or of the soul?

Surely God would respond to SPECIFIC prayer for world disarmament — every Church, of every denomination, in this country should set a lead by stating that, say, the first Sunday of each month would offer prayers specifically for the way to be shown.

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

MARGOT KYNASTON.
Oakley Road,
Caversham,
Reading.

The Prime Minister and Mr. Heath have urged that the nation takes part in a serious exchange of views about Britain's role in the world's military power structure.

Christian News had already opened up its own debate on this urgent question. A General Election and a new Government are factors which might delay a national discussion.

But letters reaching us indicate impatience among Christians to air their views, now.

As far as we are concerned, the great debate is ON.

**Hope is in man's
move to brotherhood**

CHRISTIAN NEWS asks whether we should tolerate inadequate public services to pay for modern weapons, and whether Communist domination would be a greater evil than modern war.

In this country it is getting easier to answer NO to both questions, as the impossibility of keeping up with the nuclear Joneses becomes more obvious, and the Communist bogey less frightening (from closer acquaintance by tourist and education exchanges, etc.).

But it is an international issue, too, and a moral one. The new weapons are not only too expensive for most countries but too dangerous for any to use. Nuclear or germ warfare would know no frontiers. Unilateral disarmament (whether, from necessity or virtue) would neither absolve us from further responsibility nor save us from the consequences of a major war anywhere.

Sobering

If the world is to survive, force can never again be carried to its logical conclusion in clashes of "national interest" (sometimes a euphemism for "financial interests") nor of political ideologies (where physical methods are inappropriate in any case). More sobering, it cannot again be the ultimate sanction even against the sort of evil which Hitler showed human beings to be capable of nor to resolve the tragic conflicts which seem inevitable when different civilisations im-

pinge on each other in circumstances which threaten the cherished "way of life" of any cultural group.

In this totally new situation, people everywhere are anxiously seeking guidance. Religious authority is always weakened if national and moral loyalties are confused. In many past wars both combatants have claimed "God on their side," to quote today's protest singers. Or, in the words of Burns, on a thanksgiving for victory—after some 18th century battle:

"Ye hypocrites: Are these your pranks?"

To murder men, and give God thanks?

Desist for shame! Proceed no further!

God won't accept your thanks for murder!"

In the nuclear age the challenge is being met by Christian churches and other world faiths, and also by men of goodwill professing no religion. There is a new recognition of genuine differences of belief, and a growing respect for their sincerity.

As science makes "defence" a meaningless word, a concept of world unity (without uniformity) gives new hope for a non-violent way of combating injustice and oppression. It will call for as much courage, self-sacrifice and discipline as the old way, but without the conflict of conscience which war has always meant for Christians.

ANNE JAMES (Mrs.)
Offmoor Road,
Birmingham, 32.

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Case worker urges —

Straight talk on sex should start at 11

Mums-to-be come in gymslips

A SOCIAL worker in London wants to give sex talks to 11-year-old schoolgirls in a bid to check the rising number of "gymslip mothers."

Wel-care, the Christian moral welfare organisation, already sends teams of experts to give lectures on personal relationships in schools, but Miss Doreen Kemp, one of the organisation's busiest case workers, believes younger children should hear the talks.

According to Wel-care's report for 1964, more than a third of the girls it helped in Middlesex were in the 14-18 age group.

Too late

Miss Kemp, whose area includes Ashford (Middlesex), Feltham, Hanworth, Hampton, Hounslow, Staines, Teddington and Twickenham, says she has an "alarming" set of figures for last year (1965). Her case load has risen to 234 compared with 168 for 1964—more than 60 of the unmarried mothers were under 18.

She said: "I have had a tremendous number of 14- and 15-year-old girls. A fairly high proportion of them were at grammar schools.

"Prevention is better than cure and I feel we must start giving talks to

these girls at the age of 11. If we wait until they reach the fifth or sixth forms, it is too late.

Shaken me

"The statistics have really shaken me. I have dealt with 25 cases already this year (1966)."

Miss Kemp, who has been working an 80 hour week to cope with the increased work, blames the present trend among the unwed 18-year-olds on:

- Working parents who leave their children at home alone.

- Early maturity—"a girl thinks she isn't with-it if she has not got a boy friend by the time she leaves school."

- The moral behaviour of some pop singers and other artistes who are idolised by the youngsters.

- Alcohol—"vodka and lime is the popular vogue drink among the young girls."

Coffee — at a price

The Havering Evangelistic Fellowship is planning to turn the Laurie Hall, Market Place, Romford, into a coffee club. The aim is to use this old cinema, now a social hall which seats 300, as a centre for personal evangelism amongst teenagers of Havering.

Gallows crusade

The nation-wide campaign to repeal the no hanging law, started in Smethwick will be known as the National Cleansing Crusade

R.C. and Kirk man join S.C.M.

THE REV. GRAEME BRUCE, Chaplain of the Queen's College, Dundee, has been appointed Study Secretary and Associate General Secretary of the Student Christian Movement of Great Britain and Ireland, and a director of the S.C.M. Press, for five years from September. Mr. Bruce is a minister of the Church of Scotland. He will succeed the Rev. David Head whose appointment as the S.C.M.'s General Secretary was recently announced.

For the first time in its hundred-year-old history, the S.C.M. has appointed a Roman Catholic priest to its staff. Father Laurence Bright, O.P., a former research scientist now based on St. Dominic's Priory, Hampstead, will spend part of his time as Associate Study Secretary at the S.C.M.'s national headquarters and in travel round regional meetings.

POP GOES A CATHEDRAL



The Barron Knights visited Birmingham Cathedral for the annual service held there for members of the theatre, entertainment, broadcasting and television world.

The service was arranged by the Actors' Church Union. Ken Dodd read one of the lessons, and music was provided by the B.B.C. Midland Light Orchestra.

CHRISTIANS WILL THINK ON STYLE

One of the topics that will be discussed by the Fourth Assembly of the World Council of Churches when it meets at Uppsala, Sweden, in 1968 will be "a new style of living."

Ways will be studied for Christianity to answer the longing of men and women today for a truly human, and therefore meaningful, life, and to know how to live

as families and to act as morally responsible persons in societies in which men of different convictions and religions live side by side.

Discussions will seek to outline what in this context could be the specific "Christian style of living," in which moral behaviour, witness and service would be related to the realities of the contemporary world.

What goes up ...

Of 900 small balloons released in Dean's Yard, Westminster, on December 28, to mark the 900th anniversary of the founding of Westminster Abbey, 121 were returned by finders to the Dean and Chapter — 25 from France, three from Switzerland and 93 from London and the Home Counties.

Baby Park

So that housewives can leave their babies while they go shopping, a creche is being organised at Leatherhead, Surrey, parish church hall on Friday mornings.

Why are humans cruel ?

A CENTRE for research into why the human race is cruel and violent is to be established at Sussex University at the beginning of the next academic year.

It will be called the Centre for Research in Collective Psychopathology. The centre, sponsored by the Columbus Trust, a charitable organisation of which Lord Butler is chairman, has received nearly £150,000 in donations, more than half of what is required for its seven-year programme.

The centre will investigate the processes by which

societies come to regard certain categories of human beings as less than human, "as things, or animals, or vermin, or sub-men, or incarnations of evil." This study, under Professor Norman Cohn, will be made in relation to the treatment of Jews and Slavs under the Nazi regime. The trust will initiate investigations in the United States at the same time.

The programme also includes a study of "the very nature of human cruelty and destructiveness." This will co-ordinate the findings of psychoanalysts and anthropologists about

the propensity of human beings to enjoy the suffering and death of other human beings.

The subject sounds somewhat macabre, Professor Cohn is at pains to ex-

plain that it is necessary and useful. In the end, he suggests, it might be possible to put forward some ideas about how violence and cruelty can be avoided.

City streamlines help

Mr. Harry Thacker, Liverpool's chief welfare officer is after the overlapping and sometimes inefficient charitable organisations that set out to help the needy, the old, and the disabled.

The city has established a comprehensive social welfare system. This will, in time, be an answer to the criticisms to which Mr. Thacker feels present arrangements are sus-

ceptible.

He wants the welfare centres to be decentralised so that help can be found where people live shop, and change their library books; secondly, they should at least be co-ordinated, if not controlled by a single department; and lastly the "units" making up the service should not be so watertight as to neglect areas of need that cannot be found in the rule book.

Quakers start a pub-crawl with a difference

A QUAKER housing association in Loughborough, Leicestershire, has been awarded grants by the Ministry of Housing and by the local rural district council to help it turn a former public house, the Anchor Inn, at Mountsorrel, into a home with bed-sitting rooms for 11 unmarried mothers and their children.

The inn has been bought for £4,000. The conversion will be under the direction of an architect, a Quaker. The scheme will cost a total of £10,000; around £8,000 has already been contributed.

When it opens, the home will have a day nursery for the mothers to leave the children to enable them to carry on full-time jobs.

Accommodation will be provided at a reasonable price for single mothers during the first two or three years when they are most in need of moral and physical support. The mothers will be of any denomination and will not only be confined to local women

Hospital can be fun for these elderly

A SCHEME to make hospital something to look forward to instead of something to fear has been started in London. Originally begun as an experiment at St. Francis', in East Dulwich, the scheme is now to become a permanent feature of the hospital, which caters for hundreds of old folk.

Patients in the main hospital who are not in a chronic condition are urged to go home and attend twice weekly a special day hospital.

There they can go for regular treatment, exercises, dinner and tea and a social get-together. The day hospital is run like a club.

Success

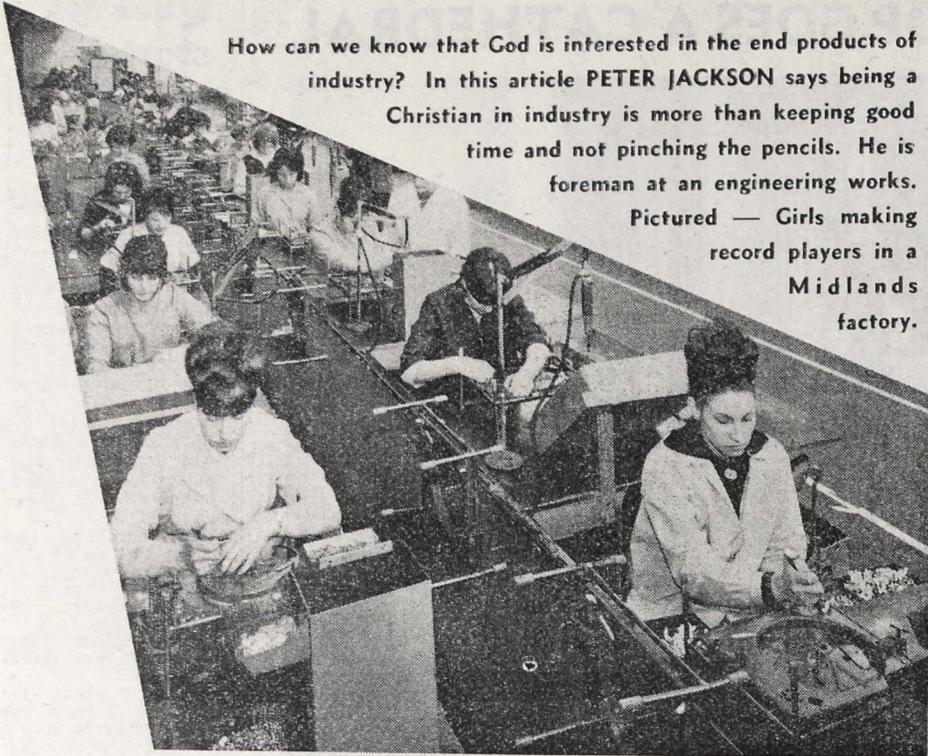
A spokesman said: "The accent is on getting the old people to look forward to coming. I think it is a big success."

Most of the old folk are impressed and like their get-togethers here. The trouble has always been that many old people fear that once inside hospital they will never leave.

"It may have been true years ago, but nowadays we only went people to be well enough to go home and lead their own lives. This scheme solves the problem of how to allow them to do this and at the same time to take care of them and give them proper treatment."

How can we know that God is interested in the end products of industry? In this article PETER JACKSON says being a Christian in industry is more than keeping good time and not pinching the pencils. He is foreman at an engineering works.

Pictured — Girls making record players in a Midlands factory.



God cares about record players

MOST Christians will agree that they can serve God in their daily work. This service, however, is often seen only in terms of witness to non-Christians and the earning of money to give to Christian causes. Both these aims are admirable but ignore the basic purpose of industry.

Christians usually are uncertain of, or indifferent to, this purpose and as such have little sense of vocation and therefore fail to find satisfaction in their jobs and this frustration hampers the effectiveness of their witness.

that are met by going to work. This is not to say that industry is perfect, but we can see that it is used by God to show His love to people.

Fair pay

If we now consider the place of a Christian in industry we can see that he can identify himself with the aim of the firm and do his job knowing that God wants it done.

He is also called to see that industry is run in the way God wants it run, honestly and justly, with a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, with reasonable hours and working conditions. His opportunities for this will vary with his job but each side of industry has opportunities and responsibilities for maintaining justice.

He is called to be involved in his job. So often Christians in industry spend a great deal of their time pretending they are not in it and often misuse Christian Fellowship to do this.

When Christians can themselves see God's purpose for industry, they are in a position to proclaim a relevant faith to those around them.

When non-Christians see Christians working out their faith in industry, furthering God's creation and His righteous rule they may be less inclined to think that Christianity is a spare time hobby for those that way inclined.

When I started working in a factory I was told by older Christians that I must set a good example, turn up on time, not steal the boss's pencils and so on. All this was so that those around me might see that I was a Christian.

All it gave to me was a set of laws to follow. Since then I have discovered that God is concerned that the things the factory is producing are in fact made.

What a difference this now makes.

Of course I turn up on time; I am directly working for God. Of course I don't steal things from the boss; they really belong to God and He has a use for them in furthering His creation. This gives meaning and life to my job and a great sense of satisfaction in doing it.

But can we know that God is interested in the end products of our industry? It is easy enough to see this if we work in a factory printing Bibles but not so easy if it is making cars or record players.

Industry is the way we use to meet each other's needs by the things we make, the wages we earn and the social and mental needs

Revolution can start with baby

"STARTING a family is like starting a revolution. Nothing will be quite the same again... It looks simple enough from the outside... yet we soon discover the other side."

It is with the unexpected "other side" of becoming young parents that a new booklet from the Marriage Guidance Council deals. Many young families take everything in their stride. Others have difficulty in adjusting to this new way of life.

Loneliness can be a desperate problem for some young mothers at home, and small family units living away from their families can become quite isolated among hundreds of similar families.

Suggestions, help and comfort are offered on these and many other problems in this 3s. 6d. booklet, "Young Parents." It is available from Marriage Guidance Councils, book-sellers and by post (4s. post free) from the Book Shop, 58, Queen Anne Street, London, W.1.

Drugs, crime mar land of affluence

TWENTY years of full employment and a stable economy have produced an affluent society in Sweden which should be the envy of the world.

But the rosy picture is marred by a boom in drug addiction and crime.

As people have become richer and more cosseted by a cradle-to-grave welfare scheme, the number of serious crimes has gone up and up—from 172,000 in 1950 to 373,000 last year.

WHY A PARTY ENDED IN A STREET FIGHT

MR. ALEX BRYAN, national organiser of the St. Leonard's Housing Association, which for three years has been building up a stock of houses and flats where ex-prisoners and their families can make a new start, tells in his annual report of a real-life Good Samaritan.

Because houses in central London cost much more than a voluntary society can afford it has usually to buy in the suburbs where money can at least go further.

Some houses will be in most respectable middle-class territory and then the society picks its tenants with extra care so that they should not feel any strain in keeping up with the neighbours but should quickly fit in.

One family hand-picked for a flat on the Epping Forest side of London managed fairly well (says Mr. Bryan) until the day they decided to have a party.

"They invited their friends of former days, these being the only friends they knew... The result was a celebration on a grand scale which ended in a street-fight in the early hours of a suburban Sunday morning.

The neighbours rose up in arms and only one stood out—the woman who lived in the very next house to the offending family. She argued that she and the other neighbours were partly responsible because they had done nothing to befriend the newcomers and make them feel at home.

New start

Result? She gathered together other local people to see that the St. Leonard's tenants should no longer be left without friends and help. Now they form the "Friends of St. Leonard's" and work with the society's

social workers to see that the ex-prisoners' families get a really fair new start.

When the new neighbours move in the well-wishers make sure they know they have friends around them.

They also help by making curtains, fixing cupboards and curtain-rails, and doing the other odd jobs that any new home needs before it can be lived in.

One of their most worrying problems is the family that just cannot cope. In the words of the annual report:

"Homelessness for most of the families we have sought to help has not been the direct result of the husband's imprisonment, but merely one of a number of factors resulting from the family's immaturity and consequent failure to fit into the accepted pattern of life."

Meths drinkers get a helping hand

THE alcoholics who are shunned by all—the drinkers of methylated and surgical spirits—are being helped in London by a welfare officer of the Royal London Prisoners' Aid Society.

Forty-four-year-old Mr Charles Preece has long been interested in the plight of these different alcoholics who land in prison time and time again.

He now has an organisation called Wayfarer House, a centre where alcoholics newly released from prison find companionship, understanding and medical help.

Desborough experiment

CHRIStIANS of four denominations—Anglican, Baptist, Congregationalist and Methodist—have taken a step towards church unity at Desborough, Northamptonshire, where a joint meeting of the leaders of the town's four churches has unanimously passed a declaration of intent, pledging to work towards the creation of one church for the town.

Arrested for a lark

THE homes of more than 200 infirm and disabled pensioners in Hendon and Finchley in north London were raided by several policemen and police-women in March.

They were taken away in cars to Finchley Section House, a hostel for single police officers just off the Finchley North Circular Road.

The surprise was a variety concert for the pensioners to be entertained by the local police and civilian staff of S division.

The producer of the concert was P.C. Ken Moxley from Hendon. The chorus line was made up of women police constables and typists with the men joining in the company for the mini-musicals in the programme.

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

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DEAD CERT.

IT was reported recently that with only one race meeting on a particular day the bookies lost heavily because all the six winning horses were dead cert favourites; for once the dead certs ran true to expectation.

But there is one other "Dead Cert" — there is one, and one fact only that we know for certain about our future. One day we must die. To-day everything is done to play down the reality of death: we avoid the word and use the phrase "should anything happen." We prefer a Memorial Service to a funeral because you can then escape looking at so pertinent an object as a coffin. But in our heart of hearts we know that in the end we must face reality.

Easter comes to give us the assurance that the one dead cert is in fact the guarantee of a fuller life. "The third day he rose again" are the key words in the Christian Creed. St. Paul aptly reminds us that if Christ did not rise we have good cause to be miserable as our faith is certainly then shattered. To-day a great many people would like to believe in the Resurrection of Christ but honestly find that they cannot do so. To them the Resurrection seems a wonderful idea but an impossible miracle to accept. But if these people are right and the belief of the Church about the first Easter is wrong, how can we account for the behaviour of the apostles?

At the time of the Crucifixion they were a scattered band of men who had every reason to keep quiet as they otherwise ran the risk of being executed like their leader. A few weeks later we read that they were fearlessly proclaiming "This Jesus who was crucified is risen from the dead." And their preaching was to cost many of them their lives.

What explanation can be given of this astonishing change in their behaviour unless they had a real experience of the risen Christ?

John Grimwade

Tragedy for St. Anne's families

THE stark tragedy of the carnage and destruction on the roads was brought home to the congregation at St. Anne's on learning that three of its members were killed on the M4 on Friday evening, February 25, and a fourth seriously injured.

Of those killed, two were brothers, married and with young families. Patrick Carter, who lived on the Henley Road with a family of eight young children, was a well known member of the congregation. Joseph Carter, his brother, lived in South View Avenue since last year. He leaves a family of three young children. Colman Folan lived with Joseph Carter. He was the support of a widowed mother.

To all of the bereaved we offer our sincere sympathy.

In some thirty years of dealing with the police, I have come to appreciate their value to the community and how much they contribute to our being able to live our days with some degree of security. However, it took this tragic event to bring home to me that they are a much finer force and much finer individuals than I had ever thought they could be.

First on the scene to take control and render aid, they followed this up with remarkable consideration in breaking the sad news and many hours were spent in phoning relatives in an effort to find comfort for those shocked by their loss.

Transport was provided for friends to comfort the bereaved and the strong arm of the law was there to weep on. How much we owe our neglected and sometimes misrepresented police force we never fully recognise.

WILLIAM O'MALLEY

POLLING DAY MARCH 31

Your candidates write for Caversham Bridge

CONSERVATIVE



PETER EMERY
Member of Parliament for Reading since 1959

RATHER THAN discuss party politics I want to write about something which has worried me for a number of years. This concerns the calibre of Members of Parliament. It seems to me terribly important that, as a Nation, we should be able to elect to Westminster men or women of proven ability. Persons who have a specific contribution to make.

I have always believed that in recent times too few people inquire into the personal characteristics of the person for whom they are voting. Is he or she a person who respects and contributes to religious faith? Has he the education, the experience and the understanding to deal with the many problems, often of a most involved nature which are the normal business of an M.P.? Do you really know HIS views, rather than those which are a reflection of his political party?

More and more we seem to be drifting into the position whereby people neglect the man and vote for the party. Equally there seems to be a real move towards the aspect of a "Presidential Election" with people only worrying about who may or may not be the Prime Minister.

If this is the case, it is not surprising that Westminster does not attract the most able people to stand for Parliament. Nor is it a wonder that the respect for M.P.'s or Parliament as an institution is on the decline.

Therefore, what I would ask of all electors is try to see each candidate and hear their views. It is said that "A country gets the Government it deserves," if we are not willing to select as our M.P. a person of the highest calibre then we cannot help but obtain a mediocre Government.

LIBERAL



ERNEST PALFREY
Liberal Candidate

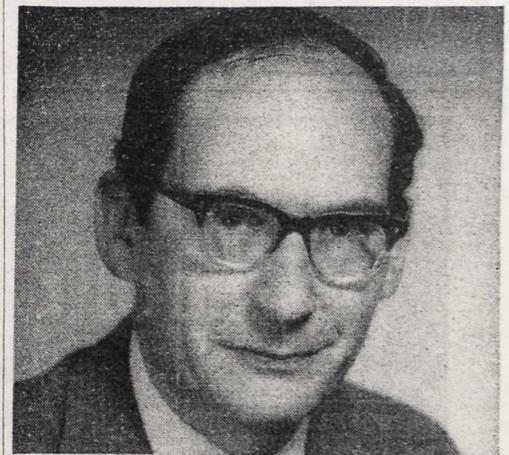
USE YOUR VOTE

The "Caversham Bridge" urges all of its 12,000 readers who have a vote to use it on Election Day, Thursday, March 31.

LABOUR

ALTHOUGH the Labour Party is a comparatively new party (it is the only major British Party that has been founded this century) it had already got a remarkable record of achievement to its name even before Harold Wilson formed his Government a few months ago. Full employment in peacetime, the free health service, the National Insurance Scheme and the first really comprehensive town planning machinery spring to mind as examples of the major accomplishments of the post-war Labour Government. In the last year however this record has been further added to, in spite of the mess in which the Country's economy had been left by the Tories and in spite of its having the smallest Parliamentary majority of all time. Among recent achievements are the biggest single increase in old age pensions for nearly twenty years, the abolition of the earnings rule for widows and the setting up of a system for fixing rent fair for both landlords and

tenants. These are fairly well known but there are others just as important, because they are vital to the strengthening of the economy. They include the provision of special credit for exports, and the setting up of the Prices and Incomes Board. However, the task of providing Britain with a just society and a sound economy is only at the beginning. There has to be a massive modernisation of industry involving thousands of people in changing jobs and in learning new skills and there has also to be a great increase in capital investment. Left to economic chance and our Tory opponents this would either not be done at all or done at the price of terrible hardship and unemployment. With a Parliamentary majority of three it just cannot be done. That is why there has to be a General Election just now. I believe that the Labour Government's achievements justify the renewal of its mandate and I believe that Britain will provide it with that mandate on March 31.



JOHN LEE
Labour Candidate

WE LIBERALS claim that "People Count." Liberalism is centred on men and women themselves. Business, Trade Unions, Government have become increasingly powerful. The belief in the value of the individual and the striving for his liberty and development must more than ever be the basis of politics.

So to policies. Ours is an industrial society with big units. Liberals want a partnership of workers, shareholders and management established by incentives and law. It can take a number of forms; we shall need to try each but co-partnership is the ultimate aim.

Our housing needs are 500,000 a year as a first step. We must raise the pitifully low research ex-

penditure. We must bring down the price of land by yearly taxing, through rates, all undeveloped land.

In education we have a lot to learn!! I want social snobbery out; the education to fit the child and the right of all parents to choose their child's education. We support work experiments to these ends.

Our defence spending should cover no more than our needs. We cannot credibly maintain a world role with 11% of the world's population. We must support international action based on our faith in the value of every person, whatever his background, faith or colour.

3,000,000 Liberal votes at the last election has been a powerful brake on extremism. It is vitally needed today.

Caversham Park — Residents form Village Association

“WE ARRIVED to find we were already the victims of too much bureaucratic planning. Plans had been made without regard to the people who were actually going to live in the place. This is a new community of people — not just lots of houses.”

These were the determined words of the Chairman of Caversham Park Village Association when I visited him recently. Only 100 houses so far are occupied out of the 1,500 which will comprise this 180-acre development that lies on the north-eastern extremity of Caversham, linking the Henley and Peppard Roads. Only a few people have arrived so far — but they are making their presence felt. All but a handful of those who have moved in have joined the new Association set up to protect and promote the interests of the residents.

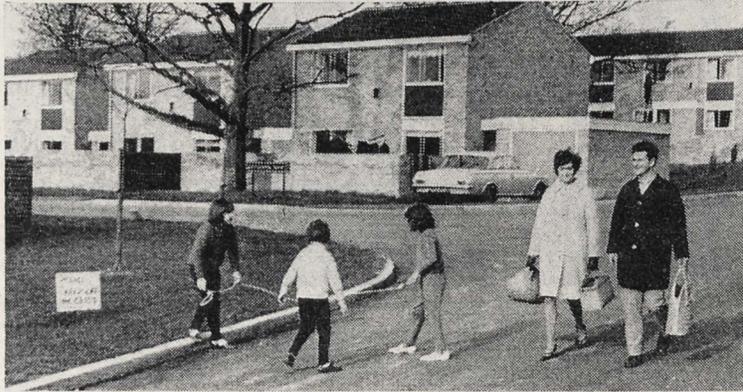
Sqn. Ldr. Peter Cockman, of 9, Devon Drive, the Chairman of the Association, said they were anxious to integrate with the local community of Caversham, but they wanted to ensure that

houses are people from Scotland, Holland, Norway and India; there are families from Sheffield and Liverpool, and some R.A.F. families.

One desperate need is quite apparent to all who

will appear before the 1,500 houses are finished.

The Village Association can obviously play an important part in seeing that this ambitious development does not become just another



Some of the 1,500 houses going up in Caversham Park Village.

Photo: Fred Walker

those who lived on the spot had a say in what was going to be “done” for them by the counties of Berkshire and Oxfordshire, by the boroughs of Reading and Henley, and by Davis Estates Ltd. — ALL these bodies are concerned in the plans for this new part of Caversham.

CENTRE NEEDED

It is the firm intention of the founder members that the Association shall be without any political, religious or racial bias or affiliation. Already the place has an international flavour — among occupiers of the new

live in the small fraction of the development completed in the last four months. It is the need for somewhere to meet, a hall, or building for the communal activities of young people and of adults.

AMBITIOUS PLANS

Davis Estates have outlined in their lavish brochure their aims for an integrated community with its own shops, pub, clinic, garage, churches, community centre, and schools. It is an exciting plan which one hopes will be completed. The first residents also hope that some of these amenities

amorphous collection of houses. To me their main obstacle will be the very size of the project: it may be difficult for the next influx of new residents, who will occupy houses at the Peppard Road end, a mile away, to feel much in common with the people at the Henley Road end. They may not like what the Henley Road end of the Association is planning for them. It will be even more difficult to weld together the entire 5,000 people. But if they can do this the Association will really be a force for all the powers-that-be to reckon with. It is already evident that they are stirring up interest both inside and outside the new Village.



YOUR LETTERS

-Shared Church or Centre

Your correspondent, J. Hollingum, dealt with the subject of the “shared church” project for Caversham Park Village in some detail in last month’s issue. I would not argue with his original statement that a single church building to serve all Christian people in any village is exciting and in tune with the ecumenical spirit of today. Nor would I argue with his assessment of the questions to be answered before embarking upon such a building in Caversham Park village: for there are at least five Anglican churches alone within easy reach, and surely these should clearly be proved to be inadequate before any money is spent on another church.

SECULAR BUILDING

I do not agree, however, with your correspondent’s suggestion that a community centre sponsored by the churches would serve equally as well as a local church. Although the village association needs a place to meet more than anything else, I can assure you that we are emphatic in our desire for a secular building unfettered by religious affiliation. No doubt many readers will have seen in a recent Sunday newspaper a report of a Vicar telling two Girl Guide leaders to change their religion or

leave the group, which met in the church hall. We may regret the very small number of regular churchgoers or we may not, but to get to the point where a community centre could be denied to those not professing the Christian faith would not be in the best interests of Caversham Park Village.

Mr. Hollingum reminds us that a church is people and not plant. Perhaps it would be better to adopt one of the courses suggested recently by the Rector, to have “Our man in Caversham Park Village” rather than “our empty building.”

In the same way may I remind your correspondent that Caversham Park Village is PEOPLE and not plant. We sincerely hope that when the sociologists have had their say and when advice has been sought from those who have attempted similar projects, the planners will not forget to find out the wishes of the PEOPLE of Caversham Park Village.

This association exists to make these wishes known and will be pleased to take part in any discussions concerning the future of the village.

Yours etc.
PETER COCKMAN
Chairman, Caversham Park Village Association.

An on-the-spot Investigation by our Staff Reporter

African Nationalists defended

I was very interested in the excerpt from the Rev. Rea’s letter quoted by Katie Russell. He made us aware of his grief and torn feelings about the sad events in Rhodesia. He blames the African Nationalists for rejecting the 1961 Constitution but I feel that something can be said in defence of this action.

1. The Constitution does not provide a “blocking third” of African votes in Parliament, the proportion needed to prevent legislation calculated to diminish still further their political power. The Africans feared that independence might be granted on the basis of this Constitution if they accepted it, a fear substantiated by Mr. Katie Russell that it is Smith’s statement that deplorable that party politics Rhodesia had expected this Constitution to lead in this national tragedy.

2. The low wages, the Land Apportionment Act and the limited opportunities Africans have for obtaining education above the primary level all work together to diminish the number of Africans qualifying for the “A” electoral roll, which elects 60 members of Parliament, as compared with the “B” roll which elects only 15.

I can only think that there were three alternatives after U.D.I.

1. “To stand idly by,” which might have been the wisest thing to do, as an article in the “Telegraph” suggested.

2. To impose sanctions.

3. To use force.

B. HILL.

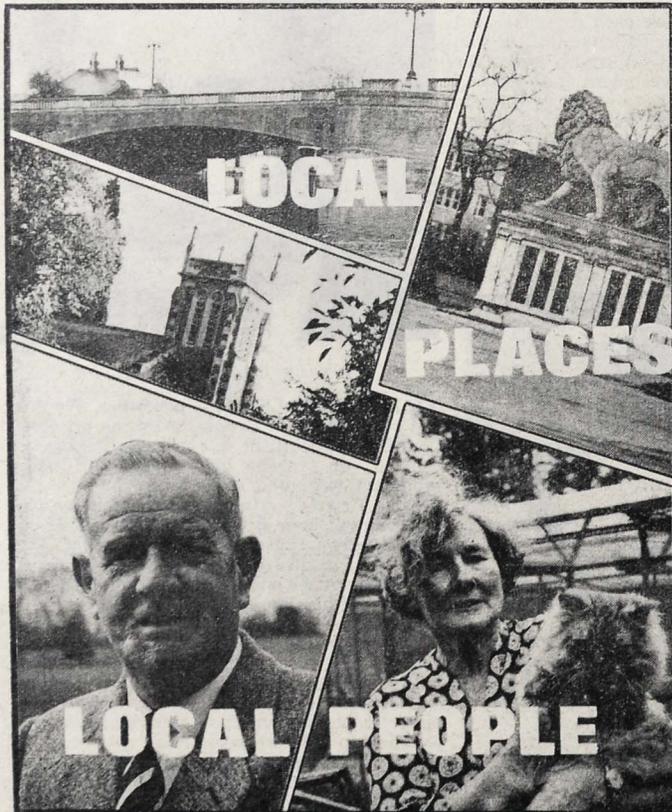
NATTERBOX..

I HAVE a suggestion to offer to those interested in creating a community in Caversham Park village. A church, hall or community centre may come too late. Why not apply to use as a temporary meeting place for ALL comers one of the newly built village houses. It’s been done before on other estates. The house could be resold later. Perhaps the scheme could be sponsored by the “Caversham Bridge” newspaper to avoid some partisanship.

THERE seems to be a contradiction between modern design of houses and today’s size of family. So many new houses have only 2½ or three bedrooms and an open plan ground floor. Yet the average number of children per family has gone up from two to three (with Royal encouragement!) and, looking around Caversham, could be higher. Where do they all sleep? What about prep? Where do the kids play games? Where does the old man read his paper? And what do you do with the grandparents and aunts? Perhaps they’re not supposed to come and stay any more.

I’m completely foxed.

Katie Russell



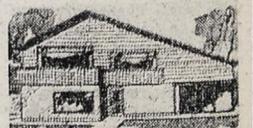
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AROUND CAVERSHAM



Photo: Fred Walker

Raymond Corre, of 22, Woodcote Road and Barbara Hand, of Middlesbrough were married recently at St. Andrew's Church by the Rev. Roger Packer. Their honeymoon was spent in Gibraltar, and they will soon be living abroad — the bridegroom is in the Royal Navy.

THE first of this year's international exchange holidays, organised by Peter Shock in collaboration with the local Toc H branch, takes place during the Easter school holidays.

Outward bound on April 5 goes a party of 10 teenagers to the province of Brabant, Belgium, where they stay for nine days as guests of Belgian families.

On the following day arrives a party of 14 children from Cologne, Germany, who will likewise be guests of Caversham families. This group will be under the leadership of Herr Kurt Phillippek, head of the Städtliches Neusprachliches Gymnasium, one of Cologne's largest and most modern schools. Herr Phillippek is quite a frequent visitor to Reading. On Thursday, April 14, he will be giving a talk at Toc H on German social and educational aspects.

On Saturday, April 9, a party of younger folk will depart for Brussels for a short five day's stay, remaining together as a group throughout. The chaplain of the United Anglican Church in Brussels, the Rev. J. Isherwood, will welcome the children to morning service on Easter Day, and afterwards the Brussels Toc H unit will entertain them to refreshments in the church hall. Visits will be made to the battlefield of Waterloo, the grottoes and fortress of Dinant, and they will join with the Brabant contingent

on a day's outing to Antwerp Zoo and Harbour. Both groups return on April 13.

Later in the year Peter Shock is taking a party of local boys on an expedition into the backwoods of Finland.

THE Emmer Green Youth Club has had two extra helpers recently. Mr. Denning, of 9, the Horse Close, and Mr. Nash, of Rosehill Park, are taking a course in part-time youth work with the local authority and are helping at Emmer Green for six weeks. It's hoped they will continue to help the club when their course ends.

GREAT interest has been focused on the new building project in Buckingham Drive, Emmer Green. The older people were hoping it was more old folks' flats. The middle generation thought maybe at last it was the start of a long promised and very much needed shopping parade, whilst the teenagers were sure it was their new youth centre. Alas, it is to be another petrol filling station.

MR. and MRS. JOHN CRUTCHLEY were among those invited to meet Her Majesty the Queen when she visited Torto in the British Virgin Islands to open a new bridge to the airstrip. Mr. Crutchley is the

elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Crutchley of Gosbrook Road. They are members of Caversham Methodist Church.

WE are glad to hear that Mrs. Martin, the well-known proprietor of Martin's Children's Wear in Prospect Street is making good progress after her illness.

THANKS are due to those who have offered pianos for the British Council Centre. The need has now been met.

SEND US YOUR VIEWS
The Editor is always glad to receive letters for publication, but correspondence concerning articles which appear on the outer pages of "Caversham Bridge" should be sent to the Editor of the Christian News, 319, Gazette Buildings, Corporation Street, Birmingham 4. It is not the policy of the editorial board to publish anonymous letters.

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PARKING PROBLEM? — TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR DAILY DELIVERY SERVICE

CHILDREN'S LIVES IN DANGER

Grave shortage of School Crossing Patrols

Cars speeding along Henley Road make it dangerous for children to cross. Fred Walker caught this group of children waiting at a busy spot on their way to Caversham Park School.

It is at present impossible to find a person to supervise the crossing. Reading Education Committee have 14 other vacancies in the Borough for School Crossing Patrols, not to mention

roads which are over-busy but have no Patrols at all.

This is a job that is usually done by pensioners, but many do not relish the idea of standing in busy streets, and turning out four times a day in all weathers (it entails a daily two-hour spell of four half hours).

We would suggest these jobs could be shared — one person doing the morning and a dinner time

shift, another person the second dinner shift and the afternoon one. Maybe a group of housewives could share the work between them.

Can we risk more deaths on the road?

THE CAVERSHAM BRIDGE ASKS FOR A RESPONSE TO THIS PLEA.

Contact the Education Officer — the need is URGENT.

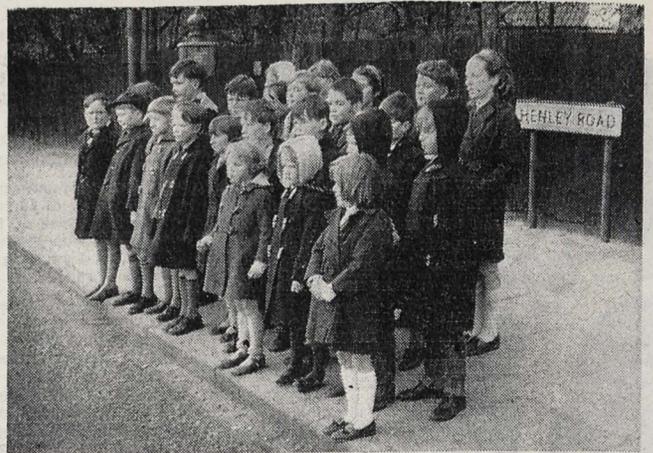


Photo: Fred Walker
Children waiting to cross the busy Henley Road where there is no school crossing patrol. In the summer the situation will be worse — more children walk to school in fine weather.

MOTHER TO DOZENS

Mrs. Warwick and her husband, who will shortly be leaving Chiltern Road to live in Bournemouth, have kept open house to any number of babies during the last seven years. Although they have four children of

BY ROVING REPORTER

their own, three of them married, they have found room in their home, and their hearts, for babies who needed fostering for short periods because of temporary domestic difficulties or illness. During the last year alone Mrs. Warwick has cared for four such babies.

Then, of course, there is Carol, the first baby they had; as Mrs. Warwick says, she was someone very special, so when the opportunity arose they gladly adopted her. At six years of age, she finds assisting Mummy with the new babies great fun and Mrs. Warwick says she is a great help. When they are settled in their new home, together with their other schoolgirl daughter, they hope to continue the work they began here.



Photo: Fred Walker
Mrs. Warwick and Carol

But before she leaves, Mrs. Warwick would like to take the opportunity of asking anybody in Caversham who can do so, to take on this work which, she says, is completely satisfying. Foster parents are adequately reimbursed and she says it is surprising how good friends

and neighbours are at supplying small knitted garments and other necessities. So, in the words of the TV advertisement, just go along to your local authorities and ask for details. You have Mrs. Warwick's assurance that you'll never regret it.

EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD RUMMAGE SALE

"A Spring Sort Out"
Saturday, April 23

Emmer Green Primary School, Grove Road

Admission - - 3d.
— Doors open 2.30 p.m. —

GARDENING NOTES (April)

By courtesy of the Caversham Horticultural Society

Vegetables
All the brassicae can now be sown in the open. The winter frosts have ensured a good tilth and the seed bed should have been given a dressing of lime. Follow this with a dusting of superphosphate and, after sowing, protect against birds and cats (wire netting or black cotton will suffice). A sowing of beet can be tried in a sunny position, also chicory, and further sowings of peas, lettuce and radish may be made. French beans may be sown under cloches (beware of slugs). In the greenhouse sowings may be made of runner beans, marrows, cucumbers (ridge or frame) and melons.

Potato planting should be finished as soon as possible.

Flowers
This is the best month for sowing all hardy annuals. Towards the end

of the month the less tender half-hardy annuals such as French Marigolds, Asters and Bedding Dahlias may be sown in the open if the soil is warm and conditions otherwise favourable. More Gladioli may be planted and at the end of the month Dahlia tubers may be planted and well covered. It pays to surround the tubers in the planting holes with a good layer of peat. This is a very good time to plant, or divide and replant, hardy perennials, in fact with such subjects as Scabiosa caucasica and Aster amellus, it is often fatal to do it at any other time. Chrysanthemum planting can be commenced in the last week of the month.

Resist the temptation to plant out half-hardy bedding plants. It is much too early yet. The chain stores are far too eager to cash in on the credulity of

the public in this connection.

In the greenhouse, Begonias, Sinningias (Gloxinias) Achimenes and Gloriosas may be potted and started off in the propagator. Tritonias, Crocosmias, Ixias and many other bulbous subjects may be potted-up and stood on a sunny shelf to germinate. Fuchsias should be cut back and re-started. Seeds to sow include Impatiens (Busy Lizzies and Balsams), Ipomoeas, Freesias and many half-hardy annuals.

This is the month when grandma divided up and repotted her Aspidistras. These, along with much other Victoriana, have come back into favour and can easily fetch a guinea a plant now. No doubt many of our senior members remember when gypsies were quite happy to give a good plant for Dad's old gardening trousers!

AROUND THE CLUBS

Caversham Heights Reading (Caversham) Townswomen's Guild Afternoon

At the February meeting, Miss D. Taylor, Divisional Superintendent St. John Ambulance Brigade, demonstrated the "kiss of life" and answered questions on first aid.

The Social Studies Group held a coffee morning which was well attended.

The Arts and Crafts Section are currently able to attend classes on gardening and millinery, also a hostess course.

The International Group heard a talk by Mr. St. Romaine, an undergraduate from British Guiana, who is studying agriculture.

Townswomen's Guild

A talk on wine making was given by Miss G. M. King at the February meeting of Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild. Mrs. Stratford won the competition for home-made wine. Classes in pewter work started on February 22 and there is a whist drive on March 3.

A jumble sale is to be held on April 20 in aid of the N.S.P.C.C. A party to entertain the ladies from the Arthur Clark home is to be held on March 23.

New members will be welcomed and details may be

obtained from the secretary, Mrs. M. Morton, 71, Balmore Drive, Caversham.

Maplewood W.I.

The April meeting of the Maplewood W.I. takes place on the 19th in St. Andrew's Hall at 2.30 p.m. The speaker, Miss Price Hill, will be giving a talk on "Two Years in Australia."

For the exhibition, members are asked to bring along holiday souvenirs and to comment on them during the social time.

A short report on the spring council meeting will be given by Mrs. Crowder, also a delegate will be appointed for the A.G.M. in London.

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CAVERSHAM WOODWORK FOR CATHEDRAL AND CASTLE

DURING recent months much of the woodwork from Sheffield Cathedral has been here in Caversham. Renovations and extensions are being made in the Cathedral and the joinery works of Samuel Elliott and Sons Ltd. have been given the responsible task of renovating much of the existing woodwork, which includes fine carving, as well as manufacturing new work.

The pews, canon and choir stalls, panelling, pulpit and bishop's throne, all of which were a dark oak shade have been stripped, modified and adapted, repaired and repolished in natural light oak finish, and are now being refixed in the Cathedral. New work in hand includes main entrance doors in armour plate glass, canopy, sliding screen and roof members to Cathedral extensions (lantern, transepts and narthex). These roof timbers are in opepe, specially imported from West Africa, and are some of the largest sections of solid timber seen in the works for many years.

FESTIVAL HALL

Also being manufactured in Elliott's at the moment is the joinery for the extensions to the

special acoustic panels, in places as far apart as the Royal Tower at Windsor Castle, and the new Ski Hotel at Coylumbridge on Speyside, and export orders have included joinery for the British Embassy in Warsaw, and furniture for the United Nations building in Algiers.

WINDSOR CASTLE

Within the past year work has been carried out



The pulpit from Sheffield Cathedral being repolished in the Caversham joinery works of Samuel Elliott and Sons Ltd.

Photo: Walton Adams

BOMB DISPOSAL UNIT

HOW DIFFICULT to nurse members of one's own family! The patient not only suffers all the discomforts of illness, but also the humiliation of not being able to call his body his own, of being an object of pity, dependent and indebted to other people. In addition he often feels a sense of injustice in being picked out by fate or God in this way. So the patient will often become the prey to feelings of self-pity, anger and frustration.

GOD'S WAY

During these next weeks, as we think about Christ's suffering, death and resurrection we will be reminded that this is not God's way. For we will see Him deliberately involving Himself in this sort of situation, under extreme conditions: we will see Him expose Himself to suffering from men's sins and destructive emotions; bearing them in such a way that He prevented their evil spreading any further, neutralising it by His patient loving forgiveness, and in some cases bringing healing and peace of mind to the people responsible.

EXPLOSIONS

But we all need to express our feelings. So the patient unconsciously looks round for someone on whom he can discharge them. He is too dependent on the nurse, often too unsure of her to risk losing her by discharging these destructive emotions against her. But the family is different, they can nearly always be relied upon to take them, because they cannot run away. So in addition to dealing with their sick relative's slops, they are often called upon to dispose of his dangerously explosive feelings.

ANGER SHARED

He calls us to share in this work, to accept and so dispose of one another's burdens of anger, insecurity and sin. He asks us to accept the suffering they

Talking Point

By John Stevinson

But it is not only in the sick room that we are treated in this way. But in many, perhaps most, of our conversations we suffer from each other's sins, insecurity and destructive emotions. Often without really deserving it.

cause with patience and forgiveness, knowing that He shares it with us, and so give the other person release and freedom to make a new start, and also to prevent the evil doing any further harm. If the burden should get too great for us, He invites us to pass it on to Him, to curse God and live, because His love can take it, while our fellow men probably cannot.

UP THE WALL

For example the husband's boss may have driven him up the wall but he dare not express his true feelings at work, for fear of being sacked. He therefore comes home still inwardly raging, looking for a chance to give vent to this anger in safety. By chance his wife has for gotten to replace his ash-tray, she promptly gets the lot. She, poor thing, wonders what has hit her, her act of forgetfulness hardly deserved such an outburst. But of course, she has got what was really due to her husband's boss. Unconsciously her husband has recognised that here is someone who can take it, and is asking her to dispose of his dangerously explosive emotions.

We are tempted to take these unpleasant and pain-

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(a help-your-neighbour venture)

Someone who was ill in bed for three days said she had no one to call on so she managed alone, with no one to help her. Her neighbours were elderly. But in situations like this we have the BRIDGE SCHEME in existence to help in times of trouble, and also to extend a hand of friendship to the lonely and housebound, young and old. **THERE IS NO NEED FOR ANYONE TO LIE SICK AND UN-TENDED IN CAVERSHAM NOR BE LONELY.** Do tell

your friends and neighbours of the Scheme and encourage them to use it. Names are welcome of would-be helpers who can offer transport when necessary and give occasional help with their time. Send them to the Area Organiser.

THE BRIDGE SCHEME IN EMMER GREEN

Most of the helpers have had a job to do in the past month. Nearly all cases are elderly or sick folk. A fair amount of transport has been provided and as the weather improves a country ride for the disabled might be welcome.

WANTED

In the Woodcote road area a HOUSEKEEPER for a middle-aged bachelor out all day at business is needed, contact the Vicar, Mapledurham.

WHO TO CONTACT

CENTRAL ORGANISER

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

AREA ORGANISERS

Dr. E. V. Beale (North Caversham),
1, Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green, 71644

Mr. F. C. Moore (South Caversham),
52, Highmoor Road, Caversham, 72694

Mr. K. J. Nicholls (East Caversham),
190, Henley Road, Caversham, 77405

Mr. W. A. Vincent (West Caversham),
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Mrs. G. Thompson (Mapledurham),
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— NEWS FROM

Round the Anglican Parish

DURING LENT about 250 people have been taking part in different ways in the "No Small Change" discussion groups, and many more from St. John's took part in similar groups at the end of last year. Now on Tuesday, April 26 a parish meeting takes place in Balmore Hall at 8 p.m. so that all those who have studied together in groups can discuss their findings and plan for action.

We have talked a good deal about living in a time of change; we have now to see how we can in fact proclaim the Gospel in a more relevant way. Having prayed daily in Lent—"create and make in us new and contrite hearts" we should realise that any administrative or organisational renewal will achieve little unless it is accompanied by a renewal of our own individual devotional lives.

The Vatican Council in one decree said "There can be no ecumenism worthy of the name without interior conversion, a change of heart and holiness of life." Those of us who talk of renewal in the Church of England are not perhaps always very responsive when it comes to putting into practice in our own lives a deeper personal devotion to Christ.

Be sure you come to Balmore Hall on April 26, not just to listen but to think together how we can all be more effective as members of the Church of God.

**St. Peter's
SANCTUARY
ALTERATIONS**

The alterations have now been completed in the sanctuary and it is

hoped that the new frontal will be brought into use for the first time on Easter Day.

The death occurred on February 28 of Mr. Thomas Skinner, of 5, St. Anne's Road. After he retired from the post of head gardener on a Surrey estate he enjoyed many years of his retirement at his daughter's home, and although nearly 90 years old was often able to be present at Holy Communion at 8 a.m. on Sundays (Teenagers on breakfast duty on Sunday mornings please note). We extend our sympathy to his daughter.

The Social Committee are arranging a jumble sale in Balmore Hall on Saturday, April 30 at 2.30 p.m. Proceeds for the Bishop's Appeal for new churches.

St. Peter's Wives will be having a "bring and buy" sale on April 19, followed by a general discussion on household problems. This is in place of Professor Hodges talk on The Ridgeway.

The Golden Needlework League which is making clothes for the children of St. Benet's Home has its next meeting on April 1 at 7.30 p.m. at 41, Blenheim Road.

In April the Mothers' Union come to church for

a Holy Week service on Tuesday, April 5 at 2.30 p.m.

**St. Peter's
Scouts**

The Group Committee of St. Peter's Scouts recently held their first annual meeting, and were able to look back on a most successful first year. Two jumble sales produced £133, and the profit on the sale of Christmas cards totalled £104. With a grant of £60 from the District Committee of St. Peter's it is now becoming possible to buy more camping equipment and so reduce the amount that has formerly been spent in hiring. A building fund towards a group headquarters has been launched and £100 contributed towards this. Mr. P. Handy continues as chairman, Mr. D. J. Richards as secretary and Mr. D. Beaumont as treasurer.

St. John's

What is happening at St. John's?

Another Discussion Course is being planned for the whole district. A dozen men and women from St. John's have been discussing how, why, when and what people give or should give to the Church. Judging by the flood of views put forward there is plenty in the subject to interest everyone.

More work is now going into shaping this material

into a thought provoking course on Christian giving. Half the original group is engaged on this, the other half is looking at the relevance of this to individual and to Planned Giving, and using this in planning the development campaign for St. John's, which takes place this autumn.

Discussion Groups to which everyone will be invited will be held on one evening a week for a period of four weeks shortly after Easter, and we look forward to a record enrolment. (Nearly a hundred took part in the most successful No Small Change Course last autumn). No one will be asked to commit themselves to anything but a lively exchange of views.

Another step in the right direction.

During the last two years, we have reported the formation of discussion groups, but previously the members had to be cajoled into joining. This year twenty-five people asked for Bible study groups, and have now been meeting regularly for some weeks, largely under lay leadership. In the three groups there are considerable varieties of experience, education and general outlook. The age range of the men and women taking part must be about 50 years. For practically everyone this is something quite new; but it has proved so enjoyable and helpful, the members

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER IN CAVERSHAM

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PALM SUNDAY
Services in all churches at the normal times. Blessing and distribution of palms at the principal Eucharist at 9.15 a.m.

MONDAY
Holy Communion
7 a.m. St. Andrew.
7.30 a.m. St. Barnabas.
6.30 p.m. St. Peter.
8 p.m. St. John.

TUESDAY
Holy Communion
7 a.m. St. Peter.
7 a.m. St. Andrew.

WEDNESDAY
Holy Communion
7 a.m. St. Peter and St. John.
9.30 a.m. St. Andrew.
10 a.m. St. Barnabas.
7.30 p.m. St. Andrew.
8 p.m. St. Peter and St. John.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
Holy Communion
6.30 a.m. St. Andrew.
9.30 a.m. St. Peter.
10 a.m. St. John.

Sung Eucharist
8 p.m. St. John, St. Andrew and St. Barnabas.

GOOD FRIDAY
Matins, Litany and Ante-Communion
9.30 a.m. St. Andrew.
10 a.m. St. John and St. Barnabas.

Children's Services
10 a.m. St. Peter.
11 a.m. St. Andrew.
11.30 a.m. St. John.

THE THREE HOURS DEVOTION
12—3 p.m. St. Peter. Conducted by the Rev. E. M. Pilkington, Vicar of Kingston-upon-Thames.

2—3 p.m. St. Barnabas. An hour's devotion (the Rector). Evening Prayer
8 p.m. St. Peter, St. John, St. Andrew.

HOLY SATURDAY
Matins and Ante-Communion
8.30 a.m. St. Andrew.
9.30 a.m. St. Peter.

Good Friday Service: 11 a.m.
10 a.m. St. John and St. Barnabas.
Evening Prayer
6 p.m. St. Peter.
8 p.m. (with lighting of Paschal Candle) St. Andrew.

EASTER DAY
7 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter and St. Andrew).
8 a.m. Holy Communion (all churches).
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST (all churches).
11 a.m. Matins (St. Peter).
11 a.m. Children's Service (St. John).
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Andrew).
12.15 p.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter).
6.30 p.m. Festal Evensong (all churches).

The clergy will be glad to know of any who are sick and desire to receive the Sacrament in their homes during Easter week.

CONFESSIONS IN HOLY WEEK
Times when the clergy will be available to hear confessions will be found posted in the porch of each church.

CAVERSHAM NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH

Good Friday Service: 11 a.m.
Easter Day Services: 10.45 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

CAVERSHAM FREE BAPTIST CHURCH

Easter Day Services: 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

Good Friday Service: 11 a.m.
Easter Day Services: 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH (Gosbrook Road)

Easter Day: Morning Service, 11 a.m.; evening service with Holy Communion, 6.30 p.m.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH

Easter Day: Holy Communion, 8 a.m. Morning Service with Holy Communion, 11 a.m. Family Service, 4 p.m.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

MAUNDY THURSDAY
8 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Caversham.
7 p.m. Sung Mass—Procession to the Altar of Repose—Stripping of the altars—Watching till midnight.

GOOD FRIDAY
3 p.m. The Liturgy of the Passion—The Reading of the Lessons—The Reading of the Passion—The Solemn Prayers—The Unveiling and Adoration of the Cross—The Holy Communion Service. (Day of fasting and abstinence).

HOLY SATURDAY
10.45 p.m. The Easter Vigil—Blessing of New Fire and the Paschal Candle—The Prophecies and Litanies—The Blessing of the Baptismal Water—The Renewal of Baptismal Vows—The Easter Mass. (The faithful fulfil their Sunday obligation by attending this Mass celebrated at midnight).

EASTER DAY
St. Anne's: Mass, 8 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.
Our Lady of Caversham: 9.30 a.m.

UNITED WORSHIP IN HOLY WEEK

For Anglicans and Free Churchmen

Tuesday at 8 p.m. CAVERSHAM PARISH CHURCH (St. Peter's): "God So Loved the World."
A Passiontide Devotion in which the combined Anglican and Free Church choirs sing.

For all Free Churchmen

Maundy Thursday at 7.30 p.m. CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH: United Communion Service.
Good Friday at 11 a.m. CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH: Morning Service—Preacher: the Rev. E. Wright.

For Anglicans, Free Churchmen and Roman Catholics

Good Friday at 6.30 p.m. THE ABBEY RUINS, FORBURY GARDENS: An act of penitence for our divisions.
6 p.m. Anglicans assemble at St. Laurence's
Free Churchmen assemble at Wesley Church, Queen's Road.
Roman Catholics assemble at St. James' Church.

THE CHURCHES —

expect the numbers to be doubled by next year. There is a rumour that the Methodists might join in next year, and perhaps other Christians too, then the numbers might be trebled!

Retreating Forward?

A few Sundays ago, Mrs. Greger and Mr. Nicholls were interviewed by Mr. Harris after the 9.15 service on the subject of Retreats. Mr. Harris asked if a Retreat was really an escape from reality, when the individual went off by himself for a weekend's self-indulgence. Neither of those being interviewed agreed. Mr. Nicholls, who went on a Retreat for the first time last year, said that although it was true he was comfortable enough during the weekend, the great thing was that he spent time with God. Mrs. Greger, who had been on many Retreats, said that she usually arrived at the Retreat house quite out of breath, both because of the pressure of life, and the preparations necessary to get there. But as the weekend progressed she grew more relaxed, and was able to start looking at her life, seeing where she was fuss-

ing about unnecessary things, where she was neglecting important ones, and she did this in the context of her relationship with God.

Both said that the rule of silence was a great relief, and although one imagined before one's first Retreat that not to be able to talk for 48 hours was the worst form of horror imaginable, it seems the most natural thing in the world once the Retreat has begun.

St. Andrew's

The ladies of the Working Party, with the help of their many friends have sponsored a family in Hong Kong through OXFAM for the past few years. They became interested in this project in 1961 through a visit and talk by Mrs. Stanley, of the Lutheran World Federation, who was home on leave from Hong Kong. When Mrs. Stanley returned to Hong Kong she visited the family which the Working Party had decided to sponsor. In this way direct contact was made. A photograph of the family was received together with a translated letter from the mother.

In 1963 the family was changed. The previous mother wrote to say: "I am happy to tell you that I am now able to be self-supporting. The family being helped at present comprises a widow (Mrs. Chang Tan Ying) and two children. The help given is to pay for the training of the elder (a boy) to learn a trade. The cost of this training is £30 a year.

To raise this money the Working Party holds coffee mornings and bring and buy sales. One of these coffee mornings was held on March 1 when the proceeds were £16 5s. 9d.

Youth Club

At the Teens-to-Twenties Club a full programme of activities and projects is planned for the future. All members are asked to take note of this and to renew their support.

A few months ago this paper reported that the Youth Club badly needed helpers and leaders. This situation has now been remedied and the club is thus able to forge ahead. We are most grateful to those who have made this possible—to Tony and Pat Cleare, Barbara Jerred and members of the St. Andrew's Young Wives

and their husbands. Not least do we thank Jim and Daphne Scott-Robinson for their continued hard work.

New Officers

Congratulations and good wishes to Peter Steer who has taken over the post of treasurer at St. Andrew's and also to Frank Boshier the new chief server, who will be assisted by Harold Hitchman.

St. Andrew's Fellowship

There will be a Beetle Drive in the hall at 7.45 p.m. on April 14. The Annual General Meeting will be on April 28.

St. Andrew's Mothers' Union hold a jumble sale in Balmore Hall on Saturday, April 23 at 2.30 p.m. Refreshments provided — admission 3d.

St. Anne's— The Marian Group

The Marian Group, now an accepted part of St. Anne's Parish, is just over one year old. It has been a busy and fruitful year. Many members have

gained a lot from the friendships formed. The 19 meetings covered a wide range of domestic, educational and religious topics and discussions with local Anglicans and Methodists. Activities also included the babysitting circle, the sewing branch and the children's play group.

In the group, as in all things, there is a relationship between the effort put in and the reward gained. The next year must cement the newly established group and see some growth and expansion into new fields.

Membership is open to all ladies, married or single, young or old, who have any interest in the parish. We want three more people to serve on the committee, April 1966-1967. If you would like further information on the group or on committee work, contact Margaret Steele, 71437.

Methodists

The Caversham and District Girl Guides held their annual Thinking Day Service at Caversham Methodist Church on February 27, when the service was conducted by the

Rev. Ewart Wright. The Sea Ranger burgee was carried by Sally Burling, a member of the Sunday School staff.

The Methodist Church has always had a strong missionary tradition in which the women of Methodism play their own distinctive part in ministering to the needs of women overseas. As part of this work the women of the two Caversham churches have raised during 1965 over £187 as part of the £906 which has gone from all the Methodist churches in the Reading Circuit for the support of the work done by our women missionaries.

Congratulations to the nine girls of the Girls' Life Brigade who sat for the 1965 temperance examination set by the Temperance Society. All girls passed, some with honours, and they won the Reading Small Shield for the company. They also won three prizes for being top of the district in their particular section.

The Girls' Life Brigade are resuming their monthly parade services at Caversham Heights on the second Sunday morning of each month.

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February 6:
Julie Gregory
March 6:
David Cuthbertson
Gavin Holloway
Leigh Ridgers
Andrew Whiteley

St. John's

February 13:
Lisa Martin

St. Andrew's

February 20:
John Murnane
Kalman Magyar.
Rachel Steer

St. Barnabas'

Simon Preston
Rowan Walker
Catherine Crowhurst
Steven Crosswell
David Busby
Timothy Winter
John Roberts
Theresa Norris
Christopher Norris
Carrie Hatherell
Wayne Cairns
Cathryn Holdsworth
Martin Wise
Christopher Sharpe
Peter Bradbury
Graham Talbot

St. Anne's

Melanie Buckley
Angela Fappiano
Louisa Fappiano
Elizabeth Clarke

MARRIED
St. John's

February 19:
Cyril Legg and Alice Bennett
William Holcroft and Elizabeth Jordan

St. Andrew's

February 12:
Raymond Corré and Barbara Hand

February 19:
John Russell and Mione Clarke

St. Barnabas'

February 12:
Roger Baker and Patricia Grimshaw-Brown

St. Andrew's

February 26:
Ian Genery and Joan Hobley

BURIED

St. Peter's

March 4:
Thomas Skinner

St. John's

February 8:
Beatrice Mary Jackson
February 25:
Emily Smith

St. Anne's

Patrick Carter
Joseph Carter
Colman Folan
Anna Mabel Davies

Caversham Methodist

February 24:
Albert John Burbidge

Caversham Heights
Methodist

February 4:
William Fraser Frew

CHURCH SERVICES

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

Speakers for April

April
3 11.00 a.m. Mr. W. Morrow.
6.30 p.m. Mr. J. Chapman.
8 Good Friday 11.00 a.m. Rev. R. Lewis.
10 Easter Sunday 11.00 a.m. Rev. G. Vinden.
6.50 p.m. Rev. G. Vinden.
17 11.00 a.m. To be arranged.
6.30 p.m. Mr. W. Booker.
24 11.00 a.m. Mr. V. Wheeler.
6.30 p.m. Missionary Speaker.

Caversham North Baptist Church

(Kidmore Road)

PREACHERS FOR APRIL

Morning 10.45 a.m. Evening 6.30 p.m.
3 Mr. F. Scott Mr. G. Muldowney
10 Rev. R. Browell Rev. R. Browell
17 Mr. A. Hall-Mancey Rev. W. Prior
24 Rev. D. Boxall Rev. D. Boxall
(Sunday School Anniversary)
Communion following Family Worship on 3rd Sunday in each month.

METHODIST CHURCHES

Preaching Appointments

CAVERSHAM	CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS
April 3 Miss G. Page Rev. E. B. Wright 10 Mr. D. Tomlinson Rev. E. B. Wright (1) 6.50	11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright 6.30 Mr. H. Speight 11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright (1) 4.00 Rev. E. B. Wright (2) L.P.M.A. Sunday 11.00 Rev. D. S. T. Izzett 6.30 Rev. H. R. Tourtel
17 24 Rev. E. B. Wright Mr. J. Clark	

Notes: (1) Holy Communion; (2) Family Service.

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

April Services

April
3 11 and 6.50 The Rev. L. S. Lewis Evening Communion.
10 11 and 6.50 The Rev. L. S. Lewis
17 11 and 6.50 The Rev. L. S. Lewis Morning Communion.
24 11 and 6.50 The Rev. L. S. Lewis Women's Sunday.

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Assistant Clergy:

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The Rev. Malcolm Cooper (Priest-in-Charge of St. Barnabas') St. Barnabas' House, 33, Grove Road. Tel.: 73095
The Rev. Roger Packer (Priest-in-Charge of St. Andrew's) St. Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel.: 72788.
The Rev John Stevinson (Priest-in-Charge of St. John's) St John's House, 9, South View Avenue. Tel.: 71814.

BAPTIST

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

INDEPENDENT CONGREGATIONAL

Pastorate vacant.

METHODIST

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

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Easter is a Chocolate egg as big as both hands. Little Tracey Hathaway (4) enjoys hers with dedicated enthusiasm



INCREDIBLE! — BUT HERE IS POWER TO MEND OUR WORLD

I WONDER WHAT PICTURES THE WORD "EASTER" CONJURES UP FOR YOU? WOMEN AT AN EMPTY TOMB EARLY IN THE MORNING? OR CHOCOLATE EASTER EGGS? OR WHAT?

Ask the same question of Christmas—and people would almost certainly describe a picture of the manger scene. People KNOW about Christmas—or think they do. But Easter is different. Easter has not the romantic appeal of Christmas. Easter is vaguely uncomfortable.

Easter commemorates the fact that although Jesus was crucified, dead and buried on a Friday, 36 hours later on the Sunday morning the disciples were discovering that He was alive, very much alive, but in a strange and disturbing way.

- His body was not in the tomb.
- He appeared to Peter.
- He appeared to Mary Magdalene.
- He appeared to James.
- He appeared to two disciples on their way to Emmaus — with them He walked and talked for a good long time, even to their home.

● He appeared to others when the windows and doors of the room were shut—and he calmed their fears by eating some fish.

He even appeared, St. Paul says, to more than 500 people at once.

More than this. In the name of Jesus there was power. There had been power before the Crucifixion when the disciples had been sent out to heal people. But the risen power of Jesus was even greater—the power of the Spirit filled them a few weeks later, they spoke with tongues, they preached in the market places, they proved by their own experience that "in the name of Jesus" a whole new range of possibilities in life had opened up.

What the disciples so unexpectedly discovered on that Easter morning was that Jesus had conquered death in all its forms; He was alive again—and they too could live again after disaster. That is why the filled egg is the symbol of Easter — bursting out of what seemed total death came new life. Of course there are argu-

ments about Easter — the very nature of the thing is challenging, provoking. It always has been. It seems meant to be. Some Biblical scholars argue these days about the trustworthiness of the records of that Easter morning. Was the tomb really empty? Did the women really see "angels?"

Some others, scoffers at Christianity, suggest that Jesus never really died—for, they say, a "resurrection" is impossible. And between the crossfire of these ideas, many people, even Christian people, are unsure what they are celebrating at Easter.

Let us see clearly that however accurate or inaccurate the records of that Easter morning may be, what really counts is the CHANGE in the disciples.

Power

They KNEW that there was power in the name of Jesus—for they were experiencing all kinds of things through the Holy Spirit. True, the "resurrection" was impossible (by human standards) but it must have happened all the same.

Look at the disciples! They were new men entirely. Could deception work such a change in men for ever. They spent the rest of their lives, through thick and thin, telling people that "Jesus, who was dead, is alive—and we may live through him."

To be "in Jesus" was St. Paul's phrase for the same experience. "In Jesus, all things are become new." That message is the same today. What did—what does—it mean?

DEATH IS NOT THE END — that is the message of Easter; that is the Christian Gospel (Good News).

I don't just mean physical death. I mean any kind of death. Are we not surrounded by death in our human relationships? Offend someone — and your relationship with them die.

By
**Howard
Morton**



Let me tell you about Mr. and Mrs. X, a couple I knew some years ago. She suspected her husband of adultery. He quite honestly admitted it. So for seven years she never spoke to him—and they lived in the same house! It SMELT of death!

Or take the case of the neighbours who quarrelled when the child of one of them climbed over the fence to rescue the ball he had been bouncing. Lack of thought, angry words, and pride, all played their part in the quarrel.

Thereafter every action of the other family was deliberately taken as an offence—and the families are still enemies today, years later.

The rift

Or again, how many managements talk about their employees on the shop floor as "they"—or vice versa? The rift, deeply built in to our industrial system, is far too strong for humans to close.

Yet Jesus said: "If you feel you have something against your brother, go and tell him his fault straight out—it may be that you will win your brother over." What a challenge! Have YOU ever tried it? How easy it is to end up with a worse situation than before—tempers can be lost, grudges harboured, and maliciousness seems to win the day.

But Christians find that "in Jesus" there is a new power which enables them to conquer such situations,

and to win a reconciliation. How the world NEEDS reconciliation — between management and labour, between East and West, between black and white. How the world then, NEEDS the risen power of Jesus!

The message of Easter is: Death is not the end, the unforgivable crime CAN be forgiven, the broken relationship CAN be restored, out of disaster CAN come a new and rich beginning. Be glad, and accept with thankfulness what God has done through Jesus.

Good news indeed! Have YOU heard it? Have YOU taken advantage of God's free gift and found new life through the resurrection power of Jesus?

Or have YOU passed this message on to someone whose life has been caught up in disaster? The responsibility for passing on the message jointly lies on all Christians—how many today accept the responsibility gladly?

Quote:

IT was also pointed out at the Council last week that there was, in fact, no minister of religion in the parish at the present time and that presented a difficulty to aged people who needed to have forms signed. — Flintshire County Herald, quoted in the British Weekly.

Straight talking on world disarmament

THE World Council of Churches has called for full support of the proposed World Disarmament Conference as a possible way of involving the People's Republic of China in disarmament negotiations.

"Teach me to teach" surprise

YOUTH leaders in Birmingham have overwhelmed the city's Council of Churches by their response to an invitation to training in Christian education methods.

The Council collaborated with Westhill College of Education in organising a conference for Sunday School and Junior Church teachers. About 150 were expected, but 330 turned up.

One vicar said: "It was the most exciting conference to which I have ever been."

The idea stemmed from the Nottingham Conference on Christian Faith and Order at which denominations were encouraged to work together in their teaching and leadership of young people.

As a result of the Westhill conference, tutorial sessions will be held in different parts of the city, and 150 teachers have said they will attend.

The W.C.C.'s Central Committee in annual session here declared that the proposed Conference, which has been endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, "merits fullest support both in its preparatory stages and when it is actually convened."

The Committee also urged: —That the limited test ban treaty of 1963 be expanded to include underground tests.

—That special safeguards against nuclear proliferation be established taking into account not only the responsibilities of nuclear power, but the reasonable expectations of non-nuclear powers.

"The nuclear powers on their part," it added, "must reverse the trend of nuclear weapons building and place at the disposal of all mankind greater nuclear resources for peaceful uses."

Nobody cares

One out of every three old people in homes run by Bedfordshire County Council never get a visit from a friend or relative.

A survey has revealed that 176 of 496 old people in the homes are visited frequently, and another 157 occasionally. But the remaining 153 said they never had any visitors at all.

Success?

Christian News continues its investigation into what constitutes the "successful church."

FRANK MILES filed this report from the brand new housing estate of BLACKBIRD LEYS, Oxford.

Priest-worker John Strong mixes with coffee drinkers after the parish communion. Mr. Strong works at Morris Motors and lives in a council house in Blackbird Leys.

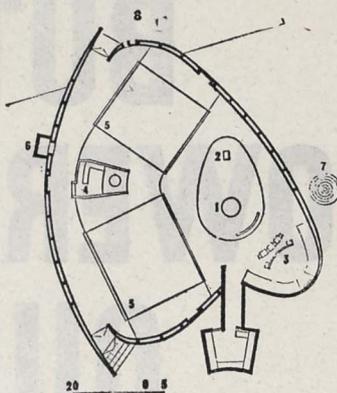
The coffee-after-the-service idea is a move towards good fellowship and could become the estate's weekly "get together."



Family worship. A simple stone altar and pulpit, with the "children's choir" and grand piano in the rear. The church seats 200. The design may "shock you or thrill you" says Mr. Puleston, "but it will make you think."



The monthly parish meeting replaces the Parochial Church Council and the Congregational "Church meeting." Jack Argent, on the left is chairman and a churchwarden. He also chairs the Community Association. Brian Quince, next to him is treasurer. Then come Barry Jones and Mervyn Puleston.



Key to Plan
 1 altar
 2 pulpit
 3 choir
 4 baptistery
 5 pews
 6 campanile and sacrament house
 7 ornamental rainwater gully
 8 narthex and forecourt

SUPER HOLY PEOPLE? NO, NO, NO!

VERY few people indeed attend the services of the Holy Family Church at Blackbird Leys, Oxford. The estate is home for 8,000 people, and Oxford will send 4,000 more to live there in the near future.

The Roman Catholic priest says mass in a tatty wooden hut. It is crowded every time. In the Protestant Church next door — "The oddest building you ever did see" — the congregation for the Anglican parish communion averages 80.

"We know work drains these men. And because they work days, then nights, it isn't possible for them to become committed to regular activities in Church or social life."

A women's group has just started, and there are week night activities for children at the Church. Old people in the area are visited systematically, as are new families who move in for the first time.

The Church may be odd — its design is stark, symbolic, plain and non-fussy. The shape of the Christian organisation is even odder.

The Rev. Mervyn Puleston, Priest missionary for the Anglicans, and the Rev. Barry Jones, a Congregational minister, work there together, and use the church for services of both orders.

Mr. Puleston spends most of his time visiting, and acting as secretary for the local Community Association. There is no Church Hall — "who needs one when the local authority has provided such a fine centre for communal activities?"

Remembered with affection

The first priest who tackled Blackbird Leys established a firm man-to-man, first name terms link with hundreds of people on the estate and Peter Malton is spoken of yet with affection. He left after five years of dynamic work.

When the ministers have time to think about the work they are doing there now they assess what being a "successful" church means to them.

Mervyn Puleston: "We hope that the Church is showing to the community the love of God in its serving ministry — irrespective of the people's reaction. From my study of the Gospel I am becoming more convinced that the ministry is that of the 'suffering servant.' Quite often we will be unrecognised and unrewarded, but that is of no consequence. We don't want anything to start up in the way of organisations like the Mothers' Union which give the impression that the Church is super holy people being absolutely no good to anybody else."

They work together

Mr. Jones, who thinks there are about 35 Free Church people on the estate, takes an evening service, and runs home Bible study groups. His main concern is youth work.

He says: "Fairly soon every third Oxford child will be living on this estate. At the moment many of them are not yet school age.

"But suddenly all these children will be teenagers, and it will be no good then saying that there are no facilities for them. We are trying through a 1972 committee to prepare the ground for the teenagers of the next decade."

The youthfulness of Blackbird Leys is almost overpowering. Young families form the main part of the population, and most of the men folk work in the exacting motor industry.

They are on shift work, and this, both ministers feel, is one reason for the lack of interest in anything outside work and home.

Barry Jones: "We are not talking of young people religious with hearty hymn singing and full churches and all the traditional backslapping. I think we are trying to bring a new dimension into people's lives. There are so many pressures on them to live a surface existence. Our ministry is intended to help people discover a depth, a fullness of living in terms of what the Gospel says."

OH, FOR A PROBLEM THAT IS GENUINE!

WATCHING television in the early evening is becoming too much for me. I'm exhausted. There's all those crazy mixed-up footballers in "United" to get sorted out. There's the difficult courtship between Eden Brothers and rural Norfolk to be followed in "The Newcomers."

Nurses and doctors to marry off, and patients to be agonised with in "Emergency Ward 10," not to mention all those ever-changing situations in "Coronation Street" to be involved with and uninvolved, all within half an hour.

I could just about cope when it was a straight choice between downtown Lancashire and Oxbridge Hospital but now I have so many different lives, so many different sets of friends and acquaintances demanding my sympathies and rousing my emotions that I've just about had it.

I think I'll switch off, rub my eyes and return to the real world for a bit. Have a look at the flesh and blood people round me—even have a go at communicating with them—and perhaps even share a genuine problem that wasn't cooked up in the script-writer's office.

The fact is that it may be too late. I might be addicted to the soap opera drug that gives me a sense of being involved with the world without my ever having to move from the cosy warmth of my armchair.

I may not find real life exciting enough, or my neighbour as entertaining as Elsie Tanner. I certainly won't be able to remain a detached observer only artificially concerned, and able to turn my back as soon as the allotted programme time is over.

The trouble with TV. is that it so cleverly presents us with people who are convincingly real that we can never think of them as professional actors earning a living.

If Marilyn Gates opens a Fete we're shocked to the core to hear pure English flow from those lips that up till now have poured out broad Brum; if Ena Sharples falls ill, there's national concern, even if Violet Carson is very well thank you. We talk about Jerry Booth and Dr. Large as if we knew them personally (which damn it we feel as if we do), without having a clue about

the name of the person playing the part.

We're lulled into the sense of knowing and being involved with all sorts of people—and we may hardly know a soul in the world of reality. The neighbour with whom we are most concerned is that shadowy figure on the screen, not the person in the flat below the house over the road. Our need for human intercourse is met by a synthetic

product, and in splendid isolation we live life at second hand.

Soap opera at its best can help us to be more sympathetic people, it can help us to understand human problems a little more clearly—but too much of even a good thing can be poison, and all of us drug addicts are in danger of falling victim to this one. Who's watching "Cross-roads" tonight?

Letter to young readers

Billy Ball takes a world bounce

Dear Children,

A friend of mine has just got a "super ball." It's a marvellous thing, which bounces ever so high. He can make it bounce almost as high as his house by dropping it hard out of the bedroom window. The trouble is that one of these days he is going to lose it!

The super ball is really clever, because it can bounce up to 90 per cent. of the height from which it is dropped. That is, if you drop it from ten feet up, it will bounce back nine. I wonder if anybody will ever invent a ball that will be able to bounce back all ten feet? If they did, they would have a ball that would never stop bouncing.

When I was very young I heard a story about a ball—Billy Ball was his name—which decided it would bounce all round the world. It bounced off and had a wonderful time until it realised it didn't know it's way home, and it ended up feeling very sad and being thrown at coconuts at a fair in Manchester. Horrid fate.

The girls in this picture are playing with a ball. Colour it with crayon and send it in with this form to me. The best will get small prizes.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Small.



LIGHT UP YOUR LOBES WITH EAR-RINGS

by Joan Best

IF you want to keep ahead now, you've got to get yourself a pair of ear-rings. If possible get a dozen or so. Because London has picked up the Paris gimmick with a vengeance. Everywhere you go, there are earrings galore in every shop window.

And what are they made of? Not discreet pearls or opulent diamonds, but plastic, of course. Plastic, not so long ago unheard of in polite circles, is swinging from the best ears now.

The earring look is a kind of cross between gypsy and op-art. Huge rings in black and white plastic, or vibrant colours, are selling like hot cakes in London stores.

If you don't like rings dangling from your ears, how about some little cube-shaped plastic blocks in black and white? Plastic jewellery is cheap, and London girls are taking to the idea in a big way, and I'm sure it won't be long before the fashion spreads through all parts of the country.

Worth it?

TOURISM has grown into one of our major industries, and is now a big dollar earner. Visitors from overseas spend more here than our own travellers spend in other lands. Last year they brought £81 million to this country.

I hope they felt it was worth it, though I'm not so sure that we always cater for them as adequately as we should. Are there enough hotels, for instance? Well, an enterprising new organisation called Ace Hotel Bookings Ltd., maintains that it can always find accommodation for the roomless. One phone call to them, and the visitors' problem will be solved.

The service—free to the public—was set up last year by 26-year-old businessman Stephen Morgan and a 30-year-old estate agent, Martin Birrane.

Behind him

"DURING the Motor Show, our office was like Clapham Junction," says Stephen Morgan. "One day we found rooms for all the

passengers of two planes grounded at London Airport and stranded without accommodation, while dealing with a mass of people up for the show. The other day we secured rooms for a party of nearly 200 businessmen coming to London from Sweden next July when the World Cup is on.

"During the Smithfield Show I was asked for small change on Waterloo Station at 9.45 p.m. by three charming American girls. They had spent 11s. 6d. and nearly two hours phoning hotels for rooms without success. I rang our office, which stays open till 10 o'clock, and six minutes later the girls were being welcomed in a comfortable Victoria hotel."

Actually working in the office are ex-actor Michael O'Connor, who for the last six years was cabaret-comper at the Savoy Hotel, and Mrs. Betty Gee, who has had 10 years of experience in catering, and who managed a Manchester hotel. Says Mrs. Gee, "At the back of every good business is a woman."

Repairs

WHEN an electric kettle or toaster, or iron, breaks down in my house, it tends to get put on one side for a month or so. In its broken-down state it is an ever-present reminder of what a disorganised household it is. Finally it gets taken to a repairer, and there it stays for weeks on end. Or so it seems. Repairs just aren't quick things.

But a Putney firm has got the harassed housewife in mind; it has opened an express repair service in the Civil Service Stores in the Strand, London. So London housewives, at least, can take their kettles along and get them mended in 24 hours, or even while they wait if it's something small.

Unique in London, and probably in England, the service was opened in November last year. Now the firm, Philips Ryan Ltd. is

Stand by?

WHEN a girl can't think what to do on leaving school, she almost invariably turns to secretarial work. Regrettably it has become a kind of stand-by. It's thought that even if you don't have much brain, you can at least be a secretary.

And all too often, a girl who has thought of something she really wants to do, starts off with her mother's comforting words ringing in her ears: "Do a secretarial course first, and you'll always have that to fall back on."

So we have about one million shorthand typists in the country. And their future is not so rosy. Many shorthand typists are going to be out of a job within seven years. Miss Elizabeth Pepperell, assistant director of the Industrial Society, explained: "Employers are becoming more discerning and the pattern of one man, one secretary, is disappearing. Instead, dictating machines are used more widely, and one girl may work for several men. The place of the shorthand typist will be taken by dictating machines and highly-efficient girls who can compose their own letters."

Driveress

I SEE that women may be called in to drive buses. Cries of horror will doubtless greet the first women bus drivers, and already the Transport and General Workers' Union has objected to the idea.

They say that driving a bus in rush hour would be too much for a woman. Personally, driving anything in a rush hour is too much for me, but there are women, cool, strong and intrepid, who could handle a bus anywhere in a rush hour. And, of course, you do have the advantage in a bus of being bigger than anyone else.

London Transport is short of about 4,000 staff, mostly drivers. They say that modern buses are easier to handle than earlier models. It is expected that volunteers may be found among women conductresses. It looks as if they will run into some trouble if they try to put their revolutionary plan into action—it's likely that men would refuse to work alongside women if the union has not first agreed.

It seems so sensible to employ women drivers—after all, they'll presumably have to pass the same tests as men drivers—when a better bus service is so desperately needed. Even if male vanity does suffer a bit...

Age

Name

Address

Send it in to Mrs. Small, Christian News, 319, Corporation Street, Birmingham 4.



HENRY COOPER,
fights American
Amos Johnson at
Wembley last year.
Cooper lost this one
on points.



ERNEST ADKINS weighs in
to support reasonable payment
to full-time sportsmen,
and lists some who have
earned the praise of being



BRIAN STATHAM,
Lancashire's skipper,
appeals successfully
for an l.b.w.
decision in a
New Zealand
test last
summer

THE REAL PROFESSIONALS

THE Englishman's admiration for the amateur sportsman is not so much adulation of the unpaid as a traditional distrust of the professional.

The attitude of many people towards the professional sportsman is like an echo from the last century when the professional was very much a hired man. The first of the cricket professionals were men who were expected to bowl at one end all day and then bat while their gentleman colleagues enjoyed the game.

To its everlasting credit cricket was the first game to abolish the distinction between the amateur and the professional, yet as recently as last season they noticed that an M.C.C. side included at number 11 "a young professional from Lords," and just as in the old days he bowled all day.

Surely the most bigoted attitude of them all is that of the Rugby fraternity. In all other major sports the paid and the officially unpaid at least live under the same roof in something like harmony, but not in Rugby. If a man decides to capitalise on his ability and openly earn money as a league player he is immediately ostracised by his fellows.

Although regarded as a progressive sport there is an occasional whiff of anti-macassar about soccer ruling bodies. It took a High Court action in 1963 to release the footballer from the shackles of the last century and enable him to negotiate his own contract like any other professional man.

TOO MANY

Yet quite incredibly one still hears talk of the "stench of money" on the football field, and money being the root of all ills in the game.

Now the football league is trying to prevent a player from receiving a signing on fee when he joins a new club.

WHAT NONSENSE THIS IS!

The implication is that the footballer is a con-man taking advantage of the poor unfortunate clubs! If the football league is unhappy about the size of the signing-on fee surely they should tackle the people who pay

them, not those who quite properly receive them.

If the league succeeds in legislation against signing-on payments they will only drive the practice underground, where it was before. When people complain about the money received by professional footballers I think of Derek Dooley of Sheffield Wednesday who in one tragic moment fell injured on the football field and subsequently had a leg amputated.

INCREDIBLE

I think of Norman Heath, goalkeeper with West Bromwich Albion, who made one daring save too many and is now paralysed.

IF YOU WERE A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER WHAT WOULD YOUR ATTITUDE TO THE FINANCIAL SIDE OF THE GAME BE?

To me, all that is good in sport is embodied in the professional sportsman, and I have nothing but admiration for such as British Heavyweight Henry Cooper, a man who earns every penny by virtue of his skill and artistry; a far cry from his predecessors, who were regarded as performing animals by their patronising gentry.

Could any young cricketer do better than model himself on England and Lancashire fast bowler G. B. Statham, the great cricketer and gentleman? Soccer can proudly boast of such fine ambassadors of sport as Jimmy Armfield, Ron Clayton and Jimmy Dickinson.

IT IS PLAYERS SUCH AS THESE WHO ADD MEANING TO THE PHRASE "HE WAS A REAL PROFESSIONAL"

WHO NEEDS THIS MAN?

- He's going to become this summer's talking point.
- Is he the biggest threat to the Church, or its greatest hope?
- May's Christian News will help you sort out your ideas.



Father Flutter

IT is all legit, what Rory does in the parish mag., though it is more likely to be 1s. e/w than a pony. But even a dollar slipped should bring a good inside tip, and win or lose or black mine may come in at 20 to 1.

Confusing to the uninitiated, but those South London punters in the know scan the pages of the parish magazine of St. Mary Magdalen, Brockley, as eagerly as "Sporting Life." For Rory — 62-year-old Father Brendan Fox in the flesh — is the magazine's "turf correspondent" and has built a reputation for tipping winners.

From his presbytery in Commercial Road, Brockley, he explained his system... successful to date. "It's an easy one, just a matter of knowing the right people. Although I win, it will be re-invested in the have always been interested in

horses, I know little about form, and naturally would never have the time to spend working it all out."

Two years ago he began betting again in a modest way, by investing in a shilling double. It came up.

"Ever since then I've used the same money, betting at a shilling a time, and the profits are still going up. Now there is £7 in the kitty."

"A parishioner puts the money on for me at the betting shop. If I ever get a really good win, it will be re-invested in the church."

Father Bingo

FATHER TOM LENANE has an income of several hundred pounds a week. And his parishioners and others are helping him to amass more by attending bingo sessions twice a week at St. Mary's Hall, Stow Hill, Newport, Monmouthshire.

Father Lenane is hoping that by next September the hall, a building 100 years old, will have been converted into a modern theatre and social centre that will have cost more than £150,000.

The idea of turning the hall into a theatre and centre was taken up four years ago, and since then has been financed almost entirely from bingo sessions conducted there.

The scheme has a planned club and theatre bar, which are scheduled to open shortly. Church officials are to take over three adjoining shops for conversion into a youth centre.

The cost of buying all the properties in the deal has been £43,000. It will take six years to clear the debt for construction work, but this is expected to be taken care of by the continuing bingo sessions.