

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE 6d.

May, 1966

Incorporating National Christian News

Living with the Losers

OXFAM says so. Christian Aid says so. All the people who collect money for the world's losers say so.

Persuading people to part with their money for the sake of these poor devils is getting harder.

Oxfam says that it isn't any good any more showing us pictures of kids with distended bellies. We're used to that. It doesn't shock us to see pictures of old women sleeping in gutters, either. Frankly, there isn't anything you can say or do, short of dragging us off to these places and letting us actually see them, that would stir us to give more than we give now. Or even to give again what we gave last year.

And even seeing these places, and these people, can't be guaranteed to churn us up for very long. We've been oversold on the compassion bit. We've got to the point where there is nothing else to say.

All the same, it IS Christian Aid week this month, and there IS a helluva difference between THE world, and YOUR world. And these people ARE your brothers. (See pages two and three).

There's nothing else to say. There's nothing else to show you. You may think it's not your business; or you may want to give something this time really worth giving.

These pictures may, in the end, tell you more about you, than they tell you about world hunger.

Can you stand it?

Christian Aid week is from May 16-21

"The B.B.C. is trying to do something similar towards encouraging intelligent programmes for millions of people who are not morons. The staff who run it recognise that the standard of education is rising and man cannot live by guitar-strings and long hair alone. I commend B.B.C.2 to you on many grounds including the one that a little of what you don't fancy sometimes does you good."

—Cassandra.

Daily Mirror
"If only half of her sacred cows were made use of India's milk production would increase enormously. 'Famine is expected in the country and it will be U.S. food reserves that will be exhausted. India will not survive if she does not change her philosophy. Her sacred cattle will eat her out.'"

—Dr. C. P. McMeekan, former World Bank Official.

"Only the most radical change in our national habits will meet desperate situations of this sort. Polling day and football could be combined in a national day of rest. We cannot afford another bank holiday, but the continental Sunday points the way. To church, to the polling station, and to the football. Into Europe, in short."

—Guardian editorial on Hull City's cup game with Chelsea, played on polling day.

TOPIQUOTES

Topiquotes only occasionally represent the views of this newspaper.

Nearly everything that is worth looking at in Ireland was made by God or the English.

—John Grigg, formerly Lord Altrincham.

"A society which enjoys spending its moonlight evenings dancing in the open air, or listening to songs from the Ramayan, is called an undeveloped society, whereas one which prefers sitting round a television screen listening to songs about detergents is a developed one. But this, of course, is merely trifling with serious matters!"

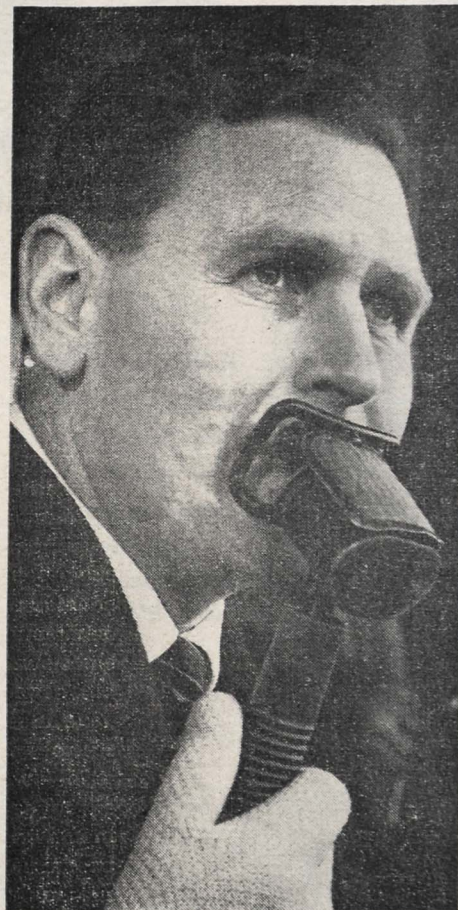
—Leslie Newbigin, in a new book, "Honest Religion for Secular Man."

"People are afraid of newness, and you have to help them overcome this fear. It is no good asking them if they like a magazine cover; if it is a good one, they won't like it."

—Mr. Henry Wolf, ex art editor of a big American glossy magazine.

Message from Kenneth Wolstenholme to readers of the National Christian News

"Radio and television have brought the peoples of the world closer together. It is no longer possible to pretend we don't know what is going on in the other half of the world. We do know and most of us want to do something towards bridging the enormous gap in living standards. So I welcome the Christian Aid Week campaign, not just for the funds it will raise, but also for the enlightenment it will spread concerning our duty towards our neighbours."



Kenneth Wolstenholme

MARRIED-NOW THEY BEGIN STUDIES

A COURSE for married women at Bromley (Kent) Technical College, which is believed to be the only one of its kind in Southern England, is proving so successful that it may set the pattern for similar ones elsewhere.

Sixty women are taking a preparatory course in teacher training and social work, organised by the department of general studies.

A spokesman for the department, Mr. H. M. Crozier, said the course had been remarkably successful. "The

housewives find they can manage four days' study a week from 10.10 a.m. to 3.15 p.m. and fit in their household duties quite adequately," he said.

"Most of them feel that their families are actually gaining from their attendance."

Bishop goes by boat

THE Bishop of Southwell will make his summer visitation of parishes in his Diocese by cabin cruiser.

The Bishop, Dr. Gordon Savage, says that 80 parishes in the Diocese, which covers Nottinghamshire, have a river or canal as part of the parochial boundary and 15 rural deaneries are on the water.

The Bishop says he will "have an excuse for continuous visiting," meeting all the clergy of 11 chapters, calling on people, schools, churches, inns and work places within reach on the river and holding open air services.

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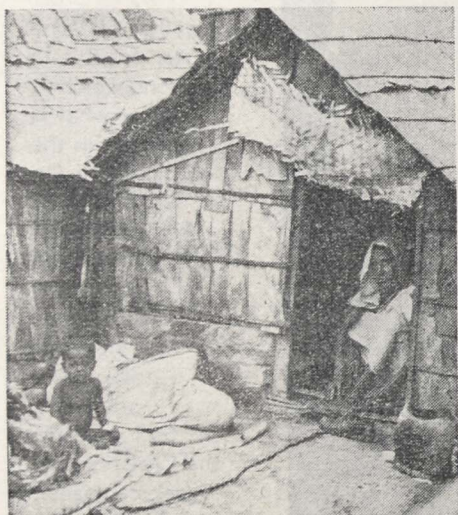
THEIR WORLD IS JUST



Why,
grannie,
do you
cry?



*Fires among refugee
huts on the Hong
Kong hillsides
spread rapidly.
Thousands are left
without shelter.
Christian Aid helps.*



*A few square feet of
earth. A packing
case or two. Some
strips of wood.
You'd never get a
mortgage for it, of
course, but what the
hell — it's home.*



*Sorting out new
clothes for refugee
children in Hong
Kong can have its
funny moments...*



*Home is a hulk, and
an oar, and a
walk in soft mud*

AROUND THE CORNER

CHRISTIAN AID IS TEN YEARS OLD. DURING THE WEEKS SET ASIDE FOR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FOR THE ORGANISATION'S WORK THE FOLLOWING SUMS HAVE BEEN RAISED:

1957	£60,000
1958	£80,000
1959	£260,000
1960	£605,000 (World Refugee Year)
1961	£350,000
1962	£562,000
1963	£637,000
1964	£670,000
1965	£622,000

During all this time Mr. Hugh Samson has handled publicity for Christian Aid. It has been his job to present the facts about need in such a way as to create a generous response.

Mr. Samson says that after last year's drop in income, signs are that giving this year will be better than ever. But presenting human need is hard, he says.

"There was a time when many relatively well off people had been brought up to give money to charity. But they are no longer with us, and most people now have not been brought up to give their money away."

Is it a barrier to giving to have so many organisations working for world need funds? "I think it adds to the efficiency of the thing—in a way it wouldn't be the best way the British work if we did this under one umbrella."

Mr. Samson believes that people are as generous as ever, and there has been no reduction in the compassion of the British people.



Miss Janet Lacey, director of Christian Aid since 1952, discusses with Hugh Samson some publicity material for Christian Aid Week.

"But now people don't see the outlet for their compassion in terms of LSD. They want to do something instead in terms of voluntary service overseas. Christian Aid sponsors many volunteers for work in developing countries."

This year Christian Aid is extending its use of "the people's talent" to convey the message of world need. Folk singers will head the list of amateur performers, but public speaking, photography and writing will also feature in a series of competitions.



Home is a flat bit, three feet off the ground, against a wall, with precious things in a Vim box.



Home is a cave, a small fag-end, a sad son, and the hope of a fire.

HUMAN BEINGS, 1966



Photographs on this page are provided by the World Council of Christian Churches, Geneva.

Contact group aims to channel young energy

YOUNG professional social workers are to be employed by the Church of England in Manchester to work among teenagers in the city's coffee bars and beat clubs.

It is hoped that they will be able to win the confidence of the groups of young people, and eventually direct them into profitable leisure-time activities.

It is hoped that the city council will make a grant towards the salaries of the social workers.

The Rev. Brian Cramp, the diocesan youth officer, said that a large number of teenagers had deliberately rejected adult society as represented by their parents, schoolmasters and employers, and this was an attempt to build a bridge between the age groups.

There would be no attempt to preach at the young people. The social workers would try to make friends with a few particular groups.

The initiative to use their time with some sense of purpose would have to come from the leadership of the groups themselves, but the professional workers would be available to inspire, advise and direct.

Roof kip

One of Manchester's problems last year was the large number of vagrant teenagers who slept in the open (in one case it was found they were regularly using a flat roof at the Cathedral) and gathered in groups during the day in the city centre.

CATHEDRAL WILL HONOUR "HERETIC" JOAN WASTE

CATHEDRAL authorities in Derby are considering ways of redressing a wrong done on the site of the cathedral 410 years ago.

In 1556, Joan Waste, blind from birth and aged 22, was tried at All Saints' Church on a charge of heresy, and she was condemned and burnt to death.

In the intervening years, there has never been a tangible commemoration of her martyrdom, and the Rev. Brian Coleman, Vicar of St. Nicholas, Allestree, has suggested that some form of plaque or statue to her memory should be included in a Cathedral extension project now being undertaken.

The Provost of Derby, the

Samaritans can help — M.O.

The senior Medical Officer at Brent, Middlesex, has urged the formation of a branch of the Telephone Samaritans there.

He is Dr. Clifford Jansz, who says that up to 50 people commit suicide at Brent every year.

He said that already there were 15 volunteers prepared to work any hours, any days, and he hoped that the unit would be operating soon. But around 150 people would be needed to get things moving to provide a 24-hour service.

Prejudiced

"This she continued to do under Queen Mary, and so she was brought to trial before Bishop Rafe Bare, Bishop of Lichfield—but her trial was prejudiced.

"After her death, the Chancellor, Dr. Dralcot, forbade the people even to pray for her soul. I do hope the wrong done to her can at least partly be redressed now, 400 years later."

How "the Scrolls" can help our faith

By the Rev. Professor Peter R. Ackroyd of London University.

A LOT of sensational and often silly things have been said and written in recent months about the Dead Sea Scrolls, in some cases by those who should have known better.

Such misleading statements obscure the careful work of the many good scholars who are working steadily to publish the material, to offer their own interpretations, and to give the opportunity to others to study the new documents. Much remains to be done. What may fairly be said now?

Many of the scrolls contain Old Testament books — for the most part in very small fragments, though some more complete manuscripts have been found. There are also many other writings, some already well known to scholars and others quite new. Many of the details are obscure, but we may see here the life and thought of people in the last centuries before Jesus and in the first Christian century.

His time

Jesus can only be understood fully if He can be seen in the real world of His time. Much of Christian belief, particularly in the New Testament, is in terms which we can only understand if we recognise their Old Testament background. The Dead Sea Scrolls help to show us more clearly the richness and diversity of His time.

He and His followers used the language of the time — what else should we expect? They built upon the existing ways of thought. If we find that the organisation of the Christian Church in its early years owes much to Jewish ways — now known to us a little more fully — this is just what we might expect.

The fragmentary nature of many of these documents makes their interpretation difficult and there are many uncertainties. The experts see many points of interesting contact and comparison, but even greater differences and contrasts between the Dead Sea community and the Christian Church as it grew up in the first century.

The greatest difference lies in what the New Testament says about Jesus, for there is nothing like this anywhere in the Scrolls. Scholars differ in their understanding of it, but central to it is the person of Jesus Himself who made a tremendous impact on some of the people of His time.

Ostriches

When Christians have been faced with challenging statements by scientists, or with new discoveries which seemed to raise doubts about the truth of their faith, they have sometimes shrunk back in fear, trying like ostriches to hide their heads in the sand.

It has happened — and still does — when the Bible is studied, as it must be, with all the tools of scholarship. There are some Christians today who would like to be told that the Dead Sea Scrolls raise no difficult questions. But new information, rightly understood, will shed new light on the period in which Jesus lived. It may well force us to shed some misunderstandings due to the limits of our earlier knowledge.

What a Bomb did not do to a man called Bob

by OWEN BRYCE

WHEN I first met Bob Pringle I was, to say the least, taken aback. For one thing he was not particularly attractive. Over one eye he wore a black patch; the other was obviously out of action; his face showed signs of quite severe scarring, and one ear was virtually torn off; he was completely blind and his hearing was fractional, deafness being complete in one ear and perhaps 50% in the other; his teeth were uneven and very obviously the result of extensive dental surgery.



Today he is 37. He plays excellent trombone with a jazz band; he guests with other bands; he travels, on his own, to the North of England to take part in a Summer School of Music; he works at a day time job; he also plays piano and guitar.

His story is a tragic one, but one of patience, hard work and the sheer determination to carry on.

At 18 he went in to the Palestine Police to do his military service. He was based on Haifa during the troubles after the war when so many Jewish people of all nationalities wanted so desperately to get into Palestine. International policy resulted in equally desperate efforts to stop them entering illegally.

The I.Z.L. leaders were ex-members of the Stern Gang, a Jewish National Organisation. One day they loaded a lorry with heavy explosives in a huge drum; they drove it into Police Headquarters; rolled the enormous bomb off and drove away. "The bomb was on rubber tyres . . . We rushed to the windows . . . I was lucky because I got to one . . . if I hadn't I'd have been killed . . . most of the others were buried under debris."

For when the bomb went off Bob was half out of the window and being so near saved him. "I was not expected to live. I was in hospital in Palestine for six weeks . . . unconscious for the first 10 days . . . then I was flown back to Middlesex Hospital. I was there about three weeks . . . then went away for plastic surgery.

"I can't remember how many operations I had. My memory was badly affected anyway. I had plastic surgery . . . and dental surgery. I lost eight teeth completely and a lot of the others were damaged . . . both eyes and one ear . . . and in the other I'm still 50 per cent. deaf. I've never quite recovered my memory. It was at least four months before I was fit to walk.

He went to St. Dunstan's the same year, and they started him off on Braille, and typing, gave him a hobby of some sort. "All part of general convalescence. I started playing the piano there. Six years ago I began on trombone at Chiswick Music Centre. I picked up the technique by myself."

Today Bob Pringle plays with the Cardinal Jazz Band, a West London traditional type group. Every Friday they have a resident engagement at Watford. He also guests at times with the well-known Bodega Jazz Band. And he has appeared at concerts with other members of the classes from Chiswick Polytechnic and Hendon Music Centre.

He inspects aircraft parts for a daily job, and has been doing it for 10 years.

Now — photo books for near-blind

A special £13,000 library for near-blind people has been opened in Great Smith Street, Westminster. It is the National Library for the Blind and is believed to be the first of its kind.

It is expected to cater for the needs of as many as 100,000 people.

Dr. W. A. Munford, Librarian and director-general for the N.L.B., said: "We have been providing a library service for the blind since 1882, but a new technique of book production has made it possible to build up a library of enlarged books as there was no specific organisation to help these partially sighted people."

In the past such a library has not been possible because of the costs involved, but now a solution to this has been developed by a Rank-Xerox subsidiary — University Microfilms Ltd.

More than 30 publishers and copyright owners have waived their right to royalties to allow the library to have copies of their books reproduced in this way.

The new library is concentrating to start with on standard and modern classics, including among its authors James Joyce, Shakespeare, Shaw and Thomas Hardy.

Had a good discussion lately? Use the "News" to start one.

Community project puzzles them

A THREE-STORY community centre costing more than £60,000 is to be built at St. Catherine's Church, New Cross, London.

Part of the new centre will be built into the church, but will be soundproofed and partitioned off from services. To help to pay for the project, the church has agreed to sell the parish hall and a plot of adjoining land.

The vicar, the Rev. Alan Auckland, has said that the

PSORIASIS

- PSORIASIS forms a white lustrous scale on a reddened area of skin. Both the scale and skin are always dry unless broken or brought away by too much scratching or combing. In most cases the reddened skin is of normal temperature and the scale thick and raised on the skin, especially on the scalp, elbows and knees. Where the skin is of a finer texture, as on the body, scaling takes place as thin flakes or a light powder.
- PSORIASIS may be hereditary, may occur with puberty, may follow injury exposure, shock or worry, or may be due to faulty nutrition, and faulty elimination. It may also be persistent and recurring and sufferers often despair of ever having a clear and healthy skin.
- UNDER the Tremol system your own treatment is specially prepared for you, to suit your individual needs. You apply the treatment in the privacy of your own home, without any interference with your work or your pleasure. Sufferers in all walks of life have applied Tremol Treatment in this way with gratifying success. Why not you?
- THINK what a healthy skin means to you. No unsightly scale, no distressing patches of redness, no irritation and no more embarrassing anxiety when you are at work or with your friends. With a healthy skin you can work with pleasure, you can join freely in sports, recreation and social activities, you can dress with pride and savor the freedom and happiness of holidays. A new life is opened up to you.

Here is the opportunity you have sought. Write today, enclosing 9d. in stamps for Brochure and full particulars of Tremol Treatment. Address your letter to—

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CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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PENNY WISE?

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS are upon us and we are pleased to publish this month a deliberately provocative article about our borough.

The "Caversham Bridge" is again arranging a meeting so that ratepayers in Caversham can question the candidates for election in Thames and Caversham wards, and we hope that some pertinent ones will be asked.

Reading seems far too proud of having had rates that have been lower than almost any other county borough in England.

But let us be realistic: we are in fact a wealthy society, with living standards above the national average. Yet we tolerate too many things in our civic life which are surprising in so affluent a community.

The riverside frontage on the Reading bank between our two bridges is a credit to no one.

We are becoming famous nationally for our traffic chaos.

Our reluctance to spend more money on education hardly does credit to those responsible for our educational policy, and places our children at a handicap when they are in open competition with children from other local authorities.

On the steps of the Town Hall after his defeat in the General Election Mr. Peter Emery said, "This is a great town." But a visitor looking round Reading and asking intelligent questions about our civic life would be most unlikely to agree with this remark.

Yet Reading could be a great town; it has wonderful potential amenities, which we have hardly begun to realise.

Let electors see that they vote for councillors with the courage to acknowledge that the people of our town are no longer prepared to tolerate the muddle which has masqueraded for too long under the name of thrift.

John Grimwade

Talking Point

HAS THE CHURCH STILL A JOB TO DO?

This question was put recently to a number of people of all ages and in all walks of life throughout England, Wales and Scotland. Their replies were in percentages. Fifty-five said "Yes," 24 said "No," 21 "Don't know." Such opinions may be heartening or disheartening according to our particular school of thought; but they invariably leave me with the feeling that they are dictated very largely by the INTELLECT. Those who argue that the Church is out-moded, do so on the grounds that modern scholarship and modern discoveries have superseded all that the Church stands for. While others make their judgment on the basis that the Church is well and truly segregated from the demands of day to day affairs.

This, however, is not really so. Recently, we were in the throes of a General Election and like you I tried to get a reasonable, balanced opinion on the issues over which the campaign was being fought, but I found myself subjected to a "mud-slinging battle." Men who ask us to repose our confidence in their ability to govern engage in most unbecoming behaviour, and bring enormous slices of "pie in the sky" for us to digest. "Less taxes" they scream, "Higher standards of living," "More and more for less and less" as if this were the gateway to a new world.

I am all for better standards, but as an end in themselves they are painfully inadequate, and the Church, more than any other body has the responsibility of showing the world the right useage of those blessings. Think, for instance of the vastly improved conditions between the 19th and 20th centuries. This is enormous. But no one would care to argue that happiness and peace of mind have kept pace with material progress.

The Church is needed to bring the spiritual qualities by which man learns "That we do not live by bread alone." The Church has a job to do in proclaiming the world-wide fellowship of the human race. So long as war, sin, injustice remain it will be our privilege to herald not merely an ALTERNATIVE, but the only way to the fullest life.

LYN S. LEWIS

Rates are rotten

However you look at it, the way we pay for running Reading is inefficient, unfair and a bar to improved standards of living.

Householders and owners of business premises pay the rates — and they go up and up. But many thousands more (lodgers and sub-tenants) enjoy the town's amenities without paying a penny for them. On the other hand, there is no relief for householders without children or those who pay for private schooling of their children. They still have to pay the full rate demand of which education is more than fifty per cent.

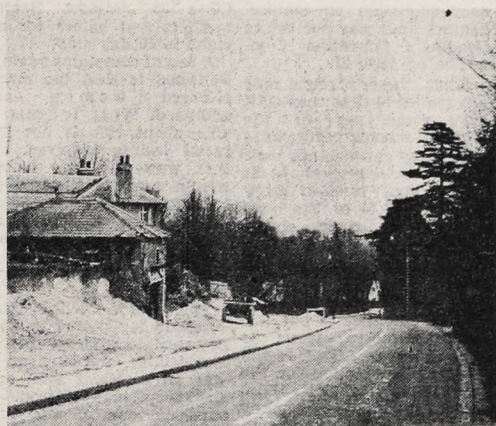


Photo: Fred Walker

WASTE OF RATES?

The picturesque St. Peter's Hill is being carved up by bulldozers for widening. This is partly to provide a footpath for a school which, after the summer, will be closed. The road will bottleneck at the bottom because of St. Peter's Church. The new road is likely to be more dangerous and the beauty is gone for ever.

I am building a garage. two headaches a year.

When that is completed I shall pay more rates although Reading does no more for me. I want to extend our living room. If I do, again higher rates. Farical. This sort of thing deters all those eager to improve their standard of living. No, an altogether fresh basis must be found for raising the cash needed to run a town.

The parish pump has gone! The unit now is the nation . . . and an enlightened nation would (like the Liberals of which I am proud to be one) discard this out-moded rating system. Let us have — indeed there must come — one income tax to take account of all the individual's circumstances including the calls he makes, or does not make, on local services.

Overboard with this expensive tax-payer and ratepayer machinery! Let's all be citizens with fair burdens and fair shares all round. With central collection, the Treasury which already controls all the planning, can then hand the Council the money it needs to operate, taking account of all local circumstances.

The costs of twice-yearly rate collection would be cut out and, with P.A.Y.E., the householder saved at least

CLIFFORD CLARK.

RED TAPE

Many schools in the borough were closed on March 31 as the buildings were needed as polling stations in the General Election. Term was due to end on April 1 and the common-sense thing would have been to have allowed the children to start their Easter holidays on Wednesday, March 30.

We understand that many schools in London and Birmingham in a similar situation were able to do this. If it was possible to cut red tape in other parts of the country perhaps the educational estimates should include an allowance for scissors for cutting tape.

But when a headmaster spends precious time typing his own letters because the estimates do not allow for more secretarial help things have come to a pretty pass.

LOCAL ELECTION MEETING

Question your prospective councillors at a meeting sponsored by the Caversham Bridge.

**THURSDAY, MAY 5,
8 p.m.**

at Balmore Hall,
Hemdean Road.
(see next column)

YOUR VOTE!

**MAY 5 —
QUESTION DAY**

**MAY 12 —
VOTING DAY**

The municipal elections on Thursday, May 12, come hard on the heels of the General Election. This may result in even greater apathy than usual. But the "Caversham Bridge" believes that important issues are at stake and that ratepayers should take a greater interest in local affairs.

The "Caversham Bridge" has, therefore, again invited the candidates for Caversham and Thames Wards to answer the questions of their constituents. And it invites you to Balmore Hall on Thursday, May 5, at 8 p.m. to question your candidates. At the time of going to Press, we understand that the following will be fighting the election.

Caversham Ward.

Coun. R. H. Bristow (Retiring councillor — Labour).

Mr. C. W. Aucock (Conservative).

Thames Ward.

Mrs. K. L. Sage (Retiring councillor — Conservative).

Mr. E. Ansell (Labour).

**COME AND QUESTION
THEM. THEN GO AND
VOTE.**



Photo: Fred Walker

Married recently at Caversham Hill Chapel were Mr. Ronald Dainton, of Coley Park, and Miss Teresa Langham, of 63, Buckingham Drive.

£50 FROM A PHOTOGRAPH

A recent number of the "Caversham Bridge" published a photograph about the Sue Ryder Homes. Miss Faulk the local secretary was delighted to receive not only an offer of help but a donation of £50 towards the funds of the homes.

This photograph appeared as a news item but we have heard from many of our advertisers how they have had many requests for goods advertised in these columns.

If you want to sell goods in Caversham be sure to advertise in the "Caversham Bridge."

Ladies' and Children's Wear
Haberdashery
MARTINS
6, PROSPECT STREET,
CAVERSHAM
Ladybird and Cherub

For Repairs and Decorations
Additions and Contract
Building
ROBINSON
of Caversham
24, Prospect St., Telephone
Caversham Reading 71785

Percy C. Beech
Electricity Contractor
2, CHESTER STREET,
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15, Headley Road
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GOD NOT FOR SALE

NATTERBOX...

By Katie Russell

Every parent in Caversham with a child at a local authority school will be affected by the new education proposals for Reading. The Working Party report on the new plans for secondary education on comprehensive lines was put before Reading's Education Committee on April 21.

What these parents may not realise is that they CAN have some say in the eventual schools' reorganisation. They can contact their local councillor (perhaps at the "Bridge" election meeting on May 5) or the head teacher of their child's school.

But even more effective might be to use the ready made organisation in Reading which exists to put forward members' views to official bodies. This is the Reading Association for the Advancement of State Education. It already has many members in Caversham and deserves a lot more. Enquiries about membership or about their public meeting on the new education proposals can be obtained from:

Mrs. Francine Taylor, 64, St. Peter's Avenue, Caversham. Tel. 73026; or
Mrs. Mary Robinson (Hon. Sec.), 111, Whiteknights Road, Reading. Tel. 62063.

The new proposals may be studied by members of the public at Reading's Education Offices. * * *

Hospitals tend to get in the news because of bad conditions and poor facilities. One hospital in Reading which deserves bouquets is Dellwood Maternity Home near Prospect Park, which takes 25 National Health mothers and babies for an eight to 10 day stay.

A recent complaint against Dellwood is that too many coloured women are admitted. What is remarkable about this is not the racial feeling involved but that women of any colour should actually want to go to hospital for their babies. Today's conditions in many maternity wards make home a much more appealing, if not so safe place, to have babies in.

The reason behind this clamour for places is that Dellwood is modern, bright, comfortable, and efficient. It has an excellent staff and an exceptional Matron. It must be one of the best examples of a hospital of its kind and something for Reading to be proud of.

There should, of course, be at least one other Dellwood in the area so that more first babies can be born in safety as well as comfort.

Post Bag

PROMISE OF LIFE

Dear Sir,

Under the heading "Dead Cert" in the April issue of "Caversham Bridge" the Rector writes, "There is one, and one fact only that we know for certain about our future. One day we must die." This thinking appears to be in line with the time-honoured Anglican practice of teaching the faithful how to die, and must, of course, be of great assistance to a vast number of people. Especially is this so as the teaching also embraces the expectation that after death we shall inherit eternal life in some spiritual, if not bodily, sense.

However, reverting to the presently expressed view of the certainty of death, this does not appear to conform to the Creed said daily in the churches "He shall come to judge the quick and the dead." There can be no doubt as to who are the quick; they are those who are alive at the Lord's second coming, and if we search the scriptures we find ample justification for expecting Him to return to this earth in power and glory, as compared with the weakness and humility of His first coming.

If this second coming is accepted as a hope set before us by Christ Himself, there is no reason to suppose that it may not be realised in our life time. Whether in fact Christ will return to a world while it has largely turned its back on Him, or to a Church which has apparently lost sight of one of the greatest hopes put before it, is in God's foreknowledge and outside the compass of our finite minds. How much more, therefore, should our expectations and our prayers be directed towards His second coming than towards being reconciled to the possible coming of death.

Again, if we accept that Christ died to take away the sin of the world, and that the wages of sin is death, then, with sins taken away we have passed from death into life, now, and it is only our faith in His coming that is lacking, not

Trevor—or, to give him his full title, Captain Sullivan of the Church Army—is a young man whose youthful enthusiasm goes well with his Irish accent. With all the charm of his countrymen, he will tell you that he has backed a winner—only this time it is the Christian faith. Working originally as a draughtsman in his home town of Portadown in County Armagh, he joined the Church Army seven years ago and left home for training in London. Since then he has been based in Ireland, Durham and London and has travelled all over the country arranging parish missions and other activities. Not for him, though, the blatant and often provoking salesmanship of many a well-meaning evangelist. As he says himself, God doesn't have to be "sold"—He is there already, and Trevor sees his own role largely as that of interpreter.



Photo: Fred Walker

Captain Trevor Sullivan, who has recently arrived in Caversham and is working some of his time in Caversham Park Village.

He came to Caversham in January this year and since then his work as Diocesan Evangelist has taken him throughout the diocese.

CAVERSHAM PARK VILLAGE

Recently he has been concerned with the new Caversham Park estate and has come back with some very solid impressions. As usual he finds that God is at work already before there is any organised Church activity. All the same, to quote Captain Sullivan "the Church has a vital role as interpreter. Overlooked or ignored spiritual values can be related to focal points of community needs by the Churches' comment and actions. There is a danger of the village being regarded as a 'supply zone' from which people can be exported to bolster up existing local church organisations. True there is the danger of insularity and the need for wider thought and responsibility but a Christian's primary responsibility should be to his own community and he should therefore be involved in Church life on that level."

Pressed for his views on actual Church organisation, Trevor replied that he

thought Church life for the village should not be imposed from outside but allowed to evolve naturally with the village's Christian laity playing a major part in formulating policy and putting schemes into operation. As to any church building, he thinks that the design of any such building should not be hastily decided upon, and that form should follow function.

Trevor found most of the people on the estate thoughtful and interested and suggests that with such residents there is every possibility of an exciting period of experimentation ahead. At the moment Captain Sullivan is pre-occupied with his own affairs. This month he is marrying a nurse from his home country and is looking forward to bringing her to live in Geoffreyson Road and introducing her to some of his new friends and neighbours from whom, he says, he has received so much kindness.

We would like to take this opportunity of welcoming Mrs. Sullivan to Caversham and of assuring them both that we are very happy to have them with us.

Roving Reporter

God's promise.

More articulate pens than mine may try and refute the contents of this letter, especially in view of the contents of verse 27 of Hebrews 9, but this verse should not be considered in isolation. The following verse makes specific reference to those who look for Him at the actual time of His coming and certainly appears to assume that they will, in fact, be alive.

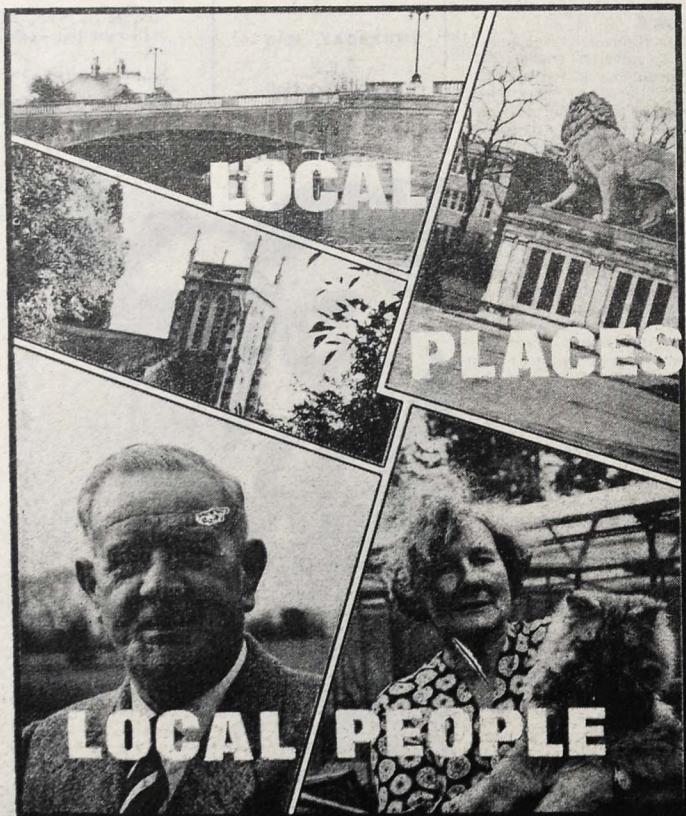
The real essence of my point of view is summed up by St. Paul in his first epistle to the Thessalonians, chapter 4, verses 15 to 18.

The Rector asks us to face DEATH; I ask him to face Christ's promise of LIFE; and He is faithful that promised.

Yours etc.,

G. K. BLUNT

260, Hemdean Road, Caversham.



LOCAL PAPER

order today's

EVENING **POST**

NURSERY SCHOOLS NEEDED



Every day for short periods Miss Cooper or one of her staff tells a story or have records, and have rhymes and finger plays.



No nursery school is complete without a sand-pit. And if they get tired of that they can try their hands at making fascinating designs with pieces of coloured paper.

By Roving Reporter
Pictures by Fred Walker

IT is sometimes thought that nursery schools are mere dumping grounds for working mothers with young children. This is certainly not true of Caversham Nursery School in Gosbrook Road; though there may be an absence of formal lessons, it is nevertheless true that the children are taught much that will benefit both themselves and their teachers when they start "big school" at the age of five. Some of the children come all day, some only for half days, morning or afternoon.

Specially designed as a nursery school, it is light and airy and contains a beautiful bathroom with pint-sized washbasins just right for encouraging young children in cleanliness. The building contains delightful corners for all manner of fascinating activities, all planned to give the children the rudiments of education.

The reading corner, for instance, encourage them to want to learn to read long before any formal attempt is made to teach them. Many of the toys are specially designed to start them counting, and the music corner helps them to learn to play together as a group, or to experiment with different sounds.

Here also, the children learn to live together—a big advantage to "only" children and their parents; here they begin to learn to give and take and to share, and they find out that

some rules are necessary to avoid accidents.

It is such a very happy place. It is a pity that all our children can't have the advantage of nursery school education but, alas, Miss Cooper, the headmistress, tells me that she has a waiting list of over a hundred. Anyone who has visited Caversham Nursery School cannot fail to be convinced of the necessity for nursery school education for every child and not, as at present, the fortunate few.

TENNIS VICTORIES

Caversham swept the board in the recent Berkshire Junior Tennis Championships at Queen Anne's School. CHRISTINE SAUNDERS, 17, of 22, Fernbrook Road, won the girls' under 18 singles and doubles, and ROY BAYLIS, 17, of "Green-leaves," Upper Warren Avenue, also took the boys' under 18 singles and doubles titles.



There are some strange instruments to be found in the music corner and the noise must be deafening at times, but clearly the children enjoy themselves here.



How many budding artists start out here, I wonder? Mothers will be happy to know that enormous rubber aprons are provided for this, and for many other occupations.

AROUND CAVERSHAM

Three great-grandchildren within a fortnight is the proud achievement of Mr. George Aldridge, senior, aged 84, of 23, Ilkley Road, Caversham. Twin girls, Christine and Susan, were born to his grandson and wife, Peter and Joyce Aldridge, of Whitechurch, at Battle Hospital recently. Two weeks later, John and Pauline Aldridge had a son, Simon Patrick.

Mr. Aldridge is in business with his son, George, in the well-known saddlery and leather firm in Friar Street. George, junior, is the grandfather of the trio.

Congratulations and good wishes to Mrs. Annie Gale of the Arthur Clarke Home who was 100 years old on April 7. To mark the occasion there was a party at the home attended by members of Mrs. Gale's family, including several great-grandchildren. Also present were members of the Committee for the Care of the Aged and a representative of the Mayor of Reading. A 17lb cake, duly inscribed, was given by Huntley and Palmers. Mrs. Gale received many presents from residents, staff and well-wishers.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. F. Dolton, of 17, Knights Way, whose silver wedding anniversary fell on April 12.

On April 13 the Emmer Green Youth Club held a special Easter dance with music provided by "The Outcrowd."

At the end of March, in Emmer Green, a party was given to the Dr. Barnardo Helpers' League (Emmer Green branch). Organised by the committee, it coincided with the centenary of Dr. Barnardo's Homes themselves. On this occasion a total of over 78 points was sent to the fund for 1965-66, the result of box opening and jumble sales. Lady Sibley, the president, presented medals and founders' knives for children collecting more than 10s. a year over a period. The members of the committee would like to thank Mr. Rogers, of Rotherfield Way, who entertained the children, and Mr. Martin Harbor, of Priest Hill, who amused them with conjuring tricks. They would also like to mention Howards of Caversham, Hodges of Emmer Green and Ellis and Heading who, together with Brooke Bonds and Lyons, supplied all that was needed for the party.

We must all envy Mr. and Mrs. Herbert, of Peppard Road, who have just returned from a wonderful week in Hong Kong. Mr. Herbert, who works for those well-known travel agents, Cooks, has

travelled frequently to many places, including Africa and the Middle East, but it is not often his wife gets the opportunity to join him. This time, it was a wonderful week for two and as exciting a trip as anyone could wish for.



Photo: By Courtesy of the "Evening Post"
Bob-a-Job Week in Caversham. Paul Goriup, 10, of 3, Woodberry Close, smiles through a window he is cleaning. Paul is a member of the 3rd Reading St. Peter's Cub Pack.

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AROUND THE CLUBS

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NEW BAR IN ORGAN LOFT



Photo: Fred Walker.

Ebenezer, like his contemporary, Queen Victoria, would probably not be amused but he would undoubtedly be impressed by the transformation which has taken place in recent weeks in the West Memorial Institute—the building in Gosbrook Road which bears his name. We reported in our January issue that the Baptist Young People were proposing to convert the derelict organ loft into a coffee bar. The bar is now a reality with its soft lights and sweet music.

At the recent opening ceremony, the Minister of the church, the Rev. L. S. Lewis, paid tribute to those who had worked so hard on

the project and in particular to Bob Cowland and Peter Rose, who, in their enthusiasm, often "burned the midnight oil."

The coffee bar is brightly decorated in two shades of blue and pink, it boasts an illuminated ceiling made of corrugated plastic material, is carpeted and has been furnished in a novel manner by modifying surplus church pews.

The Young People, who gratefully acknowledge the practical and financial help afforded by members and friends of the church, are to be congratulated on their practical enterprise.

Mastermann as secretary, Bob Wilson as treasurer and Pauline Fisher, Jennifer Worth, George Hunt and John Harvey as ordinary members.

The club has bought itself an Austin Omnicoach 13-seater which will be used for a variety of club activities, and celebrated by going to the Reading Ace Motor Cycle Club scramble at Bower Farm which was greatly enjoyed.

Arrangements are at present being made to go on a .22 shooting contest, a hovercraft show, skydiving exhibition and various other visits.

drive was held at No. 1, Grosvenor Road.

Fourteen ladies from the Arthur Clarke Home were invited to tea followed by a short concert and were each presented with an Easter present.

St. Anne's School

St. Anne's School football team swept the boards in competition this year, winning the cup, shield and medals. When one remembers that this was in competition with 32 schools of which St. Anne's is one of the smallest in numbers, the remarkable success is fully appreciated.

Congratulations to Mr. Hughes, the games master, and every member of the team. We hope that they will all go on to "play the game," always with the same determination as they have shown on the sports field.

Maplewood W.I.

The resolutions for the annual general meeting of Maplewood W.I. in London will be discussed at the meeting which will be held in St. Andrew's Hall on May 17 at 2.30 p.m.

As the Drama Group are unable to present the play printed in the programme, a surprise afternoon has been arranged.

Reading (Caversham)

Afternoon

Townswomen's Guild

Members were extremely interested in the talk on the History of Reading given by Dr. C. F. Slade at their recent meeting. A large number of beautifully made children's garments were on display. These were made by a group of members and will eventually be presented to the Chiltern Nursery Training College. Mrs. Cowland, the president, was in the chair and reminded members of the jumble sale to be held on April 30 in aid of the N.S.P.C.C.

Members who visited the C.W.S. Printing Works enjoyed an interesting afternoon. A successful whist

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

The frozen south was brought to members by Major John Peacock, R.E.M.E., Sandhurst, who gave a beautifully illustrated talk on an expedition to South Georgia.

All our groups are active, the choir are busy rehearsing for the Farnborough Festival and Drama for the Tilehurst Elstedford. Art and Craft and Homecraft now hold meetings on the fourth Tuesday in each month. The Social Studies programme for this year is "Some Aspects of Our Changing World." The International Group held a coffee party recently to which 20 overseas people were invited.

The May competition is for an original "Get Well" card which will be judged by the Matron of Battle Hospital who is our speaker that month.

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

Caversham Heights Guild recently enjoyed films on watercress growing, archaeology, bicycles of all ages, made and shown by Mr. A. Lott.

The Social Studies Group heard an interesting talk by Mr. A. Shepherd, the Deputy Borough Coroner, and are arranging a visit to the Old Bailey during May.

The Guild held a jumble sale at Balmore Hall, and a

Beetle Drive in April, at the Methodist Hall, Highmoor Road.

St. Peter's Wives

On May 17 at Church House at 8 p.m. St. Peter's Wives and St. Anne's Marian Group join for a discussion on marriage, led by Father W. G. Ford, of Sonning Common, and the Rev. D. Clift. This will be the first time these two groups have combined for an obviously controversial topic, and a lively stimulating evening is likely. As usual both the groups welcome visitors.

St. John's Youth Club

Recently, the club comprising 40 regular members voted in a new Members' Committee comprising Peter Bartlett as chairman, Lesley

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Photo: Fred Walker

Mr. Basil Ams, of the "Evening Post," talks to the St. Peter's Sunday Night Discussion Group about Reading's new daily newspaper. Throughout the winter this open group meets for informal discussion on a variety of topics, social, moral, political or religious.

Summer Sunday evenings are given over to more light-hearted pursuits, tennis, croquet or boating. Members seen in this photograph include two girls from Queen Anne's School, and a nurse from Chiltern Nursery Training College.

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SHOPPING PRECINCT — YES OR NO?

BY ALAN MARSHALL OF THE "EVENING POST"

THE future of the large and very valuable site on the south side of Church street, Caversham, for which major redevelopment plans have been awaiting the go-ahead for two years, will be decided soon — by the Minister of Housing and Local Government himself. Because of planning problems, which have led to a delay in a decision on the proposed redevelopment, the Minister, Mr. Richard Crossman, has decided to "call in" the plan.



Photo: Fred Walker

Part of the derelict site in Church Road, Caversham, which will soon be the subject of a public inquiry. Plans for a shopping centre, supermarket and parking for 220 cars will be affected by the Minister of Housing's decision.

This means that the power of granting or refusing planning consent rests now with Mr. Crossman alone. To be sure of hearing all sides of the case, a public inquiry will be held in Reading soon (no date had been fixed at the time of going to press). This will be conducted by a Ministry of Housing inspector, who will hear the views of the parties involved, see the site and then make a written report to Mr. Crossman. It seems unlikely that we shall know the Minister's decision much before the autumn.

One of the main reasons for Mr. Crossman's decision to deal with this application himself is because the proposals, if permitted, would be a departure from the town council's development plan.

What will Mr. Crossman be asked to approve?

The redevelopment plans are being put forward by the St. Martin's Property Corporation Ltd., of London. They want to develop two-and-a-half acres between Regal House and an open piece of land owned by Reading Corporation opposite Caversham Motors. The scheme envisages a large shopping centre, including a supermarket, other shops, offices — and roof-top parking for 220 cars.

If permission is granted, it will mean the end of Caversham House, once a well known school, which is now listed as a building of some historical and architectural interest.

The value of the site involved is reckoned to be in the region of £150,000. The redevelopment would cost another £250,000.

With the shopping centre to be built in the new Caversham Park development, Caversham's shopping facilities would increase by 50 per cent in the next few years.

TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

The St. Martin's Property Corporation first sought planning permission two years ago. Reading Planning Committee, in July 1964, decided that the scheme should be called in by the then Minister of Housing, Sir Keith Joseph.

The joint redevelopment sub-committee — formed of representatives from the

planning, highways and transport committees — reported that it was not opposed to the principle of the development, but it would be a departure from the development plans, on which only the Minister could decide.

But nothing was ever heard from the Minister, until Mr. Crossman intervened just before last Christmas.

Between July 1964 and the end of 1965 the future of the proposals did not seem bright. Planners began to be concerned that the shopping centre would lead to more

traffic than Church Street — which is part of a main artery from Reading to South Oxfordshire could cope with.

There was also concern that shopping facilities in Caversham would for the first time be provided on the south side of Church Street, leading to heavy flows of pedestrians across this busy road.

DEMAND CENSUS

Then there was the question of demand. Already planning permission has been given for a smaller development of shops on the other side of Church Street, at the junction with Hemdean Road. Would this new scheme be more than enough.

These points were also raised privately by a joint urban planning group of the Ministries of Housing and Local Government and Transport which is now operating in Reading.

This group, a small band of top planners from Whitehall, is currently taking a long, hard look at Reading to try and find a method of redeveloping old and obsolete parts of towns. The Reading Study, as it is known, is the biggest of several being undertaken throughout the country.

The Reading Group is planning to carry out a fact-finding census of demands for shopping facilities in Caversham, and these statistics may well hold an important key to the outcome

of the inquiry.

Mr. Crossman was also concerned about the proposals when he wrote to Reading Corporation last December.

He raised the question of traffic that would be generated by the development on an already-congested route.

He also asked the planning committee to consider the future of the whole area between Church Street and the Thames.

Other people, among them planning committee members, are concerned that Caversham should retain its own character, which distinguishes it from areas south of the Thames.

PUBLIC ENQUIRY

The public enquiry — and I would emphasise the word public — when it is held will be advertised under the planning acts in local newspapers and on notices in Caversham itself.

Local residents and local organisations who feel they can usefully help in the inquiry are at liberty to address the inspector. If you cannot get to the inquiry you can always write a letter to the inspector. All these will be taken into account by the inspector and the Minister when assessing the case before a planning decision is made.

Public participation, rather than apathy, in this case can ensure that Caversham gets the facilities it wants and is developed in the right way.

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

The "Caversham Bridge" appeals to its readers to take an interest in the shopping precinct enquiry.

In case you are unable to get to the public meeting we invite you to use these columns to express your views. We will see that they are sent to the officials concerned.

Write a letter to:

The Editor,
The Rectory,
Caversham.

NEW CURATE FOR CAVERSHAM

The Anglican parish of Caversham is to have a much needed increase of staff. Shortage of accommodation has been a handicap, but with the tenancy of the Rectory flat falling vacant it has been decided to make this available for an extra member of staff.

Mr. Collin Scott-Dempster, at present training at Cuddesdon Theological College will be ordained by the Bishop of Oxford on September 25, and come to Caversham as a deacon. Mr. Scott-Dempster was educated at Marlborough. He was then commissioned in the Black Watch, and later entered industry as production controller for Michael Nairn and Co. After five years with them he went to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, to read theology before starting his two years at Cuddesdon. Married last autumn both he and his wife come from Scotland where they have lived the greater part of their lives.

Mr. Scott-Dempster has varied sporting interests — he has shot at Bisley, taken part in international show-jumping competitions in Germany, and having also rowed at Cambridge he looks forward to viewing the finishing post of the regatta from his windows in the Rectory flat.

Mr. Scott-Dempster's arrival will mean that four of the six clergy of the parish were trained at Cuddesdon. His arrival will also mean that the Rev. David Cliff will be able to devote his time more exclusively to many activities which concern the parish as a whole, and he will be particularly busy at

the time of Mr. Scott-Dempster's arrival with the youth stewardship campaign that is taking place alongside the parish development campaign this autumn.

Owing to the Rector's increasing commitments outside the parish many aspects of work in St. Peter's district have been neglected and the arrival of an extra member of staff will be a great help to a parish which has grown so much in size and activity in recent years.

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Distributors please note

The next edition of the **CAVERSHAM
BRIDGE** will be published on Wednesday,
May 25. Please deliver your copies early.

NEWS FROM

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

After a gap of 30 years the members of the Binfield Heath Congregational Church and the Caversham Hill Chapel have decided to seek a Pastor who will have the oversight of both Churches. Prior to 1935 both congregations were linked together by being served by the same Pastor but since that date although Caversham Hill have been served by three Pastors, Binfield Heath have not had a Pastor.

BAPTIST SCHOOL CENTENARY

On June 4/5 the Caversham Baptist Free Church Sunday School will be celebrating this great occasion. The programme for the weekend is as follows:

Saturday:
3.00 p.m. Entertainment for Primary Children.
4.00 p.m. Primary Tea Party.
5.00 p.m. Main Tea Party.
6.45 p.m. Thanksgiving Service.

Sunday:
Services of Praise at 11.0 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Special Service of Worship at 2.45 p.m.
Past and present scholars will be attending the Main Tea at which the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Reading, Alderman W. J. Allum, will be present, together with representatives from the Churches of Caversham and other bodies.

The speaker on Saturday evening will be Mr. T. S. Phillimore, the Birmingham Youth and Sunday School secretary. On the Sunday the speaker will be the Rev. Stanley Turl of the West Ham Central Mission. In the afternoon a play entitled, "Our School," written by the Minister of the Church, the Rev. L. S. Lewis, will be presented by the scholars.

A cordial invitation is extended to any friends who may care to join in the services.

METHODIST NEWS

Caversham Heights celebrates its Church Anniversary on May 8, when the preacher at 11 a.m. will be the superintendent minister, the Rev. A. J. Badcock. Gift Day will be the following Tuesday, May 10.

At the Overseas Missionary Anniversary services on May 15 at Caversham Heights, Mr. D. Fleming, the deputational secretary of the China Inland Mission's overseas missionary fellowship will be the preacher. Mr. Fleming was born in China and was a missionary in Malaya. A Youth for Christ quartet will take part in the morning service.

The Overseas Missions annual meeting will follow on Tuesday, May 17 in the church hall at 8 p.m. The speaker will be the Rev. G. Vinden, who was a missionary in China for 30 years. His theme will be the part played by Gospel Recordings—a growing modern technique—in worldwide missionary evangelism, and will be illustrated by a film-strip entitled "My yard is full of people."

The Rev. T. Brian Coleman, a former minister, will be welcomed back to Gos-

brook Road for the Sunday School Anniversary services on May 29. Caversham Heights will celebrate its Sunday School Anniversary the previous week on May 22, when the afternoon service, conducted by the Rev. E. B. Wright, will be at 4 p.m.

INDEPENDENCE

Steps have been taken recently towards the formation on an independent Baptist Church at North Caversham. The Baptist Union has now approved the application of this church for membership and it is expected that membership of the Berkshire Baptist Association will be ratified by the Annual Assembly at Abingdon in June.

ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

The arrangements for Public Baptisms which were made a year ago throughout the parish are to be continued with certain modifications.

At St. Peter's and St. Barnabas' it is planned to hold Baptisms on alternate months, and not monthly as formerly. The monthly service, with certain exceptions for festivals, will continue at St. John's and St. Andrew's, but at St. John's will be on the first Sunday of the month and not the second as previously and for here and at St. Barnabas' a special service is being designed which will be shorter and

more intelligible for those who are unfamiliar with Evensong, especially having in mind members of the Baptismal parties who are often quite lost.

We hope that these arrangements will suit families with young children. On these Sundays Evensong will not be sung at St. John's and St. Barnabas'. These plans will be reviewed again after a further year, and notices in the porches of St. Peter's and St. Barnabas' will state clearly the months when Baptisms are being held. Parents are of course perfectly free to ask for Baptisms to take place on other Sundays within the framework of the normal services.

The attendance throughout Lent at the "No Small Change" Groups has been most encouraging and the important parish meeting held on April 26 to discuss the findings of the many groups will be reported in our next number. Many people have expressed a desire to know more about the way the Church of England works, and to find out what the Conventions and Church Assembly do, how the diocese runs, and similar matters. The Rector will open a discussion on such matters in the Rectory on Tuesday, May 10 at 8 p.m. and will welcome members of any of our four congregations.

All the clergy of the parish will be attending the Diocesan Clergy Conference at

Bognor from Monday, May 23 until Friday, May 27. Week-day services will be considerably curtailed for those days but the Rev. A. S. Jeffrey will be available for essential matters.

There are still a few vacancies for the Parish Retreat taking place near Leamington from Friday evening May 13 until teatime Sunday — details from any of the clergy.

ST. JOHN'S One Only?

A member of the Men's Fellowship has begun to decorate the inside of the church. He has given the Lady Chapel a fresh coat of paint, and made considerable headway in decorating one of the worst corners in the building.

Are we to see all the other side walls of the Church redecorated during the next twelve months or so? and another job that urgently needs doing, is the sanding and polishing of the floor. Treated in this way, it would be much easier to keep clean and in addition it would be much better for the wooden blocks, which are spoilt by being scrubbed.

Congratulations for this very courageous act in starting such a job without assistants. Now a start has been made, we are hoping that other men who are not too heavily involved in other parts of the Churches work will help complete the job.

Fifty years' service



On Mothering Sunday, St. John's Hall was filled with people who had come to pay tribute to Miss Pounds, of 123, Peppard Road, for fifty years faithful service to the Sunday School. Amongst those present were some who she had taught, and now had children of their own in the school. After the priest-in-charge had thanked her in the name of the Church, ex-pupils, the present children and their parents, she was presented with a lovely bouquet, and then everyone enjoyed the cake that had been specially baked and iced for the occasion.

THE CHURCHES—

ST. PETER'S

We say goodbye to Barry and Brenda Martin who move during May to their new home at Newbury where they will be within a few yards of a former Caversham Curate the Rev. R. Birt, now vicar of St. George's, Wash Common. Barry and Brenda have a long association with St. Peter. Barry has served on the Church Council and both have helped most enthusiastically on social arrangements. They will be much missed at St. Peter's.

St. Peter's Wives and St. Peter's Mothers' Union are holding a coffee morning on Wednesday, May 4 at the Rectory from 10.30 a.m. in aid of the two causes for which some members of these groups sew, the Golden Needle League which makes clothes for children in homes of the Church of England Children's Society, and the Diocesan Moral Welfare Association. The groups would like to make this an open occasion and welcome all who can come. Tickets 1s. 6d. on sale at church or from Mrs. Vowles, 3 The Mount or Mrs. Grimwade, the Rectory.

The Golden Needle League itself has two meetings in May — on May 3 at 18 Blenheim Road and on May 31 at 55 Priest Hill, both at 7.30 p.m. and anyone who is interested in helping to make clothes for children's homes will be very welcome.

Congratulations to Harriet and Caroline Vowles, two young members of the congregation. Stirred by remarks at the Mothering Sunday service about Indian famine Harriet, with the help of her sister, organised a Bring and Buy sale with her friends the following Saturday and with articles for sale at 1d or a little more raised £1 for the Oxfam appeal for the Indian Famine. Well done.

This is the season of Jumble sales. On Saturday, April 30 the annual congregational sale in aid of the Bishop's Appeal takes place at 2.30 p.m. (Admission 3d.). Jumble can be collected — Phone Mr. Flack 74094 or it can be brought to Balmore Hall the previous evening or by 10 a.m. on the morning of the sale.

St. Peter's Scouts follow on May 14. Offers of Jumble or help during the day will be much appreciated — please phone Mr. P. Handy, 73745. Proceeds go to the fund for a group headquarters.

The Social Committee have arranged a mystery tour for Tuesday evening, May 17. Tickets are now available from members of the Committee or at Church.

1966 is Cub Jubilee Year. One of the first to be founded was the Y.M.C.A. Pack and they will be holding a Thanksgiving service in St. Peter's on Sunday, May 22 at 3 p.m.

Ascension Day, Thursday, May 19. — Holy Communion 9 a.m. (not 9.30). Service for school children 9.45 a.m. Parish Communion with procession and sermon 8 p.m.

ST. ANDREW'S

"No Small Change"

The Lent course was well attended. The number of people at Holy Communion on Wednesday evenings never dropped below 50. The lively and often amusing discussions which followed in the Church Hall were much appreciated by those who took part. We are grateful to the group leaders for their work before and during the course. We are looking forward to comparing our findings with those of the other districts on April 26.

Mothering Sunday

The Church was comfortably full for the special service on Mothering Sunday. Much of the credit for this goes to the Scouts and Cubs whom we were very pleased to see in such good numbers. During the service Frank Beetham and Norman Kent spent a hectic fifteen minutes in the vestry, subdividing the previously prepared bunches of flowers in order that every child should have one.

The Young Wives

Allison Parmenter, leader of the Young Wives for the past three years hands over the reins to Barbara Dennis this month. We thank Allison and her committee for their hard work during this time. We are pleased to publish the following appreciation contributed by the retiring secretary:

"Before Allison took over the leadership of the Young Wives we were a small group meeting quietly once a month, hardly knowing the names of our fellow members. Under Allison's leadership, the Group has practically trebled its numbers and we have come to know each other more intimately. We have become far more outward looking and conscious of our responsibilities towards the community.

Allison instigated the "Helping Hand" — a forerunner of the "Bridge Scheme" — whose object was to help members of the Young Wives in times of domestic crises and illness. She also inspired the pre-school Play Group in St. Andrew's Hall on Wednesday mornings. Allison has always been intensely interested in welfare work and, at her suggestion, the Young Wives agreed to give an annual outing to a party of mothers and children from the Reading Family Aid Group. Discussion Groups are held at frequent intervals in Allison's home to which all denominations are welcome and this is a valuable contribution to Christian Unity.

We shall miss the infectious enthusiasm which Allison has given to all the projects connected with Young Wives. When she asked me to be her secretary three years ago, I never realised what it would involve but I wouldn't have missed the opportunity for anything!"

Milk Bottle Tops

How do you stop the custom of collecting milk bottle tops which can be sold as a

means of raising money for overseas missions? This is the question which the Priest in Charge would like answered. For in November of last year the District Committee decided to discontinue the collection of milk bottle tops at St. Andrew's. The reason for this was that the collection and disposal of these milk tops created a great deal of work for which the financial return was negligible. It simply wasn't worth it.

For several consecutive weeks this decision was announced in the notices. But the milk tops continued to come in. In December a notice was placed in the porch saying that no more were required. It was no use. On the day of the General Election there appeared no less than five bags of tops!

We are most grateful to everyone who has helped us in the past — but, please, no more scrap aluminium.

ST. BARNABAS'

Best Wishes

On Saturday, April 2 in the Church of Christ, Gloucester, the wedding took place between Roger Gray, of 17, Greenleas Avenue, Emmer Green, and Miss Molly Carter. Roger has been a server in St. Barnabas' Church for the past eight years and we would like him and his wife to know that our best wishes go with them in their new life together.

The Altar Cross

The Altar Cross has recently been enlarged, and a bronze figure of "Christus Rex" has been added to it. Many people have expressed the view that this new Altar Cross adds much to the beauty of the Sanctuary, and we are all very grateful to the member of our congregation whose generosity made these improvements possible.

"No Small Change"

During Lent approximately seventy people met regularly each week to take part in the "No Small Change" course. They were divided into five groups. There is no doubt that a lot of interest was generated within these groups and that they were a great success. Our eyes are now turned towards the future and we hope that the course itself, and the parish meeting on the 26th of April, at which the results of the course were discussed, will lead on to appropriate action and a new deepening of our life together as the Church in Emmer Green.

A Social Evening

On Saturday, April 30 at 8 p.m. in the Church Hall, there will be an informal gathering to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Cooper to Emmer Green. All are welcome.



Photo: B. J. Woods.

Married at the Salvation Army Citadel, Reading, were Mr. Norman Vinall, of Buxton Avenue, Caversham, and Miss Jennifer Allen, of Hemdean Road, Caversham.

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WE RECORD

BAPTISED

St. John's — Jane Stone, Jane Brown.
St. Barnabas' — March 27: Tracy Fuller, Mark Sim.
St. Anne's — Lisa Woodbridge, Deborah Highton, John Healy, Eamonn McDonald, Angela O'Brien, Susan Doherty, Ramsey Soudah, Ann Berezynsky, Paul Wells.

Caversham Methodist Church — David Ford.

MARRIED

St. Peter's — Terence Harris and Gloria Allaway. Peter Knotts and Wendy Sturge.

St. John's — Douglas Summers and Jacqueline Rackley. Raymond Walsh and Bridget Bunyan. Reginald Partlow and Christine Andrews.

St. Andrew's — Robert Butler and Jennifer Bridgewater. John Collins and Rosemary Hardy. Nicholas Webb and Frances Avis.

St. Barnabas' — Alan Bragg and Annette Clifford.

St. Anne's — Robert Dann and Margaret Flynn. John Larrad and Frances Hickman. Blagio Amitrano and Antonia Cay. Michael Lynch and Angela Mason. Malcolm Ross and Denise Gibbs.

Caversham Hill Chapel — Ronald Dainton and Teresa Langham.

Caversham Methodist Church — Maurice Allum and Christine Searle.

Caversham Baptist Free Church — Martin Dowdeswell and Kathleen Rose. Alan Purser and Glennis Leech.

BURIED

St. Peter's — Emily Baylis, Evelyn Prentice, Eugene Puffett.

St. John's — Leslie Simmonds, Maud Snow, Ada Brainer.

Caversham Methodist Church — Percy Jones, Percy Beasley, Beatrice Lines.

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THIS PAPER
TO THEM**

CHURCH SERVICES

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH SERVICES FOR MAY

May 1: 11 and 6.30: The Rev. L. S. Lewis, Evening Communion.
May 8: 11 and 6.30: Gift Day—The Rev. L. S. Lewis.
May 15: 11: The Rev. L. S. Lewis, Morning Communion. 6.30: Guest Service, with After Church Fellowship.
May 22: 11 and 6.30: The Rev. L. S. Lewis.

May 29: 11 and 6.30: The Rev. L. S. Lewis.

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL
Sunday Services, 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Sunday School, 3 p.m. Sunday, May 1: 139th Church Anniversary and Gift Day. 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., Speaker: Rev. B. Edwards, Hook Evangelical Church.
Wednesday, May 11: 3 p.m., Women's Anniversary meeting. Speaker: Mrs. J. Gibbons.

METHODIST CHURCHES MAY PREACHING APPOINTMENTS

Caversham	Caversham Heights
May 1 Mr. R. A. Gray	11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright
Rev. E. B. Wright	6.30 Rev. F. Hunter
May 8 Rev. E. B. Wright (1)	11.00 Rev. A. J. Badcock (2)
Mr. G. Poole	6.30 Rev. E. B. Wright (1)
May 15 Miss P. Day	11.00 Mr. D. Fleming (3)
Rev. E. B. Wright	6.30 Mr. D. Fleming (3)
May 22 Rev. F. Hunter	11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright
Mr. D. Wise (6.30)	(4.00) Rev. E. B. Wright (4)
May 29 Rev. T. B. Coleman (4)	11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright (1)
Rev. T. B. Coleman (4)	6.30 Mr. G. Wale

Notes: (1) Holy Communion, (2) Church Anniversary, (3) Overseas Missions, (4) Sunday School Anniversary.

CAVERSHAM NORTH BAPTIST FREE CHURCH (Kidmore Road)

Morning	Evening
1: Mr. P. Elford	Mr. P. Elford
8: Dr. M. Gray	Mr. D. Winter
15: Africa Inland Mission	
22: Mr. R. Price	Mr. L. Booker
29: Mr. G. Vinden	To be announced

Family Worship at 10.45 a.m. Evening service at 6.30 p.m.
Communion following Family Worship on 3rd Sunday in each month

SUNDAY SERVICES

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Anne's
8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m. Mass
Our Lady of Caversham
9.30 a.m. Mass (except 1st Sunday when at 8.30 a.m.)

BAPTIST

Caversham
11.00 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. Worship Communion after Evening Service 1st Sunday after Morning Service 3rd Sunday.
2.45 p.m. Sunday School.

North Caversham

10.45 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. Worship Communion after service on 3rd Sunday.

METHODIST

Caversham Heights
11.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Worship
10.15 a.m. Sunday School, Senior Dept.
11.00 a.m. Sunday School, Junior and Primary Depts.

Gosbrook Road

11.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Worship

SALVATION ARMY

Prospect Street
3.00 p.m. Young People, 6.30 p.m. Adults.

CAVERSHAM HILL CHAPEL

11.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Worship, 10.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. Sunday Schools.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

St. Peter's
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION
11.00 a.m. Matins
12.15 p.m. Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays).
6.30 p.m. Evensong (1st Sunday 3.15 p.m.)
11.00 a.m. Sunday School, Infants — Hemdean House School, Juniors — Balmore Hall.

St. John's
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST
6.30 p.m. Evensong (1st Sunday 3.15 p.m.)
11.00 a.m. Sunday School, Church Hall.

St. Andrew's
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion
6.30 p.m. Evensong (3rd Sunday 3.15 p.m.)
11.15 a.m. Sunday School, Church Hall.

St. Barnabas'
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST
6.30 p.m. Evensong.
9.15 a.m. Sunday School, Church Hall.

St. Margaret's Mapledurham
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays)
9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION
6.30 p.m. Evensong.

Samaritans of Reading

"DIAL" FOR HELP

"PLEASE CAN YOU HELP? I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I CAN CARRY ON."

These are familiar words to Samaritan volunteers. But this time they are being addressed to you, the people of Caversham — people as anonymous as the Samaritan volunteers themselves.

There are still some of us who have been with the Reading Branch since it began in the summer of 1962 and we would welcome the opportunity of a break which a new batch of volunteers would give us.

The "machinery" now evolved to deal each day with one or two new clients and to help many old ones looks very different from the early days. Yet the basic need is still there—there can never be too much compassion "on tap" for those who need us.

It is difficult to assess the results of our work but one thing we have proved beyond all doubt — we are needed.

Sometimes we founder, members go on saying "yes" when asked to come on duty, though we may find it inconvenient, because we cannot bear to think that the time should ever come when someone in need dials 54845 and gets no answer.

So what about you, Mrs. X, you Mr. J, you Miss R. Remember the times you have helped your friends and neighbours, sometimes by simply letting them pour out their troubles. YOU are the kind of person we need—not because you have shown any special knowledge of psychology or social welfare, but because you have shown that you care — an essential qualification for a Samaritan volunteer.

You will be given any training you need, you will find that you have skilled people to call upon to handle complicated matters — none of this need worry you. All we ask from you is a little time, care for your neighbours, and the willingness to do it anonymously.

Won't you, please, join us, so that some of us can take a short break without worrying about what is happening in our absence. The Director, Father Miller, will welcome any enquiries at the Samaritan Centre, Southampton Street.

Please can you help?

A Samaritan Volunteer.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH

At a time when there is much talk of Christian Unity we must not overlook the Orthodox Church. There are at least 70 million Orthodox Christians, mostly in Eastern Europe, in Russia, and in countries along the coasts of the eastern Mediterranean.

The Fellowship of St. Alban and St. Sergius has for many years fostered friendship and understanding between Anglicans and Orthodox.

The Fellowship is sponsoring an interesting Conference in Oxford on Saturday, May 14, on the theme of Christian Unity in relation to the growing unity of the world. The Holy Orthodox Liturgy will be celebrated in English in Merton College Chapel. Speakers at the Conference will represent the main Christian churches, and will include an economist.

Further details may be had from:

Miss Noel Butler Wright, c/o 27, Ilkley Road, Tel. 71005.

THE CLERGY AND MINISTERS OF CAVERSHAM

ANGLICAN

Rector:

The Rev. John Grimwade
Caversham Rectory, Tel.: 71703

Assistant Clergy:

The Rev. David Clift, 25, Ilkley Road. Tel.: 72070.
The Rev. 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 Stevenson (Priest-in-Charge of St. John's) St. John's House, 9, South View Avenue. Tel.: 71814.

BAPTIST

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

INDEPENDENT CONGREGATIONAL

Pastorate vacant.

METHODIST

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

ROMAN CATHOLIC

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

SOS

THE BRIDGE SHEME

A HELP-YOUR-NEIGHBOUR VENTURE

Within an hour of being asked a volunteer of the Bridge Scheme went and sat up all night with a partly delirious old lady who had been living all alone. The following day it was contrived to get her into hospital. This was another fine piece of practical Christianity that the Bridge Scheme has been able to make possible.

Remember to tell your friends and neighbours of the scheme and encourage them to use it.

WHO TO CONTACT

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

AREA ORGANISERS

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

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

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

Mr. W. A. Vincent (West Caversham),
12, Albert Road, Caversham, 72965.

Mrs. G. Thompson (Mapledurham),
205, Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, 71328

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, MAY 15-21

The Christian Aid organisation which raises money to help needy people in other parts of the world is part of the British Council of Churches and also is only one branch of the World Council of Churches' Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service.

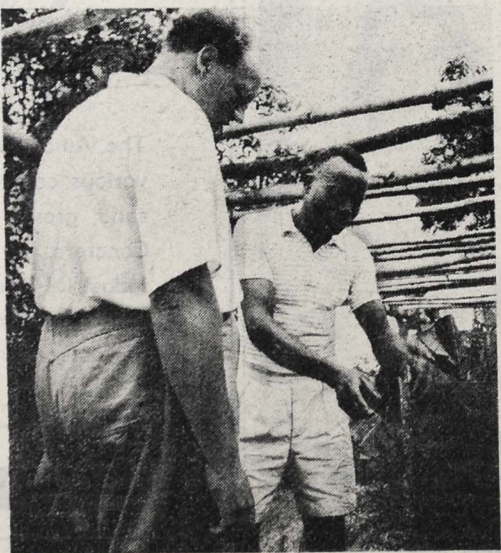
It gives us efficiently and imaginatively the opportunity of putting into practice the care and concern all followers of Christ should feel for those in need.

Christian Aid has asked us in Reading to support a project in Nigeria. This is a School Leavers Farm Settlement scheme based on the Rural Training Centre at Asaba. (See photo). By means of this scheme, areas of bush are cleared and made productive, and boys leaving school are given a job and an efficient agricultural training.

The total cost of one Settlement is £3,760; to establish a boy there costs £219, a bullock cart costs £30, a cooking pot 15s. Every shilling is valuable. Please give generously to help this training scheme in Nigeria during CHRISTIAN AID WEEK.

COLLECTORS NEEDED

Will those prepared to help in the house-to-house collection please give their names to their Church representative or to one



of the following:

East of Hemdean Road: Mrs. Molly Casey, 14, Albert Road, Tel. 72300.
West of Hemdean Road: Miss

R. Redmayne, 185, Upper Woodcote Road, Tel. 72500.
Emmer Green: Mrs. R. Garlick, 19, St. Barnabas Road, Emmer Green.

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MAIN DEALERS

I MUST be blunt and to the point. I do not like what Billy Graham stands for. There's nothing personal in this. They say he's a nice person. But then they say Mao Tse Tung is too, and that doesn't help me to go a bundle on what he represents either.

Christians today have to face an unpleasant fact. One that is rarely brought out into the open and looked at squarely. That fact is that while the old barriers that separated denomination from denomination are gradually being worn away as the movement towards Christian unity grows, another wall is growing bigger and stronger every day.

On one side of the wall stands a group which carries two banners. One says "while we were yet sinners Christ died for us," the other "repent and be saved." They think, to a greater or lesser extent, that this world is thoroughly wicked, and that what goes on in it, apart from convincing people that they are sinners and need to get right with God, is comparatively unimportant.

They accept no authority but the Bible, which they treat as some kind of magic book that is immune from scientific, historical and literary research, and they make a very sharp dividing line between sacred and secular. They think it's more holy to attend a prayer meeting than a union meeting.

On the other side of the wall is a group that also has two banners. One says "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son," the other "God is there before the Church." This group is concerned to see God's truth revealed not only in the words of the Bible and the preacher, but in everything that is good and true in life.

Uncertain people

It is a group of questioning, sometimes uncertain people. It is a group that wishes to take into account the whole of human experience, and to be honest

This is Not Christianity, Dr. Graham

By Geoffrey Brown

about it. It is a group that cannot think of Christianity in the over-simplified terms of "being converted." It is a group that sees God active in His world in commerce and industry, in the pub and the theatre — wherever men are men, and the eternal struggle between love and hate, justice and injustice, truth and untruth is fought out.

Saved and unsaved

It is a group that would not always wish to have everything cut and dried, with sharp divisions between the saved and unsaved, the sacred and the secular. It is the group to which, as you might have guessed, I belong, and to which Billy Graham doesn't, and if you think that I have not been fair to those on the other side of the wall, then I can only say "sorry, that's how I see it."

To me, Billy Graham doesn't take the world seriously. If you strip what he has to say of its jargon, it is a selfish appeal to our fear of damnation. Admit you're wicked, he says, turn to the Cross, and Bob's your uncle, you'll be a new creature. O.K. — but a new creature for what? To repeat the same formula to others? That's NOT the Gospel.

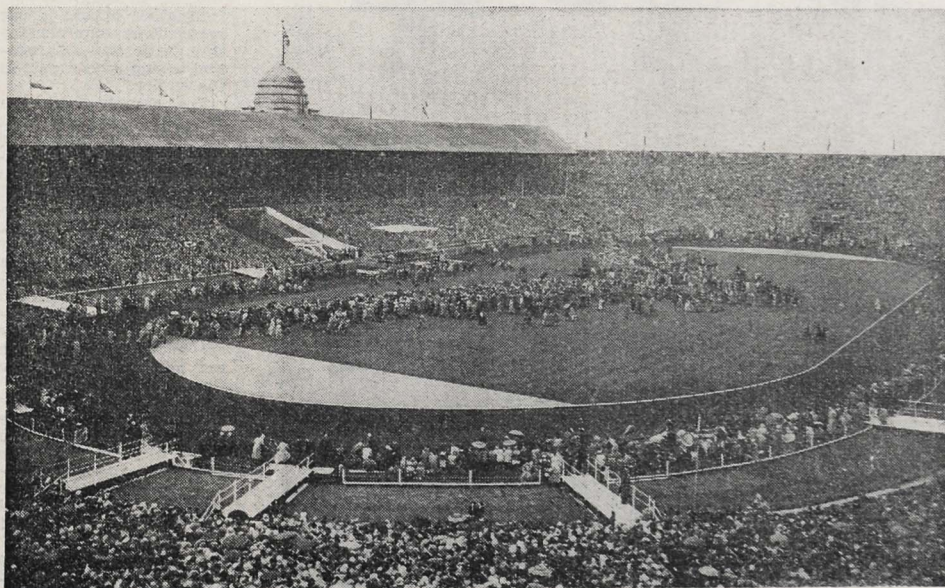
Mahatma Gandhi once said that he'd be much more inclined to become a Christian if the mission-

aries ran their hospitals simply to heal the sick, because that was worth doing in itself, rather than using it as a means to convert. We've got to take human life as it is lived in the world seriously, and people as they are seriously.

Love is the only converting power, and God is love. You can't confine this love within theological boundaries or restrict it to the world of religion. God is in my neighbour, and I never hear Billy Graham say anything about this. The ultimate test of whether I'm a sheep or a goat is whether I visited the sick, fed the hungry, clothed the naked — not whether I made a rather emotional decision for Christ — whatever that might mean.

Before I end I think I ought to be more specific,

The 1954 Billy Graham Crusade. Hundreds flock to the rostrum after an appeal.



Someone said: "This is the gift of tongues. If you listen to what is said, it is often nonsense. But if you open yourself to the occasion, you catch the authentic urgency of the Gospel."

Already Christians

This was true. The effects of this mission, as I observed them as a college chaplain, were mainly on young men who were already Christians. A noticeable number of young men brought up in

and I'll be it with a quotation and some questions. The quotation is from the Billy Graham Crusade Bulletin:—

"Before we can hope to win people for Christ we must first bind the Enemy by prayer. We must also plan. We must start our long-term policy of freeing our captives, inviting Mrs. S to tea, taking an interest in her family, joining in some secular activities, anything to make friends and gain their confidence . . ."

A means to an end?

Now the questions. Why must our activities always be a means to some other end? Why not invite Mrs. S to tea because you like her? Why not join in a secular activity because it is valuable in itself? Has God got nothing to do with secular activities? Are you only interested in Mrs. S's family as a means of getting at her?

THIS LITERATURE IS SO TYPICAL THAT IT SEEMS VERY FAIR TO ME TO GIVE IT THIS TREATMENT. I DON'T THINK THIS SORT OF THING IS CHRISTIANITY AT ALL—NOT AT LEAST AS I UNDERSTAND IT.

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN NEWS SERIES: MAY, 1966—FIVE

Dr. Billy Graham:
A nice man, but . . .



HOW HE HIT CAMBRIDGE

by SIMON PHIPPS, Industrial Chaplain to the Bishop of Coventry, who was college Chaplain in Cambridge, in 1955

CONSIDERABLE controversy raged in Cambridge in 1955, when Billy Graham was announced as the leader of the current Christian Union Mission. I remember the Deans and Chaplains meeting to discuss what our attitude should be. "Gentlemen who are guided by the Holy Spirit," said one unduly pessimistic voice, "are notoriously unreliable!" He was to be proved wrong,

Billy Graham eventually came with the goodwill of all. Mervyn Stockwood gave over the University Church to the Mission, and hundreds of us went every night.

Much of what Billy Graham said was naive, a little of it was fairly awful, some of it was just plain good preaching.

Christian homes and educated at Christian schools, who came regularly to chapel services but were probably rather hazy about their faith, came to feel that it was something about which they could no longer sit on the fence.

They felt themselves faced by the question of real commitment. They came to see their religion as something that they must really take seriously, and not as something in their lives that they took for granted.

In my own college only one young man was "converted" out of "nothing"

into Christianity. He was a very clever fellow, brought up by positively free-thinking parents, and his psychological condition was delicately balanced. He became a Christian and is one still. But this was the exception.

At right angles

My guess is that this was the usual result of Graham's Missions — to give an edge to rather blunt Christians, rather than to convert agnostics. He himself told me he made next to no impact on "the working man."

The weakness of this sort of evangelism is that

it tends to hit the human situation without an adequate prior analysis of that situation. It does not thus relate to an intelligently thought-out understanding of actual human and social situations, so as to make the Gospel news, which these situations will recognise as good. It hits people at right-angles.

If it happens to ring really and lastingly true to anyone's actual condition it is more by guess than by God. It will be interesting to see if Dr. Graham's method has changed.

Success?

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

FRANK MILES has been visiting the tiny village church at **BARSTON, Warwickshire.**



NUFFIELD'S £25,000 FOR SALVATION ARMY

A GRANT of £25,000 has been made by the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust to The Salvation Army's Centenary Appeal.

The money will go toward the capital cost of an extension to the Army's "Northlands" Maternity Home in Cardiff, one of the 26 new projects to which the Salvation Army has committed itself following the publication of its Centenary Year social survey, "Tragedies of Affluence."

Work on the proposed £50,000 extension to the Cardiff maternity home can now begin at once. Additional accommodation for unmarried mothers is urgently required for the home has been taxed beyond capacity. Last year, by sheer ingenuity, the staff was able to accommodate an overflow of forty unmarried mothers.

The Nuffield grant is the biggest single donation made so far to the Army's £3 million public appeal, its first capital appeal since 1891.

THE CARS ROLL IN FROM MILES AROUND

THE tiny village of Barston, Warwickshire, is home for 500 souls. Each Sunday, as the time for morning service at the village church draws near, cars begin to roll in from miles around.

For this is a church with a long reputation for good attendances at morning and evening services. The Vicar, 32-year-old Brian Easter, roars with laughter when you talk about it

being "successful," but that nonetheless is how it is regarded by people who run far less flourishing causes in neighbouring districts.

The ministry at Barston has been set in what is called the "evangelical tradition" in the Church of England during recent years. That is, there is an emphasis on "Bible preaching for a decision."

There have always been many people to follow this line in the Church of England, and that is surely one reason why Barston is popular, for in the Birmingham Diocese there are few churches in which the ethos is evangelical.

SIMPLE, DIRECT

Mr. Easter declares: "People like to come into the country to worship God. They get a good sing and a simple, direct form of worship. A great number of people appreciate the quiet—a chance to get completely away from things. Many who come here have very responsible jobs in which they are required to live at high pressure all week."

"Another appeal is our evangelical churchmanship, with the congregation taking a good part in the service."

The church seats 130, and although parts of it are ancient it has suffered from devastating modernisation by Victorians with their own strange ideas of beauty.

It is a bleak church, frankly. But Mr. Easter's confidence is that it is a friendly church. Christians of any denomination are welcome to take communion there, and some are known to do so who are not members of the Church of England.

Mr. Easter lists the aims: To build up the faith of the people who come who already have Christian experience, particularly young people who need a sound intellectual foundation for their belief in their working lives.

Secondly, "We want to see this as the church of the village. There is a danger that village people can lose the feeling that this is their church and, in fact, only half the congregation is of local people."

TAKING A LEAD

Other organisations in Barston take their lead from the parish church. The Young Farmers', the Youth Club, the village pub, the Women's Institute, all draw members and customers from some distance away. In one sense the parish church has set a mark of quality on everything that happens there.

Brian Easter is able to maintain the traditional



The Rev. Brian Easter: "People like to come into the country to worship God"

role of village parson. He visits the people, he spends a lot of time preparing his Sunday services, he cultivates a vast vicarage garden.

Daring to preserve an ancient role, in a country community, in a modern world, he finds that it

works, and that the life of the church in Barston gives him great satisfaction.

And however funny it may seem to him, that counts in some books as a fair measure of success.

A DROP IN THE OCEAN

So many folk say to us "the little I can afford is such a drop in the ocean, is it worth sending it?"

Alone, the most generous gift can only seem tiny compared to the vast problem of world poverty. It is easy to feel discouraged, even to put off action. Have you ever watched a rainstorm on a calm day at sea?

Each single drop of rain starts a series of ripples spreading from its point of impact. Little by little these rings meet and intermingle until the whole surface is covered with their pattern.

Every gift to War on Want, however small, is just such a drop in the ocean whose waves will one day overwhelm the misery and despair of millions overseas. The child whose life or sight is saved by a few pennynorth of drugs may grow up to be a skilled surgeon in a new hospital built with larger gifts.

The youngster given primary schooling for a year for £1 may win his way through to teach many more children to a higher level in better schools built by your gifts.

The farmer helped to improve his tiny holding by a few pounds will hand his new skills down to his sons and share them with his neighbours until whole areas improve.

We could go on and on. Every penny has infinite possibilities. Is it worth while? Add your drop to the growing ocean of aid. The ripples will spread and spread. Who knows where? All gifts sent for our overseas projects go without deduction.

WAR ON WANT

9, MADELEY ROAD, LONDON, W.5

Many generous souls live on a limited income. A mention in your will, will provide life for tiny children.

LIFE NOT DEATH.

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

Jewellery, Silver, Old Sheffield bring good prices. We need Green Shield Stamps for an ambulance.

Desperate need for clothing for refugees.

WAR ON WANT DEPOT,

CAXTON STREET SOUTH, LONDON, E.16

Christian Aid find's £80,000

Christian Aid has allocated another £80,000 to the ecumenical work of the churches overseas in the combat of hunger and poverty.

This figure includes an interim gift of £25,000 to the National Christian Council of India for its emergency feeding programme under which one million people are now being fed. These are men, women and children whose age or state of health makes them particularly vulnerable to India's acute food shortage.

In response to Christian Aid's India appeal gifts from member churches and supporters are now coming in.

ON BEING A TOUGH GUY IN A SOFT WORLD

By Laurence Yardley

EVERYBODY WANTS ME TO BE TOUGH.

A passionate man with dreadful reactionary views has just finished telling me that if we want to stay on top in the struggle for world influence we must urge the government to get tough, and stay tough. With the reds, certainly; with the blacks, of course; and with the trades unions, naturally.

"What these people respect is firm authority," he said.

Another man has described to me how he encouraged his young son to make a career for himself in business.

"You have," he told the boy, "try to walk the tight-rope of honesty, and at the same time you have to be ruthless. You have to be fair, but you have to have a nerve of steel, and be able to shut your eyes to sentimentality."

And a woman was discussing how best to bring up children; that hoary, baffling conundrum. She had decided, yes, quite decided, that all this stuff about letting them have their heads was ballyhoo. She proposed to clout her kids from here on in, and be tough with them as they were with her.

Gentleness, in this kind of philosophy, will have us overrun by the heathen, diddled by our rivals, and confounded by our offspring.

So when they kindly asked me to go and look over a new prestige office block, freshly risen from the ancient clay in this tough, brash, go-in-and-win world, what is the first thing I see?

It is a great glass door, which, as one approaches, glides open before one's eyes, and allows one to pass through without so much as a flexing of the muscles in a push, or pull.

You do not have to be tough to get into the building, or indeed to walk about in it. It is a monument to effortless, with lifts and escalators and noiseproofing, and plushness all around.

It is notable that in a world where toughness is exalted as a prime virtue, we have come to set such store by devices to reduce the physical necessity to be tough. I hate the magic sliding door. It offends on two counts.

Important

First I have been brought up to believe that one values only those things for which one has worked. It may seem a very small matter to delete from the day's disbursement of energy the opening of an office block door. But it was important to make a small effort to gain access to this place. It is a grand place, and I ought to have to do something to get into it. Is it significant that van-

dals, within a fortnight, have stripped it of wash-room mirrors, basin plugs and lavatory bolts?

Then, the opening of doors for one another in public places has always provided opportunities for little courtesies. Watch a community coming in and out of its Post Office, or its banks, and you can separate those who know what manners are from those who do not. There is something very important cut out of our lives when we never have the means to perform small services for strangers, or an excuse to smile our thanks.

We take for granted now that the everyday affairs of life will not demand of us that we be physically tough. The watchers of the main chance have taken note of the normal strains, and have made their fortunes with gadgets to eliminate them.

Easier

Travelling is luxurious; eating is so soft the teeth drop out early in life; being entertained is the turning of a switch, home life is more switches, easy fires, instant coffee, frozen packets. Everything, given an average income and average health, is better than doing nothing. Better and easier. With a sharp enough brain you can make a fortune by sitting at a telephone watching the markets.

Work is there to be escaped. Toil is banished from the language and the scene. Walking is a cute old-fashioned hobby.

Yet we sit about and talk to each other about the need to be tough. It is very true.

But how is a people reared in fatness and affluence going to learn to discriminate between being tough for the right or the wrong reasons?

We have few chances to show physical strength. And somehow without living the hard life physically you seldom learn the allied arts of kindness, and mercy, and gentleness.

The signs are abundant that a soft generation cannot control very well its uses of toughness. The easy life does not train us to manipulate properly the moments of high tensions, or to time and weigh effectively tough stands.

Everybody wants me to be tough. I look at that big glass door, and I don't believe I can.

Television

This Ad has me sick and bored

by Harold Jeffries

PERSONALLY I am sick to death of the Stork Challenge. I wouldn't buy Stork if it was the last margarine on the market—not because I don't believe that you can't tell it from butter, but because I'm bored, bored, bored, by the same old routine of Mrs. So and So losing her five quid.

Of course, we all have different hates and we all have different likes. I used to like the cartoon adverts for Golden Wonder crisps; I'm a sucker for Esso Blue and Kennomeat, and look forward to a new episode in the Oxo stock adventures of Katie and her family.

I can't stand the Randalls and Fairy Snow—or any of the soap powder commercials for that matter—and am thankful that we are now free from the cigarette plugs that seemed to consist of men trying to look as if a stick of nicotine was giving them as much pleasure as roast beef and Yorkshire pud would to a starving tramp. You, no doubt have your own choices for the top and bottom of the commercials' hit parade.

Jingles

Still, you can't get away from the fact that these commercials influence us. Children now sing the ad man's jingles in place of nursery rhymes, and however much we deny it we know in our hearts that many of the things we buy were first sold to us by the square-faced little god that squats in our living room.

What really bothers me about the commercials is not their quality or their influence—but what they reflect of our attitudes and values.

Any advertising man will tell you that he can only be successful if he appeals to whatever is dominant in our desires. You can only encourage pet lovers to buy tinned dog food or budgie seed, or girls who want to be glamorous to buy the latest hair spray or cosmetic.

In the same way you can only sell luxury foods to people who have no conscience about eating them.

For granted

So we sit taking it for granted that we should be encouraged to buy floor polishers, electric razors, sweets, chocolates, cigars, cream, butter, and never think of those teeming millions who don't even get a square meal twice in a week, and who don't earn enough to live in anything that could even be glorified by the name of a home.

Sometimes I must admit when I'm told to buy that extra pint or top it up with cream, or encouraged to eat the latest frozen masterpiece, or when I see ill-mannered little boys grabbing without so much as a "thank you" the last cake off the plate, or biscuit from the packet, I have a conscience and am a little ashamed.

Are you?

For Children

WASH-DAY ACCIDENT

Dear Children,

Didn't we have some windy weather at the end of March? One day I put my washing on the line, and went back into the house. But when I looked out of the kitchen window there it was all lying on the ground!

What do you think had happened? I thought that perhaps the washing line had broken, for it was quite old. But instead, it was the clothes pole that stood in the ground at the far end of the garden and held the line up. That, believe it or not, had broken in two!

I was furious; especially when my little dog got excited and started chewing the sheets! But all the neighbours came round and helped me pick things up, and my husband has fixed a nice new pole, so that it won't happen again.

The old pole had got so rusty that it had gone rotten right through. And of course, as soon as the wind put a strain on it, it snapped. I must make very sure to watch where the rot is setting in in future, so that things don't let me down at the last minute.

As always,

MRS. SMALL.

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN NEWS SERIES: MAY, 1966—SEVEN

WHILE MOTHER GOES TO WORK..

PERHAPS "the most astonishing fact" to emerge from studies of working mothers is that there are not more delinquent mothers, says an interim report, "Care of Children," from the National Labour Women's Advisory Committee.

The report found in Bermondsey four day nurseries, one nursery school, six play centres, young organisations, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, staffed and equipped playgrounds, and group games organised during school holidays—but these were not usually available for the children of working mothers.

The facilities potentially available for the professional woman worker, the teacher for whose children nursery classes were now urged contrasted with poor provision for the widow, the unmarried mother, and the separated family.

On play provision, the report pays tribute to the large contribution made by voluntary organisations. The National Joint Committee of

Working Women's Organisations was convinced that an indoor play area should be provided in every new block of flats.

Car parks

Since so much space was made available for car parking on high-density housing estates, it had been suggested that the only answer might be to cover the car parks and provide play spaces for children above them.

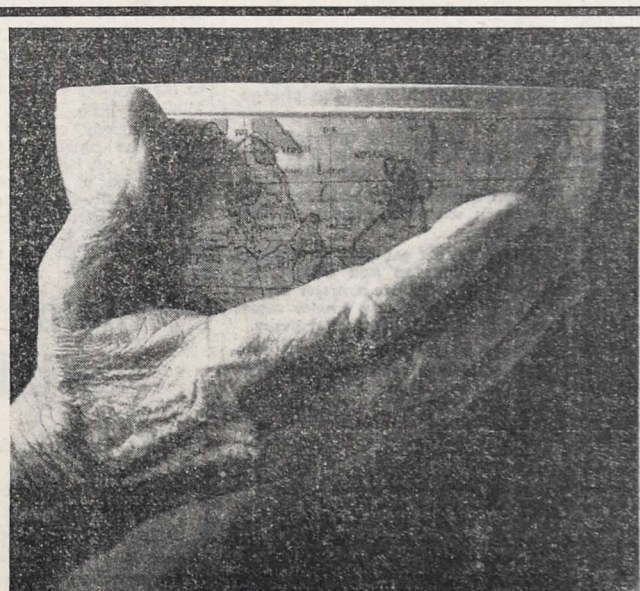
"If only all councils were as willing to face the cost of accommodating their children as they are to accommodate their cars, a solution to the problem would be in sight," the report comments.

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THIS MAN RHODES MUST PLAY FOR ENGLAND



"If all this technical information has failed to produce a positive answer, what nonsense it is to be called by a mere human official at square leg"

by ERNEST ADKINS

LAST season he took more wickets for fewer runs than anyone else in county cricket, so why shouldn't Derbyshire's Harold Rhodes play for England?

As a pace bowler he is quick enough, accurate enough and sufficiently hostile. Yet the hierarchy say his action is occasionally suspect. Rhodes, branded by umpire Sid Buller as a thrower, has undergone a trial by a jury of nine knowledgeable men of cricket who determined that his action was basically fair but he bowled the odd suspect delivery.

His action has been filmed from every conceivable point of advantage in a cricket ground, his arm has been X-rayed, yet still no-one is prepared categorically to clear him of the charge of being a cheat.

If all this technical investigation has failed to produce a positive answer, what nonsense it is to be called by a mere human official on square leg.

The whole business of throwing will certainly reach boiling point this season with the arrival of West Indian Charlie Griffiths.

Damned as a chucker by test captains Dexter and Benaud, ostracized by Barrington and O'Neill, Big Charlie could undoubtedly precipitate a major cricket revolution merely at the expense of a bowler whose arm is not straight prior to the point of delivery.

No-one wants to see a bowler perform like a baseball pitcher, but there is a limit to the nonsense talked about throwing.

By the very nature of his delivery he can only achieve additional pace. He cannot swing the ball in the air or alter the pitch.

Under the new front foot rule all bowlers are pegged back by the popping crease which has served to eliminate that most dangerous member of the species, the combined dragger and thrower. I would suggest that the game, having progressed from under arm to round and eventually over arm bowling, must now accept the bent arm bowler, or thrower.

The arguments, the controversy, the suspicion that M.C.C. only concerns itself about illegal bowling when the England team is likely to be on the receiving end, is causing more harm to the game than the so called offenders.

By including Griffiths in their party, the West Indians have clearly thrown down the gauntlet at the M.C.C. who, I believe, will not risk damaging Commonwealth relations by no-balling him out of test cricket.

Therefore if Griffiths plays, as he no doubt will, in the coming tests, surely Rhodes, our most successful pace bowler, should play for England.

The M.C.C. must accept that there is no compromise on this. Either Rhodes and Griffiths are accepted, or every bowler with a suspect action must be outlawed from the game.



Letters

Consequences of being pacifist

DEAR SIR,

It is very brave of you to open up the question of national defence and the Christian faith as you have done in the last few issues.

I agree with those who say that it is impossible for people to be Christians and to bear arms. It is unthinkable for anybody, Christian or not, to use nuclear weapons, and those who even threaten to do so or have potential to do so seem to me to have abdicated as human beings.

But nobody can be glib about the consequences of this sort of belief. If we contract out of accepted defensive attitudes, then we must be prepared to face the consequences. Some may find it possible to place

implicit faith in God "keeping us safe." But God manifestly does not always keep people safe. In fact, people do die in war and on the roads in spite of prayer. A defenceless man will also die, and watch his loved ones die.

Suffering of this intensity I used to think was proof that God was not there, or did not care. Until you think about the crucifixion, you're stuck with this kind of despair.

Yours sincerely,

HEATHER BLACK (Mrs.),
London, S.W.1.

Nobody wants him to take a risk

Dear Sir,

The election produced a battle between politicians who wanted to persuade us that they were better able to make us fitter, fatter, better off, more comfortable, safer, better educated and more influential in the world.

God seems to be demanding West Riding.

of us in the New Testament that we place everything at risk, including some of the things we have just been invited to value so greatly.

What I regret so much about the election is that no party asked us to take any kind of risks in any kind of cause at all. That is not living; as somebody has said, it is merely to prolong the process of dying.

Yours sincerely,

JAMES FLIGHT

The Primacy of the Pope?

GEORGE ARMSTRONG of "The Guardian", writing from Rome, revealed the text of some prayers which had been prepared with the approval of the Roman Curia but (he adds) without the knowledge of the Christian Unity Secretariat headed by Cardinal Bea.

The first was for Anglicans, and began: "So that the Catholic tradition which survives in Anglicanism increases and prevails and that it may lead them back to accepting the primacy of the Pope, the Vicar of Christ..."

Priest complains: "My home is too nice"

WHY should a priest live in a nicer house than anybody else?

The question is raised by the Rev. Mervyn Puleston, priest missionary at Blackbird Leys, Oxford, who lives in a superb house among 10,000 people whose homes are in council houses.

Homes

may go on

old church

sites

In a letter to Christian News he says: "Why should priests live in bigger and better buildings than those around them? One would hope that the priest and his family would live in a house similar to that occupied by his fellows.

"People may say, and say without resentment, that they expect the clergy to live in superior accommodation, but this is no argument in its favour. One should remove from people's minds the idea that a priest needs to live in a different house."

REDUNDANT and derelict churches are to be demolished and their sites used for church-sponsored housing schemes. They will be developed by non-profit-making trusts for old and disabled people, and families with limited incomes.

One project, which has the support of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, may have a block of flats directly above a dual purpose church and community hall.

Pilot schemes are at present concentrated in overcrowded areas in London, Manchester, Coventry, Merseyside, and Luton. Most will use sites at present occupied by mission churches or closed chapels which have no historic or architectural value.

Mr. Edwin Barker, chairman of the British Churches' Housing Trust, the parent body of 19 such housing associations which have been set up in the last 18 months, said that more and more churches were anxious to make the best use of their land.

Mr. Puleston (32), suggests that the local church should worship in community halls or school halls in some cases, and that church buildings are sometimes unnecessary. In Blackbird Leys a new church has recently cost £46,000.

A room in somebody's house could be set aside for prayer and communion, and the priest could work from a parish office. He told Christian News: "When I hear of all the sums we spend on new buildings, and then hear that one doctor is looking after three hospitals on a shoestring in Africa it makes me very cross.

"We have had our diocesan quota doubled in Oxford, and part of the money we have to find will go towards the provision of new church buildings. If the church is to build at all, then let it build cheaper buildings of a less permanent nature."

No mistake

Real need

"There is, on the one hand, the pull to sell sites at the highest commercial value and so enhance church finance to help religious projects elsewhere. We want to pull against this in some areas where there is a real housing need, and encourage churches to use their assets for housing people in need of low-rented accommodation."

Secondary priorities

More than 500 teenagers from 21 secondary schools in Islington, north London, have volunteered to help old people in the borough. They will visit their homes to take on a variety of jobs, including repairs and the decorating of rooms, shopping and other tasks.

The Bishop of Oxford, Dr. Harry Carpenter, commented: "I think the considerations that are put forward are important ones. They are constantly in our minds, but I do not myself think that we made a mistake about the buildings of which Mr. Puleston is in charge. It would have been a mistake not to have built there, and the work was undertaken in consultation with Mr. Puleston's predecessor and the parochial church council.

"With regard to the house, it should be pointed out that the priest has to do a great deal of his work at home, and he has to have people in for things like meetings and interviews.

"It would be impossible for him to do that in a council house and at the same time it would not be fair on his wife and family."