

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

6d.

November, 1967

Incorporating National Christian News

This woman is a drug addict



**BUT NOBODY
NEEDS TO
CARE!**

SHE'S HOOKED ON THEINE AND CAN'T WAIT FOR HER NEXT FIX — OR TO PUT IT IN A RATHER MORE FAMILIAR WAY, MRS. JONES IS GASPING FOR A CUP OF TEA.

She longs for it in a way she never would for cocoa or orange squash. She'd hate to give it up. She needs it to get through a busy day full of pressures. In a harmless sort of way she's developed a dependence upon the mild stimulant drug that it contains.

But no one for a moment would think of her as wicked, or a social problem, and if you're a Mrs. Jones (or a Mr. Jones)—for whom a cup of tea is one of life's habits — you'll easily see that any drug from tea to L.S.D. only becomes an evil if its effects are harmful.

It is not an evil just because it stimulates or is habit forming.

But it isn't always possible to say quite definitely "This is harmful—that's not"!

Most drugs are two sided.

● Aspirin will cure a headache — but it's bad for the lining of your stomach.

IN THE END WE HAVE TO WEIGH THE GOOD AGAINST THE BAD AND COME TO A DECISION.

Some people couldn't get through life without smoking, but they must know that they run a real risk of contracting cancer of the lung. They are allowed to make a free choice.

Alcohol, too, poses a problem. It can make a party go with a swing in a perfectly harmless way, or help to soothe away tension — or it can cause untold human misery.

CERTAINLY NO ONE FACED WITH THE STATISTICS COULD DISPUTE THAT IT IS THE MOST DAMAGING DRUG TO SOCIETY WE KNOW.

Yet here again, within limits, the consumption of alcohol is left to the free choice of the individual.

Society has learnt to live with the dangers of nicotine and alcohol.

We do our best to control their harmful effects by such things as the banning of cigarette advertising on television, and the introduction of severe penalties for

drunken driving, but we do not forbid their use by law. In fact, when the U.S.A. banned alcohol in the days of prohibition, it proved to be a disastrous failure.

In the light of all this, are we not just being hypocritical about marijuana?

If George Brown at Scarborough had admitted a fondness for marijuana rather than alcohol wouldn't the tut-tutting have been louder still? If a comedian based his act on a paralytic junkie rather than a paralytic drunk, wouldn't he be banned?

But the music hall drunk is part of English comic tradition, and he gets away with it.

Before we can do anything to solve the drug problem we must get it in perspective.

NO ONE WOULD PRETEND THAT IT DOESN'T PRESENT VERY GRAVE DANGERS, BUT SENSATIONALISM, HYSTERIA AND A KIND OF DOUBLE-THINK HAVE LED US TO TALK AND ACT AS IF WE WERE FACE TO FACE WITH A COMPLETELY NEW TYPE OF MENACE.

How we found life's true meaning

Dear Sir,
 Congratulations upon your excellent article "Why" — (September issue) — on suffering.

When we were children, we always thought the inscription, I.H.S. over the crucifix, meant "I have suffered," and in simple language, we had without realising found the true meaning of life.

When one considers all the suffering and anguish that humans have borne through the ages, and what chaos still exists in the world, the only thing that can reconcile it to a loving Father is the fact that at the centre of it all is Jesus Christ who suffered the greatest physical agony, with all the mental agony beforehand of knowing what he had to endure.

God came into the world with the limitations of a human body to show all men that suffering CAN be overcome, for death is not to be feared; it is merely the release from all the trials of this earthly existence to the glories of an unearthly state, beyond our envisaging.

For years I puzzled over "The sins of the fathers shall be visited upon the children." It seems so unfair, a newborn baby appears to be so innocent and blameless — then I studied genealogy and it became apparent that all who have gone before us are part and parcel of our individual make-up, and, as well as the goodness, the sins and excesses are lying dormant in each new being, ready to develop with the unique personality.

It may even explain the feeling that one has visited a place before, or met a stranger before! It must be the reason why one takes a liking or a disliking to a certain person for no obvious reason.

Letters to the Editor

Not all clergy fail in their duty

as writers of letters

Dear Sir

Mr. Eric King's article "My Dear Friends..." in the September issue falls into a very grave error when he divides vicars' letters in parish magazines into "the homely, the theological, the fire and brimstone." Generalising is always a mistake, but

in this case it is made worse because he ignores those many addresses whose calibre rises far above his own criticisms.

Certainly some leading letters in parish magazines fall short of a wished-for standard, but there are many priests and ministers — of many denominations — who skilfully succeed each month in uplifting the sick and depressed, in stimulating social consciences and in teaching Christian ethics in laymen's terms — all in the space of one page. Mr. King should look more closely before he damns so sweepingly.

Nor is he entirely correct when he claims that clergy so dread the views of the laity that they do not allow parishioners to express their views in church magazines. As a layman I have edited for the last two years the monthly magazine of a local Methodist church. In this time my Minister has given me absolute freedom within the magazine and has never sought to influence the nature of any article or viewpoint — although it be his prerogative.

Moreover, in the very same month that Mr. King is pleading with clergy to allow their parishioners to express their views, my Minister was writing in his "Minister's Message": "We are living in an experimental era, groping our way and seeking new insights into the meaning of worship. Any comments you are able to make will always be welcome."

No, Mr. King! Look much more closely, please — and near at hand!

Yours faithfully,

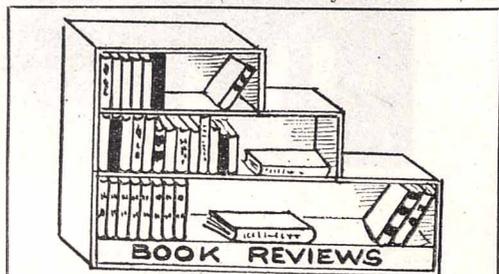
A.J.T.

Water Orton,
 Warwicks.

Letters to the editor are welcome at 319, Gazette Buildings, Corporation Street, Birmingham, 4

There will always be suffering until the whole of mankind realises that if we truly love one another, then everything else falls into perspective. But until this Utopian state evolves, sin and suffering are being bred every minute in every corner of the earth, and we have to learn how to bring "mind over matter," and remain faithful to the end, in spite of our own particular "crosses that we bear."

N. K. Clarke,
 23, Ernest Road,
 Bedhampton,
 Hants.



A Manual of Voluntary Visiting — N. C. S. S. 26, Bedford Square, W.C.1. — 2s. 6d.

The National Council of Social Service publish some good down-to-earth stuff for practical people. This, their latest offering, is first class for churches, ecumenical and street groups concerned about the old and the lonely. It's a manual — telling how to get on with the job. And for anyone interested in getting on with the job — no mucking about — no startling stories or sob stuff — this represents half a dollar well spent.

News from Notting Hill — Ed. David Mason — Epworth 6s.

Most people have heard of Notting Hill. Usually with overtones of race riots. Since those days in 1958 a Group Ministry has been set up there. It's an all Methodist affair. This brief account of its work and thinking, not unnaturally reminiscent of

"Come out the Wilderness" — only 63 pages long — is fascinating and ought to be read by anyone concerned about the life of the Church today. There are chapters on the Church in the world, fellowship in Group Ministry, worship, baptism and confirmation and a multi-racial congregation. Here is an experiment in living which has value for small Christian groups as well as the Church at large.

Wanted — Someone to talk to — Margaret Holmes — Epworth Press 6s. 6d.

A book for ordinary people about a job they all can do to help other ordinary people. A book on how to listen. A book about being interested in people sufficiently to offer hospitality and an outlet for their troubles. It deals with cases. It's easy to read. Good reading for any involved in "Fish" schemes, "good neighbour" schemes or anyone taking their family and social responsibilities seriously.



'I'M ADOPTED ...'

This is one of "our" 6,000 babies that have been happily adopted into Christian homes. For nearly 50 years the unmarried mother and her child have been befriended by this Society, and we should like to continue this tender ministry. Please help us — and please remember us when you make your Will or by adding a Codicil to it.

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Two films for Joint Christian viewing

BIG STEVE

THIS FILM was made in America and is now released in this country. It is authentic at every point, showing how the compulsion to gambling begins, develops and leads to final ruin.

The writer and producer must have taken the very greatest pains and consulted Gamblers Anonymous when they made this film. The acting and filming are also of a very high standard and, technically, great attention is paid to detail.

It is increasingly a matter for the social conscience of today to understand the problems of particular groups and types of people. It is only recently that compulsive gambling has been generally recognised in the United Kingdom. Any Church or other group which wishes to understand better what this condition is, and what it does to the people concerned, is recommended to see "Big Steve."

It can be hired from Concordia Films, Concordia House, 117/123 Golden Lane, E.C.1, for three pounds. Leaflets which briefly tell the story of compulsive gambling and Gamblers Anonymous, which would be useful to the organiser, may be obtained, price threepence each, from the Churches' Council on Gambling, 19, Abbey House, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

PERSONAL

Applications may be made to the Liaison Officer, Gamblers Anonymous, 19, Abbey House, Victoria Street, S.W.1. for one or two members of Gamblers Anonymous to attend the meeting to answer questions on the film. They would also add their own personal experiences. This would be a very valuable addition to the evening because while compulsive gambling is well illustrated by the film, what precisely happens at Gamblers Anonymous is not made quite so clear.

The film is highly recommended by the Rev. Gordon E. Moody, General Secretary of the Churches' Council on Gambling and Honorary Founder Patron, Gamblers Anonymous.

IS CHRIST DIVIDED?

A METHODIST minister writes: "I recently attended a regional premiere of a new film, 'Is Christ Divided?' If you are planning united Anglican-Methodist meetings in your parish this winter I recommend this film.

"It gives glimpses of Anglican-Methodist co-operation up and down the country: at Green Hill (Herne Bay), where Anglicans and Methodists have been using the same premises for some years; in the South London Industrial Mission; at a united counselling centre at Newcastle-upon-Tyne and other places.

"Frank interviews are shown and opinions expressed are by no means all favourable to closer unity. The film can be hired from Religious Films Ltd., Eaton Gate, London S.W.1. The hire charge is £2 10s. showing and it lasts for 45 minutes. Shown at a united Anglican-Methodist meeting it could be followed by a useful discussion."

RHODESIAN METHODISTS REJECT IAN SMITH'S POLICY

A RESOLUTION calling on the Government to halt the introduction of separate development was passed unanimously by the Rhodesia Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. More than 200 people were present. The Methodist Church Conference has some 55,000 followers.

The resolution which was passed read: "We view with deep concern the intention expressed by Mr. Ian Smith in Parliament to introduce in our country the policy of separate development for various communities of Rhodesia. We believe that this policy is repugnant to the teachings of Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ and that it is our duty as Christians to oppose and repudiate it.

"Human needs, desires, aspirations and longings are the same. It is fallacious and a travesty of truth and justice to contend that they can best be served by grouping people in ethnic groups."

The resolution continued: "The repeal of the Land Apportionment Act is long overdue. We consider it a retrograde step to contemplate the introduction of separate development.

"As a church of Christ, we appeal to the Government to delete this obnoxious policy from its principles and not to use it as a basis for any new constitution."

Help for housing

A donation of 500 New Zealand dollars has been received by the British Churches Housing Trust from the National Council of Churches in New Zealand. Mr. F. G. Heard, Secretary of Inter-Church Aid in New Zealand, describes the gift as a small gesture of New Zealand church-people's concern for those living in difficult housing conditions in Great Britain.

SHELTER

A problem home . . .

SHELTER'S PURPOSE IS TO DRAW PUBLIC ATTENTION TO THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS THAT LIVING IN BAD HOUSING CONDITIONS CAN HAVE ON PEOPLE'S LIVES.

One fifth of the population of Britain—three million families, ten million people—are living in slums, near slums or grossly overcrowded conditions. These are official figures from the 1965 Housing White Paper. And the recent report on family poverty from the Ministry of Social Security said that 1,420,000 children were in overcrowded homes.

Because of the importance of education and because bad housing can affect children in their early years so forcibly, SHELTER is currently highlighting the problems of children whose home is in the slums.

Let these quotations collected by SHELTER from social workers and teachers working with children from the slums speak for themselves:

"Most of the 'difficult children in the school are so because they are drifting around from place to place. It is also a reflection of their parents' anxiety about housing. Moving from house-to-house is no good for children. It is like trying to grow a plant and picking it up to look at the roots now and again." — Primary school headmaster.

"Even such things as reading become very difficult in overcrowded conditions, where there is

A national campaign for the homeless

By Des Wilson,
Director of Shelter

every incentive to parents to get the children out of the house and into the streets. Older children in large families have a further problem in that anything they try to do will be destroyed by the younger ones. They are unable to do any homework because there is no space for them."—Social worker.

BURNED DOWN

"A separated mother with a 15-year-old daughter about to take her 'O' levels was faced with a housing problem when her home was burned down. In her circumstances she was not easily able to find other accommodation and was moved into a half-way house. Going from such bad housing accommodation to

her bright comprehensive school had a strong effect on the girl. Her teachers were very worried that this would affect her chances in the examinations, because she was an intelligent child. Fortunately a housing trust was able to find them a proper home before she took the exams; otherwise it would have certainly spoiled her chances."—National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child.

BREAKDOWN

"I remember one striking case of a boy of nine who was here three years ago. Mother was sleeping with his sister, the boy with his father. There were other families in the house. Father eventually had a breakdown.

"The boy was very unsettled in the school and his work was failing, but we thought he had a much higher level of ability. We asked the mother to come to the school, and she told us the whole story. The Head was eventually able to help in getting the family rehoused. Later they heard that the boy was improving considerably in the new area in his new school."—Schoolmaster.

The message is clear. If we really want to help these children, the first step must be to give them proper homes. Of course, this will not be the end of their problems. Housing rarely appears as a family's only difficulty. But several other difficulties are themselves the result of bad housing, and for these reasons too it is high time we had a far greater sense of urgency about our housing problem in this country.

DEPRIVATION

The problem is a national disaster. In

terms of human misery and deprivation, bruised and damaged lives, wasted chances and an aggravation of many social problems, inadequate housing must rank as a number one social evil.

In these emergency circumstances it is not enough to leave the solution to governments and local authorities, to shrug off our responsibilities as members of a community for what is happening to other members of it. There is a need for as many people as possible to involve themselves in the

campaign to improve housing.

SHELTER has provided such a means of involvement. As a result of its publicity work, SHELTER is able to raise money which is quickly channelled to local housing trusts of proven efficiency who are situated in the black-spots. These trusts get to hear of the worst cases of urgent need from social workers, doctors and church ministers. The trusts buy up large old houses which come onto the market, save them from inevitable decay, and convert them into decent well-equipped homes for

these families. Because trusts are able to take advantage of local authority grants and special loans, it costs only £325 in gift income to house a medium-sized family.

CHALLENGE

At present SHELTER is issuing a special challenge to all churches, schools, youth clubs and other potentially socially conscious groups to try to raise this sum by Christmas.

For each £325 raised a family can be re-housed: its children saved from the curse of slum life.



. . . inside



. . . and out

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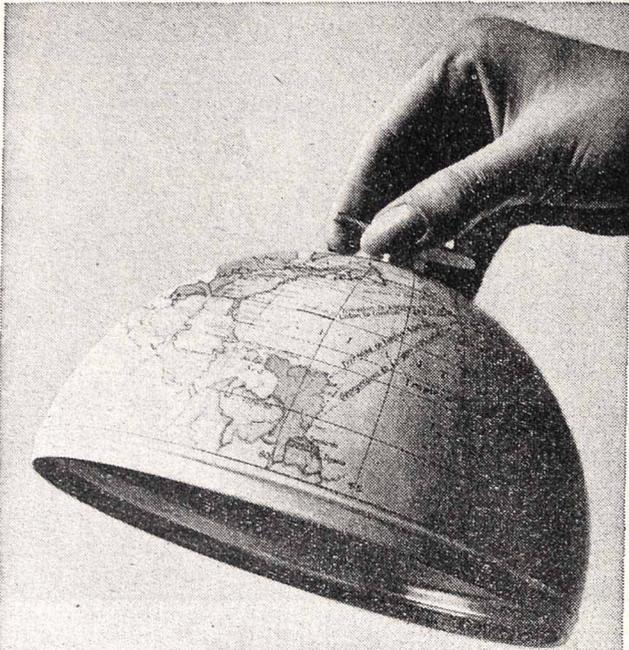
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HOW? NOT WHY?

Percy Burnell follows up our September thoughts on suffering

WE'RE ALL THE SAME yet different. That's a contradiction? So it seems! Different, of course, we are—in appearance, ability, circumstances, temperament. It takes all sorts to make a world! People are always saying that.

But how are we the same? Well, we are in one regard, at least. We all have problems to solve. Your problem may be bigger than mine, my problem may be bigger than yours. At times we imagine that nobody's problem could possibly be bigger than ours. But we may be quite wrong, of course. Indeed, we often discover that we are.

Our problems, misfortunes, tragedies, heartaches and disappointments bring forth—and quite naturally so—the question, the inevitable question: WHY?

Why should this happen to me?—to my friend?—to my beloved? Why? Why? Why? The insidious WHY? But, you know, there's rarely a satisfactory answer.

I stood by the grave with a weeping mother and a stunned father. We had laid to rest their only son, a brilliant lad of eighteen. All their hopes were buried with him. Why should it be? What answer could I give—to satisfy torn wounded hearts? None, really. Who can?

Best of it

But there is another question—a more important question. Not WHY?—but HOW? Not why has this happened to me, but since, in this world of pain and sorrow and joy, it has, HOW CAN I MAKE THE BEST OF IT? How can I rise up from my grief—my disappointment—my failure—and use it to some noble—some useful purpose? How can I transform it?

Have you ever noticed, it is not so much people's troubles we notice but the way in which they react to them. "Mrs. Jones is always smiling. What a happy woman she seems to be." So said Mrs. Brown. "But I don't suppose she has a cross to bear same as me." Then one day she found out the truth. Mrs. Jones' husband was ill in a mental home and her son—yes, her son—had made shipwreck of his life. "What a wonderful woman Mrs. Jones is," she said. "Fancy, all that worry and she never complains, never grumbles, and she's always helping someone."

The secret—HOW?—NOT WHY? It does not answer all the questions, and doubts will assail us, but it's the only way to find a solution which will begin to HEAL THE WOUNDS.

A mistake

There are those good souls, of course, who would seem to derive comfort from blaming God for everything that happens to them, or anybody else. And they blame Him for some pretty terrible things. In times past we've hung people for less—far less!

A little lad of ten was run over by a bus on his way

home from school. He was carried to his room—dead. A kind neighbour seeks to console his heart-broken mother by assuring her that it is God's will. But surely not. It was an accident. Someone—bus driver or child—made a mistake.

Thousands of young men killed in the war, many over Germany, died at the will of Hitler—not the same as God's purpose, surely? As a chaplain I could never suggest to a sorrowing father that it was the will of our Father in heaven.

I have never left the bedside of a woman, yellow and shrunken with cancer, suffering excruciating pain, seeing there the fulfilment of God's purpose for that sufferer. Men in their prime drop dead of thrombosis because of the sort of civilisation we have produced. Their death is not pre-ordained by God. But there are those who find comfort in believing that such deaths are.

The glorious thing about our religion is that it does not evade our troubles, or treat them as if they were not real. Rather does it accept them and transform them.

The Cross which seemed to lie athwart the very purpose of God, on the first Good Friday, God has taken up and made the means by which we come to him.

Paul and Silas were flung into prison for the propagation of the Gospel but at midnight they "sang praises to God"—and the other prisoners heard them. The jailor, mark you, became a Christian. Their reaction to their trouble converted their prison cell into a sanctuary.

It's true, that it's not so much people's troubles we notice but their reaction.

Solved

Some who have answered the HOW? of their trouble, instead of bothering with the WHY? have solved a problem for a multitude of others. Louis Braille was blind, but he did not sit down under the WHY? He said HOW? The result was his invention of raised dots called braille which has been a blessing to thousands of blind people.

You have a cross to bear? We all have. Are we, then, finding misery in the WHY? or peace and some satisfaction in the HOW?

"Like the waves of the sea are the ways of Fate As we journey along through life.

'Tis the set of the soul that decides the goal And not the calm or the strife."

Prayer: Father, I am Your child and I know You love me. Life has been hard to me. Show me HOW to be victorious over my troubles. Amen.

CURSING THE CLERGY

SEVERAL YEARS ago, when a curate in the North of England, I used to play for a local cricket team. One evening we had an "away" match and when we arrived at our opponents' ground we found no one about and the pavilion locked. So while we waited to change we had a little pre-match practise. I was batting with my back to the pavilion rails, to stop the ball when I missed.

Suddenly the air was blue with cursing and shouting. It was the groundsman, hurrying angrily across the field towards us. He didn't mind our having a knock-up. What he did mind was the damage being done to the roses he had planted in front of the pavilion rails. Every time I missed the ball it ripped through the rose bushes, scattering the petals.

We turned rather shamefacedly, to face the angry figure. Suddenly he caught sight of my dog-collar. His anger was strangled in his throat, he was covered with confusion, full of apology for his language, called me "your reverence" and generally looked as though he wished the ground would open and swallow him.

But why should he have felt like that? All of us myself included, were being stupid and thoughtless. He had every right to be angry, with me as with anybody else.

One of the more trying features of being a clergyman is the exaggerated apologies people make if they use an expression stronger than "good gracious me." Most of us have spent some time in a barrack-room, we're unlikely to be shocked, and a curse is a recognised, usually harmless, way of expressing strong opinions.

We much prefer to be treated as human beings rather than with the exaggerated politeness which stifles normal contact between people.

JOHN DUNCAN

Church plans for Radio Merseyside

In view of the beginning of local radio on Merseyside at the end of November, the Churches of Merseyside have combined to run a special radio course for about 60 people, lay and clerical, men and women, which was held in Liverpool Cathedral (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, September 19-21) with parallel sessions in the mornings and evenings.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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END OR BEGINNING?

I SOMETIMES go and visit an old lady who lives many miles from Caversham in a home for elderly people. And she remarked to me one day that it was like being in a maternity home—full of people waiting to begin life: as she sees it, she and those who live with her in that home are waiting to begin the life that really matters.

What extraordinary people we are! There is only one fact which we know about ourselves for certain, and that is that one day we must die. Yet we do our utmost to push death into the background. Unlike the Victorians for whom the funeral was a grand affair but for whom birth was a topic never mentioned in polite society, we shriek about sex on every possible (and impossible) occasion and relegate death to the background. We prefer the unscriptural phrase "if anything should happen" to the word "death," and we prefer the memorial service to the funeral for we can then avoid gazing at anything so uncomfortable as a coffin.

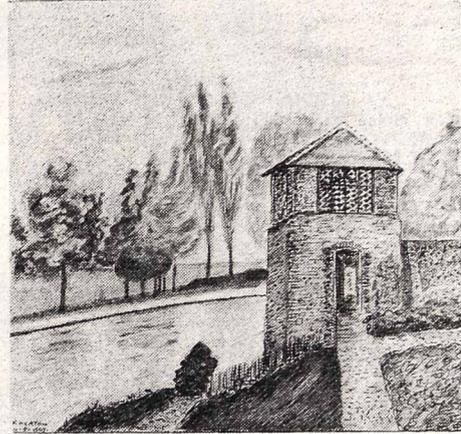
And, of course, in the process of pushing death into the background we deny people a fundamental right, the right to know if they are dying. Many members of the medical profession have a great deal to answer for in this respect. The Christian will want to prepare for death and has a right to know if he is dying. To be asked, as the clergy very properly are, to visit the dying, and then asked not to speak about the matter makes the main reason for many pastoral visits somewhat pointless. Of course for some who see death as the end it may be natural to play it down. But such an attitude is a fundamental denial of Christ's victory over death.

Jeremy Taylor, in the 17th century, remarked: "It is a great art to die well, and to be learnt by men in health." And men of his day did see death as indeed the greatest of all arts: in doing so they were well aware that the best preparation for holy dying is holy living. Today few modern writers can treat of death as did Taylor. But T. S. Eliot touched upon this theme in East Coker. That poem has as its first line, "In my beginning is my end." It closes with the line, "In my end is my beginning."

In a few days' time we keep All Saints' and All Souls' Day. On those two great days in the Christian calendar we realise our link once again with millions of Christians who have passed from their end to their beginning. That is the Christian hope. Let us express that hope by a realistic attitude to death seeing it, like the old lady in the home and T. S. Eliot, not as the end but as the beginning—the beginning of the life that really matters.

John Grimwade

Restoration for the Gazebo ?



Readers of "The Bridge" in the June number about the Gazebo in Caversham Court, and the photograph showing what it looks like. Mr. F. Heaton has done some investigating and has produced a sketch showing what the Gazebo could look like if it was restored.

Difficult

Mr. Heaton found it difficult to determine the original construction of this charming 17th century gazebo because of all the trees and under-

growth around it, and because of the barely concealed sewer, covered with rubbish, built close to the west side of the building. In scrambling around, it is possible to see an old flint and brick wall of some depth built down to the water's edge. Probably boats were hauled up alongside the wall. The interior is a very bad state. Mr. Heaton thinks the upper floor must have been used as a canteen by the men engaged in building the sewer 40 years ago, and the room hasn't been touched since!

Added beauty

If it was restored by the Corporation, this building, the only one of its kind overlooking the Thames, would give added beauty to Caversham Court Gardens, and would allow visitors fine views up and down the river. Is there any reason why it should not be restored?

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No. 2 St. Peter's Hill

There are a number of differences between the old "Tree Tops" and No. 2 St. Peter's Hill as it is today, but they have one thing in common. Anyone who heard the uproar coming from the bathroom the other night could not fail to realise that this is still a very happy household.

NEW

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Mulqueen, who arrived to reopen the home a few weeks ago are trying something new with their Child Guidance Hostel. The main difference is that the children go home every weekend, thus maintaining strong links with the homes to which they will eventually return. So far the experiment seems to be working well. Certainly Mr. and Mrs. Mulqueen, like their predecessors, take their work very seriously. They have been caring for children since 1951 when Mr. Mulqueen, after travelling all over the world with the R.A.F., decided that a nine-till-five office job was not for him. They have recently been working at St. Benedict's School, Mortimer, and before that Mr. Mulqueen had five years as a welfare officer in the East End of London. So he is no newcomer to this type of work. Like Mr. and Mrs. Pick, they get a tremendous amount of satisfaction from their work and are always on the lookout for new ideas.

CHILDREN

Their younger daughter, Maureen, who attends Hugh Faringdon School, fits happily into the household.



Photo: Fred Walker.

Their other daughter, Elizabeth is at teacher training college, and they have a son in Canada who has recently joined the Mounted Police. No doubt when they can spare the time they will be going out to see him. They have already spent several months in Australia and a happy reminder of their travels is the glass case in the main hall which contains all manner of souvenirs guaranteed to interest children and adults alike.

Nor must one forget to mention Peppy, the very friendly canine member of the family. Altogether it is a friendly menage and a pleasant addition to our community.

HAPPY

Mr. and Mrs. Mulqueen are completely happy to be here and would particularly like to take this opportunity of thanking all concerned for the very friendly welcome they received from St.

Caversham drama

New season under way

Ambition is running high in Caversham these days. Our cultural life has been enriched by yet another group of stage enthusiasts, calling themselves Caversham Drama. Led by Mrs. Joan Debenham, it is a club with a difference. It provides training in theatrical work, such as acting, production, make-up, lighting and stage-craft, for young people between the ages of 14 and 21 living in Caversham and Mapledurham.

The group's headquarters are at St. Andrew's Hall and meeting time is every Friday between 8 and 10 p.m.

Their first performance, Christopher Fry's "The Lady's Not For Burning," on September 14, 15 and 16 brought to the fore some real young talent. An exciting play and a rich production by Mrs. Debenham.

Peter's Church. Roman Catholics themselves, they have already taken part in a number of ecumenical experiments and are looking forward to making friends among all the church and chapel congregations of Caversham. They will, of course, be entertaining children of all denominations and while a Christian atmosphere is most certainly a feature of the home, every encouragement will be given to the children to join in the activities of their own particular church.

Incidentally, they are very anxious to obtain odd things that will be useful for hobbies, so please, if anyone has, for example, old tools, tins of paint, pieces of wood, etc. they will be gratefully received. And they are also on the look-out for bright and interesting pictures which will help to fill the blank spaces on the wall. So please, if you can help in any way, Mr. and Mrs. Mulqueen will be very glad to see you.

Our very best wishes to them for their work in Caversham.

Graham Hubbard as the mayor, and Alexander Naci as the justice, gave the performance an additional touch of liveliness and humour. Considering Fry's Shakespearian language, the roles demanded great effort on the part of the cast to harmonise diction and acting. Kate Ormrod was a charming witch, while Michael Burton, although well chosen for the part of the discharged soldier, was much too much in a hurry to get over his lines — a great many lines too — making this one of the most difficult parts of the whole play. Heather Mumme, Matthew Vincent and Frank Boshier — veterans of the Mapledurham Repertory Association — gave good, solid support. The cast also included Timothy O'Brien, Nick Sales, Claire Shepherd and Robert Harris, the last two being the Benjamins of the group.

Caversham Park Theatre is also on the move, with Terence Rattigan's "Separate Tables," in St. Laurence's Hall, Reading, on Thursday and Friday, November 9 and 10.

Production is by Cecil Hole and the cast includes old-timers Jill Burland, Connie Edwards and Peter Cockman. Caversham Park Theatre hopes

to enter teams for the Oxford County and Maidenhead Drama Festivals.

A riot of laughter is assured at the Memorial Hall, Mapledurham, on November 23, 24 and 25, when the Mapledurham Repertory Association stages Philip King's "Pool's Paradise," a farce in three acts. The story is built around the old worry facing the vicar and his church — money. The problem is even bigger if the vicar is a man of principles whose conscience will not allow him to come down to earth occasionally for the sake of good intentions. And this is just the kind of man that the Rev. Lionel Toop (played by Albert Wake) is. However, not all the vicars are the same and the Rev. Arthur Humphrey (Ray Lacey) sees the problem in a more practical light. So do Toop's wife Penelope (Gillian Lidbetter), her maid Ida (Heather Mumme) and Ida's fiancé (James Crick). The play would hardly be complete without a bishop (Frank Boshier) and some strong support for the Rev. L. Toop's views by Nurse Skillon (Yvonne Taylor). The production is once again in the competent hands of Kathleen Lacey. P.G.



Photo: Fred Walker.

LOCAL PLACES

LOCAL PEOPLE

LOCAL PAPER

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EVENING POST

TALKING POINT

IS LIFE A MUD PIE?

by

Lyn S. Lewis

I am 65 years of age, retired after an active life, and very happy. My wife is six months younger than me. We have been married 40 years very happily. We have never attended church. We have never said a prayer. We neither of us believe in life after death. We believe in making the world better. Without being egotistical I believe we have succeeded. We are highly respected by our neighbours. We are not hampered by creeds, but stare life squarely in the face.

What harmony such a statement has with the claim of T. H. Huxley when he writes to inform us "that the universe is nothing more than a mud pie made by two blind children—matter and force. Everything springs from chance and ends in chaos. Life is simply one darn thing after another."

Such claims as these are, of course, increasingly common not only among younger people, one finds people of mature years saying similar things. And the question for the

Christian is, "what have we to say in reply?" Have we got a reply? Is there another side to this particular penny?

There are many things one could say in answer to such criticisms.

(1) Frankly we acknowledge that ALL life is difficult to understand. Life begins in the mystery of birth and ends in the mystery of death. These facts are bound to be searching. But to be asked to accept that "Life is a mud pie, made by two blind children—matter and force" is infinitely more difficult to accept than the fact that behind life there is a Purpose. Nothing ever just happens. The problems of unbelief are far greater than those of the man who says "In the beginning God created."

(2) Whence the belief that one should seek to make the world a better place. Whence the desire to do this. Whence the necessity and worthwhileness of such an operation. From "two blind children, matter and force?"

(3) When a man says he has "succeeded" surely we may ask "In What," success inevitably demands a subject, a cause, and if there is NONE, how can you succeed?

(4) To boast success reveals a natural vanity which grows and flourishes until it is set beside something greater than itself. This is what the Christian calls GOD.

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SUDDENLY there are drugs.

There was always alcohol: the social and personal dangers of drinking were recognised long ago. For a great many years there has been nicotine: the dangers of smoking (personal certainly, social perhaps?) have been recognised only recently. Now there are drugs: a new danger has appeared, and people panic.

The young, among whom drugs circulate most freely, predictably and to a point justifiably protest. It is clumsy of society, they claim, not to distinguish between "soft" (non-addictive) and "hard" (addictive) drugs. It is arguable — and from the evidence available it certainly seems to be so — that the socially acceptable consolations of alcohol and tobacco might be even more dangerous than at any rate the "soft" drugs. Society is both ill-informed and hypocritical!

What is known about drugs is that we do not know much. Are the "soft" drugs really so harmless? Is there no danger of escalation from "soft" to "hard" drug taking? Moreover — starting from the individual, and forgetting the statistics — how does the individual know that what does not become habitual and addictive for a dozen of his friends will not become addictive for him? The much commoner experience we have with alcohol and tobacco suggests that short of some kind of psychological investigation of each individual we could not know

By
John Martin,
Rector of
St. Christopher's,
Withington,
Manchester

in advance whether the boy or girl who starts smoking or begins to drink will become addicted to these consolations or not.

What about all this if you are a Christian?

(1) Alcohol, tobacco, and drugs are all ways of helping us bear reality by allowing ourselves to retreat a little from it. Perhaps it would be wiser to bear reality by embracing it?

(2) There was John the Baptist and there was Jesus. John came drinking no wine or strong drink: Jesus got a reputation for being a glutinous man and a wine-bibber. That was his enemies speaking: presumably He was a moderate and thankful consumer of the good gifts of His Father.

John had difficulty in understanding Jesus: but Jesus did not condemn John. The Puritans and abstainers have always been uneasy with those who have practised moderation, but the "enlightened" ought not to

react by condemning as less than Christian the practice of total abstinence.

In fact there is a great deal to be said for commending abstinence, especially where, as in the case of drugs, our experience is limited and the truth is hard to get at, and also because, as individuals, we do not know in advance whether this or that habit will become addictive and dangerous for us, and because as Christians we are encouraged to face life and not run from it.

SPOTLIGHT

ON ZAMBIA

The Parish of Caversham is to focus its interest, concern and prayers on the Diocese of Zambia. This was the decision of the P.C.C. at its meeting in May when it was stated that all the missionary giving from the parish to the General Fund of the U.S.P.G. should be earmarked for work in Zambia. A working party has been set up to consider how interest and support for the Church in Zambia can best be stimulated. A contributor has sent us this article to introduce to us a little of the situation that faces the Church in that Diocese.

Future

Zambia, formerly known as Northern Rhodesia, an independent republic within the Commonwealth since October 24, 1964 is about twice the size of England with a population of nearly 4 million.

The Anglican Diocese of Zambia is part of the province of Central Africa and has four principal centres for its work, Mopanza, Fiwila, Chipili and Msoro. Supported by the U.S.P.G. the work includes both medical and educational projects.

Opportunities

If support is given tremendous opportunities are ahead. The work of the Church is appreciated by the Government. The tenth Zambian Diocesan Synod, held in the capital, Lusaka, in June this year was addressed by the President Dr. Kenneth Kaunda. His heartfelt plea for the Church truly to become the Body of Christ included the following words: "As I see it, the Church has to become her true self over and over again through compassionate, all-embracing and totally self-forgetful service to the world. The world, in other words, is not the Church's playground for selected charitable field exercises. Rather, the world in its totality is God's continuing challenge to the Church to lose herself."

Our share

This will be a costly business requiring money, personnel time and effort. It will be Caversham's privilege to assist what is being done. The diocese has many forward-looking developments which include the appointment of a Director of Stewardship, a scheme of lay training, the formation of a

Guides and Brownie Guides in Caversham

On Saturday, July 8, Brownie Guides from all the packs in Caversham and Emmer Green went on their annual Brownie Revels and were turned into fish! Only for the afternoon of course, for the theme this year was "the sea." The dangerous looking pirates were, in fact, Guides and the sailors Pack Leaders. The Brownies were divided into different groups of fish—sea horses, Whales, jelly fish, seals, etc., and went off in their groups to play "fishy" games, coming back together again for tea. The Revels finished with a sing-song of nautical songs and then each Brownie Guide was given a packet of "sea sickness tablets" (sweets) to eat on the journey home.

All Guides in Caversham have had the opportunity of going to camp, some went as far afield as Devon. The 3rd Caversham (St. John's) and the 5th Caversham (St. Peter's) companies went to a camp site on a farm near Corfe Castle in Dorset. They were very fortunate in having glorious weather. Those new to camping not only learnt to sleep under canvas, but how to light and cook on wood fires, collecting their own wood and preparing their own food — and some excellent meals they enjoyed too! A lovely walk across the downs and a short bus ride led to sandy beaches and good bathing on many days and another day was spent visiting Corfe Castle. Now we are all back preparing for the challenge of our new programme in the spring.

2nd and 11th Caversham Guide Camp, 1967

Good gracious! Forty Guides! Where had they all come from? Had we enough tents? Could we pack up all the equipment securely enough to survive the rigours of the rail journey? How could we get the equip-

ment from about six different places to one centre? What about transport from Newton Abbot Station to the site? What would happen if we had to pitch in the rain or the car had a puncture on the way? At least we thought that help would be adequate with two Guides and six helpers, but then it was realised that one Guide and two helpers would not arrive until late the second evening. We need not have worried about all these problems, for once we were on our way everything went smoothly.

A coach and a lorry were ready to meet the Guides at the station and the drivers were not worried when the train was half an hour late. We reached the site — Mattiscombe Farm, Stokenham — in brilliant sunshine and soon everything was unloaded and spread about the field. The Guides started to pitch the tents with a will and though some patrols took nearly two hours to get their tents in the right place and up, practically everything was ready by early evening and a hot meal was prepared in record time.

The first morning, Friday, dawned bright and clear and the time till dinner disappeared in the settling-in process. After a rest-hour, the whole camp, patrol by patrol, set off a mile down the rather narrow, winding road to Tor Cross beach, for a swim.

Saturday will be remembered for the thunderstorm, which finally broke about 5.30 p.m. When he delivered the milk, Mr. Goodman, the farmer on whose land we were camping, told us there was thunder about as "the leaves were turning back," but said it wouldn't rain till 5 p.m., so we set off for our day at Bee Sands. As we were about to have our evening meal on our return, it started to rain, gently at first but before we had finished supper we were emptying great pockets of water off the tent roof into buckets. As the rain was sheeting down it was decided we couldn't possibly wash up, so the plates were left outside and were nearly clean by morning. By 8 p.m. we were trying to decide which tents were dry enough to sleep in, when Mr. Goodman offered us the use of the barn for the night. The next difficulty was getting the bedding there in the dry, but when there was a lull in the rain we packed it into Mr. Goodman's car and he did two trips, after which the car's battery failed. It soon became evident that the barn wasn't big enough for 46 people and at that point Mrs. Goodman arrived and took eight Guides into the house and they slept on the living room floor. Eventually, everyone was in bed and nearly asleep when the night was enlivened by the grunts from the litter of piglets below and the animated conversation two Guides had in their sleep. We were up early on Sunday morning and discovered that only the washing cubicles were down and soon the fire was going and we were sitting down to breakfast. By 10.55 a.m. we were sitting in church feeling rather pleased with ourselves that after the previous night we were all there and looked reasonably presentable. In the evening there was a Guides' Own, planned by the

leaders, who took the theme of "Caring for others."

The rest of the camp went in a flash. The sun came out as we were visiting Start Point Lighthouse and the sea looked beautifully blue as we walked back to camp along the cliff path. It was again a glorious day when we went to Mill Bay and the Guides almost cheered when they found it was a sandy beach. They even all managed to find their way across the ferry to Salcombe and arrive in time to catch the coach back to camp. The Camp Fire and Fancy Dress Parade were memorable and we were glad to be able to entertain the local Guides and the Ousley family who helped judge the competitors.

Altogether, it was a successful camp and much of the success can be attributed to all the people who were so helpful — Mr. and Mrs. Goodman, tradespeople, local Guides, several of our own young people who helped to dry the tents and parents who lent kitchen ware, large pieces of plastic for "sitters" and who so willingly assisted with transport of the equipment.

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P.C. FRIENDLY



Photo: Fred Walker.

For the second year running, the Training Department of the Reading Borough Police has made commendable effort to acquaint the junior members of the public with its work and methods. Under a carefully prepared programme, in consultation with the Education Committee, "Police Fortnights" have been held so far at eight junior schools in Reading for the children between the ages of 9 and 11. This year, "Police Fortnight" was held at Wilson, Manor,

and New Town Junior Schools and at Caversham Park Primary School, Peppard Road. This last event took place from September 25 to October 6.

IMPORTANCE

The idea is to make children realise the importance of the role played by the police in the daily life of the community and to establish a permanent friendly bond between them. The lectures and demonstrations took the children through this Alice in Wonderland with the result that at the end of the "Police Fortnight" half of the boys and girls wanted to become members of the police force when they grow up.

HISTORY

The course at Caversham Park Primary School opened with a talk on the history of the police given by the local P.C. Titcombe who spent practically the entire fortnight at the school making friends. His motorcycle and moustache have now

become the symbols of justice in the fairy-world of Caversham. P.C. Titcombe traced the development of police right back to Robin Hood and the Sheriff of Nottingham and we could almost hear the arrows swishing by from Miss Alderson's office. All mums and dads are policemen, asserted P.C. Titcombe, and the children have to assist them to preserve peace and good behaviour within the society.

STRANGERS

A Woman Police Sergeant gave some very sound advice on how to deal with strangers and how to note the car numbers if invited to accept a lift. A C.I.D. officer described the world of cops and robbers, while a traffic policeman illustrated how his colleagues keep the traffic moving and deal with accidents. The children were able to examine the various equipment used on such occasions and got acquainted with the communication system linking policemen on

the beat and their headquarters.

LIFE SAVING

A spellbound demonstration was given by the Life Saving Section at the Bedford Road Bath. It was so real that some children needed reassuring. The course was rounded up by a police dog's performance on the school playing field and a film "The British Policeman" supplied by the Education Authority.

CALLING ALL RESIDENTS

Caversham Residents' Association have arranged a public meeting in Church House, Church Street, on Monday, October 30, at 8 p.m. There are many matters concerning the development and traffic of Caversham which are causing growing concern to rate-payers, and this meeting should provide an excellent opportunity for the ventilation of such subjects.

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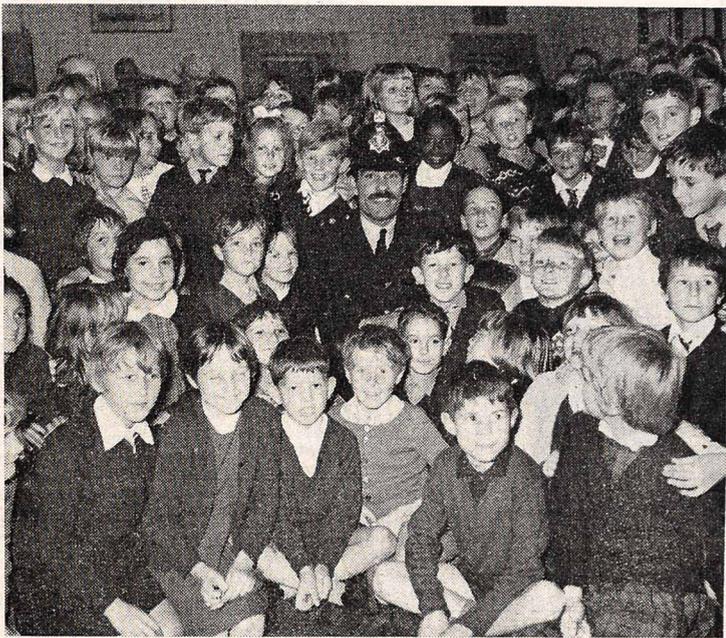


Photo: Fred Walker.

IN THE STEPS OF THE CRAWSHAYS

Regular readers will remember that we recently published a review of "The Crawshays of Cylfarthfa" by Margaret Stewart-Taylor. Following this, some of us recently spent a very happy day with Miss Stewart-Taylor and Mr. Frederick Crawshay, a descendant of this once powerful family.

We started with a visit from Mrs. Woolton, of Cromwell Road, who arrived proudly carrying an old photograph of the staff of Caversham Park over half a century ago, when she and her mother worked there. Many was the tale she told of life in the big mansion in those days.

We then betook ourselves to St. Peter's Rectory, where the Rector had kindly looked out entries in the registers and magazine articles concerning the activities of the Crawshays who were at that time keen members of the Anglican Church. It will be remembered that Flora and her husband, the last members of the family to live at Caversham Park, became Roman Catholics and contributed a great deal to the life of St. Anne's.

OLD HOME

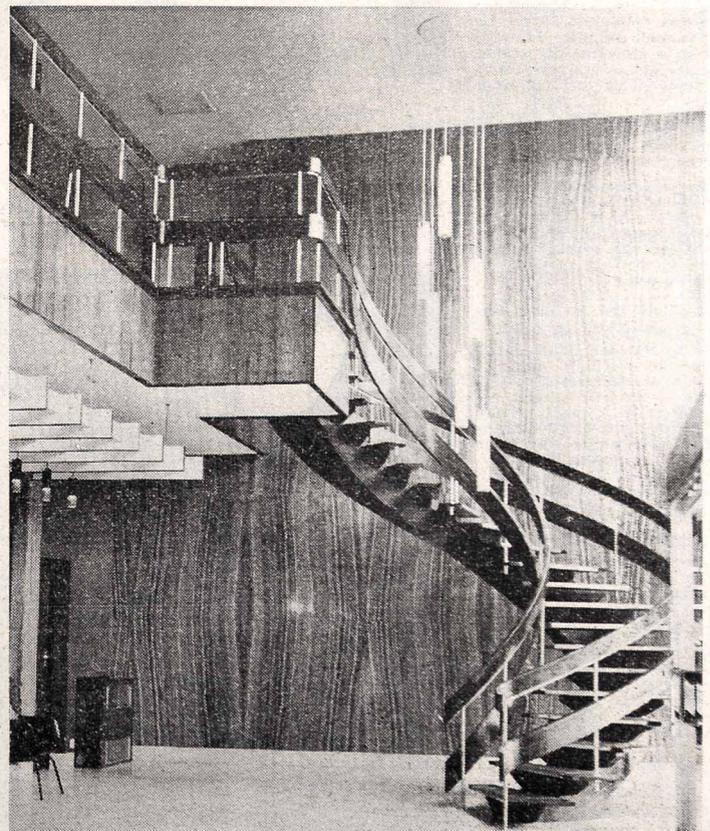
Then off to Caversham Park to see the old home. Considerably changed since the days of the

Crawshay occupation, it nevertheless retains a lot of its former splendour, including the massive pillars which are said to pre-date the present building. Though Caversham Park now serves a very practical purpose in housing the B.B.C. Monitoring Service, many of the old features remain inside, including the surrounds to the ornate fireplaces, and Miss Stewart-Taylor and Mr. Crawshay were able to catch a glimpse of departed glories.

DUNSDEN

The visit ended with a trip out to Dunsden Parish Church, where the Rev. H. Cutler had kindly offered to show us further reminders of the members of the Crawshay family who worshipped there. These included a lovely stained glass window and brasses on the walls. The well which stands in the centre of the village is yet another reminder of the Crawshays, having been given by the wife of William Crawshay the second, and a friend. Though the well, which was intended to supply the village with water "for ever" has now been filled in, the structure still remains. And the older people of Dunsden still recall the Crawshays who lived at the big house at Emmer Green.

It was a pity we were not able to show Miss Stewart-Taylor all this before she wrote the book. Nevertheless she was delighted to have had the opportunity of following in the Crawshay footsteps and both she and Mr. Crawshay would like us to thank all those who helped to make their visit such a pleasant one. We look forward to seeing both of them in Caversham again in the future. W.O.N.



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NEWS FROM THE ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

Are you new?

Driving around Caversham one becomes aware of new houses being built at all points of the compass. Frequently one meets people who have only recently come to live here. To all such we say welcome and hope they will quickly feel at home among us.

Many such people are a little confused about the boundaries of the Anglican parish of Caversham. Some parts of Emmer Green to the east of Peppard Road are technically in Oxfordshire, and some people have naturally but mistakenly supposed that residents in these areas are in the ecclesiastical parish of Dunsden. In fact, none of the houses so far built on the east side of Peppard Road outside of the Borough is in the parish of Dunsden. The Horseclose, Peppard Road, the whole of Caversham Park, Kiln Road, Autumn Close, Russett Glade, Marchwood Avenue and the new houses being built near the water tower all fall within the parish of Caversham. While prac-

tising Anglicans are free to worship where they like, and nobody is challenging this freedom, it is to this parish that all residents must turn for such things as baptisms, banns of marriage, weddings and funerals. At the other end of the parish, however, the civil boundary is also the same as the parish boundary and all houses in the civil parish of Mapledurham are outside the parish of Caversham. Residents there should contact the Vicar of Mapledurham for baptisms, banns, weddings and funerals.

By law it is only possible to be married in the church of the parish in which either bride or bridegroom reside unless one or other is regularly worshipping in the church of another parish and is on the electoral roll. When a wedding takes place in the church at which one of the couple worships but does not reside the banns have to be called both at that church and in the churches of the parish where the couple live. When both bride and groom live and are married in this parish the banns are called only at the

church where the wedding takes place, as the four separate districts of Caversham are only one parish, and the banns do not have to be called in more than one district within the parish.

Dedication Festival: The Festal Evensong at the Parish Church on October 1 was a service which the large congregation will remember for a long time. We are greatly indebted to the Rev. Douglas Cleverley Ford for a sermon which in content and manner of delivery was an object lesson to us all. Nor could the content have been more appropriate as his hearers came together to commit to God the work of Key Fortnight. If anyone still thinks that preaching is a lost art in the Church of England they would be well advised to sit at the feet at the Rev. D. Cleverley Ford on some future occasion. The large choir sang with both skill and obvious enjoyment, and the congregational singing was also outstanding. All in all a fine act of worship.

St. Peter's News

Festival of Light

Had those concerned in it realised from the start what an ambitious undertaking they were embarking upon they would perhaps have hesitated to go forward and would certainly have planned to have more than three rehearsals. But on Sunday, September 24, all went without a hitch; the Church was once again crammed beyond comfortable capacity and for an hour we learnt in a fascinating way how the Christian faith came to Caversham and how the Church grew through the centuries.

The service ended movingly with the Rev. Colin Scott-Dempster who had been ordained priest only that morning giving us his blessing for the first time. Mrs. Duckworth did a brilliant piece of work for us in producing the service, but she was helped not only by a most willing cast but by a large group of people who worked on costumes, lighting, and stage managing while the choir ably supported the production.

As we came out of St. Peter's we were given a small candle by St. Augustine and reminded that through Key Fortnight we have our part to play in passing on the light of Christ to other people.

All Saints' and All Souls' Day

On Wednesday, November 1, All Saints' Day, the Parish Communion will be sung at 8 p.m. as a special act of thanksgiving to God for all that has happened as a result of Key Fortnight. It is hoped that the 41 members of the Key group will all be able to be present. On All Souls' Day, November 2, Holy Communion will be celebrated at 9.30 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Open District Meeting

It is over a year since we have held an open district meeting for all and sundry to come with questions. One such is planned for Thursday, November 23, at 8 p.m. in Baltimore Hall. Among other topics, we shall be able to take a look at the new order of Holy Communion before it is brought into use on Advent Sunday, December 3.

St. Peter's Wives' Group

The November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 21, at 8 p.m. in Church House. There will be a Beauty and Hairdressing demonstration given by Avon after the annual general meeting. Come and vote for the new committee member. Further enquiries from Mrs. E. Lightowler, phone 74420.

Mothers' Union

The annual general meeting will be on Tuesday, November 14 at 2.30 p.m. in Church House.

Festival of Light



Photo: Fred Walker.

Some of the large cast who took part in the Festival of Light.

Translating the Bible

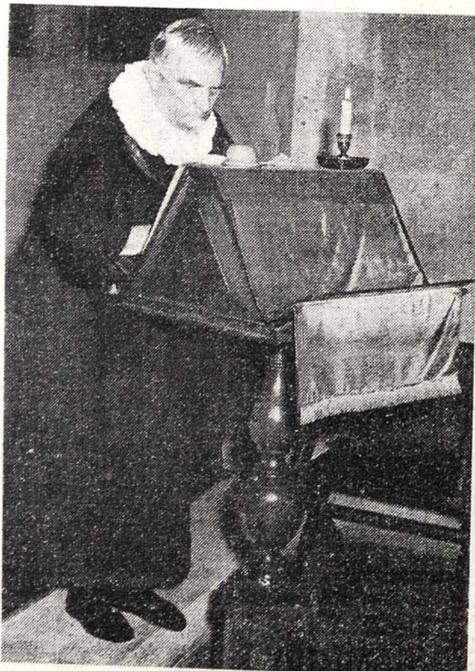


Photo: Fred Walker.

Mr. Keith Brow, as Tyndale, is seen translating the Bible in the Festival of Light.

St. John's News

The Industrial Representative

"The Christian Layman in Industry" is the theme for the special evening service at 6.30 on November 26, when Mr. Tom Chapman, the Church of England's Industrial Representative will introduce this subject and discuss and answer questions afterwards. Mr. Chapman is a layman, who had long experience in industry and the Trade Unions before undertaking this new work. We are very fortunate that he is coming to St. John's.

Other events

There are a number of other dates of interest during the first half of November. On November 1, we celebrate All Saints' Day, Holy Communion at 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. November 2 is All Souls' Day. Those wishing to have friends and relatives remembered in person at the Holy Communion, should give their names to the Priest-in-Charge by Sun-

day, October 29.

On November 7, the ladies unite for what promises to be a most interesting "Any Questions" evening in St. Anne's Hall, for further details see separate notice. The next day we celebrate St. John's Dedication Festival with a Sung Eucharist at 7.45 p.m., which is to be followed by refreshments.

A third pair of important days are November 18 and 19. On the Saturday, we hold the annual "Autumn Fayre" in St. John's Hall, opening at 2.30 p.m. All contributions to the stalls welcome, please get in touch with Mrs. Gillett, 150, Henley Road. We hope to double the proceeds this year. The next evening, Sunday, November 19, we keep as Stewardship Sunday, and in the evening at 6.30 p.m. we will have a special service drawn up on the theme "Our Stewardship of God's gifts," when we will be thinking not so much about our stewardship of money, nor the employment of God's gifts in the service of the Church, but of the world in our everyday life.

St. Andrew's News

Congratulations

The first formal production of a stage play in St. Andrew's Hall was a great success. Congratulations to Mrs. Debenham and Caversham Drama on the "The Lady's Not For Burning." We hope that there will be more equally enjoyable performances in the future. A full report appears elsewhere.

New Kneeler

The New Lady Chapel Kneeler, of which news has appeared in this paper from time to time is now in use. It was dedicated at the Family Eucharist on Sunday, September 17. The kneeler contains nearly 25,000 stitches and involved 24 months work over a period of two-and-a-half years. Once again, many thanks to the members of the Mothers' Union and their friends for such devoted labour.

Christian Aid

Our District Organiser for Christian Aid, Mr. Rivers, has kindly arranged a Coffee Evening in the Church Hall on Thursday, November 23, at 7.45 p.m. The speaker will be The Rev. K. R. Martin, Rector of Rotherfield Greys. His subject: "Parson on holiday—a ten countries travelogue in picture and sound." There will be a collection for Christian Aid. We are grateful to Mr. Rivers for keeping this important matter of Christian Aid before us in this

way and we hope that this evening will be well supported.

Teen Action Conference

The Teen Action Group will be having a Weekend Conference in the Church Hall from November 3-5. This will be led by Brother Cyril, S.S.J.E. and representatives from the other districts of the parish will be present. The subject to be considered at this conference will be "What is a Christian?"

All Saints' and All Souls'

Services of Holy Communion on these two important days will be as follows: Wednesday, November 1, 9.30 a.m. (said) and 7.30 p.m. (sung). Thursday, November 2, 6.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. (both said).

The Mothers' Union

At the annual general meeting on October 3, Mrs. D. St. Alphonse was appointed enrolling member in place of Mrs. K. Clarke who has retired. A presentation was made to Mrs. Clarke who was most warmly thanked for all the work done by her during her years in office. Mrs. St. Alphonse was enrolling member of the branch until 1963 when she was succeeded by Mrs. Armstrong.

Mrs. B. Dennis presented a report on the work of the Young Wives' Branch, and outlined their many activities during the past year.

St. Barnabas' News

There is no doubt that Spotlight made a big impact on the large number of people who filled St. Barnabas' Church on Sunday, September 24. Apart from the many comments that were made, an indication of this is the fact that we have received a request for details of the script from a Vicar as far away as Manchester!

We were treated to a polished and moving presentation which stimulated many people to think again about the problem of faith in God who allows undeserved suffering. At the start our ears were assaulted by the sound of pop music and machine guns, while ten young people read newspaper headings bearing news of undeserved suffering. This was followed by a very finely acted sketch from the book of Job, which posed the question, "do men serve God for nothing?" As the pageant unfolded we were left with this same question which, after all, is what was being spotlighted.

We now know what Key Fortnight has led onto. Whatever has happened, Spotlight ensured that Key Fortnight did not creep upon us unawares.

CAVERSHAM CHURCHES

The Roman Catholic Parish of St. Anne's News

The Harvest Thanksgiving service was well attended and thanksgiving offerings were both generous and numerous. The gifts are sent to the Carmelite Convent in Reading, where they are welcomed by the Sisters and prove a very large addition to their fare for the winter months. The letter of thanks from the Sisters was so touching that it provided an indication of the value of the gift. It is a consoling and wonderful compensation to know that the members of the congregation will have a special place in the prayers of the Sisters.

The Sisters of the Carmelite Convent came to Reading with the special purpose of spending their lives in prayer for the people of Reading. The Te Deum, in thanksgiving, was sung at Benediction Service at 4.30.

On the first Sunday of October, the month of the Rosary, it is customary to have the ceremony of the blessing of the roses. They are then distributed to the members of the congregation.

This ceremony commences with a procession by the children bearing trays of roses to the altar. They are then blessed a bouquet of roses is presented to Our Lady at her shrine as a mark of love and respect to the Mother of God and our spiritual mother. Roses are then distributed to the congregation.

Those who provided roses for the ceremony are to be congratulated on the large collection of beautiful flowers sent in. Comments on the ceremony

showed that it was appreciated as much, if not more, than ever.

St. Anne's School

St. Anne's School started the school year with a capacity number on the register. Thirty youngsters were admitted to the reception class.

It is seven years since it was found necessary to refuse admission to the pupils from the Sonning Common area. Now it is impossible to accommodate people from the parish of St. Anne's which includes the Caversham Park Village. The need for a new school in the village is becoming more of a necessity as time goes on and the building increases.

We welcome to the staff Mrs. Webb and Sister Catherine, and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one. We are grateful too for a helping hand from Mrs. O'Brien.

The school football team started the season very well, but not too well we hope. Their first match with the Sevena-Side system was won 12 goals to nil and 10 goals to nil, making a total of 22 to nil. Whatever may be said about the result, it was grand to see juniors as determined as the losers were right up to the final whistle. They may have been down in goals, but they certainly were not beaten.

The top juniors are rejoicing in a weekly swimming lesson in the new baths. This is to continue round the school year. It is a pleasure to see the eagerness with which they await their coach each Friday afternoon.



Pictured after their wedding at St. Peter's Church are Miss Susan Slade and Mr. Bryan Bould, of Ossett, Yorkshire. Many Caversham residents will know Susan from the days when they were cheerfully served by her parents, Mrs. and the late Mr. A. S. Slade, at their confectionery shop which was in Prospect Street. We wish Susan, who is now a child care officer in High Wycombe, and her husband Bryan, studying to become a probation officer, a happy future together.

Caversham Methodist Church

There was an informal supper and reception at the Gosbrook Road Methodist Church on October 5 when the Rev. T. Hewitt was inducted as president of the Reading Temperance Society.

St. Paul's Presbyterian News

In the year 1655 there was a severe persecution of the Protestants living in the valleys west of Turin. John Milton, who was at that time Cromwell's Latin Secretary, wrote the lines "On the late Massacker in Piemont," perhaps the mightiest sonnet in any tongue, beginning

"Avenge, O Lord! Thy slaughter'd saints, whose bones Lie scattered on the Alpine mountains cold";

Cromwell himself made a protest to the Duke of Savoy, so that persecution ceased for a time. The Waldensian Protestants continued to survive in those valleys in spite of many difficulties: it was not until 1848 that Protestants were given civil rights in Italy. The Waldensian Church is now a small, vigorous, forward-looking Church, with its headquarters at Torre Pellice.

It was most suitable that the World Reformed Alliance should hold its European Assembly in September in this historic region. The Alliance is a Federation of Reformed Churches throughout the world holding the Presbyterian form of Church Government. All constituent bodies acknowledge the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as their supreme authority and emphasise the Sovereignty of God. From this it follows that the Presbyterian form of Church Government is believed to be founded upon and agreeable to the Word of God. We had, of course, no bishops to preside over our meetings, though a few Presbyterian bishops were present at the Assembly. Delegates from all over Europe were there, including a few from the other side of the Iron Curtain. It was an invigorating experience to meet so many people who differed from us in various ways, yet with whom we shared the same faith. "It is a family," said my wife. The theme of the Assembly was "Revival and Renewal."

It was encouraging to learn that in some countries the Lutherans and the Reformed Churches are drawing closer together; that World Congregationalism is coming into the Alliance and that the relationship between the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant Churches is now better than it used to be. We must, nevertheless, be as servants who watch and wait for the coming of their Lord (Luke 12 v. 35 following).

With these words ringing in our ears we returned from the high mountains to our own churches and congregations, to continue the witness in the place where we live.

Baptist News

The young people's new Coffee Bar Lounge in the gallery of the West Memorial Institute was officially opened by Mrs. D. W. Collier recently. At the opening ceremony, which was attended by a goodly gathering of young people and older friends, Mrs. Collier paid tribute to those who had worked so hard in preparing the new room and urged the young people to go out into "the high-ways and byways of Caversham" and bring in new friends, so that they may experience something of the joy of Christian living. Mrs. Collier, after cutting the blue ribbon and declaring the room open, was presented with a bouquet by Miss Lynsay Rhymes.

The customary Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on the last Sunday of September, when the church was beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables. On the following day gifts of produce were distributed to sick and elderly friends and in the evening the ladies of the church served a Harvest Supper. Some 90 friends shared their wonderful meal, which was followed with musical items by the Church Choir and by the showing of an Oxfam film. The proceeds of the evening, including the sale of surplus produce, amounted to some £15, which was donated to Oxfam.

Members of the Sunday School staff have been visiting the homes on the Caversham Park Estate and the response has been most encouraging. A number of children have joined the school and other young people have been introduced to the auxiliary organisations. It is hoped, through these small beginnings, that families will be linked with our fellowship.

On Sunday, November 19, at Evening Service, a recording of hymn singing will take place for relaying later that day through the auspices of Hospital Radio Reading to the local hospitals.



Some of those who took part in Spotlight at St. Barnabas' on September 24. Photo: Fred Walker.

THEY BRING YOUR "BRIDGE"

UNDER this title we frequently publish the photographs of some of those hardworking two hundred people who go out in all weathers distributing 3,250 copies of the "Bridge" to the homes of Caversham. They are indispensable, and without them there would be no "Bridge."

Third birthday

This month we have just had our third birthday. In the course of three years many of our original distributors have moved away, and many more houses have been built. We are constantly in need of new distributors. And the Editorial Board feels that the time has come when all who help with the distribution would like to know a little more about the production of the paper, and our links with the Christian News which produces our outer eight pages.

Mrs. G. W. L. Smith

Mrs. G. W. L. Smith, the wife of the chairman of Christian News Ltd., has most kindly agreed to travel down specially from Birmingham to meet our distributors. To make it more possible for all the two hundred to attend she will speak at a meeting in West Memorial Hall (junction of Church Street and Gosbrook Road). On Wednesday, November 8, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. We should like to see all our distributors at one or other of these meetings. We should also like to welcome many of our readers who are not at present distributors but who would be willing to join the ranks of the "Bridge" bringers.

CAVERSHAM PARK THEATRE

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MEMORIALS — EMBALMING — CREMATIONS

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON

At the September meeting of the Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild, Miss E. Baker was in the chair and welcomed five visitors.

Mrs. M. Crowther entertained members with a talk on "Our Superstitions and their Origins."

The Arts and Crafts Section started their meetings on September 26.

New members will be welcomed and anyone interested in joining the Guild should contact the Secretary, Mrs. B. Stratford, 35, Peppard Road, Caversham. Tel. 73350.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS

The August meeting took the form of an informal coffee evening which was enjoyed by about 40 members.

Mrs. Haydon took the chair at the meeting on September 21 in St. Andrew's Hall. The speaker was Mr. Bryant Peers, founder of the London Appreciation Society, and a Freeman of the City of London, whose talk was entitled "London, quaint and curious." Mr. Peers proved to be a most absorbing speaker and entertained members

with unusual snippets of information as well as many interesting historical facts. He spoke about "Lindin," (a Celtic word meaning "the harbour by the marshes") from its beginnings 2,200 years ago, through the time of the Great Fire when it was razed to the ground on to the time when it was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren, who was not, Mr. Peers assured members, an architect at all, but a lecturer in maths at Oxford! And so to the present time when it houses 10½ million people, covers 720 square miles and incorporates 29 Boroughs. Mrs. West gave the vote of thanks and the meeting closed at 10 p.m.

Social Studies. The speaker was Miss Veale, Deputy Group Matron at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, for the meeting on September 5.

Music. Choir Practice is held every Monday at 4.8A, Albert Road, Caversham at 2.30 p.m. A few more members would be welcomed.

Arts and Crafts. A short autumn millinery course will start on Friday evening, September 29, 8 p.m., St. Andrew's small hall, Caversham. Two further meetings will be held on October 20 and 27. Fee 5s. for the complete course. Cake icing classes will be held on November 10, 17, and 24, and December 1, same place same time.

Anyone who would like to come to either class would be most welcome. Please contact Mrs. Dawes. Telephone 71352.

International. The first meeting this autumn was an informal evening at Mrs. Ross' house when members showed their holiday slides. The evening concluded with an amusing quiz which was won by Mrs. Murdoch. On September 13, Mrs. Hollaway presided at our monthly meeting. Mr. Goodman was the guest for the second time and members thoroughly enjoyed his talk on Spain. He illustrated his talk with a film which showed the vast differences between the north and the south of Spain and the great extremes of wealth and poverty which still exist. After coffee Mr. Goodman gave his personal impressions of a holiday on the Costa Brava. The next meeting will be on October 11 at 7.45 p.m. in the Methodist Hall when Mr. Wright will talk to us about China.

TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

EMMER GREEN

"Is the Customer Always Right" was the subject discussed when Mrs. Day, of Heelas, spoke to the Social Studies Group on September 20.

On September 26, the Arts and Crafts Group had a demonstration of Dorset Feather Stitchery by Miss Stevenson. Many beautiful samples of this work were on display giving members the incentive to "have a go."

At the last Guild meeting Dr. Cox gave us much food for serious thought with his talk on "Food in Relation to our Health."

The autumn rummage sale once again proved to be successful.

The next meeting will be the A.G.M. to be held on November 14 at the Emmer Green Primary School at which a film on "Coventry Cathedral" will be shown. New members welcome.

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 The Rev. John Stevinson (Priest-in-Charge of St. John's) St. John's House, 9, South View Avenue, Tel. 71814
 The Rev. John Crowe, The Rectory Flat, Church Road, Tel. 75152.

BAPTIST

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

METHODIST

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

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ANY QUESTIONS

Tuesday, November 7 7.45 p.m.

St. Anne's Hall
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Panel:

Mrs. Burling (Methodist)

Housewife and Mother

Mrs. Williamson (Roman Catholic)

Marriage Counsellor

Rev. J. Stevinson (Anglican)

Priest

Chairman

Mr. R. Turner (Anglican)

All ladies welcome

November Sunday Services

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.)

St. John's
 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
 9.15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST
 6.30 p.m. Evening Service (1st Sunday 3.15 p.m.)

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.)

St. Barnabas
 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
 9.15 a.m. Family Eucharist
 6.30 p.m. Evensong (4th Sunday 3.15 p.m.)

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 (not 2nd and 3rd Sundays)

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Anne's
 8.00 a.m. 9.30 a.m. 11 a.m. 7 p.m. Mass
 Our Lady of Caversham 8.30 and 10.30 a.m. Mass.

BAPTIST Caversham
 11.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Worship Communion after Evening Service 1st Sunday after Morning Service 3rd Sunday
Caversham Heights
 11.00 a.m. Junior Church.
 2.45 p.m. Sunday School.

North Caversham
 10.45 a.m. and 6.30 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 Dept.
Cosbrook Road
 11.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Worship.
 11.00 a.m. Sunday School.

SALVATION ARMY
 Prospect Street
 3.00 p.m. Young People.
 6.30 p.m. Adults.

ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YORK ROAD
 11.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Worship.

METHODIST CHURCHES NOVEMBER PREACHING APPOINTMENTS

Caversham
 5 Rev. A. E. Ward
 Mr. J. M. Dixon
 12 Mr. D. Geary
 Rev. S. M. Wendt
 19 Mr. R. Gee
 Rev. E. B. Wright
 26 Rev. E. B. Wright (2)
 Mr. P. Smith

Caversham Heights
 5 11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright
 6.30 Miss G. Blandford
 12 11.00 Rev. A. E. Ward
 6.30 Rev. E. B. Wright (1)
 19 11.00 Rev. E. B. Wright
 6.30 Mr. M. J. Abbas
 26 11.00 Rev. R. C. Stonham
 6.30 Rev. E. B. Wright

Notes: (1) Holy Communion.
 (2) Overseas Missions.

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH NOVEMBER SERVICES

5 11 and 6.30 Rev. L. S. Lewis
 Evening Communion
 12 11 and 6.30 Rev. L. S. Lewis
 19 11 a.m. Rev. L. S. Lewis
 Morning Communion
 6.30 p.m. Rev. L. S. Lewis
 Hospital Hymn Singing
 26 11 and 6.30 Rev. L. S. Lewis

We record...

BAPTISED
St. John's
 Sept. 24 Alison Clarke
 Dawn Mundy
 Heather Mundy
St. Andrew's
 Sept. 17 Jacqueline Smith
 Ceri Edwards
 24 Louise Beaby
Caversham Methodist Church
 Sept. 17 Darren Wright
 David Champion
MARRIED
St. Peter's
 Sept. 16 John Fox and Ann Martin

25 John Roberts and Paula Maskell
St. John's
 Sept. 9 Andrew Wise and Wendy Martin
 William Sanderson and Gwendoline Jackson
 16 Sean Healy and Cheryl Simmonds
St. Andrew's
 Sept. 16 John Acteson and Doreen Clark
St. Barnabas'
 Sept. 2 Allan Norcliffe and Susan Smith

William Thomas and Marian Nicholls
 9 Michael Anderton and Pauline Tribe
 Geoffrey Keen and Margaret Cosslett
 16 David Smith and Diane Woodham
 30 Philip Went and Diane Adey
 Robert Whitcher and Susan Lansley
BURIED
St. Peter's
 Sept. 22 Alfred Shepherd
St. John's
 Oct. 2 Robert Pope

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ST. BARNABAS' HALL
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Personality of the month



MILLIONS OF WOMEN —and many men as well— tune in at 2 o'clock on weekday afternoons to listen to 21-year-old B.B.C. "Woman's Hour" and hear the warm, friendly voice of its introducer, Marjorie Anderson.

Although the programme is a joint effort by a happy and effective team, there is no doubt at all that to most listeners Marjorie Anderson IS the programme. The image of "Woman's Hour" is the image of her as a person. Maybe this is because of the understanding and sympathy which comes across in the way Marjorie Anderson introduces the items, in the way she interviews the visitors, in every-thing she says.

She is with you wherever you are — in your kitchen, your dining room, your car — just chatting. When she started broadcasting she had to write down every word she had to say. Now she finds it easier and friendlier to work off the cuff. And that is the impression she gives.

All this reflects the woman. Widowed since 1961, with a 19-year-old son reading Law at university, Marjorie Anderson understands people and warms to them, and they to her. Asked what she likes most about her work, she replied, "The people I meet. Not just famous people—every kind." And her great leisure interest, apart from the theatre, is just being with friends.

So the image is the woman.

But don't run away with the idea that this personality is just a real, live, amateur Mrs. Dale.

Listen to what she has to say about the aims of her programme.

"When it began, it was a sort of cosy hour with very few subjects discussed. Now there are no holds barred. Almost every subject that interests people has its place on the programme. Of course, a few listeners want the old cosiness back. But more and more women appreciate what they call their 'eye on the world.'"

Behind this shrewd weigh-up of the "Woman's Hour" impact is no mere

MARJORIE ANDERSON

friendly amateur, but an experienced technical expert.

Marjorie Anderson has been with "Woman's Hour" for 15 years. But her broadcasting experience goes way back beyond that, beginning with her time as a student at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London, where she did a little work with the B.B.C.

Turned down by the W.R.N.S. in the war because of catarrh, she answered a B.B.C. advertisement for announcers. "I didn't fit any of the qualifications asked for and I

was under the minimum age, but eventually I was accepted."

Marjorie was with the Overseas Service of the B.B.C. for six years. Her programmes then included "Forces' Favourites" (later "Family Favourites") and "Thank You For Your Letters," a heart-to-heart corner for men serving overseas.

After the war she was in on the start of the Third Programme before moving to the Light.

From then on her story as a broadcaster is just "Woman's Hour." And a lot of people are grateful for that.

"Right, duck, just throw up the cooker..."

SNAILS may have a pretty low status when it comes to prestige rating in the natural order, but what an advantage when it comes to moving house. A do-it-yourself, take-it-with-you, nothing - to - pack home strikes me as ideal.

EVERYTHING

The removal firm assured us not only of all assistance and their best attention at all times, but also undertook the job of packing crockery, books, kitchen things and so on. In theory it should all have been so simple. "Nothing to it" said well-meaning friends, who hadn't dared face a move for years. "They do everything. Wash the breakfast things and leave them to it."

That might be all right for those moving from small to larger house, but not for the reverse. A large Victorian flat to a small modern one has its advantages, but all those great cupboards and the junk room that had gradually, filled over the last three years were going to be missed. For ten days it had been one mad clear out, throw away, burn up. Ruthless — it was the only way.

A moving account, by Anne Williams

Where I'd got my ideas of removal men from I'm not sure, but I had it firmly fixed in my mind that they were a breed apart — all charm, white aprons and inexhaustible care, arriving with a discreet salutation full of professional grace: "Good morning madam. Blower and Truebold." It would sound like a genteel double act. Illusions were shattered. Two young fellows, nudging each other in the ribs and half falling down the basement steps, landed on our doorstep with a giggling rush. "Mornin' duck. We're shifting you. Can we 'ave a look round, luv?" A real couple of likely lads.

One eyed the lavatory door and made a rush for it. "The journey down," the other explained. He peered round the room. "There's not a piano is there?" he asked anxiously, and cheered up no end when I assured him there wasn't. The good humour remained for the rest of the day, even if they didn't ever find the real meaning of speed.

At one point I went out

to the van and found Terry, the small, fat one, parading around inside with the large standard lampshade on his head, commanding no-one in particular: "Take me to your leader." He looked much too sheepish for a "Dalek" when he eventually emerged.

The flat had taken on its desolate, no-one-loves-me look. The old cooker was the sole inhabitant of the kitchen, the mattress all that remained in the bedroom. "Right duck," declared Terry, sizing up my 5ft. 6in. stature. "If you'll just throw us up the cooker, that's the lot. No room for the bed, I'm afraid. Don't mind, do you?"

A RUSH

I might have believed him if I hadn't known that half the van was empty. Sid, his mate, was grimly lashing everything down. "We lost half the door," Terry explained. "Bit of a rush back from Bristol last night. It fell off when Sid jammed on the stoppers a bit sharp. You shouldn't lose anything, but you never know. Now all we've got to do is find the way to your other place."

AMAZINGLY ENOUGH THEY NOT ONLY FOUND THE NEW ADDRESS, BUT ARRIVED WITH LOAD INTACT. NOT A THING WAS AS MUCH AS SCRATCHED. ALWAYS SAID SNAILS KNEW A THING OR TWO ABOUT THE REMOVAL BUSINESS — SLOW BUT SURE. IT'S THE ONLY WAY.



A typical Ceylon tea estate. In the background is the estate factory and workers' homes.

Ceylon tea century

IF YOU WERE ever under the crazy illusion that tea was simply a thing to be taken at four o'clock in the afternoon along with hot buttered crumpets and home-made jam, you'd better read on.

Suddenly, we've become more sophisticated in our approach. It is not sufficient that more cups of tea per person are drunk in Britain than anywhere else in the world — now we have to sit through television commercials with monkeys gaily swinging on chandeliers or pop groups urging us to join the tea set and drink even more. Perhaps "sophisticated" wasn't the most suitable word.

This year marks the centenary of Ceylon tea, which has become increasingly popular with the British housewife, and accounts for over 30 per cent. of tea sales in this country.

A new rose, "Glory of Ceylon," has also been grown especially for the centenary by Harkness Roses in Hitchin, Herts. It was chosen as "the variable colour often shows shades of tea." The colour of the rose changes according to the weather from light yellow through tea yellow to dusky orange, and it has a strong, sweet and musky smell.

For a bit of background information — it was in fact a Scotsman who started the tea industry in Ceylon. At the age of 16 James Taylor went to Ceylon to learn about coffee plantations. He was encouraged to experiment with tea growing, and when the coffee crop was attacked by disease he immediately came to the fore with tea growing.

Ever since, tea has remained the main industry of Ceylon, and James Taylor never returned to Scotland. In fact, his only excursion from Ceylon was a busman's holiday in Darjeeling when he wanted to compare methods.

The latest craze with tea drinking which is fast catch-



James Taylor (right), the Scotsman who planted the first commercially successful field of tea in Ceylon in 1867.

Pictures by courtesy, Ceylon Tea Centre.

ing on is tea and orange. To get the best flavour, you of the orange, and then pour a piece of orange in a cup, pour on a little hot water to bring out the taste on the tea. It's worth a try — the result is delicious.

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Raymond Efemey looks at Men in power

MR. AUBREY JONES,
Chairman of the Prices
and Incomes Board

MR. AUBREY JONES was formerly known in the Birmingham area as a Conservative M.P. — of sorts. The "of sorts" (referring to a quite incurable independence of mind and character), led to some friction with his local Association, and even attempts to reject him as a candidate.

He was rescued from this predicament by his appointment as Chairman of the Prices and Incomes Board by Mr. George Brown, then head of the Department of Economic Affairs. This was hailed as a very clever piece of politics by the Government, nobbling of the Opposition, etc., etc.

But Mr. Jones, of the mild and cultured voice and manner, has refused to change any of his beautiful spots. Not that he has demonstrated himself to be an automatic "anti-Government" man — as is the fate of some reputed radicals.

By leading an attack on the efficiency of the banks he has made it quite clear that he still retains undiminished a

worthy disrespect for the things held sacred by his former associates. There were certainly those among them who thought "that at least some things were still sacred."

But when faced with the recent cavalier increase in electricity charges he firmly declared that nationalised industry or no nationalised industry he should have had a look at such a widely effectual rise in the cost of living first.

Certain journals commented that he was working himself out on a limb, that Mr. Wilson would not tolerate such insubordination in a government subsidiary. They underestimated (as usual), both Mr. Jones and Mr. Wilson. Future proposals for increases by nationalised industries ARE to go to the Prices and Incomes Board.

Well done, Mr. Jones! We need more like you: men who are nobody's men, men who still judge calmly whatever side they happen to be associated with, men you can trust because they can never be completely trusted to follow the party line. Men who in times of change and uncertainty do not seek refuge in partisanship. It may be difficult sometimes, but the Joneses of this world are worth keeping up with.

LORD ROBENS, Chairman of the National Coal Board



NOTHING CHEERED me more, in the whole tragic business of the Aberfan disaster and its subsequent recriminations, than the fact that the Government refused to accept Lord Robens' resignation.

To those who say to me, (and they have), "The captain is responsible for his ship," I would reply that the social units of today no longer resemble tight and isolated little worlds. The man at the top must indeed be on the look-out for weaknesses and oversights — but he cannot and must not be expected to be all-knowing.

A man like Robens is put in to do a job of policy making and execution — everybody admits he has done this magnificently. Are we then to dispense with those rare abilities simply because somewhere in the system there are those whom the overall head should be able to trust and who are yet not fulfilling their responsibilities? If we do we are going to make the handful of administrative and business geniuses very wary of accepting the posts where they can really do good.

When mistakes occur we must pinpoint their real origin; and even then there must be more understanding than judgment for the individuals involved. Casualness about hazards is bred into us by custom and time — there has been an awful lot of indiscriminate tipping for

an awful lot of time without public outcry. If all the disasters that COULD happen through negligence DID happen tomorrow who among us would be blameless?

We are all of us fallible, even the greatest. It is good to see that even in such an emotive affair as the Aberfan tragedy the legend of "departmental responsibility" is dying a natural death. For me there is something un-Christian about the idea that in disaster we must find a scapegoat, and the bigger the better.

Responsibility there must be, but responsibility must never become the burden of bearing the community's guilt — that is the heritage and possession of us all.

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- PSORIASIS may be hereditary, may occur with puberty, may follow injury, exposure, shock or worry, or may be due to faulty nutrition and faulty elimination. It may also be persistent and recurring and sufferers often despair of ever having a clear and healthy skin.
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The Fire and Ambulance service

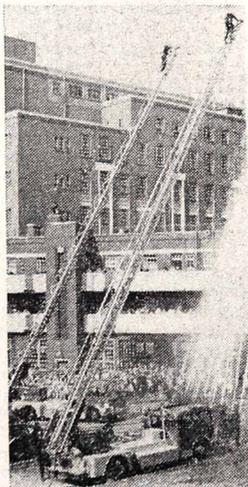
Careers

EVERY HOUR of the day and night throughout the year the Fire and Ambulance Service is ready at a moment's notice to help someone in trouble. The calls for help are nearly as varied as they are numerous and each day brings its particular problems to test the skill and initiative of the men and women who form part of the service. It is equipped with a fleet of modern appliances and ambulances to deal with anything from a chimney fire to a train crash.

Firefighting and the conveyance of patients to and from hospital are not the only functions of the service. The prevention of fire is an important branch, while many other public services are carried out, like rescuing persons and animals from perilous positions, pumping water from flooded basements, protecting damaged property from the elements, giving first-aid to the injured, assisting at road accidents, etc.

Firemen

To become an operational fireman a man must be a British Subject not less than 18 years of age and under 31. He must have good eyesight, and physique and pass a medical examination and educational test.



Promotion is by examination. All officers are selected from the ranks and the chances for men of ability to reach senior posts are very good.

A fireman receives good pay and generous holidays. He can retire at the age of 50 after 25 years' service on half pay and after 30 years' service on two-thirds pay averaged over the last three years of service.

Ambulance Drivers and Attendants

Men and women can become ambulance drivers with equal pay, but only men are employed as attendants.

The duties entail the conveyance of persons to and from hospitals for treatment and the manning of emergency ambulances which operate from fire stations and deal with accidents and emergencies of all kinds.

Promotion is by examination and there are equal opportunities for all to make progress.

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For those who prefer indoor work there are the control rooms from which the movements of all vehicles are regulated and where all emergencies are dealt with.

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TRIBUTE TO "THE GREAT CAMPAIGNER"

With foreword by the Rt. Hon. Harold Wilson, O.B.E., M.P.

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Remember that I asked you to write and tell the Editor of your holiday experiences? Here we've picked out the highlights from two of the letters we received.

Two letters tell of wonderful holidays

FROM SUSAN BODDY (AGED 8), CHANDLER'S FORD, HAMPSHIRE.

"We went to see 'THE VICTORY,' Nelson's flagship, at Portsmouth. A sailor took us round and we saw the spot where Nelson was shot and where he died three hours later. One of the decks was painted red as Nelson's sailors did not like the sight of their own blood. We saw the tiny kitchen where meals were cooked for hundreds of men. If a sailor got wounded he had to rub salt into the wound to help it to heal. Afterwards we went into the

museum and saw a lot of things belonging to Nelson and letters written by him."

FROM ANN THORPE (AGED 16), DOWNFIELD, DUNDEE, SCOTLAND.

"I was one of 800 pupils on a 'Dunera' cruise this summer and I should like to tell you about the picturesque port of KRISTIANSAND in the south of NORWAY.

"The harbour is spotless, and towering high into the blue sky are many coloured villas with balconies filled with brightly coloured flowers. The natives of Kristiansand may have Scots

ancestry from the time when the Vikings invaded our Western Isles and took many prisoners. They are usually tall and have blue eyes and very fair hair. Norway has always intrigued other nations, and as early as 3,000 B.C. a Greek named Pythias found the 'Land of the Midnight Sun.'

"In Kristiansand the children are very keen to study and they commence to learn English when they are eight.

"Tenements are taking over from the small villas and the new estates are named after nearby trades. For example, beside a mine for mineral ore, all the

streets are named after a metal. There is COPPER WAY and STEEL WAY. Shops are modern but are named after people and things of the past, like VIKING AND COMPANY.

"Trees grow right on the tops of mountains and the flowers are like those in Scotland. The people are kind and helpful. TAK, meaning 'thank you', is their favourite word. Their streets are not littered with paper and their buses do not possess an odour of tobacco smoke because they have in neat print ROKING FORBUDT.

"This was my first impression of Norway and I hope I shall return there soon."

Television

by Harold Jeffries

It's the mixture as before!

THE TELEVISION moguls revealed their plans for the winter season with all the flourish of a head waiter at some swank restaurant serving a rare and tasty main course. The anti-climax came when we discovered that what we'd been looking forward to with keen anticipation was simply a dressed up version of the old familiar fish and chips.

However, loud the ballyhoo, the fact remains that the mixture is very much as before. In spite of Mr. Paul Fox's bright enthusiasm in the "Radio Times," he can't deny a dreary sameness about the programmes that B.B.C.1 intends to serve up, and it will wipe away any superior smirk that might be hanging around the face of our Independent friends to remind them that their offering is headed by a reappearance of "The Avengers" and "Mrs. Thursday."

NOVELTY

O.K.—so most people like fish and chips. If you've got to choose a diet to suit everyone go for the old favourites. I'm not arguing with the wisdom of playing it safe—of giving the public, if not exactly what it wants, then at least what it will swallow with reasonable enjoyment. What bothers me is that it is presented as if it's some earth-shattering novelty.

Listen to Mr. Fox, the controller of B.B.C.1: "Anything new? Certainly . . . a new Play of the Month series on Sunday nights . . . a new Wednesday Play series . . . Dr. Finlay is back . . . Barlow is back . . . The Troubleshooters move in on Friday nights . . ." and so on.

Personally I'm getting bored to tears with the same old diet. Don't you long for something REALLY new—not just a warmed up old rehash of something we've seen a hundred times before? I'm quite prepared to believe that "The Avengers" is the biggest money spinning series in the history of British Television—but I'm also prepared to say that it's had its day.

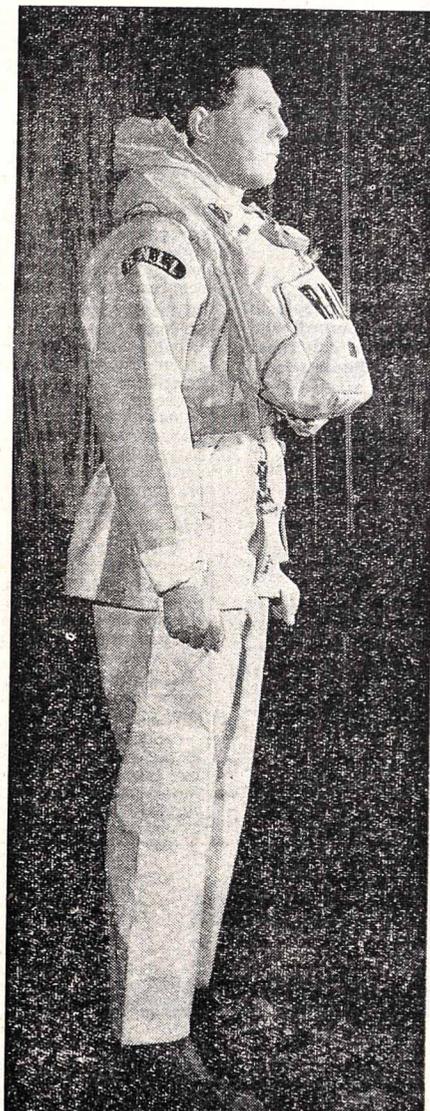
If you want it in a nutshell—T.V.'s becoming a monumental drag—and if the winter offering is really the best that the planners have in their locker, then we'll just have to see if the coming of colour will bring back a bit of excitement and novelty into viewing.

QUIZ

1. What is the capital of Australia?
2. In which country is the District of Columbia?
3. Which is the odd man out of these: Kalahari, Gobi, Etna, Sahara?
4. On which island did the Bounty mutineers settle?
5. In which county is the Isle of Wight?
6. What have these in common: Biscay, Rockall, Malin, Humber?

ANSWERS

1. Canberra.
2. U.S.A. It is the "neutral" district in which the federal capital Washington, is situated.
3. Etna—it's a volcano, and the rest are deserts.
4. Pileatm Island.
5. Hampshire.
6. They're all sea areas mentioned in weather forecasts.



Really geared up!—The new R.N.L.I. life-jacket and protective suit.

Photo: Courtesy R.N.L.I.

Geared up

by Brenda Holloway

Jumbled clothes

Can you re-arrange the letters in each of the following phrases so that each phrase spells the name of an article that people wear? (The answers are given at the end of the column).

KINGS SCOT
PRESS LIP
A CARDING

TOMS CHAIN
WAS TREE
O ROVE CAT

Who's gear is what?

Many people wear special gear for their work. Life-boat men, for instance, wear a suit like that in the picture as a protection against the storm.

On the dotted lines fill in the name of the kind of person who carries or wears these things. (Answers below).

- He has a big brown bag hanging from his shoulder
- He wears a lamp on his head
- She wears a white cap and apron
- They have leather straps across their shoulders with a leather bag and a small machine
- He carries a green and a red flag
- He wears nail-studded boots and carries a pick-axe and ropes

Gear for church

Next time you go to church, watch out for the robes the minister is wearing. He is almost sure to be wearing a long black garment called a cassock. The name comes from a Latin word *Casa* meaning a house, and up to the time of Henry VIII this was the usual dress that all men wore at home.

Over his cassock, a clergyman often wears a surplice in church. This is a long white flowing garment and gets its name from two French words, *sur* meaning over and *pelisse* meaning a long robe with sleeves. So it goes over the cassock!

Over this the Vicar often wears a long black scarf. This probably goes right back to Roman times when important officials wore a robe called a toga, with one end flung over the shoulder. The toga got smaller and smaller, and now is just a wide black scarf.

Just an idea

There are other robes that some clergymen wear in church. Why not ask your Vicar, parish priest or minister to show you his robes and to tell you something about the history of each of them?

A word in your ear

Christmas will soon be here. In next month's "Christian News" there will be some ideas for making Christmas presents and decorations.

Start collecting silver, gold and coloured paper; really nice pictures from magazines or old Christmas cards; pieces of thin white cardboard and stiff white or coloured paper; also scraps of ribbon or coloured cord.

What are we?

The same four letters are re-arranged five times to give the answer to the clues in this verse.

You whip us and we hum and spin,
And yet we could prevent you too.
A certain place we then become,
Then changed we hold your flowers for you.
At Christmas you look out for me.
Four lettered—now what can we be?

Answers to puzzles

- Jumbled clothes:** Stockings, slippers, cardigan, macintosh, sweater, overcoat.
Who's Gear is what: Postman, miner, nurse, bus conductor, guard, climber.
What are we: Tops, stop, spot, pots, post.

Topic of the month



SAINTS

SAINTS! We think of haloes, beards and long robes — the pale people in stained glass windows. People who, if you think about it, were not really pale at all: people like red blooded, hot-headed St. Peter or St. Matthew, the "bent" tax-man turned disciple, or St. Francis, the gay young tearaway offering his life and love to lepers and outcasts.

No, the saints were not pale people — but even so they lived a long, long time ago; might as well be the time of the flood for all the difference it makes. And what's more they were each of them one in a million, or a thousand or a hundred — certainly very different from me. "I'm a very ordinary bloke, with an ordinary job, in an ordinary town. I'm no saint." That's the sort of thing we quite often hear.

But the word "saint" does not only refer to the great, well-known, Christian heroes of history. When

St. Paul wrote to church people in towns like Rome and Corinth and Ephesus he would often call those very mixed bags of ordinary people "saints." Their names are long forgotten, many would make no name even in their own time, and yet they were given the responsibility of showing the love of Christ to those who in any way shared their life.

On All Saints' Day, November 1, we remember the multitude of nameless Christians, saints, who down the centuries have witnessed to Christ.

And now the story has reached the 1960's and us. All Saints' Day is as much a celebration and recognition of our own Christian task as a romantic looking to the past, which relieves us of the responsibility of present-day Christian living as policeman or priest, artist or astronaut, as housewife or herdsman, doctor or driver — as ordinary people, if you like, but invited and inspired by Christ to be saints.

Vietnam: Extract from U. Thant's address to the Fourth Friends' World Conference

"I HAVE REPEATEDLY STATED, how wrong it is to regard the war in Vietnam as a kind of holy war against a particular ideology. I have expressed the view that the motivating force on the part of those who are being charged with this ideology is really a strong sense of nationalism, a desire to win their national independence and establish their national identity.

"It is Nationalism, and not Communism, that animates the resistance movement in Vietnam against all foreigners, and now

particularly against Americans. Those Vietnamese who have fought and still fight against foreigners do so to win their national independence.

"I am convinced that the war cannot be brought to an end until the United States and her allies recognise that it is being fought by the Vietnamese, not as a war of Communist aggression, but as a war of national independence . . .

"As for the solution, there are those who claim that military victory is feasible and that all it

requires is the application of more manpower and more military power. At the other extreme are those who believe that the only solution is the immediate withdrawal of the United States and its allies from the conflict.

"It seems to me that nothing could be more dangerous than this kind of thinking, that the only alternatives are military escalation and immediate withdrawal. I am convinced that there are other alternatives, despite the fact that Hanoi refuses to negotiate with Washington while the bombing of North Vietnam is

going on, and Saigon will not negotiate with the National Liberation Front under any circumstances.

"I regard the continuation of the war in Vietnam as being totally unnecessary. I believe an honourable peace could be brought about in Vietnam. The first task is to end the fighting and to bring the problem to the conference table. This first task requires certain first steps and I regard it as a great tragedy that it has not been possible to get the parties concerned to take these first steps."

THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE FOR GENIUS

says Ernest Adkins

WITH some people it's drugs, cars or drink. With me it's football. I cannot resist a bouncing ball.

It was this addiction that led me to Dave Wilson, a name I regret that will never appear in the columns of the national Press.

It was a cold December day, but the flurry of Red and Blue shirts in the distance was enough to make me stop and take a closer look. The game was by no means a masterpiece; in fact my presence immediately doubled the number of spectators. I was just becoming aware of my freezing isolation and the paucity of the fare when Wilson gained possession.

It was this addiction that led me to Dave Wilson, a name I regret that will never appear in the columns of the national Press. Phrases like "work rate" are coined to illustrate a player's industry on the pitch.

IT'S WORK

Malcolm Allison, assistant manager of Manchester City and one of the "with it" set of coaches, says that "skill is much more a reward for hard work down below than a gift from up above."

Practise makes perfect, and dedication reaps its rightful reward. But to pretend that the willing work horse is an adequate alternative to the wayward genius is a dangerous panacea.

Football without the Wilsons is a game I can well do without.

BEMUSED

Surrounded by three opponents he juggled the ball from foot to knee over his head, leaving three very bemused players in his wake.

I forgot the cold. Here was an artist with superb ball control, immaculate distribution. He was striving for perfection. A pass even minutely misdirected was followed by an apology. Players with much less natural talent than Wilson perform weekly and receive pleasantly substantial sums for their efforts. I had to find out about him.

Wilson, it seems, by present day standards is one of football's outsiders. A non-conformist and individualist who doesn't take kindly to rigorous training or fitting into a pattern.

He's a man who plays the game according to his instincts.

Football has been taken to the laboratory and the test tube player is evolving. Never before has so much "professional" advice been available. The coach is to

TOPIQUOTES

Public health inspectors are so lenient they are a joke. Many restaurant kitchens are little better than rubbish dumps. Dirty food is served by dirty cooks to a dirty public, who do not seem to get poisoned because the human digestion is amazingly resilient. I do not think that the situation will ever improve because the Englishman is basically uninterested in food.

—S. Vines, of Salisbury, in a letter to the "Guardian."

★ ★ ★

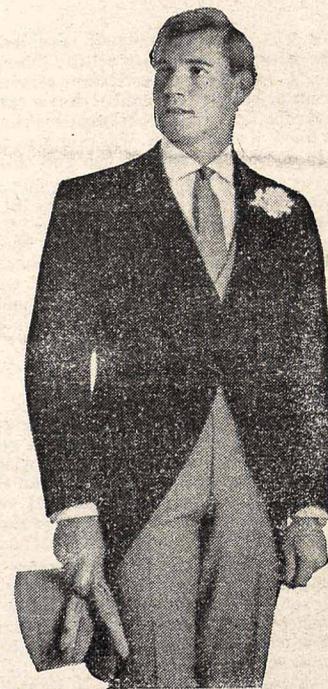
Death has replaced sex as a taboo subject — no-one will talk about it.

— Barbara Jones, author of a book on death, in a television interview.

★ ★ ★

It is too often advanced nowadays by implication that there are advantages in the church being shabby, because shabbiness is the traditional aspect of the servant. Test that by asking whether the image suggested by "servant" is that of a head waiter.

— Dr. Eric Routley in "New Christian."



37/6

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