

Nineteen Yakkity-yak

It's the year of TALK



Second world assembly of the Council of Christian Churches, Evanston, U.S.A., 1954.

The world has the
right to say:

Don't just sit there—

Do
Something!

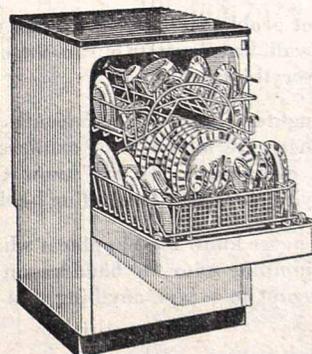
Inside, Geoffrey Brown considers the importance of these conferences.

This month two vital conferences of church leaders will be discussing the task of Christianity in the modern world.

Thousands of words will be poured out in days and days of talk.

*But in the end actions
**SPEAK LOUDER THAN
WORDS.***

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SOAPBOX

DODDY SINGS about it: Schultz draws cartoons about it: politicians promise it: people long for it—the wistful, quicksilver quality we call HAPPINESS, which seems to elude us, to wriggle, to slip through our fingers. Legends, history, human experience are packed with tales of how the

search for happiness ends in dust and ashes, disillusion, despair, cynicism.

We don't learn. Despite harsh experience, we are kidded up blind alleys by people who promise us lasting good fortune, success, security and so a quiet mind: they offer us happiness—and make a packet of votes, cash or popularity out of their cheap offer.

Political propaganda usually implies that we shall have happiness based on a larger slice of the cake for everybody. Television

Happiness

commercial, huge, seductive newspaper adverts, suggest that if we buy this car, that cigarette, take our holidays here, place our bets there, then our lives will be full of luxury, sexual opportunity, gaiety, easy wealth . . . all adding up to happiness.

Hearty holiday-camp cheer-leaders; back-slapping, bland clergymen; baying, grinning pop stars; they all beckon us into their own particular department of the 'fun-game'—and we call that happiness.

But it's no good. We still get unhappiness—problems caused by other people or ourselves and our natures. We are frustrated by our jobs, our relations, our circumstances. There is poverty and misery, personal and national. We know fear, worry, anxiety: there is still the Bomb, illness, death.

So perhaps, instead of seeking happiness we just try to forget with the aid of the various drugs available—alcohol, sex, tele, the social whirl, or, most subtle of all, work.

"We've all got problems," they say "shall we ever escape and find what people call happiness? Or can we only know flashing moments when everything 'clicks'?"

We know laughter: there is the warmth of companionship. We know love. There are moments of exhilaration, contentment, ecstasy. There is composure. We can know God. We may have worthwhile, satisfying work or a fascinating hobby. These we enjoy.

But we shall never know the happiness which so many people are looking for, jumping onto the band-wagon of the latest craze in a desperate attempt to escape anything that makes life uncomfortable.

That quest is selfish, negative. We contract out of real life, we say 'I don't want to know' about our own problems, let alone anybody else's.

LIFE IS TOUGH AS WELL AS ENJOYABLE AND UNTIL WE CAN ACCEPT THIS PATIENTLY AND REALISTICALLY AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNRAVELLING THE KNOTS OF LIVING AS WELL AS ENJOYING THE SMOOTH PASSAGES, WE SHALL BE DISILLUSIONED AND FAIL TO FIND TRUE HAPPINESS.

LETTERS

How we can live together in peace

Dear Sir,

What an interesting article in the May edition by Marie Spinks, "A Many Coloured Happiness."

This article showed how, by a bit of understanding, white and coloured people can live together in peace. I believe that we are all God's children, regardless of colour or creed. A person should not be judged by the colour of his skin.

We owe a lot, here in Birmingham, to the coloured doctors and nurses in our hospitals, who are doing a very deserving and worthwhile job.

Yours truly,
(Miss) L.T.

Northfield,
Birmingham.

This letter is the Christian News letter of the month, and wins a one guinea prize.

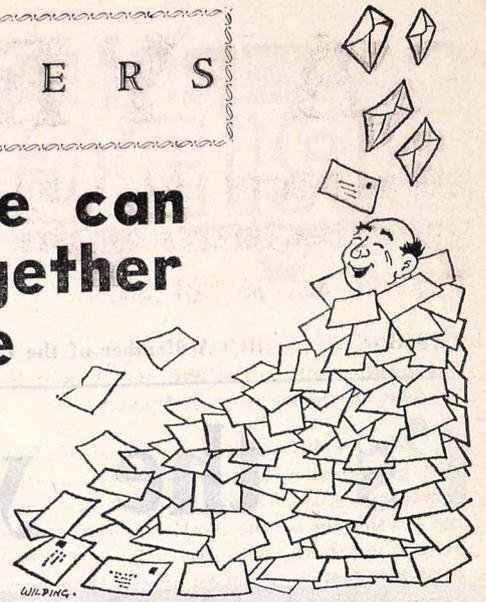
Now people speak to her

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the guinea for my "Letter of the Month" which I was very surprised to receive. I did not expect any payment for my letter, so I am paying for a year's subscription to my local edition of Christian News for four old age pensioners, and hope they enjoy reading it as much as I do.

May I thank you sincerely for your kindness. I do not know how you managed to get the message through, but at the Fellowship Meeting after I had written to you, every new member was specially welcomed, and immediately other members became friendly and now speak to me as I meet them.

Yours faithfully
"ANOTHER WIDOW"
Name and address withheld



The A, B, C of churchgoing!

Dear Sir,

I am glad your correspondent "Another Widow" (May) is now making a new life for herself within the Church. Her plight reminded me of the story of two churchgoers. A had attended several times, but had no attention paid to her, and B had also attended on several occasions. A decided to end her attendance if no one spoke next time, while B decided to speak to the first person possible.

In consequence, A and B met and continued attendance and fellowship therefrom!

Yours truly,
Miss Ball.

18 Sion Hill,
Bath, Somerset.

GOOD FOR A LAUGH



"Very realistic, these three dimensional films . . ."

Letters to the editor are always welcome at 319, Gazette Buildings, Corporation St., Birmingham 4.

ROBIRCH

FAMOUS OVER A CENTURY for

PIES, SAUSAGES AND COOKED MEATS

A YEAR OF YAK

GEOFFREY BROWN TAKES A LOOK AT TWO CONFERENCES, AND ASKS: MUST IT ALL BE HOT AIR ?

TWO BIG CONFERENCES will be meeting this month—one in England the other in the Swedish university town of Uppsala.

The English 'talk-in' known as the Lambeth Conference, is a ten-yearly get-together of Bishops of the Anglican Communion under the Presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury, concerned with the affairs of those churches that have grown all over the world out of the Church of England. It will be made up of some 350 people.

The Uppsala conference will be a much bigger affair—which is only right and proper for a meeting which goes under the title of 'The Fourth Assembly of the World Council of Churches.' Here some 800 delegates representing 223 different denominations will sit under the banner of the Greek word 'Oikumene,' which today might be translated by the one word 'Unity,' but which originally meant 'a concern with the whole inhabited world.'

What are these conferences for, and what do they hope to achieve?

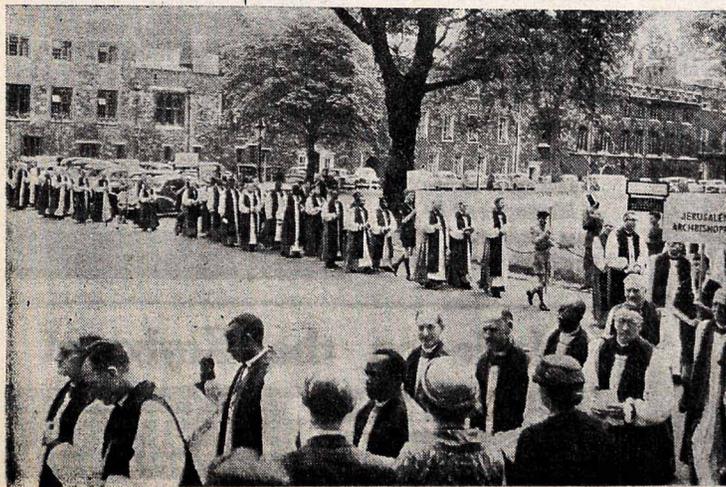
Well, let's see what's on their agendas for discussion.

Renewal

The Lambeth Conference has a theme for the month. It is 'The Renewal of the Church,' and this theme will be divided into three main sections:

- *The Renewal of the Church in Faith.*
- *The Renewal of the Church in Ministry.*
- *The Renewal of the Church in Unity.*

Bishops in procession to the closing service of the 1958 Lambeth Conference.



'Thank you very much do I hear some of you say as you start to flick on to 'Mainly for Women' or Ernest Adkins and our sports column 'but this is all the usual church guff which not only bores the pants off me but has absolutely nothing to do with any part of my life.'

Headings

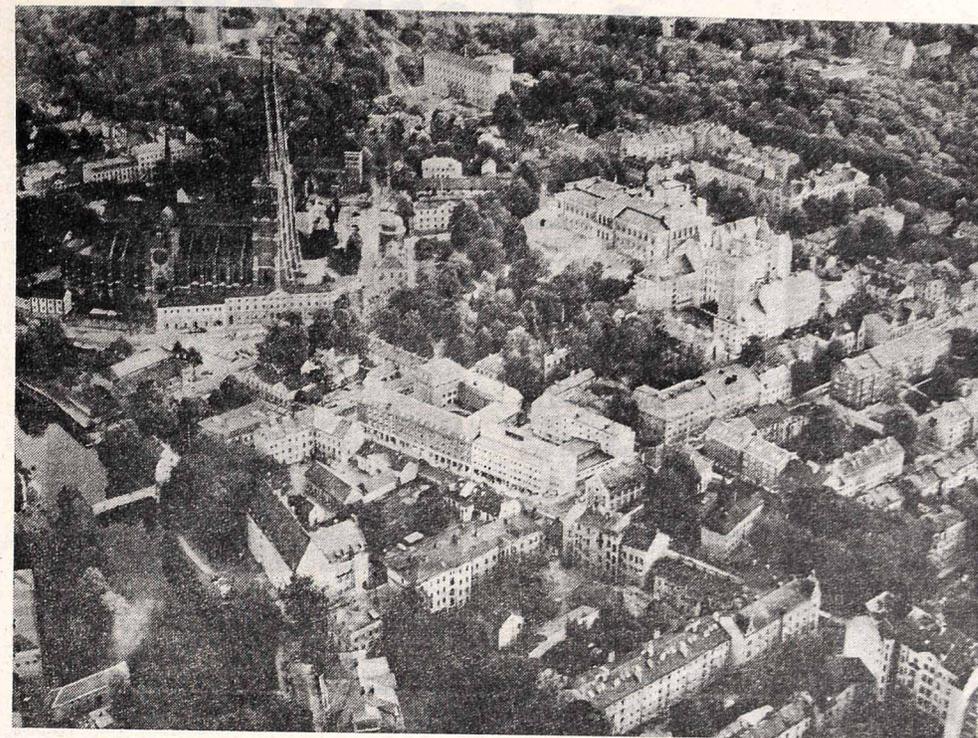
Just wait a minute. See if Uppsala's any better.

Here we've got six main conference headings:

- *The Church's Unity in a Shrinking World.*
- *The Church in Mission.*
- *The Churches' role in Social and Economic Development.*
- *The Churches' Role in International Affairs.*
- *The Worship of God in a Secular Age.* and
- *Towards a New Style of Living.*

O.K. I agree — that doesn't sound much better either.

The trouble is that, too often, ordinary down-to-earth subjects get so wrap-



Uppsala, the setting for this month's Assembly of the World Council of Churches.

ped up in high-sounding phrases that we fail to see that they really are about ordinary everyday things.

We can make too much of the Church only being concerned with its own little world, for behind the long words if we look carefully we can see a concern for the world in all its aspects, whether industrial, political or scientific.

Workaday

In the light of this it is reasonable to suppose that these conferences are NOT just going to discuss internal Church affairs. They will start with the Church—and so they must. But their main concern will be to see how best Christians can serve and challenge in the rough and tumble of the workaday world.

'The Renewal of the Church in Faith' may seem a dull, self-centred subject for discussion at the Lambeth Conference, but it will be concerned with such things as the growth of

cities and the problems these bring, the development of industrial society, the behaviour of nations in international politics, and very many topics that are of real and vital concern to all human beings.

BUT, and it really is an enormous but, can the discussions of some thousand people really make any difference to the world? In spite of what has been done no Christian can possibly fail to recognise that there are vitally important things being left undone.

Some of the biggest and most difficult issues are only being dealt with in words and there is still a great reluctance to act with any real urgency or sacrifice.

Hot air?

It is said that when cats don't know what to do next they sit down and have a wash. When human beings don't know what to do they sit down and have a conference. It could be that Lambeth and Uppsala will simply result in a lot of hot air spoken by a lot of clever people and a whole host of fine-sounding resolutions. It isn't enough that the topics under discussion are vital and relevant.

Talking about them must end up in some kind of real action.

This is where for many of us doubt creeps in and cynicism rears its head.

WE ALL KNOW FROM BITTER EXPERIENCE THAT IT ISN'T THE TOP-LEVEL CON-

ERENCE THAT GETS THINGS DONE, BUT THE GRASS-ROOTS ACTION.

Is there any hope that what goes on at Lambeth and Uppsala will really affect the life of your local church? If it does then it will have been well worthwhile. If it doesn't, then however good the discussions and however wise the words spoken, it will have been an expensive waste of time.

WE LIVE IN TESTING TIMES, NOT ONLY FOR CHRISTIANITY, BUT FOR THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE, AND THE WORLD HAS A RIGHT TO SAY TO CHRISTIANS — WHO CLAIM TO HOLD THE ANSWERS TO HUMAN MISERY — DON'T JUST SIT THERE—DO SOMETHING.

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Mainly
for
Women

The twins visit a Cathedral

By Sandra R. Haynes

LET'S HAVE a nice relaxing day and visit a Cathedral—this was announced by my husband one very warm Sunday morning, we can lunch out and make a day of it—“Winchester Cath-ee-deral” sang Philip and Timothy.

Now in a Cathedral you have to be quiet and as the twins are only quiet when they are either ill or asleep, my spirits sank. I thought for a moment, then ‘All right, let's risk it!’ I said, and it was Lichfield Cathedral here we come.

Philip and Timothy serenaded us for the first couple of miles, but I thought even this was better than the usual free place on the back seat, but when the ‘shooting’ started I HAD to turn round, and there they were, hanging over the back seat and in the car behind the passenger had a handkerchief over his mouth and was ‘shooting’ back!

We duly arrived at Lichfield and the twins had their first glimpse of a Cathedral. Daddy explained that it had taken hundreds of years to build.

‘Why Daddy? Did they have cranes?’ What are those tall thin things on the roof?’

We went inside and were just in time to take part in the last part of a service—the collection was being taken and Philip put his threepenny bit on the plate and took tuppence off! I glared at him.

NO INTENTION

‘It's my change; he explained to all the pew! Have you ever tried extracting money from a hot sticky little hand when the hot sticky little hand has no intention of surrendering? After the service we walked round.



‘Why are there pictures in the windows? Does Jesus live here?’ I explained that it was God's House—shall we see Him? asked Timothy. ‘He's all around us!’ I told him, whereupon they went off to ‘find’ Jesus.

Minutes later they returned. ‘We've found HIM Mummy. He is having a rest.’ They wanted to show me, so off we went and came to an effigy and I had to tell them that this wasn't Jesus, but a King who had died many years ago and this was a picture like him.

It's very hard to explain to two eager six year olds who were longing to meet Jesus that although we were in His House we couldn't actually see and meet Him. One of the Canons came to speak to us.

‘I think this must be Him now’ whispered Philip. ‘Let's ask.’

The Canon was very kind and understanding and the twins seemed satisfied at last. We looked at many beautiful things in the Cathedral—The Herchenrode windows—16th century Flemish glass—the

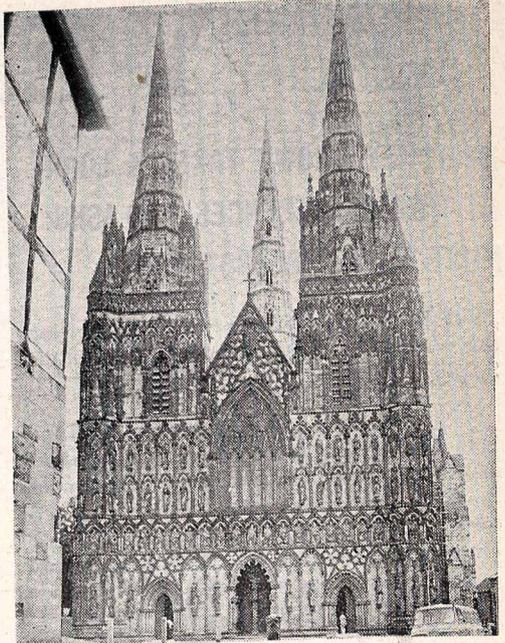
Cathedral's most priceless treasures; seven of these windows are in the Lady Chapel, and five of them have scriptural subjects, and two historical. They are really magnificent.

Philip and Timothy liked Chantrey's ‘The Sleeping Children’ which came to the Cathedral around 1817. My favourite is the Chapter House, with its shafts extending from the central pillar to the roof in a beautiful fan-like pattern—the patience and skill of those craftsmen of so long ago.

SUNSHINE

We eventually came out into the Close which was bathed in brilliant sunshine and the Cathedral spires with their crosses stood out against the cloudless blue sky. The carvings on the outside of the Cathedral must have taken many, many years.

Timothy seemed fascinated, his eyes wandered from top to bottom, side to side, then heaving a big sigh he said, ‘It's an awfully large house for just one person.’



Lichfield Cathedral

GAS PRICES MAY COME DOWN

Hurray for Sir Henry Jones, chairman of the Gas Council, and for a realisation of the economic facts of life in a nationalised industry. That is, if the gas industry does abide by its new policy of reducing its prices by the introduction of North Sea Gas.

At a time when all other nationalised industries' prices are soaring—who ever heard of a 3½ per cent. limit, especially first thing in the morning when what was a 9d. alarm call suddenly becomes 2s.—they have decided to increase sales and bring down prices.

‘We cannot hope to meet this target unless our prices, already competitive, show a substantial relative improvement over the next few years. This cold economic fact alone should give customers an assurance of our determination to get our prices down,’ says Sir Henry.

A year from now, 570,000 customers should have natural gas, with numbers building up at the rate of two million a year.

So, providing one's scepticism is quite unfounded, it looks like housewives are in for a cut in their gas bills in the not too far off future.

JOAN BEST.



KEBABS

- 24 cubes of New Zealand lamb;
- some lemon juice;
- 3 tomatoes;
- 1 red and 1 green pimento;
- 1 level tablespoonful salt mixed with pepper and some celery-salt;
- 6-8 sate-pins or metal skewers.

Cut the tomatoes into slices and chop the pimento in cubes. Moisten the meat with lemon juice and thread meat, tomato and pimento in turns on the sate pins. Sprinkle with mixture of salt and spices. Roast the kebab over a charcoal fire or put them under a grill. Turn repeatedly till the meat is evenly browned and tender. Serve the kebab with pommes frites or Turkish rice (pilaf).

CHILDREN IN NEED!

Millions of children in developing countries suffer poverty and desperate need such as we never know in this country. Malnutrition alone means countless deaths in infancy. Those who survive face lives darkened by hunger, poverty, disease and ignorance.

1968 is HUMAN RIGHTS YEAR
The Right to Food
The Right to Medical Care.
The Right to Education.

How can we talk of these most basic rights of every child when two-thirds of mankind has no chance of them without our help. Feeding schemes, orphanages, clinics, hospitals and training centres all rely on us for help. So, too, do child victims of natural disaster or war. If the thought of child suffering torments you, as it does us, please give as generously as you can to our

Destitute Children's Fund WAR on WANT

9, Madeley Road, London, W.5.

If you pay the standard rate tax, a covenanted gift will add 14.1 to every 28/- without extra cost to you. A mention in your will will provide life for tiny children. LIFE NOT DEATH. DESPERATE NEED FOR CLOTHING FOR REFUGEES. Send to WAR ON WANT DEPOT, Gaxton Street South, London, E.16.

Good buys from Mothercare

GIVE YOUR children a playground in the back garden! The Wendy House will delight an imaginative child: it is big enough for a child to go right inside, and has a door flap with a letter box. Easily assembled over lightweight steel poles, it costs 87/6 from Mothercare, by post only.

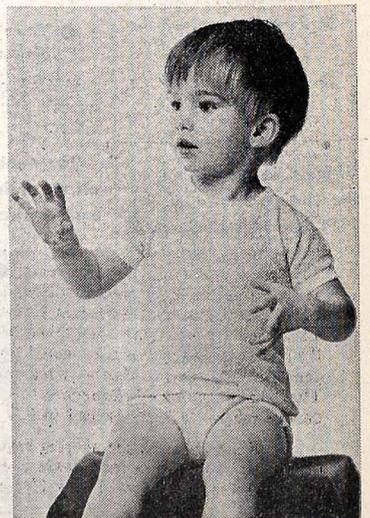
The inflatable paddling pool, also available by post only, costs 30/- and comes complete with a repair kit. A set of 10 gaily coloured building or filling beakers will keep baby happy (8/6). The cotton terry beach pants cost 3/6, and the stretch swimsuit in quick-dry nylon 8/6.

Wendy House and Paddling Pool are available by post from Mothercare, Cherry Tree Road, Watford, Herts, and the rest by post or from branches of Mothercare.



THIS attractive Baby-stretch Romper Suit is made from the very special stretch terry fabric—this practical little suit grows with baby. Softly and gently without constriction or chafing. Months of happy comfortable wear in this little two-piece. Machine wash, non-iron. Colour: Pale Blue or Turquoise with White Trim. Size 32". Fantastic Value at only 10s.

Available at all branches of Mothercare or by post from Mothercare, Cherry Tree Road, Watford, Herts.



Magic on the Keyboard

‘She can't possibly type 900 letters a minute’—three times the speed of a modern typewriter—was our first reaction.

But 31-year-old Sigrild Lude, of Stuttgart, Germany, has been crowned

Queen of the Keys three times running. During the 30-minute speed test she typed 709 letters a minute. ‘Originally,’ she said, ‘I wanted to be a concert pianist. I took piano lessons, but the war made further study impossible, so I went to commercial school.’

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

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NO MORE 'CASUALS'

St. Anne's School

The Head Teacher, Sr. Christine, tells me the school is bursting at the seams, with more children wanting to come than she can, under the regulations, accommodate. 320 is the maximum allowed by the Council. In the Autumn it will be quite impossible to cater for any 'casuals', i.e. new arrivals to the district. This is, of course, very hard on the parents who specifically want their children to receive a Catholic education.

THE STAFF
Four sisters of the Visitation Convent, including Sr. Christine herself, with Mr.

Hughes as Deputy Head Teacher and Games Master, and five other lay teachers comprise the teaching staff. There are also two part-timers who are used in the Reception Class which, if it were not so big, could be used elsewhere. Mrs. O'Brien, whose children have been pupils in the school, is helping out in this class this term,

but a student teacher will replace her in September.

SCHOOL DINNERS

There are also four Children's Supervisors, Mrs. Clements, Mrs. Nichols, Mrs. Walsh and Mrs. Cowland, who not only watch over the children in the playground but also help with the school dinners. Mrs. Louer is head of the Kitchen Staff, with Mrs. Crawley as her assistant and about six other helpers. These also serve the food at lunch. Mr. Dalton is the excellent and versatile caretaker of the school who sometimes helps with the football and makes various equipment used in the teaching of mathematics, etc., and cages for all the numerous pets.

GAIETY

Sr. Christine took me round the school one morning recently, and I was tremendously impressed by the air of gaiety and cheerfulness throughout the school. In the recent 11 plus scholarship examinations, 25 out of 43 passed for places in grammar or selective schools. Of these, 3 are going to Reading School, 4 to Presentation College, 5 to St. Joseph's Convent and the rest are divided between Ashmead, Stoneham and E. P. Collier.

ART

On my trip round the school, I saw where gardens

have been started by the children. The various pets are flourishing, and it appears there is something interesting in this line in most of the classrooms; I saw chinchillas, gerbels, rabbits, guinea pigs, golden weavers, etc. There is a lively interest in art, and when I went round one of the classes was divided into groups doing life-size portraits of the characters in "The Wind in the Willows." The starting point for these pictures seemed to be to lie a small child down on a vast sheet of paper and quickly draw an outline round him; this method certainly has the merit of quickly getting the right proportions. I also saw collages, tissue paper pictures and extremely colourful Chinese dragon kites.

EQUIPMENT

I asked Sr. Christine if there was a great need for extra equipment on top of what gets provided by the Education authorities. She said that indeed there is and told me that recently the Marian Group held a 'Bring and Buy' which raised £11. This has been invested in a camera, which can take slides for educational purposes and can also be used to show the children themselves how to use and understand a camera.

J. M.

HOW MANY DOG COLLARS?

AT this time of year many men are ordained to the Christian ministry. The Methodist Conference each summer is the occasion when that Church Ordains its candidates and Trinity Sunday is the principal ordination day in the Anglican Church.

Through the years the Caversham Bridge has given encouragement to the importance of the ministry of the laity. But today much heart searching is going on about the role of the ordained ministry. Far fewer men are coming forward for training in all parts of the Church. Anglican ordinations in 1967 were only 496 compared with 605 in 1961. In 1961 85 men began their training for the Methodist ministry—but in 1965 their numbers were only 54, while in the same four years the total number of men in training for the Roman Catholic ministry had fallen by two hundred. (The training of course extends over several years). Not only are there fewer candidates now coming forward but many men have left the ordained ministry in all parts of the Christian Church. Some have found they can no longer accept the teaching of their own particular church; their conscience must be respected. But many more have left because they have grown impatient with the structures of the Church rather than with its teaching. Such men have very often turned to some form of social service, seeing this as the way through which they hope to fulfil more purposefully their Christian witness.

But is this really the answer? Their departure from the ranks of the clergy merely leaves the rest of us with a greater burden to bear. It is precisely men like these that the Church needs in her ordained ministry so that the process of reform is not hampered. It is tragic if these men are lost from the ranks of the clergy, as all too often their departure means that fewer questioning voices are heard in the councils of the church, and those of conservative outlook are left to make (or to avoid making) decisions. And so power passes into the hands of men who may realise the necessity for change but are too timid to act.

The role of the laity is immensely important. But the vast majority of the clergy are seriously overburdened with work, and it is a fact that when, as in Caversham, the laity are so progressive, new opportunities of work open up for the clergy. This is excellent, but it does not diminish the need for more clergy, and brash talk about there being no need for more clergy reveals only the ignorance of the person who so talks.

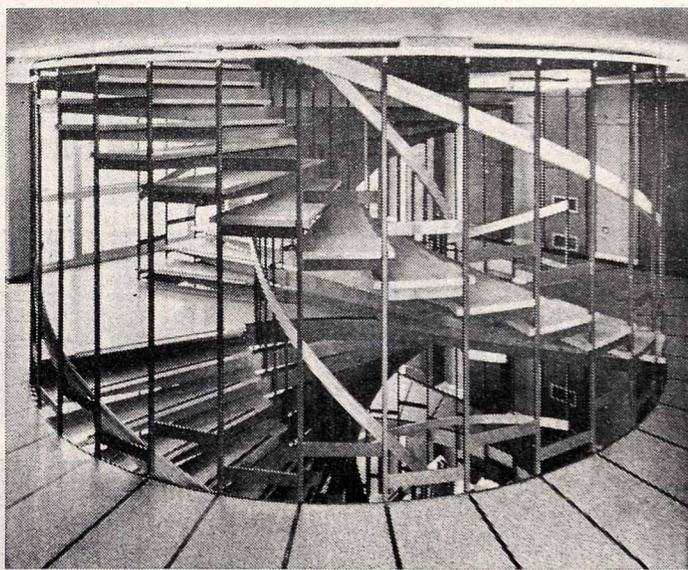
We must not of course think merely in terms of the ordained ministry as we know it now. The Church through the centuries has adjusted the functions of the clergy to suit the needs of the particular age. Things once done only by the bishop have been entrusted to priests, while confirmation administered in the Western Church only by the bishop is entrusted to priests in the Eastern Church. Other acts once regarded as essentially clerical are now performed by the laity. The revival of the diaconate by the Roman Catholic Church is another change of significance. The need for what has been called a "supporting ministry" is becoming apparent. By this it is meant that men would be ordained but continue their secular employment, helping in parishes at week-ends or in the absence of the full-time priest. This has in fact already happened in a number of cases and a recent Anglican report on the subject is likely to lead to this practice becoming more widespread.

When all of us are praying regularly about the Ministry, God will not allow the Church to have an inadequate one. It may well be that we shall have a somewhat different ministry. Every Caversham Bridge reader can help by giving the ministry, both ordained and lay a regular place in his prayers. When our twelve thousand readers are doing this we may expect some surprising things to happen, perhaps even here in Caversham we may be privileged to see some new form in our own midst.

John Grimwade

APOLOGIES

The Editor regrets that an article appearing in the June issue of the Caversham Bridge suggested that all the golf course was threatened by possible development at Emmer Green. The article should of course have made it plain that only part of the golf course, as it now is, may be lost as an open space.



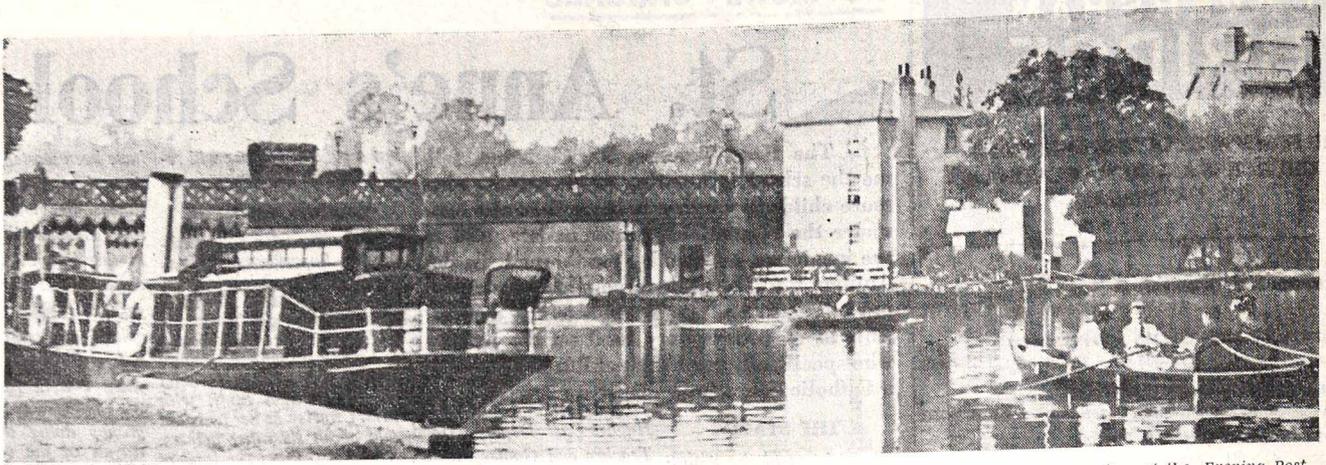
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The old iron Caversham Bridge in the summer.

Photo by courtesy of the Evening Post.

OLD CAVERSHAM

As children we were brought up in a big old house in the centre of Reading, and long walks in to the country were part of our daily routine. One of our favourite walks was to Caversham. Once past the railway—nothing but green fields on either side of us until we reached the river. Then a wild scramble to get over the middle of the old iron bridge so as to shout—"I'm in Oxfordshire!" Everyone to whom I have spoken about the old bridge remembers that strict direction in the middle marking off the two counties.

Every winter in those early days—the meadows each side of

the Caversham Road were flooded as were all the small houses in Lower Caversham. There must have been some very cold winters in my childhood for we all learned to skate. The Thames has of course been frozen over several times, but the bitter winter of 1890 will never be forgotten by those who lived through it. By the kindness of the Borough Librarian I have read the account of the weather that persisted from November until February—not only ice and snow, but fog. Skating was possible in several reaches of the Thames, but on the east side of Caversham Bridge it was really un-

forgettable. For nearly a week it was like a carnival—people skated all day long—at night it was lit up by torches, and chestnut and hot potato men did a roaring trade—the ice

the Crawshay Williams family seemed to belong to the landscape. Their mansion is now the BBC Monitoring Station.

Then—there came development. I remember how grieved my mother was when commer-

sold on Priest Hill above Priory Avenue. It was meadow land, and the view over Reading was delightful. There were still corn fields up at the top of the hill, and Miss Woodley of Blenheim Road tells me that her father paid a deposit for a building plot along there before the three roads—Blenheim, Kidmore and Woodcote were built upon at all. Balmore Park was sold and built upon and the whole place became a residential suburb of Reading.

As we all know, it is still growing!

Just before we came to Caversham—Queen Anne's School was built on the same foundation as the Grey Coat School for Girls at Westminster. We took great interest in the chapel when it was built because Miss Holmes invited my father to advise on the interior.

We all loved St. Peter's Church. My sister and I were married there and later on my

dear parents and two sisters were taken there for their final church service. Most people will know that the Caversham Simmonds family were Lay Rectors of Caversham. It was, I believe, on the death of the last of them that the Vicar of Caversham became also Rector.

The old house was almost all pulled down, but we have the lovely Caversham Court gardens to remind us of the past. With its glorious view across the river I look upon Caversham Court as one of the best parts of Caversham. When the Corporation of Reading took over the embankment on the Hotel side and laid it out—we felt they had learned a salutary lesson from the view from the east side of the bridge.

I think that most people will agree that Caversham is the nicest suburb of Reading. Progress must go on, the houses are not very beautiful, but we always have our lovely river.

AGNES BRIDGE.

Mrs. Agnes Bridge (of 44 Priest Hill), who has contributed this article, is 90. Recently she has written for "The Observer" and "The Guardian", and we are most grateful to her for these memories of Old Caversham.

being thick from bank to bank.

I remember Caversham as a pleasant little village—behind the main street it was just country with big land holders owning large estates, General Ratcliffe, who owned Balmore, had the nature of a squire, and

cial premises developed on the Reading side of the river. Vastern Road was built up and gradually all the Caversham road filled up.

Then Caversham itself began to grow. In 1898 my father built on the first plot to be

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CHRISTIAN AID RESULTS

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, JULY, 1966—THREE

Collectors in Caversham and Emmer Green produced a total of £514 from the Christian Aid Week house to house collection. "This is a considerable improvement on last year", said Miss Ruth Redmayne, the Ward Organiser. Those who helped with this rather humdrum job are to be congratulated for their excellent results.

A PITY

It was a pity to hear of a few incidents of outright rudeness. One could understand people saying either that they couldn't afford to give, or that they were already committed to other charitable causes. The occasional abusive remarks about the poorer nations of the world, and the few carefully sealed up envelopes which were found to contain nothing—were a sad indication of the way some people refuse to realise the urgency of the problem of world poverty or their responsibility to their fellow men.

CAVERSHAM ON THE MARCH

One hundred walkers from Caversham and Mapledurham were amongst the 1,200 who set out from the Odeon cinema on Whitsunday night, June 2nd, on the sponsored walk. Many of them were members of Caversham congregations, but there were also a good number from the community at large. Five of the Anglican clergy and four sisters from the Visitation Convent, St. Anne's, took part—and Sisters, Anne Dillon and Anne

Catherine are to be congratulated for completing the 27 mile circuit of Reading.

£100 for 27 miles

Amongst the Caversham walkers were Miss G. Whitehill of 72 Albert Road, Miss H. Pryce-Jones of 171 Peppard Road, and many younger walkers, Roy Baylis, who completed the 27 miles, was the highest sponsored walker of all. If his sponsors keep their pledges—his 27 miles will raise £100.

A good night's work

Those who took part found the walk a thrilling experience—in which all barriers between the generations, denominations and races were broken down. United in a symbolic identification with refugees on the move, and in an imaginative way of raising money to help them settle down—the walkers certainly did a good night's work. Twyford was outstanding for its welcome to all the walkers, its facilities for refreshments and first aid and the tremendous encouragement given during the darkest part of the night. Conditions were excellent, and once past Sonning, it was a pleasure to walk on such a clear, dry moonlit night. The scent from fields and gardens, the sense of peace and later the dawn chorus provided pleasant memories which helped during the last 3 miles of pavements and kerbstones. Over 600 completed the course. J.Y.C.



Photo by courtesy of the Reading Chronicle.

The Mayor, Ald. Mrs. Edith Morris and the Bishop of Reading at the start of the Walk. On the left are Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Jones, on leave from Biafra where they have been running a Christian Aid farm project financed by £4,000 sent from Reading in 1966.

More thoughts of a Roving Reporter

News of local people

WHAT A LOT has happened in Caversham this month; I'm afraid it will have to be severely condensed and a great many details left out. But please go on letting us have news of local people; so many readers have commented on the news they glean from this column only.

HANDICRAFTS

At a recent exhibition of handicrafts etc., made at evening classes. I was glad to find a large number of Caversham people. Pottery, articles of dressmaking, photography, art, etc., all first class, appeared

in this very interesting exhibition at the Town Hall; I advise people to watch for it next year. It is well worth a visit.

NEW BOOK

Malcolm Cooper, the priest-in-charge at St. Barnabas, has recently published 'The Modern Approach to Biology'. A text book, intended mainly for technical college students, it is one of a series which is well-known to many. As sister to a teacher of biology, I hope to have an early opportunity of seeing the book for myself.

PLAY GROUPS

And Mrs. Cooper tells me that the first meeting of the Reading and District Association of Play Groups was recently held in Emmer Green with the St. Barnabas Group (open five mornings a week) acting as host. The Association consists of 25 play groups, and over 130 people attended the meeting, which was addressed by Mrs. Molly Cox, the producer of the BBC programme 'Play School'.

RATS?

Do you ever have problems with rats? Recently one appeared in our garden causing considerable alarm. A phone call to the Rodent Officer of the local council (Reading 55911, Ext. 290) brought a helpful young man along the next day, to cope with the situation. He tells me that far too few people avail themselves of the service early enough. So don't forget, if you do have this trouble—rats are extremely dangerous and it's difficult to get rid of them yourself without endangering the local animal population.

Not that this would worry the people at Elliotts. I hear their cat has just produced kittens again.

ESME FEW

Welcome to Esme Few who, with her mother, has just come to join our Caversham community. Most of you will have read of her nursing work in the local press recently, so I will not repeat it here. Suffice it to say that those of us who know her and her mother are looking forward to having her amongst us. Our archaeology reporter is particularly enthusiastic; Esme herself is a keen member of the local society.

'HANDYMAN'

And best wishes to our new 'handyman' who is setting up in business at the Gosbrook Road end of George Street. A well-known Caversham man, he will be very welcome in our trading community.

NOT EASY

The almshouses in Westfield Road now have a new welfare officer, Mrs. Lorenc. It is not always an easy task and we wish her well. Incidentally, Mrs. Bowsher, until recently a resident at the almshouses, is now installed at the Arthur Clarke Home. Like Miss Nightingale, who is also there, she is looking forward to visits from her old friends.

AFTER 30 YEARS

An interesting item of news came my way recently. Barbara Dalton, who lives in South View Avenue and is a member of

St. Anne's Church, had a visitor she hasn't seen for 30 years. When she was three years old, she and her brother, on the death of their mother, went to live with foster parents. Three years later they returned home and lost complete touch with their foster parents until last year when her brother, Keith, a missionary in India, returned home and decided to try to contact Mr. and Mrs. Marks. Unfortunately Mrs. Marks had died, but her husband still remembered Barbara and her brother well, and at the age of 80, was pleased to exchange visits. Barbara found the old village looking just the same, the same village school and the same thatched cottages.

Incidentally, Mrs. Dalton is one of those who 'bring you the Bridge' and delivers to several houses in South View Avenue, where she is well known.

VICTIM OF HIROSHIMA

While most Church members were actively engaged on preparations for the great Christian Aid walk, a Japanese gentleman slipped quietly in and out of Reading. It is a pity that these other activities prevented many Christians from going to hear him speak; for he is a victim of the Hiroshima tragedy, dying slowly and spending what time is left to him to bring his personal knowledge of the tragedy to the people of the world. No orator and with only a limited knowledge of English a personal meeting with him was nevertheless a moving encounter.

CONGRATULATIONS

Just after writing the rest of these notes, I had the news that Marion Eldon had presented Stan with a daughter. Congratulations to her. They are now of course in their new house at St. Peter's Hill next door to Michael Paxton who was tirelessly in the helping over the arrangements for the Christian Aid Walk.

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EAST CAVERSHAM

A month ago I set out to discover East Caversham. Does this make it sound like darkest Africa? Well in a way it is to those of us who don't live there; lacking a shopping centre, places of entertainment or parks, there is little incentive to visit the district except to see friends.

The first thing I discovered was that the natives are very very friendly. Now before you start reaching for the phone or writing letters, let me say at once that I know very well there are other friendly people in Caversham. Just across the road from me lives a lady I can guarantee to find at the bedside of any sick neighbour she knows about, in the next road lives a family who spend all their free time serving others, and a couple I know on Caversham Heights qualify, in my eyes at least, as saints. But in East Caversham I discovered a kind of general "Come-in-I'll-put-the-kettle-on" neighbourliness that I seldom meet in this part of the world; something that recalled my own childhood.



Gwen Bartlett and Sue Harris Fred Walker

LUCKY

Mind you, I was lucky; I walked straight into the middle of it. Armed with a list of names and addresses provided by Jo and John Stevinson, themselves typical of the kind of good neighbours I was to meet so often, I headed straight for Coldicut Street and the home of Mrs. Gwen Bartlett. I discovered her having tea with her friend Sue Harris who lives next door, and for the next hour or so we discussed the many activities in which, together with their friends in the district, they are engaged.

DENOMINATION

But though Church work was mentioned frequently, time and again a question about a person's denomination met with a blank answer; to most people in the area, this is of secondary consideration. Though I should say in all fairness that the coffee groups organised by the various churches have obviously done much to foster contacts; all these activities are greatly welcomed here and the only regret I heard was of the lack of contacts with other districts of Caversham.

FRIEND IN NEED

Whether it is brasses at St. John's that need cleaning, or a sick neighbour who wants shopping done, these two are bound to know all about it. As someone said to me, Gwen Bartlett is the type of person you wouldn't mind waking up in the middle of the night if necessary. They told me of their friend, Miss Clift, at present staying with an elderly lady in the district while her daughter had a holiday, and of Mrs. Jones, the fourth member of their immediate group.

LOCAL PEOPLE

They reminded me that Mrs. Moss, who figured in a previous article in the 'Bridge' was still active at St. John's, and they mentioned many others in the district whose names were to occur over and over again in conversations with local people

STARTED YOUNG

My next port of call took me out of the district, to visit Mr. and Mrs. House who live on the corner of Old Peppard Road. I had been told they were in charge of the 'Bridge' distribution in East Caversham. Their connection with the district started when the children were young and attended St. John's Sunday School and, later, St. Anne's School. Incidentally, they were both sorry that it was no longer possible for non-Catholics to attend the school where, they said, their children were both very happy.

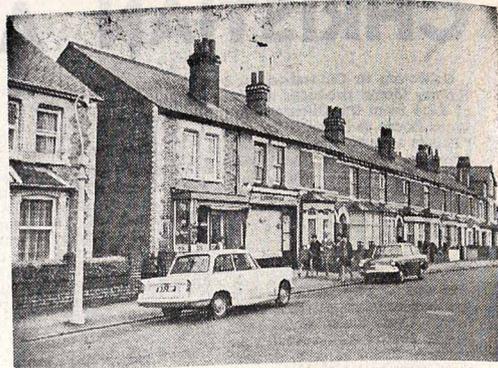
Mr. and Mrs. House are people of many and varied interests. The house and garden abounds with nesting boxes, etc., gardening in their spare time. They told me a little of their church work but once again they were far more anxious to pass on names and addresses of those who, they said, did far more. Anyone who knows them will know of their daughter's long illness, but I heard from several people that they never missed an opportunity, when visiting her in hospital at Oxford, to see that

YOUNG WIVES

From this house in Henley Road, once again I departed with a list of names and addresses. I heard of the Wednesday Group of young wives, organised by Susan Taylor of South View Avenue, spending their time doing anything needed, from renovating second-hand clothes for organisations who needed them, to running house-to-house collections, etc. I was told of the industrial groups run by Kate Harris of Valentine Crescent. Once again I heard the old familiar names of those who could always be counted on when help is needed.

All this has left me feeling there is still much to be discovered east of Prospect Street; I have a long list of people on both sides of the Henley Road whom I hope to meet during the coming months. Whatever happens, I am well aware that many people will be left out and I know some readers will complain on this score. I hope you won't be too hard on me; this is only a spare time job. But whether your name, or that of your neighbour is mentioned or not, I would like to thank everyone, those I met and those I did not, for giving me fresh hope for the neighbourly friendliness of Caversham.

W.D.



Coldwell St.—the friendliest road in Caversham? Fred Walker

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Doris Gillett—'Bridge' Worker Fred Walker

—Miss Grace Dearlove of Queen's Road, who has given a temporary home to so many babies in recent years, Mrs. Bartlett (no relation) of Washington Road who helps so many neighbours, Mrs. Whiteway who does so much for the Mothers' Union, Mrs. Everts of Ardler Road who is still remembered for having delivered the old Church magazine for so many years. They told me of a young man in King's Road whose landlady became crippled with arthritis, and how he and a friend have helped her with the domestic chores ever since.

DID WHAT THEY COULD

It was a noticeable feature of my investigations that no-one I met said anything about not being able to do much because of some reason or other; they simply did what they could whenever they could.

BRIDGE SCHEME

My last call, before a short stay in hospital put a temporary end to my perambulations, was to see Mrs. Doris Gillett of Henley Road. I had met her previously when she turned up, under the auspices of the 'Bridge Social Scheme' to act as night-nurse to an elderly lady at the almshouses, so I needed nobody to tell me that she and others like her was one of the reasons the scheme got off to such a successful start. We talked a lot about the scheme; she told me of other people in the district who worked with it but was bothered about the lack of publicity. She felt that many failed to avail themselves of its services, or to offer help, because of this. Mrs. Gillett, who comes originally from Poole in Dorset, has lived in the district for many years; her husband does legal aid work, and they have four children one of whom, like her mother is a nurse. At present Mrs. Gillett works part-time at a local chemists.

"NEIGHBOURS"

I staggered out of Coldicut Street with a list of names I couldn't possibly get around to, but with the firm conviction that their group is no isolated one and that here at last I had found a corner of Caversham where the word neighbour doesn't just mean the person living next door. And I discovered something else here too; nobody asks what Church you belong to, or, indeed, if you belong to any at all. The fact that many of those I talked to happened to be members of St. John's Church is simply due to the fact that an Anglican myself, my original contacts were mainly members of my own Church.

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AREA ORGANISERS

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

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

Mrs. J. Swift,
(East Caversham),
224, Henley Road,
Caversham, 73221.

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

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

Platts - open for 57 years

Very much a part of Lower Caversham is Platt's Grocer's Shop on the corner of Gosbrook Road and Mill Road. Thomas Platt moved there from Richmond, Surrey with his wife and eight children (four boys and four girls) in 1911. Two of them, Elsie and Gilbert, have been associated with the business ever since—but in the early years all were kept busy, especially during the 1914-18 War. The family has always been involved with St. John's church, and in the past Elsie often had time to organise a lot of the catering for St. John's functions.

TRADITIONAL COUNTER SHOP

The building is old—but during the 1947 floods, attractive and well designed. Until 1962 it was a traditional "counter shop". Since then it has been a "self-service" shop, but with staff at hand to give personal service. "We know everybody who comes into the shop," said Mr. Platt. "We are always

ready to give Mrs. X the particular cut of bacon she likes—sliced at just the thickness she likes. We also deliver. Some of our customers have moved away to Emmer Green or over the river, but we still deliver to them. A few of them have been with us 40 years!"

CHARACTER

In 1935 the Platts opened another shop in Donkin Hill, then a very new housing area built on sloping fields bordering on to a country lane. Even today—the character of this second shop is different. "It's a different trade—a much younger population" said the manager, Mr. Edwin Curling who has been with the Platts for 40 years. A keen Methodist and a "Bridge" distributor—he is not the only member of the business who has been with the Platts most of his working life. His assistant, Mr. Henry Annetts, has been with the firm for 33 years.

What about the future with increasing competition from the big supermarkets? "Around here" said Mr. Platt—"many people do a lot of their shopping in Reading, but they do some of their shopping here—and we have our regulars who come to us for most of their groceries. Not everyone likes Supermarkets. Here, there's



Gilbert and Elsie Platt with one of their regular customers, Mrs. Edith Lovejoy.

RANDOM JOTTINGS From an R.C. Layman

FOOTNOTE ON BAPTISM

When lunching at the Catholic Chaplaincy in Oxford recently, Fr. Michael Hollings told me he has had one or two baptisms lately during Sunday Mass. He said that although he found it delightful, he cannot make a regular practice of it as it does make the timetable of the Masses quite haywire. With reference to my article in last month's issue, it will be interesting to see whether he finds any parents asking him to baptise their babies at next year's Easter vigil.

THE LAW ON ABORTION

Since the Abortion Bill became law, one doctor I know, (not an R.C.), has been asked in the few weeks since this happened to perform as many abortions as in the previous twenty years. In each case he refused as, in his view, the reasons just were not good enough.

According to the Ministry of Health's instructions issued to doctors on the new law, he lays himself open to a possible fine of up to £100 each time he does this. This doctor says he simply will not be able to consent to carry out what amounts to "abortion on demand"—all his instincts, all his training revolt

at the idea. He feels, sadly, that if attempts are made to force him on this issue, he will have to resign from practising medicine and either attempt another career, or emigrate and practise abroad.

I do not imagine this doctor is unique in feeling like this. Can the Health Service, already overstrained, continue to function if many doctors take a similar line?

"THE CROSS AND THE SWITCHBLADE"

May I recommend this amazing book to you? You can probably get it out of the library, but it is published in a paperback at 6s. It makes compelling reading and is the story of a country preacher called Wilkerson, who goes into New York to help the young people in the terrible juvenile gangs there. His work is something which is going on here and now in New York, and if anyone has any doubts in the power of prayer, in the value of placing one's trust completely in God and relying on the power of the Holy Spirit to guide one; or even doubts as to whether anyone is listening to our prayers at all, this book should prove a real help and encouragement.

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still the personal touch." As to the future of businesses like Platt's—"There don't seem to be many young men in the trade today. As time goes on—will people put in the hours we put in?" Let us hope that they will. It would be a pity to lose our local shops, very real focal points of the community in areas like Lower Caversham.

FORMER CAVERSHAM MAN FASTS IN YORK MINSTER

Dr. Brian Morris, aged 37, a former lay reader in Caversham, and now senior lecturer in English at York University, took part in a seven-day fast in York Minster in the middle of June, campaigning for the Church of England to give over half its annual income to support the world's starving nations. Dr. Morris, who survived on orange-juice, said: "Our support ranges from students to just ordinary people and I hope our team of followers will grow, until there is a person fasting in every cathedral in Britain."

The fast, which has the permission of the dean and chapter, was initiated by a Methodist missionary working in Zambia, the Rev. Merfyn Temple, who travelled to York after spending the previous fortnight fasting in Westminster Abbey as part of the protest.

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KATHLEEN HAGUE

Probably the youngest, and certainly amongst the keenest "Bridge" distributors are Valerie House (16) of 15 All Hallows Road, and Kathleen Hague (15) of 5 All Hallows Road. They have both lived in the same road since they were small children; both went to Micklands Primary School before Valerie went to Kendrick School and Kathleen went to Henley Grammar School. Both are involved in their 'O' Levels; both are interested in a future career working with computers and both attracted towards the idea of emigrating to Canada.

Both are members of the St. John's Post Confirmation Group of which Valerie is Chairman and Kathleen Secretary. Both enjoy dancing at Top Rank and visits to the swimming baths.

Opinions about the "Bridge"? —"We know the inner pages couldn't manage it—but why doesn't the outer section have a page for teenagers?"

Photos: Fred Walker



VALERIE HOUSE

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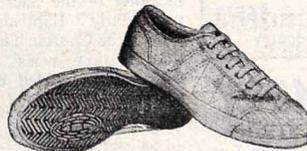
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ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

HAPPY ASCENSION-TIDE

Ascension Day took on a fresh meaning this year as it became the occasion when the newly confirmed received Holy Communion for the first time. There were well over 400 communicants on Ascension Day, a great festival which too often has been neglected. Two days previously, using the new order of service, the Bishop of Reading confirmed fifty-nine candidates in the presence of an exceptionally large congregation, and they are most warmly welcomed into the fellowship of the Christian Church. Two of the candidates were baptized at St. Barnabas on the Sunday preceding with the new order of adult baptism. On the Sunday following the new infant baptism service

was used for two babies at St. Peter's. On both occasions these baptisms took place within the setting of the Parish Communion. While these new orders of service are no doubt capable of some improvement those present on these different occasions seem to have found a fresh meaning in the administration of these sacraments because of the revised orders of service.

SWISS TRIP

The Rector of Caversham has just returned from a visit to Switzerland on behalf of the Diocesan Council for Mission and Unity. He attended a fortnight's course on the Challenge of Social Evil at the

ecumenical centre of the World Council of Churches at Bossey, near Geneva. Christians from many parts of the world attended, Roman Catholics, Protestants, Orthodox and Anglicans. The lecturers included a Moslem economist from West Africa and a Jewish rabbi.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Arrangements have been made for all couples being married in the parish to attend a series of three discussions which are being arranged by the Marriage Guidance Council. Three separate series of discussions are being arranged in the coming week for the benefit of those being married in August and the months that follow.

Change at St. Peters

When in February a change was made and Matins was replaced on the third Sunday of the month with a said celebration of Holy Communion with hymns and address it was said that the matter would be reviewed after six months.

Many people have expressed their appreciation of this change, and unless therefore a number of contrary views are received it would seem right to make it a permanent one. It has also been possible, because of this change, to have the full choir at the Parish Communion on this Sunday each month, and the presence of all the choirmen on these occasions has been much appreciated by the congregation.

It is pleasant to record that in the last twelve months the size of the Parish Communion congregation has grown appreciably without any noticeable reduction in the congregation at other Sunday services.

SON ET LUMIERE

A coach outing is being

arranged to see and hear Son et Lumiere at Christ Church, Oxford on Wednesday, September 4th. Names please to Mr. F. C. Moore or other members of the social committee.

JULY SAINTS DAYS

St. Mary Magdalen, Monday, July 22nd 8 p.m. St. James Day, Thursday, July 25th 9-30 a.m.

How best to help?

St. Barnabas

Each year sees a small increase in our awareness that we have a responsibility towards those who live in poverty in other countries of the world. How best to help them is no easy matter to decide, and while it is true that a long term solution needs government action on a world-wide scale, the individual can make a worthwhile contribution through the work of charities such as Christian Aid. These matters were the subject of discussion after Evensong on May 5th entitled "World Poverty and How best the Church

can meet it" which was introduced by Professor W. Russell. Following on from that the Christian Aid Week house to house collection raised approximately £87 in Emmer Green. While this total is a poor one it is slightly higher than last year's and represents a great deal of time-consuming work by Mr. W. Griffiths and his team of collectors. Thank you all for what you have done.

FOLK SERVICE

The Folk service on the theme of world hunger held on May 12th, deserves special mention. It was specially written for the occasion and included folk songs and readings from modern writers. The members of US formed a small group, led by guitarist Nicholas Anderson, which succeeded in rousing those present to some enthusiastic singing. We all look forward to the time when something similar can be done again.

ceedings and take a few notes. Many of their problems are just the problems we have to face—the difficulty of raising money, the youth question and the meaning of the Sacraments, particularly Baptism and joining the Church. The word Confirmation was almost deliberately avoided because of the Roman Catholic situation.

FRANCE

France is a very large country with a population of about 50 million, there are some 5 million practising Roman Catholics and half a million Protestants. The State itself is secular. That does not mean one person in ten that you meet is a Catholic and that one person in a hundred is Protestant. Protestantism occurs in pockets, in Paris, around La Rochelle, a very historic area, and in Alsace-Lorraine. This is the Huguenot Church which

St. John's News

Tuesday, 28th May was a happy occasion for the members of the Mothers' Union, because two new members were enrolled, and what is more both are mothers of young children. It is hoped that more active, rather than semi-retired mothers will be joining soon.

Summer Sunday Evening Services

While Christians have an obligation to share weekly in the corporate worship of God's family, there is no obligation at all to worship twice on a Sunday, and during the summer months especially people take the opportunity to enjoy the freedom of the long evenings. This is as it should be. During June, July and August therefore, there will be sung Evensong of the second Sunday of the month only, on other Sundays, except for the Quarterly Baptismal Family Service there will be no evening Service in St. John's. The other three District Churches will have Evensong as usual at 6-30 p.m.

GOOD WISHES

We send our good wishes to Carol Edwin on her marriage to Edward Bobbins. Carol taught for some years in the St. John's Sunday School. However she is not moving far away, just a little further down the Henley Road, so we look forward to seeing her and her husband in the future.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will be closed from July 27th to September 8th inclusive; that is during school holidays.

survived the Massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day in 1572. They are proud of their history and traditions and yet are a forward looking Church trying to meet the situation in their country in 1968 and the years to come.

INTERESTING

I counted it a very great privilege to be asked to go to their Assembly on behalf of the English Presbyterian Church and it was most interesting to observe their ways. Strangely enough, I wore my white clerical collar and black stock which seemed quite out of place because very few Protestants wear this attire abroad. It is

ST. ANDREW'S FAIR

Nearly £40 had already been raised towards the Summer Fair target by June 1st. This was done through a hunger lunch, the sale of jewellery and fancy goods and of home made marmalade. This is a good beginning but we have still at least £260 to go! Activities continue with the Gala Whist Drive on Tuesday, July 2nd, at 7-30 p.m. and with the Green-grocery Stall on the morning

of the Fair. The Fair itself opens at 3 p.m. on July 6th.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

From September, Evensong on the third Sunday in every month will be at 6-30 p.m. and not at 3-15 p.m. This means that there will again be a regular service on Sunday evenings throughout the year, except on certain occasions (e.g. the Parish Dedication Festival and the Sunday in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity). Full details of our new policy in relation to baptism, now that Evensong will no longer be in the afternoon, are still being worked out.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Thursday, July 11th, there will be a meeting in St. Andrew's Hall for the parents of the Sunday School children. Since the beginning of the year a number of changes have been introduced in the Sunday School and these, together with general policy, will be explained at this meeting. There will also be an opportunity for questions and discussion. We hope too that parents will give us their ideas on how St. Andrew's can serve the children of the district more effectively.

St. Margaret's Day

St. Margaret's Day falls on Saturday, July 20th. It is hoped to arrange a special evensong on Sunday July 21st with the congregations of some of the Caversham churches attending. Details have not yet been arranged but will be announced as soon as possible. The Church Council has agreed to the sale of the present vicarage, and it is hoped to buy another house in the area of Upper Woodcote Road when one becomes available. This would enable a priest-in-charge to live in that part of the parish where most of the population are to be found.

SCRIPTURE EXAMINATION

Scholars of the Caversham Heights Methodist Sunday School were runners-up for the Banner as the result of their efforts in the Reading and District Sunday School Union Scripture examination. Three of the scholars, Jane Hissey, Colin Simpson and Susan Watret gained top marks in their respective age groups, and Jane Hissey's paper has been sent to London to be judged for a national prize. Two scholars

FULL RESULTS

gained 100 per cent and four scholars 99 per cent, while 14 obtained honours certificates—13 with prizes. The average mark of the scholars who entered was 85 per cent. Full results for the school were: prize and honours certificate: Jane Hissey, Colin Simpson, Jane Watret, Philippa Brown, Susan Watret, Sarah Morgan, Sheila Taylor, Jennifer Tee, John Davies, David Wright, Jane McGreevy, Angela Springer, Catherine Kirk. Honours certificate: Wendy Middleton. First class certificate: Caroline Wale, Tina Girdler, Laurence Ward, Anderson Springer, Lynn Harding. Second class certificate: John Hollingum, Eric Springer, Timothy Wale.

PAINTING PRIZE

Eight-year-old Sarah Morgan of Upper Warren Avenue has been awarded a prize for her painting of the interior of an Iban long-house in Sarawak, in a country-wide JMA competition.

NICHOLAS

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Presbyterians are addicted to Synodical Church Government, so our General Assembly was called to meet in the City Temple this year where we considered the work of the past year and planned ahead. Every congregation was represented by an elder selected by the local Session and by the ministers. So the total membership was about 600 to 700. A good deal of the work was routine work but several interesting matters are sent to congregations for consideration.

BEFORE THE STRIKE

Before this, however, I was sent to the Assembly of the French Reformed Church which met at Royan near Bordeaux (before the strike — thank goodness!) The E.R.F., as they call themselves, is a Church also governed by Synods, and though their methods differ from ours it is easy to see that we have many practices and beliefs in common. Fortunately I speak and understand French fairly well so I was able to follow the pro-

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SUSPENDED SENTENCE

Six months ago the little chapel at Gallowstree Common was typical of all too many country chapels in the Methodist connexion. At one time it served a small but thriving congregation, and its Sunday School and Women's Meeting reached out to touch the lives of many local residents who were neither Methodists nor even church-goers. Over the years, deaths and departures thinned the ranks, while newcomers to the district preferred to worship in the bigger town churches. By the end of 1967, only one member survived and the last two Sunday School teachers were on the point of moving away. Closing appeared inevitable.

NOT ALONE

But Gallowstree Common does not stand alone. Although not within the area of distribution of Caversham Bridge, it is a sister church to those at Gosbrook Road and Caversham Heights, sharing a minister with them and with another village chapel at Woodcote. Together with them it forms a part of the Reading Circuit, and the majority of its services, as in most other Methodist churches, are conducted by laymen, the Local Preachers of the Circuit. Any decision as to its future would necessarily lie with the Quarterly Meeting, the whole body of Circuit ministers, preachers and church officials. With the interests of the Sunday School children particularly in mind, the Quarterly Meeting were anxious to avoid closing the chapel if at all possible.

MUCH DONE

The neighbouring village of Sonning Common had no Methodist church, but a number of Methodist residents who attended churches in Reading or Caversham. These people were invited to transfer their membership to Gallowstree Common, and four families decided to do so. This was enough to assure the future of the church, and other Reading Methodists rallied round to give it a good start on its new lease of life. The people had been found, the building already existed, but much was and is still to be done. Members of the University Methodist Society helped to apply gaily coloured paint inside and out, and tore down the barrier of an overgrown hedge separating the church from the outside world, symbolising the new look and the new approach which we are now trying to make a reality. Other churches have provided an organist, furnishings and extra hymn books, and we are promised the loan without interest of money for further alterations.

ROUTINE

Already we have settled into our routine of Sunday School and Morning Service with monthly Women's Fellowship and Class Meeting. Because all our new members are married couples with small children, we start Sunday School early, with classes in church, schoolroom and kitchen, and both children and teachers are able to share in the service which follows. The children return to the schoolroom after the first quarter of an hour and occupy themselves with books, games (of the

quieter sort) and refreshments until the service is over.

NO COMPLAINTS

Parents take it in turn to supervise this Children's Club, but it is not unknown for a father or mother to be summoned urgently from their pew by loud cries or a head appearing in the doorway behind the pulpit. Preachers seem to put up with such interruptions quite cheerfully, for so far none has dared to complain! Easter Day was a special occasion, with the greater part of the service devoted to a showing of the J. Arthur Rank film "First Things First," on the topical theme of a father who takes the blame for a disaster which in fact was caused by his own son. Parents, children and friends combined to form a record congregation.

CORDIAL

Inter-church relationships in our area are cordial, and include regular united services and a South Chilterns Christian Council now in process of formation. We are taking an active part in this, and at present are the sole representatives of Methodism on a body which will also include Anglicans, Roman Catholics and Congregationalists.

On the secular side we have members who are active in the Parish Council, adult education, a youth club and a children's play group.

PURPOSE

Behind all these activities there lies the conviction which all of us share, that God has called us here for a purpose, and that we have his blessing not only when we meet for worship or companionship but when we serve the community in which we live. No doubt the same is true in every church, but at Chiltern Edge, as we now call ourselves, we have special reason to be aware of it, and we look forward to ever increasing opportunities and resources for fulfilling the responsibility which is ours.

H. H. Carter.

Gala Whist Drive

St. Andrew's Hall

July 2nd,

7.30 p.m.

Proceeds to Oxfam

ST. ANNE'S NEWS

Whitsunday 1968 will certainly be remembered as a landmark in the history of the Catholic Church in this country. On this day, throughout the country, the New Pentecost Movement was launched with, for the first time, members of the laity occupying the pulpit to explain to the congregation what was wanted from them.

THE LAITY

For the first time, the Catholic Church is systematically tapping the resources of the laity. For the first time we as individuals are being asked to contribute time and talents. To enable the Catholic Church in England and Wales to function as efficiently and effectively as possible, the Bishops have set up twelve national commissions. Each will oversee some aspect of the work of the Church in these two countries. Their work is being directed in the light of the decisions of the Second Vatican Council. The twelve commissions are: the Laity Commission, the Commission for Social Welfare, the Commission for Justice and Peace, the Education Commission, the Missionary Commission, the Ecumenical Commission, the Theology Commission, the Commission for Seminaries, the Liturgical Commission, the Music Commission, the Commission for Religious, and the Commission on Mass Media.

THE BUDGET

A budget for these twelve Commissions for 1968 has been drawn up, and we are asked to contribute. It is, however, emphasised that more than the money, we are being asked to volunteer our skills, our devotion, our time, to the activity that will spread outwards from these new bodies. Envelopes have been distributed for contributions, with a small form printed on the outside which we are asked to complete. These will be analysed and eventually we shall be told in what way we, as individuals, can help the New Pentecost.

EXCITING TIME

This is indeed an exciting time to be a layman. This is the second time in recent months we have been asked to take on responsibilities, and play a far more direct and alive role on behalf of the Church. Reports in the Catholic Press have shown how in some districts the Parish Councils have really got going, and I think the response to this new appeal should be enthusiastic. Surely everyone can find at least one of the new Commissions whose work will interest him or her?

VISITATION CONVENT

The Community of this convent in Southview Avenue, Caversham, consists of nine nuns, of whom four work as teachers in St. Anne's Primary School. Sr. Christine is the head teacher in this school.

THEIR WORK

Apart from their work in the school, the Sisters look after the sacristy of St. Anne's Church. They run the sodality for young women known as the "Children of Mary", and help in endless charitable projects which make the individual sisters well-known and much liked in the district. Behind the convent is a beautifully kept garden in which some of the Sisters work.

CHRISTIAN AID WALK

Four of the nuns very sportingly took part in the Whitsun Christian Aid Walk, sponsored chiefly by the pupils of the school. They put up a marvellous performance; Sr. Mary Aiden reached the first checkpoint, another Sister walked 17 miles and the other two completed the course.

IN THIS COUNTRY

The Visitation order is a Belgian teaching one, with the Mother House and Teachers' Training College at Ghent. Although this Order has many convents in Belgium, there are only three in this country and three in Africa. In this country, apart from our convent here in Caversham, there is the novitiate at Bridport in Dorset, where there is also a boarding school for boys of primary school age. The third convent is at Cheddle near Stoke-on-Trent and is about the same size as the one here.

THE MARIAN GROUP

At the Annual General Meeting of the Marian Group held in April, Angela Sealey was elected Chairman in succession to Kathleen Naylor. Sheila Sarfas is the new Vice-Chairman and Mary Higon succeeds Carol Weedridge as Secretary. The other new Committee members chosen were Anne Clarke, Inge Mahon-Daly and Helen Thomas. After the elections there was a discussion about the future programme followed by refreshments and a sale of children's outgrown clothing.

TALK

On Tuesday 21st May Mrs. Montgomery gave a most interesting talk to the Group about the work of Reading Samaritans, and on the 28th May Miss D. Taylor, Divisional Superintendent of Reading South Nursing Division of St. John's Ambulance Brigade, gave a talk on First Aid in the home, including some of the new developments in this field.

NEXT EVENT

These two meetings were unavoidably close together. Meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of each month in St. Anne's School. The next event will be a Cider and Savouries Party on 18th June at 8 p.m. All ladies living in the Parish of St. Anne's are welcome.

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MEMORIALS — EMBALMING — CREMATIONS



Some of the collectors of the Juvenile Missionary Association at Caversham Heights Methodist Church with the Southampton District JMA Shield, which was awarded to them for their work during 1967. This is the third time the shield has come to Caversham. It was awarded to the same JMA group in 1960 and 1961.

ROUND THE CLUBS

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD
At the May meeting Miss N. K. Brown the vice-chairman presided. One new member was welcomed.

A talk on Modern Life and Modern Meals was given by a representative of the Flour Advisory Bureau of London. Members were advised on the type of foods needed to maintain good health including the place of bread in a well balanced diet. How to make a wheatmeal loaf in a flower pot was demonstrated. A vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Langford.

There were twelve entries for the competition for a Victoria Sandwich. This was won by Mrs. E. Pearmain.

SOCIAL STUDIES AND OUTINGS

1. A visit was made to the Evening Post printing works where members had the opportunity of seeing Computers

being used in modern methods of printing. This was most interesting.

2. An invitation to an 'At Home' by Littlewoods, was accepted by a group of members who had a very interesting insight into the history of, and scenes behind, a large modern store.

EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the May meeting a large number of members heard Mr. W. H. Thompson speak of his many years as bodyguard to Sir Winston, then Mr. Churchill. He told us a great deal about the great man's character and personal courage and related several humorous anecdotes.

Members also discussed the Motions for National Council. Two members reported on meetings they had attended on behalf of the Guild concerning the United Nations Association and Racial Harmony.

The Social Studies Group have started a most interesting course on Social History particularly relating to the Thames Valley area.

There have been several outings and groups of members have visited Littlewoods Store, Guildford Theatre and Hughenden Hall. Mrs. Risius and Mrs. Taplin attended the National Council Meeting at the Albert Hall.

Altogether it has been a busy and interesting month.

READING CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Chairman, Mrs. Valerie Birtwhistle presided when Caversham Heights Townswomen heard Mr. Frank Henderson, of Beecham's Toilet Division, speak on "Care of the Hair" at the May meeting.

A poetry competition held after the talk was won by Mrs. Frank Beetham.

The Guild took part in three outings during the month—members visiting an International Cabaret at Slough, a concert at Broadmoor, and a look behind the scenes at Littlewood's Stores.

The Social Studies Group were each given a cookery book by their speaker, Mr. C. G. Payne who spoke on the care and use of domestic refrigerators.

New members are always welcomed by the Guild which meets on the third Thursday in each month at St. Andrew's Hall, Caversham, and Mrs. Jill Payne, Secretary, will be glad to give information to anyone wishing to join. Her address is 7, St. Andrew's Road, Caversham.

ROSEHILL WOMENS INSTITUTE

Our President (Mrs. Sizer) opened the May Meeting and welcomed two new members.

Resolutions were then put to the vote in readiness for the Annual Meeting at the Albert Hall.

Mrs. T. Sparrow gave a talk on Crochet and several items were on display.

The competition for a "Home made paper doyley" was won by Mrs. Keeling. Runners up were Mrs. Record and Mrs. Gribble.

Caversham Residents Association

GOOD NEWS about the smell from the peanut factory. The directors have informed our chairman that they are installing new plant and a new filtering system in the factory which should lead to a marked reduction in the smell which has for so long been causing offence in that part of Caversham. The installations should be completed by the end of the summer.

Congestion caused by indiscriminate parking has been reduced in those streets where yellow lines have appeared. Generally speaking, the complete ban on parking in those parts where no car should be parked anyhow and at curbsides more in demand, the time for which each car can occupy a space is rationed to half an hour. This seems fair enough but does not solve the problem of where to park. It is hoped that the car park now being prepared off Wolsley Road will

go some way towards helping but it is a long way to lug a full basket from the Church Road end of the "village". In addition, the exit from Wolsley Road to Gosbrook Street is already a notorious one.

Traffic in Caversham was of course one of the subjects that came up at the meeting to "quiz your candidates" organised by the Association in connection with the municipal elections. All the candidates but one attended.

It is indicative of the Association's lack of political bias that three of the candidates, each representing a different party, are members of the executive committee. All those candidates present had first hand experience of Caversham's problems as they all live or work there. Elections show up differences; that is what they are all about. But one point members of the audience made clear and that all the candidates took was that people want a sense of participation in what is done

in their name, and whatever might be the intention of 'the powers that be', this is at present lacking. The candidates could not all agree as to how this should be done but our elected representatives must now know that this is what is wanted. This growing desire to participate is not confined to Caversham but is nation wide and is an encouraging sign for the future of democracy.

We were pleased to see Mr. and Mrs. John Lee at the meeting when they joined the audience for a time to listen to the discussion.

We congratulate one of our members, Mrs. Geake of Priest Hill, on her election to the executive committee of the Civic Society. Mrs. Geake is enthusiastic about the way householders can contribute to the better appearance of Reading's streets by improvements to their houses and gardens. She can cite many examples in Caversham where this has been done.

July 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 (Holy Communion 3rd Sunday)
12-15 p.m. Holy Communion 1st Sunday
6-30 p.m. Evensong (not 3rd Sunday)

St. John's
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion
9-15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST
6-30 p.m. Evening Service (2nd Sunday only)

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 (not 3rd Sunday)

St. Barnabas
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist
6-30 p.m. Evensong

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion
9-15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION
6-30 p.m. Evensong

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Anne's
8-00 a.m., 9-30 a.m., 11-0 a.m.
7 p.m.—Mass.

Our Lady of Caversham
8-30 and 10-30 a.m.—Mass

SALVATION ARMY
Prospect Street
3-00 Young People
6-30 p.m. Adults.

ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH, YORK ROAD
11-00 a.m. and 6-30 p.m. Worship

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH
July Services
7.7.68 11 and 6-30 The Rev. L. S. Lewis (Evening Communion)
14.7.68 11 and 6-30 The Rev. L. S. Lewis
21.7.68 11 and 6-30 The Rev. L. S. Lewis (Morning Communion)
28.7.68 11 and 6-30 The Rev. L. S. Lewis

METHODIST CHURCHES JULY PREACHING APPOINTMENTS

Caversham
7—Mr. K. Haines
Rev. E. B. Wright
14—Mr. L. E. Scott
Rev. A. E. Ward
21—Rev. E. B. Wright
Mrs. E. Carter
28—Mr. E. J. Stenner
Rev. J. O. Cochran

Caversham Heights
11-00 Rev. E. B. Wright (1)
6-30 Miss M. Broadhead
11-00 Rev. E. B. Wright (2)
6-30 Mr. F. W. Button
11-00 Rev. S. M. Wendt
6-30 Rev. E. B. Wright
11-00 Rev. E. B. Wright
6-30 Mr. C. Buck

Gosbrook Road
11-00 a.m. and 6-30 p.m. Worship.
11-00 a.m. Sunday School.

Notes: (1) Holy Communion, (2) Cradle Roll service.

WE RECORD . . .

BAPTISED
St. Peter's
May
26 Lynne Drew.
Elizabeth Molesworth.

St. John's
May.
5 Samantha Wyeth,
June.
2 Susan Armstrong,
Nicholas Skipper.

St. Andrew's
May.
19 Nicola Smith,
Sophie Harris.

St. Barnabas'
May.
19 Jonathan Bone,
Elizabeth Coulson.

Confirmed at St. Peter's,
May 21st.
St. Peter's
David Briggs,
Clara Brown,
Helen Birtwhistle,
Elizabeth Coulson,
Gillian Douglas,
Diana Ford,
Janet Griffin,
Martin Griffin,
Malsie King.

Caroline Mercier,
Eileen Stratton,
Rosemary Tomkins,
Hugh Turner,
Ann Watts.

St. John's
Joyce Bailey,
Jennifer Bartlett,
Mary Dighton,
Caroline Holmes,
Jacqueline Leach,
Linda Newman,
Mabel Powell,
Graham Toms,
Carol Toms.

St. Andrew's
Margaret Atkins,
Ian Canning,
Janet Corre,
Quentin Curtis,
Kevin Dennis,
Peter Gill,
Stephen Girdler,
Anthony Green,
Paul Gorup,
Linda Gosling,
Carol Hall,
Sally Hunt,
Geoffrey Kent,
Roger Kent,
Peter Lawne,
Violet Lewis,
Shirley Lewis.

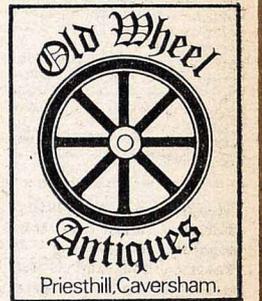
Christopher Nicholls,
Diane Marsh,
David Parmenter,
Mark Parmenter,
Nicholas Payne,
Ruth Potter,
Ian Rix,
Michael Shepherd,
Ruth Steer,
James Stevens.

St. Barnabas'
Jonathan Bone,
Marion Fowler,
Peter Lander,
Henry Roast,
Mary Russell,
Ann Titcombe,
Elizabeth Watson,
Jane Winch.

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham.
Susan Beacroft.

MARRIED
St. Andrew's
May.
4 Paul Trent and Vanessa Critchley.

BURIED
May.
10 Robert Hurle.



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Paper Round

Eastleigh, where churches speak with one voice

"THE BRIDGE Editorial team is a group where church unity really works." This is fair comment on a body of people 16 strong, representing seven Anglican, one Baptist, two Congregational, two Methodist and two Roman Catholic churches, which meets once a month to plan and produce a 5,700 copies a month, eight page edition to go round National Christian News.

"Bridge" covers an area in which there are about 14,000 homes, divided into three districts, Bishopstoke, Chandler's Ford and Eastleigh. The size of the team is partly due to the fact that each of these districts has a nature of its own. The title block represents, pictorially, the bridges over railway and brook which separate the two outer districts from Eastleigh in the centre.

Dormitory

Separated from Southampton by a narrow "green belt," and eight miles from Winchester, Eastleigh used to exist solely for two large railway works. Industry has developed considerably in recent years, and the outlying villages of Bishopstoke and Chandler's Ford have become populous dormitory areas, the latter having its own industrial estate. Total

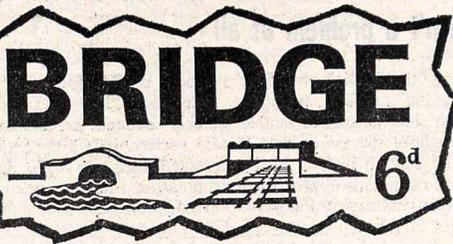
Members of the Bridge Editorial team at their monthly meeting. 5 denominations and 14 different churches are represented on the team.



ANGLICANS, METHODISTS LEARN TO CO-OPERATE

ON THE BROMLEY Heath and Black Horse housing estates, outside Bristol, a joint Anglican-Methodist team ministry has been initiated. It is based on a fine site of buildings provided by the Methodists.

Here there is a separate Anglican Communion service and Methodist service on Sunday morning; but in the evenings there is joint worship, and work among young and old and other aspects of service to the whole community are tackled jointly. Anglicans and Methodists are united in a common sense of mission and desire to grow together.



population is now slightly below 40,000.

Bridge was launched by the Eastleigh and district Council of churches in April, 1966. At the outset it aimed to be a means of communication between the different districts, between the different churches and between the church and the whole community.

The pattern has now been established of four pages devoted to district news and four to news and articles which claim prominence by virtue of their general interest.

Significant

As far as communication between the churches is concerned, it seems now, after two years, that nearly all the churches represented on the Editorial team realise that "Bridge" has significance for the life of the whole Church in the area.

The fact that it has taken this time is a commentary on the normal (in most places) church practice of leaving progressive thinking and action (particularly in the sphere of church unity) to a few keen members.

Perhaps in communication between the Church and Community "Bridge" has

made most impact. A rough estimate shows that three-quarters of the homes which take the paper are not those of regular church goers. Full page articles about local industry, welfare services and history, comment and news of local government decisions and policies go side by side with church news of the more interesting variety.

Broke News

On one occasion "Bridge" was able to break the news of high handed action by the Hampshire Educational authority over a school bus. The matter was taken up locally, and the decision reversed.

Both the Council of Churches and the individual churches in the area are active in a number of different ways and there is usually something from the churches worth a front page report.

LAUNCHING AND WORKING ON "BRIDGE" HAS BEEN A MOST EXCITING EXPERIENCE, NOT WITHOUT RISKS AND CRISES. LOOKING BACK, THE EDITORIAL TEAM SOMETIMES WONDERS HOW IT CAME INTO EXISTENCE AND HOW IT SURVIVES. GOD ALONE KNOWS.

Together - to Lourdes

FOR THE FIRST time an Anglican bishop and a Roman Catholic bishop will jointly lead a pilgrimage to Lourdes, organised by Inter-Church Travel, from August 30 to September 6.

The Anglican bishop will be the Bishop of Willesden (the Right Rev. Graham Leonard), and the Roman Catholic the Right Rev. Patrick Casey. They will stay with some fifty pilgrims at the nearby Benedictine Abbey at Tournay, where an ecumenical information centre is being formed.

At Desborough in Northamptonshire, which was earmarked as an area of ecumenical experiment in 1965, Anglicans and Methodists have agreed in principle to a united congregation and ministry, centred on one set of buildings.

All services will be held in the parish church—permission for full inter-communion is to be sought—while the Methodist church building is to be sold and the money used for adapting the existing parish hall or building a new one.

It is planned to implement the scheme on 1st September, 1969.



SHE TYPES WITH HER FEET!

IRENA KAISER can cook, she can embroider and she makes pretty pottery too. She is eighteen with blonde hair.

Irena Kaiser is a Ranger and can do just about everything the other Guides can do . . . if she does not have to get out of her wheelchair.

For Irena Kaiser is a Guide, a good one. She is a spastic.

She types with her toes because her right leg is the only limb she can control completely.

Irena is as keen to be a good Guide as she is to overcome her disability, which is why she will be the only Guide to represent England at the International Camp for disabled Rangers at Baarn in Holland on the 13th—26th July this year.

Groom's

Irena is in the Ranger Guide Company at John Groom's Crippleage, Edgeware Way, Edgeware, where she lives. She has been there for three years since she left the Chipping Norton Branch of the National Children's Home for disabled children.

FAITH ADS BRING IN THE QUERIES

THE CATHOLIC Enquiry Centre's new advertisements—in which biblical texts and Gothic lettering are "out" and the language of today is "in"—brought the centre more than 24,500 enquiries during 1967.

This brings to more than 239,000 the total number of applications for the course since the centre opened 14 years ago, says the annual report.

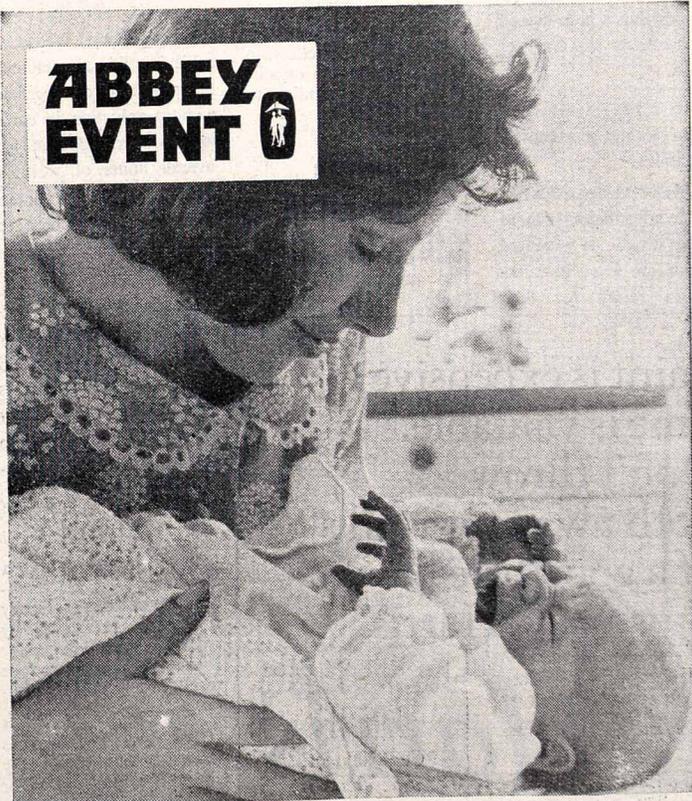
The new adverts—which tell that "the story of Christ is a love story"—have also meant that the centre's average of 1,000 known converts a year has been maintained.

But the need for the course is greater than ever before says a commentary on the report. Fewer people than before are receiving information in any of the Christian Churches in this

country. According to a recent survey exactly 50 per cent. of the applicants were men and 50 per cent. women. Forty-six per cent of those who apply are under 25 years of age. The applicants are drawn from every occupation: 15 per cent. are students at university or colleges of further education; twenty-three-and-a-half per cent. are housewives. Most of them go rarely or not at all to church.

Over a third of the C.E.C.'s annual budget of some £40,000 goes on advertising.

In all, about 16,500 applications came from 36 adverts; and more than 5,800 applications came by means of contact cards (displayed in churches).

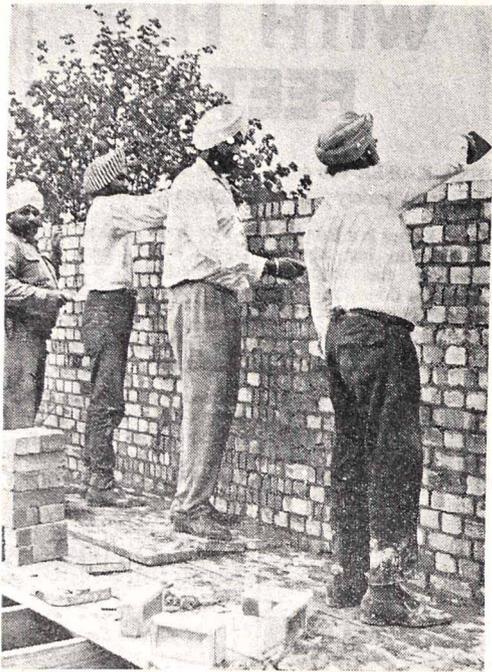


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World of Industry



Who are the Sikhs ?

by Dee Dover

AT REGULAR INTERVALS small news items creep into our newspapers concerning the problematic turban worn by some Indians. To us it may seem a bit of a storm in a teacup. After all is it really important if some traffic wardens or bus conductors wear bits of cloth round their heads instead of regulation caps? It does matter to a Sikh.

Most of the immigrants we see in this country wearing the turban are members of the Sikh religion. This sect, centred in the Punjab district of India, broke away from Hinduism in the 15th century. It was founded by Nanak in 1469. Unlike the Hindus, Sikhs believe in only one God. Basically theirs is a simple religion in line with our own non-conformist churches. The Sikhs abolished the cast system in their own community long before the rest of India.

There are about 100,000 Sikhs living in this country. The men are easy to spot with their dark beards and long hair hidden beneath a turban. It is not vanity that

Understanding why these men wear their turbans would do much to relieve a troublesome problem, which really isn't a problem at all - - -

makes them stick to their hair, but religious tradition which has remained stable throughout the centuries.

The Punjab district in the North of India is now divided between India and Pakistan. It lies in the rich fertile valley of the Indus. The Sikhs were constantly under attack from the Mongols, Afghans, Persians and later the British.

Through persecution the Sikhs were formed into a strong army by their Guru—leader. They learned the art of guerilla warfare, abandoning their long gowns in favour of shorts, so they could move with greater speed. Every male child was given the name Singh meaning lion with his family names.

Their weapons were short daggers and a sharp circle of metal which when accurately thrown could chop off a man's head. Today this is remembered by the simple bracelet which the men wear, it is also a symbol of the sect's unity.

Combed

The males do not cut their bodily hair—ever. It is combed daily with a short comb which can be made of anything from wood to ivory. These five—hair/shorts/bracelet/comb and the traditional name of lion are the

symbols of Sikhdom. Prejudices are formed quickly enough in this uneasy society. It is a generally accepted fact that once discrimination has been removed, prejudices soon fade. Understanding why these men wear their turbans would do much to relieve a troublesome problem, which really isn't a problem at all if the authorities would look at it sensibly.

These people are an honourable race, and rightly proud of their religion. During both world wars Sikh regiments fought with outstanding bravery. Such names as Gian Singh Jemadar, Parkash Singh and Premindra Singh Bhagat along with several others figure in the list of V.C. awards.

Safety

In the factory a Sikh is much less likely to get his hair caught up in machinery than his long haired English counterpart. The turban has definite safety value. On buses, in hospital or as traffic wardens, even policemen—the turban can be the same colour as the uniform.

After all no one objected to these men wearing khaki turbans during two wars. Surely this country is large enough to allow them to cover their hair, and follow their own religion—without prejudice?

Chaplain for London dockers

The Revd. Peter Duncan has been appointed first full-time chaplain to dockers of the port industry in London. Seamen visiting the Port of London have for many years had the advice and help of chaplains available to them; until recently the docks had no such service, but now Mr. Duncan has been appointed by the Bishops of London, Southwark and Chelmsford.

"They have done this because the Church is concerned with the quality of human life generally," says Mr. Duncan. "Industry affects human life considerably, and of course a man's job affects his life tremendously. The Church feels it should involve itself in all of this."

From 1957 to 1964 Mr. Duncan was Vicar of St. Peter, Battersea, and an assistant industrial missionary in the diocese of Southwark, and for two years he was Industrial Chaplain to the Port Harcourt Mission in Eastern Nigeria.

Mr. Duncan will still maintain his present contact with the South London Industrial Mission.

Stop it

An appeal for the Home Secretary to stamp out the growth of Black Magic rites in Britain has been made by a youth organisation at the Marpool Congregational Church in Derbyshire.

A spokesman for the group said this week: "We have read so much about Black Magic rites still being practised in this country that we have asked the Home Secretary to do everything possible to stamp them out."

THE BARGAIN MAKERS

BY MICHAEL DODD

THE TRADITIONAL bargainners of industry have a new partner. The TUC and the CBI (Confederation of British Industries) have been joined by the Prices and Incomes Board.

The result—a new type of bargaining: productivity bargaining.

This is an agreement in which advantages, such as higher wages or increased leisure, are given to workers in return for their

agreement to accept changes in working practices, in methods or in the organisation of work leading to greater efficiency.

THE AIM

Increased efficiency is the overall aim. It is recognised that only a joint approach can succeed in raising productivity significantly.

Important factors in achieving this aim include the reduction of overtime without reduction in earnings; new arrangements for overall hours of work; a move to shift work; interchange of tasks between different groups of workers.

The focal point of productivity bargaining in any plant is the shop steward, whose role and power is considerably changed by the shift of emphasis from national to local agreements.

SECURITY

In all this depends to a large extent on the provision of adequate security to workers threatened by redundancy, as redundancy is an obvious immediate result in any drive to improve the use of labour.

The Prices and Incomes Board has repeatedly shown its preference for productivity bargaining as opposed to conventional bargaining. But it has to be recognised that the balance of power has not changed.

The master-servant relationship in industry can mean no talk of equality. Productivity bargaining at plant level undermines the unity which is the work-people's sole strength.

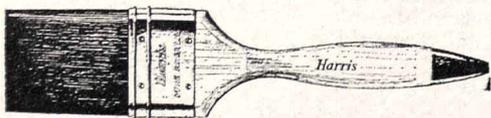
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Ken Willson

Shelter gets world cup genius

MR. KEN WILLSON, who was awarded the M.B.E. for his organisation of the World Cup series in Britain in 1966, is to join SHELTER, National Campaign for the Homeless, as Appeals Co-ordinator.

SHELTER'S Director, Des Wilson, said today that the 48 years old former Chief Administrative Officer of the World Cup Organisation would bring "a wealth of experience and good will to the all-important role of co-ordinating SHELTER'S fund raising activities."

Following its policy of giving responsibility to young people, SHELTER had named three 24 year olds to key positions in the organisation.

They are Eileen Ware, former journalist who came to SHELTER as Publicity Organiser and is now appointed Campaign Director (responsible for Youth activities, Public Relations, Research, and SHELTER'S educational programme), Elizabeth Wills, former secretary at the National Council of Social Service who is Groups Director, and Cindy Barlow, who adds to her responsibilities as Secretary to SHELTER that of Administrative Director.

These three, together with Ken Willson, make up the four senior executives responsible to the Director for SHELTER'S educational, fund raising, regional, and administrative activities.

Junior Magazine
By Brenda Holloway

NOW AND THEN

Write a diary or draw up a schedule of what you did last Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Put down the time you got up each day, the time you went to bed, the work you did, the games you played, and anything else that happened on each day.

A job for our roaming reporter

Roaming Reporters are the people that newspapers send out to snoop out the news and find out facts.

JUNIOR MAGAZINE heard stories that life was pretty grim for some youngsters in England about 120 years ago. That's about the time our great-great-grandfathers were boys. So we asked our roaming reporter to see what he could discover.

Our roaming reporter has discovered

Only the children of well-to-do people learnt to read and write. Children of poorer people were sent out to work in mines and factories when they were only four or five years old. They worked for fifteen hours a day, and only got a few shillings a week. Small boys often worked knee deep in mud in dark coal mines, dragging heavy trucks with coal. Other boys were used to clean the huge chimneys in the big houses of the rich. The boys climbed up the inside of the chimney, which often was hot. Their bodies got scorched and the hot fumes nearly choked them.

Mary Jane's schedule

Our roaming reporter has sent us this schedule of seven-year-old Mary Jane. Compare your schedule or diary with her's. Sunday was the only day in the week that Mary Jane had off work, and she had only about five separate days holiday a year.

- 4-00 a.m. Dragged out of bed, dead tired, after 6 hours sleep.
- 5-30 a.m. Started to work in factory.
- 9-00 a.m. Got a beating because she wasn't working hard enough.
- 3-00 p.m. Got another beating for same reason.
- 9-00 p.m. Went home.
- 10-00 p.m. Bed at last. But up again at 4 o'clock next morning.

Somebody does something about it

Nobody thought there was anything wrong about all this, says our roaming reporter, until Lord Shaftesbury, a rich young man, came on the scene. He was absolutely horrified when he heard how poor children suffered, and he visited factories, pits and mines to see for himself what was happening. Then he went to Parliament and demanded that laws should be passed cutting down the number of hours children should be allowed to work and stopping very young children working at all. He made some bitter enemies among the rich owners of factories and mines who discovered that the Act of Parliament would stop them getting plenty of cheap workers. But Lord Shaftesbury wouldn't be put off. He worked away until the new laws were passed.

The family motto

Put the jumbled letters of each of the following words in the right order to discover Lord Shaftesbury's family motto. (Answer below).

EVOL NAD VERSE

Now just for fun

The only vowel used in this verse is I.
Idling I sit in this mild twilight dim,
Whilst birds in wild, swift, vigils, circling skim.
Light winds in sighing sink, till rising bright,
Night's timid pilgrim swims in vivid light.

Can you do it?

Try your hand at writing a sentence using only one vowel, like this sentence: **Ada and Adam ran away.** But remember the sentence you write must make sense!

Answer to family motto: Love and serve.

Programme packaging

Jim Stewart is our guest critic this month

PACKAGING is big business these days. Loads of research, market surveys, psychology and art go into those eye-catching packets. Colour, material, shape—all are carefully chosen. And so is size.

It's much the same when it comes to television programmes—how to fit the contents with the right size packet. And because I was brought up to believe that the best things come in small packets, I've had a look at some of the programmes in the half-hour size.

It's true that such a limited time isn't enough for everything. Dramatic presentation sometimes needs longer to develop a plot of any ingenuity and give the characters depth. But it doesn't have to be that way all the time. A short play can be very powerful in skilful hands—much as the short story can be.

Smaller

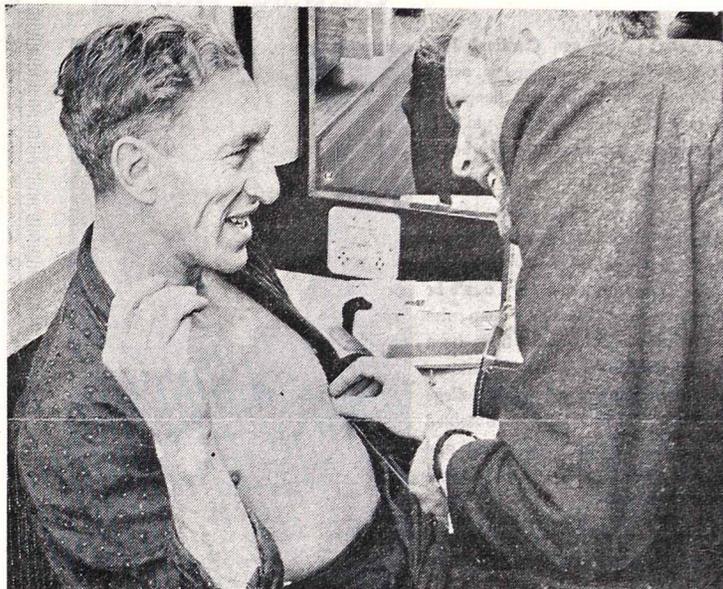
But in any case I don't want high drama wrenching at my emotions and conscience every minute, and for comedy the smaller packets are desirable. Yeh actual Alf Garnett was great for half an hour a week, but imagine a couple of hours of that stuff! It's the same for any of the comedy successes.

A concentration of chuckles or even a downright belly laugh is better for my money than some of those dragged out farces we get fed on each Bank Holiday. I, for one, am tired of Brian Rix slopping around in tatty raincoat and moustache being yet another north-country nincompoop.

QUIZ

1. Where is St. Mark's Square?
2. Where is Popocatepetl?
3. Where is the Whispering Gallery?
4. Where is Tattenham Corner?
5. Where is the Golden Gate?
6. Where is Surtsey?

- ANSWERS
1. Venice.
 2. Mexico.
 3. St. Paul's Cathedral.
 4. Epsom Racecourse.
 5. San Francisco.
 6. Off the coast of Iceland. It is a new volcanic island.



Baxter's 'Tomorrow's World'—clean, clinical and not too cosy

I even enjoy being educated in small doses. Knowing next to nothing about the world of science and technology, "Tomorrow's World" fascinates me. Sure, it's a showpiece: the Baxter's guide to the latest ingenuity with just enough potted jargon and explanation to whet the appetite for those who like long words.

But the programmes are usually well balanced, a touch of humour here and there, and just about enough to take in at one go. As a presentation package it's a bit austere, but that's part of the scientific image—clear, clinical and not too cosy.

Pampering

The purist, no doubt views such programmes with suspicion—instant science, pre-packed and in easy-to-digest pieces. Condensed books earn the same scorn. But it's not merely pampering to today's need to get things over and done with quickly, skating on as many surfaces as possible without really knowing anything. Such programmes are not intended to give detailed explanations, and the balance between time available, interesting presentation and the number of items dealt with is usually admirable.

It doesn't always work out quite so well with those news programmes that set about "24 Hours" into half an hour around 10 o'clock. Excellent as they often are, we must all have seen days when they were most obviously attempting the quart in a pint pot trick, and as a result have been in a bit of a mess.

Of there are days when a couple of drops of interest have to be stretched, re-

hashed, commented upon, filmed and filled out with half-soaked comedy. B.B.C. is more often at fault here than Independent Television, whose "News at Ten" is less ambitious and often better managed. But going out every week-night is no mean effort.

Gracious

"Going for a Song" was no doubt considered a specialist programme at one time, and this must have been a consideration in allotting it the slice of time it has. A sort of quiz programme with antiques, it looks on the face of it even less exciting than the 101 other quiz half hours, and if what you're expecting is one of those artificial 'hooray' sessions with audience participation, then it may be a bit gentle and gracious.

But it has the appeal of the genuine, and more personality in Arthur Negus than in a dozen back-slapping quizmasters.

Perhaps its length accounts for its popularity? With only 25 minutes a week it never seems quite long enough—which is one way of saying a good programme in the right size packet.

Raymond Baxter, who introduces "Tomorrow's World" the B.B.C.1 weekly programme, takes part in a televised experiment.

CONTINENTAL

HOLLAND. Inexpensive family holiday: Several teachers let or exchange their homes in holidays. Some take guests. C. N. Hinkelopen, English master, 35 Stetweg, Castricum, Holland.

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Personality of the month

Cardinal Heenan

TWO YEARS ago Cardinal John Carmel Heenan, then aged 61, nearly died, for he suffered a dangerous attack of encephalitis. It would have brought to an end a life which began in 1905 in Essex.

A year after his ordination in 1930 in Rome, the future Cardinal was appointed assistant priest in the East End of London — humble beginnings for the young man who showed promise and had been transferred from Ushaw Seminary near Durham to the English College in Rome from where he obtained degrees of Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Theology at the Gregorian University.

As a young priest he regarded himself as "belonging entirely to his people." In 1936 he visited Russia under the guise of a psychologist. Although he visited Pavlov who demonstrated his famous dogs to the young priest, his main purpose was to seek accurate information about communism. Stalin's vicious purge was then at its peak and Dr. Heenan needed to convince his people that the U.S.S.R. was not the "paradise of the workers."

Shortly after his first book "Priest and Penitent," was published, Dr. Heenan was placed in charge of another parish in the East End, where he spent the war. Then Cardinal Griffin asked him to revive the Catholic Missionary Society. From then until his appointment as Bishop of Leeds in 1951, he led and directed the country's most effective Catholic propaganda machine in cities, towns, villages, near-deserted hamlets, prisons and borstals.

Bishop of Leeds in 1951, Dr. Heenan was moved to Liverpool in 1957, to Westminster in 1963, and received a Cardinal's red hat in 1965. He is a bishop who has travelled with pastoral purpose — Australia, Malaya and Korea from Leeds, the West Indies from Liverpool, and of course, Rome for the Vatican Council in which he was a member of the Christian Unity Secretariat.

Cardinal Heenan is very self-disciplined, and it is characteristic of the leader of the Roman Catholic Church in this country that he conducts his affairs with considerable efficiency, never, for example, leaving a letter unanswered. Though very single-minded, his friends include Archbishop Ramsey and Malcolm Muggeridge.

The Cardinal has very little time for what he has called "religious dilettantes." He is wary of much



"new" theology, because he thinks it is superficial. He has little patience with disgruntled carping about the Church. "The majority of the disgruntled do not leave the Church. They stay and fight."

Decline of confidence in Roman authority is 'only temporary'

He is careful to distinguish between what is truly progressive and what is merely fashionable. He is openly concerned about the decline of confidence in the teaching authority of the Roman Catholic Church, but thinks that this decline is only temporary. He is an ardent defender of Pope Paul VI, and is clearly annoyed by the contempt and disregard accorded in some quarters to Pope John's successor.

Cardinal John Heenan, the people's priest, is concerned especially about "the hungry young sheep who refuse pasture because they have been told by their elders not to trust the shepherds. I thought with sorrow of the young, badly served by those placed by God to guide them. For their sake my indignation rose against parents too lazy or self-indulgent to check their children, against priests and teachers who betray the young by following instead of leading them."

It is this sort of concern which has won him so much loyalty and respect.

'I've never been kissed with my boots on'

Ernest Adkins on football and it's emotions

He's nineteen. He's husky. He has a golden gift of being able to score goals. In competitive football so far he has scored more than a hundred times. None of his team mates has ever kissed him.

Like most of his kind he is a well adjusted young man. He has a fair number of O levels. He's not an emotional person, but readily admits that other people are, and he can well understand why there are emotional outbursts on the football field.

With a lot of football games now sadly behind me, I have to confess that like this young player I have no immediate recollection of being kissed with my boots on.

There is a current fashion to mock and deride footballers who hug each other when a goal has been scored. It doesn't happen in rugby football, where the maximum concession to emotion is a polite pat on the back, and occasionally a handshake.

Applause

In cricket, so far as we can discover, no man has ever been kissed by another on the accomplishment of any great feat. Applause, and stock phrases like "well played, sir," are about all you can reasonably expect no matter how well you do.

The simple, yet intangible magic of a game like

football which prompts those associated with it to behave in a completely uninhibited fashion remains for many people a great mystery.

Comparisons with other games, and the different emotions they arouse make for good conversations in the local but they are completely irrelevant.

The secret is wrapped in our past history. For better or worse, right or wrong, this game is for many a way of life. It is possible to acquire a knowledge or even a taste for football just as one learns to play chess, and such people are perhaps better suited than most to pass objective judgment on the game.

But the indignant people of football have a more instinctive feel for the game. Its pageantry and beauty, and even its savagery, require for them no explanation. They are a part of it.

In a cultural sense the

English have remained musically dormant, at any rate at the grassroots, for many years. Yet in our time something very akin to folk music has been heard coming from the terraces of our football arenas.

There is no composer and no choirmaster; there is simply a spontaneous reaction to the proceedings, in song.

Control

There has recently been a suggestion that there should be legislation to control the behaviour of footballers on the field. I suspect this to have been from a refugee from the rugby camp.

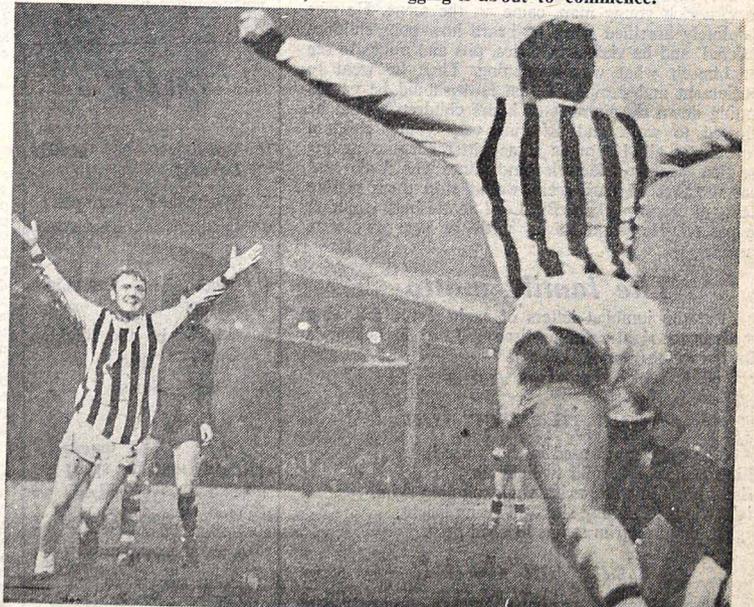
I would remind such sorry people that all attempts to curb football and footballers in any way through the statute book have been singularly unsuccessful. It was first tried by Edward II in the 14th century.

If I might offer a suggestion to those people who find any show of outward emotion somewhat distasteful: they should at all costs avoid the promenade concerts and railway station platforms.

FOOTBALLERS, EVEN ENGLISH FOOTBALLERS, LAUGH WHEN THEY'RE HAPPY AND CRY WHEN THEY'RE SAD. IT REQUIRES NO EXPLANATION, NOR APOLOGY.

P.S. I've done all right with my boots off.

Below: A footballer scores, and the hugging is about to commence.



Picture: Birmingham Post and Mail.