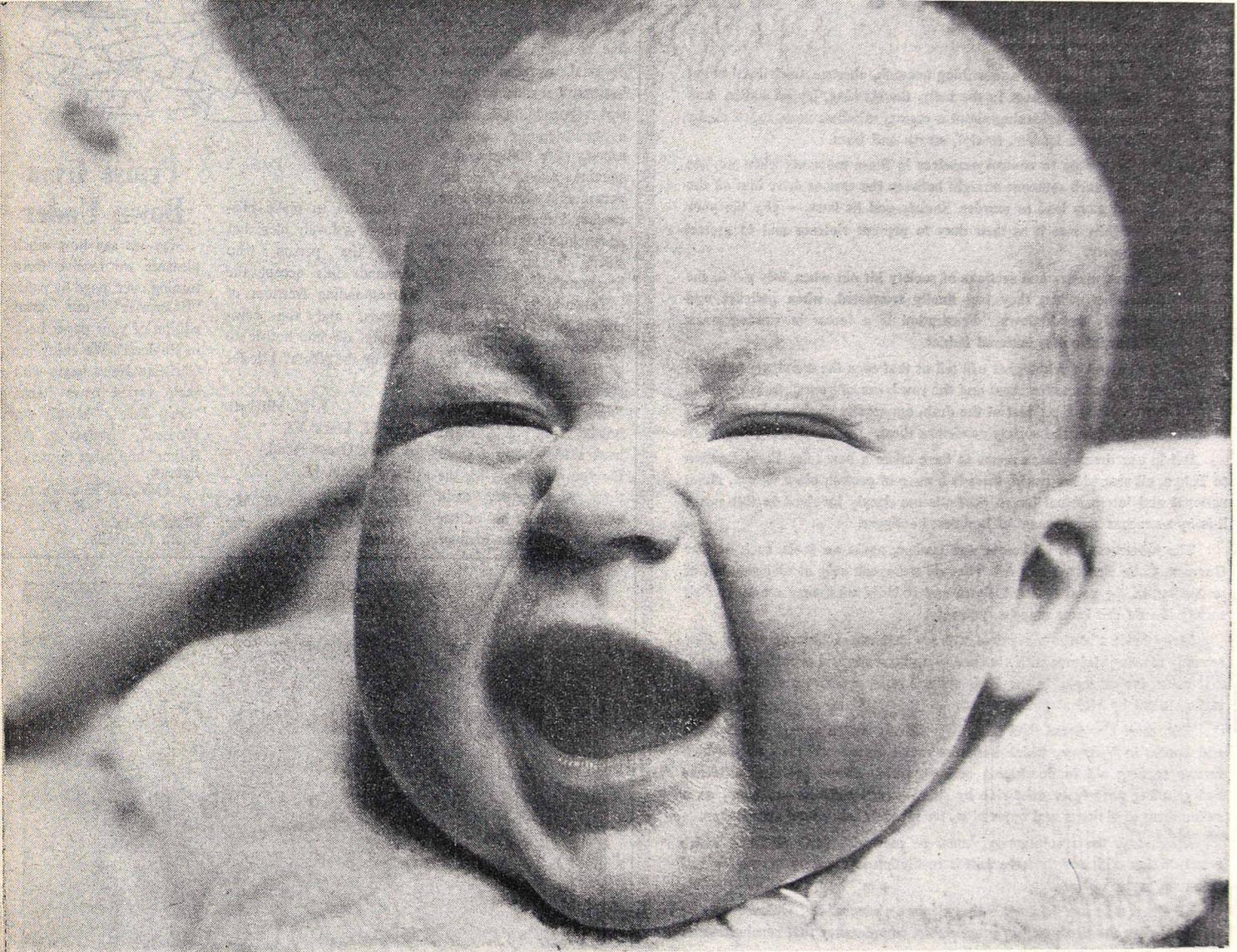


CAVERSHAM BRIDGE 6d.

December 1968

A Member of the Christian News Group

God was a baby?



Don't make me laugh!

There's nothing out of this world about us, mate. We yell for our food, dirty our nappies, get wind, dribble, and behave in a very down-to-earth sort of way.

Yes son - so did Jesus.
A real baby was born.
That's what Christmas is
all about.
This was the real beginning
of a real life.

But a life of such quality that people have found it to reveal the very life of God.
God was in man - in a tiny baby.
That's the claim of Christmas.

SOAPBOX



The Fist, the Boot, and the Hot Talk

VIOLENCE IS UGLY. There's something uncouth, obscene, uncivilised about the face-shattering fist, the boot in the belly, the slashing, jagged bottle. And there's something very frightening about a raging, mindless mob, urged on by hot talking, hot-headed leaders, to riot, smash and burn.

We all have a duty to control ourselves in those moments when we 'see red' and want to punch someone straight between the eyes or drive him off the road. 'Seeing red' may lead to murder. Society and its laws — pity the poor policeman — rightly sees it as their duty to prevent violence and to protect people and property.

Men, nations, classes and sections of society hit out when they get to the end of their tether, when they feel finally frustrated, when patience and negotiations finally break down. Frustration is a factor in causing wars, industrial and racial strife, battered babies.

Sociologists and psychologists will tell us that even the seemingly pointless gang warfare of mods and rockers and the rowdism of young, train-wrecking football fans is partly a product of the drab, apparently aimless jobs and lives to which British industrial society condemns them.

But in our time violence seems to have taken a new turn. From London to Tokyo, all around the world, there is a wave of protest, often violent, about national and international issues. Students are deeply involved in this wave: it is by no means a movement of brainless hooligans.

The movement has its heroes and leaders, again no fools, such as Che Guevara, Cohn Bendit, Tariq Ali. They do not speak only of violence, but of revolution, of the need to break down and re-build what they see to be sick society. To do this force may be necessary.

Many leaders of the movement will say that where violence occurs, they are only meeting violence with violence — and there is real evidence to suggest that often, for example, in the Paris student riots, peaceful protest was only made violent by violent police action.

But, more significant than this, they will say that a society which burns and bombs in Vietnam, which harbours racial hatred and inequality, which resents sending aid to developing nations, which allows booming affluence and grinding poverty to exist side by side — such societies are based on a subtle form of violence and oppression, for all their talk about compassion.

'Fire', says the revolutionary, 'must be met with fire. Reforms which merely tinker with society have failed: revolution is the only answer — and that may mean violence.'

Civilised men are right when they deplore violence. But violence may be no worse than the tired, selfish, comfortable, complacency that revolutionaries condemn so passionately.

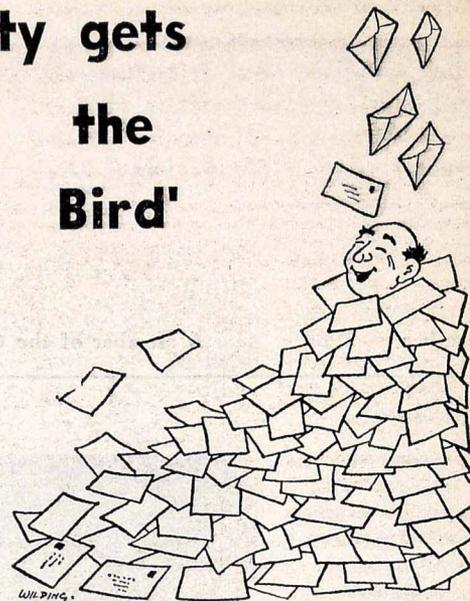
'Authority gets the Bird'

Dear Sir,

I guess I am just one of thousands of people who were appalled by your lead article in the October issue. I read it with interest, and then searched the rest of the issue for a deeper discussion of this topic, but without success. This is fantastic, and reduces your magazine to the level of the worst of sensational journalism.

To question authority is fine, as is an acceptance of personal responsibility — but may I remind you that real responsibility demands a consideration of all aspects of a matter and a genuine respect for the person with whom one is in conflict. Yet your article, in as much as it is totally one-sided, is an essay in irresponsibility.

Taken to its logical conclusion, you would seem to welcome a disappearance of trust at every level, including family level. "Father knows best" may not be valid, but is "Don't trust Daddy" any better? Do you really long for the time when every child solemnly sticks his or her fingers in the fire because



they distrust Daddy's warnings?

Freedom to make mistakes is a lovely idea, but does the person who demands this accept the corresponding freedom of parents, and the community, do not bother to pick up the pieces? I doubt it?

J. E. Mitchell.

Toc H, Mark VI,
6 Wake Green Road,
Birmingham 13.

Letter of the month. Mr. Mitchell receives one guinea.

Praise from Down Under

May we say how much pleasure we receive from turning over, page by page, "Enterprise", our local edition of your paper back in England? We enjoy the Christian News pages with their varied news items, "Soap Box", "Mainly for Women", "Letters to the Editor" and other things of interest.

Mr. and Mrs. George R. Bevan,

Elizabeth East,
South Australia.

QUAKER PEACE TESTIMONY

CHRISTIANS AWAKE

TO THE SUFFERING CAUSED BY WAR AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH FOLLOWER OF THE

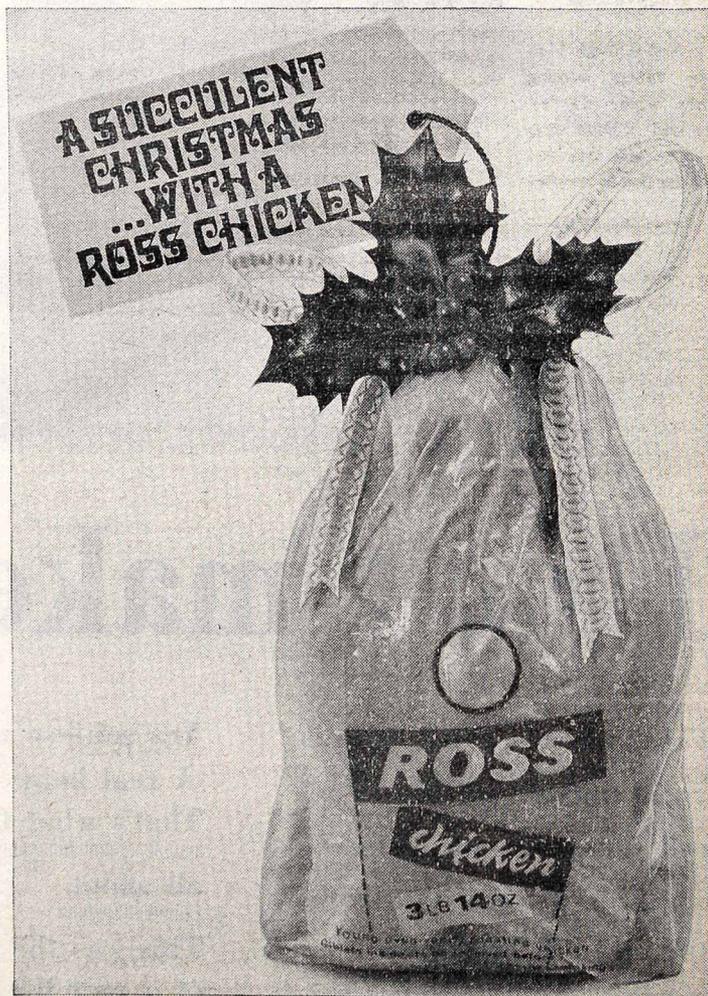
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I WATCHED with tense expectancy Russian tanks and armoured vehicles rumbling and rolling down the roads of Czechoslovakia whose leaders had only recently, and after heartbreaking years of suppression, introduced to their people the first forms of freedom.

Freedom of the press to write freely at last; freedom for their television stations to show uncensored news; freedom for their people to discuss openly their thoughts one with another.

People who for many years had been afraid to even speak their thoughts to friends and acquaintances in case their remarks were reported to the secret police with a prison sentence and, in many cases, torture following.

Such a little freedom to have snatched so cruelly and brutally away from them compared with the real freedom we have in our own country, and which so many of us just take for granted.

I watched the rifle butts, wielded by three Congolese soldiers against a coloured civilian of their own race, fall with sickening regularity whilst his screams and shouts filled the air.

BURNING

I watched a South Vietnamese village burning furiously whilst dazed women and children staggered away with their few possessions tied in bundles.

And I watched hundreds of National Guardsmen in Chicago, looking like men from another planet in their snout-like gas masks, with bayonets fixed to their rifles, advancing against hundreds of people whose only crime had been to march quietly demonstrating for peace.

At the same time further down the road, hundreds of policemen were grabbing any and everybody they could (including innocent passers-by) beating them about the head and body with truncheons.

The whole scene was sickening and degrading. It seemed as if the world, in the past few months, had turned into one vast cruel scene where men had begun to glory openly in their brute strength.

And, more horrifying still, I have watched on the tele-



vision screen in the safety and comfort of my own living room, thousands of people in Biafra in the last terrible stages of starvation. This, to me, has been the last straw.

To sit watching people starve to death whilst their stupid, arrogant and cruel leaders go on arguing around a table as to when they will allow the relief supplies, that are massed and waiting to go through, is almost beyond endurance.

REPORTERS

The picture illustrating this article was taken by an Independent Television team on August 27th and the whole incident was witnessed by reporters.

It shows a young Ibo (on right of picture with hands tied behind his back) minutes before his death. He had been found hiding in the bush near the village of Ogwe, just off the main Port Harcourt to Aba line of advance.

A television news reporter talks to the captured Ibo during his interrogation by Lieut. Macaulay Lamurde (centre of picture smiling at camera) of Colonel Adekunle's 3rd Division.

Although the man insisted he was not a soldier but a civilian who had been searching for his parents, Lieut. Macaulay Lamurde, in front of the cameraman and reporters, fired three shots into the man's body.

On the 3rd September, the Nigerian Army Command tried, and executed, Lieut.

Lamurde on the grounds of his mistreatment of a prisoner.

BRUTALITY

Many people will argue that pictures such as this should neither be printed in newspapers or shown on television.

Why not? These things are happening and it is as well that we should all be shown the world-wide brutality that is taking place by white and coloured people of all races and creeds.

It couldn't happen here? Couldn't it? Forewarned is forearmed.

And I ask myself "who are these men who are unleashing cruelty and terror so callously?"

Why do other men carry out these orders with such apparent indifference and with such cruelty?"

And have the women of the world—those who suffer and those who, like myself, just watch these terrible events on their screens ever stopped to seriously ask themselves "Why, why, why?"

ANSWER

Perhaps the answer lies in the fact that we, as women, haven't asked ourselves "why" enough and with sufficiently loud voices.

What can we do? Precious little, I'm afraid, as we are by nature home-makers—

not fighters in the physical sense.

To make a home, bear and care for children through their formative years is the most natural thing for women throughout the world and that is why it is so terrible and frustrating to watch everything they have built up destroyed so wantonly; homes wrecked, children maimed and killed and husbands being drafted to kill and attack other human beings with whom they have no personal grudge.

Yet the women of the world could make their own quiet contribution to the cause of peace.

Surely it would be possible for some women's organisation to design a badge in the form of a brooch that women everywhere could wear always.

MESSAGE

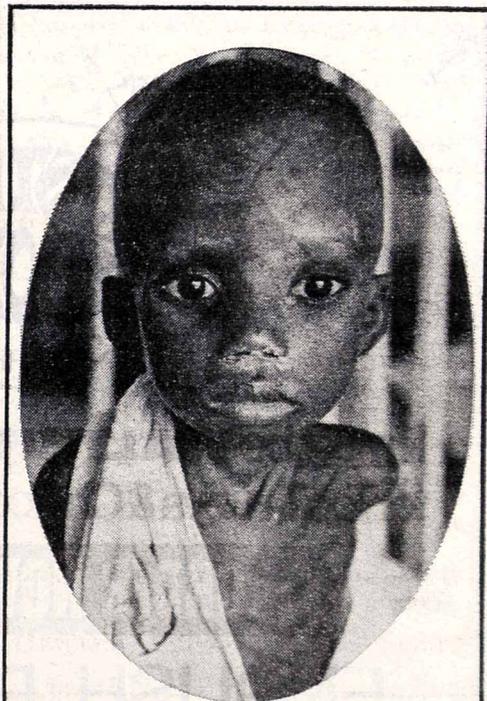
Perhaps with that international symbol of peace "a dove" on it and the word "peace" underneath, in the native language of the wearer, whatever country she might belong to.

Surely with millions of women throughout the world always wearing such a badge the message would slowly and surely sink in.

AFTER ALL, THE RED CROSS AS A SYMBOL IS RECOGNISED EVERYWHERE FOR WHAT IT STANDS FOR. WHY NOT A DOVE. THINK IT OVER — BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

GWEN BENNETT CONSIDERS HOW WOMEN COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE

This article first appeared in Thornhill News, a local edition of this paper.



A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

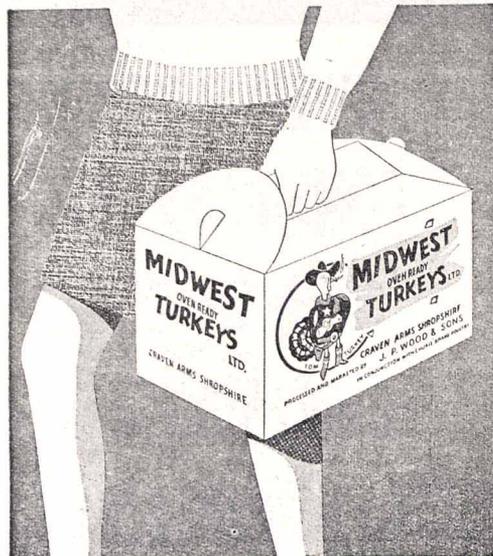
O Lord God bless at this Christmas time all who suffer from pain, poverty, loneliness, terrible hunger. Move us to help them create for themselves lives that are worthy and free from misery. Grant to them, and to us, O Lord, your all-embracing mercy. Amen.

Please help to put some of the meaning back into Christmas with a gift to help the hungry

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MIDWEST Turkeys



**ENSURE a
Happy CHRISTMAS**

Mainly for Women

'Is it nearly Christmas Mummy?' asked Philip.

'No dear it's only May.' 'Why is it Mummy?'

How do you tell your child you have no idea why it is only May and not Christmas?

Fortunately Timothy asked 'How many weeks is it to Christmas then Mummy?'

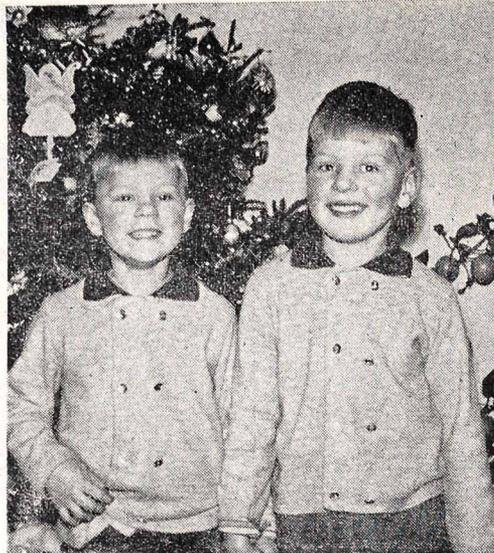
This was something I COULD answer—'About 30 weeks Timothy.'

'It's not fair, I want it to be Christmas now, why isn't it?'

This enlightening conversation would no doubt have gone on indefinitely had it not been nearly school time. Perhaps the teacher could tell my ridiculous pair why it was May and not December.

REAL . . .

Around November Philip and Timothy decided to write to Father Christmas.



By
Sandra
R. Haynes

'I shall ask for a real fire engine and a real police car' declared Philip.

'I'm asking for a big cardboard box to make a go-kart' this was Timothy, always full of ideas. Unless I hide every hammer and nail I seem to do nothing but pull nails out of pieces of wood, Timothy has a mania for making things but it got past a joke when I found he had nailed the rug down to the bedroom floor! So I was certainly not relishing the thought of a go-kart made by Timothy.

Philip thought it was a waste of time asking for a cardboard box when we could get one from the grocers, but Timothy stuck to his 'request' and the letters were duly posted. Naturally they wanted to see this wonderful man who could grant all wishes and give them everything they wanted, so we paid a visit to Father Christmas at our nearest store.

SPEECHLESS

This was fine until the following week, in another store, miles away was—yes—Father Christmas. Philip and Timothy were, for once speechless, and when they finally managed to speak, could only think it was the same one, or that they were twins 'like us' said Philip.

They repeated their wishes to this Father Christmas and promised to put a mince pie on the sideboard, as the Father Christmas who visits our house is VERY partial to mince pies.

A few days before Christmas the twins were 'helping' me to decorate the house. As we were making a Christmas crib with the baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph and all the animals . . . 'Why do we have Christmas Mummy' asked Philip.

'Well, we are really celebrating Jesus' birthday. He was born on Christmas Day.'

'He WAS luc' wasn't He'—said Tim. He could have a birthday present, AND a Christmas present, couldn't He Mummy?'

Happy birthday to Jesus, wrote the twins

'Yes, I suppose so.'

'Could we send Jesus a present' inquired Philip. This took a bit of thinking about as I did not wish to dampen their giving spirits: 'We'll see,' I answered cautiously.

Philip sat back on his heels in great thought, and I presumed he must be thinking of all the nice things he was expecting, so I was absolutely amazed when he asked, 'Are eggs waterproof Mummy?'

'Well yes I suppose so.'

ORDER

'I thought they must be because boiled eggs are never wet inside.' Timothy thought that this was hilarious and promptly fell into the Christmas tree. Fortunately we hadn't started on its decorations and after pulling an amazed Timothy out of the tree, as near as possible to order was resumed, and we continued with the crib.

It was bed early on Christmas Eve, all the teddies had hung up their socks, this meant I had to find eight little socks, which must be filled 'with honey Mummy' . . . Mince pies were left for Father Christmas and with promises to be really good and not listen for Father Christmas and no we won't wake up before 6 o'clock, we promise, honestly Mummy' Philip and Timothy went to bed.

Much later, when I looked in upon my sleeping children, on their table by the bed was a parcel, wrapped up in a hankie with a not which read: **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JESUS. WITH LOVE FROM PHILIP AND TIMOTHY.**

Your Flowers at Christmas

By Edyth Harper

FLOWERS make a welcome change from the often over-bright Christmas decorations, but so many Christmas gifts of plants quickly come to grief

Suppose you have been lucky enough to be given a bunch of cut chrysanthemums. First pull off half the leaves. Then hammer the ends and scrape the outside of the stalks at the bottom to help a good intake of water. Now give the blooms a good drink of sugar water, one tablespoonful of sugar to a gallon of water. This revives the colour and freshness of the flowers.

Leave them up to their heads in this solution for two or three hours. After you arrange them, try to avoid draughts and extremes of heat.

If you can find some forsythia, pick it in mid-December and keep it in a warm place. It should bloom around Christmas Day. Similarly, late winter roses if brought inside in bud will open out in a warm room.

COOL, AIRY

Pot plants need attention, however busy you are. Buy one in bud for lasting pleasure. Remember cyclamens like the light in a cool airy room. They hate being over-heated or set in a blast of air. Above all, over-watering will kill them. Never water from above, as a wet "crown" means death to these plants.

Stand them in a saucer of water where they can take what they need. A dusting of Flowers of Sulphur will kill any fungus and remember to cut off any dead flowers.

Azaleas are beautiful but tricky, Natives of India, they find our climate trying. Water from below, as for cyclamens, and never let them dry out. They dislike lime so try to use rain water. Unfortunately artificial heat often kills them. A cool airy room with unchanging temperature suits them best. A gentle spray with water revives them.

WET ROOTS

Ericas hate chalk but thrive in acid soil. Always use rain water if at all possible and need to have really wet roots to thrive. Heat too will kill them. So stand these plants in a cool spot. Most of the bulbs sold at Christmas time need a great deal of water but if the containers have no drainage hole, see that you do not 'drown' the bulbs or they will rot.

Poinsettias are really greenhouse plants. They need a warm atmosphere, with a steady water supply. If the leaves are torn off, the stems bleed. Avoid draughts and never stand them near the window at night in case of frost damage.

A little care for your plants will give you a steady show of flowers all through the Christmas season.



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CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

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

No. 51

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WELCOME TO MAPLEDURHAM

BOUNDARIES that were drawn many years ago often become very artificial affairs. One such boundary is that between Caversham and Mapledurham. The Free Churchmen and Roman Catholics of Mapledurham have for long worshipped in Caversham churches but for the Anglicans Mapledurham is a separate parish. Standing at the end of an attractive country lane St. Margaret's church is some miles from the majority of the parishioners of that parish, and so many of them are accustomed to worship at St. Peter's or St. Andrew's. Earlier this year the Parochial Church Council of Mapledurham asked to be brought into some definite relationship with Caversham Anglicans so that they could benefit from being part of a larger church community. The vicarage at Mapledurham has now been sold and No. 222 Upper Woodcote Road purchased as a house where a priest can live, close to the majority of the parishioners of Mapledurham.

The Church Council of Mapledurham have also decided to discontinue their own magazine and are asking those who have taken it to subscribe to the Caversham Bridge.

Mapledurham residents look towards Oxford and Henley for purposes of local government. But for other matters they look increasingly to Reading and Caversham. When nearly sixty years ago Caversham became part of the county borough of Reading the area round Chazey Road and Woodcote Way was all farmland. Today it houses a thriving community and we look forward to giving space in these columns to the news of the activities of that community. With so many of the non-Anglicans of Mapledurham already seeing the Caversham Bridge as their Church newspaper it is good that it is now to be the paper for the Anglicans of Mapledurham. Whatever form the relationship between Caversham and Mapledurham may eventually take, it must not be overlooked that the smaller parish has many links with history which ought never to be forgotten.

John Grimwade

PRICE INCREASE NEXT MONTH

The Editorial Board of the Caversham Bridge regret having to announce that it will be necessary to increase the price of this paper to 8d. monthly as from the beginning of 1969. Printing and other production costs have risen very considerably since 1964 when this paper was started. Increased revenue from advertisements made it possible to keep the price stable when other newspapers were compelled to make price rises. The Board is sorry to take this step but without a deficit would be inevitable in 1969. The paper will still be available to old age pensioners who live on their own at the reduced price of 4d.

SHE WILL BRING YOUR 'BRIDGE'

Mrs. Brenda Thompson of 202 Woodcote Road will be amongst the present Mapledurham magazine distributors who, next month, will distribute "The Bridge" in the parish of Mapledurham.

She was born in Caversham and went to Hemdean House School. She moved to her present home 12 years ago, after her marriage to her husband, Gordon, a chartered architect.

Life keeps pretty busy with Alistair (10), Michael (7½), and Carol (5) — the Thompson's 3 lively children. The younger two are at Mapledurham School, and Alistair is at Kidmore End Primary School. Besides all the jobs of a busy housewife—Mrs. Thompson finds the time to be the District Organiser of the Bridge Scheme of Social Service, the successor in the area to the Mapledurham Christian Social Service Scheme which started in 1965 after the Stewardship campaign. She is a member of the Mapledurham P.C.C.

Mrs. Thompson has been a magazine distributor for 3 years. She commented—"I think it is very sensible to start having the 'Caversham Bridge'. We already do so much with the parish of Caversham."



Walton Adams

DEANERY CONFERENCE VOTES FOR UNITY

The clerical and lay members of the Reading Ruridecanal Conference gave solid backing to the proposals for Anglican-Methodist unity at their autumn meeting.

The four questions upon which members were asked to vote were as follows.

1. Does the Conference agree that unity should be sought in two stages, namely the establishment of full communion followed later by the union of the churches?
2. Does the Conference approve the proposed Ordinal? (The Ordinal is the order of service for ordaining men to the ministry of the Church).
3. Does the Conference approve the proposed Service of Reconciliation?
4. Does the Conference wish the Convocations to give final approval to the inauguration of Stage One?

SUMMARY OF VOTING

	Yes		No		No vote	
	Clergy	Laity	Clergy	Laity	Clergy	Laity
1. —	23	89	8	18	2	6
2. —	25	66	3	17	5	30
3. —	21	64	11	26	1	23
4. —	21	69	10	25	2	19

IT ALL DEPENDS

Mere citizens must seek permission to erect even minor structures. They must fit in with "planning".

But the Council is a law unto itself, as this extract from the Corporation minutes, 19th September 1968 Town Planning and Building Committee illustrates:

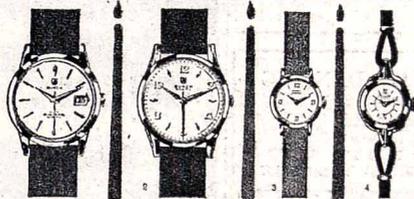
"GROVE HILL CAR PARK

The Committee visited the site. The Borough Architect reported that, although an outline application establishing the siting, levels, and size of this car park had been accepted in 1966, no detailed application had been presented for consideration, due to an administrative oversight, although work was substantially completed."

Again concerning this new car park in the Grove Hill estate, a request for details by the Caversham Residents Association of what the screen of shrubs and trees would be, was ignored. But the important thing was that a promise was given by the Town Clerk that the work would be started at once. Let's hope this eye-sore will be hidden by the planting of greenery including mature trees.

Ratepayer.

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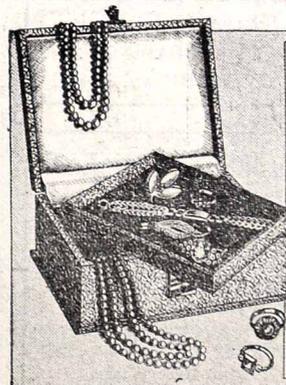
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bracelets

clocks and watches, and
everything from which to choose
the ideal gift for every important
occasion

THERE MUST BE VERY FEW VILLAGE SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND WHICH CAN CLAIM ROYAL FOUNDATION.

Mapledurham Church of England School was built in 1830 through the efforts of the Vicar, the Revd. Lord Augustus Fitz-Clarence. He was the fifth son of King William IV by Mrs. Jordan, the actress, and became Vicar of Mapledurham in 1829 at the age of 24. He remained there for the rest of his life until his comparatively early death in 1854.

CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENTS

Unfortunately there are no records of the first 50 years. The ages ranged from the Infants Class up to the age of 14. At the suggestion of the Revd. Francis St. John Thackeray, (Vicar from 1883 until 1919) a log book was started in 1883, and it makes very interesting reading. He also provided the money to pay for an extension to the buildings in 1914. After the last war modern cloakrooms and lavatories were put up, and today Mapledurham School is extremely well-appointed and a good example of the best type of Church village school.

TEACHERS HAPPY TO STAY

The school has always been noted for its friendly atmosphere. Mrs. Butler was headmistress for 44 years from 1870-1914, and her successor, Mrs. Woolfall served from 1914 until 1939.

More recently the school has been restricted to children between the ages of 5 and 8, who then move on either to Kidmore End Church Primary School, or to Micklands County Primary School.

Miss Mary Kift, now teaching at a larger school outside Reading, was Headmistress for 10 years up to May of this year. She feels there is something special about the smaller country Church schools. "I think it's a great pity," she said "if the Church gives up our small schools for the very young children. Mapledurham had such a wonderful family atmosphere. I always felt things would go right. There

ROYAL FOUNDATION

was a depth and a support which is lacking in our bigger State schools." Certainly a Church school not only gives the children the chance to learn about the Christian faith, but also can give everything else an added depth and richness.

amount of infant modern furniture has been brought in—resulting in more of an "open-plan" classroom. "I'm enjoying it here very much," said Miss Hawthorne. "It's a challenge and a great interest to come from a large school to a small village school."

THE SITUATION TODAY

Since May 1st, 1968, Miss Elizabeth Hawthorne has been the Headmistress. She is very ably assisted by Mrs. D. Waller, the Infant helper, who has had several years experience in the school. Mrs. V. Taylor is the canteen helper who supervises the serving of dinners, and Mrs. B. Lewington is responsible for the cleaning of the school.

There are 32 children on the roll. During the last term an

THE MANAGERS

Since it is an Aided Church of England School there are six managers, of whom four are appointed by the Church. The building itself is the responsibility of the parish. Apart from managing the school—the managers also appoint the Headteacher.

"I think I can speak for all the other managers," said Mr. Alfred Martyn-Johns, one of the School Managers, "and say that we are all proud of our

school, and the religious instruction and general background."

LIMITED LIFE FOR MAPLEDURHAM SCHOOL

At present, the plan is to merge with Kidmore End Church Primary School in about eight year's time. "Kidmore End has the reputation of being one of the best Church Primary Schools in South Oxfordshire," said Mr. Martyn-Johns. "Sad as it is—we have had to face up to facts. If we replace Mapledurham School with new classrooms built at Kidmore End, then we shall give Kidmore End School the chance to continue as a first-rate Church School. Anyhow, that's the idea at present."

AUGUSTUS FITZ-CLARENCE PUT UP AS A SCHOOL IN 1830 MAY SOON BE ON THE MARKET WILL IT BECOME A RESTAURANT? A COUNTRY CLUB, OR A 'DESIRABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE?'

STOP PRESS HELP WANTED AT SCHOOL

News has just been received that Mrs. Waller will be giving up her appointment at Christmas as helper at Mapledurham school as she is moving to Somerset.

A vacancy therefore occurs at the school for a full time infant helper. Applications should be made to the Headmistress, School House, Mapledurham.



Imaginative play in the playground.

Walton Adams.



Diane concentrates on her painting.

Walton Adams.

Extracts from the Log Book

- June 15th, 1885. Thomas and Henry Roberts punished for playing truant yesterday.
- January 5th, 1889. Began an evening school for the men and lads of the village with the help of Miss Thackeray.
- December 10th, 1891. Henry Hall cannot come to school on account of bad feet.
- January 16th, 1896. The New Year gifts were given away after school this afternoon—dresses, cloaks and shirts.
- December 6th, 1897. I showed the children a magic lantern show about the Pied Piper of Hamelin after school, which they enjoyed very much.
- 1898. Began cocoa scheme for winter months. Every child who wishes to have cocoa brings 1d. on Monday morning, which pays for a week.
- July 24th, 1899. The children were taken to the Reading Museum. The conveyance was kindly lent by Mr. Hill of Lilley Farm.
- June 6th, 1900. A holiday of one and a half days was given by the Vicar in honour of the surrender of Pretoria.
- September 8th, 1900. Mrs. King kindly invited the teachers with 30 school children to spend the afternoon and take tea on the houseboat "Tris".
- July 22nd, 1901. Report on the Military drill. The children have made a good start. Good progress has been made, and three months hence should be quite smart. Signed: A. Babbage, Sgt., The Royal Berkshire Regiment.



David, Wendy and Andrew enjoy activities in the classroom.

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JOHN MORGAN, SECRETARY, MAPLEDURHAM, OCTOBER 21, 1830.

The plaque on the classroom wall.

Walton Adams.

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MEMORIALS — EMBALMING — CREMATIONS

DRUG DEPENDENCE

by Justine Mair

PART TWO The Position Locally

WHAT IS THIS? THIS IS EXTREMELY HARD TO ESTABLISH. Evidence from the Courts and the Probation Service shows that there has been a fair amount of playing about with soft drugs or of people possessing these drugs or peddling them. There has also been a feeling of unease amongst people from different backgrounds I have talked to over the past year that perhaps there was more to this problem locally than was apparent. But all this was too vague and nebulous.

The Standing Conference of Women's Organisations made a survey in 1967 into the Drug Problem in Reading and district. This was part of a nation-wide effort to get some insight into the general problem throughout the country. As those engaged in work on this survey have pointed out, it is superficial but it does nevertheless provide sufficient information to form certain conclusions.

- (1) No special arrangements could be discovered for counselling students at establishments for higher education other than the University, and there would appear to be a need for such a service. (The University has a well-staffed medical centre. Although its main purpose is to provide a medical service, the staff encourage students to regard it as a place where they can go for friendly advice and help in their personal problems).
- (2) A voluntary group of young men working with "Youth for Christ" are hoping to provide a counselling service for youth organisations and later perhaps a residential centre.
- (3) No formal arrangements appear to exist for advising parents. The Probation officers do of course advise or assist the parents of young people referred to them.
- (4) The Reading M.O.H. is prepared to send a doctor from

his staff to any school where the head Teacher asks for a talk on drug taking.

(5) A Working Party has been set up by a group of local teachers, including representatives from allied services, to consider further education in personal relationships. This project is supported by the Reading Education Department. In secondary schools, the Working Party suggests talks and discussions on "The Outside World" — responsibilities, attitudes to others, use of leisure time, etc., and drug taking could well be included. The final conclusion of the survey is that although these projects are excellent, they only cover a comparatively small section of the community, and "it would seem that there is a need for education, information and help for adults, particularly parents, and for the many young people who have left school and do not belong to any youth organisation."

the authorities. As some of you may know, A.P.A. is an organisation which came into being as the result of an agonised letter to the "Guardian" from the mother of an addict appealing to everyone interested to form an association. The response was overwhelming and too much for the mother to cope with alone. A voluntary social worker therefore took over the organising and the mail. The Association now has 18 regional branches and 12 projected ones, which need voluntary help to launch them.

A.P.A.'s organisers have tried to avoid sensationalism and sentimentality. They have set out to build an organisation which would be an impartial umbrella for all committed people working in the field. The measure of A.P.A.'s success is that a majority of its Committee members are leading forensic scientists, doctors, psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers. The chairman is Dr. Derek Richter, director of the Neuro-psychiatric Research Unit of the Medical Research Council.

A.P.A. believes the priority is to disseminate education on the drug problem, to stimulate research, and to persuade the Government and local authorities to improve treatment and rehabilitation facilities.

I personally have given the matter of trying to set up a branch of A.P.A. for Reading and district a great deal of thought over the past year; I have been in touch with the Organising Secretary, Mrs. Mollie Craven, and I have also met one of the local members who is a trained social worker. If anyone interested in helping to form a branch would care to write to me, we will see what can be done. My name and address are: Mrs. J. Mair, Hill House, Surley district. They have Row, Caversham, Reading.

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I do not feel teachers or parents can feel complacent after the case dealt with at the June Quarter Sessions. This concerned the theft of a large number of amphetamine tablets from Bradley and Bliss, the wholesale chemists, and the peddling of them in schools.

A.P.A. (ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF ADDICTION)

Although there are some members in the Reading district, there is no branch of this organisation here. The start of one would appear to be a method of filling the gap locally in drug education and of co-ordinating or maintaining liaison with existing arrangements and with

GUIDE CAPTAIN WEDS



Hymc. Photos.

St. Peter's Guide Captain Miss Gillian Besley was married on October 26th to Mr. John Fitzwilliam. They are living at 13 Blakes Lane, Tadley.

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RANDOM JOTTINGS FROM AN R.C. LAYMAN

COMMUNICATION

It is said that today the gap in understanding between the generations is wider than it has ever been. Why is this? Who is to blame?

I am not sure that we of the older or parent generation always try hard enough to acquire a working knowledge of the crazes and interests of our young. We are perhaps too easily flattened by the blare of pop music or the glare of pop art. Don't think I am advocating all Mums in miniskirts and girly fashions—anyone over 25 in a miniskirt usually looks ridiculous. All I am saying is perhaps it is a good thing every now and then to turn on "Top of the Pops" or go to a film like "The Yellow Submarine". There will be things you will like, things you will hate and things you won't understand, but there will be plenty to talk about, and it could just be that the young might realise you are not bored with all young nonsense.

Actually I think everyone over 40 ought to be compelled to see "The Yellow Submarine". Too long of course, but some very inventive ideas. I personally rather like Beatle music.

"Will you still need me,
Will you still feed me
When I'm sixty-four . . ."

Not sure if that is word perfect, but it brings me to EUTHANASIA

Some weeks ago I was horrified to read in a newspaper the views of a doctor who feared that in a relatively short time Euthanasia would have to be legalised. He was not advocating this but maintained that arrange-

ments for the care of the old were breaking down and that in a few years time they would become utterly chaotic.

Let us hope that geriatric research concentrates more on the preservation of the mental powers of old people. It seems futile to spend so much time and trouble on preserving the body if the mind is irreparable. The happy old people I know are the ones who remain mentally alert.

"THE NEW CHRISTIAN"

I am often suggesting plays or books to you. I am aware, of course, that you have quite probably discovered them for yourselves, but when one finds something good it is natural to want to share it.

Fairly recently I made the acquaintance of the above, and so far find it first-rate. It is a fortnightly, price 1/6d and can be ordered from a newsagent. (It can sometimes be bought at St. Barnabas, Emmer Green). It incorporates "Prism" and "Search" and Michael de la Bedoyere and Oliver Pratt are the R.C.'s on the Editorial Board. The issue for 17th October had one of the best articles on a Rhodesian settlement I have read.

MASS AT MAPLEDURHAM HOUSE

In spite of unintentional sabotage of the October mass, (in the St. Anne's newsletter the time was mistakenly given as 6-30 p.m.), Mr. Eyston assures me that 6 p.m. is the time he hopes to continue this on the last Sunday of each month.

ZAMBIAN WEDDING

Many people of the St. Andrew's District will recall Maureen Lacey, and will be as surprised and as thrilled as my family were to learn of her marriage in Zambia to Mr. Peter Long, just after last Christmas and as Maureen says in her letter—Here is the photograph to prove it!

As a Sunday School Teacher at St. Andrew's Maureen was devoted to the work and progress of the Sunday School contributing greatly to its success. She also took an active part in the various Drama groups in Caversham and Mapledurham and was much teased for "Getting all the kisses" in "Goodnight Mrs. Puffin".

Maureen left Caversham for two years' V.S.O. in Zambia a little over 2 years ago where for a while she worked in a Convent School at Livingstone, later being transferred to teach

English at the Zambia College of Agriculture at Monze, where she met Peter, a lecturer in Surveying, Soil Conservation and Farm Machinery. Peter who was born in Kenya, got his Agricultural degree at Reading and has worked in Canada, Uganda, Kenya and England.

After Maureen's 2 years V.S.O. ended in July last, Maureen "retired gracefully" to await the arrival of their first-born due in the early autumn. Peter's contract ends in February of next year and Maureen has promised that "All three of them" (Counting your chickens Maureen?) will come to visit Caversham where a very warm welcome from all their friends here awaits them.

In the meanwhile our very Best Wishes and Congratulations to Maureen and Peter and of course by now the little one (or little Ones?). N.K.



PLANNING & PARTICIPATION

Alderman Mrs. Lovett, the chairman of the Town Council's Planning Committee is shortly coming to speak to an extended committee meeting of the Residents' Association on aspects of town planning. Town Councillors probably get used to receiving more brickbats than bouquets but we think discussions such as these could help reduce the number of brickbats usually hurled in frustration and may even result in the occasional bouquet in recognition of the fact that they are voluntarily giving up their time to this work.

There is a number of points we shall be raising with Mrs. Lovett, most of them hinging on the opportunities for participation by the governed. For instance, when does a public notice have to appear of a planning application? Some large schemes seem to get by with no notice at all while some quite trivial matters are given the distinction of a public notice. The first many of us knew about flats in Church Road was when planning permission was refused but it might well have been after it was passed, yet building on that scale affects far more people than those who happen to own the land at that moment.

When will the next review of the overall plan for Reading take place (it is supposed to be every five years) and how will the public be informed? This is far from a straight forward matter as allowance must be made for changing circumstances but expediency must not be made the excuse for scrapping carefully considered decisions. We shall be asking what liaison there is between the planning committees and other committees of the Town Council to ensure co-ordination of community facilities.

We shall also be interested to hear Mrs. Lovett's views on liaison between local planning committees and residents', amenity and civic societies. The members of these associations are the people who live on the spot and often know more about the problems in local cases than councillors to whom they are one more item in a busy day. How this liaison should take place is a matter for further examination but that it is wanted is manifest by the way in which associations similar to ours are spontaneously springing up all over the country. It would help to get rid of the distinction between "them" and "us", the governors and the governed.

NEW SECRETARY

We count ourselves lucky to have found a new secretary so quickly after losing our former one. She is Mrs. K. M. Latham of Surley Cottage, 10, Surley Row and her telephone number is Reading 73634. We are indeed grateful to her for offering to help us and we hope she will enjoy her work with us and find it full of interest. M.G.

The meeting referred to in this article is due to take place before publication of this edition, but not early enough in time to allow us to include a report. It is hoped to be able to give further news about this matter in the next number of the Caversham Bridge.

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Round the Clubs

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the October meeting presided over by Mrs. V. Birtwhistle, the Chairman told members that Mrs. Kitcher wished to retire from active Committee work and, as she had been the Guild's first Chairman and had been continuously on the Committee for the whole life of the Guild, the Committee would like to show appreciation for all her work by asking her to become the Guild's first President. Members showed overwhelming agreement with the suggestion, which was duly proposed and carried unanimously. Mrs. Kitcher's election would be made official at the Annual General Meeting in November and, meanwhile, she was assured that the office would not carry onerous duties. Mrs. Kitcher thanked the members and promised her continued support and help to the Guild.

Mrs. Birtwhistle introduced Mr. C. F. Ridler, a member of the Borough Surveyor's staff, who spoke on "Road Plans and New Developments in Reading." Mr. Ridler said that in 1962 a Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Survey had been carried out in Reading and district to find out movements of transportation in the area, and to assess its growth in the future. It is to Reading's credit that it was one of the first towns in the country to hold this type of survey, and over 4,000 houses were visited. Members of those

sample households were asked to complete a log of all their journeys on a particular day, whether by bus, car or on foot, and they were asked to give reasons for their movements and their occupations. Drivers of goods vehicles and taxis and of cars coming or going along the ten main roads leading into Reading were also interviewed, and when all the information had been sifted and analysed by computers, road planning began.

Complex road schemes take years to plan and build, and it has therefore been necessary to put traffic management techniques into operation to facilitate the free flow of town traffic, and parking restrictions and one-way traffic systems are all part of the measures taken to make the most efficient use of the roads we have at present. Listening to Mr. Ridler's reasonable explanations for the measures taken this member of his audience at least could almost (but not quite) begin to see reasons for tolerating the Traffic Wardens whose activities so many of us have learned to dislike in the Friar Street area of the town!

Using maps, Mr. Ridler showed details of the new Inner Distribution Road, the first section of which is now well under way, and spoke of progress in the building of the local section of the M4 which should be completed in 1972, and he touched on plans for as far as 20 to 30 years hence for the Town Centre. Mr. Ridler explained how useful the original survey had been in deciding the M4 route, as it had shown that 83 per cent of the traffic using the local section would want to get to points South of the Thames and only 17 per cent would want to reach points North of the river, and for this reason the Council had been unhappy with the proposal that the M4 should "hit" the town North of the river—sentiments with which all Caversham residents not wanting the other 83 per cent speeding through our roads will heartily concur!

During the month the International section had heard an illustrated talk from Mr. Sami on Kenya, and they had held a "Special Effort Coffee Evening" to raise money to send a donation to the V.S.O. and the International Voluntary Services, who had provided speakers during the year. The speaker had taught in a Nigerian school under the auspices of V.S.O. and showed beautiful slides on the Nigerian way of life and also some examples of native work, which included a kaftan and a calabash.

The Social Studies group had been addressed by Mr. Morgan on banking and the many facilities offered by banks, and the Drama group reported much activity in rehearsing for the entertainment they hope to provide at the December meeting of the Guild.

MARGARET HILL,
Press Secretary.

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

The speaker at the October meeting was Mr. Spencer Chapman, who gave a very interesting illustrated talk on "Tibet and the World's conscience". He described a fascinating journey from India through the tiny state of Sikkim to the "Forbidden" city of Lhasa, showing the contrast between a primitive way of life and the richly ornamented architecture of the many monasteries and shrines. The scenery, very beautiful, resembled that of Switzerland in many respects. Sympathy for the Dalai Lama and the refugees from the Chinese invasion was deeply felt.

Miss N. K. Brown, the vice-president introduced Mrs. N. Morgan of Tilehurst who explained the new method of electing officers and Committee at the coming A.G.M.

The Michaelmas Fair, held on September 28th, showed a satisfactory profit of £48. Twenty-one members attended the Federation Cheese and Wine Social Evening at Newbury on October 11th. An invitation was received to visit the Children's Nursery Training College and Home on October 23rd. The competition for "Something new from something old" was won by Mrs. Goodyear.

BLGRAVE W.I.

After a short business meeting, presided over by Mrs. Griffiths, vice-president, when final details of Group Meeting and Windsor Theatre Outing were arranged, members took over the meeting with Mrs. N. Yates in the chair.

One member, Mrs. Guest, who visited America and Canada last year, gave an interesting talk on her journeys across the continent, illustrated with many colour slides. The Bring and Buy stall raised money for the League of Friends.

Mrs. Theobald's chrysanthemum won the flower of the month competition. Mrs. Grassia won another competition.

ROSEHILL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mrs. Sizer (President) welcomed all the members to the October meeting.

Miss Nind from The Food Information Centre then gave a cookery demonstration. The five completed dishes were then drawn for. The Resolutions for the Autumn Council Meeting were voted and Mrs. Currie our delegate will be attending.

Mrs. Chisholm gave an account of her visit to Denman College.

The Competition for "A Savoury on a Cocktail Stick" was won by Mrs. Gray, runner up Mrs. Keeling. The weather was perfect for our coach trip to London on Thursday, October 17th. The Guide joined the coach at Kensington and gave us a wonderful time around the streets of London. Every one enjoyed it.

POSTBAG

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, DECEMBER, 1968—FIVE

Methodist Minister's View
Challenged

The Editor.

Dear Sir,
Mr. Wright, in last month's "Talking Point", asked us to make a detailed study of the Unity Scheme, then summed it all up under the heading of his concerns. I have studied it so I'd like to quote a few passages which might allay his concern.

He says "This Scheme is divisive." Any scheme for a Church to embrace all the ideas strongly held within the Church of England alone would be divisive—yet the Church of England is not divided. Paragraph 37 observes "doctrinal differences do not follow denominational lines but rather cut across them, since the differences of view . . . are to be found within both Churches . . . enough doctrinal agreement exists to warrant advance into organic union."

"Deep matters of doctrine and pastoral action are involved." He did not say which, so I must let paragraph 37 serve for these.

"The deliberate ambiguity" is admitted in paragraph 388, which is far too long to quote; let me just mention a bit of it that I like: "issues which, whatever their importance, do not touch the fundamentals of the gospel of free grace may be safely left for unhurried exploration in future theological debate". Let the dead, in fact, bury their dead: the Church's job is to do the work that matters.

"Anglicans question the validity of our Orders." Paragraph 392 says "Any Anglicans who wish to believe that Methodist ministers are being ordained

in the Services will know that the Methodists themselves, and many Anglicans also, deny this to be so, and they will have accepted this knowledge in advance."

"Open Communion would have to go." Well, paragraph 196 needs to be read against the background of the ideas behind paragraph 388 but, in any case, on the question of whether people are going to be nabbed taking illicit Communion, I can name twenty or more churches where I have taken Holy Communion; nobody has ever said a word to me about baptism or confirmation.

"The marriage in my Church of divorcees." It seems to me from paragraph 268 that, so long as one of the partners is in his Church (Methodism), they can marry in his church (building).

"The invariableness of episcopal ordination of ministers for the future surely reinforces the barrier which will prevent all the non-episcopal Churches . . . from joining." It's hard to say what is invariable in these times. Paragraph 164 cites unity schemes in South India, Nigeria, Ghana, Ceylon, North India and Pakistan; we are none of us islands. I gather, furthermore, that the Presbyterian Congregationalist scheme in Australia opts for an episcopacy although neither had it before.

Coming back to Mr. Wright's more general remarks, I don't see how he can commend separate denominations as being regiments in an army and then believe that Methodist ministers are being ordained

in the Services will know that the Methodists themselves, and many Anglicans also, deny this to be so, and they will have accepted this knowledge in advance."

"We are the proper ones; you are not." When two regiments find themselves side by side, that is the feeling that arises between them.

"Historically God has blessed denominations in the spheres of missionary endeavour, and the ecumenical movement itself is the outcome of that endeavour" is a remarkable idea. The one Church sent us missionaries, successfully. We split up then sent out separate missionaries and the endeavour foundered so much upon our divisions that our missionaries found the need to re-unite.

I can see the point of "God may well be beckoning us down other ways in order to bring about a richer and more fruitful union" but it's a queer one! —we should let things slide because the survivors of the eventual mass may be super-Christians. Absolutely true. Every mess that mankind gets into can and does, with God's help, produce a last state that is better than the first. But this holds true at least as much for the mess Mr. Wright foresees from Positive action as for the mess we risk by inaction. I wonder if the division over the scheme is basically between the rash and the timid rather than between theological groups. If so, it might in fact be based on age.

Which brings me to the final concern, that we ought to "go on thinking and praying and working together until we can see more clearly, and until a scheme of union is evolved which will command the happy, honest and unreserved support of the overwhelming majority of clergy, ministers and people of all denominations." (Or until some of us have retired?) I agree entirely. This is a fine description of Stage One, at the end of which, some day, we should come to Stage Two, which will be the union. What we are considering entering now is Stage One.

Yours etc.,
Guy Hansford.
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NEW PAINT AT ST. BARNABAS'

This month ought to go down in history as the one in which fresh paint began to appear on the outside of St. Barnabas Hall. After an incredible series of delays, most of which were outside our control, work has finally begun. Let us hope that there is enough fine weather left this autumn to enable us to finish the job.

Our Hall is such a depressing building, so much so that many people are reluctant to use it. As a result, the life of our church is weakened because we do not have all the opportunities we would like for meeting together, and that is a pity. However, if we can finish the outside this year and then turn our attention to interior renovation we can be hopeful for the future.

One new way in which people are meeting together and finding it very profitable is in small groups which foregather in someone's house. In recent years there have been 'No Small Change' groups, those which studied the new Holy Communion service, ecumenical coffee groups last Lent, and now a small group of house-

wives has been meeting for over a year to study Michel Quoist's 'Christian Response.' Another group has been meeting intermittently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Brand to study Archbishop Bloom's book 'Living Prayer.' If only more of these groups would spring up, because surely they have a vital place. For the individual Christian, the chance meeting of friends at the Family Eucharist and coffee afterwards does not provide a good enough opportunity for study and fellowship. How can we grow as the Body of Christ if our Christian life is an individual affair and other Christians merely acquaintances?

The group of young people which calls itself US had a most enjoyable outing to Birmingham on October 19th thanks to the careful preparation which Miss Ryder and Mr. Alban made. The party went first to the City Council Offices where an official guide showed us the pattern of future development in this exciting city with the help of models and maps. We were then taken on a conducted tour of Birmingham

and later, entertained to lunch by the students of Queen's College which trains men for ordination. Games, a discussion with the students about the training of priests filled the afternoon. Nicholas Anderson on guitar and a 'group' of folk singers led the singing in Chapel in a most moving service which completed the visit.

Many other things of interest happened during October. The Play Group committee held a most successful sale of outgrown children's clothes. The Mother's Union made a visit to Borough Court hospital one afternoon. The Men's Forum started another series of winter meetings in the White Horse and the Coffee Pot entertained a speaker from the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Finally, a most successful Halloween Party was held on November 1st for all comers.

Future Dates

Sunday, 1st December 6-30 p.m. Evensong and Choir anthem.

Sunday, 8th December, 6-30 p.m. A Folk Service to be led by the young people.

Sunday, 29th December 6-30 p.m. A Service of lessons and carols.

ST. ANDREW'S

... and the Party

The Epiphany Party will be on Saturday, January 11th at 7-30 p.m. Here again there will be some changes. Mr. and Mrs. Packer, who have organised the games for the past three years, feel that their ideas have now run out. The St. Andrew's Servers have kindly agreed to take over this responsibility. Tickets for the Party, price 2/6, will be on sale in church after Christmas.

ST. JOHN'S HALL

At the two open meetings earlier this autumn, members of St. John's had the opportunity to put forward suggestions, and to consider the many different factors that need to be taken into account in deciding how to provide buildings, which will equip the Church here to serve God in this District in the future. A week later, the members of the District Committee, together with the Rector and Parochial Church Wardens met Mr. J. A. Wells-Thorpe to take professional advice.

Mr. Wells-Thorpe is both a churchman and an architect. As an architect he has had considerable experience in designing church buildings as well as others, in various parts of the country. Recently the Diocese of Chichester set up a working party to go into the whole question of the use of pre-fabricated buildings, and their suitability for use by the Church: he was a member of that working party.

Following that meeting, he was appointed by the Church

SUNDAY NIGHTS IN ST. PETER'S

During December the Sunday night congregation at St. Peter's will find that each week they are offered certain variations from the traditional Evensong and sermon at 6-30 p.m. On Advent Sunday, December 1st, Queen Anne's School will take part in the traditional service of Advent carols and lessons. This service has been described by one girl as one of the highlights of the school year; extra seating is being arranged but the congregation is advised to arrive early. On December 8th another musical treat will be provided when David Sidwell gives an organ recital after Evensong, and the following Sunday Evensong will be followed by a talk on Zambia by Mr. Evans who will be showing us his transparencies. On December 22nd the nativity play which the members of the Sunday School have written is to be presented. On the Sunday after Christmas, December 29th, we broadcast hymns and carols to the patients in Reading hospitals and the service of Nine Lessons and carols is postponed to January 5th when it will be given an Epiphany flavour.

Say your say. An open meeting of all members of the district will be held in Balmore Hall on Thursday, December 5th at 8 p.m. As the Series 2 order of Holy Communion will by then have been in use for a year members of the congregation are particularly invited to make their comments on this service at this meeting. But there will be time for other topics to be discussed. Don't be shy—come and say your say.

Home made Christmas Decorations. If you want to learn some new ideas for decorating the home at Christmas come to the next meeting of St. Peter's Wives on Tuesday, December 3rd at 8 p.m. in Church House when Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Bannion from St. Barnabas will give a demonstration on this subject. Coffee will be served—for further information ring Mrs. Lightowler 74420.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST. ANDREW'S

Christmas Eve Presents

The custom of bringing presents to the Christmas Eve Crib Service will be discontinued this year. The quality of the toys and gifts which have been brought in recent years has not, with notable exceptions, been very high and it is questionable whether the giving of these toys really helps less fortunate children. Besides this there has been the difficulty of the right time for delivering the toys. For a Children's Home to benefit from them, such toys are needed well before Christmas, which is not an easy thing to arrange from our point of view. We have therefore decided to change our policy and try to think things out afresh for 1969. So please, no toys this year.

Hunger Lunches

Monthly Hunger Lunches have now been started in St. Andrew's Hall. They will take place regularly on the last Friday in every month (except December) between 12 noon and 2 p.m. Lunch costs 2/6 per person and consists of a (reasonably) unlimited amount of bread, butter, cheese and tea. Friday has been chosen because it is the traditional day for fasting.

The profit made from these lunches will be given to the world poverty cause. All who live within striking distances of St. Andrew's will be most welcome at these lunches. The only qualification for attendance is a concern for this tremendous world problem.

The Epiphany

The members of St. Andrew's Teen Action have asked if they can again sing Patrick Appleford's 'Mass of the Five Melodies' which they sang for us on Ascension Day. This request will be met on the Feast of Epiphany (January 6th) at the Family Eucharist at 7-30 p.m. The preacher at that service will be the Rev. Oliver Howell the Diocesan Youth Chaplain. The Epiphany at St. Andrew's has always been regarded as a time to think about Missions, especially Overseas Missions. Next year's theme will be the Mission to the Younger Generation.

Mapledurham News

Blagrave Farm House

On the last Thursday of every month the service of Holy Communion is celebrated in Blagrave Farm, now a private home for old ladies. The service is normally at 11-15 a.m., and the next date is Thursday, November 28th.

Mrs. Pettit, who runs the home, has very kindly extended an invitation to anyone else living in the area to come to this monthly service. The approach to Blagrave House lies 200 yards along a narrow lane which starts next to 185 Upper Woodcote Road.

Carol Service

On Thursday, December 19th, at 5 p.m. there will be a short carol service at Blagrave House. All will be welcome to join the ladies and their friends, and it is hoped that this will be a parish occasion.

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Mapledurham Harvest Supper

"How friendly!"—"What a success!"—Just two comments after the Mapledurham Harvest Supper held at the Trench Green Hall on Saturday, October 12th.

There were 93 people present, and they all enjoyed the splendid meal which was prepared by Mrs. Thompson and Miss Kift with assistance from many other people.

After supper—people were entertained by a selection of slides shown by some of those present. Each person could only show five slides, and so it was possible to see the best in everyone's collection. Mr. Keith Brow worked the large projector, lent by Caversham parish, and so the pictures were shown to best advantage.

Mapledurham Parsonage

No. 222 Upper Woodcote Road was subject to contract recently purchased by auction as a house for a priest-in-charge. Extensive repairs and re-decorations are necessary but the work will be put in hand as soon as possible. Standing at the corner of Upper Woodcote Road and Shepherds Lane the house is in an ideal position. It looks towards the fields of Mapledurham but the priest living there will really be living in the more densely populated part of the parish. The former vicarage has now been sold.

Ecumenical Bible Study Planned

When the Caversham Coordinating Committee met in October at Caversham Methodist Church, with the Rev. E. B. Wright in the chair it was agreed that during Lent 1969 Bible study groups should be arranged on an ecumenical basis. The house groups in Lent this year had met with such a wonderful response that they are to form the basis of the Bible groups. Some of the groups have continued to meet regularly and members have worshipped in each others churches on different Sundays. Plans are also in hand for the observance of the January week of prayer for Christian unity, and details of the arrangements will be published in the next edition of the Bridge.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY
at
ST. ANDREW'S
SAT. NOV. 30th.
7 a.m. and 9 a.m.
HOLY COMMUNION
5-30 p.m.
FESTAL EVENSONG
Preacher:
The Ven. Eric Wild
Tea will be served in
the Hall from 4-15 p.m.

The Surprise Party

Under the impression that they were going out to dinner — Barry and Pauline Collett were amazed to find a "surprise farewell party" arranged by about 50 of their friends at St. Andrew's Hall on the evening of Monday, October 14th.

The party was an indication of how much the Collett family will be missed. Barry and Pauline came to Caversham at the end of 1963 after a varied and interesting life spent in different parts of the world.

Born and brought up in Australia — Barry studied history at Melbourne University, where amongst other activities he wrote a thesis entitled—"Pigs, cows and land settlement in Southern Gippsland, Australia, before 1890". Pauline, who was born in Cairo and brought up in Egypt and the Lebanon, also found herself in Melbourne — studying medicine. After their marriage in 1960 Barry worked as tutor in History at Melbourne University before they decided to come to Europe at the beginning of 1963.

In Reading Barry has spent four very happy years as Head of the History Department at Hugh Farington School, and Pauline has worked as a doctor in Reading hospitals.

Together with their three daughters—Katrina (6) Gabrielle (4) and Naomi (3)—they have been regular members of the St. Andrew's congregation. They still remember the warm welcome and the practical help they received when they arrived in Caversham. Having just moved into their new home at 64 Sheridan Avenue they hadn't had time to buy much furniture. Within 24 hours of their arrival they met the Rector at St. Barnabas and when he said "Is there anything you need?" promptly replied "A table and four chairs would come in useful". To their surprise the Rector managed to get them a table and 4 chairs the same afternoon!

Another happy memory will be the many cheerful parish parties held in St. Andrew's Hall.

The Colletts are going to Australia so that Barry's parents will have the chance to see the children grow up. They hope it won't be long before they can return to see once again their many friends in Caversham. J.Y.C.



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The Marian Group

At the October meeting of the Marian Group held in St. Anne's School, Mr. Pertogas of Heelas, assisted by Mr. Eaglestone, gave a most interesting talk on Furnishing Fabrics. Many samples were shown and a long discussion ensued on the choice of fabrics, complementary colours and the making and care of curtains.

A talk on "Children in Care" is planned for December. Any lady living in the parish of St. Anne's is welcome to attend. Further details from the Secretary, Mrs. Mary Higton, Telephone Reading 73266.

MORE THOUGHTS OF A ROVING REPORTER

My very sincere apologies to Esme Few and Elizabeth Ferreira. The paragraphs concerning them in my last report appear to have become decidedly confused. Esme Few, of course, has been appointed to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, and she was recently appointed at Reading's first principal nursing officer incidentally, Elizabeth's parents went to Barts Hospital a week or two ago, to see their daughter receive her nursing award.

I have been asked to say how much Charlie Welfare and his wife are missed at the local adult education centre this term. Some of his pupils want to take this opportunity of sending him their best wishes and the hope that he will soon be fit enough to return to the centre.

Mr. Turner, headmaster of Caversham Primary School, has—through members of my family—been so much on the fringes of my life for many years, that it came as a dreadful shock to hear of his very

serious car accident. However, at the time of going to press we understand that he is very much better. He is a very popular figure in Caversham life and I am sure everyone will wish to join me in wishing him a speedy recovery.

And, incidentally, I have been hearing so much about the play groups functioning in Caversham, that I cannot help thinking what a marvellous service they are providing. I hear the lady in charge of the Caversham Height Methodist group is herself expecting a baby, so I can only hope that she will be able to return to the good work afterwards. This is a very valuable piece of social work; not only does it provide an opportunity for harassed mums to do a bit of shopping but experts agree it is essential for children to have the company of others at the earliest opportunity—and, let's face it—there just aren't enough nursery school places.

With Christmas very much in mind, I've been taking a look at our local shops. For those like myself who just hate going into Reading at busy times, the

shops here stock a marvellous range of suitable items. Incidentally, had you noticed that one of our shops makes jumpers, skirts, etc. to measure—a boon for those who can't face the Reading traffic any longer.

The hardware shops have their usual wide range of goods. I particularly like the new kitchen-ware colours, of a green, vermilion and yellow—good quality too. And the very gay lamps I have seen in one shop almost make me wish I owned a hotel or somewhere suitable. Expensive admittedly, but young couples with modern ideas should go and take a look and see if one could be fitted in somewhere. The local electrical shop has a good selection of transistors for those with bigger items in mind, but if it's socketing filters you are after, there is a new line in small torches which would come in handy. And don't forget our local antique shop for friends and relatives who have got everything they really need.

The sports shops carry a popular line in football equipment—I am told these are always a big sale.

And talking of sports, I have been having a chat to Stan Eldon, our famous three-miler. He thinks the British team did well at the Olympics, considering all things and the high altitude factor he thinks was a psychological handicap rather than a physical one. His own opinion is that the Olympics are due for some reorganisation in the near future and he wouldn't be surprised to find them being split down into a series of specialised events held at different times.

I have just heard that Mr. and Mrs. Callum McKechnie of Mayfield Drive are shortly moving to Stoke Row. Always taking a keen and lively interest in Caversham affairs, they and their family will be missed in the district. Fortunately Callum will still be working in Caversham, so we hope they will remain 'Bridge' readers.

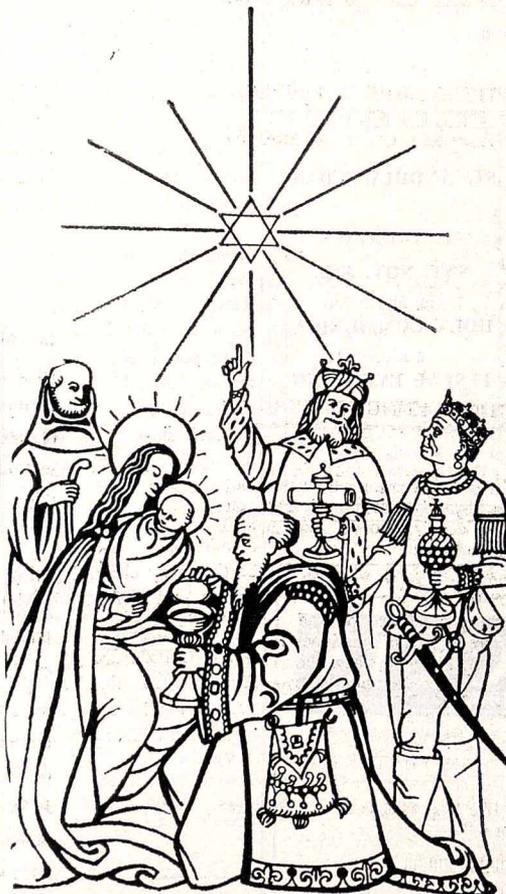
Mr and Mrs Hester of Banbury Gardens, the parents of Beverly, plan to leave their home in November for a year while they visit their daughter at Kincaird, British Columbia, and their son whom they have not seen for thirteen years—in Toronto. Another visit they hope, will be to their other daughter in Flynn, Ohio. We hope they will have a thoroughly enjoyable trip and look forward to hearing about it when they return.

In case the next issue doesn't reach you till after Christmas, may I take this opportunity of personally wishing you all a happy time. My particular thanks to those who have helped to keep this column going by furnishing me with odd items of news. Please keep it up.

Christmas Services in Caversham

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ST. PETER'S Christmas Eve 4-00 p.m. Children's Gift Service with Blessing of Crib 11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist. Christmas Day 7-00 a.m. 8-00 a.m. and 12-15 p.m. Holy Communion. 9-15 a.m. Parish Communion 11-00 a.m. Mattins.	ST. MARGARET'S, MAPLEDURHAM Christmas Eve 11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist. 9-15 a.m. Parish Holy Communion.	CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH Christmas Day 10-30 a.m. Family Service.
ST. JOHN'S Christmas Eve 11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist. Christmas Day 8-00 a.m. Holy Communion. 9-45 a.m. Family Eucharist. 11-00 a.m. Family Carol Service.	CONFESSIONS BEFORE CHRISTMAS Church of England Times when clergy will be available to hear confessions will be given in the church notices on December 15. St. Anne's See church notice board for times.	ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Christmas Day 11-00 a.m. Morning Service.
ST. ANDREW'S Christmas Eve 6-30 p.m. Solemn Evensong and Blessing of Crib. 11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist. Christmas Day 8-00 a.m. and 11-15 a.m. Holy Communion. 9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist.	METHODIST CAVERSHAM Christmas Day 11-00 a.m. Morning Service.	ROMAN CATHOLIC ST. ANNE'S Christmas Eve Midnight Mass. Christmas Day 8-00 a.m., 9-30 a.m. and 11-00 a.m. Mass.
ST. BARNABAS Christmas Eve 6-00 p.m. Nativity Play. 11-45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist. Christmas Day 8-00 a.m. Holy Communion. 9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist.	CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS Christmas Eve 11-30 p.m. Christmas Communion. Christmas Day 11-00 a.m. Morning Service.	OUR LADY OF CAVERSHAM, RICHMOND ROAD Christmas Day 8-30 a.m. and 10-30 a.m. Mass.

CHILDREN'S COLOURING COMPETITION



Prizes will be awarded for the best colouring of this picture by children according to their age.

- Section One. Children under eight years of age on December 1st.
- Section Two. Children under ten years of age on December 1st.
- Section Three. Children under twelve years of age on December 1st.

Entries marked "Christmas Colouring Competition" should be sent to the Caversham Bridge Office, Caversham Rectory, Church Road, Caversham, by December 20th. The names of the winning entries will be published in the February edition of the Bridge.

COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Name..... Age.....
Address.....

I certify that this is the unaided work of my son/daughter.

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The Church has always had a commission to go and preach the gospel; to tell people about the good news of God's forgiveness and love as shown by Jesus Christ.

But no one is quite sure of the best way of doing this in the 1960's.

Should we have more Billy Graham campaigns? Should Christians stop preaching all together and get on with the million and one practical works of mercy and service that there are to do in the world, and let their good works do the preaching for them.

If there is to be preaching—should only clergymen be doing it? Or should other people who are in other jobs take over?

Does it matter?

All these questions have been faced by the Diocese of Coventry in making plans for the mission.

The Bishop decided that preaching was still in. He felt that it should be shared by himself as a clergyman with other people who were not. He launched one of the biggest campaigns on a local level that this country has known. Thousands came—did it succeed?

Christian News covered this mission with great care.

This is how we rated it

WE ASKED SIX PARISHES IN THE COVENTRY DIOCESE—PICKED ABSOLUTELY AT RANDOM — TO GIVE US THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF THE MISSION. ON THE WHOLE THEY TENDED TO BACK UP OUR IMPRESSION:

● **TOO MANY COMMITTED CHURCH PEOPLE.**

"Only our already committed Christians took the trouble to go."

● **TOO MIDDLE CLASS.**

"The Church even in this Mission has not found the way to the 80% of the population who are quite detached from religion."

"My impression is that we did not contact the outsider."

● **BUT ALSO VERY STIMULATING FOR CHURCH LIFE.**

"Those members of the congregation who went along were very impressed by the meetings and the Eucharist. Some were deeply moved and helped forward in their Christian living."

"Those who went were thrilled with the services which were admirably managed."

"The simple honest statements of the visiting speakers, and the zeal of the chief missioner (i.e. the Bishop) would seem more likely to warm the heart of the believer than to convince the non-believer that religion has any relevance."

● **A LAUNCHING PAD FOR FURTHER ACTIVITY.**

"We are discussing like mad what is the way forward in this part of the world."

|||||

What can be the final word?

It would seem that this sort of mission is not the way to reach the outsider. The person totally uncommitted to Christianity is hardly touched by it. But it can be a very useful way of deepening the faith of those in the Church and stimulating them to local mission.

Perhaps this is worth £20,000 and two years of hard slog. Perhaps it isn't. In truth, God alone knows.

We looked at a MISSION



FOR
|||||

FAITH. To make the mission big and to risk a £20,000 budget.

GOOD PLANNING. The mission was preceded by two years of careful build-up

GOOD ORGANISATION. Everything that could help was used. Closed circuit television was used inside and outside the Cathedral. Publicity was handled well. There was an air of modern efficiency.

GOOD SPEAKERS. The lay people who were gathered together from all denominations to speak about their Christian conviction, covered a wide range of people and all walks of life. They spoke well and with real conviction.

GOOD ATMOSPHERE. Applause in the Cathedral. Smiles in the congregation. Joyful music, well performed. This was the right kind of atmosphere. Not over-charged with emotion, but happy and receptive.



AGAINST
|||||

TOO LONG. An hour and a half for each evening's meetings. Half an hour of the Bishop after the rest of the contributions was a bit much. It would have been better if some of the lay people had been left to have the last word.

MAINLY MIDDLE CLASS. The congregation seemed to be made up very much of the kind of people who go to church anyway. It would have been good to see a wider cross section.

TOO CHURCHY. If a mission is meant to be to outsiders then this one seemed to fail on the grounds that the majority of people in and outside the Cathedral were already churchgoers. In any case, the community hymn singing beforehand seemed to assume that people had some sort of church background.



CALL TO MISSION : LEARN TO LIVE

From September 17 to the 27 the Bishop of Coventry conducted a large mission in the cathedral as part of the anniversary celebrations of the founding of the Coventry Diocese.

The mission consisted of eleven evening services. In each service half an hour community hymn singing, by way of a warm up, was followed by a guest speaker, and more often than not a guest group of singers all of whom were well known in the world of entertainment, sport, or politics.

There was also a lay speaker from the Coventry Diocese who was usually somebody with a secular job. Each evening was rounded off by a half hour talk from the Bishop of Coventry on the main theme for the evening. Among those taking part in the Mission were:-

Archbishop of York, The Singing Stewarts, Tom Coyne, Owen Brannagan, Roy Castle, The Crossbeats, Andrew Cruickshank, Wynford Vaughan-Thomas, Derek Nimmo, Cliff Richard, The Settlers, Lady Chichester, Ronald Allison, Quintin Hogg, Colin Cowdrey, Lord Carron.

Those who attended each evening varied in number from 5000 to 8000. The high spot probably being the evening that Cliff Richard was guest "star". The main congregation was in the Cathedral but there were overflows linked to the Cathedral by closed circuit television in the old Cathedral ruins, in the Chapel of Unity, and in neighbouring churches and halls.

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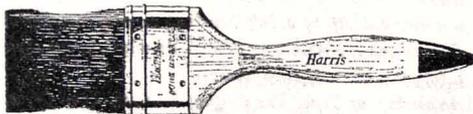
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ROMAN CATHOLICS PRODUCE THE 'JERUSALEM BIBLE,' AND
Sharpen the Message

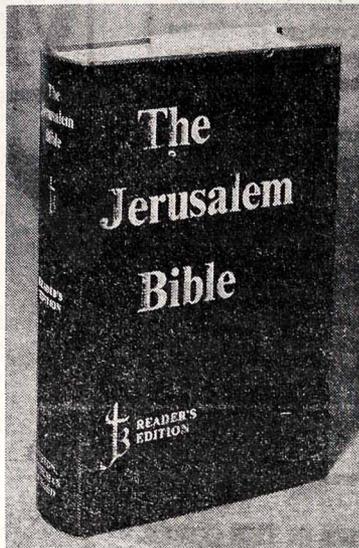
MANY PEOPLE have a deep, irrational, attachment to the well-known, well-loved phrases and wording of the version of the Bible with which they were brought up — for Catholics the Douai version, for other members of the church probably the Authorised Version, brought out in the reign of King James.

Yet the language of these versions is unfamiliar to twentieth century ears, difficult to follow, and deepens the impression that Christianity has little to do with modern times.

Since the war versions of the Bible, using a more up-to-date style of language have increasingly come into use for reading privately and in churches. Best known of these are the Knox Version, the Revised Standard Version, the New English Bible, and most recently the Jerusalem Bible.

EXPENSIVE

The forerunner to the Jerusalem Bible appeared ten years ago in French, the work of French Dominicans in Jerusalem. The Jerusalem Bible, an English translation from the original Hebrew and Greek in its own right was



published in 1950, a large expensive book with very full notes, references and explanatory material introducing the various sections and books of the Bible.

A new 'Readers Edition' has recently come on the market. It has reduced the book's size, the amount of technical material and the price! — while retaining

short introductions and its attractive, easy to read, print and layout, differentiating so well between prose and verse and making the pages look as though they belong to a modern book.

Of course scholars are able to criticise various details of accuracy in the translation. To the average

reader, for whom the new reader's edition is presumably intended, this is not of central importance.

A SERVICE

The Roman Catholic scholars who have produced this Bible have done a great service to the whole church in producing a translation which escapes from the high-sounding formality of older editions and recaptures the gusto and reality of Hebrew life, while sharpening the message of the New Testament by shorter sentences and by using phrases which make us think, rather than allowing over-familiar words to wash over us.

In the Roman Catholic Church there has recently developed an increased understanding of the importance of scripture and preaching. The Second Vatican Council's Constitution in Divine Revelation urged that the scriptures should be accessible to all the faithful and that translations from the original texts should be made into different languages. The Jerusalem Bible is a fine response to the Council's wishes.

HOW TO LIVE WITH YOURSELF AS A PENSIONER

By Leslie Enfield

ON THE FACE OF IT, it would seem to be a fairly simple procedure. All you have to do is to stay alive for 65 years—60 if you're a woman.

But in these days of atom bombs, nuclear submarines and other Devil's ironmongery, that is perhaps a considerable feat. However, assuming you have almost managed it, you will, a few months before your 65th—or 60th, q.v.—birthday, receive a letter from Auntie Social Security telling you that you are about to celebrate your anniversary, and will you please send your birth certificate, and that of your wife, if any, so that you may be considered for a pension.

I wonder how Auntie knows these things? However, that is her business.

You send the certificates, and promptly receive a receipt for them. In my case I also was asked to give the name and address of my accountants. This considerably amused me, because I wondered how many of the old lads staggering to the Post Office once a week had accountants. The query was, nevertheless, well founded, because I manage to scrape an occasional bit of jam to go on my bread and butter and naturally Auntie wanted to know about it.

GRANTED

Some time later you will hear that your application for a pension, which you were not aware you had made, had been granted

and you get a sheaf of instructions. You have nominated which Post Office you want to visit, and your pension book is sent there. You can get it within the week when you draw your first lolly. Note that the book is not sent to you.

There are quite a lot of instructions about what you can do and what you mustn't, but on the whole they are probably about as straight-forward as it is reasonable to expect, remembering that you will be drawing public money.

The chief of these is that if you earn more than £6 10s. 0d. in any one week your pension will be cut. You are warned over and over again that if you do get this minimum you must not draw your pension, but send the book to Auntie. So far I have managed to avoid such affluence.

Don't, you masterful husbands, imagine that you are going to have a weekly pension of £7 6s. Your little lot is £4 10s. The rest is your wife's. She is not bound to hand you her pension book. If she clears off she can take it with her; if you do, you can't take hers, because

the Post Office won't cash it without her signature.

After years and years of living on a monthly income, I found it amusing to toddle to the village Post Office every Thursday—that is my "designated day"—and draw my wages. At first my wife and I had a little joke about it. "Only six more days to pay day," we would say.

One day the village Post Mistress was doling out those lovely crisp notes when she noticed a sheenish grin on my face. "What are you laughing about?" she demanded.

I said: "I still feel sensitive about it."

She replied: "Don't you feel self-conscious about it, my lad. If you were on this side of the counter you would know how many so-and-so's are drawing good money from the State who never did an honest day's work for it. Think of all the years you have paid in for this. It isn't a charity. You are entitled to it."

I felt better then. And of course, the pension does make a difference. I am all for it. I think it ought to be doubled.

The Big Build-up

The big build-up from Abbey National is worth 8½% for standard rate taxpayers who save regularly. Save as little as £1 or as much as £30 a month and hold up to £5000 (£10,000 for joint husband and wife account). The maximum period is now 10 years and savings can be withdrawn whenever needed with interest paid fully up to date.

5% interest, income tax paid by the society —equivalent to
8½%

for standard rate income tax payers.

Assuming a rate of 5%	4 years	7 years	10 years
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WHEN YOU have bought all your presents, ask your special friends to come to your house for a wrap-up party. Explain that you are all going to wrap presents, they should bring along all their presents, some ribbon, paper and string, boxes, bits of felt (to decorate the boxes), cards, and anything else they've got to make their parcels look gay.

You too will have to collect the same things ready for the party. Also have as many pairs of scissors there as possible, some sellotape, ballpoint pens, and paste or gum.

YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS CARDS

Did you collect leaves in the autumn as Junior Christian News suggested? If so, use them to make Christmas Cards. You will need an ink pad which you can buy quite cheaply at a stationer's shop, some thin paper and some thin cards. Place the leaves, one at a time, upside down on the ink pad. Cover with a thin piece of paper, and press extra hard on the outside edge. Lift the leaf off the pad and lay it on the thin card. Cover with another piece of clean thin paper, and again press firmly and evenly. Remove the leaf and you will find its print on the card. You can use the same leaf again. Just re-ink it. Last of all, when the card is quite dry, print a Christmas greeting on it.

WHAT'S TO EAT?

Have you ever thought that Jesus never kept Christmas when he lived in Palestine? People didn't start remembering his birthday in this special way until years after he had died and risen again.

We don't know much about how birthdays were kept in those days, but perhaps on his birthday Mary gave him food he especially liked.

YOUR CHRISTMAS CAKE

Borrow a cookery book and copy out the recipe for a Christmas cake. Underline the items you think Jesus would know about. Check with this list.

MARY'S SHOPPING LIST

Some time or other during the year Mary might have bought these things.

Grain to grind into **flour** for bread and small flat cakes, rather like biscuits.

Butter; salt; grapes; raisins; figs; nuts; milk; spices; eggs; onions; rice.

Honey used for sweetening. There was no sugar in those days.

Dried figs and raisins — also used to sweeten or to eat as they were.

Olives and lots of **olive oil**.

Fish—fresh or salted.

Mutton and fat tails of sheep—for very special days.

Cream—also on special days.

PLAN A MEAL

No one ate much breakfast in those days—just a bit of fresh fruit. They had a fairly big meal at mid-day, and then nothing more to eat until the evening. Then they had a really big meal.

Imagine you are Mary planning the evening meal for Jesus on his ninth birthday. Make a list of what she might give the family to eat.

LOOK THIS UP

St. John, chapter 21, verses 1—14 tells how Jesus cooked the breakfast! (This was a specially big breakfast because the disciples had been fishing all night and were very hungry).

TALKING OF FISH

Next month Junior Christian News is starting its own special Club. It's to be called the Junior Compass Club. We'll tell you why in January. There'll be a secret code for members, and tokens to collect for special gifts. Look out for the entry form next month.

The annual blow-out is almost upon us.

The turkey that's big enough for ten but'll do for six, the walnuts, the giant jar of mustard pickle, the booze, and the Christmas pud.

It's enough to make you sick.

Well, we know a few million people who wouldn't mind being sick on a full stomach.

It'd make a nice change from being sick on an empty one.

At Christian Aid, we spend our time trying to fill the gap.

Not only by feeding the hungry, but by helping them become self-sufficient.

By giving farmers the tractors and seeds so they can grow more.

By giving fishermen better equipment so they can catch more.

And by teaching cattle farmers modern methods so they can produce more.

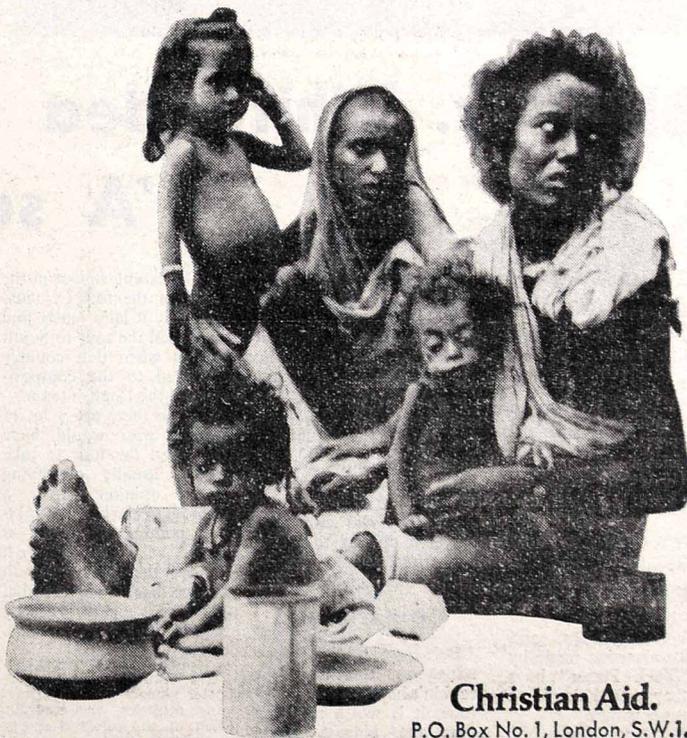
They're not exactly unambitious aims. And they're not exactly cheap.

And any money you might send us won't solve the problem overnight.

It'll help though.

Caring tuppence is better than not caring at all.

You won't be the only one with tummy trouble this Christmas.



Christian Aid.

P.O. Box No. 1, London, S.W.1.



T.V. TONIC

BY DIANA DEWES

WHAT BRAND of viewer are you? A goggling zombie? . . . or a discriminating critic? A hoverer in front of the set . . . or a strong-willed knob turner?

Your selective viewer is an admirable animal. He exists to be educated, disturbed and provoked. He scores around a variety of the week's programmes in a variety of coloured 'biros', estimating their culture content. He can hardly be faulted on his devotion to the News, documentaries and current affairs.

Infuriatingly well-informed, bloated with 'food for thought', his viewing habits are commendable and enviable . . . and totally boring to fellow viewers.

This is a clear case of 'sour grapes' from a hectic housewife, the breed who

never get two minutes to themselves. The longest daily sit-down they can rely on is not usually the one in front of the television! At the best of times, world affairs are heavy going to them . . . but at the worst of times and at the end of an 'off' day . . .!

Agreed, television can be fulfilling to those who manage to live with it on their selective plane — but for those with lower brows on lower planes there are other diverting programmes which are a real tonic. The tonic doesn't necessarily have to be packaged as slapstick comedy or French farce. Television's tonic mixture comes at unlikely moments.

The 'Magic Roundabout', children, was this adult's only regular viewing for months, five minutes on the box, sitting con-

veniently between the clamours of tea time and bath time. Five minutes to be snatched every day to see the puppet figures on the roundabouts going to Zebedee's magic garden to meet, for one, Dougal, the long-haired and lugubrious blob-nosed Dougal, full of problems and Zebedee bouncing up to solve them on his cork screw spring.

Top of the Pops', geared to trendy teenage viewing, can fascinate viewers of older years and squarer tastes. With the abandon of youth, throbbing, strumming and screaming under fierce spot lamps, dizzy lighting effects revealing yards of gyrating teenage legs, teenage locks and extravagant teenage costume.

Magic for children and youthful exuberance: these programmes are television's tonic mixture for all age groups.

PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

THE EYEBROWS flutter. The eyes twinkle. They don't just smile—they all but burst out laughing.

Then you forget the portly, unsteady figure. The sing-song voice doesn't grate so much. You realise that the man can see the funny side of things. The Archbishop of Canterbury is human.

This is just what we like to know about our V.I.P.'s today. It doesn't matter how important they are supposed to be in their own field. If they don't seem human when we see them on T.V. or in the papers, we just don't want to know. But if they seem human . . . well, that's different.

It's the eyes and the eyebrows that tell you that the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Arthur Michael Ramsey is not just the 100th Archbishop of Canterbury, but one of us.

Here is a man, we can say, who sees our point of view. He is not so much a remote politician or a prince of the Established

Church as another twentieth-century man trying to find out what Christianity means today.

This is how he explained his ambition as Archbishop of Canterbury: "To bring the Christian message home to all the people by preaching, teaching, writing and using radio and T.V. and personal influence."

This personal influence of 64 year old Dr. Ramsey, married but with no children, has been wide in his seven years at Canterbury.

People have warmed to him wherever he has gone.

- He has not been afraid to speak out — on Rhodesia, immigration, nuclear war, all the great issues of our day.

- He is a scholar who is equal to all the modern lines of attack on Christian belief.

- He is an urgent believer in church unity. His meetings with Pope John and with leaders of the Eastern Orthodox Church will be long-standing mile-stones in the drawing together of denominations.

- He has travelled. New Delhi, New York, New Zealand; Rome, Jerusalem, Geneva, Istanbul, Toronto; Nigeria, Australia, Rumania, Belgium, France. You name it, he's been there.

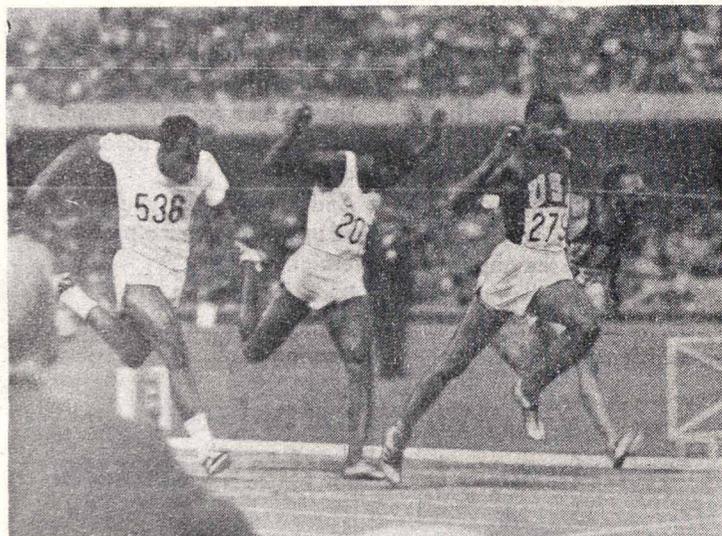
- His initiative and views are respected inside and outside the Church of England.

These facts stamp Michael Cantuar—his traditional signature—as a churchman on the frontiers of modern life. His Christian faith and ecclesiastical position do not add up to a nice, safe, cosy hideaway. Two years in Liverpool in the 'twenties; another two at Boston, Lincolnshire; two or three at Cambridge; 14 altogether at Durham, four of them as Bishop. This is the background to his work as Archbishop, first of York, in 1956 and then five years later in his present position.

Talk to him about the problems of the Church. Discuss the dangers of the age. You learn that he understands deeply. And he cares with a sympathetic Christian faith. But the eyebrows still flutter.



Dr. Michael Ramsey



The finish of the 100 metres men's final in the Olympic Games in Mexico. Hines is the winner in 9.9 seconds.

Ernest Adkins on an 'irresponsible' Olympic after thought

Black v. White idea

— 'A sell out'

THE suggestion recently put forward by an American impresario that an international black versus white Olympic type sports promotion be staged next year, is surely the most irresponsible idea ever to be proffered in the name of sport.

Such a suggestion was I suppose inevitable following the massive triumph of the coloured athletes in the last Olympics, and also the assertion made by the "Black Power" boys that they would dominate all future games.

Fervent nationalism as apposed to true

patriotism is in my view already ruining international sporting events; I tremble to think what the outcome of a white versus the rest contest would be.

What distressed most people in this country about the now famous Black Power demonstration in Mexico, was not what they did but that they felt obliged to act in such a fashion at that particular moment.

D'OLIVIERA

Before we in this country adopt our traditional "it couldn't-happen-here" attitude, it is worth recalling that the biggest sports story of the year was the D'Oliviera episode.

The establishment in the form of the M.C.C. acted properly if laboriously and cancelled the tour to South Africa when that country objected to the composition of the English team.— Even so there are a lot of people who would have preferred the tour to take place, usually qualifying their opinion with a fatuous remark about mixing politics and sport—a point of view which ignores the fact that South Africa has done just that these past eighty years by segregating her sportsmen.

In the sports in which they have been allowed to compete, namely boxing, cricket and athletics, the contribution of the coloured sportsmen, even to the extent of setting new standards, has been very considerable.

SWIMMING?

It is sadly significant that the more social sports, tennis and golf, have not benefitted in the same way, and I am still searching for an adequate explanation of the white monopoly of the swimming pool.

We are, I am afraid, travelling too fast and too far away from the basic conception of athletics, that of man versus man in equal and fair competition. Every international sporting event is now obscured with flag waving and anthems, and now we have to suffer anthropological dissertations on the merits of the competitions.

The brain behind the proposed contest of the races describes the proposed event as a certain sell-out. I couldn't agree more: it would be the first step toward selling out all that many of us consider worth preserving in the name of sport.



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