



CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

January 1970

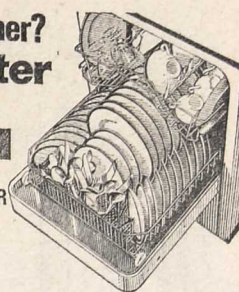
COMPASS, N. 7, JANUARY, 1970-1

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The voice of compassion and protest can defeat the get-get-get attitude of the rat race.

7/EX 1758/7/1



SOAPBOX

ALL

CHANGE



Good for a laugh

AD-50

Joint
work for
South
America

In a number of ways the Methodist Missionary Society (MSS) and the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (USPG) have been working in association for many years.

At home, through the Conference of British Missionary Societies, they have engaged in regular consultation about their work generally and shared in a variety of joint missionary education projects in this country.

Overseas, their concerns have also been related and, in recent years, brought closer together through the work of Anglican and Methodist Churches in a number of parts of the world.

Now they intend immediately to examine whether there is a joint work for them to do in Latin America. The exact place and the nature of the work will become clearer as joint consultations proceed with Church authorities in South America and elsewhere. For both of them this would be a new field of work.

It's happening all the time, all around us. The city is changing, the countryside is changing, our whole pattern of life is changing. Halfpennies and half crowns disappear, the ten bob note is replaced by the seven sided 50 new pence piece. The Church of England is changing its system of government.

It's all happening, and it is particularly noticeable at the turn of a decade as the nineteen sixties change into the nineteen seventies.

HOW DO YOU COPE WITH CHANGE?

Do you find it bewildering and frightening? Or stimulating and exciting? Part of the answer will depend on what the particular change is. Some things affect us more directly than others. Some changes are a matter of casual interest, others seem to threaten our whole way of life.

Another part of the answer may depend on your age. In general, older people find it more difficult to adapt to new habits and new ways of thinking than younger people. But whatever our age, and whether we like it or not, changes are bound to take place. Some people try to cope with the situation by pretending that things are the same as they always were. Others regard change as an enemy to be opposed whenever it occurs.

Both of these are futile attempts to escape from reality: change is a necessary part of life; we shall never grow and never learn if we never change.

HOW DO YOU CHANGE THINGS

Change is not simply something which happens to you, it is also something you bring about. You have a different car, or T.V. set, a different hair style or holiday, you redecorate the sitting room or rearrange the furniture, BECAUSE YOU WANT A CHANGE.

All the time, consciously or unconsciously, you are making changes in your own life and in the lives of others. You have the power to choose, to make decisions, to praise, or blame, to give advice or encouragement. All these are ways of changing things for yourself and for those you are able to influence.

HOW DO YOU DISCRIMINATE?

Not all change is for the better; there is progress, but there is also decay. In all the welter of change with which we are surrounded, must we simply accept everything which comes simply because it is new? That would be as stupid as rejecting it all because it was new. But how are we to sort out the steps forward from the steps backward?

Obviously we need to have some kind of yardstick to measure change—something which distinguishes 'good' from 'bad' 'right' from 'wrong'. And the very idea of a yardstick suggests a form of measurement which doesn't change, which remains the same, whatever is being measured.

The mood of the sixties was against the traditional yardsticks of religion and morality. Perhaps in the seventies we shall find ways of holding together the dynamism of change and the reality of eternal changelessness.

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Mental Breakdown

COMPASS, N. T., JANUARY, 1970—1

Nearly half the hospital beds in this country are occupied by patients requiring treatment for some mental affliction: a serious problem which most of us ignore until it affects us, or someone we know, personally.

A mental breakdown, like a car accident, a plane crash or a divorce can only happen to someone else! Or so we believe. Most of the time we jog along priding ourselves on the fact that our lives, even if lived at a hectic pace, are governed by well-balanced, orderly minds.

We make decisions, accept responsibility both at work and at home, carrying out the daily round to the best of our ability. But suppose one day we discover we have lost our powers of judgment?

We find ourselves for the first time floundering over a small decision, forget trifling necessities, and have difficulty in concentrating on matters that have hitherto been mere child's play.

We may begin to feel guilty over some past pattern of behaviour, leading to a state of refusal to go outside the house or to meet anyone who calls. Sounds impossible. But is it?

One family in five experiences the mental breakdown of one of its members. Those who do encounter this sad situation know that dealing with such cases without external help drives other members of the family to the limit of their endurance. The tragedy is that the suffering member loses all sense of reality and time, and changes so much in personality that the former, well-loved being exists in exterior form only.

Collapse

The reasons for a mental breakdown are multiple. It may be caused by overwork, the upset of a bereavement, loneliness, a fault in the body's metabolism, deterioration through malnutrition and old age, or the collapse of a nervous system which has been pushed for years beyond its natural limits.

Whatever the cause, the breakdown of normal thinking processes coupled with inexplicable fears and inability to cope with the sim-

Somebody else's problem?

plest chores, cause untold misery to the sufferer. Generally, little sympathy is forthcoming as no visible sign of the illness is apparent at the outset. Unlike the person who sustains a broken limb or double pneumonia, the mentally distressed sufferer shows little day-to-day change, and improvement is consequently hard to detect.

He is conscious of the anxiety he is causing, and so becomes ultra-sensitive to criticism often shutting himself away to avoid it. The order to "snap out of it" is about the worst advice to give. Only time, treatment and endless patience achieves any lasting effect.

Tremendous progress has been made in the field of mental health research but there is still an enormous amount of exploration to be done. There are not enough modern hospitals for the treatment of those suffering from mental breakdowns. As a result, far too many beds are occupied in hospitals where patients are awaiting admittance for physical ailments.

Teenagers

Also there is inadequate provision for teenagers suffering from what is often only a temporary nervous breakdown. The effect on a young girl placed in a ward with much older women, many of whom may be suffering from a depressive illness which quickly communicates itself to someone not entirely robust themselves, is alarming. Among such companions she cannot see hope of her own recovery, and may become horrified at the prospect of increasing age.

Doing its best to rectify the position of the 'poor relation in the National Health Service' the Mental Health

Research Fund established in 1949 has since 1955 been making grants in the region of £20,000 to £40,000 annually to further the aims of mental health research teams. Great strides have been made into investigation of the various types of mental illness. Separate research clinics and laboratories deal with the various facets of severe depression, schizophrenia and brain subnormality. Eminent physicians and psychiatrists devote time in intensive research, studying the reactions not only of those still suffering, but those who have recovered to ascertain that no return of the illness occurs.

Curative drugs are prescribed according to each individual's characteristics, history and genetic background, but as nearly every case is different a vast amount of work has to be done by each exploratory unit. So complicated is the form of mental illness that behaviour patterns change with each individual.

Fortunately, the ignorance and 'hush-hush' tactics which once surrounded mental illness are being overcome.

In weeks

Today's sufferer, once banished for ever from normal living, can now be cured in a matter of weeks by treatment and drugs, and return to take his place as a useful member of the community, usually becoming a less self-centred, and far more amenable person than before.

In the case of the mentally subnormal, due to brain damage at birth, successes in this highly complex field have been many. Every day fresh hope is given to those who were deprived at birth from faculties which the rest of us take for granted.



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IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU!

by Edna M. Fitzeustace

Car sense 'MUSTS' FOR WINTER CAR TRIPS

What emergency kit do you carry in your car? I'm not just being pessimistic in asking this: now is the season for breakdowns of all sorts. Breakdowns induced by the weather: ice, snow, rain, slush and all other variations of the English winter climate.

The A.A. and R.A.C. are very good—but at this season they are apt to get a lot of calls all together, and if you're equipped to get yourself or your neighbour out of the most obvious troubles you can save a lot of time.

Here's a short list of things I am very reluctant to travel without.

Starting handle (used very infrequently, but what a comfort to have!).

Tow rope: nylon for preference to minimise 'snatch' problems. By the way, do you know where on your car it is safe to attach a tow rope, either for pulling, or being pulled? On most cars the bumper is not strong enough.

Wheel brace, jack and spare wheel, of course—but do you know where to attach the jack, and how to use it? Silly question, I know—but have you ever tried it? Some dry, clean rag for wiping moisture off H.T. cables, coil top, distributor cap and plug caps. In snow conditions, a spade. Spanners, of course.

SOAP, TOO!

There are other things worth having—less basic perhaps, but at the right moment worth their weight in gold. A fan belt: spare contact breaker points and condenser. A spare sparking plug or two—and a plug spanner that does the job. Ever tried it . . . ?

I'll try and add to this list later on—mention the uses of a cake of soap for instance. But these things I've mentioned can go quite a long way to help you out of trouble.

BRIAN FAVELL.



By John Banks



LOOK

I can't remember her exact words but the purport of them is graven on my mind. Dr. Summerskill said something like this: "I see them striding along; gorgeous long-legged girls in their mini skirts. The boys haven't got a chance."

I know what she means. I feel it in my bones. Every other change and quirk of fashion, an inch here, a frill there, has just been a variation on a well worn theme. But to lift the skirts ten inches in a single hoist was a gesture of freedom. It said to Mum "you can't do that, my generation is different from yours." It said to the young men, not "Come hither" but "Get out of the way, I'm marching out as your equal, my ankles unfettered by yards of tulle."

What can we do? Accept it I suppose. Recognise that the sweet little thing under the soft lights at the party has designs on our man's world. It has advantages, of course, we may keep our seat on a bus, or look after the baby while 'she' goes out to work. Accept it — and enjoy it — or look out for the sort of girl who said to me "I don't really want to be equal; I want to be spoilt."

OUT

But perhaps you think I'm being altogether too flippant, and perhaps you are right. I happen to think a woman's best contribution is not made by being a sort of man in skirts. Paradise will not be won when women have made entrance into every male preserve. It might be better to leave some clubs unentered so that a certain kind of man can sleep the sleep of the dead in the hide bound chairs, covered with "yesterday's Times."

I want women to make things different because they are different. "Vive la difference" the Frenchman said and I hope he didn't just mean exterior anatomical characteristics. I sigh when I think that women getting the vote has made the world no less bloody, or politics no less awful.

And when women lust for the cat and the rope back I wonder what's gone wrong. So hoist your skirts girls, and stride into the future, but don't lose your womanhood. Take us with you, there is much you could teach us.

FELLAS

Silent Screen

By Margaret Wale

Times have changed since the days when I was taken, as a great treat, on my first trip to the cinema. I remember sitting on my red velvet seat, overawed by the solemnity of the occasion, enchanted by the magical, musical rise and fall of the theatre organ, and terribly impressed by the uniformed torch-bearers who escorted me in.

Nowadays children are well conditioned from birth to the omnipresent television set, the moving picture in their own home, so that the visit to the cinema can be quite a non-event.

So it was with my own son when, one wet holiday afternoon, all other activities having palled, I suggested we saw a highly suitable film at our local cinema. "It's like television, only bigger," I explained to Nicholas.

Very quiet

He was quite accustomed to a rich and varied diet of children's programmes on T.V. and could easily digest them all at the age of five, along with the fish fingers and baked beans on his tea-time plate. I added, for good measure, that in the cinema it was customary to sit very still and very quiet.

Well, customs change too, and my bit of advice from experience was discredited immediately we got into the cinema. Every row was crammed with small children, trawled from the neighbourhood as if by the Pied Piper himself, and they were all making such a thunderous noise that we might as well have been back in the days of silent films.

Roly-poly

When the action on the screen flagged, the children amused themselves by clonking their seats up and down, racing each other to the toilets, playing roly-poly in the aisles, head over heels down the sloping floor to the screen, then thump-thump back up the hill again. There was not an usherette to be seen, I imagined they were all shut up in some little back room having gin-and-hysterics.

There was such a pushing and shoving in the ice-cream queue, that Nicholas retired from the fray without his flavour-of-the-month.

I think in future he'll stick to his tea-time T.V. and fish fingers!

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THE NEWSPAPER OF ANGLICANS
FREE CHURCHMEN AND ROMAN CATHOLICS
IN CAVERSHAM

No. 64

January, 1970

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CHARLIE COX CARETAKER

This actually started out to be a day in the life of a school caretaker; now that I have actually met Charlie Cox, I feel it would be a most misleading title, for I doubt if his life is in any way typical.

True some incidents are only too frequent in the lives of school caretakers—like the knock on the door late at night when Mrs. Jones, whose daughter goes to the school, has a burst pipe and remembers how admirably the school caretaker coped when the school was nearly flooded out.

HE KNOWS HIS WORTH

But I doubt if many caretakers would be prepared to take off their overalls and take over an infants' class when a teacher failed to show up.

Mr. Cox says it's because he has always been exceptionally lucky with the teaching staff he's worked with. No doubt this is true, but it is not the whole story. There is a refreshing lack of false humility about Charlie Cox which makes him a pleasure to talk to; he knows his worth, not only to his school but to the community in which he lives. And because of this he is prepared to put in a great many more hours than he is officially obliged to, and to take his full share of community activities.

EMMER GREEN

It will be as caretaker of Emmer Green Primary School that he will best be known, since this was the job he held from 1952 till he moved on to Caversham Primary School this summer. Arriving at the school when it was first opened, he found no doors or windows in the building and had to take his equipment home with him every night. And at this time it was customary for his family to join him on the job, shifting furniture and preparing classrooms at a moment's notice.

It was here that he joined St. Barnabas as verger and, as he puts it himself, head cook and bottle-washer; there is no doubt that he is prepared to turn his hand to anything. It is not for nothing that the Rev. Malcolm Cooper, Priest-in-charge at



Walton Adams

St. Barnabas, refers to very happy time. He and his wife and two sons now live in a comfortable house next door to the school. They have five other children, all married and living reasonably close, and ten grandchildren.

HORSES AND TRAVEL

Charlie Cox was not always a school caretaker. During the early part of his working life he worked as a groom with the South Berks Hounds and similar organisations. His work with horses took him all over the world, but with the arrival of a young family he and his wife Gladys decided it was time for them to see more of him. Since then he has been caretaker at private and state schools, including Leighton Park, St. Anne's, Broad Oak Convent. During the war he served with the Red Cross and once more found himself out east, latterly with the RAF Nursing Reserve.

AND NOW . . .

With the retirement of Miss Bone and Miss Hene-gulph from Emmer Green Primary School, he decided it was a good time to make a change and this year he transferred to Hemdean Road, where he is already settling in for what promises to be a

His working day starts somewhere around 6-45 a.m. and finishes at any time—though of course it is not likely to be so late as at Emmer Green where he had the youth club to take care of as well. But Charlie Cox has no regrets, except that he would liked to have been able to train as a teacher himself; he obviously gets on well with children.

THANKS

Incidentally, he would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the staff and pupils at Emmer Green for the lovely gifts he received and for all the messages of goodwill. They will be greatly treasured for the rest of his life.

We look forward to hearing more about Charlie Cox in the future and offer him our very best wishes for continued happiness in his new job.

W.D.

THE SEVENTIES —THE CARING SOCIETY?

In the 1950's we saw the Welfare State come into being. And the 1960's have meant for many people the establishment of the Affluent Society. But not for everyone; many are richer yet the gap between rich and poor, especially between the rich and poor nations has widened. The Christian conscience has however been stirred; the publicity given to the National Sign-In regarding world poverty has made it plain that many people, both inside and outside the Churches, are profoundly unhappy at the growing gap between the Haves and the Have-Nots.

1970 will be the year when the whole community in Caversham is alerted to the needs of others, both at home and abroad. Plans are well in hand for "Mayday Week" in July, and in this coming Lent hundreds of Christians in Caversham, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Free Church, will be meeting in small study groups in private houses to study what the Bible has to say about the Christian doctrine of man; this study ought to stimulate us to ask searching questions about the pattern of life in Caversham.

TWO DATES

There are two important dates that I want to stress. On Thursday, January 22nd at 8 p.m. the annual meeting of the Bridge Scheme of Social Service will be held in the hall of Caversham Methodist Church, Gosbrook Road. The Bridge Scheme is now a well established organisation: it has done a lot to help people in a variety of different needs. But the demands upon the scheme are growing. Hospital social workers, local doctors and others are turning to the organisers for help, and at present we simply cannot answer all the calls for aid as thoroughly as we ought to do. This is because the scheme needs many more helpers, particularly car drivers. In the last two or three years many new people have moved into Caversham but few have volunteered to help. New residents are particularly invited to come to the meeting on January 22nd to learn about the Bridge Scheme, and then, it is hoped, to offer assistance in some way or another.

The second important date is January 25th when at 6-30 p.m. Christians from all parts of the Church of God will worship together in St. Peter's and the preacher will be the Rev. John Wallace, the regional organiser for Oxham. He will be directing our thoughts towards our Lenten study and towards the theme of May Day week—human need both in this country and in other lands.

It is impossible to read the Gospels without realising that our Lord's ministry was a ministry of compassion—and a community which lacks compassion cannot possibly be Christian. In spite of all the apparent affluence which surrounds us there are millions in need of one kind or another. Most people who read this paper will have enjoyed in the last few days a good many luxuries over the Christmas season. But our keeping of Christmas will have been a vile mockery unless we are concerned to be a loving and caring community.

As we pass from the 1950's which gave us the Welfare State and the 1960's which brought about for many of us the Affluent Society let us ask God's help in endeavouring to make the mark of the Seventies just this—that the next ten years become known for bringing into being the Caring Society.

John Grimwade

THE EDITOR

REGRETS

that it is not always possible to publish all material that is received. Priority is given to news which directly relates to life in Caversham and Mapledurham, and articles of a more general nature should be submitted to the editor of Compass who is responsible for the outer pages of the Caversham Bridge.

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Duchess of Kent visits the Chiltern Nursery Training College

Describing November 4th 1969 as the most important day in the history of the Chiltern Training College, Chairman of the Governors, Mr. G. C. Jones welcomed the Duchess of Kent and invited her to unveil a commemorative tablet to mark the official opening of the new hall of residence for student nurses.

Prior to this ceremony the Duchess received a welcome from student nurses, and in a lecture room told a gathering of nurses, staff, Governors and local doctors that this was the very first time she had visited a student nurses college. She showed great interest in the two-year training course undertaken by students and questioned many of them individually.



Talking to some of the nurses

Photo: Reading Chronicle

"I know all of you who come here to learn to be children's nurses must have a great love of children. Your training must be hard and tiring and there must be times when you wonder if it is all worth while. There is an ever increasing need for properly trained people to look after children and your training will always be of value no matter what the future holds for you. Yours is a wonderfully worthwhile career," she told them and went on to describe the good being done abroad by nurses trained at this particular college. They were held in high esteem and were maintaining the high standards they had acquired during their training.

The Duchess spoke too of the close liaison between the Chiltern Training College and Hospitals, Public Health Services and the Juvenile Courts all of which were visited in the course of training.

Following the unveiling of the plaque, the Duchess was shown the handiwork of nurses and children and was presented with a wooden cot and doll and a basket of felt hand puppets made by the students, for her own children. During a visit to the nurseries she talked to many of the nurses and their charges and to several small children who were allowed to join the guests for tea in the Students' Common Room.

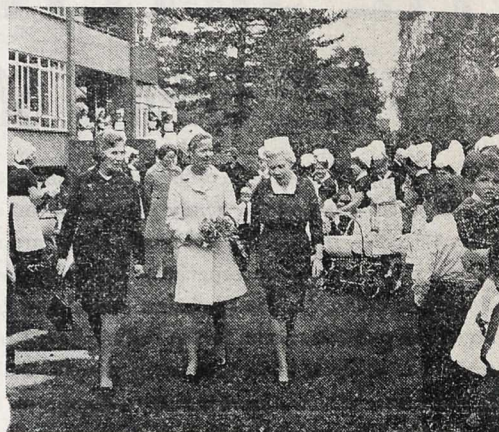
Deputising for her father Mr. C. F. Taylor, one of the Governors and builder of the new hall of residence, unable to be present, was Miss Cherry Taylor. Accompanying the Duchess along with other officials was the Mayor of Reading Ald. Mrs. Edith Lovett and principal of the college, Miss A. M. Gardner.

The opening of the new students' residential building marks a further step forward in the history of the Chiltern Group of Mothercraft and Nursery Training Societies at

Caversham, and enables 100 nurses to be accommodated as well as an addition to the 55 children already accepted. The latter range from tiny babies to eleven year olds who live in family groups and attend local schools. A link with the original Babies Nursing Home founded by Miss Halliday in 1931 at a Blenheim Road house, was the presence at this official opening of Dr. Kathleen Field who attended the children at the original home.

In 1941, the home became affiliated to the National Society of Children's Nurseries and was accepted as a member of the Association of Nursery Training Colleges in 1945. In 1960 it merged with the Mothercraft Training Society and now occupies the three large houses at 18, 20 and 32 Peppard Road. Children arrive often in a distressed state from not only local sources but from the London County Boroughs, from parents unable to cope or from those who are temporarily incapacitated.

EDNA M. FITZEUSTACE



Her Royal Highness with the Principal, Miss Gardner on her right and Nurse Ivy Over on her left.

Photo: Reading Chronicle

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 18th. 6-30 p.m.

EXCHANGE OF PREACHERS.

At St. Peter's: The Rev. Lyn Lewis. (Baptist).

At St. Andrew's: The Rev. Terence Harris. (Methodist).

At St. Barnabas': Mr. L. Wyeth. (Baptist).

At St. Margaret's: The Rev. F. D. Turk. (Methodist).

At Caversham Methodist Church:

The Rev. J. Y. Crowe. (Anglican).

At Caversham Heights Methodist Church:

The Rev. J. G. Grimwade. (Anglican).

At Caversham Free Baptist Church:

The Rev. R. Packer. (Anglican).

MONDAY, JANUARY 19th:

8-00 p.m. Service at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20th:

7-30 p.m. United Service at St. Laurence's.

Preacher: The Roman Catholic Bishop of Portsmouth.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22nd:

8-00 p.m. Caversham Methodist Hall, Ardler Road.
Annual General Meeting of the Bridge Scheme of Social Service.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25th:

6-30 p.m. Evensong at St. Peter's:

Preacher: The Rev. John Wallace,
Regional organiser for Oxfam.

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Random jottings from an RC layman

I am getting very tired of the 'knocking' of the youth of to-day. None of us can remain immune to the influence of the Press, and to judge from the never-ending stories of teenage violence, hooliganism, sexual permissiveness, drug taking, etc., most of us could be excused from thinking the young of this country had gone to pot, in all senses of the word. Even those of us who realise that these stories only represent a very small proportion of the youth of to-day, cannot help being depressed by the cumulative effect such stories inevitably have.

Of course I realise it boils down to the unattractive human characteristic of finding more interest in horror and misfortune than in acts of unselfishness, courage and dogged endurance; and that papers are in business, and to improve or keep up their business they find it necessary to pander to this human weakness.

But as I said before the cumulative effect is depressing. It was recently therefore with enormous interest that I read of some of the worthwhile activities of young people in the local Youth Service News. The projects involved were so varied, ranging from helping with heavy manual work on archaeological sites, trudging on sponsored walks, operating a 'Say it with Flowers' service for old people in Reading, to helping in the preparation of a "Handbook for the Handicapped", (a guide to places of interest in Reading for the disabled with details of wheelchair facilities, steps to tackle, etc).

I know some children adopt as it were some elderly

or housebound person, and call in on them regularly on their way home from school either for a chat, or to do a bit of shopping, see to their fuel or do any other little job to help. I have also heard of young girls who have gone on holiday with deprived or handicapped children, each girl making herself responsible for the care of one child. Recently, when we were starting to organise the A.P.A. Teach-In on Drug Abuse, it was the Students' Union at Bulmershe who took the initiative and arranged for it to be held there and were most generous in their help.

At the school my fifteen year old son goes to in the West Country, the house he is in recently converted their central heating system from solid fuel to oil. For years there had been a great character called 'Jimmy' who stoked and quite literally lived with the boiler.

He had no family and no

other home. His troglodyte life was strange and his diet even more so, consisting chiefly of draught sherry for which he has a passion. It was cosy and warm in the boiler house, if a bit smelly, and the boys used to drop in and chat to him. I had heard mutterings for some time from my son and his friends about what was to happen to 'Jimmy' when the heating modernisation took place and this showed a real concern. When staying down there the other day, I ran into one of my son's friends in the town—"Just popping round to see 'Jimmy'" he said. It transpires 'Jimmy' is now living in 'a super little old folk's flat', still managing to spend more on sherry than on food and the boys still continue to drop in for a chat. AND the flat is cosy with oil fired central heating.

Not much, perhaps, but it is a story much more typical of the young people of today and showing a greater sense of responsibility and care for someone else than the endless squalid stories we read in the papers would suggest.

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Traffic problems are once more looming large. A lot of the trouble is caused by inconsiderate parking. The new car park has had nothing like the success of the one it replaced in getting cars away from the kerbside.

In the Residents' Association we feel that the time has come once again to press the benefits to be derived from making Prospect Street-Westfield Road-Gosbrook Road triangle one way. When put forward at the time of the controversy over the shopping precinct and the new road plan for Caversham, it was dismissed on the grounds that in speeding up the traffic, it would make the roads dangerous for pedestrians. Since the introduction of

Reading's extensive one-way system, although it is true that traffic travels much faster than it should, pedestrians generally find it easier to cross the road because the traffic is only coming from one way and breaks occur at more frequent intervals than they did with a two way flow.

We think that the introduction of one way traffic on this small section besides speeding the general traffic flow, would have several other benefits. It would mean that one side of the roads affected could be used for parking without causing the congestion this results in at present. In Gosbrook Road, it would enable the footpath to be widened. This is dangerously narrow and with increasing numbers of young children using the Wolsey Road School an accident is almost inevitable before long.

We also feel that a pedestrian crossing is needed in Church Street now that the shopping precinct has been opened in contravention of every thing the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has to say about developing shopping areas on both sides of a main traffic route. At least the new pillar box has been put on the side of the road where most people live. That is a useful piece of street furniture.

Doubtless the other poles sticks and plaques springing up in Caversham have their limited uses. One wonders though, how many of the separate items in this forest could combine within themselves more than one use.

APA what now?

by Justine Maine

The new Reading and District Branch of the Association for the Prevention of Addiction held its first function at Bulmershe College. This was a Teach-In entitled "Drugs—A False Alarm?" The Mayor of Reading attended and the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. A. Gatherer, chaired the meeting at the invitation of A.P.A. These two facts surely demonstrate our Local Authority's growing concern about this problem. Over 500 people attended, and over 200 people had not been able to obtain tickets; all tickets were disposed of over a week beforehand.

The Committee have discussed their future plans and, as promised, will put on another Teach-In for the benefit of those who were disappointed and for those who might like something a little different. It is likely that this time a greater emphasis will be put on the problem of

soft drug abuse. I do not think we shall be able to do this much before March, as these big events do need quite a lot of planning.

The Committee are also going into the question of holding some smaller events for specialised audiences. The large audience at Bulmershe the other night was a very mixed one: doctors, magistrates, social workers, hospital staff, ordinary parents, students, etc.

The Committee has decided to hold a semi-social evening for paid-up members towards the end of January at which a film will be shown. The members can meet the Steering Committee and hear their future plans and also be given an opportunity to make their own suggestions.

Members of the Steering Committee are continually engaged in giving talks. They have also done their best to help worried parents who have approached them. It has been suggested that groups of such parents might like to be brought together to pool their experiences, and indeed try to help and support each other. The Committee will of course bear this matter in mind, and if a wish for this becomes apparent we shall be pleased to help.

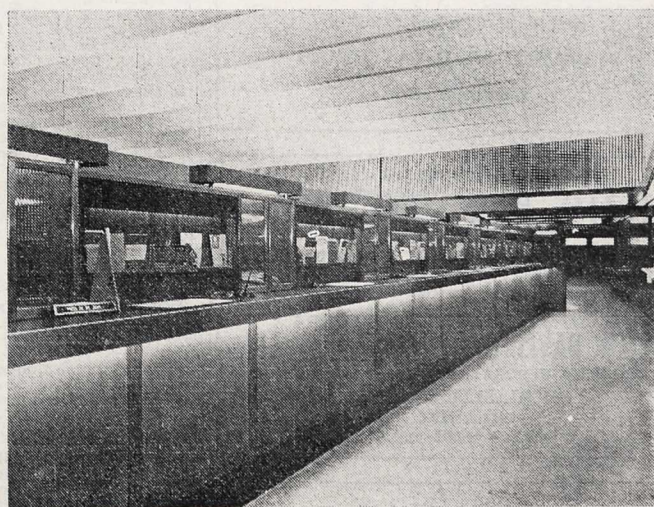
Quite apart from the educational aspect, we must try and prepare ourselves to take part in any project, such as a local hostel or club, should the need for this sort of thing become apparent. This is of

course something much more difficult and would probably involve a constant team of voluntary help, working in with professional social workers. It is of course too early yet in the life of the local Branch to embark on such things but the possibility of helping in such social experiments and the need for them must be borne in mind.

FINANCE

We broke just about even over expenses for the Teach-In, thanks to the wonderful facilities offered so generously at Bulmershe College. We are greatly indebted to many people for most generous donations—some of our founder members held special functions; others, private individuals and organisations, (including this paper), have made donations. This has provided us with working capital, and of course given the Steering Committee great encouragement and support. We shall always try to make our ventures pay for themselves, but there are often quite heavy bills to be met before any event takes place, and this is where it is a great relief to have the necessary working capital to embark on projects involving heavy printing and postage expenses.

The Steering Committee feels the new Branch has been given a wonderful launching, and they are only too willing to work hard to try to justify this encouragement.



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An ecumenical wedding



Walton Adams

The Wedding took place on November 15th, at Caversham Baptist Free Church of Miss Eileen M. Smith and Mr. Kenneth V. Skelton of Didcot. The Minister, the Revd. L. S. Lewis officiated and was assisted by the Revd. Peter Edwards, Vicar of St. Peter's, Didcot. Eileen has been an active member of the Church in that she sang in the Choir, taught in the Sunday School and was 'Brown Owl' in the Brownie Pack, members of the latter forming a Guard of Honour as the Bridal Couple left the Church. She was also a 'Caversham Bridge' Distributor. Mr. and Mrs. Skelton are making their home at Didcot.

Has a Christian the right to be happy?

TALKING POINT
by Lyn S. Lewis

The reaction is immediate. There they are again. Christianity has always been a kill-joy. Swinburne was right.

*"Thou has conquered, O pale Galilean,
The world has turned grey with thy breath".*

That is Mrs. Bertrand Russell's attitude, in her "The Right to Happiness." She is quite savage about it. Christianity, she insists, has been the arch repressing force in the world. Men are born with instincts to be expressed freely and joyously, but they have been cribbed and limited by a ridiculous asceticism.

Now I for one would not pose as such a Christian. I have always insisted that God wants us to get all the whole-

some fun that we can from the world—and there is plenty of it. The point is that Jesus has been misrepresented by people like Mrs. Russell. I believe Him to be a man of joy. At the very beginning of His ministry He gave the world a sermon with a section called the Beatitudes in which there are a dozen recipes for Happiness.

Yet when we have said that, I am not at all sure that we should be concerned with happiness; if we are useful, is that not enough? Christ does not make one a gloomy misanthrope, but He does make us open-eyed to the realities of the world and sensitive to the wrongs of life. And the more Christ-like we become the more sensitive we grow; and the more we feel the world's hurt. It is

quite impossible to catalogue in such a small space anything approaching the world's ills in total. The tragedy of war, or hunger, homelessness, the national sin of gambling, and so on could, in each case be a talking point for hours. And in each case search us to the very depths of our being, in terms of personal responsibility.

*"If there breathe on earth a slave,
Are ye truly free and brave".*

What I am trying to say is that there is a sense in which Our Lord spoils a man's happiness; this is it. He gives him in His own life and teachings a vision of what



Walton Adams

55th Wedding Anniversary

We extend heartiest congratulations and good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Stanford of 44 Cromwell Road, Caversham who celebrate their fifty-fifth Wedding Anniversary on December 26th. Mr. and Mrs. Stanford were married at Caversham Baptist Free Church on Boxing Day 1914 by the Revd. R. G. Fairbairn, B.A. In their younger days both were active in the Church in that they sang in the Choir and Mr. Stanford was at sometime Assistant Scoutmaster, Sunday School Superintendent and a Deacon of the Church in addition to being a well known Lay Preacher in the district.

might be; and that man lives on with a divine discontent gnawing like a disease at his heart. An ideal is a glorious thing, but how cruel. The vision of it leaves him forever discontent.

You may disagree, you may see countless difficulties and weaknesses. But my full plate and comfortable bed often make me hungry and restless.

BACK FROM MANNHEIM

A former minister of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church from 1950 until he went to Mannheim in 1959 has now returned to England for his retirement. Many of their former friends in Caversham will be delighted to know that Mr. and Mrs. Kahle are now living at 3 Uplands Road, together with their daughter.

ROUND THE CLUBS

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD
The Annual General Meeting of the Guild was held on November 20th when the Hon. Secretary Mrs. P. Tiffen gave her report on the year's activities. These had proved varied and the members had co-operated well.

Groups, including Arts and Crafts, Music and Social Studies had been well supported, a group of singers had entertained the Blind and Old Age Pensioners. Money raising functions had been very successful and donations to various charities had been made, including the Jim Butcher holiday home at Hayling Island and the Reading branch of the Rheumatism and Arthritis Council for Research. Mrs. A. Smith, in reviewing her first year as chairman, thanked the Committee and members for their support, which had enabled her to carry out the work which had proved very enjoyable.

As the nominees for the vacancies on next year's committee were sufficient, there was no election.

Some attractive articles made by members attending the soft furnishing classes were on show.

Business concluded, members were entertained to a celebration tea arranged by the Committee.

EMMER GREEN TOWNSWOMAN'S GUILD
Mrs. P. Bannon was elected Chairman at the Annual General Meeting of Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild. After the business meeting which included the election of other Committee Members and a report of the year's activities, members who had visited Paris in the spring showed coloured slides of their visit and Mrs. Pavey spoke of the work done at the Elderly Peoples Workshop at Watlington House.

MAPLEDURHAM W.I.
At the November meeting a very interesting talk was given on "Choosing our food for health and good looks" by the Flour Advisory Bureau.

Mrs. Deacon won the competition for dried apricot jam and Mrs. Drew for shortbread.

ROSEHILL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
The President (Mrs. Green) welcomed members to the November meeting also several visitors. Miss Price-Hill gave a talk entitled "Windsor Castle".

A vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Sizer. The Competition "An amusing Royal anecdote" was won by Miss C. Stevenson, runners up being Mrs. Gribble and Mrs. Green.

THE JUBILEE CLUB MAPLEDURHAM

Recent activities have included a jumble Sale which raised almost eighteen pounds and a small sale of work which realised the grand sum of nearly twenty pounds. The money raised will be used to take Club members to the Oxford Pantomime. It was quite amazing to see what attractive pieces of handicraft people had made for the sale and hours of knitting must have been done, especially by some of the older folk in the Club.

An open meeting was held in November when several visitors had tea with members and joined in the activities.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the Annual General Meeting of the Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild this month the following officers were elected:—Chairman: Mrs. V. Birtwhistle, Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. M. Dawes, Hon. Secretary: Mrs. C. Griffith, Vice-Chairman: Mrs. M. Hill. In her Annual Report the Secretary said that membership now stood at 133, and the Guild had met 12 times in the year with an average attendance of 85 members. The programme had been varied with talks on a very wide range of subjects and a number of outings had been organised, including visits to Coventry Cathedral and the Garter Ceremony at Windsor. Successful activities also included a Jumble Sale, a Fashion Show and a Dinner and Dance. On a more serious note a number of members had become voluntary workers at Borocourt Hospital during the year, and the ladies of Warren House had received many visits from members.

The Social Studies Section had had "The Arts" as their theme for the year, and they had held twelve meetings. The International Section had also met monthly, and classes in Tatting, Canework and Cake Tying had been run by the Arts and Crafts Section. Both the Drama and Music Sections had had a busy year, and had entertained the Guild on a number

of occasions, and had also performed for the ladies at Warren House.

The Hon. Treasurer also presented her report, which showed the Guild in a healthy financial position.

The meeting concluded with an amusing and interesting talk on "Superstitions" by Mrs. Crowther.

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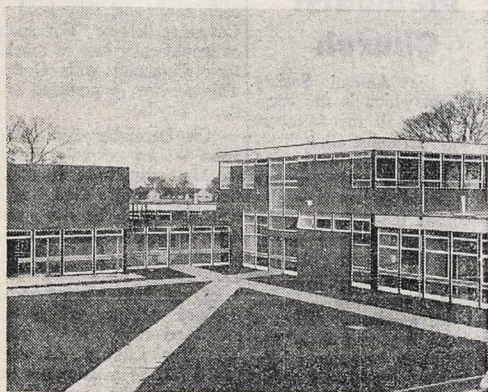
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PREPARING FOR HIGHDOWN

— by J.Y.C.

In October the Russians worked hard to see how spacecraft could be joined together in space to form a space-station. At the Grove School site, Emmer Green — the "docking operation" of two schools, the Grove School and the E. P. Collier School is now in sight.

Any docking operation is the result of a high degree of preparation: it is also important to realize that what is produced by joining together two space-craft is something entirely new. In the same way the work now underway at the end of Surley Row is the result of years of planning. The final result next September will not just be a



Walton Adams

school "doubled-up", but a new comprehensive school capable of an entirely new approach to education. In charge of this delicate operation is the present Headmaster of The Grove, Mr. R. W. Brooker.

MANY CHANGES

The present site was originally a large Georgian mansion surrounded by 31 acres of garden and park land. In 1933 it was set aside intended to be a boys' grammar school, but because of the economic crisis of the Thirties nothing happened.

During the last war it was used as an L.C.C. Maternity Home, and for a few years after the war it became a Borough Maternity Home. "Over 5,000 babies were born

ALLAN MORTON'S MARATHON

On 28th and 29th November, the CAVERSHAM PARK THEATRE presented "Semi-detached" by David Turner at St. Laurence Hall. It was a play very much in line with the style of the Caversham Park Players although the interpretation of certain characters (Robert and Nigel for instance) was unnecessarily exaggerated if not misunderstood. There is no doubt that the people involved "are rather in the nature of caricature than deeply felt characters" but this should be made obvious by the role they are playing and not by the outward appearance.

Fred Midway's business and family problems were solved very skilfully by Allan

Morton whose marathon part supported three corners of the "Semi-detached". Jennifer Sadler gave a good performance of untiring devotion to her man, whilst Muriel Lord dominated the short but lively scene with her exuberant personality. Rita Smith and Jose Buck played the sisters, very different in character—and performance. Cyril Werrell was an impressive businessman with a flare for young girls, while Richard Perkins played Fred Midway's son.

The show, which was well worth seeing, was produced by Christine Greenhill. Unfortunately, the advertising manager, if there was one, relied too heavily on the past Theatre's record audiences—although it is true that St. Laurence Hall is rather large. P.G.

here," explained Mr. Brooker. "Until quite recently children were coming into the school who had been born here".

In 1952 the Bishop of Reading opened the house as The Grove Secondary School Mr. Brooker has been the Headmaster from the beginning. "The present development," he said, "is what we've been waiting for ever since."

NEW AND OLD

The buildings have been designed by the Borough Architect and are being erected by the well known Reading firm of Boyd and Murley. Although essentially modern—the new structure blends in well with the graceful mansion and its surroundings.

Many new class rooms went into use in September. In November the new science labs and work shops were finished, and during the coming year a hall, a gym and a swimming bath will be completed.

"At present we're having to work in the middle of a building site" said Mr. Brooker. "But we already realise how well designed the new buildings are. They're quiet and well spaced out. Most are single storeyed. We very much admire the workmanship of the builders."

PLANS FOR THE PERSONAL APPROACH

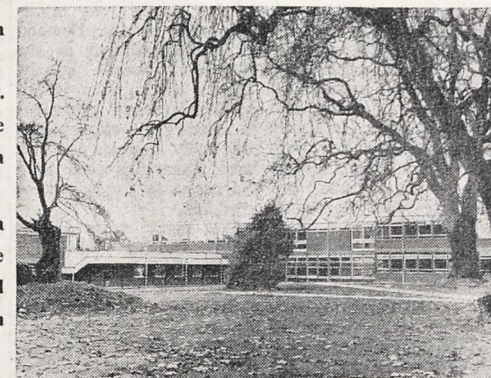
"We shall have over 1,000 youngsters here next September" explained Mr. Brooker. "But the way Highdown will be organised will make sure we increase the personal approach which is so essential to education."

There will be three divisions in the school. The Lower School will be for the 11-13 years olds. It will have its own Lower School Master, its own dining rooms and assembly hall.

The Middle School, for the 3rd, 4th and 5th years, will be divided into four houses. Each house, composed of 135 pupils, will have its own assembly and dining room. Mixed ability tutor groups will take the place of the form structure.

There will be tutors who, together with the housemaster, will make sure each individual has a tailor-made programme to suit his or her abilities.

The third division will be the Upper School, which will have its own Master. The atmosphere here will encourage corporate responsibility and the chance to adjust towards the adult world. "Young people in the Upper School" said Mr. Brooker, "will be treated like students and



Walton Adams

given the freedom to control many of their own affairs."

There is no doubt that the wider community, beyond the immediate families of pupils at Highdown, will be intensely interested in the way things develop. We shall look forward to another report about the new school after next September's "docking operation."

POSTBAG

The Editor,

Dear Sir,

Every time I pick up a Caversham Bridge, there's something in it about giving more money to countries overseas. What I want to know is, how can a country that is taxed and in debt up to its eyebrows afford to give money away like this? If we've got anything to spare, we ought to be remembering the old maxim that charity begins at home and we ought to tell those countries that God helps those who help themselves. If they did that instead of using our money to stab us in the back, the world would be a happier place and all Christians want to see that.

As for all this talk about mixing religion up with politics, let's keep them separate. I don't go to church to hear political speeches and I don't want to read about them in my Church newspaper.

Yours faithfully,

THAMES WARD VOTER.

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CARING—the Methodist way

By tradition Methodism has a gift for "caring", and this is expressed just as much in its work for the old and lonely as it is in its work among young people.

A notable contribution to solving the social problems presented by the increasing numbers of elderly folk in the community is the Methodist Homes for the Aged—an official organisation of the Methodist Conference. The first contract for a Home was signed in 1943, and since then the number of such Homes has grown to 28, stretching from Newcastle-upon-Tyne to Falmouth—Colwyn Bay to Bexhill-on-Sea. All are situated in attractive residential areas and, as far as possible, residents are able to live near relatives or friends in those parts of the country where they have their roots. In all cases amenities, shops and churches are conveniently near. Needless to say, every Home conforms to the statutory requirements of Government and the relevant local authority.

NO BARRIER

Denominational considerations are no barrier to residential entry, and a devoted band of Matrons and their assistants sets a seal on the happy life in the Homes. Every resident contributes to his or her support according to individual resources, details of which are confidential to the Committee of Management.

Whenever possible residents are encouraged to furnish their private bedrooms with their own furniture and belongings so as to keep their surroundings "home-like"—for the Homes for the Aged provides

homes, not institutions. Many residents continue their favourite hobbies or take up new activities which makes for a real family atmosphere. In short, the aims of the Homes for the Aged are to provide security and the companionship of communal life with individual freedom and self-respect.

MONEY

Although the financial policy of the Homes is that they should be self-supporting as far as possible, "caring" in this way inevitably costs money. Demand for accommodation in the Homes exceeds supply. Three more sites await development and extensions to some of the older houses are badly needed, but this work cannot proceed until the necessary funds become available.

For many years Caversham Heights Methodist Church has supported the Homes, but last month the ladies of the Sewing Circle decided that the "gift for caring" ought to be increased. On Saturday, 22nd November, with the help of friends, they organised a Tea and Sale of Work in the Church Hall.

This event, which was opened by Mrs. Margaret Sangster, widow of the late Dr. William Sangster, one-time President of the Methodist Conference, proved highly successful, and as a result they have sent a donation of £100 to the Committee of Management of the Homes.

Caversham Heights Methodist Guild

The Methodist Guild endeavours to fulfil certain definite needs which are defined as follows: 1. Training in Christian living, 2. A meeting point for honest encounter, 3. To plan and initiate active service, 4. Explore new ways of worship and personal devotion, and 5. Express the social and caring life of the Church.

At Caversham Heights Guild there is a varied programme during the winter session, meetings being held in the Church Hall every Tuesday at 8 p.m. The programme includes a monthly devotional evening organised in series by our own Minister, lectures on a variety of subjects with and without films, musical, social and cultural evenings, Christian citizenship, discussions, drama and up-to-date reports from the mission field.

The Guild meetings are open to anyone, and visitors from our own and other denominations are welcome at any time.

Hail and Farewell

At the end of November, Caversham Heights Methodist Church said farewell to two of its most popular members, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Davies.

Ronald was Area Appeals Organiser for Dr. Barnado's, specialising in Industrial Appeals. His wife Shirley, was responsible for running the Royal Berks. Hospital Play Group, sponsored by the Save the Children Fund.

Involved in most of the Church's activities, Ron, at the time of their departure was a Society Steward and Local Preacher. Shirley, a keen Guider, inaugurated the 12th. Caversham Guide Company, which now has thirty-four members.

Now, they embark on a new venture, running a village store at Henstridge in Somerset. We are grateful for all that they have contributed to our Society and we wish them both success and happiness in the future. We shall miss their cheerful friendliness.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. Anthony Morgan on attaining his A.R.C.M. This is no mean achievement and we wish Tony every success in his future career.

Farewell, too, to Mrs. Raby, who, for over five years has been Captain of the Girls' Brigade at Caversham Heights Methodist Church. Since its inception, this Company has grown and flourished under her leadership and we can only hope that some solution can be found in order that this Company can carry on where Mrs. Raby had to leave off.

Our sincere thanks and good wishes go with her.

Farewell to the Caldwells

It is with deep regret that the members and friends of the Caversham Baptist Free Church say "Goodbye" to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Caldwell who have lived in Hemdean Road for nearly 40 years and are now leaving Caversham to return to Lancashire.

Soon after their arrival here they joined the Church and have given valuable service in many directions. They have both been members of the choir and will be sadly missed here.

For many years Mrs. Caldwell has been the collector for the Sunday School and her work has been much appreciated. Mr. Caldwell joined the teaching staff of the Sunday School in the early days and has served as Superintendent for over 20 years. Under his leadership the school has grown in numbers and fellowship and he has endeared himself to staff and children.

Mr. Caldwell has also been a deacon of the Church for many years where his counsel has always been wise and thoughtful.

The Church offers to them a sincere "Thankyou" and they take with them the good wishes of all for many years of happy retirement.

Rose Garden of Remembrance

At the request of some of the ladies, Mr. Eagleman has created a rose garden of remembrance in the grounds around the Methodist church at Gosbrook Road. Members contribute to the purchase of rose bushes in memory of their loved ones.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

Two significant events at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church were the annual sale of work entitled this year The Welsh Fayre which in the unavoidable absence of the Mayor was opened by the deputy Mayor, and the St. Andrew's tide Services.

The Welsh Fayre was followed by a most successful Concert given by the children, and supper; as a result over £200 was handed to the treasurer for Church Funds. The organizers are heartily congratulated on this successful venture.

St. Andrew's tide always has a special appeal to Presbyterians, because tradition tells us that Saint Andrew visited Scotland, and his symbol, the St. Andrew's Cross therefore appears on our National flag. We are glad of this association, nevertheless we still feel that St. Andrew is our very own saint. St. Andrew is the man who met Jesus and then introduced others to the Master, setting us all indeed a very good example.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS...

NO?.. YES!

We all make them—and break them! "I really will get up ten minutes earlier—not swear—get all those holey socks darned—clean the old banger at least once a month—not be late for appointments—will love my neighbour—not waste precious time", and so on.

With the passing of the old year we review with sadness all our sins of commission and regretting that time passed can never be recaptured. But we are comforted by the fact that we have before us a brand new year—365 whole days of it—when we can make amends, grasp new opportunities, launch out into some new venture.

Who knows, this may be the best year of our lives so far. This excitingly unknown New Year with all its surprising possibilities.

We shall have our difficulties and disappointments, but we have weathered the storm before and with God's help will do so in the future.

The company of people who call themselves Methodists, mark the occasion of the new year in a singular way. On the first Sunday of each new year, they hold a Covenant Service "For such as would enter into or renew their Covenant with God". This service is prefaced by these words.

"On December 25, 1747, John Wesley strongly urged the Methodists to renew their Covenant with God. His first Covenant Service was held in the French Church at Spitalfields on August 11, 1755, when he recited the words of 'that blessed man Richard Alleine,' which he published that year in the 'Christian Library'. Wesley issued this as a pamphlet in 1780, and the form was used without alterations for almost a century.

Various modifications were made then, till a form was prepared which gave the people a larger share in the devotions. That form has now been revised with a deep sense of the importance of a service which has been a fruitful source of blessing to Methodism ever since 1755".

On January 4th 1970, these services will be held at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church at 8-30 a.m. and at Caversham Heights Methodist Church at 11-30 a.m.

We shall ask ourselves some heart-searching questions. We shall also make some very serious and personal resolutions and we shall have the strength and faith to keep them.

From the Methodists of Caversham a Happy and Purposeful New Year to you all.

Caversham Methodist Church

At the Annual Society Meeting, which is the occasion when all the members of the Methodist Church review the year's work and have a share in the conduct of their affairs, members at Gosbrook Road found much to give them encouragement.

Every aspect of the church's income showed an increase over previous years, and this was felt to reflect a vigorous life in most of the departments. Sectional reports were typed and circulated beforehand to allow maximum time for discussion.

Under the leadership of the minister, the Rev. T. R. Harris, much consideration was given to ecumenical affairs, with particular reference to world poverty and the Mayday Week to be held in July 1970.

METHODIST DRAMATICS

Congratulations to the Guild of Gosbrook Road Methodist Church on their enterprise in entering the field of dramatics. On the 21st and 22nd November under the name of Amateur Productions, they presented two plays, April Dawn and The End of the Beginning. Music was provided in the interval by "The Blue Flag" pop group. Scenery and acting were of a high standard and were well received by the audience.

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FLOWER FESTIVAL FOR ST. PETER'S

A three day festival of flowers is to be held in St. Peter's on June 27th, 28th and 29th. The Thames Valley Flower Club will be responsible for the organisation of the festival and the designer will be Mrs. K. M. Sagar, Chairman of the club. Representatives from the Church flower rota and members of the Thames Valley Flower Club will share together in the floral arrangements. The festival will be a prelude to Caversham Mayday week which starts on July 4th. On each of the three evenings of the festival there will be special events in the Church—on the Saturday a concert, on the Sunday an ecumenical service at which Bishop Trevor Huddleston is to be the preacher, and the last day coincides with St. Peter's Patronal Festival and will culminate in the Parish Communion that evening.

Sixty-three years in one house. For sixty-three years Mrs. Barton has lived at 31 Church Road, and has in that time seen Caversham grow from a village to its present size. Throughout that time she has been a worshipper at St. Peter's. Now she has felt it right to move to Little Thorpe, Cleeve Road, Goring, and so she severs a long link with the parish. She hopes however that her many friends will be able to visit her sometimes.

Carolling. The Bishop of Reading will be paying a visit on Sunday, December 28th at 6-30 p.m. when he hopes to teach the congregation some modern carols. Some of these will be sung the following Sunday, January 4th at the Annual service of Nine lessons and carols when members of Rotary, Round Table and the Townswomen Guild will be reading the lessons.

January Festivals. The Parish Communion will be sung on the Epiphany, Tuesday January 6th, at 7-30 p.m. Afterwards there will be some Christmas fare in Toc H and members of the congregation are asked to bring six colour transparencies taken sometime during 1969. Plans for holidays in 1970 may be helped by seeing where other people went in 1969.

On New Year's Day (The Circumcision) Holy Communion will be at 9-30 a.m. and on St. Paul's Day which is transferred to Mon-

day, January 26th it will be celebrated at 8 p.m.

Mothers' Union and St. Peter's Wives. Both these groups recently held their annual meeting. Mrs. G. Eves and Mrs. M. Holland were elected to the Committee of the Mothers Union in place of Mrs. M. Burnside and Mrs. C. Burton who have given valuable service in past years. Mrs. C. Cuthbertson retired from being secretary of St. Peter's Wives and Mrs. M. Suggitt also left the Committee: they are replaced by Mrs. J. Netley and Mrs. L. Evans.

An urgent need. St. Peter's Choir is in urgent need of more boys. Mr. R. J. Brind would be delighted to see some new members at choir practice on Thursdays at 6-30 p.m.

Methodist Minister at Parish Communion. On Sunday, January 25th, two Methodist ministers will preach at St. Peter's. In addition to the Rev. John Wallace preaching at the united service in the evening, as announced on another page, the congregation are certain to give a very warm welcome to the Rev. Terence Harris when he comes to preach at the Parish Communion. This is the first time that it has been possible to extend such an invitation and the last day in the week of prayer for Christian unity is an appropriate one for what it is hoped will be the first of a series of many such visits in the churches of the parish.

ST. ANDREW'S NEWS

VISITING PREACHER

The Vicar of Uffington, Berks, the Rev. John Bailey, will be the preacher at the Family Eucharist on the Feast of the Epiphany at 7-30 p.m. A former curate of Newbury, Mr. Bailey has also worked in Carpentry in Australia.

EPIPHANY PARTY

This year the Party will be on January 10th at 7-30 p.m. and tickets, price 2s. 6d., will be on sale in church on the two previous Sundays. Tickets will not be on sale at the door this year—so if you want to come to the Party, please make sure you have a ticket beforehand.

"CATHY COME HOME"

Under the auspices of the Caversham Youth Project, the film "Cathy Come Home" will be shown in St. Andrew's Hall on Sunday, January 11th at 8 p.m. There will be a short discussion afterwards.

This is an open meeting and any adults who would like to come will be most welcome. Admission is free, but a collection will be taken to cover expenses. Any surplus will be given to Shelter.

NEW LEADER

Mr. Derek Shrimpton, who has recently moved with his family from Bedford to Caversham, has kindly undertaken leadership of Teen Action after the Christmas break. We are also fortunate to have got several assistant leaders from among our congregation. The Session will begin on January 18th with the AGM.

ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

Parish Holiday 1970? News has been received that Embley Park School will not be available to the parish this coming summer; over a period of five years several hundred people have come to look forward to their annual week at Embley Park, and every effort is being made to find an alternative site; if one is found an announcement will be made in the weekly notices in all districts of the parish.

The Bishop of Oxford's visit. Unable because of illness to carry out his full programme as planned in June, the Bishop of Oxford returned to Caversham on November 9th and spent a busy Sunday morning in the parish. He began by preaching and celebrating at the Parish Communion in St. Peter's; a large congregation was present. After meeting some of the congregation over coffee he then went to St. John's. Here there was another large congregation for an act of worship on the theme of "My neighbour" which was written and led by young people from St. Barnabas' under the guidance of Miss Ryder. The Bishop in his talk described some of the social work done by the Church in the diocese. The service which was attended by young people from all districts of the parish was a most moving occasion made more memorable by the whole-hearted singing of folk songs accompanied in turn by Mr. R. Jackson on piano and Nicholas Anderson (guitar) and his group of singers. The Bishop then visited St. Andrew's Sunday school before meeting the Churchwardens and their wives at the Rectory.

St. Barnabas' News

After three months of steady work, the repainting of the ceiling in St. Barnabas Hall using voluntary help, is now complete. Well over a dozen men have come along from time to time to lend a hand, as well as some younger people and also Sheila Cooper who accompanied her fiancé, Malcolm Reece. The lion's share of the organization and work has been done by John Walker and David Miles, both of Tredegar Road. They have taken it in turns to be present on almost every evening or weekend when painting was being done. Thanks to them there has been smooth progress towards the completion of the task. Thanks to all those who have helped, it has been done relatively quickly. The whole ceiling area has been given three coats of paint, two people at a time working, off a twenty foot high scaffolding tower. This has needed repeated heightening and lowering as the need to reach the very top or to avoid the beams has arisen. It has not been work for the squeamish, but those who have helped have enjoyed it, many people certainly appreciate what they have achieved.

On Sunday, November 9th, the annual British Legion Remembrance Sunday Service was held in St. Barnabas Church. The Rev. John Crowe led the service and preached. The number of British Legion members present showed an increase on previous years.

In recent weeks a new youth club, for the over fourteens, meeting on Sunday evenings, has sprouted up as if from nowhere. The chief need that it appears to meet is in the provision of a meeting place for young people from many parts of Reading who would not otherwise have anywhere to go or anything to do. Several of the members are getting down to a serious study of the problem of leisure as it affects teenagers and other sections of the community. In this they are extremely fortunate to be helped by Christopher Burden from the Education Department at the University. So if young people approach you in the coming months with a questionnaire about leisure, please welcome them and help.

Now to paint the walls

The ladies of the Coffee Pot held a well-attended meeting in St. Barnabas Hall in November when a representative from Parslow's Bakery demonstrated how to ice a Christmas Cake.

On that occasion a new committee was elected into office. Pat Walker, chairman; Noreen Gamble, secretary; Margaret Wainwright, treasurer; and two members—Liz Whitby and Sylvia Bartlett. One of the first jobs these ladies intend to undertake is the decoration of the committee room in the Hall.

Retiring after two years as Chairman Audrey Smith is to

be warmly thanked for her valued leadership, during which time the Coffee Pot has noticeably grown in numbers and developed as a club.

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On November 25th the Men's Forum held a most successful meeting when Mr. Lucking—the Area Planning Officer for South Oxfordshire—spoke about the future development of the area. Thirty men were present and, warmed by a glass or two of beer, freely entered into the lively discussion that followed the talk.

Is it true that in matters of planning for the future the general public want one thing while the planning authorities provide something else? This question remained unanswered. The next meeting of the Men's Forum will be on Tuesday, January 27th in St. Barnabas Hall.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, JANUARY, 1970—SEVEN

ST. MARGARET'S ENTERTAINS

Over a hundred people were present in Trench Green Hall on the evening of November 15th. Mrs. Thompson and other ladies of the congregation had prepared a sumptuous buffet supper—a delight both to taste and sight. They had been so generous in their plans that at the end of the evening, given larger appetites those present would have had a second go with pleasure.

A STEP FORWARD

During the evening, the Reverend and Mrs. J. Stevinson were welcomed to Mapledurham and the Rector of Caversham spoke of this being a new step forward in the experimental partnership between the two parishes.

Later some of the guests showed some film slides, when we were introduced to an Irish pig on traffic warden duty in a small Irish town, which delighted the children; we visited the Green-dene Lido, South America, Majorca and Greece amongst other places, we had a brief glimpse of Oberammergau and its world famous religious play, as well as many other things of beauty, interest and entertainment.

The organisers are to be congratulated on a very happy and successful evening.

A start

As soon as he arrived at Mapledurham Church House, Richard Stevinson, aged seven, developed Chicken Pox, a fortnight later he came

out of quarantine, and David his brother, aged five, came out in spots. Not to be out done by his brother, before he was out of quarantine for Chicken Pox, David developed mumps, which he had presumably caught from his school. Since one good deed deserves another, he will no doubt share this with Richard, if not with his father!

This has meant a rather disappointing start for them at Mapledurham. However they hope in the New Year that they will be able to take a more active part in the life of the parish, and to begin to get to know everybody, and to welcome people into to 222 Upper Woodcote Road.

ST. JOHN'S

Thanks

John and Jo-Stevinson and their children ("It was to all of us") wish to thank the people of St. John's very much for their generous gift. With it they are intending to buy a bird table (with Richard and David's complete approval), a garden seat (no comment), and perhaps some garden game ("great").

One of the good things about this move is that contact will not be lost, and it is hoped that when the weather improves their friends at St. John's will visit 222 Upper Woodcote Road.

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HOUSE COMMUNION AT CAVERSHAM PARK



Photo: E. Post.

Visiting recent arrivals to Caversham Park Village led the Revd. John Crowe to the newly appointed Photographic Editor of the Evening Post. He had been interested to read in "The Caversham Bridge" about the House Communions at 2 Blackwater Close, and asked if a photograph could be taken.

The House Communion is designed especially with young mothers in mind, and children are made welcome. Held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 10-30 a.m.—so far there have been 6 regular communicants and their children. If any young mothers in the Henley Rd. area would like to join those from Caversham Park Village — they would be most welcome.

The service lasts about 25 minutes and is followed by coffee—squash for the children.

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January Sunday Services

ANGLICAN St. Peter's

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.
11-00 a.m. Matins (Holy Communion 3rd Sunday).
12-15 p.m. Holy Communion 1st Sunday).
6-30 p.m. Evensong

St. John's

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.

St. Andrew's

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST.
11-15 a.m. Holy Communion.
6-30 p.m. Evensong (not 4th Sunday).

St. Barnabas

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist.
6-30 p.m. Evensong (not 4th Sunday).

St. Margaret's, Mapledurham

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 3rd Sundays).
9-15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION.
6-30 p.m. Evensong (3rd Sunday).

NORTH CAVERSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

10-45 a.m. Morning Service.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service.

CAVERSHAM BAPTIST FREE CHURCH

11-00 a.m. Morning Service.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service (not 4th Sunday).

METHODIST CHURCHES Caversham Heights

11-00 a.m. Morning Service.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service (not 4th Sunday).

Caversham

11-00 a.m. Morning Service.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service (not 4th Sunday)

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ROMAN CATHOLIC St. Anne's

8-00 a.m., 9-30 a.m., 11-00 a.m., 7-00 p.m.—Mass.
Our Lady of Caversham
8-30 and 10-30 a.m.—Mass.

We record . . .

BAPTISED

St. Peter's
October
12 Susanna Kitcher
Jennifer Mandry
Catherine Molesworth
Karen Stark
Adam Williamson

St. John's

October
26 Craig Collis
Gary Moran
Graham Moran
Christopher Bowles

St. Andrew's

October
19 Alexander Reed
November
16 Christine Lilly
David Lilly
Sandra Lilly

St. Barnabas

November
23 Kerry Jones
Kevin Josey

Caversham Heights Methodist Church

November
23 Barry Case
Ann Pape

Gosbrook Road Methodist Church

October
19 David Cartwright
David Potter
Mark Potter
Paul Potter
26 Stella Hinton

MARRIED

St. Peter's
October
11 Dennis Purcell and
Jennifer White
November
1 Paul Gollop and Dawn
Macmillan
Christopher Ball and
Marilyn Catley

December
1 Richard Saunders and
Julie Adams

St. John's

October
4 Paul Blanshard and
Jacqueline Wintoniak
11 Philip Beech and Sandra
Gillingham

St. Andrew's

October
4 Paul Foster and Pauline
Bouldin
Stephen Moss and
Jennifer Jefferson

November

1 Eric Cross and Rosemary
Atkins

St. Barnabas

October
4 Percival Smith and May
Burger

David Tilly and Carol
Phillips

November

29 Raymond Drye and
Sheila Richmond

Caversham Heights Methodist Church

October
25 Terence Oakley and
Janet Beecham

Caversham Free Baptist Church

November
15 Kenneth Skelton and
Elleen Smith

FUNERALS

St. John's

October
9 Kate Slade

16 Alice Holden

St. Andrew's

October
10 Dorcas Pembroke

14 Andrew Shannon

November
7 Herbert Dade

MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday 13th November, 1969. Mr. B. A. Fowles, Chairman of the Council presided at the meeting.

The Council were advised that difficulties were being encountered between Mapledurham Estate and the Oxfordshire C. C. in connection with the proposed turning circle at the bottom of the Village. Although discussions about this improved turning area have been taking place for a long period now, the Estate is anxious that proper provision is made by the County Council to prohibit the illicit parking of vehicles, and whilst the Parish Council are appreciative of the situation they are also very anxious for an agreement to be reached without too much delay as the financial provision has been allowed for in this year's County estimates, and the Parish Council do not want this improvement lost because of the time element.

The Council received a letter from the County Council dealing with matters affecting the B.479, Reading-Crownmarsh road in which the County Council stated it is hoped during the next few years to upgrade further lengths between Mapledurham and Woodcote. However, from the contents of the letter it appeared the County Council were not so concerned with the southernmost section of the road. This particular section mainly affects Mapledurham, and in view of its close proximity to Reading, the Chairman and the Clerk are to make further representations to Reading Borough Council.

The Council raised no objection in principle to the planning application for the development of 33 detached houses at the Cliff House/Ridge Hall site. However, there were several points of comment that have been made to the County Planning Authority. One of these is that there shall be no alteration to the present escarpment above the River Thames at this point, and the Parish Council would like to see the County Countryside Committee take over this responsibility.

A letter from the Oxfordshire C.C. dealing with a proposed Country Park at Mapledurham was received. Having obtained the consent of the owner of Mapledurham House, the Council are proposing to establish a Country Park on a stretch of the River Thames at the House, and adjoining meadow land opposite Mapledurham Lock. It was reported that it was hoped to restore the water mill to full working order.

Although these proposals are only at an early stage of development, the Parish Council agreed that the County Council be informed that before the opening of such a park could take place, immediate improvements to the road to the village must be carried out by the County Council, for with such an increased volume of traffic that would inevitably occur, a chaotic situation would soon arise.

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The Rev. John Grimwade, The Rectory, 20 Church Rd., Tel. 71703
The Rev. John Stevenson, Mapledurham Church House, 222 Upper Woodcote Rd., Tel. 71605.
The Rev. Roger Packer, St. Andrew's House, Harrogate Rd., Tel. 72788.
The Rev. Malcolm Cooper, St. Barnabas House, 33 Grove Rd., Tel. 73095.
The Rev. Peter Atkinson, St. John's House, 9, South View Avenue, Tel. 71814.
The Rev. John Crowe, Caversham Park Church House, 2, Blackwater Close, Tel. 75152.
The Rev. Frederick Dawson, 25, Ikley Rd., Tel. 72070.
The Rev. Denis Shayler, 17, The Mount, Tel. 76988.

BAPTIST

The Rev. Lyn Lewis, 8, Kidmore Rd., Tel. 73633.

METHODIST

The Rev. Terence Harris, 17, St. Anne's Rd., Tel. 72223.

PRESBYTERIAN

The Rev. George Shearer, 41, Highmoir Rd., Tel. 77490.

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CESAR CHAVEZ: AGITATOR AND CHRISTIAN

Martin Luther King is not the only non-violent champion of the underdog that the U.S.A. has produced. For almost 20 years Cesar Chavez has been organising his fellow Mexican-Americans in California. He has the unshakable conviction that non-violent action will liberate his people from a century of disadvantage.

He himself came from a family of migrant crop pickers and shared the farm workers' vicious circle of poverty. He lived in tents and shacks and

was often without money, food and clothing.

He has experienced discrimination and has been chiefly self-taught since migrant children can rarely attend school. He eventually started the United Farm Workers' Association after enlisting a small core of vineyard workers in his cause.

He began a credit union among them and by the end of the year of the strike, 1965, had enrolled almost 2,000 families. The strike against the Califor-



Cesar Chavez

nian grape growers is still in progress. The wine grape growers have recognised his demands for higher wages and better housing, but the table grape growers have not. A nationwide boycott of table grapes has been in progress over a year.

Refused

Many of the chain stores have removed grapes from

their shelves, others are holding out. Many housewives have refused to buy the grapes and the strike goes on.

Chavez is currently on a nationwide tour of the country trying to recruit more people and raise money for "la causa." This tour is understandably not much for luxury. It is run from a camper station wagon and meals are mostly sandwiches.

He was in Philadelphia recently at Temple University, a nondescript little man with a bow nose and a gold capped tooth. When he arrived on the campus scarcely any one noticed him.

By the time he had finished speaking hundreds of students were crowded around him, pledging money and signing boycott cards.

Heroic

What causes a man to give up his pay for four years, to lose his few material possessions, to be separated from his family for months at a time, to fast for 25 days to keep his movement non-violent? The late Senator Robert Kennedy called him one of the heroic figures of our times. Chavez himself summed up his philosophy one Sunday, breaking bread with his workers.

"When we are really honest with ourselves we must admit that our lives are all that really belong to us. So, it is how we use our lives that determines what kind of men we are. It is my deepest belief that only by giving our lives do we find life. I am convinced that the truest act of courage, the strongest act of manliness is to sacrifice ourselves in a totally non-violent struggle for others. God help us to be men."

Their new tongues for old

Edgehill College of Education runs a special course for the teaching of immigrant children. It claims to be the only course of this kind in the country. In July this year the first students to take the course will leave the college to teach in immigrant areas of Britain where they have chosen to work.

As part of the course and to get the 'feel' of being an immigrant the students have dressed in saris and other costumes and gone out in the streets of London. There they have met hostile stares, jostling, and difficulty in finding lodgings—but some helpful attitudes as well, particularly from the cloak-room attendant at Liverpool Street Station!

INTERVIEWED

Other projects designed to give the students experience of being in an alien culture have involved being interviewed in a foreign language and being taught punjabi. Some students have spent time in an immigrant's home.

The Edgehill course is part of a national drive to overcome the problem of immigrant children who speak little English. Other projects involve English children, and immigrants who have mastered English, assisting those who still struggle with the new language. Such courses are run during school holidays during which pupils are, happily, prepared to give up some time to helping each other.

Purple Violet Squish

Somebody has said that we all have in us one good book that we can write. The difficulty is that having written a best seller, one is sometimes tempted to try to write another book, and another book, and another book, while the presses are hot and the public is warm.

David Wilkerson wrote "The Cross and the Switchblade" some years ago, and many people read with considerable interest his story of a country preacher's fight against teen-age crime in big-city slums. The book has sold three million copies.

Startling

His latest book "Purple-Violet-Squish" doesn't seem to me the same kind of book. In the first place, it is a description of the various kinds of odd balls who can be met with in the United States, and some of them in this country. People like hippies and yuppies, freeby gypsies, freakniks, wagumps. Most of the description is about as startling and as glaring as the purple, yellow and red cover of the book itself.

This may be all right, I wouldn't know, I don't claim to be as closely in touch by any means, as he presumably is, with the under-world of strange people. The point at which I feel some hesitation is in his conclusions and solutions. His last chapter about being hung up on Jesus, about in fact, being addicted to God, seems to me to run into the danger, as one of the Old Testament writers said, of "healing the

JOHN BANKS reviews a new book by a popular author and warns against the danger of imagining that 'conversion' solves all problems.

hurt of the daughter of my people lightly, saying, peace, peace, where there is no peace."

Like other books I have read about the drug problem, it isn't just enough to say we must get them converted. It seems to me that the assumption that this is the complete and final cure leaves out a lot of medical requirements and the need also to heal the dependents of the social conditions from which they come; the need to heal the failures of society which cause them to be as they are.

I think it is almost as dangerous to be 'hung up' on some pictures of Jesus as to be 'hung up' on some drugs. Some pictures of Jesus are in fact, so far from the real thing as to be positively misleading. To take a soft faith by the ear may be as dangerous to a man as to take a soft drug by the mouth.

I do not want to imply that this is all that David Wilkerson is doing, and I have no means of knowing how far his Teen Challenge centres in North America are really meeting the need of the drug addicts and the others who have been described in his book. I only hope that David Wilkerson acts rather better than he writes.

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Sir Kenneth Clark in front of the Abbey of Iona during his 'civilisation' series.

Don't miss these rare treats

People don't seem to grumble much about the television programmes that are offered to them. They probably stick to a few old favourites or watch the lot regardless. But do they ever think whether they are seeing what they like to see?

If your choice is sport or pop, old films or crime squads, panel games or news items, then you'd be well satisfied. On the other hand if you love works of art, paintings and sculpture, ancient monuments and stately homes, TV rarely caters for you.

Films about artists and their work, and documentaries about buildings and art treasures do appear (mainly thanks to B.B.C. 2) but you really have to watch out for these occasional treats and seize them as they come by. It is easy to miss them and to be kicking your self afterwards.

Twenty-one thousand pounds was paid recently for a Holbein miniature, it appeared on the news, a collector's treasure only 1½" across!

Most viewers will never buy or handle anything like that, but the Sunday programme about antiques, "Going For A Song," has popularised the appreciation of antiques of all sorts, furniture, silver, china, the beautiful and the quaint. Mr. Arthur Negus and his fellow connoisseurs share out their

expertise as they handle and describe each piece and give a guide to its worth.

Famous paintings appear in unexpected places on television. Playschool (11-00 a.m. on B.B.C. 2) for pre-school children, has used famous paintings to illustrate songs and poems. A large detailed painting by Bruegel of chil-

the buildings they designed.

Some time ago Sir Kenneth Clark in his "Civilisation" series, traced the history of man through his creative work. The programme was remarkably popular perhaps because it introduced a wide audience to the world of art and architecture. It made his audience aware that they have a share in the world's most treasured works of art.

A film was shown on T.V. quite recently to mark the Rembrandt Tercentenary, it was a full hour long with a scholarly narration. Against a background of photographs of Amsterdam the story of Rembrandt's life and work was illuminated by his own paintings and drawings. It was a rare treat.

dren playing all sorts of games got a really thorough showing every morning for a week.

In off-peak viewing hours in the morning, it is possible to chance on films made by Shell which show the world's wonders, and films of national beauty spots made by the National Trust. Presumably these cater for schools. It is a pity that more people aren't able to watch them.

ACADEMIC

Artists dead and alive are discussed on late night programmes. The subject is exhilarating but critical discussion like this is rather academic and dry. After all the great artists aren't remembered for what they said but what they did—their paintings, their sculpture, or

Heroes of flesh—but what spirit

The realisation that our heroes are but of the flesh tinged 1969 with a certain nostalgia.

A cricket season that will be remembered for the emergence of professional Sunday cricket, was the poorer by the absence through illness of K. F. Barrington.

Perhaps the most profound observation regarding Ken Barrington of England and Surrey came from the late Wally Grout, Australian wicketkeeper: "Every time I saw Ken coming to the wicket in a Test match," he said, "I could see a Union Jack trailing behind him."

SADDENED

Anyone who had toiled to remove Barrington from the wicket knew precisely the meaning of Grout—a great cricketer whose premature death saddened the cricketing world.

Barrington had seemingly the broadest bat of all time—his reluctance to sacrifice his wicket under any circumstances was not understood by many people, yet only W. Ham-

mond scored more runs for England.

Once described by wicket-keeper Alan Knott as "The funniest man in cricket," he was perhaps the most barracked man in the game yet such was his obvious good humour that he held a special place in the affections of cricket followers everywhere.

ham—early last season. Cohen was a model footballer in every way—a manager's dream.

Although one of the first of the modern style overlapping full backs, his flawless technique coupled with a robust approach to the game made him the epitome of the English footballer.

A hard but skilful player, he never sought to intimidate or retaliate—his like are sadly becoming fewer.

GUESSES

Just a few wild guesses

Leeds United to win Cup and League.

Henry Cooper to regain the British Heavyweight title—then I fervently hope retire.

The Aussies to clean up at Wimbledon.

An American to win the Open Golf.

Brazil to beat the holders in the World Cup.—and the only certainty Lester Piggott once again champion jockey.

Sport, by E. F. Adkins

English cricket is currently well blessed with pace and spin bowlers; even opening batsmen. The urgent need is for middle order batsmen—oh for another Ken Barrington.

ONE CLUB

Perhaps the least publicised member of England's World Cup football team was George Cohen.

Injury cut short the career of this one-club man—he spent his entire professional life with Ful-



Ken Barrington



George Cohen



Young Compass

A Happy New Year to everybody reading this page! And a happy new decade too! And if you don't know what a decade is—well, it's a span of ten years. 1970 begins a new decade.

Giving a Party

Giving your own party yourself can be much more fun than just having it organised for you by the family, but it takes a bit of thoughtful care and planning. First and foremost, get the family on your side by consulting, or even by offering a few bribes, like doing some extra jobs about the house! A flaming family row only makes difficulties, and anyway you'll be glad of Mum's help behind the scenes!

If possible persuade the family to steer clear of the living room while the party is on. Clear as much furniture out of the room beforehand. It's much more fun seating your guests on the floor. And be sure to move any breakable ornaments out of harm's way.

Getting the party going can sometimes be difficult, especially if one or two people are shy. Have some background music playing when the guests arrive. A gay poster on the wall or anything that people can talk about will help break the ice. If the weather's bitterly cold, cups of piping hot soup helps to warm things up at the start of the party.

A disc party is one of the easiest parties to give. Ask each guest to bring one or two favourite discs and play them in turn. If you're going to have party games, prepare a programme in advance. Nothing is worse than people asking miserably 'What shall we play now?'

Remember that the food need not be expensive, but see there's lots of colour—gay coloured jellies and paper napkins, oranges and apples all add to the gaiety.

NEW COMPASS MEMBERS

Karen Botton, Hans Pedersen, Jane Pearson,

1970 - ALL CHANGE

To celebrate the start of a new decade it's all change on this page in 1970. First of all, we're getting a new name. From now on we're calling ourselves **YOUNG COMPASS**. Change No. 2—we're having a whole page each month.

YOUNG COMPASS will give news and things to do for older readers as well as for younger ones. And of course the **COMPASS CLUB** will continue.

So watch out for all kinds of new ideas in **YOUNG COMPASS** in 1970!



Science News

Russia's top space scientist, Dr. Mstislav Keldysh, forecasts that the world's first long-term orbiting space station will be constructed within the next five years.

Since the Land Rover was introduced in April 1948, nearly 658,000 have been built, and three-quarters of this number have gone overseas, some of them to help in the fight against famine and want.

A Soviet scientist, Ramazan Alikishev, reports that people who live in the mountains live longer than those in plains. Alikishev has been doing research in two high-land districts in Russia, where he said the oldest woman is 159 and the oldest man is 135.

British Rail engineers are investigating the mystery of shattered carriage windows as two 100 mph expresses passed each other. One theory is that the windows were sucked out by a huge vacuum of air created by the combined speed of the trains.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

New Year Quiz: 1. Hogmany. 2. Twelfth Night. 3. Aladdin. Babes in the Wood. Cinderella. Dick Whittington. Humpty-Dumpty. Jack and the Beanstalk. Mother Goose. Peter Pan. Robinson Crusoe. Sleeping Beauty. 4. The evening of the twelfth day after Christmas. It is also known as the Feast of the Epiphany. The Missing Word: Glass.

COMPASS MESSAGE

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A winter poem

Long before Jesus of Nazareth was born, there was another man who also had the name Jesus. He was known as Jesus the Son of Sirach, and he compiled a book of wise sayings and poems praising God for the beauty of the world. This is one of the poems in praise of winter.

By His commandment He maketh the snow to fall apace . . .
And clouds fly forth as fowl.

By his mighty power He maketh strong the clouds
And the hailstones are broken small.

As birds flying down He sprinketh the snow . . .
The eye will marvel at the beauty of its whiteness,
And the heart will be astonished at the raining of it.

The hoar frost also He poureth on the earth as salt;
And when it is congealed, it is as points of thorns.

The cold north wind shall blow,
And the ice shall be congealed on the water.

A New Year Quiz

1. What do the Scots call New Year's Eve?
2. When should all the Christmas decorations be taken down?
3. Give the names of ten pantomimes.
4. What is Twelfth Night? Check your answers in column two. Give yourself one mark for every correct answer. Thirteen marks is excellent; 9—12 marks is very good; 6—8 marks, good. Test your family, and see how many marks they get.

HAPPY FAMILIES

This is just the game for a wet day, or you could play it at a party. Below is a long list of words. First count how many words there are and then cut up that number of pieces of paper about 3in. square. On each piece of paper write one of the words. Then begin to sort the pieces of paper into families of words. Each family will consist of four names of the same kind of thing. For example, rose, daffodil, lily, wallflower are all names of flowers — so that's a family of words. You should find 22 complete families, and then there'll be one word left over. What is it? Clue: watch, be careful, it might break.

Red; linen; tennis racquet; whisk; car; baker; spades; snow; ash; shoe; frock; pen; chair; book; three; bag; knitting; boy; vicar; cow; piano; green; golf club; cotton; bridge; tram; hearts; butcher; frost; birch; boot; jacket; stool; pencil; magazine; five; sewing; case; girl; minister; horse; drum; blue; hockey stick; satin; patience; bus; clubs; greengrocer; wind; beech; coat; slipper; crayon; table; newspaper; nine; embroidery; trunk; bishop; lady; chicken; violin; glass; yellow; tweed; rummy; cricket bat; train; florist; diamonds; oak; rain; sandals; jersey; chalk; journal; couch; seven; holdall; tapestry; gentleman; sheep; curate; trumpet.

Answer below (col. 2)

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"What shall we do this time?" . . .

"An everyday drama"

...

"But funny" . . .

"Think of someone funny" . . .

"I know—a dustman!" . . . (everyone applauds).

"Yes, yes, that's the line, a comedy series about a dustman. Refuse is always a bit comic, plenty of funny situations, just the job."

Funny? Lowly? Well, that's the way we've always tended to think about it anyway, joke about it, sing songs about it, look down on it rather, refuse and the people who handle it.

"Refuse Collector," "Sanitation Engineer", its a bit like the rat catcher calling himself a "Rodent Exterminator" or the hair-dresser calling himself a "Tonsorial Artist."

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It's a serious job —and vital to the community

A Strike

—and

then it's

not so funny

Incidents to do with refuse are always good for a comic comment in the newspaper, or a joke to one another. Unless, of course, the dustman doesn't turn up this week, or if one's old man really is a dustman!

I remember the headmaster of my school getting up on Speech Day and saying that to honour all the Old Boys of the School he wanted to talk about one very distinguished product of the school and the vitally important job he was doing.

Groans all around,

"Not Lord Freyberg again or maybe the Chief Justice yet again, that Scientist chap wouldn't be so bad, we've only had him once . . ." and so on. But the Head went on to mention a name we hadn't heard before, all ears pricked, . . . "And his is one of the most vital jobs any man is doing in the world today—he is respon-

sible for the whole of the City of London's sanitation."

Disbelief, sniggers, open laughter in the 3rd Form corner—"Sanitation!"

But then there is a strike. Sanitation becomes a problem, refuse piles up ("My God, do we waste all that, every day?")

Smells smell, and rats delight, birds pick and people pick their way, stinking smoke billows and we cough our dismay and indignation.

"This is no joke, it's serious."

BIG PROBLEM

City governments stand by to mobilise a vast operation.

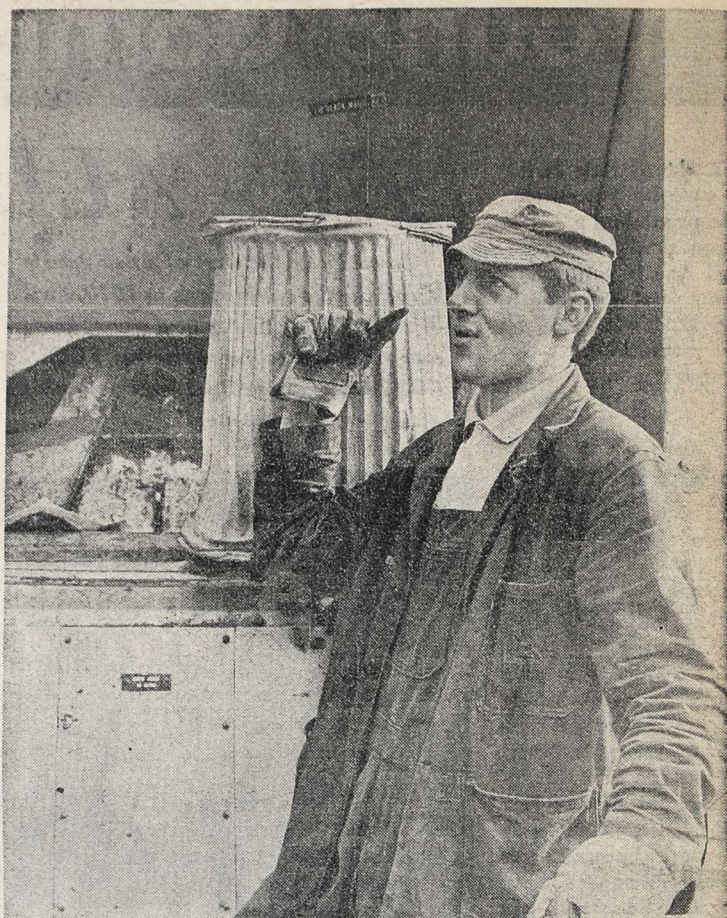
"This is no little thing, it's a big problem."

We face our bulging dustbins and plastic bags, our cardboard cartons and piles of paper and say "This is no little matter, it's important."

When the dustman comes around again, we look at him thoughtfully. "Sure, anyone could learn to do that job—but what a job! It's serious, a problem, it's important."

I'm glad I'm not doing it—but I'm glad he is willing to—or has to!"

by Ken Hills



Their thanksgiving play — every ten years

Oberammergau, a village in the Austrian Alps, is famous for its famous Passion Play, depicting the sufferings and death of Jesus. Every ten years the villagers join together to perform the play, originally produced in thanksgiving for deliverance from the plague in the 17th century.

Thousands flock to watch the day-long play and see the well-known drama of Christ's passion. Oberammergau where the play is again to be produced this year, has become a centre for modern pilgrims.

PILGRIM

Tours with Christian associations are not uncommon: they may even be called 'pilgrim' tours. The trip to the Holy Land has become increasingly popular. In the Middle Ages a few, very wealthy pilgrims, could make the journey by land: now thousands can go by air.

They go to visit the scenes of the life of Jesus—to walk by the sea of Galilee, to visit the churches marking the places of his birth and resurrection, to tread his way of sorrows to his crucifixion on Calvary.

And nearer home—we may quite often visit ruined abbeys, or beautiful, old parish churches, or towering cathedrals, packed with history.

It is easy to treat these occasions whether at home or abroad as times when we soak ourselves in the historic atmosphere of a place. We imagine ourselves as one of the disciples listening to Jesus teaching in the Galilean countryside. We watch the Passion Play—it depicts old, unhappy, far-off things. We picture the old Abbey filled with the come and go of monks centuries ago. We look up into the roof of a mediaeval building and wonder at the skill of the men who built without modern equipment.

DEEP ROOTS

It is important, and probably encouraging, for Christians to realise the deep roots which their faith has in history and to see themselves as part of a long procession of followers of Jesus.

At the same time it is all too easy to make religion into something 'quaint' and sentimental—and quite separate from the everyday world of glass and concrete, temptation and brutality. Unless our pilgrim holidays and visits at home and abroad strengthen us in our daily life and witness as Christians in our times, unless we give some time to reflection and silence, as well as to all the usual busy-ness of a holiday, such holidays do not deserve the name 'pilgrimage.'