



CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

MAY, 1970

8d.

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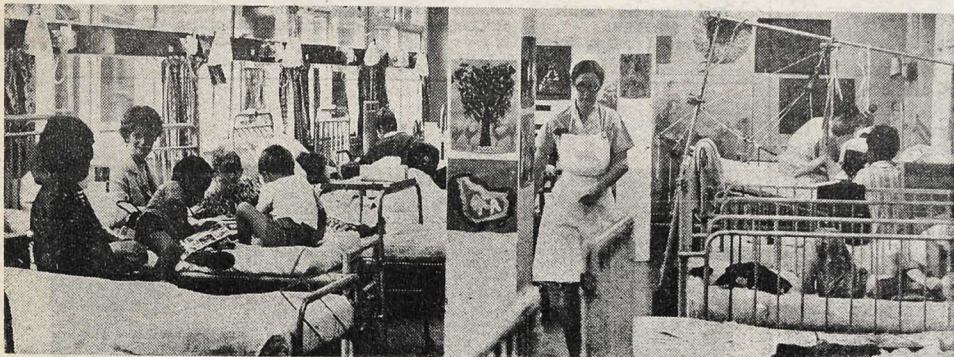
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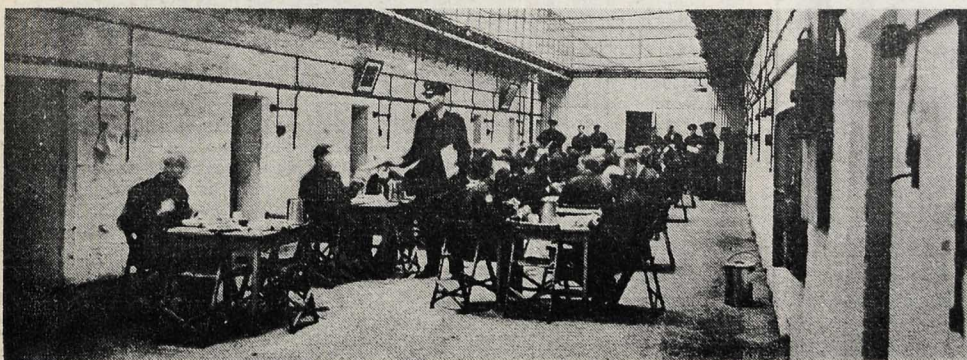
SOMETHING'S GOT TO GIVE



● Our hospitals are understaffed, badly equipped, out of date—and both patients and the world of medicine suffer.



● Our classrooms are overcrowded, our teachers underpaid (still), our educational system run on a shoestring.



● Our prisons are decaying relics that today have more humans crammed in them than was intended when they were built in what we like to call "less enlightened" Victorian days.

If we want hospital, school, prison and, other important services improved, the money has got to be found from somewhere. Something's got to give.



We say, "The Government should do something. They should find the money."

But "they" won't. In the end "they" depend on "us". If we want these improvements we must pay for them. Either by giving more in taxes. Or by axeing other public spending and cutting out cash-wastage. Or by both.



And to do this job we shall probably need both.

Something's got to give if we are to have good quality public services. You never get something for nothing.

D/EX 1758/7/5

The Charles Hodgson Column

Some time ago a senior police officer urged members of the public to 'have a go' if they saw a crime being committed. Since then there have been incidents when the police have been looking for dangerous criminals—some of them armed—and have warned the members of the public not to have a go.

Confusing, isn't it?

So, some people go to one extreme. They take the line that law enforcement is none of their business. It should be left to the police who are trained—and paid—to protect us. Then we know who to blame when things go wrong.

Other people take the other extreme. We can't rely on the police to protect us, we shall have to protect ourselves. This can start with simple measures like locking up our car, and not leaving windows open in our home at night. But it can extend to vigilante patrols, building barricades, and generally taking the law into our own hands.

Most of us see the danger in both these extremes and try to walk the middle way of sensible co-operation between public and police on which a law abiding and a law supporting society depends.

The issue involved is "How far should we become involved in support of what we believe to be right?" And there is far more to this than the problem of crime. The anti-apartheid demonstrators have brought to the fore the question whether people should take

Have a go - or keep your distance ?



Very important moral questions are being raised by the Springboks cricket tour. Those who take the direct action of going to watch should ask themselves whether they are encouraging an objectionable regime. Those who protest, peacefully or otherwise, might consider whether they are displaying a sense of moral arrogance. Those who stay at home need to face the possibility that they are apathetic towards something of great importance.

It looks as though we can't win.

About this issue, two things are obvious. We are not to sit back like cabbages, indifferent to life around us, simply taking whatever comes. Equally, we are not to go rushing around like a bull in a china shop, 'having a go' and leaving a trail of destruction.

What comes between the two extremes of a cabbage and a bull?

A human being, who is not society's stooge, but someone able to challenge, to contribute, to criticise, to participate.

A human being, who is not a free lance crusader riding his own hobby horse and slaying his own particular dragons.

A human being, who is learning the hard way how to reconcile freedom and authority.

direct action, by disrupting rugby matches or invading cricket grounds, in order to express their abhorrence of racialism in sport.

Instead of just saying "Apartheid is a system which is degrading to human beings who are coloured"; instead of just demonstrating peacefully against a team chosen on racialist grounds; shouldn't they take direct action and dig up the pitches to prevent the cricket tour from taking place?

Or should they be told: "You have your opinions, we have ours. We don't support apartheid, but we do want to watch sport. Why should a minority like you be allowed to dictate what the rest of us can or can't do?"



Bishops and M.P.s were among 3,000 demonstrators in an anti-apartheid march before the start of a rugby international between England and South Africa. In the picture the Rev. David Sheppard second from left with Mrs Anne Kerr, Lord Soper and Ian Mikardo.

Criticism of pollution theme

If Mr. Charles Hodgson thought his article in the March edition on pollution was supposed to be either Christian or clever, I tremble to think what his attitude must be to the more mundane problems of everyday life. How a Christian publication like 'Compass' allows such rubbish to be printed is beyond by comprehension. Thousands of people are reading this newspaper and if you want to try and influence them in Christian principles and teaching, for goodness sake get someone to write a sensible article associated with good not evil.

J. A. D. LORD,
(A Preservationist),
Hurst Wood, All Stretton,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

CHARLES HODGSON
WRITES:

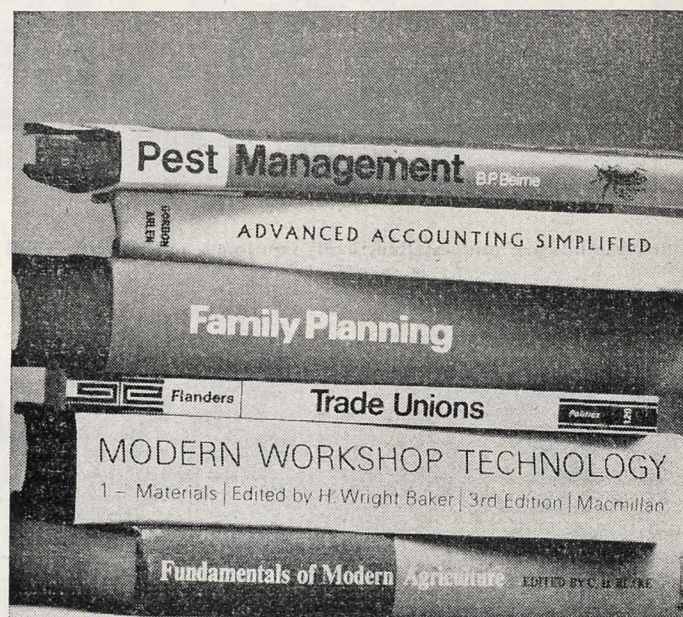
I suppose I asked for it.

Anyone who tries to play 'devil's advocate' is liable to be misunderstood. But surely, Mr. Lord, there are at least two ways of making a point. One is to ram it home bluntly, factually, and repeatedly—and if necessary to insult those you think do not agree with you. Another is to try to understand the position of those who might take a contrary view.

I chose the second way. I asked "What kind of person would oppose this current anti-pollution drive?" My answer was that it could only be someone who was utterly selfish, short sighted, narrow minded, and insensitive. So, I attempted to support the drive against pollution by putting forward such a person's miserable opposition, expecting that the sensible and intelligent readers of 'Compass' would see through

There was a further reason for doing it this way. It is clear that we shall have to fight pollution if we are to survive. But the cost of survival is high, and we have to be prepared to pay for it in other things besides money. There are certain slogans which to many people represent basic principles which must never be tampered with.

Mention "The liberty of the individual," or "The freedom of the press," or "The right to strike," and you are bound to get support. By basing this repulsive, untenable opposition on "The liberty of the individual" I was hoping to show that such slogans are not always valid. Part of the price of survival will be a limiting of our individual liberty by accepting controls from outside authorities. But it will be worth it.



What Christian Aid preaches.

In the long run, the solution to world poverty isn't filling stomachs with food.

It's filling heads with ideas.

To this end, we've helped build training schools in Africa, Asia, South America, and India.

Teaching people how to get the most out of themselves.

How to get the most out of their land.

And how to deal with the pests that the fruits of their labours attract.

The family planning programmes we've set up have taught thousands of women how to have smaller families.

With the obvious benefits of fewer mouths to feed.

However, how to make soil more fertile and wives less, aren't everyone's headaches.

Which is why in the Middle East we've financed workshops to teach young Arab refugees carpentry,

metal-work, and building.

That way they can get back on their feet by their own efforts.

In Thailand, we've taught people how to balance a diet.

And in Kenya, how to balance a book.

In Bolivia, we hired a trade union expert to study the labour situation.

It seemed the best way to find answers to the appalling unemployment problem.

Caused by the mass exodus of workers from country to town.

Of course, not all our activity is so long term.

The Vietnamese, Nigerians and Biafrans have more urgent needs. And the doctors and nurses we've sent them have helped.

Though not as much as we'd like. We simply don't have enough money to help people all we could.

But we're praying you'll do a little something about that for us.

Christian Aid.

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SAMARITAN OF SOLFERINO

COMPASS, MAY, 1970—THREE

Although May 8 is kept every year as 'Red Cross Day' in honour of its founder, Henri Dunant, during the summer of 1970 there will be special celebrations to mark one hundred years of service done by members of the British Red Cross Society.

Dunant had been so shocked by the conditions prevailing after the battle of Solferino that he dedicated the next four or five years to the founding of a society to aid the sick and wounded in war.

This in time led to the signing of the Geneva Convention which set out certain rules for the treatment of prisoners of war.

It was not until 1870, at the outbreak of the Franco Prussian War, that a similar society was launched in Britain. Within a few days doctors and nurses had set off for France, taking drugs, disinfectants, bandages and bedding purchased with gifts received from well-wishers in this country.

Heroes

The story of the Red Cross reflects the history of the past century. Wherever there has been a need for help, be it small or great war, earthquake or mine disaster, ordinary men and women

An article to mark the centenary of the British Red Cross Society



Henri Dunant

have come forward to 'do their bit' and have proved themselves to be heroes and heroines, as they carried out the Christian command to 'love thy neighbour as thyself.' Professional nurses and doctors were employed in the South African war but it was realised that in the event of wide-spread hostilities there was need for less highly qualified personnel to assist the professionals.

Consequently in 1909 Lady Esher devised a scheme of training for volunteers. A course of lectures in first aid and home nursing was given, followed by several hours on duty in hospital wards, after which

a certificate could be obtained. Recruits poured in, the first 'voluntary aid detachments' being registered in London and in little over a year 202 detachments had been formed.

Library

Thousands of men and women were ready when the Great War broke out and gave of their best to relieve the sufferings of the sick and wounded. A handful of people in August 1914 devised a scheme to provide reading matter to the troops and men at sea and this has developed into the Red Cross and Order of St. John war and peace library which has as its slogan 'to every patient the book he wants' as members wheel their literature trolleys around the wards of our hospitals.

This year is also the jubilee of the Junior Red Cross Society which was started in 1920 'to inspire young people with the spirit of the Red Cross and to provide them with the opportunities of Red Cross Service'. Thousands of boys and girls have taken the basic training (which in some cases has led to their adopting a career in medicine or nursing) and they have given up their free

time to help their less fortunate brothers and sisters, joining 'holiday camps' for crippled children, spending hours playing games with the blind or deformed, as well as knitting blankets for refugees or homeless children.

Red Oaks

During the Second World War collections were made for the 'Penny-a-week' Fund and when this was finally closed after raising £20,000,000, nine red oaks were planted in the form of a cross in Windsor Great Park with a commemorative plaque stating:

"Through God's great grace, through strength of English oak

We have preserved our faith, our Throne, our land;

Now, with our freedom saved from tyrant's yoke We plant these trees.

Remember why they stand."

Perhaps the secret of the success of the Red Cross lies in the fact that the leaders have been inspired by 'God's great grace' and that the chief celebrations have concluded with a service of re-dedication as was held in 1963 to praise God for the vision of Henri Dunant who by his acts of practical sympathy earned the title of the 'Samaritan of Solferino'.

Miss B. G. Stone



Skopje 1963—and Red Cross personnel were among the first to the disaster area to help with first aid and feeding arrangements.

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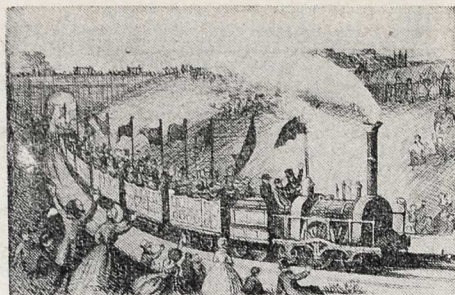
Conference enquiries to the Manager or EDGbaston 6061



Supplies being loaded on a Red Cross plane at Geneva, bound for Biafra.

Cooks tours began with temperance trip

Thomas
Cook



An artist's impression of the first excursion train from Leicester to Loughborough in 1841.

by Alice Odell

The name of Thomas Cook is known to travellers throughout the world. Yet it was almost by accident that the vast tourist organisation which bears his name came into being.

Born in Melbourn, Derbyshire, Cook worked in turn as a gardener's help, wood-turner and printer. He was a devout Christian and served as a part-time preacher.

His interest in the temperance movement first led him into the travel business. On July 5, 1841, he chartered a train to take 570 enthusiasts from Leicester to attend a rally at Loughborough ten miles away.

This, and following trips were so successful that Mr. Thomas Cook's excursions were organised on a commercial basis. The business flourished and in 1866 the first tours to America were arranged. Three years later there were Cook's tours to Palestine.

Those excited people making their first uncomfortable train journey across Leicestershire little thought they were starting something which would spread to the farthest corners of the earth.

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What is a car?

The first cars were called horseless carriages, and that was a pretty good description. They were vehicles designed to carry people about on public roads by the power of machines rather than muscles. But we've come a long way since then! And the field of private motor transport has been a battleground for many years.

The combatants in the battle are on the one side the engineers, and on the other side the salesmen allied with the publicity men and the image builders. Owners and drivers are on the whole in the position of hapless civilians who are overtaken by the tides of war.

Car Sense, by Brian Favell

Just now the engineers are on the losing side. Every so often they produce something which is basically a box on four wheels: an effective compromise between manufacturing methods, available materials, economy and usefulness; cheap, reliable transport. Then the opposing forces attack: the public image of a car must be conformed to.

PROBLEMS

It must have, according to the fashion of the time, a particular general shape. It must have particular trimmings and features which the public has been conditioned to expect. The engineers point out in vain that, for instance, wind-down windows create problems of construction and operation which are expensive to solve compared with sliding windows.

Or that external door hinges may be cheaper, stronger or even more useful than concealed ones. They are told that such things must be provided, and that if they cost more or result in a poorer job, the customer is willing to pay that penalty.

CON-TRICK

And it's true, of course—but only because the salesmen and the image makers have themselves created that image and conditioned the public to demand its fulfilment. It is a sort of giant confidence trick, and the engineers have to toe the line while prices go up.

There is no real difficulty in producing a cheap, durable car with the level of performance appropriate to our roads and traffic conditions. The difficulty lies in educating people into preferring such a car to a heavily styled, gimmicky mass of chrome—but isn't that a job for the image makers?



THE DEVIL'S PASSPORTS

Were playing cards invented to amuse a 10th century Chinese Emperor's wives? Or did a Maharajah's wife think them up to stop her husband twiddling his beard?

Whoever invented them, they soon became popular. A German monk in Switzerland recorded their use in 1377. Puritans called them "Passports to Hell" and burned every pack they could but by 1615, the Government cashed in on this form of amusement. They issued access packs and players could only buy an ace from Government sources. Anyone found with an illicit ace lost his life. Even in 1805 gamblers who hid an ace were condemned to death.

Flashback

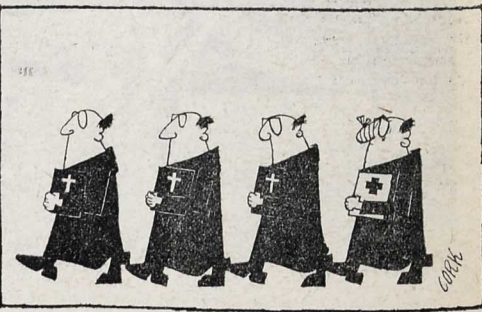
Strangely, in Europe the symbols on cards have varied. Why did Italian packs show spades, clubs, money and cups while Germans favoured leaves, bells, hearts and acorns? No one can say. In Britain, we compromised by using the French diamond and heart and the Italian spade and club.

Court cards have varied enormously. Banished during the Revolution in France, they have shown Biblical figures, politicians, and famous people such as Charlemagne (said to have inspired the King of Hearts), the Queen of Sheba, Napoleon and John Brown. The Knave always carries a lance, while double "either way up" designs appeared at the end of the 19th century.

Internationally understood, today the Devil's passports know no frontiers.

E.H.

Good for a laugh



CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

THE NEWSPAPER OF ANGLICANS
FREE CHURCHMEN AND ROMAN CATHOLICS
IN CAVERSHAM

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THEY BRING YOUR BRIDGE

MRS. ELSIE SOUTH is one of those distributors who is never content with just putting copies through letter boxes but really knows everyone on her beat in Hemdean Rise. While she sells Bridges, Peter, her husband, who is secretary of St. Peter's District Committee, perhaps sells more copies of the Oxford Diocesan Magazine than anyone else in the diocese. For many years resident in Priest Hill, their only son married Jennie Moore last year.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, MAY, 1970—ONE



Mrs. South

MRS. MONICA HOLLAND. There are too many houses in Balmore Drive for one distributor to call at all of them but part of the drive is Monica Holland's round for the Bridge and having lived there many years she knows a great many people in the road. Monica has just been elected to the committee of St. Peter's Mothers' Union.



Mrs. Holland

Photos: Fred Walker.

MAY 7th

THE LOCAL ELECTIONS will take place this year on May 7th which is also Ascension Day. The coincidence of these events should serve to remind us that Christianity is not a religion that allows its followers to escape from day to day realities. At the Ascension our Lord withdrew his bodily presence but the disciples at the same time were not allowed to remain just gazing up into heaven: they were quickly involved in down-to-earth situations.

The Christian, wherever he lives, must be interested in the life of the local community: this may well mean that he will sometimes feel very critical of certain features of local administration, and he will be wise to realise that ideal solutions are seldom possible. But when Christians voice opinions about local or national affairs there is a tendency on the part of the larger non-Christian section of the community to say that the Church should mind its own business: this is precisely what the Nazis said when certain German Christians opposed the Hitler regime, and this is what members of the South African Government are constantly saying today. But when people suggest that the Church should mind its own business they display a surprising ignorance of the purpose of our Lord's earthly life. The Incarnation made it abundantly plain that no department of human life can escape from the judgment of God. Indeed it is a far more pertinent criticism of the Church to say that too many congregations are too much wrapped up in their domestic affairs, and not sufficiently involved with the life of the community.

The present issue of the CAVERSHAM BRIDGE gives a good deal of space to community matters. Christians are actively involved in the affairs of the Caversham Residents' Association and of Mapledurham Parish Council. We are particularly glad to publish this month contributions from a Thames Ward Councillor and from Mr. Paul Goriup at a time when Christians and non-Christians alike are becoming increasingly critical of many aspects of local administration. In particular many parents and teachers are aware that there are many aspects of Reading's educational system that compare unfavourably with those obtainable in other parts of the country: the size of many classes in the primary schools, the reluctance to provide more staff and better equipment and the crammed classroom accommodation in certain schools are evidence of a policy that suggests it is more virtuous to keep the rates low than to maintain, let alone improve educational standards.

As Christians keep the great feast of the Ascension on May 7th let us realise more fully that we cannot stand detached from the debates of the Council Chamber. On Ascension Day some sixty newly confirmed Anglicans will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time at the Eucharist that evening. The rest of us should see that they are welcomed into a Christian community that sees its mission in no narrow terms. As the disciples returned from the mount of the Ascension to Jerusalem they did not return to lead quiet lives. Later this coming summer we shall be focusing attention on other aspects of human need at home and overseas as Mayday week brings these problems before the residents of Caversham. And it is certainly not the intention of those who produce the CAVERSHAM BRIDGE to suggest also that Christianity has nothing to say to those who sit in the Council Chamber.

John Grimwade

THE READING BACH CHOIR

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Must we have higher rates ?

by PAUL GORIUP

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A FURTHER MAMMOTH RISE IN TWELVE MONTHS TIME!... *Headlines in one paper.*

MOVES TO STOP SCHOOLS' CUTS FAIL... FEWER BOOKS... LESS NEW EQUIPMENT...

NO REDECORATION... FEWER NEW TEACHERS... *Headlines in another paper.*

Contradiction? Clash of interests? Or just a misunderstanding?

There is no doubt that there is a contradiction between demands for maintaining—or even improving—the standard of education in Reading and the desire to keep the local rates unchanged or as low as possible. And not just the standard of education, but also the standard of our roads, drainage, health, libraries, museums and other services and amenities.

The pressure, economic and political, to keep the rates down has always made the life of a local council difficult. On the other hand, the public—the opposition and the press—has been equally quick in pointing out the shortcomings in the local services, questioning the competence of the council.

Much can be said, of course, about priorities which are—as a rule—different for the Council, different for the ratepayer and different still for the one who does not pay rates. While the ratepayer with children for instance is interested in educational facilities, a ratepayer without children—but with a car—is interested in sorting out traffic problems and improving the roads. One must obviously keep in perspective the requirements of the community as a whole.

AND YET!

Rates have been steadily climbing up every year by a few pennies. From 10s. 6d. in 1966 to 10s. 11d. in 1967, to 12s. 2d. in 1968 and to 12s. 7d. in 1969. Now the rate is 14s. 3d. (domestic rate 12s. 7d., an increase of 1s. 3d.).

Last year, when the rate was 12s. 7d. in the pound, the rates produced £4,711,200. The actual estimate of the Council's expenses, however, amounted to £8,136,200, which meant that £3,425,000 had to come from other sources, mainly from the Government.

What the rates produced—£4,711,200—was just enough to cover the expenses for education which amounted to an estimated £4,297,290. To this we could add an estimated £149,180 for libraries and museums, since they too are of

educational value.

And yet: fewer books... less new equipment... no redecoration... fewer new teachers...

This year, 1970/71, the estimates stood at a record £5,093,810, almost £800,000 more than the year before. Since one can assume that this is the amount we require to maintain—not improve—the existing standard in education, the reduction to £4,884,530 must mean that this standard cannot be maintained and that the increase on last year will only cover the increased liabilities in view of further influx of people into Reading. Next year, we shall have to cater for another 600 pupils.

RATE INCREASE JUSTIFIED

The warning, therefore, that the rates must go up again next year, is fully justified—providing the needs in education are satisfied. I was actually surprised that while efforts were made to prevent the pruning of the estimates by £211,570—most likely at the expense of other services—no effort was made either to increase the rates by a higher figure or to put the blame for the shortage of funds fairly and squarely on the Government. After all, compared with five years ago, the interest rate on the money borrowed by the Council was now 3% higher and was equivalent to a rate of 1s. 3d., as much as the new rate increase on dwelling houses. The interest on money borrowed by the Council for educational purposes alone (schools plus the Technical College) amounted to a good quarter of a million pounds! Thanks to the Bank Rate and the prices and incomes policy. The Government bloc grant to local councils in 1966/67 was not increased in 1967/8, while in 1968/69 it was only increased by 7% although the average running costs by then had increased by at least 15%. And who will pay for higher teachers' salaries? With its prices and incomes policy, the Government even precluded a higher rate increase, while it did little to relieve the burden caused by inflation.

The capitation allowance will go up by 15%, the first increase since 1967, but the purchasing power of the schools has since been reduced by an easy 20%. The price of certain items increased by anything up to 45%. Books, for instance. The price of pencils has gone up from £13.15.0d per 5 gross to £20.18.6d; BBC publications from £10 to £14; duplicating ink from 19s. 9d. to £1.10.0d; test tubes from £2.6.0d per gross to £4.6.0d. And so on, to mention but a few.

WELFARE?

If we then cast a glance at the situation inside the schools, we find that apart from the new buildings they have not had a coat of paint for years. Many roofs are leaking and some furniture is in a deplorable state. This has a demoralising effect on teachers and students alike. As for the teacher/pupil ratio, it all depends on the available accommodation. You cannot have more teachers than room and this applies especially to elementary schools. Parents know that the average figure of 20.8 pupils per teacher is grossly misleading when it comes to some schools. While in crowded schools there is little point in having more teachers, in other schools, where there could and should be more teachers, the economy precludes new recruitment. Although there is such a thing as a "quota" of teachers, determined by the Government on a national level, this quota has not been filled in Reading for several years despite the fact

that the quota—as a rule—tends to be low rather than high. In 1968 for instance, Reading was entitled to 41 new teachers but only 26 were appointed. Little has changed since. For the past five years, teachers needed as replacements in cases of prolonged illness have no longer been available. Incentives to teachers by the way of graded posts and head of departments' posts are very few and the headmasters have a job keeping good teachers.

There are many things hidden to parents' eyes which affect the education of their children. Where there are no parents/teachers associations, the parents see even less. They only get an idea of the needs when there is an annual jumble sale, or when their child's class suddenly stops swimming sessions or playing cricket on somebody else's cricket pitch, or starts using scraps of paper instead of exercise books. Since Easter, the price of school meals to the parents has gone up by another 3d. a day, the second 3d. this school year, bringing the price to 1s. 9d.—although the economic price is somewhere about 3s. On the other hand, we mix welfare with education—free milk, and free transport within a three-mile radius.

LET THE GOVERNMENT HELP!

It is almost useless to point to other boroughs or counties when seeking an answer to our local problems because it is all a matter of priorities. It must be also recognised that we can only spend what we have got in the kitty, although it would be naive to pretend that all services get equal treatment. Public or private pressure may, on occasion, tip the balance more in favour of one service than another. And just as well, because if everything was decided for us in Whitehall we might get an even worse deal.

It is, however, a case for the education to be paid for centrally—by the Government. As the country goes gradually more and more comprehensive, the school system too is becoming more and more even, leaving the councils with much less independence and worry about the system. The responsibility for the system now lies fairly and squarely with the Government and it would be a poor consolation to cut income tax while at the same time keeping the bloc grants within the limits of the prices and incomes policy.

At present, the Government likes to forget too often the fact that some areas are more affected than others by migration and that its grants should be constantly reviewed in this light. It is also unrealistic that the local councils should be compelled to borrow money to maintain the Government required standard at interest rates which are the product of Government policies in general. Some ten years ago, the Government used to cover 60% of Council's expenses, while the other 40% was raised by way of rates. Since then, the Government has been giving the Council a bloc grant for all services which the Council has been allocating as thought fit. As education is the largest consumer, it is only natural that it is also the main victim of economies when improvements in other fields are to be made.

The demand should therefore be for a fairer deal for the Council, for the ratepayer and for the consumer. While the present rate system is far from fair, the Government is getting away too lightly. At the same time we should be wary of the idea that the Council is able to keep the rates down and still provide the services we want.

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MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 12th March, 1970. The Chairman of the Council, Mr. B. A. Fowles, presided at the meeting.

The Council were pleased to note the receipt of a letter from the Oxfordshire C.C. which stated the previous difficulties affecting the proposed turning circle on the road at the bottom of the Village had now been settled, and it was anticipated work would shortly commence on the improvements that are scheduled.

The proposals outlined by the Oxfordshire C.C. to create a Country Park on land adjacent to the River Thames in Mapledurham Park have temporarily been postponed. Although

there have been some objections, none of them were against the principle of creating a Park.

The Council received a very disquieting letter from Henley R.D.C. concerning the present bus service run by the Chiltern Queens and which operates along the road between Goring Heath P.O. cross roads and the 'Pack Saddle' Inn on the Woodcote Road. The bus company have stated they wish to withdraw the service along this length of road, the B4526, because they state there has been an increase in the number of accidents affecting their vehicles, although requests have been made to the County Council to improve road conditions.

The Council are informing the R.D.C. and other interested persons of its concern, and of the obvious hardship the withdrawal of this service would create to those people who live along the present route. In particular residents living in

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CAVERSHAM RESIDENTS MEET

Those who think that participation is a vogue word that is dying, if not already dead, would have changed their minds if they had been present at the packed annual general meeting of the Caversham Residents' Association. It was immediately apparent that Caversham residents had many complaints to get off their chests but, more constructively, they also had many practical suggestions to make. No opportunity was lost in putting these to Mr. W. H. Tee, the Town Clerk, who, as a resident of Caversham himself, has first-hand experience of the matters raised.

Traffic of course, loomed large in the complaints. The difficulties of getting to and from work in the morning and evening, will be with us for a long time but Mr. Tee did say that plans were being prepared to make better use of the existing road systems, including the two bridges. He also said that a device was about to be installed in the Bridge Street traffic lights to regulate the evening traffic flow from over the bridge. This, together with a parking ban in the filter lane, should reduce delays at that point.

Commuters complained that as their evening trains arrived at the railway station, so did a 'bus leave, giving them half an hour's wait in the cold and wet, unless they brought in the car in the morning or got their wives to bring it to the station in the evening, in either case adding to the already existing chaos on the roads.

Another point made was that the car port at Emmer Green just will not do. The screening is inadequate, children play dangerously on its roof (it's the most exciting place to play in those parts) and anyhow, so it was alleged, hardly any cars use it. It should come down.

Concern was also expressed at the smell coming from the peanut factory.

Residents of Hemdean Road complained of sewage in their gardens after heavy rain and many complaints of

infrequent sweeping of streets was heard. And the reason it is not possible to buy postage stamps in central Caversham after the post office is closed is because, believe it or not, planning permission was not granted for a vending machine when the post office was redesigned.

All this must have given Mr. Tee much food for thought and even if he wondered what had hit him, we were nevertheless appreciative that such a busy man took the trouble to spare the time to come to our meeting.

Mr. J. Mair, from the chair, said in his opening remarks, that although as an association we had always made a point of using the services of our town councillors, nevertheless there was

a tendency for them to become remote from everyday life in their wards, a tendency that would grow with the proposed increase in size of local government areas. People now, more and more want to have a say in matters affecting them and if this feeling were frustrated, it could well lead to a breakdown in government. Residents' Associations could act as effective mouthpieces.

A committee of twelve, consisting of ten former and two new members, was elected but we are still, at the time of going to print, without a secretary. M.C.

Mr. Tee promised to send a traffic expert to a public meeting to talk about traffic problems in Caversham. Look out for details later.

Coun. Stansfeld-Taylor's Column

The editor has kindly suggested that as the only Councillor of Caversham and Thames Wards living in the Caversham area I should contribute a column to "The Bridge" from time to time. This I shall be pleased to do, for it might forge a closer link between people, church and local government, and I might be able to advise the editorial staff on matters which are under discussion and so save valuable space in an already very full journal. Incidentally, since the Rector and I spoke in these terms Councillor Robinson has come to live in Kidmore Road.

In his April editorial Mr. Grimwade enlarged on the theme I had proposed to develop in this column when he spoke of the immense demands on the time of those who accept church and civic office, and the inevitability of the delegation of responsibility and power. This involves the issue of "them and us."

Misunderstandings often arise from lack of contact between electors and elected representatives. For example, I could have saved "The Bridge" a lot of space in the February issue had I been contacted about the pedestrian crossing in Church Street, for it was already planned and about to be installed. I know someone will say more publicity should be given to future plans, and this is a valid comment, but Council meetings are open to the public and so are meetings of the Education Committee, but so few attend, and much information is released weekly at the Town Clerk's press conference.

A gratifying aspect of the "them and us" relationship in this area is the way local people rise to support the Council when local amenities are involved. The joint victories over Hemdean Bottom and Grove Hill House spring to mind, and one hopes the united voice raised about the Peppard Road shopping precinct will not go unheeded; it is good to know the two local MPs are in sympathy.

Caversham area has figured largely in the Council's deliberations of late. A start on the improvement of

Henley Road has been provided for in the 1970/71 Capital Estimates; there has been discussion on the provision of public conveniences in the St. Martin's Shopping Precinct (although prior claims in other areas will delay this somewhat); and car parking has been constantly under review, with the Borough Surveyor being instructed to negotiate for land behind the club in Church Street. I was also pleased to discuss with the traders' association their very ambitious move to provide parking for their staffs and customers in other areas. Repairs to Caversham Bridge are also foreseen in the coming year, and with 25 per cent more money allocated for road maintenance, Caversham should get its share, and perhaps Grove Road can be resurfaced. Work is also likely to be done on the dangerous bend on the main Peppard Road near Rosehill.

No one can be complacent while any danger continues to exist to children in Gosbrook Road, but there is no easy solution here. Rails would not comply with highways regulations and alternative access is very complicated. A short-term solution is one, or perhaps two, school crossing patrols, and here I would appeal for someone to come forward to take up this part-time paid post, man or woman; it's a job worth doing.

These are only some of Caversham's problems and how they are being dealt with, others as they arise can likewise be dealt with by common effort. Pressure groups and individual criticism are effective only in the degree to which they express constructive ideas. There must be some good ideas among the 13,000-odd electors in Caversham and Thames Wards; "we" must not leave it all to "them" who have accepted responsibility, but should contribute to what they seek to do by interest, suggestion and discussion. This is a form of the "public participation" we hear about.

WHERE IS THIS . . . ?



LOCAL ELECTIONS 1970

Polling day is nearly here again and once more the Caversham Bridge would like to remind its readers of their responsibilities. It is just no use grumbling about 'them' and what 'they' do if voters can't even take the trouble to exercise their vote.

Among the candidates offering themselves for election is **Mr. R. H. Bristow**, known to many people as 'Joe'. Mr. Bristow, who now lives at 25 Marchwood Avenue, needs no introduction to the people of Caversham, as he represented Caversham from 1963 to 1969 on the local council. Married, with a son and daughter, Joe is a telephone Sales Superintendent. He is a member of St. Anne's Church and was President of the Reading Labour Party for two years.

He is particularly concerned about the need for pedestrian crossings in the area and writes: "The Government had devolved on to the Local Authorities the right to choose sites and instal pedestrian crossings and in a report to the Highway Committee over a year ago, the Borough Surveyor reported that Reading was some 75 or more crossings short of the number it was entitled to according to the population. Caversham at long last has had its first crossing installed after many years without one at all, but there are still several danger spots needing serious attention in order to ease the problem of crossing busy roads for our children and the elderly. Bridge Street/Church Road, Gosbrook Road (for Thameside schoolchildren), the Star Junction and Henley Road to mention just a few."

Caversham in Mr. Bristow's opinion "needs some voice in opposition to the present inadequate local administration and I appeal to the people of Caversham to give me the opportunity to do the job."

For those who wish to know any more, his phone number is 75000.

Another candidate is **Michael Francis** who is a

member of the Conservative party. Aged 27, educated in England and abroad, he has lived in Reading for several years and is employed as a Commercial Relations Executive by an international airline.

Michael thinks that this area has a great future if its amenities are looked after and improved. He writes: "If I am elected I will do all I can to try and improve the roads, buses and the riverside for Caversham. However, one important improvement which will gradually become more essential as the out-

skirts of Caversham grow in another bridge across the river to ease the pressure on the roads and existing bridges.

"There are a great many subjects I should like to discuss with you all, like direct Central Government financing of local projects, but space is limited."

However, he goes on to say if anyone would like to discuss anything with him, he can be reached by telephone (Reading 63032) or by letter to 41 Eastern Avenue.

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The successful applicants will be required to contribute a weekly sum of 30s. towards the cost of maintaining the almshouses of the charity.

Applications forms may be obtained at the office of the Clerk to the Trustees, Mr. P. M. Blandy, 1, Friar Street, Reading, and must be completed and returned to him not later than May 18, 1970.

Candidates will be notified when and where to attend for interview.

CAVERSHAM PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

IT WILL be no news to many readers that the Reverend William Karle and his wife, Annemarie, returned here from Mannheim towards the end of last year and are now living in Up-lands Road.

Many people will remember him as the pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church from 1950 until he was recalled to Germany in 1959. Originally a minister of the United Evangelical Protestant Church of Baden, Pastor Karle fell victim to Hitler's reorganisation of the Church. He became a member of the Confessional Church, the body which, under Martin Niemöller, openly opposed the Nazis and lived to form a resurrected church in Germany after the war. In 1939 Dr. Bell, the Bishop of Chichester, helped to get Mr. Karle and other ministers to this country; he became a member, and eventually travelling secretary, of the body known as The Christian Fellowship in War-time. Unfortunately Mr. Karle was interned for nine months at

the beginning of war but in 1943 he was received into the Presbyterian Church in England, while still classified officially as an enemy alien. In 1944 he was appointed to a ministry in Torquay and became naturalised in 1947.

It is a great compliment to the people of this country, and especially to the people of Caversham, that he only returned to Germany in 1959 on condition that he retained British citizenship and could return here on his retirement. Though it is doubtful whether retirement is exactly the word, since Mr. Karle is obviously very busy even now, writing and studying, renewing old friendships, preaching from time to time and helping out where ever help is needed. When our reporter called he was 'helping out' by delivering groceries for a man who was sick. It is not for nothing that Mr. Karle is known as a man who can always be relied on in an emergency. Indeed it was the first thing our reporter actually

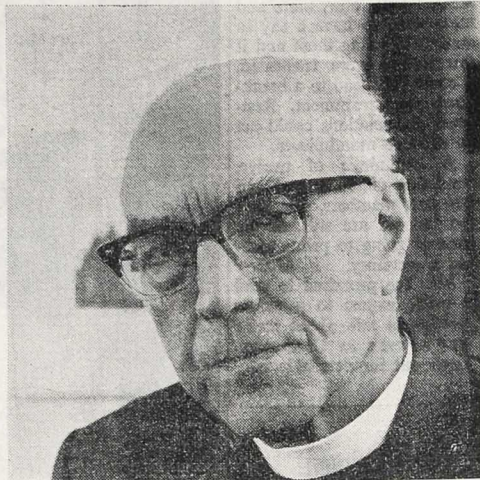


Photo: Walton Adams.
Rev. William Karle

heard about him. And we would like to take this opportunity of welcoming him and his wife, together with their daughter, Eva, who works in an old people's home, back to Caversham. Their son, Hellmut, is an educational psychologist, lives with his wife and two children in East Sussex, and is a lay-reader in the Church of England.

Young people are very much in the news. This month we have heard that Hilary Ladd, well-known to the members of St. Peter's, has been appointed night sister at the North Midland Hospital where she trained. Only 23, she is young enough to have such a responsible post, and we send her our very best wishes.

And we have to report that Stephen Pick, whose parents recently returned to Caversham, has passed his second MB at the Royal Free Hospital. To the uninitiated this means that after two years hard theoretical grind he now puts on a white coat and goes into the wards to learn the practical side of being a doctor.

Also through her second MB is Vivian Stone, daughter of Dr. Stone of Upper Warren Avenue. Vivian, who is training at St. Thomas's Hospital, will now go into the wards too. We look forward to hearing further news of both of them.

On a week-end in March, the Reading and District Young Oxfam Group held a fast in St. Laurence's Church to collect funds and publicise the need for overseas aid. Most of them fasted for 24 hours, a few for up to 40 hours, and as is usual with all responsible organisations, many participants, including Jane Collins, of Grosvenor Road, the organiser, came from Caversham. There was June and her brother David from Oakley Road, Jane, a Quaker from Woodcote Road, and Gareth—our archaeological correspondent—from Cromwell Road. They spent their time singing folksongs, debating and distributing leaflets.

They hope to have raised over £100 by the time the funds are in. And they have particularly asked us to thank the Reverend W. Coupe for the hospitality of his church.

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Watson of Cromwell Road on their 25th wedding anniversary in March. Phyllis and Eric, who have lived at their present home for 17 years, are both local people. At the time of their wedding at St. Peter's Church Phyllis was in the WAAFs and Eric in the Royal Artillery, but they tell us they managed to scrounge enough clothing coupons to make it a civilian wedding.

RECENT ARRIVALS IN CAVERSHAM are Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Butlin, a friendly young couple who have taken over St. Benet's children home at Emmer Green. Despite a staff shortage, they have already settled in; Mr. and Mrs. Butlin, who have two young children of their own, are anxious to spread the age range of the children under their care, in the same way as might happen in an ordinary family home. Already they have taken charge of a young baby of eighteen months who is in a fair way to being spoiled by the others.

Their needs at the moment? Well first and foremost, a residential assistant, preferably between 18 and 21. They are planning a venture playground so they will be grateful for any useful items of equipment—sewer pipes, beer barrels, scaffolding, rope, etc. And in July they hope to take the children to Margate, so spare sleeping bags will be welcome if anyone has such a thing tucked away in a cupboard.

On a sadder note, we regret to report the death in March of Mrs. Nellie White of Westfield Road. A very popular member of the St. Peter's Mothers' Union, and of the Derby and Joan Club, she was known for her friendliness and for her enthusiasm in helping in all forms of activity, particularly in helping with jumble sales.

Another sad loss for Caversham is that of 'Eddie' Frost of South View Avenue, who featured in a 'Bridge' article some time ago as the gentleman who helped to keep the front of St. Anne's Church and garden looking so nice. We send our condolences to his wife who is herself ill at the time of going to press.

And may we offer our sincere apologies to all the young people in Caversham who took part in the 'Man Alive' programme in BBC 2 earlier this year and who willingly gave permission for their names to be included in a report on the programme. Unfortunately the article had to be omitted for lack of space, but we would like to congratulate them for the very able way in which they acquitted themselves on this programme.



Mr. and Mrs. L. Butlin

with a well known brewery's slogan of "Take Courage."

THE MISSA NORMATIVA

This seems to have got under way remarkably smoothly, thanks to the weeks of preparation of congregations by parish priests before its introduction.

Some churches obviously go in for more lay participation than others—to my surprise Quarr Abbey has even had a woman reading a Lesson. But as I suspected, the stolid British are bogging rather at the Kiss of Peace, it seems, in any form. I have, however, heard of one Church where some of the congregation half-heartedly attempt a double handshake.

Random Jottings from an R.C. Layman

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This was held this year at St. James's, Reading, and so we R.C.s were, as it were, hostesses for the occasion.

I attended the afternoon service and although I got there in time, it was only just as I had been lunching with friends outside Reading and road repairs slowed me down. The church was consequently packed and I was lucky to get a place in a side aisle, where I certainly did

penance for running it fine by being in the draughtiest spot ever and was rapidly paralysed from the knees down.

As usual the service was beautifully organised and, as usual, I did not know enough of the hymns. Mrs. Audrey Room, the Diocesan Speakers' Representative of the Mothers' Union, was the speaker on the theme "Be of Good Courage." Mrs. Room is a very good speaker indeed even though we did, deliberately, get slightly tangled

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MAYDAY WEEK

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE MAY, 1970—FIVE

Running up to Mayday Week

As a contribution to the running expenses of Mayday Week—a "Musical Evening" with a wine and cheese interval is being held at 2 Blackwater Close, Caversham Park Village, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6th. Mrs. Barbara Justham of St. Peter's Hill, who was the Principal Mezzo-Soprano at Covent Garden until she retired from professional singing a few years ago, has offered to sing some songs and an aria or two. David Sidwell, well known in the St. Andrew's district as a keen young musician, has agreed to play some piano works—and it is hoped that there will be some other instrumentalists.

The emphasis of the evening will be definitely informal. If three or four people are prepared to sit on the stairs, it should be possible to accommodate 40 people! Anyone wishing to come should ring Mrs. Una Crowe (75152). Admission of course is free—but people are invited to make a donation of at least 6/- to the expenses of Mayday Week.

During the summer term children in the Primary schools of Caversham and Emmer Green are doing project work—learning about the developing countries. Clergy are visiting the schools to take part in assembly once a week for four consecutive weeks, and are staying for a time with the top classes to do project work with them.

The children will have the chance to give paintings and handicrafts produced during the term to the Mayday Week Shop.

Various groups at the Grove School are doing research projects. On the Tuesday in Mayday Week, July 7th, at 7-30 p.m. there will be a Public Film Evening at the school. The film about Caversham made by the Central Cine Unit of the Central Youth Club will be shown, together with two contrasting films about the developing world.

All being well, the empty Penta Building in Church Rd. will be used as the Mayday Week Shop between July 3rd and the 11th. Preparations are well in hand.

The ladies of St. Andrew's Rd. are working together to make a patchwork quilt to sell in the shop. The ladies of Mapledurham had a coffee morning with a "bring and buy" stall, and raised £9 to buy materials to make things for the shop. Since Easter a weekly working party has met. Any similar ideas from elsewhere?

People unattached to groups and organisations who would like to help in the shop during the Week or beforehand should contact Mrs. J. Stevenson (222 Upper Woodcote Rd., 71605).

Mayday Week Final Event

To help us understand the political aspects of World Development, and to encourage our on-going concern and understanding—three first-rate speakers are lined up for the final event of Mayday Week.

Open-air Meeting.

Caversham Court 8 p.m.—Friday, July 10th. Book this date in your diary now for the open air meeting we have planned to conclude Caversham Mayday Week. If wet, we have the Rector's permission to use St. Peter's Church.

LORD CHALFONT, O.B.E., M.C., will be our first speaker. Formerly well known as Mr. Alun Gwynne Jones he had a distinguished career in the Army for 21 years before he became Defence Correspondent of "The Times" in 1961. He relinquished this post in October, 1964, on his appointment as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

In May, 1967, it was announced that Lord Chalfont would lead the British team in negotiations in Brussels with the European Economic Community.

All Party Platform.

It is often pointed out that the needs of the developing countries and the desire to increase aid and to negotiate trade agreements in their favour, are not matters of party politics. Politicians from the three main parties vary in the degree to which they are informed about the problems of world develop-

ment. But the important thing to note is that the increasing minority who are concerned come from all sides of the political scene.

NIGEL FISHER M.C., M.P.—our second speaker has been the Conservative M.P. for Surbiton since 1955. After serving in the Army with distinction during World War II he became an M.P. in 1950.

Mr. Fisher has had opportunities to learn about the problems of the developing countries of the Commonwealth. He has been Chairman of the West Indies Parliamentary Committee and Joint Chairman of the British-Caribbean Association. He was Parliamentary Under Secretary for the Colonies in the early '60s, and from November, 1964, to March, 1966, he was one of the Front Bench spokesmen for Commonwealth and Colonial Affairs. Nigel Fisher was an enthusiastic supporter of the Churches' December Sign-in on World Poverty.



The Rt. Hon. Lord Chalfont, O.B.E., M.C., Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

View-point from Zambia.

Our third speaker, Canon John Kingsnorth, will tell us something of the reactions of a developing country to the problems of aid and development. Canon Kingsnorth has had wide experience of Africa. He was General Secretary of the Universities Mission to Central Africa before UMCA merged with another Anglican Missionary Society, the SPG. For the last 4 years he has worked in Zambia and has had experience of the problems of urban and rural development.

Follow-up

All that we shall be doing in Mayday Week is but the beginning of a local cam-

paign—one of many which are starting up and down the country. Those who wish to continue their concern and keep well informed will have the chance to join the Reading World Poverty Action Group which will have an Information Desk at the meeting.

"M'aidez"—"Help me!" will be said by millions of people in many countries for many years to come. If political and economic structures allow it—big strides could be made to end World Poverty and Hunger by the end of the century. This will depend on the attitudes and awareness of people like you and me.

J. Y. Crowe

BOOK THESE DATES NOW

June 27th-29th ST. PETER'S FESTIVAL.
8 p.m. Saturday, June 27th. CONCERT.
The Carl Dolmetsch Consort and the Henley Singers.
(Programmes at 10/- from Hickie and Hickie Ltd., Rdg. 55771)

6-30 p.m. Sunday, June 28th. St. Peter's Caversham.
ECUMENICAL SERVICE ON WORLD POVERTY.
Preacher: Bishop Trevor Huddleston.

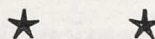
Saturday, July 4th. ST. ANDREW'S SUMMER FAIR.
3 p.m. to be opened by Derek Nimmo.

Tuesday, July 7th. FILM EVENING.
The Caversham Film and two films on the developing world 7-30 p.m. at the Grove School.

Wednesday, July 8th. FEED-IN FOLK EVENING.
7-30 p.m. in the grounds of Queen Anne's School.
Celebrities—Humphrey Lyttelton and The Settlers. Final of Folk Song Competition. (Admission by ticket 5/- from XPLOR, 3, Harris Arcade, Rdg. 583160).

Friday, July 10th. POLITICAL MEETING.
8 p.m. in Caversham Court. Speakers: Lord Chalfont, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nigel Fisher, Conservative M.P. for Surbiton and Canon John Kingsnorth.

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ROUND THE ANGLICAN PARISH

The annual parochial meeting of the parish of Caversham was held in Balmore Hall on March 19th. During the previous week more than 200 people had attended the meetings in the different districts.

It was announced at the annual meeting that Mr. Walter Canning, who had served continuously on the Church Council for forty-seven years, was not seeking re-election. Mr. Canning was for many years secretary of the P.C.C., and probably has a greater knowledge of the parish than any other member of the congregation. The meeting agreed to the suggestion that a presentation should be made to him.

Mr. C. V. Burnside, parochial treasurer, presented the accounts. He pointed out that during the year a house had been purchased at Caversham Park, the diocese generously helping with a grant of £3,000 towards the cost of this, as well as giving substantial grants towards the stipends of the assistant clergy. Mr. Burnside said that although Caversham paid the largest quota (£3,500) of any parish in the diocese it had in fact received back from the diocese more than it had paid in 1969. Mr. Hitchman, treasurer of the Missionary Union reported that the amount given in 1969 had been £2,525, a record figure.

Parish and District Wardens. Mr. C. V. Burnside and Dr. E. V. Beale were re-elected as Churchwardens and tribute was paid to them and their wives for their tremendous contribution to the life of the parish. At St. Peter's and St. Andrew's the same district wardens were re-appointed. At St. Barnabas Mr. H. Gray retires and Mr. R. Anderson was elected in his place. At St. John's the Rector announced that Mr. K. Nicholls was compelled, through business commitments, to resign and no one had been willing to be nominated in his place. The Rector added that the congregations at St. John's had declined in recent years and there was a shortage of lay people willing to undertake posts of responsibility but he hoped that it would be possible to fill the vacancy shortly.

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New members of the P.C.C. Seven people were elected to the P.C.C. who had not served previously, Messrs. T. Birtwhistle, C. G. Butler, D. Miles, J. Tomlin, J. Walker, P. Whitby and Mrs. A. Yates; Mr. R. Anderson and Mr. B. Martin returned to the P.C.C. after an interval of years and Mr. H. Ilott, who had formerly been a co-opted member was elected. Elections to the new deanery synod were held for the first time and in addition to the Churchwardens (Messrs. C. V. Burnside and Dr. E. V. Beale, one member from each district was appointed—Mr. P. South (St. Peter's) Miss K. Harris (St. John's), Mrs. J. Debenham (St. Andrew's) and Mrs. D. E. Gillings (St. Barnabas).

Work at Caversham Park. The Rev. John Crowe gave an account of his first year's work at Caversham Park, and pointed out how the constant movement of population was making it hard for community life to develop. He had recently been elected to the Council of Caversham Park Association and his house was now in use for regular celebrations of Holy Communion on weekdays, and for an enquirers' discussion group. The Rev. Roger Packer addressed the meeting about the changes that would be made in the life of the Church of England through the introduction of synodical government. The meeting ended with concern being expressed by many people present about the problem of housing old people and the Rector promised that the newly elected Church Council would consider the matter.

Good Friday and Easter. For many years the parish has been fortunate in having helpful conductors of the Three Hours Service on Good Friday but never before have so many people spoken with appreciation of the way they have been helped as was the case this year when the Rev. John Crisp led the Devotion. Mr. Crisp moves shortly from Newport Pagnell to become vicar of High Wycombe. "I intended to stay one hour—I stayed two and I would have stayed three but I knew people were expecting me at home," was the comment of one busy housewife. As usual many people from all parts of the parish attended this service. At a time when there is a tendency to criticise traditional forms of worship such as this it is interesting to note how the Three Hours Devotion continues to attract a large congregation every year.

All the churches of the parish were beautifully decorated for Easter; communicants on Easter Day amounted to 995, a slight decrease on last year.

The Parish Confirmation and Ascension Day. The Bishop of Reading will be confirming some sixty candidates including many adults at St. Peter's on Tuesday, May 5th, at 7.30 p.m. On this occasion he will also baptize several of the candidates at the start of the service. The newly confirmed will receive Holy Communion for the first time on the evening of Ascension Day—Thursday, May 7th. Of recent years the congregations that evening have been considerably larger and more worthy of that great feast.

Ascension Day at St. Peter's

On this great festival which falls on May 7th Holy Communion will be celebrated at 7 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. and the Parish Communion will be sung with sermon and procession at 8 p.m., when the newly confirmed will receive the Sacrament for the first time. There will also be a service for school children at 10.15 a.m.

St. John's Mothers' Union

Why is Lent so long? What is the point in giving things up? Why is Mothering Sunday so called? How did the practices associated with Holy Week develop? How is what goes on in church related to daily life? Just some of the questions the Mothers' Union has been considering during Lent.

Meeting on Tuesday afternoons in Caversham Hall members were grateful to the Rev. P. D. Atkinson for his series of talks on the history and practices associated with Lent. The discussions after each talk were varied and, it is hoped, people were helped to view Lent in a more positive way.

St. Paul's Notes

The congregation of St. Paul's has been continuing its Christian witness steadily. On Palm Sunday the two Presbyterian Churches of Reading united for a performance of Stainer's Crucifixion. On Tuesday of Holy Week quite a good number attended the United Service in Caversham Free Baptist Church where the Reverend Wm. Karle preached the sermon. Mr. Karle was at one time minister of St. Paul's. On Thursday they took part in the Annual Free Church Communion Service held in Broad Street, where the Rev. George Shearer gave the address. St. Paul's people were to be seen in the Procession of Witness on Good Friday and at the Easter morning service in the Forbury Gardens. Such ecumenical interest is a good sign. In addition they gave generously to the Gift Day and raised about £160.

The Rev. George Shearer will be visiting Paris to see at first hand something of the work of the French Protestant Industrial Mission. Something like this was tried in Sheffield but in France the Mission work has been carried a stage further. It will be interesting to see the impact on the community.

ST. BARNABAS' NEWS

Operation Landrover has been a success. We have been able to send the Rev. Peter Bugg, in Zambia, £100 to buy a new set of tyres and a roof-rack for his Landrover. Apart from the donations made in Church, the Reading Lions gave £15 to this fund.

The news which Peter Bugg sends us from time to time paints a picture of a very hard way of life amongst the dust and insects of an isolated settlement in the African Bush. Deprived of most of the comforts we are used to, he and his young family live the life of pioneers which both inspires us and commands our admiration. We can send him money, but could we offer him the example of dedication and service which he gives us?

On March 22nd, Evensong was replaced by a Folk Service on the theme of war and peace which had been prepared by the young people in the Confirmation class. The singing was led by a group of young guitarists who have risen to new heights of accomplishment in their playing.

Much to the delight (and possibly astonishment) of the ladies of the Coffee Pot Club, the gentlemen of the Men's Forum presented their 'Soiree printaniere' on March 17th, in St. Barnabas' Hall, "Coq au Vin" for 70 diners, cooked on the table tennis table using an assortment of picnic stoves and Boy Scout billy cans, was the main course of a four course meal washed down with vin rose. Just as delightful, and possibly more spicy, was the cabaret which followed. A memorable event. Let us hope that the dance which is to be held on June 5th will be as successful.

Some people appreciate the chance to pray together in total silence, as our quiet day

demonstrated. We propose to try out a new practice in the three months May—July. Every Saturday evening between 9 and 10 p.m. St. Barnabas' Church will be used for times of prayer, made up of short introductory talks on a saying from the Bible alternating with periods of complete silence. If you are a person who is bored by Saturday evening T.V., why not come on May 2nd?

On Sunday, May 3rd, Evensong will be followed at 7 p.m. by a concert given by the Reading University Singers. Last year a good number of people enjoyed the high standard of singing and playing with which this group entertained us. I hope that you will all come again. There will be a retiring collection in support of the work of Christian Aid.

Mrs. Ridley's reminiscences of her visit to the Holy Land, also slides of Palestine and Jordan, made the March meeting of the Mothers' Union a very interesting one.

Coming to Shanklin?

Caversham's Parish Holiday, which for five years has been held near Romsey, Hants, moves right to the sea this year and is to take place at Winchester House, Shanklin, Isle of Wight. Holiday makers will have a delightful sea view from their bedrooms and the more energetic will be able to have an early morning swim before breakfast. Winchester House is an ideal place for a seaside holiday. Eighty five places are available for the week beginning Sat. Aug. 29th. The price for adults is £11.10.0; this includes the return fare from Caversham, and there will be substantial reductions for children.

Those who wish to go should contact the Rev. D. S. Shaylor, 17, The Mount—Tel. 76988.

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Mapledurham's Good Friday

By midday on Good Friday twenty children, aged between five and fourteen, and four adults had gathered in the sitting-room of 222, Upper Woodcote Road. After an opening prayer, they shared their experiences of English (and Australian) shepherds, sheepdogs and sheep and listened to a recording of Bach's "Sheep may safely graze". Then they divided into four groups to discover how Palestine shepherds coped with their sheep and how an ideal shepherd behaved, pausing only to eat lunch (picnic-style, on the floor) and to get a few minutes fresh air while the crumbs were removed.

Anyone coming into the house at 2.45 p.m. would have found the five and six year olds looking like miniature Palestinian shepherds busily making plasticine and cotton wool sheep and paper palm trees; the seven and eight year olds were completing their work folders and the oldest boys and girls were making the sheepfold and supervising the arrangement in it of the models brought to them by the younger children. Time ran out—they did not complete the model, learn any songs, play any musical instruments . . . All they could do was finish after 3 o'clock with a prayer written by a seven year old during the session, in which they thanked God for "giving his life for us . . . looking after us . . . caring for us".

It was an experiment; the organisers learnt a good deal and it is hoped the children's experience of sheep and shepherds was widened.

Elections at the Annual Meeting

At the Annual Parish Meeting in Trench Green

Hall on 17th March: Messrs. R. Coates and A. Martyn-Johns were re-elected Church Wardens; G. Price was elected to Henley Deanery Synod; Major General the Rt. Hon. Lord Thurlow, Messrs. H. Hutt and C. McCombe and Mesdames C. Allwright and B. Thompson and Miss M. Kift to the Parochial Church Council.

Two Silver Weddings

April 14th, 1945, was the wedding day for two couples who play a very prominent part in the life of St. Peter's. **Freddie and Judith Moore**, and **Owen and Betty Clamp**.

The Moores were not married in Caversham but they must by now be well-known to hundreds of people in the parish. Freddie not only serves as district warden, caring in particular for the fabric of St. Peter's, but he also has a knack of always being quickly on the spot whenever someone needs help. In all this he is ably assisted by Judith, who drives so many old people to so many different functions or lends a hand on all sorts of different pianos.

The Clamps were married in St. Peter's and Owen, who has for many years acted as transport manager, seeing that the many elderly people who need a lift to Church are not disappointed, has also recently become stewardship recorder—his father of course was a much loved Churchwarden of the parish until the time of his death. Betty must have carried around a good many hundred copies of the Caversham Bridge since the first edition appeared.

Caversham Bridge readers will join in sending the Moores and Clamps every good wish for the next 25 years.

METHODIST NOTES

THE PUBLIC RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

A service for the Public Reception of Miss Elizabeth Brown, Mr. Sydney Ross and Mr. Anderson Springer as New Members of the Methodist Church was held at 6.30 p.m. on Palm Sunday, April 22nd, at Caversham Heights Methodist Church. The ceremony was performed by the Reverend Terence P. Harris who took the opportunity of welcoming Members who had been transferred during the last few months. He mentioned the following and their families: Peter and Jean Brook, Janet, David and Heather; Raymond and Patricia Court, Paul and Martin; Miss Ann Huxtable; Christopher and Ann Keene; Mrs. Marion Ross and Mark; Donald and Margaret Rintoul, Ian and Diana; Ernest and Patricia Petrie and Ross; Peter and Constance Shipley, Mark and Michael; Colin and Jacqueline Smith, Sharon and Ian; and Miss Elsie Thompson.

The Service concluded with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH TO READING

Monday, May 4th, will be

a great day for the Methodists in the Reading Methodist Circuit. The President of the Methodist Church, the Reverend Brian S. O'Gorman, will be preaching at "Wesley," Queen's Road at 7.30 p.m. The Choir will be taken by the Chairman of the Southampton District, the Reverend Donald R. Lee, M.B.E., B.D. The Circuit Choir will also sing. Come early as the Church is likely to be packed to capacity.

OVERSEAS MISSIONS AT CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS

Every year in the Methodist Church a Sunday is set aside to put the spot-light on Overseas Missions. The date at Caversham Heights Methodist Church is Sunday, May 10th. Services have been planned for 11 a.m. when the Regional Organiser for Oxfam, the Reverend John H. Wallace, will be the preacher, and at 6.30 p.m. the Reverend Percival W. Luxton. At 8 p.m. a special Y.M.A. Meeting has been arranged to spot-light "Jamaica." A West Indian Choir will be singing and the Community Relations Officer for Reading (himself a West Indian), Mr. E. J. H. de Pass, will speak.

OBITUARY

Mr. E. F. ALLWOOD



Fred Walker

With the death of Mr. E. F. Allwood on March 5th, Reading lost a much respected figure in educational circles. Until he moved to Wokingham just over two years ago, Mr. Allwood lived in Balmore Drive.

He was a member of the Education Committee and a Magistrate. When he retired in 1965 he was Head of Caversham Secondary Modern School, having also been Head of Grovelands and Katesgrove Boys' Schools. For more than twenty years he was Secretary of the Reading Teachers' Association, and Teacher Representative on the Education Committee.

With this wealth of experience it is not surprising that his colleagues turned to Mr. Allwood for help and advice. The help was given in an unobtrusive way and the advice was invariably good. Many Reading teachers will remember him with gratitude.

Mr. S. GORE

The death occurred on March 6th of Mr. Sidney Gore of 83, Hemdean Road, where he and his wife had lived for many years. He was 73 years old. He served in the Royal Engineers in the First World War, and was in the Engineers Department of the GPO until his retirement. He was a keen gardener and had an unusual hobby—the collection of matchbox covers. He had been a sidesman at St. Peter's for many years. The Caversham Bridge extends its sympathy to his widow and married son and daughter.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, MAY, 1970—SEVEN

ST. ANDREW'S NEWS

The Sunday School

This year's Mothering Sunday Service, which in form and content was a new departure for St. Andrew's, was a great success. A large number of children took part in the various mimes, and another group formed the choir. Thus our aim of giving the children a greater part to play in their own worship was achieved.

On Good Friday the children's Three Hours from 12 noon to 3 p.m. was again held in St. Andrew's Hall, for the third consecutive year. 37 children took part—the highest number yet. The subject was "Gardens of the Bible"—the Garden of Eden, the Garden of Gethsemane and the Easter Garden. The programme consisted of three short services with a talk, followed by three activity periods during which the children composed their own notebooks, which they then took away with them. All this, together with a break for lunch, made the three hours pass both quickly and enjoyably.

Ascension Day

This year Ascension Day—May 7th—coincides with the Borough Council Elections. Both Caversham Primary School and St. Andrew's Hall will be out of

action since both are used as Polling Stations. This will mean two alterations to our usual programme. First, since many children will be on holiday, there will be a Children's Service at 10 a.m. Second, we shall not be able to have the customary refreshments after the Family Eucharist which is at 7.30 p.m. on that day.

Retreat

A group of men will again be spending a weekend in retreat from May 1st—May 3rd. As in previous years they will be staying at the house of the Cowley Fathers in Oxford. The Retreat begins after supper on the Friday and ends after supper on the Sunday. Silence is kept for most of the time and one of the Cowley Fathers will give a series of talks to stimulate thought and devotion. Further details of this particular retreat may be obtained from Mr. V. Parmenter.

Other retreats, which cater for all age groups and which meet most needs, are held in various parts of the country throughout the year, or they can easily be arranged. If there are any other groups or individuals interested in this question the Priest-in-Charge will be pleased to provide details.

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Round the Clubs

Caversham Winemakers' Circle

Caversham Winemakers' Circle celebrated its first anniversary with a candle-lit social at St Laurence's Hall on Friday, March 20th. Over a hundred members and friends joined in the dancing and games organised by Stan Beaumont. The cake, iced with the Circle's emblem, was cut by the Chairman's wife Mrs. Douglas Ross. Reading and Caversham Circles jointly provided the cabaret of songs sentimental and comic, parodied nursery rhymes and dancing girls, which completed an enjoyable evening.

Wine, made from the fruits of garden and hedge-row was the subject of Mr. and Mrs. Cosgrove's talk at the March meeting; the following month there was a demonstration of beer-making.

Mapledurham W.I.

The Annual Meeting was in March, so a resume of activities during the past year was given by the President, Kathleen Lacey. The Institute cup was awarded to Mrs. Hill who had gained most points in competitions

during the year. Nominations for President were received—Mrs. K. Lacey was voted President again for the coming year. Birthday posies were presented and Mrs. Illingworth gave a talk on the beginning of the W.I.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

At the March meeting the Chairman, Mrs. A. Smith, announced with regret the sad loss of a well known friend of the guild in the death of Mr. D. Allison.

A demonstration in the use of cosmetics was given by Mrs. V. Allen, representing "Charles of the Ritz", a member kindly agreeing to act as a model. A vote of thanks was given by Mrs. B. Stratford. The meeting was then entertained by the Guild Singers.

On March 17th a third evening tour of London was enjoyed by a party of members and friends, concentrating on features of historical and architectural interest in the Northern environs of the city.

Congratulations to the Caversham Singers' Choir on its success at the Woodley Music Festival when a tie in two entries was obtained, and highest marks for the self-chosen piece.

Emmer Green

Townswomen's Guild

Even the most sceptical among us were impressed by the accuracy of Mrs. E. Johnston's interpretation of the influence of the different signs of the zodiac on the characteristics of ourselves, relatives and friends. Everyone enjoyed her lively talk and as a result may perhaps have a better understanding of the moods and habits of others.

Caversham Heights Townswomen's guild

"Are your tensions really necessary?", asked Mrs. J. Redgrave when she spoke on "The Art of Relaxation" to Caversham Heights Townswomen this month, and by the time she had finished she had convinced her listeners that their lives could be easier and even longer if they would learn to relax. Quoting from W. H. Davis, Mrs. Redgrave said, "What is life if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare", and one of the great problems of modern living was indeed that people were so geared to rushing from A to B that they had no time to stand and stare. Plenty of exercise, walking instead of motoring whenever possible, were all factors which could contribute to making the last twenty years of one's life good ones, and not necessarily years in which one suffered from rheumatic or digestive problems. People

over forty should throw away their frying-pans (if they had not very sensibly done so before) and cultivate eating habits that maintained the machine—there was no longer any need to build.

Both the International and Social Studies groups had had well-attended meetings during the month and the latter had been on an interesting tour of a local laundry.

Commencing on April 14th the Guild was running six weekly classes on Yoga, to be held in Caversham Adult Education Centre at 7-30, and six monthly classes in flower arranging had been planned from May to November (excluding August) and these would be held in the Methodist Hall commencing on May 6th, at 2 p.m. Members interested in either of these classes should contact the Guild Secretary.

Rosehill Women's Institute

The annual General Meeting was held on Monday March 2. Mrs. Green (president) presided.

The President thanked her committee for their services during the past year. The secretary (Mrs. Beasley) then read the annual report. The treasurer (Mrs. Booker) presented the financial statement.

Mrs. Sizer, V.C.O., then announced the election of committee members', and Mrs. Green was re-elected as President.

Slides from two members were shown from their holidays. Competition for "A homemade gift for an elderly person" was won by Miss C. Stevenson. Runners up being Mrs. Appleton and Miss Jackson.

Blagrove Women's Institute

The annual General Meeting of the Blagrove Women's Institute was held in the Memorial Hall, Woodcote Road, Mrs. Wright presided and welcomed one new member. Birthday posies were distributed.

Miss Reynolds, the secretary, gave a report on the year's activities of the institute, and Mrs. Moore, the treasurer, gave a very satisfactory financial statement.

Mrs. Wright was again elected president for the 2nd year, Mrs. Bartlett secretary, and Mrs. Moore re-elected as treasurer. Others on the committee include Miss Reynolds, Mrs. Price Mrs. Mesent. Mrs. Guest, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Wilkie, Mrs. Sholl.

Mrs. Main, V.C.O., gave a talk on Looking Forward and Looking Back, how the W.I. first started in Canada and made the resolution for Home and Country. Mrs. Watt arrived in England and set up a W.I. in Wales and all over the country; the first one in Berks. was Hurst. In 1919 the Home and Country was first published in England. Now we had 9004 Institutes, 147 in Berks.

Children's Wear, Hosiery
and Haberdashery

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More Recruits Wanted

The Mapledurham Repertory Association celebrated its 21st anniversary with the thriller "The House by the Lake", by Hugh Mills. Not an easy play if you consider that the audience gets to know who dunnit in the middle of the second act and the players have to hold their interest until the end of the third act. But the Mapledurham Players carried it off superbly and while there was frequent laughing and giggling in the audience during the performance there was a deadly hush during the closing stages when the doctor, who poisoned his half-brother, tried to induce his suspicious wife to take her own life under hypnosis. Ray Lacey and Joy Osbourn moved from one stage of hypnotic trance to another with convincing ease and sincerity which made us tremble about the outcome of doctor's evil designs.

Frank Boshier as the detective was in his true form, giving nothing away. Joan Scott's brief appearance as nurse Thompson was very effective and enjoyed by all. Kathleen Bubb created an eerie atmosphere,

while Maureen Ashby gave a creditable performance of a wife at the end of her tether. Albert Wake and Colonel Forbes met half way—as usual. Yvonne Taylor's performance although requiring a calm and collected person, was to my mind slightly too pale, while Patrick Ross—as half-brother Collin—had quite a job convincing us that he really was such a nasty person.

Special praise should be reserved this time for the scenery and the lighting effects. There was somehow more room on the stage, too, Kathleen Lacey did a fine job as the producer.

In connection with the anniversary, the company is making a special appeal for more recruits of either sex—in any age group. Younger people will be particularly welcome.

Previous experience is not a 'must'. Amateur Dramatics are fun and in an age of canned entertainment a refreshing change. The secretary, Mrs. Eileen Wake, of 126, Kidmore Road, Tel. 72733, will be happy to give further information. P.G.

We Record . . .

BAPTISED

St. Peter's
Mar. 8—Lee Greenwood.
Apr. 5—Clare Dawson.

St. John's
Mar. 8—Amanda Smith.
Denise Talbot.
Sharon Lucas.
Andrew Knowles.
Mandy Smith.
Nicola Dighton.
Sonya Batchelor.
Susan Funnell.

St. Barnabas'
Mar. 29—Nicola Hall.
Deborah Gibbs.
Alison Maybury.
David Eyres.
Julia Eyres.
Mark Silver.
Elizabeth Dezille.

St. Margaret's Mapledurham.
Feb. 15—Fiona Brooke-Wavell.

MARRIED

St. Peter's
Mar. 14—Ebbe Pederson

and Louise Whattam.

St. John's
Mar. 31—David Hamblin and Sheila Taylor.

St. Andrew's
Feb. 7—Susan Holloway and David Welsner. Nigel Rea and Lesley Brown.

MARRIED
St. Margaret's, Mapledurham.

Apr. 4—Michael Wymbs and Kathie Pluhmann.

FUNERALS

St. Peter's
Feb. 18—Ann Gale.
Feb. 22—Lillie Nutt.
Mar. 11—Sydney Gore.
Mar. 16—Nellie White.
Mar. 26—Albert Giddens.
St. Andrew's
Mar. 24—Edith Danckwardt.
April 6—Clare Masser.

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LISTENING POST — A CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING CENTRE

Each week a local paper carries a small advertisement for a Christian Counselling Centre. A steady stream of people respond. In a matter of hours from picking up the telephone, they are having the first interview with their counsellor.

The centre is a quiet room in a corner of the Methodist church on a noisy main road. It is staffed by a group of counsellors from a variety of local churches. They man a 24-hour telephone service in their own homes. They sit in the centre at certain advertised hours. They are ready to give information about social services and to arrange introductions with lawyers, accountants or other experts who offer their services.

NOT SHOCKED

Beyond this surface help, counsellors try to listen intelligently to any who come to them. They must never be shocked or censorious. Their aim is to form a relationship of continuing concern.

They must resist the temptation to hand out good advice or easy solutions to problems. The only right answer is the one found by the client himself. The counsellor's role is to help the other to a more mature understanding of himself and his problems and to support him through thick and thin.

by Olive
Parker

Training is central to the counsellors. It is never finished. It has three aspects:

1. Information about how the social services work and about the theological and psychological background to counselling through lectures, books and discussions.
2. Regular case discussions under the guidance of a skilled social worker.
3. Counsellors learn to understand themselves and each other in groups steered by professional psychotherapists.

This centre in north London was one of the first to start. A few others have followed. There should be many more. Everywhere people are fighting lonely battles against depression and anxiety. Social workers do all they can but they are too busy to give the hours needed for this kind of therapeutic listening.

NEW WORLD

Strangely enough, there is no difficulty in finding trained experts who will find time to establish such centres and to keep them functioning. The difficulty is in finding lay people who will submit to the discipline of learning the skills of counselling. Yet counsellors would insist that it brings a whole new world of understanding. They receive much more from the people who bring their problems than they can ever give to them.

Thousands, especially young people, are making friends with the Bible for the first time in their lives since the publication of the complete New English Bible. And it should come easy to them because this is a fresh and up-to-date translation in natural English.

The New Testament part we have had with us for nine years already. Here it is again, with just a few improvements. And alongside it comes the Old Testament (for 30s. the lot) and (for another 5s.) the Apocrypha, made up of books written between the two testaments.

REALLY NEW

The translation really is new. Particularly the Old Testament. Unlike other modern versions it is not just a revised dose of the mixture as before. It calls on brand-new research in archaeology and linguistics. Obscure words are noted at the foot of the page.

There is bold re-arrangement when necessary. Information is given if you want it—about Hebrew measurements in the appendix; about the origins of the Old Testament in the introduction; about puns, titles, or other details as and when needed.

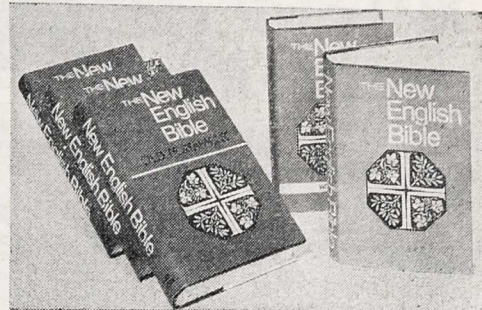
EASY TO READ

But if you don't want to bother with these, then don't. The easy-to-read text invites you to read it and makes good, clear, modern sense all the way. Poetry reads like poetry; conversation like conversation.

This book tells you it has something to say and wants you to read.

Join the thousands, you won't be disappointed.

This Bible is meant for reading



Understanding is growing in the heat

by Dorothy
O'Neill

At the end of our first year in South Australia we run into a heatwave. "Mummy—can I have a drink please?" This is the endless request from the children, and I learn quickly that the fridge must be constantly stacked up with fruit drinks. Another lesson is that all doors and windows must be shut against the heat during the day, and open to admit the cool air at night. We found ourselves sleeping with both front and back doors left wide open. Fellow Australians simply carry out camp beds on to the lawns and sleep there.

Fortunately the temperature dropped from over 100 degrees to a mere 80, in time for the children to return to school after the long summer holiday, which lasted from mid-December to mid-February. Our three returned eagerly. They like their schools, and there is much to be said for the pleasant relaxed atmosphere, and "easy" approach

of teachers in Australian schools.

Parents share much more in the running of the school, for there is much less state aid given to Australian than British schools. We help with fund-raising, and with canteen duties. There is no school meals service, and children, if they choose, can buy sandwiches and cakes from the school canteen. All books and equipment must be paid for by parents, and the bills can mount steeply when you have several school age children. I now realise how little I counted my English blessings, educationally speaking, when it comes to receiving book invoices in triplicate from the schools.

BY POST

Not all Australian children go to school. Those living on the big cattle stations in the Outback learn by correspondence lessons. Then Mum has the job of dragging them away from all the counter attractions on the station, and pinning them down to their books. No mean task, according to one mother I spoke to.

I have recently been turning my mind to the new 'housewives' study group I have started in the manse. About seven of us are meeting, among us five young Mums, who are keen to learn more about, and discuss their faith. We are

studying St. John's Gospel, using Barclay's commentary, but preface our study with conversation. We talk about our needs, our hopes—and despairs—our Christian life and experience.

This calls for honesty and courage, but already we are growing in understanding of one another, and of God.

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UNDER THE AUSTRALIAN SUN: Informality and relaxation are the keynotes of this Australian township.

TIME OFF

JUST WHAT MAKES POP SO POPULAR?

Pop music must still be the one department in which steam radio holds the lead over television.

Although programmes like "Top of the Pops" attract large viewing figures and provide a very attractive shop window for the pop world, the fact remains that it is Radio One that plugs the new additions to the pop scene and produces the demand that leads the buying public to make a new disc a hit or an obscure miss.

It is well-known that every major record company has its "pushers", people responsible for encouraging disc-jockeys to play new releases, and no one would doubt the power of the disc-jockey in making it possible for a record to sell.



Tony Blackburn

People like Tony Blackburn, Pete Murray, and even the more domesticated Jimmy Young have a tremendous influence on public taste. But this influence is limited. Like any other kind of advertiser, they can only put the product in the way of public attention; they cannot make the product good or bad, or force the public to like it.

DANCE HALL

The only thing that takes a new disc to the top of the charts after it has been given enough of an airing on radio and television is public taste. You

can't cook the Top of the Pops. People buy what they like.

With discotheques at the height of their popularity some people even doubt if the major influence in selling a record is either radio or television. The teenage buying public is just as likely to be influenced by the discs they hear in the local dance hall, as by those they hear on their transistors, and record companies are well aware that the local disc-jockey is almost as important as his radio or television colleague.

Pop music is big business and the big business is still controlled by what the general public likes.

TREMOL TREATMENT

for relief from the effects of PSORIASIS.

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

Here is the opportunity you have sought. Write today, enclosing £1. in stamps for Brochure and full particulars of Tremol Treatment. Address your letter to—

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Enquiry Department 6A,
208 GREAT CLOWES ST., SALFORD, M7 9YS.

Television writer must know his humanity

says Margaret Banks
(herself a TV play writer)

The writer of television plays uses not only words, but also visual images. In the theatre the words say everything, and the effective curtain-line often makes the climax. But in a TV play the words, as often as not, are less important than what the camera says. Yet the comment the camera makes is equally effective, and too often under-rated.

The important question to be asked at the beginning of any play is "What do we see?" No writer has to explain or describe; that's what the camera is for. That is why a good script belongs equally to the director, the actors and the designers.

A good director cannot make a good play out of a bad script, but what a bad director, bad casting and sloppy camera-work can do to a good script is nobody's business! Any subject will make a play but because television is so intimate, it is at its best in key-hole drama. The epic and vast canvas

don't work on the box, but at getting under the skin of a person or a situation it is unbeatable.

Another golden rule for any would-be script writer is this: "Don't say all." Viewers catch on fast, these days. They don't need elaborate build-ups before they get the message. So economy of words is essential. It is like journalism, the attention has to be caught and held, as if no one is aware it's happening. And a play

which is predictable is merely a drag.

Hitchcock says it again: "What is the cliché here?" The writer has to ask himself this over and over again—and do the other thing. A script with a new twist, a new way of saying things that have been said before, will always stand a chance. And because people are more interesting than ideas, then plays with real people in it will always have that extra something: A bit of life.

Golf: it's our new boom game

Golf is Britain's new boom game. Tournaments televised, the flamboyant achievements of young golfers like Tony Jacklin, Britain's success in the Ryder Cup have all helped to popularise the game. It is no longer a mysterious pastime understood only by the wealthy and Scotsmen!

Golf is a game for all seasons — and different weather conditions demand different skills. It is a game for all ages—and very often the cunning and accuracy of age and experience can beat the strength and sinew of youth. It can be either a tough, competitive game demanding an iron nerve—or a pleasant, social occasion with plenty of opportunity to chat and relax with friends in pleasant

surroundings, for many golf courses, even in cities, are naturally beautiful.

People think that golf is expensive—and membership of a private club can be and waiting lists to join such clubs are often long. But plenty of opportunity for playing golf is provided by public courses, run by local authorities, where a round will cost a few shillings. This is the best place for the beginner to sample the game.

SIMPLE

Similarly it is possible to spend £100 or more on equipment such as full sets of 13 clubs and trendy golf clothes. It's all quite unnecessary—the equip-

ment doesn't make the golfer. Simple sports clothes, a pair of nailed shoes and half a dozen clubs are all that is required to start playing.

The professional at any golf course will be prepared to sell clubs and it is probably as well and cheaper to take his advice over good second hand clubs than to buy a cheap set at random in a sports shop.

And money could be well spent on a few lessons with a professional. His advice can save hours of frustration and build the foundations of a sound technique in a game which can give hours of satisfaction well into retirement years.



Tony Jacklin in full swing.

Letter to Time Off

My children and I enjoyed Diana Dewes' article on Play School in the February "Compass" Television spot. It is one of our favourite programmes.

We should like to draw the attention of other fans, including Mrs. Dewes, to the Play School Record (Decca Acc of Clubs) which contains all our favourite Play School songs sung and played perfectly by Rick and Julie.

Mrs. Diane Andrewes,
Old Ursleden,
Southampton.

Young Compass

HATTALK

Weddings are the one time when most girls—even young girls—feel that a hat's the thing. If you don't wear a hat and the day is even the slightest bit breezy, you'll look pretty wild and untidy both in church and when you reach the party afterwards, and who wants to look a slob at a wedding?

Choose the hat with care. If you're four-foot-nothing and a bit on the plump side, don't go for a floppy large brimmed hat. They look absolutely fabulous on tall girls, but Miss four-foot-nothing looks too twee and podgy for words in that style. Go for the small plain pillbox variety, and if you're hair is long, consider pinning it high on your head for the occasion and perching the pill-box on top. Only see you've pinned the hair very securely! One or two rehearsals wouldn't come amiss.

When all the world was young

A hat needn't cost an awful lot of money to be just right. You'll look a proper joker anyway if you go for those expensive flower-bedecked creations so beloved by middle-aged ladies. Refuse as politely as you can Mum's offer to lend you one of her hats to save buying, or Aunt Gladys's feather toque. They probably look very smart on their rightful

owners, but they'll probably look ghastly on you.

Don't think just because it's a wedding you must have white or pink or blue. Tan looks gorgeous on dark-haired girls, and red is smashing on the fair-haired—as long as they 'go' with the outfit of course!

What a giggle

A Barclays Bank Board in New York has a chairman named Mr. G. C. Money. Another director is Mr. B. H. Banks!

When all the world was young

A fire-mist and a planet,

A crystal and a cell;

A jelly-fish and a saurian,

And caves where the cave-men dwell;

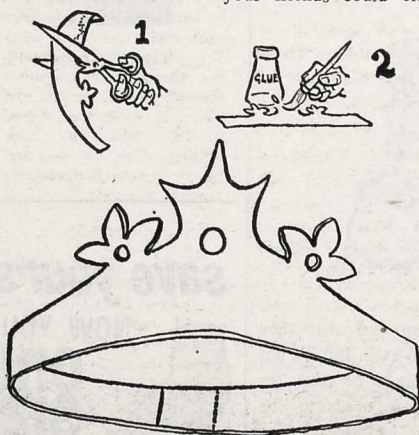
Then a sense of law and beauty,

And a face turned from the clod—

Some call it Evolution;

And others call it God.

Can they perhaps both be right?



Where did you get that hat?

THE HEAD THAT WEARS THE CROWN

Another old May Day custom was that the prettiest girl in the village was crowned Queen of the May. You and your friends could elect a

Queen of the May, and then crown her with great ceremony. Here's how to make her crown. First make a paper pattern of the outline, like this (about 20 inches long). Note that the bottom edge is curved in order to give an outward slope to the top points.

Cut out three copies of the pattern in brown paper and stick these on top of each other with plenty of paste. Leave the crown flat until it is nearly dry, then bend it round, paste the two ends over each other and make it extra secure by using paper clips to keep the ends firmly overlapped. Now paint the edges with gold paint to catch the light, and stick on red and green clear gum sweets for jewels.

For Compass Club members

We hope you are still collecting your emblems to get your free ballpoint pens. New readers please note that Compass Club members get a copy of our code and can get a ballpoint pen for every four different emblems they send in to the Editor.

What do you make of this silly joke? Written in your own code, of course!

L8Q X9 XIY*J 79
1BX4I L5?4I, 69I X3K4IJ
I45J9BJ. L8Q X9 ?84Q
Y9A4 9I? 5753B. 69I
J1BXIQ C1IC0J4J.

NEW COMPASS CLUB MEMBERS

Jane Evans, Gail Tonks, Beverley Robinson, Shirley Bloomer, David Gilchrist, Paul McGuinness, Elaine Ellinor, Richard White, Nicola Gregory, Julie Gregory, Ashley Baldwin.

COMPASS, MAY, 1970—SEVEN



MERRY MONTH OF MAY

Come the month of May and we know for sure that spring is really here. May Day (May 1) used to be celebrated in England much more than it is today. For one thing it was a public holiday—and still is in many countries on the continent.

Nearly every village in England used to have its maypole—a very tall pole decorated with flowers and long coloured streamers. The maypole was set up in the middle of the village green or market place. Young dancers, each holding the end of a streamer, would weave in and out in regular order to make the streamers form into an attractive pattern.

Horses took part in the May Day celebrations too. Before the motor engine came into general use, bakers and milkmen used horses to draw their vans and carts. So did the coalman, and every other tradesman who had to deliver goods. Large and powerful horses drew the brewers' heavy drays loaded with barrels, and the enormous shire horses were famous for the work they did on farms, pulling the hay carts, ploughs and other farm implements. In the towns the earliest trams were drawn by horses.

On May Day tradesmen and farmers decked up their horses with coloured ribbon rosettes and gay straw hats decorated with flowers and ribbons. There was often a village parade of these horses and prizes awarded for the best decorated horses.

We wonder whether Firefly in our picture was a prize winner or not!

SOMETHING TO DO

Draw a picture of a maypole on a village green. In the background you could draw some of the horses in their finery going towards the parade ground to compete for their prizes.

HEADY THOUGHTS

Lots of different people wore lots of different kinds of headgear. Can you discover the names of some of the kinds of headgear from the clues below?

Amuses himself on the river.

Same name as a wind.

There was once a coin of this name.

Found on the cricket field.

The motor car has one.

Title of a novel by G. du Maurier.

Stops the container leaking.

Some people say they'll eat theirs.

(Answers below)

MORE HEADGEAR

Unjumble these words and you'll find still more headgear.

At air; The elm; A mill tan; I bet tar; Run bat.

(Answers below)

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Heady Thoughts:—Boater, southwester, crown, bowler. More Headgear:—Tiara; helmet; mantilla; biretta; turban. Unjumble:—Broom, cap, hat.

COMPASS CLUB

Enrolment Form

Date 19.....

Please make me a member of the Compass Club. I enclose a stamped addressed envelope for my secret code and welcome letter.

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

DATE OF BIRTH: Date..... Month..... Year.....
(age limit: 5—15)

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THE SHOPKEEPER

It's odd how our memories choose the most pleasant things to remember and mercifully pack away somewhere the less pleasing experiences. (That, children, is the only way to explain why adults will go on telling you that schooldays are the happiest days of your life. So, don't despair, the future isn't so gloomy, despite them!).

One of those tricks of memory seems to happen when people talk nostalgically about the small shopkeeper "in the old days, before supermarkets."

Frankly, the only ones I can remember were a pretty mixed bag, and one, at our small local corner-shop, was a proper old bag who only prospered because there wasn't another similar shop within a convenient distance.

SPECIAL

But, all the same, the ones we hear about did sometimes exist, and still do. At their best they're a special breed—a kind of universal aunt, father-confessor, sympathetic listener, banker, dutch uncle and pastor rolled into one person with a white apron on behind the counter.

Now the thing is that people nowadays want to fight battles to 'preserve' this special kind of private/public servant-shopkeeper in our society. And, because he's "the little man," Englishmen naturally rally to his cause. Where he really is what our memory recalls, he's worth preserving too.

But the funny thing is

So many roles for the aproned man behind the counter

MAN IN THE STREET

by KEN HILLS



that a particular kind and size of shop doesn't seem to imprison him. He's so good that he'll pop up anywhere!

Take the big chain stores and supermarkets. Despite all the gloomy predictions that bigness and mergers and efficiency are going to crucify him dead and buried—he keeps popping up. There he is behind the meat counter in our local supermarket, there she is, hovering at

the millinery or the toys or the shoes in that vast store, there he (or she) is at the manager's desk—oh yes, looking a lot posher than that homely person in the corner store, but still just as concerned with the 'tone' and the neighbourly helpfulness and good reputation of the shop as he ever was.

You see, that special quality can exist anywhere, in a small setting or in a large one. People will still meet at the shops and

talk, and feel that they really do exist. But it's not something to be taken for granted—it needs to be worked for by caring people on both sides of the counter, and it needs to be celebrated and appreciated whenever we find it, encouraged and built up.

Our romantic (and selective) memories of the small shopkeeper aren't really things to fight over—but a challenge to recognise in every new situation the same possibilities of heart and soul, in fact, of love.



There he is behind the meat counter

Paint is expensive:
time is valuable.
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both away for want
of a good brush.
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