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Chris Brodan calling



THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Good Friday—April 9th—is the most solemn day in the Christian year. The execution of Jesus Christ is seen as the last word of evil against a man who was all good. The last word of violence against the Prince of Peace. The last word of force against passive resistance.

Because of what happened on the following Sunday, when Mary Magdalen met the risen Christ outside the tomb in the garden, Christians have been able to talk about the victory of the cross. The power that lies in meeting hatred with love, violence with acceptance. Christians talk about the power of love being stronger than any weapon—and yet so often they seem to act in a way which is directly opposed to these beliefs.

followers that their power would lie in following Him.

So where are Christians going wrong?

Many who think of themselves as Christians—and Enoch Powell is one of them—would answer that in the world as it is we must accept the impossibility of following Christ literally, if only because not all the individuals that go to make a nation are even nominally Christian. They see politics as the art of the possible—and accept that politics and political activity will never measure up to the Christian ideal, and may often result in cruelty, injustice and deceit.

A fair argument

This would seem to be a fair argument. The Christian call is to us as persons. The Way of the Cross is the way of people, not of nations. The Kingdom of God is not in the end of this world, neither will it be brought in by man's political actions.

Leaders may rise and fall, wars rage, Rolls Royce go bust—and every citizen, Christian or not, must be concerned with these things—yet for a citizen of Christ's Kingdom these things are of no ultimate importance against the background of his eternal relationship with God.

It seems that our greatest mistake is not in failing to make nations behave by Christian standards, but in giving the Kingdom of Man—governed by the political affairs of this world—a higher priority than the Kingdom of Christ.

A Way of Life

Americans defend a way of life founded on Christian principles by bombing with napalm Vietnamese women and children and by spraying chemicals that make it impossible for plants to grow.

Britain defends what it believes is a Christian standard by stockpiling horror weapons and by an intelligence network which depends for its effectiveness on double-dealing, blackmail, cheating and lying.

And all of us in the realm of foreign policy selfishly trade the well-being of others for our own security, wealth and power.

Christ conquered not with guns and lies, but with a cross—and he told his

CHURCH IN ACTION!

An Ecumenical Venture to help ex-approved School Girls

by F. C. Price

Contact House, the first home in Britain to cater exclusively for girls and young women released from prison and remand home, has recently opened in Manchester.

It is an ecumenical venture, run entirely by the laity, and inspired by Miss Bridget Murphy, a former deputy principal of an approved school.

Stressing the need for such a home, she said, "There are

adolescent girls who, because of broken homes or other misfortunes during early childhood, are rapidly becoming outcasts. Some of them have spent time in institutions such as prisons, borstals or approved schools.

"They have been starved of affection from their earliest years and they retaliate against a society which has rejected them by becoming hostile and aggressive—some may become drug addicts, others may turn to prostitution as a way of life.

"But these girls are not all bad. Many if they could

find security, if they could feel that someone really cared for them, would become decent citizens."

Volunteers help

About three years ago an organisation, Contact was created. Initially, its prime purpose was to raise funds. Several prominent people agreed to serve on a consultative committee, including Mr. Charles Morris, M.P. for Wythenshawe.

This summer a house in Whalley Range was leased from Manchester Corpora-

tion. It was in a dilapidated condition because it had been unoccupied for two years.

Groups of young volunteers from churches of all denominations undertook various tasks such as painting and decorating, clearing the garden and plumbing.

Long before the renovations were completed the first girls arrived. They included Linda who had passed through 16 institutions in three years, Jennifer who had been missing for two years until found by the police.

The girls themselves helped with the decorations, a fact which Bridget Murphy thinks "helped to make them

feel that Contact House is really their home".

Their rooms are brightly decorated, have gay curtains and fitted carpets and modern furniture. Rules are kept to a minimum, with the girls free to come and go as they please provided they are back by ten-thirty in the evening.

The cellars are being converted into a recreation area where record players can blare out without disturbing those who wish to watch the T. V. in the lounge.

Another opening

At present Contact House caters for eight girls but

Bridget Murphy is already looking ahead to the opening of a second establishment, preferably in another city.

She said, "The aim is to seek social readjustment from within rather than the imposition of standards from above.

"No doubt we will not be successful with all our girls—probably we shall have many failures—but if we succeed with even a few our work will have been worthwhile."

Contact House is not envisaged as a permanent home. Whilst there the girls will be helped to find employment and suitable accommodation,

AN OPEN LETTER

TO THE BISHOP OF WOOLWICH

from Mia Geikie



'My own belief is that we should agree to re-marry those who have been divorced'—David Shepherd, Bishop of Woolwich, writing recently in his regular column in a women's magazine.

The Church of England does not allow such marriages to take place in church. Customarily a blessing may be given on a second marriage but it has to be first contracted in Register Office. The Bishop of the diocese has to be consulted before someone divorced and remarried may be admitted to Holy Communion.

"Compass" in the form of an Open Letter, reveals the experience of one person who has suffered from a harsh application of the Church of England marriage regulations.

A divorced woman having made one mistake, feels a special need for God's blessing on her second venture.

She accepts the fact that she cannot be married in church. She tries to be philosophical. She is grateful to the vicar for bestowing a blessing on her registry office marriage. She is full of dreams and ideals, and hopes for a happy Christian family. She looks to the Church for inspiration. The Church rejects her.

No Communion

She talks to the vicar. She

is given an audience with the Bishop. The answer is always the same, no she cannot take Holy Communion.

For a while she continues to attend Church, but she is on the outside looking in. She stops going to Church. What is the point? She can never be more than a fringe member. She broods about it. But the brooding has to stop—there is her family to care for. And so Father Time, waves his healing scythe over her resentment. She comes to terms with her estate. She learns to live without conventional religion.

Her daughter, now 14½ and at boarding school, writes home for permission to be confirmed. The doubt and the hurt are alive again.

Daughter Confirmed

On the eve of Confirmation day she travels to the vicinity of the school.

The school chapel is filled. Young voices echo round the dome in praise. Teenage candidates kneel, humble and vulnerable.

The Bishop's voice is clear and carrying: "Confirm O Lord thy servant Mary with thy Holy Spirit." Her daughter belongs to that inner cir-

cle to which she is forbidden entry.

Tea in the school dining room. Her daughter says: "I'm taking my first communion tomorrow at early service, you will come, won't you Mummy?"

"Yes, darling. I'll come. But you know I'm not allowed to take Communion."

No Welcome

She indulges in fanciful introspection. What if Christ returned to earth tomorrow? A mental caricature flits across the screen of her imagination. Christ dining with the clergy, and the congregation, saints and sinners, everyone is there. Everyone except the 'divorced persons'. They huddle together in a ghetto hiding their shame. For theirs is the unforgivable sin. Men may murder, rape and terrify, and repent and be welcomed to the Church.

But how shall a woman repent a happy second marriage? Regret her children and their home?

Left Alone

Early Sunday morning she drives from the hotel to the school chapel. She watches her daughter and all the people around her as they wend their way to the altar rail leaving her alone, an island in a sea of empty pews.

Outside the chapel, her daughter with surprising understanding in one so young catches her hand and kisses it. "I wish you could have come with me Mummy."

Mother and daughter have shared an empathy, precious and unbroken for fourteen years. But now the daughter enters that inner sanctum where the mother cannot follow, and the first embryo barrier is created.

For the rest of her life she must pay the cost for breaking the vows she made at seventeen in a wartime marriage. A marriage without a survival kit.

HOW CAN I PRAY?

For years I have not said my prayers. Now in a time of personal trouble I long to pray. But somehow I can't bring myself to. How can I start.

B. R. Q. Nottingham.

You re-start praying by deciding to start. And by setting apart a period, say 15 minutes each day, for being quietly aware of God's relation to you. That is far more powerful than your past failure to relate to God—humiliating as that may be.

Perhaps you imagine that because you have failed to pray you have forfeited God's love for you. Lots of people think that we pray—or go to church for that matter—so as to earn or deserve God's care for us. The humbling truth is that nothing we can do can earn God's love—that is freely offered out of God's generosity. What we must do is to recognise and sink into that fact—and see where we are taken from there. Prayer is a waking up to God's love for us. Against that background you will see your troubles in fresh perspective. Prayer will not magically send them away.

PERSONAL POSERS



Have you got a problem? Readers are invited to write to "Personal Posers". Our special team of experts at 319, Gazette Buildings, Corporation Street, Birmingham, 4, will do their best to tackle your queries.

OUR DAUGHTER LIVES WITH A MAN

We know that our daughter is living with a man who is a fellow student at the University. Naturally, we disapprove of this and our daughter knows how we feel—but we do not want her to drift away from us. How should we handle this situation?

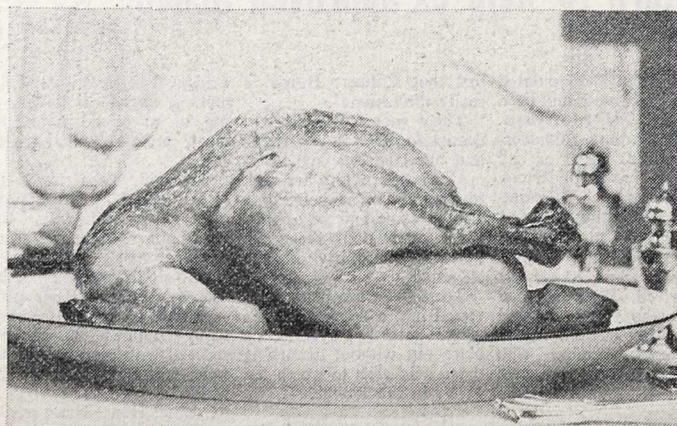
A.J.S., Redditch.

All of us A. J. S., have to learn how to cut our losses. Very few solutions to life's problems are more than an adequate compromise. Of course you don't like the idea of your daughter living in this way with another man, and the temptation to express your disapproval—even forbid it if you had the authority to do so—must be very strong. But you know as well as anyone that this kind of approach would simply drive your daughter further away from you. I think you can say, as it seems you have, that you are unhappy about the situation, but make it clear that you trust your daughter and that although you think she's wrong she must make her own decisions, and then carry on as normally as you can, making sure that you don't cold shoulder the young man in question. Then wait and see how things turn out.



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LOOKING IN ON THE POLITICAL SCENE

This month we publish one side of the argument on "Government and Industry" from "Which Way?", a book edited by Michael Ivens and Clive Bradley and published in 1970 by Michael Joseph Ltd.

In this summary Frank Broadway argues for less interference by Government in Industry. Next month Eric Moonman will put an opposing view.

Hands off our Industry

Frank Broadway is a leading business and management writer with wide experience in this country and abroad. He is directly involved also in industrial management. He reviewed the former Labour Government's attempts to produce economic growth in a very critical book, "State Intervention in British Industry 1964-68".

Frank Broadway makes it clear that he views the recent years of our country's economy as plagued by a great leap backwards—a return to old-fashioned ideas of state planning and interference in industry.

There was a rash of comparison with the progress of other nations. In cases such as France, Japan and West Germany it was deduced that economic growth followed planning. These countries' constant struggle against inflation were ignored.

On the Bandwagon

Mr. Broadway sums up the state of affairs: "A successful bandwagon was started. An astonishing succession of influential figures leapt upon it"—and in that he includes Conservative and Labour Govern-

ments alike, as well as some industrialists and "the more intellectual commentators in the mass media."

He points to 1968 as one example among many of the failures in economic planning. "The fact that Britain's share of world trade continued to decline during the international boom year of 1968 when the price advantages of devaluation lay immediately to hand, can hardly be portent of miracles to come."

The writer claims that industry knows what is needed much better than the Government does. "Prolonged uninterrupted progress" is called for and a period of stability has to be the first step.

Period of stability

Then must come the modernisation through and through. Transport, ports and public utilities, even education, must be geared to serving "a society which lives by industrial endeavour". But above all he slates our tax system which penalises success. A major incentive would be tax-relief on cases of successful industrial effort. "One way of doing this would be to 'freeze' tax payments at some base-year level, which would mean that additional profits and earnings in years after the start of the scheme would be tax free."

With boosts like this for enterprise and effort Frank Broadway is convinced that a new era of success would open up for the country.



Play in a Nursery School.

Nursery Schools

Just one child in 50 in this country goes to a nursery school. In most cases he will have rich parents or a working mum or a crisis-home. A

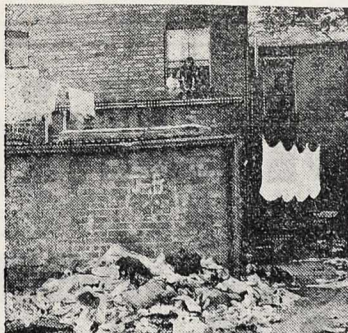
good few people think this is all wrong. They think nursery education should be open to the three-to-five-year-olds of any parents who would like them to have it.

The national campaign for Nursery Education is pressing us to bring this about. But here's the problem right now: a local education authority can only spend money on a nursery school IN A PRIORITY AREA. As one nursery head in a new estate area puts it:

"Have we got to wait until an outlying area becomes a slum before we qualify for help."

The Campaign represents all sides of education and social service. Its aim is to make the Government wake up to the need for universal nursery education. The Campaign is keeping a watchful eye especially on the present Government because it has dropped hints that any nursery provision outside priority areas would have to be paid for. They're afraid this would help the well-off and the specially needy, but cut out more firmly than ever the majority in between.

The Plain Man's Guide to killing family poverty



By WATCHMAN

The poor are always with us. Why this is still true in rich countries like England and the United States is a real brain-tickler.

Families with too many children; families without a father or mother; families with the breadwinner ill, unemployed or low-paid. All these grow family poverty.

Alongside good housing there are three main ways to kill this disease.

- 1) A big increase in social benefits for each child.
- 2) A minimum wage level set by law.
- 3) Payment of allowances to families with a low-paid breadwinner. This is the approach behind the Conservatives' Family Income Supplement.

These three points jar on many politicians who don't like using laws like this. But they do start from what a family needs and not from the old argument of "A man's wage shows what he's worth." The Family Income Supplement could be the first stride off this starting-block.

Well, what is a Liberal?

Liberal hopes come and go in the British political scene. One election they are a force to be reckoned with. Next time, their cause looks lost. What does the Liberal Party stand for?

As you might guess, a Liberal believes in liberty; all forms of liberty; but all properly balanced.

For this the Liberal backs democracy. Not because he reckons it's perfect. But because it's the most likely way to do the balancing of liberties.

The alternative

Looking round the other two main British parties he doesn't see his end product showing up.

So he takes a look at what's left—revolution or the Liberal Party. Revolution looks attractive but he suspects it defeats its own ends and leaves the country even less democratic than before.

Poor, but honest

The Liberal knows his Party is small, poor and not very efficient. But he falls back on it because it can do something of what he wants in the way he wants. Lord Beaumont of Whitley, President of the Party, sums it up: "The Liberal can see that he does manage to infect the other parties, that, if he cannot expect liberal solutions from them, at least a number of liberal things may get done along the way."

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Edyth Harper writes on...

people, places and things

BLOWING THE FEMININE TRUMPET

After centuries of being bed the Matterhorn, becoming relegated to the house and home women have emerged from the household chrysalis. Some, in spreading their wings have achieved success that would have seemed impossible a century ago. Take a look at the heights some have reached—you may be surprised.

Could you name the most travelled woman today for instance? Undoubtedly Valentina Tereshkova holds the record there. Between 16-19th June, 1963, she made 48 orbital flights and became the first woman astronaut.

CLIMBING THE MATTERHORN

Victorian women have been considered too frail and domesticated to make their mark in the world but in 1871, one Englishwoman became famous for a remarkable achievement. She climbed

the first Englishwoman to do so. It is recorded that she ate sponge cake and drank champagne on the way up! In an age when women's clothes were long and restricting her climb was a remarkable feat that has not received the attention it deserves.

In a later generation, the name Amy Johnson became associated with flying. She was the first woman to fly alone from London to Australia (1930) during which flight she set up a record between London and Karachi, of 6 days. A year later she flew to Japan and back, making another record, with yet another to her credit in 1932 when she flew alone to Cape Town and back. Amy who came from Hull, was made a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, a B.A., had an Economics Degree Sheffield University and also really knew how her machine worked, obtaining mechanical Diplomas. Her death in 1941 ended a career that paved the way for women pilots.

THE FIRST WOMAN JUDGE

The traditional idea of a Judge is a man in robes and a long full-bottomed wig but in 1965, that idea had to alter. For the first time in British legal history, a woman was made a Judge of the High Court. Dame Elizabeth Lane had already made her name as a barrister. She was given the honour of Dame of the British Empire in the same year. Married, with one daughter, she gave as her hobbies, travel, tennis and needlework and must surely be the first Judge who ever sewed a fine seam.

Women doctors cause no sensation nowadays but when Elizabeth Garrett applied to qualify as a doctor, she shocked the medical profession and her family. "Unbecoming" and "a disgusting idea" were some of the comments made. One medical man said ladies would make bad doctors. But Elizabeth persisted. It took her from 1859 until 1865 to achieve her ambition. Six years of struggle against strong opposition but in '65 she passed the examination

of the Society of Apothecaries. When she died in 1917, a hospital founded by her as St. Mary's Dispensary in London, became the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson hospital. Married to Mr. Anderson, with children to bring up, Elizabeth managed to combine a career and family life. The first woman to operate, she was also the first woman Mayor, of Aldeburgh.

ENTERING PARLIAMENT

The 20th century has seen women enter many professions. Parliament has sat for centuries but not until 1919, did a woman become a Member. In that year Nancy, Viscountess Astor, an American by birth, contested the Plymouth election and was returned—the first woman ever to sit in the House of Commons. There was discussion as to what she should wear and who should sponsor her. Dressed in a black costume, white blouse and small hat she was sponsored by Lloyd George. A witty and fiery speaker, Nancy Astor showed tremendous courage always fighting for causes dear to her such as Temperance and social problems. Now an Irishwoman, Bernadette Devlin has become, at 21, the youngest woman Member of Parliament.

The office of Government Whip is a responsible one for the Whips have to see that sufficient numbers of their own party are always present to avoid being outvoted by the Opposition party. Men have always been appointed until 1965 when Baroness Philips was made Government Whip in the House of Lords. She had been a Justice of the Peace for many years. Some men said this was no post for a woman but Baroness Philips has proved them to be wrong.

NO P.M. YET

To date, no woman has become Premier of England though India and Israel have no qualms about having a woman as Prime Minister. The Stock Exchange still bars its doors to the 'weaker sex'. The Anglican Church has never ordained a woman. So far, no woman has joined the Man in the Moon but one by one the barriers fall and by the end of the century, women may well have no profession denied them. The hand that traditionally rocked the cradle has found other ways of ruling the world.



Barbara Castle M.P.

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Don't Just Cook Eggs



Easter eggs, of course, symbolise the renewal of life, but the egg has found its way into all manner of traditions. In France, a bride should break an egg as she enters her new home, while a girl of any nationality can find out the name of her husband if she puts the white of an egg into a glass of water, and drinks a little. She should then walk about listening hard, for the first male name she hears will be that of her future Lord and Master, or so they say.

People who keep hens should be careful never to throw an egg-shell into the fire, for the hen that laid the egg will never lay another if the shell is burned. In Scotland, if one young cockerel appears in a clutch of eggs, he is very welcome, for, if only hens had hatched out, someone in the family would surely have died. Poultry keepers also have to count their primroses, instead of their chickens, because if under

thirteen primroses are picked in the first bunch of the year to be taken indoors, each hen will only lay the number of eggs that matches the primroses in the bowl.

Cure for drunkards

Perhaps the Italian mother who cracked an egg over her son-in-law's head was a little confused. A sure cure for drunkards is to break an owl's egg over the culprit's head. She may have thought a hen's egg would do.

Throwing eggs is a popular way of venting one's spleen, whether at a politician, or, as in the case of a chef, at a complaining customer. Unfortunately for the thrower, the result is a fine of £10.

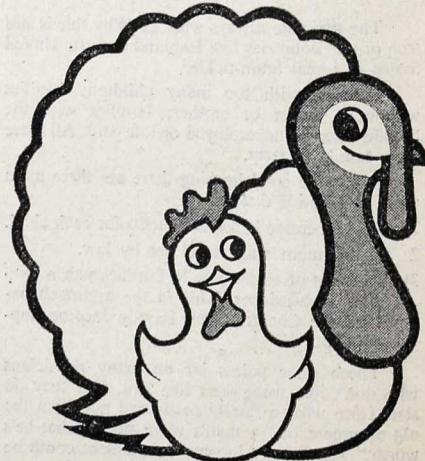
In the Middle Ages, one way of curing that English complaint 'the ague' was to bury eggs at cross-roads in the small hours. That, of course, was long before roads were of hard macadam and can hardly be recommended today.

Egg Mail

But there is Romance in an egg too. A lonely egg producer wrote a message on one of his eggs that brought him a wife. An Austrian Fraulein literally got the message and in due course the couple were married.

So, whether your eggs are broiler-produced, or come from happy hens, remember there's more to an egg than just cooking it. Eggs are so old no one knows how they first appeared. They deserve a little respect.

Chukie Chicken & Turkey



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CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

THE NEWSPAPER OF ANGLICANS
FREE CHURCHMEN AND ROMAN CATHOLICS
IN CAVERSHAM

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FIFTY HAPPY YEARS

It is always nice to be associated with a success story; and if fifty years of happy marriage is not a success story I don't know what is. So it is with particular pleasure that those associated with the 'Bridge' offer their sincere congratulations to Colonel and Mrs. Francis on their golden wedding anniversary on 30th March.

SANDHURST

Colonel and Mrs. Francis who now live in Sheep Walk were married at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, having met several years previously when Mrs. Francis was at a boarding school on the Bath Road and her husband to be lived next door. The years between were anxious ones, for Colonel Francis, who was trained at Sandhurst for a career in the regular army, served with the Royal Berks. Regiment in France during the first war. He won the MC and bar so, though he is very reluctant to talk about his exploits, it is clear it was a dangerous time for him and a worrying one for his future wife.



Walton Adams.

ST. PETER'S

Colonel Francis will be known to many as one-time sidesman and churchwarden at St. Peter's, and as parochial treasurer, a post he held for 25 years. Unfortunately his illness some years ago forced him to retire from most of this work though he remains an honorary accountant for the 'Bridge'. The family ties with St. Peter's are strong: all their three daughters were married there, four out of their six grandchildren were baptised there and not so long ago one was married at St. Peter's. Nor is this all. Colonel Francis has been a JP for many years, was a governor both of Queen Anne's and the

Abbey Schools and recently was appointed Vice-President of the Thames Valley Trustee Savings Bank after 40 years' association with that organisation.

VOLUNTARY WORK

Most important of all, they have always put first the creation of a happy home life for their children. Though Mrs. Francis has always been associated with various forms of voluntary work — she still visits at Springfield St. Luke's family and home have always come first, so it is going to be a very happy celebration in March when all the family will get together to mark the occasion. We send them our very best wishes

W.D.

Free but not cheap

THE things in life that matter most are often free. But this does not mean that we can get them on the cheap. As Holy Week and Easter approach we do well to remind ourselves of that truth. The victory of Christ is freely offered to us all to share in. But the price that Jesus paid to win that victory was anything but cheap.

As we read the account of the Passion in the Gospels, reminding ourselves of the agony in the garden of Gethsemane and of our Lord's terrible cry on the Cross "My God, My God why hast thou forsaken me?" we realise what the victory of the Cross cost Him. St. Paul tells us that we are able to keep the Easter feast because Christ was SACRIFICED for us. The Oxford Dictionary defines sacrifice as "The surrender of something valued or desired for the sake of something having a higher or more pressing claim".

Christ was SACRIFICED for us. Unless in the next fortnight we are prepared to identify ourselves with the sufferings of Christ we shall not understand what Easter is about. We may fill ourselves with chocolate eggs, enjoy a holiday week-end and even put in an appearance in church on Easter day, but if we do that and no more then we shall have tried to get Easter on the cheap and we shall have failed to discover the real joy of Easter.

The things in life which we really value are the things we have worked hard to get. Throughout the year our attention is focused on various great sporting events. Less emphasis however is placed on the fact that the winners of these events have trained hard for many months. The concert pianist may give a brilliant performance and make the playing of some sonata sound easy, but that mastery is only attained as the result of long years of hard practice. Yes—the things of value in life are won only after hours of toil, and often of blood and sweat as well. The early Christians paid a great price in order to share in Christ's victory. They were social outcasts, rejected by society and often persecuted. To-day we are ineffective and we do not want to pay the price.

What does our faith cost us? What does it cost in hard cash? What does it cost in time? What does it cost in so far as we are prepared to be misunderstood and unpopular, and to be cut off from our friends because we make a standard for Christian values? The permissive society has slowly but steadily eroded away Christian standards. The cry goes up "Be progressive". In the name of progress we are urged to discard things which we were taught to value but which are now declared to be old fashioned. One particularly clever temptation is to suggest that nothing matters more than good works; so we neglect business and professional commitments in order to help some charitable cause. In China the Communists have used shift work as a way of breaking down the habit of regular worship among Christians. In England we do it more subtly by suggesting that Sunday is an ideal day for good works. So the obligation to worship regularly has gone and the Devil knows that once that practice has ceased the Church is well on the way to dissolution.

The tragedy is that Christ has largely been betrayed by Church people in the name of progress. We want an easy religion and we want it on the cheap, and the Church has offered cheap grace. It has offered baptism and asked no questions. But the early Church knew that baptism was a costly and a dangerous affair. Baptisms took place on Easter Eve because by being baptized the candidate identified himself with the sufferings and death of Christ. And our Lord has said that whoever would follow Him must take up his cross daily and follow him.

In South Africa, and some other countries too, Christians know what that means. They know that being a follower of Christ is costly. It leaves less time and money for personal pleasure. It means their children will not have the same pleasures as those next door (and denying our children anything always hits us hard). It means arrest and torture and imprisonment.

But taking up the Cross also means finding an inner joy and peace that the neighbour on sleeping tablets would give the world to have. Behind so much of the outward smartness of Caversham there is insecurity and fear, adultery and alcoholism with all the accompanying misery. Only if we are prepared to pay the price of sharing in Christ's sufferings can we really know the meaning of love, joy and peace.

Holy Week starts on April 4th. On another page you can find details of how the Christian Churches of Caversham will observe that week. There is ample opportunity for all of us to hear the message of the Cross. In particular it is hoped that many who would not feel able to call themselves committed Christians will be present in the Town Hall on Good Friday night when the people of Reading join the Mayor in an imaginative gathering that has been devised by the Council of Churches. Yes—Holy Week starts on April 4th. For you it could be the start of a life that will bring you a joy that no man will ever be able to take from you.

John Grimwade

HOME GUARD

Shortly after the war Colonel Francis was forced to leave his chosen career; his father died and he was needed in the family firm, so for the rest of his working life he was a chartered accountant. Not that he severed his contacts with the army; he remained on the reserve and the second world war found him in command of a very large Home Guard area; he is particularly proud of the high standard of efficiency these part-time soldiers managed to achieve. Meanwhile his wife was highly involved in Red Cross work.

Every Sunday at
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COMMON SENSE PREVAILS

A new primary school is to be built to the north of Caversham in the area administered by Oxfordshire, but it will be for the use of children living both in and out of the borough. How long have we advocated this, and how long have we been told that administrative difficulties made it impossible. We can rejoice that common sense has now prevailed over administrative tidiness.

This was some of the best news given to the public meeting organised by the Residents' Association, by Mr. J. Cowling of the Borough Planning Office. He told us that under the South-East Development Plan, which was envisaged as coming into effect between 1981 and 2001, only limited development was expected in Caversham and district. About 900 more houses would be built but the Chilterns area would remain relatively undeveloped as a breathing space of outstanding natural beauty. Most of these extra people would go out of Caversham to work as it would still be primarily a residential district.

Meanwhile, many much-needed, though relatively minor improvements (depending on your point of view) are planned for the period 1971-6. Henley Road is to be widened and the surface improved. To judge from the audience's reaction,

the general feeling was that this was less necessary (in fact some felt it was just an encouragement of another race track) than improvements to make Gosbrook Road safe for pedestrians and particularly school children.

Richfield Road-Caversham Bridge and George Street-Gosbrook Road will soon have their share of Reading's plentiful supply of traffic lights, Caversham Bridge's footpath is also to be protected from pavement-mounting lorries.

Out of the realm of rumour into that of fact come plans for a car park behind the shops in Prospect Street-Church Street and the long-talked of gyratory system round St. Martin's Precinct to Caversham Bridge. The former should help restore trade to Prospect Street and give some relief to side roads which are now used as car parks.

Parents of young children will be glad to know that improvements are to be carried out at Christchurch Meadows paddling pond (no more scummy surfaces) but less happy to know that no new primary school places are planned for the eastern part of Caversham although a large housing estate will be built there between 1971 and 1974. On the other hand, expansion is to continue at Highdown School to bring it up to full sixth form standards.

On the whole, we cannot complain of being neglected even if we can think of other things that need doing even more. And we are grateful to Mr. Cowling for taking the trouble to come and give us such an informative talk.

These meetings are proving useful. Look out for details of the next.

M.C.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HEALTH VISITOR ?

The pamphlet published by the Health Visitors' Association has this to say:

"Your Health Visitor is a family visitor dealing with all aspects of family life. You need not have a problem for her to visit you. Her concern is to promote positive health and, by early recognition, to prevent physical and mental illness and family break-up. Nothing is too small for her to deal with. Take your problem to her whatever your age. She is well qualified to help you."

Many people in this area already know Mrs. Rita Daniel who works for this Association and have found her most sympathetic and understanding and been grateful she has called.

For the last three and a half years Mrs. Daniel, who is a state registered nurse, a state certified midwife and holds a Health Visitors' certificate, has been working in this district in close liaison with the local General Practitioners. Her work takes her into Oxfordshire to parts of Emmer Green, Caversham Park Village, Mapledurham and Tokers Green. Much of each day is spent calling on people but there is a certain amount of office work which has to be done.

Every new baby in the area is visited and Mrs. Daniel attends two Welfare Clinics; one in the Baptist Church Hall at the top of Kidmore Road on the second and fourth Wednesday in every month between 2-30 and 4, the other in Grove Road, Emmer Green, every first and third Tuesday in the month from two until four. She also visits the little 'Church Primary School at Mapledurham. It must be stressed that Mrs. Daniel does not undertake practical nursing or midwifery work.

All elderly persons who need advice can be visited by Mrs. Daniel. She can put them in touch with the various Social Services or probably help over any problem that is causing anxiety and many people are grateful for the assistance they have already received after a friendly chat with her.

Although things have improved since she began work



MRS. RITA DANIEL

Walter Adams.

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MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 11th February, 1971. Mr. W. H. Wheeler, Chairman of the Council, presided at the meeting.

The Oxfordshire C.C. have agreed to make an Order which will have the effect of imposing a 30 m.p.h. speed limit on certain roads within the Parish. The roads affected are those between Hewett Avenue, Blagrave Lane, and leading to Chazey Road, Upper Warren Avenue to the Reading Borough Boundary. The Parish Council have been for many years asking the County Council to impose these restrictions, and the Council hope there will be no objections which will prevent the implementation of the Order.

The Parish Council were advised that the Oxfordshire C.C. have made a draft Order which, if approved, will have the effect of prohibiting any waiting for a distance of approximately 125 yards, in a

northerly direction from the turning circle recently constructed in Mapledurham Village. The Parish Council had requested the County Council to extend the regulation to the Post Office, but the County Council have agreed that during the summer months observations will be kept on the parking of vehicles between the Post Office and the end of the proposed regulation.

Concern was expressed by the Council at the increased amount of burglaries that appear to have taken place during the past few weeks, and the Clerk was requested to write to the Thames Valley Constabulary asking them to investigate and also for more police cover to be given to the Parish in general.

The Council have co-opted Mr. E. J. Sell to fill a vacancy which has recently occurred on the Council.

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday, 18th March, 1971, in the Memorial Hall.

as a Health Visitor Mrs. Daniel would still like to see much more help given, and being accepted by, the elderly. As she puts it "the assistance already being given by Health Visitors and other Social Workers is everyone's by right as part of the Health Service".

So please do get in touch with her. She is always glad to hear of new families in the area who would like a visit. She would be delighted to call if they would get in touch with her through their surgery or by writing to 1 Orchard Close, Sonning Common, Reading.

M.K.

APRIL 4th IS
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CAVERSHAM DISTRICT GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

Owing to the great increase in the number of Guides and Brownie Guides in Caversham over the recent years, it has become necessary to divide the District into 2 areas—East and West—as it was becoming very difficult to organise District Events such as Church Parades, Brownie Revels and even Guiders' meetings, and impossible for the District Commissioner, Mrs. L. A. Moss, to carry out her duties efficiently and visit all the Packs and Companies in her District as often as she should.

Mrs. Webster, who has been acting as District Assistant to help Mrs. Moss over the past year, and has also been an Assistant Brownie Guider, agreed to take over one half of the District from January 1st.

The Division of the District is as follows:—

CAVERSHAM WEST—President Mrs. K. P. Besley.

District Commissioner—Mrs. L. A. Moss, 161 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham.

District Secretary—Mrs. M. Cooper, 16 Upper Warren Avenue, Caversham.

Rangers—S. R. S. Achilles.

Guide Companies—2nd Caversham Company, 5th Caversham Company (St. Peter's) 11th Caversham Company, 12th Caversham Company.

Brownie Packs—1st Caversham Pack, 2nd Caversham Pack, 4th Caversham Pack (St. Andrew's), 5th Caversham Pack (St. Peter's), 11th Caversham Pack.

CAVERSHAM EAST—President Mrs. E. Morley.

District Commissioner—Mrs. E. Webster, 26 St. Barnabas' Road, Emmer Gn. District Secretary—Mrs. D. Paul, 29 Phillimore Road, Emmer Green.

Guide Companies—3rd Caversham (St. John's), 6th Caversham Company (St. Company (St. Anne's), 1st Emmer Green Company (St. Barnabas').

Brownie Packs—1st Caversham Park Pack, 3rd Caversham Pack (St. John's), 6th Caversham Pack (St. Anne's), 1st Emmer Green Pack (St. Barnabas'), 2nd Emmer Green Pack.

The Local Association will continue to work for the whole District of Caversham East and West Districts Local Association.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, APRIL, 1971—THREE

VISITING OUR NEIGHBOURS

Like all who dedicate their lives to God, Sister Monica would much rather not be mentioned by name. But it would be impossible to tell of the work she has been doing in Emmer Green without doing so; nor would it be fitting not to thank her. Let her tell the story in her own words.

"Working in the kitchen about Jesus Christ, whether at Springfield St. Luke most or not they feel inclined at of my time," she says, "it has present to commit themselves a great pleasure to ves to Church membership. spend some afternoons visit- However, just as I was about ing our neighbours on behalf to send out invitations I was of St. Barnabas' Church. At told I would soon be leaving first I cycled far afield but Caversham and going to latterly have been limited to work at St. Katharine's walking distance and so have House, Wantage.

got to know our nearest and When God takes away one newest neighbours on and person he sends two, and around the Grove Hill estate Mrs. Hutson of 18 St. Barnabas' Road (Tel. 475786) the best.

"Some young mothers have and Mrs. Jones of 31 Surley sometimes said they would Row (Tel. 478692) have like to meet together some readily taken over where I afternoons with the purpose left off and the group is now of going a little more deeply meeting fortnightly; small into the Christian faith in children will be welcome which they have had their too.

children baptised. It had been 'A young couple once said my hope to start a group at to me: 'We all really want which all would be welcome to know if there's a God and, who want to know more if there is, what he is like,

but we daren't say so because we all think we are the only ones who are wondering'. How very true that is. My love to you all and may God bless you."

Sister Jane Monica, like the other devoted sisters at Springfield, does not seek her own happiness but it obviously means a great deal to her that in the three years she has been here she has been able to achieve something positive. As she says, we all have some problem or other which is often best solved when discussed with others; mothers with young families often feel particularly cut off and groups like these could go a long way to help them.

We would like to thank her for all that she has done in the short time she has spent with us, and to wish Mrs. Hutson and Mrs. Jones every success in continuing this venture.

W.D.

THE BOAT SHOW

REPORT FROM 5th CAVERSHAM
BROWNIE GUIDER

On January 16th Honor Coombs and Bridget Betts, two of St. Peter's Brownies and I went up to the Boat Show at Earls' Court to demonstrate building boats—model ones that is! We arrived at 9.20 a.m. and were shown the stand where the children would work, together with two cub-scouts, for the next six hours. The Brownies were dressed in Brown Overalls to cover their uniforms, the Cubs with Butcher boy aprons, and then they were provided with boxes full of card, bamboo, match boxes, polystyrene and other assorted materials together with a variety of glue and paint.

The stand was divided into two—a work area and a display area, the back of the display area held a huge mural of a harbour on which Brownies and Cubs had worked throughout the week, tracing and colouring scale models of ships of all sorts. Building up collage models of the harbour itself and sticking these to the background. The base of the display area was covered with a paper "sea" and onto this the children arranged their finished models. Our instructions were that the children should make as many boats as they wished, but at least one must be well done and properly finished.

Thinking they would be a little apprehensive at working in view of the public both the Cub Leaders and I had gone

prepared with instructions, plans and cut-outs of boats. We need not have worried, Charles and Andy the Cub scouts from Croydon, stated they were making a Hovercraft and Light house respectively, and Honor and Bridget replied that they were going to make a motor boat and paddle steamer—"You know Brown Owl the sort with a cover over the paddle!" A book of plans was provided for their use but was not used—(or needed!).

We were told the general public could join in if they wished, but we leaders must supervise. My first customer was a 14-year-old Sea Cadet from Coventry—he made a sea rescue craft—painted the polystyrene and watched it slowly dissolve! The next was a scout from Guildford who made a raft from lollipop sticks complete with a sail from sheeting, which was placed with due ceremony on the display area.

By 3 p.m. several new boats had appeared on the stand and with great ceremony the announcer called the public to walk up and see the Brownies sail their boats. The two Brownies climbed over to the pool and the boats with their rubber band "Engines" wound up were duly launched and sailed away across the water.

We had mid-morning coffee and afternoon tea in Earls' Court kitchens, and were served lunch at Baden Powell House. the Scout H.Q. which is a short distance away from Earls' Court. The two Brownies and Cubs took it in turns to be left on the stand.

We had a really wonderful time and were quite sorry when the day ended although when our working day was finished we spent some time enjoying the rest of the show.

Barbara Jackson.

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YOU BE ON
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CAVERSHAM PARK VILLAGE

FLOWERS AND BOOKS

Various practical suggestions were put forward at an open church meeting held during February. As a result families now take it in turns to bring a small vase of flowers to the Family Service. The emphasis is on wild flowers—the sort that can easily be gathered by the family on a Saturday afternoon.

Another suggestion was that people might like to give small books of illustrated bible stories and other good religious material suitable to be used in the Family Service by the very small children. Such books could also be borrowed on a weekly basis.

At the meeting it was also realised that with so many newcomers constantly moving into the village it needed to be emphasised again and again that the Family Service was ecumenical, and that all denominations were welcome. When possible, notice should be given in the "Caversham Bridge" and the "Village Voice" as to who would be leading the worship.

CHURCH SERVICES DURING APRIL

11-15 every Sunday morning—Family Service (Half Hour) at Caversham Park Primary School.

March 28th:—the Rev. J. Y. Crowe.

April 4th:—the Rev. J. Grimwade, Rector of Cav-

ersham.

April 11th (Easter Day)—the Rev. J. Y. Crowe.

April 18th:—the Rev. J. Y. Crowe.

April 25th:—the Rev. T. R. Harris, Methodist Minister of Caversham.

HOUSE COMMUNIONS

8-30 p.m. Wednesday, April 7th at 2, Blackwater Close.

10-30 a.m. Wednesday, April 14th at 16, Tenby Avenue.

10-30 a.m. Wednesday, April 28th at 1, Mallory Avenue.

YOUTH CLUBS

The Caversham Park Youth Club, opened in January, has got off to a successful start. The Club meets every Friday in the Reading Athletics Club premises in Kiln Road. Anyone with specialised knowledge which they are prepared to pass on to the Club would be welcome to get in touch with Mr. B. Newton, 18, Montpelier Drive. (477747).

If anyone has any weight-lifting material or a small table top billiards table they no longer want—the club members would gladly receive them.

Already links have been established with the Reading Youth Service whose officers are most impressed by the business-like way the young people are organising the club.

J.Y.C.

WITHIN A CITY WALL

For several years hundreds of people have taken part in the united Good Friday Service in the Abbey Ruins. This year the time, the place and the theme will be different.

Good Friday A.D. 30, Peter, James, John and many other individuals had their part in Christ's cross. But what about the institutions of the city—business, religious and local government—and men in their public capacity, what part did they play?

Good Friday, 1971, private individuals share in Christ's sacrifice, but what about the institutions of Reading and Christians in their public capacity as citizens—workers and voters—what part do they play today?

This Good Friday, the citizens of Reading and district are asked to meet with the mayor to hear the word of the Cross to their public life. "Within a City Wall" starts at 7-30 p.m. on April 9th. in Reading Town Hall.

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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER IN CAVERSHAM

UNITED WORSHIP

Tuesday, April 6th: 8 p.m.
Caversham Free Baptist Church. A service of worship for Holy Week conducted by the Rev. L. Lewis. Preacher: The Rev. G. Shearer.

UNITED FREE CHURCH SERVICES

Maundy Thursday, April 8th: 8 p.m.
Caversham Free Baptist Church. United Communion Service.

Good Friday, April 9th: 11 a.m.
Caversham Heights Methodist Church. United Service.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND: PARISH OF CAVERSHAM

Palm Sunday, April 4th:
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion (all churches).
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist with distribution of palms (all churches).
11-00 a.m. Matins (St. Peter's).
11-15 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Andrew's).
12-15 p.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter's).
6-30 p.m. Evensong (St. Peter's, St. Andrew's and St. John's). "Lord of the flies" a film from the novel by William Golding (St. Barnabas).

Monday, April 5th:
Holy Communion:
7-00 a.m. St. Andrew's: 9-00 a.m. St. Peter's.

Tuesday, April 6th:
Holy Communion:
7-00 a.m. St. Peter's and St. Andrew's.

Wednesday April 7th:
Holy Communion:
7-00 a.m. St. Peter's.
9-30 a.m. St. Andrew's.
10-00 a.m. St. Barnabas.
7-30 p.m. St. Andrew's.
8-00 p.m. St. Peter's.

Maundy Thursday, April 8th:
Holy Communion:
6-30 a.m. St. Andrew's.
9-30 a.m. St. Peter's.
10-00 a.m. St. John's.
Sung Eucharist with stripping of the altars.
7-30 p.m. St. Andrew's.
8-00 p.m. St. John's and St. Barnabas.
8-30 p.m. St. Peter's.

"WITHIN A CITY WALL"

Join the Mayor in Reading Town Hall,
Good Friday, 7-30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 9th:

9-30 a.m. Litany and Ante-Communion (St. Andrew's).
10-00 a.m. Morning Service (St. John's).
10-00 a.m. Children's Service (St. Peter's).
11-00 a.m. Children's Service (St. Andrew's and St. Barnabas).
11-15 a.m. Children's Service (St. John's).
12-3 p.m. THE THREE HOURS DEVOTION (St. Peter's).
Conductor: The Rev. Leslie Houlden, Principal of Cuddesdon Theological College.

6-00 p.m. Evening Prayer (St. Peter's and St. Andrew's).

Easter Day, April 11th:
7-00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter's and St. Andrew's).

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion (all churches).
9-15 a.m. Family Eucharist (all churches).
11-00 a.m. Matins (St. Peter's).
11-00 a.m. Children's Service (St. John's).
11-15 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Andrew's).
12-15 p.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter's).
3-00 p.m. Family Service (St. Barnabas).
3-15 p.m. Children's Service (St. Andrew's).
6-30 p.m. Festal Evensong (all churches).

Confessions in Holy Week:

Times when the clergy will be available to hear confessions will be announced in the church notices on March 28th and April 4th.

Sick Communion:

The clergy will be glad to take the Blessed Sacrament during Easter week to those who are sick. All confirmed members of the Church of England are reminded that it is a rule of the Church that they communicate at Easter.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND: ST. MARGARET, MAPLEDURHAM:

Palm Sunday, April 4th:
9-15 a.m. Parish Communion with blessing of palms.
6-30 p.m. Evensong.

Good Friday, April 9th:
9-15 a.m. Morning Service.
12-3 p.m. (at Mapledurham Church House) "Good Friday for the children."

Easter Day, April 11th:
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9-15 a.m. Parish Communion.
10-00 a.m. Family Service.

CAVERSHAM FREE BAPTIST CHURCH:

Easter Day:
11-00 a.m. Morning Service.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service.

The Rev. L. S. Lewis will conduct and preach both these services, this being his last Sunday before leaving Caversham.

CAVERSHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Palm Sunday, April 4th:
11-00 a.m. Morning Service—Mr. A. Morgan.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service—The Rev. E. S. Williamson.

Easter Day, April 11th:
11-00 a.m. Morning Service—Mr. C. J. Swan.
6-30 p.m. Holy Communion—The Rev. Terence Harris.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH

Palm Sunday, April 4th:
11-00 a.m. Morning Service—Mr. D. Parsons.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service—The Rev. Terence Harris.

Easter Day, April 11th:
8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.
11-00 a.m. Holy Communion—The Rev. Terence Harris.
6-30 p.m. Evening Service—The Rev. P. W. Luxton.



Walton Adams

A REASON FOR LIVING

Since Mr. Schoumans opened his art shop on the corner of Prospect Street and Church Street, it has caused much attention, for it is an unusual sight in this district and with its pictures and models, has afforded many of us a pleasant respite in the round of everyday shopping.

But Mr. Schoumans, who was trained at Amsterdam Art College and has been in this country for some years, wants to do more than just run a shop. He aims to create an art centre right here in our own district and that is obviously something which should be encouraged.

**April 9th
is
Good Friday**

Television is blamed for a lot, but has opened new worlds to many of us who, a few years ago, scarcely knew a Rembrandt from a Van Gogh, and it would be a pity if we missed the exhibitions which Mr. Schoumans hopes to hold in the

rooms above the shop. At present he is showing an exhibition of children's art, culled mainly from local schools. Some schools—Presentation College, Caversham Primary and Children's Nursery School, to name but a few—have been very enthusiastic about the venture and contributed a great number of entries. And the patients of Boro-court have found room to exhibit some of their pottery here too.

Your reporter alas is no expert judge of art, but nobody can fail to be impressed by the colour, imagination and liveliness of the exhibits here. Here for a few minutes we can forget the mundane search for household groceries and concentrate on all things beautiful.

There is an old Chinese proverb which many of you will recognise. If you have two pennies, buy a loaf with one and a flower with the other; one gives you a means to live, the other a reason for living. Mr. Schoumans is concerned with giving us a reason for living and we wish him every success in his venture. W.D.

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St. Margaret's

ANNUAL MEETING

Mr. R. Coates, after two years' service, resigned as Church Warden in order to make time to build up a team of bell ringers at St. Margaret's, and Mr. G. Price was elected in his stead. Mr. M. Hutt, and Mrs. B. Thompson decided not to stand for re-election to the Church Council to make room for newcomers, and the following were elected for the first time Mrs. P. Foster and Mrs. E. Hawthorne. Thanks were expressed to those who had served the Church in these capacities in the past year.

HOLY WEEK

There is a full list of all services elsewhere in this issue, but note especially: On Maundy Thursday, Holy Communion will be celebrated at Church House at 8 p.m., and will be followed by coffee for those who wish to stay.

On Good Friday, the Service at 9.15 a.m. as last year will be centred on the Gospel story of Christ's passion, from the Garden of Gethsemane to his burial, with readings old and new, hymns and prayers to draw out its meaning.

Since Easter Day this year falls on a "family service Sunday", the shortened Parish Communion at 9.15 a.m. will be followed at 10 a.m. with the Family Service.

Where will you be on Good Friday?

Children and Good Friday.

Last year, a good number of boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 12 met in Mapledurham Church House between 12 noon and 3 p.m. to discover by sharing in a variety of activities, something of what Jesus meant when He described Himself as the "Good Shepherd". This was an experiment and the organisers felt that they had learnt a good deal, which is reflected in the plans for this year. The theme will be "Jesus, the Bread of Life".

Mrs. Stevinson would like the names and ages of those who want to share in this "Children's Three Hours" by Sunday, April 4th.

JULIANS

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LADIES DOUBLES AT ST. PETER'S

Former tennis partners and Berkshire Junior champions Julia Woolley and Celia Webber are both being married at St. Peter's in the coming weeks. Julia starts the season of weddings of members of the congregation when she marries Nigel Stanbrook on April 17th. Less than a week later another popular member of St. Peter's congregation will bring his Wokingham bride to St. Peter's on April 23rd while Celia Webber follows on June 26th. Will they be playing mixed doubles in future?

The road to recovery.

Two Army companions of the 1914-18 war who have both been in hospital recently are now progressing well. It has been good to see Mr. Kearey back in his favourite seat at St. Peter's, and though not yet back in the choir Mr. Hounsom is making excellent progress. Best wishes to them from their many friends at St. Peter's.

In memory of Frank Stephenson. As a memorial to the late Mr. Frank Stephenson, St. Peter's choir have been provided with some delightful folders for their music marked on the cover with the initials F.S. They will be a constant reminder to members of the choir of their former colleague as well as helping members to keep their music together more easily each week.

Palm Sunday. Film There will be no sermon at Evensong on Palm Sunday but a film "Inquest at Golgotha" will be shown.

ST. BARNABAS NEWS

The Hippie Hop on February 19th proved to be a most successful event. Hot baked potatoes, sausages and chicken legs, prepared by the ladies, formed the basis of a most delicious supper which would have been cheap at three times the price. An ultra-violet light fitting and wall decorations made from luminous paper added to the psychedelic effect. Add to that the fact that many of the men were wearing their wives' wigs and an authentic atmosphere was assured. £27 was raised towards the Hall renovation fund. And the next dance?—Friday, June 18th.

Mr. Goodworth, the headmaster of the Avenue School for physically and mentally handicapped children, compelled interest and inspired many to compassion when he gave a talk and showed slides to the Men's Forum at their February meeting. The next major event on the Men's Forum programme is the Handyman Sale on April 24th, at 2.30 p.m. in St. Barnabas Hall. The profits from this sale will help to swell the Hall funds where at least £1,500 is needed to renew the rather primitive cloakroom facilities at the back of the building.

For the last two years the Reading University singers have come to St. Barnabas Church and entertained us with their beautiful music and singing and helped contribute to the money raised locally towards Christian Aid Week. They have agreed to come again this year on May 9th. Evensong will start at 6.30 p.m. and the concert will follow at 7 p.m.

An interesting and instructive talk on the work of a JP given by Mrs. Mair at the February meeting of the Mothers' Union was appreciated and enjoyed by all the members.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

FAMILY WORSHIP

On the third Sunday of each month, Parade Sunday, the children of St. John's Sunday School now join with the rest of the church and the scouts and guides, in the Family Eucharist at 9.15 a.m. This means that there is no Sunday School in St. John's Hall on that particular Sunday. The reason for this change in practice is to help the children to grow in their sense of belonging to the wider Christian community and also to get the feel of and enjoy worshipping God with the church. The Christian life is about much more than being instructed in the 'right' kind of beliefs.

The service is never more than an hour in length and doesn't seem to put too much strain on the children. On the evidence so far they appear to enjoy it. What is equally encouraging is the fact that a number of parents are using this service as an opportunity to come to church with their children. Instruction has its place but example as parents matters just as much if not more.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church News

This report is being prepared on the eve of the Annual Meeting of the congregation, an occasion when reports on the past year's activities of all the church organisations are given and discussed. St. Paul's enters the new financial year free of debt and, somewhat surprisingly, a small net increase in church membership compared with the same time last year. Nevertheless, attendance at church services and support for the work of the church in the area is on the decline and, however much this may be true of many other churches of all denominations, no one can relax efforts to combat the trend. At last year's Annual Meeting the congregation appointed a "Future of St. Paul's" Committee to enquire into future planning proposals for the area surrounding this Church and to make recommendations for the future. It is hoped that the opportunity will be taken to lay the plans which will ensure that children will come to enjoy Presbyterian worship in Caversham.

Structural reform, by means of union of two Churches, is not fortunately the only way in which Christians can express their unity with members of other denominations. Members of St. Paul's are immensely grateful for opportunities which exist locally for the expression of love and fellowship between one Christian and another. Greater awareness of one another's situations both as regards forms of church worship and in leading a Christian life can only be to the good, and members of St. Paul's look forward to opportunities they will have in the future to co-operate with their Christian brethren, at church level and as individuals.

Whatever the congregation decides for the future

Planning a holiday — Spare a thought for others

Please remember the:

Reading & District old folks Holiday Fund who will be providing 600 holidays this summer for crippled and lonely old folks from Reading and Berkshire.

Donations can be sent to the Hon. Sec., Taylor Court, Tilehurst Road, or can be paid into any Lloyds Bank and credited to account No. 0088215.

Gifts of Grocery will also be welcome.

£6-10-0 will provide one person with a week's holiday.

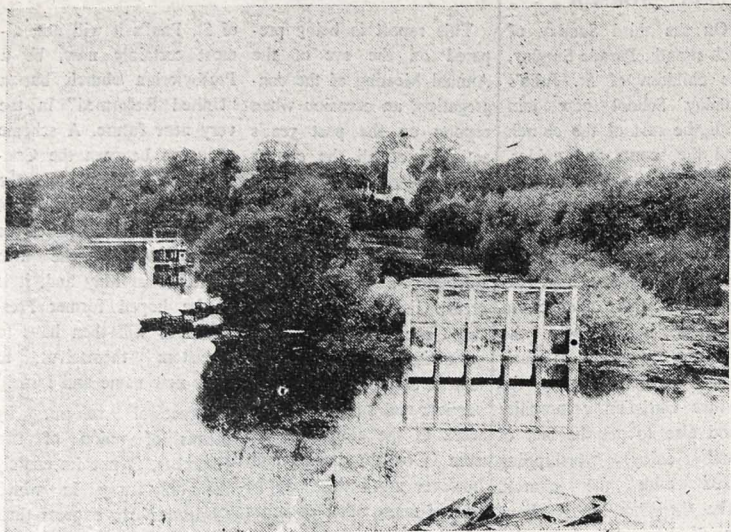
MARRIED AT ST. JOHN'S



Walton Adams

Miss Linda Cooke and Mr. Stephen Hill were married at St. John's Church on February 6th.

AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY



The view from Caversham Bridge was somewhat different at the beginning of this century, and this photograph shows the eel bucks still in position and after which Buck Side is named.

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WE RECORD

BAPTIZED

St. John's.

Jan. 17th. Christopher
Durrant.

Jan. 24th. Mark Anderton,
Christine Shoemith,
Mark Humphreys.

Feb. 7th. Clare Mardell.

MARRIED

St. John's

Feb. 6th. Stephen Hill and
Linda Cook.

St. Barnabas.

Feb. 20th. Paul Rodbeard
and Wendy Johnson.

St. Margaret's.

Feb. 6th. Melvyn Hookway
and Susan Green.

FUNERALS

St. John's.

Jan. 27th. Leah Eighteen.

Feb. 10th. Aubrey Taylor.

St. Andrew's.

Feb. 26th. Florence West-
cott.

St. Barnabas.

Jan. 6th. Anthony Brain.

Feb. 25th. Charles Boxall.

St. Margaret's.

Jan. 27th. George
Streamet.

Feb. 4th. Robert Magness.

Feb. 9th. Amelia Brain.

Round the Clubs

EMMER GREEN TOWNS- WOMEN'S GUILD.

Mrs. Mills gave a talk on "Old Silver" at the February meeting of the Guild. She showed several pieces, including a sugar spoon which was 200 years old. Members learned that the art of silver cleaning lies in the fingers and palms of the hands. She also pointed out that cutlery was much larger in the days of Queen Anne.

Various pieces of silver were examined by the Guild members, including a cake basket and a child's porringer.

CAVERSHAM AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD.

About 100 members and friends were present at the 9th Birthday Party of the Caversham Afternoon Guild held at St. Andrew's Hall on the evening of February 9th. Guests included representatives from Caversham Heights Guild and Tilehurst Heights Guild.

The evening commenced with half an hour of folk music presented by Jane. Colin and Nick, a young group under the name of 'Phoenix'.

A buffet supper was provided, followed by the cutting of the birthday cake made by a member, Mrs. L. A. Grey, and iced by Miss Goodyear.

Barbara Avery and her singers continued the evening's entertainment. Their programme included selections from Gilbert and Sullivan operas and other light musicals.

At the February meeting of the Guild four new members were welcomed.

The chairman, Mrs. A. Smith, announced the success of the coffee morning held recently at the house of Mrs. F. H. Smallbone, 1, Grosvenor Road. As a result of this a cheque has been sent to the Deep Sea Fishermen.

A whist drive has been held at the home of Mrs. L. W. Bale, 19, Grosvenor Road.

The course on collage, under the guidance of Mrs. E. Fitz-eustace of the Arts and Crafts Section, has attracted several members and we look forward to an exhibition of their work in the near future.

The National Council Meeting Motions provided an opportunity for an animated discussion. Members showed a lively interest and genuine concern for the subjects to be voted upon at the forthcoming N.C.M.

The meeting was brought to a close in a much lighter vein by a Balloon Debate. Against great opposition Mrs. Gardner 'saved her life' by her eloquence on the importance to the community of the refuse collector.

ROSEHILL W.I.

Mrs. Green, the President, welcomed one new member to the February meeting. Members were reminded about the Jubilee Sale in March, and the Group meeting in April. Mrs. Reed from the American Embassy Wives' Speakers Bureau discussed "Life in America from a housewife's point of view". The competition "Six home made biscuits" resulted: 1st Mrs. Grey, 2nd Mrs. Willman, 3rd Miss C. Stevenson.

BLAGRAVE W.I.

After the President had presented birthday posies and taken the business meeting, appetising smells filled the hall as Mrs. Mann from the Berkshire College demonstrated quick and tasty supper dishes. There was competition among members to buy the results. The competition for shortbread was won by Mrs. Waite, 2nd Mrs. Bartlett, 3rd Mrs. Sholl and Mrs. Wilkie. Mrs. Evans won the raffle.

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

We know that education is a complex subject, but very few members of the Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild could have realised the scope of the work of Mr. W. L. Thomas, the Chief Education Officer for Reading, who spoke at their January meeting at St. Andrew's Hall.

The educational problem in Reading is not lessened by the fact that although the national birthrate is declining, in Reading the child population is increasing, so that where 13 years ago there were 17½ thousand children in school, today there are 23,000.

Besides the schools and adult education, there is a series of services of which we are not nearly so well aware: the Special Schools, not only for the educationally subnormal, but for the physically handicapped, where, as in the case of spinal brida, there is the whole spectrum of mental ability. In some ordinary schools there are special units for children with partial hearing, and for maladjusted children, specialists at the Child Guidance Clinic find out the best educational treatment for each child. Under Mr. Thomas's aegis also come the Careers Advisory Service, the Youth Service (which covers specialist groups for hobbies like mountaineering, music and Theatre Workshop), and last, but certainly not least, the School Meals Service, which caters for 17,000 meals a day, and costs £586,000 a year to run.

Many problems face education in Reading itself and also nationally. Buildings must be provided in which to educate the growing number of school-children. The teaching must be good, and Mr. Thomas said that Reading was particularly fortunate in its teachers. Even this was not enough, equipment and books were necessary, which even the best teachers could do little without, and which in the present financial climate were difficult to obtain.

Mrs. Birtwhistle, in proposing the vote of thanks, felt that Mr. Thomas had made the members realise more than ever before, how much was being done for our children, and how much remained still to be done.

MAPLEDURHAM W.I.

The President, Mrs. Lacey, was in the chair of the February meeting at Trench Green. Names of members were proposed willing to stand for the Committee. A competition for knitted or crocheted berets was judged by Mrs. Pallen and won by Miss R. Gear and Miss M. Gear who had equal marks, and the gardening apron was won by Mrs. Moody. A talk illustrated with slides on 'Four seasons in my garden' was given by Mrs. Beryl Smith.

Congratulations

A very proud grandfather is our local postmaster, Jim Humphries, for his daughter Jill has just presented him with a fine new playmate, Young Richard James, born on 9th February.

Jill, or Mrs. Underhill to be correct, has until recently served in the post office in Prospect Street, where she has made herself known to many people for her very pleasant and friendly manner to everyone. She and her husband live in Addison Road, but no doubt we shall see her and young Richard very often in Caversham.

Our very best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Underhill and, of course, the adoring grandparents.
W.D.

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A GOLD MEDAL FOR JUDO

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, APRIL, 1971—SEVEN

There can be few people in the Reading area who hold a gold medal for Judo. Several weeks ago Audrey Binks of Mapledurham received hers in the National Judo Championships at the Crystal Palace. She was awarded it for a kata, the name given to a form of attack and defence.

Although many people think of Judo as the art of defending oneself, it is really Japanese sport which originated in China. It derived from Ju-jitsu, a martial art. You learn how to use to the full all your limbs, how to move and fall, how to think clearly and quickly, summing up your opponent and his moves and working out how you are going to surprise him. Of course it is not a gentle sport and at times the participants receive bruises and sprains but a recent nationwide survey has shown that the accident rates in Judo are one of the lowest in all sports. The uniform is a white canvas type suit of loose jacket and trousers, the

former tied by the most recent belt to be won. Beginners wear a yellow belt and they are then awarded in the following order: orange, green, blue, brown and black. Each grade has a contest and theory section to pass and to obtain the black belt is a much harder task than for the rest. Judo clubs can be found in all parts of the world, but each country varies its system of grading. In this country its popularity is growing, especially in schools.

AT SIXTEEN
Audrey Binks first became interested in Judo at the age of sixteen, but it was not until four years ago in Banbury and then Reading that she began attending classes. In these four years she has gained all her Judo belts with the exception of the black one. She has also obtained the British Judo Association's certificate for a county coach. Only two people in Oxfordshire and Berkshire hold this qualification. For over a year

she has been teaching Judo to older pupils in many Reading schools. Great interest is shown, especially by the girls. The children themselves, choose to attend these classes and although the girls have to be drawn out at first there are no such inhibitions with the boys, who need to be calmed down and guided into correct movements. The schools have their lessons at the Reading Judo Club because only there can proper mats be found. These are made in Japan from rice straw, are called Tatami and are very expensive.

As if this was not enough Audrey Binks also edits the Women's Judo magazine, a quarterly edition throughout Great Britain. Some weekends find her helping the area women's coach at courses. In addition to all these activities time must be found to work for the coveted black belt, the final milestone in four years of great enthusiasm for an unusual pastime. **M.K.**



Heading for a fall!

Walton Adams

News from the Methodist Churches

CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

The annual gift day is on Saturday, April 24th.

On Sunday, 25th April, at 11 a.m. the Church Anniversary Service will be conducted by the Reverend William Kyle, who is the Director of the Westminster Pastoral Foundation. He is qualified in pastoral counselling and psychotherapy and the work he is undertaking is having a far reaching effect throughout Methodism. It is a privilege to have him in Caversham again. The Reverend

Terence E. Harris will conduct the evening service at 6.30 p.m.

Wing commander E. Martyn Allies, the popular Senior Society Steward at Caversham Heights Methodist Church, has been posted to R.A.F. Rhinadalen, Germany. Martyn has been associated with this church since 1953. He and his wife Lily have been a tower of strength in so many fields of activity. They are quick to seize upon an idea AND develop it. They have no time for "non-events"! They are strong leaders and any activity in

Church, Youth Work or Sunday School they set their hands to are always well done. Caversham Methodists will miss them tremendously and look to the time when they will be back again.

They have a family. Christopher is married with two children, and works for a small film company, General Screen Enterprises. Cheryl is at present in Germany teaching in a Primary School for the children of Service personnel. Bob has a place at Edinburgh University where he will read architecture. They take with them the prayers of their Methodist friends that God will bless and guide them in their various spheres of service.

CONCERT AT CAV H

A concert has been arranged at Caversham Heights on Friday, 30th April, at 8.15 p.m. in aid of Overseas Missions. There will be groups of songs and duets by Miss Kathleen Wilden of Potters Bar and the Rev. A. James Hall of Morden, Surrey. The programme has not been finalised yet but it is hoped to include an instrumentalist and also some poetry readings.

Programmes will be sold before the event and there will be a warm welcome for everyone. Further particulars may be obtained from Mrs. M. Bensley, the Overseas Missions Secretary, telephone 3805004.

Where will you be on Easter Day?

GOSBROOK ROAD, METHODIST FILM SERVICE

The Film "Is this your Faith" was shown on Sunday, the 21st February. This concluded the Home Mission Weekend. This was a very inspiring film, and enjoyed by a good congregation.

HOME MISSIONS

The Annual Meeting for Home Missions was held at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church on Feb. 18th, 1971. The speaker was Rev. John Stephens of Tadley. The chair was taken by Rev. T. R. Harris and there were items by the Ladies' Choir. The secretary Mrs. E. Cooper announced that the total raised in Home Missions boxes was £18.60 and after a pleasant evening including a Bread and Cheese Supper another £4.50 had been raised.

CAVERSHAM METHODIST YOUNG WIVES

On Wednesday, February 17th, over one hundred Young Wives from the Caversham Churches enjoyed a fashion show, given by Dorothy Perkins, in the Methodist Hall, Gosbrook Road. This was a most entertaining evening, where some of the young wives were able to model the up-to-date fashions.

READING METHODIST YOUTH COUNCIL

Forthcoming Attractions

A Youth Rally is to be held at Wesley Methodist Church, Queens Rd., Reading at 8 p.m. on Sun., April 25th, 1971. The theme of the evening will be "Crash Barriers" and this will include Music by The Gospel Beat Group called "The Change". A black and white silent film and a forum. This is an invitation to all young people from the age of 13 upwards.

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MAKING A CHRISTIAN WILL

Making a Will is something we should all do sooner or later and the chances are that if we fail to do it sooner, it will very probably be too late. This is one of those things which it is only too easy to go on putting off, but as anyone dies without making a Will, it can very often cause a good deal of difficulty and inconvenience. Worse, probably, than leaving no Will is to leave one which is badly drawn up and anyone considering making a Will should consult a solicitor to ensure that it is properly drawn.

likely are situated in between these two extremes, we are commanded to be good stewards of the earthly possessions with which God has blessed us and as Christians have probably practised some form of Christian stewardship in giving to our Church out of our income. The principles of Christian stewardship should also be applied when the time comes to consider the disposition of our property after our death, so that we return to God through His Church a portion of His gifts which we have received during our lifetime.

WHY?

So much for the necessity of leaving a properly drawn Will—but why a 'Christian' Will? Whether we own large estates or have only very few possessions, or as is most

A BEQUEST

A good Christian will of course always take care of his dependents and nothing which has been said is intended to suggest that one

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is not always realised how much many of the Churches to-day, whatever their denomination, are still relying on generous bequests made in the past either for buildings or for general purposes and it is surely right that we in this day should remember our responsibilities.

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The Rev. Peter Atkinson, St. John's House, 9 South View Avenue. Tel. 471814.
The Rev. John Crowe, Caversham Park Church House, 2, Blackwater Close. Tel. 475152.
The Rev. Michael Atkinson, St. Andrew's House, Harrogate Road. Tel. 472788.
The Rev. Frederick Dawson, 25, Ikley Rd. Tel. 472070.
The Rev. Denis Shaylor, 17, The Mount. Tel. 476988.

BAPTIST

The Rev. Lyn Lewis, 8, Kidmore Rd., Tel. 473633.

METHODIST

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PRESBYTERIAN

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Obituary

JOHN EVANS

A well known member of the Society of Friends, Mr. William John Evans, who died recently after a short illness, will be missed by many Caversham residents. Mr. Evans was for over twenty years, until his retirement in 1968, Reading's Transport Manager. Shortly after retiring he visited Zambia to advise the government on transport problems, and on his return spoke to the congregation of St. Peter's about that country. He served on the committee of the Churchmen's Luncheon Club and took a keen interest in ecumenical matters. He was also active as a member of Reading Rotary Club, and, keenly musical, he was an ardent supporter of the Reading Gramophone Society. The Caversham Bridge extends sympathy to Mrs. Evans.

MINNIE BRAIN

With the sudden death of Mrs. Minnie Brain recently Mapledurham has lost an ac-

tive participant in the life of the village. A member of an old local family, Mrs. Brain married into another family in this area and was known to many people. She was a member of the Parish Hall Committee and much of the modernisation to the Hall was due to her energetic work in raising funds for these improvements. She was also on the Jubilee Club Committee and did much to help this organisation. She will be greatly missed and we extend our deepest sympathy to members of her family.

FRANK HEATON

Frank Heaton, whose earthly life ended peacefully on February 26th, will be remembered with affection by his many friends in Caversham. Married at St. Peter's in 1917 to a Blenheim Road bride he served in the first world war and lived subsequently for some years in France while working as an engineer: this gave him opportunity to develop his hobby of Alpine climbing. Sketching was another favourite pastime, he could often be seen until recently indulging in this in different parts of Caversham and visitors to his home enjoyed seeing many examples of his work. He was also a devoted member of the choir at St. Andrew's and many will recall with pleasure his French songs at social gatherings. His funeral service in St. Andrew's on March 6th was attended by a large congregation. To his widow and his son and daughter the Caversham Bridge extends sympathy on behalf of its readers. May he rest in peace.

Nicholas

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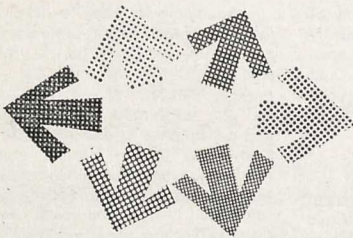
A PSYCHIATRIST WRITES ON Family Communication

Last month I introduced the clever horse who could apparently work out mathematical problems. It did it, you remember, by paying attention to the questioner, who quite unconsciously was giving clues with his head and eyes when the tapping of the horse's hoof approached the right answer. From this I went on to suggest that there are more ways of communicating than simply talking, and that we should be on the lookout for these extra clues. I would like to go on from that point.

The psychiatrist is very concerned with communication. He is interested first of all in communicating with his patient. He must try to understand exactly how the patient feels, what his attitudes are to his family and his job, what his hopes and ambitions are, for it is only with this sort of information that he will be able to help or understand the person.

Inability to listen

But the psychiatric interest in communication goes beyond the doctor-patient relationship. So often people attend who are unable to communicate with each other. Many of the marital problems which find their way to the clinic are those in which exchange of information has stopped. As the husband talks so the wife looks out of the window, and when her turn comes he plays with the car-keys. Ask either what the other has just said, and they will not know. Yet, strangely, this may be the first time that they realise their inability to listen to each other, or at least to listen to more than the drone of the voice.

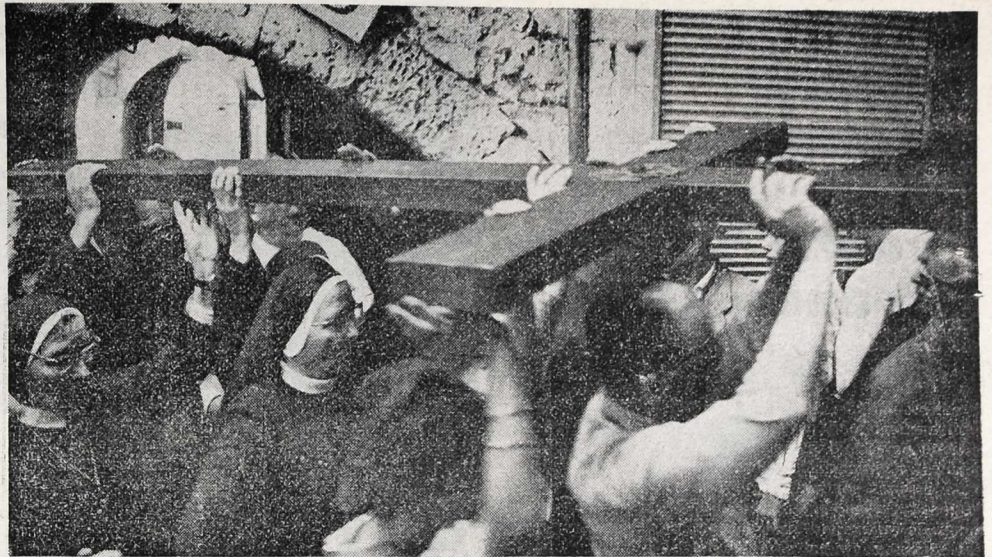


Just how a marriage gets to this state may be difficult to say but there is certainly a bit of this non-communication between most spouses. Many husbands read the paper and make appropriate grunts to the wife's report of the day—and how many wives, preoccupied with the cooking laugh at the wrong point of the husband's latest funny story!

Generation Gap

One could write a book about inter-personal communication, but there is one more important area where it matters, and that is between the so-called 'generations', between children and their parents between youth and the organised world. The difficulty is nothing new. Old men have decried youth since man learnt to write. Before that we have no records! One would have thought that we would have learnt, yet the 'age-gap' is still a problem. There are many reasons why it exists, but only two answers. One is to train young people to be tolerant of their reactionary elders. The other is for those of us who are in or approaching the older group to try to communicate with our children. The responsibility is ours. Age should give us the humility before senility takes away our memory of our own youth. In the apparently extraordinary behaviour of young people we must try to understand what they are saying.

They reject much of what they see around them. It would be sad indeed if they accepted all the faults of the world. They have a vision of a better place—a vision which will dull with age—yet while fresh, one that is perhaps nearer to the Christian ideal of the Kingdom of God than they will ever experience again. If only we can communicate. If we can look at their beliefs rather than their perhaps inadequate verbal expressions of those beliefs, perhaps then our own vision can be re-polished, and the conflicts of the age-gap be reduced.



Easter Pilgrims on the Via Dolorosa.

An Easter in Jerusalem

by Gwendoline Kinghorn

It was around midnight when we crossed the Suez Canal to El Kantara and waited for the train to Jerusalem. The air was cold after the warmth of the April day and the atmosphere somewhat eerie, until the harsh sounds of a fierce argument among some camel drivers disturbed the peace. They were being searched for drugs, and a small packet of Hashish was found hidden in a flap of skin under the flank of one of the camels, and the guilty owner, still protesting, was led away by the Egyptian police.

The Jerusalem train was very full as many pilgrims were travelling up for the Greek Easter, and a large Coptic priest fell asleep with his head on my shoulder, his snores mingling with the distant sounds of the barking of desert dogs. Occasionally one glimpsed a file of burdened camels and recalled that this was the ancient caravan route to and from Egypt.

After changing trains at Lydda, we climbed through the rocky mountains, with minute terraced vineyards, until Jerusalem, Holy City of Christian, Hebrew and Moslem, was reached.

A memorable experience

Much has been written of this Holy City, including harsh criticism of the vulgar ostentation of the Holy Shrines, but I found it a very memorable experience to actually sleep within those sacred confines, and to walk through the winding bazaar-like streets, where crowds jostled among colourful stalls and shops, whilst large Jews on small donkeys sought a way through the melee.

I traversed the reputed Via Dolorosa and inspected the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, stated to be built over Christ's tomb; it glitters with candle-lit altars and tawdry tinsel, and is the scene of gorgeous ceremonial by the Greek, Armenian,

Syrian, Coptic and Roman Catholic Churches, and also at times of violent contention between them.

Moving ceremony

As this was the Holy Week of the Eastern Church, it was marked by diverse ceremonies held all over Jerusalem by the various communities.

On Maundy Thursday, I was able to attend the Greek ceremony "Washing of the Feet", not unlike a miracle play, and also observed by the Latins, Armenians, Copts and Syrians. It took place at 8 a.m. (though one was instructed to arrive some two hours earlier), in the courtyard of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where a platform had been erected to represent the Upper Room of the Last Supper.

The Greek Patriarch, after processing through the church with twelve priests, was divested of his ornate vestments, girded himself with a towel and washed the feet of his priests, even a protesting Peter, thus depicting Christ and his disciples. An Olive branch lowered from a wall nearby was made to represent the Garden of Gethsemane, and the scene concluded with three priests (Peter, James and John), feigning to fall asleep at prayer, whilst the Patriarch blessed the congregation to the rhythmic 'ding dong' from the churches' gong.

Good Friday is celebrated by the Russians with a moving "Ceremony of the Winding Sheet". Following a service when the choir sing "The Hymn of Myrrh-bearers", the priests remove a winding sheet from the altar (Laid earlier in the service) and carry it three times round the altar before placing it behind in a prepared sepulchre the door of which is locked and sealed.

On Saturday, Easter Eve, the Armenian Church holds the "Ceremony of the Holy Fire", which I was able to witness from the Armenian gallery of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

A noisy excited crowd of many denominations, surrounded the church, which was also full of people, some having waited there all night. The air was vibrant with expectation, as they all believe that, on this day, the Holy Fire descends from heaven into the Tomb of Christ, though having been told repeatedly that this is an act of symbolism.

From the Tomb there are two openings into the church, and from these, the Greek and Armenian Patriarchs are precipitated into the body of the church holding aloft lighted torches, from which the entire, screaming assembly seek to light their own candles, so that the church becomes one mass of moving flame. At the same time, the bells ring out in

almost frenzied joy, bringing this ancient ceremony to a dramatic conclusion. The climax for me, however, was a day or so later when I walked up to the Mount of Olives, and then descended to the Garden of Gethsemane, tended so lovingly by the Franciscan Monks.

I was alone in the Garden, beneath the Old Olive trees, and felt something of the awe and wonder which must have gripped many hundreds of pilgrims down the ages, surrounding this hallowed spot, the vital core of Christendom. Whatever the controversy about this or that reputed site of some aspect of Christ's life or death, I felt there could be none about Gethsemane.

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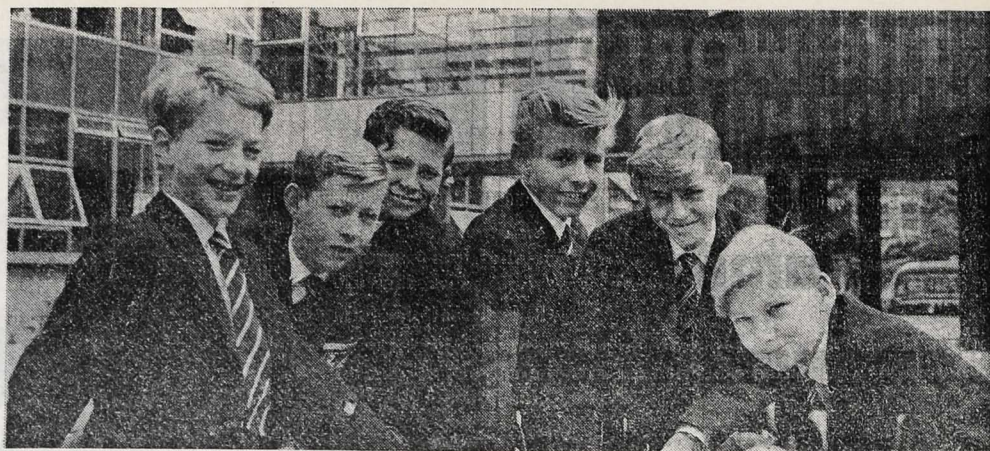
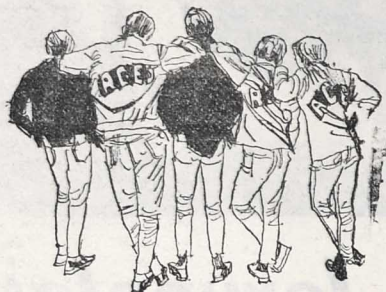
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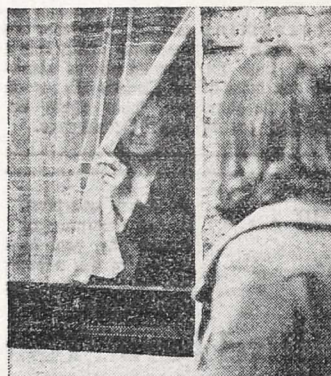
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What shall I do? This is the agony that many young people will face over the next few months. The agony is shared by parents, teachers, employment officers and of course the students themselves. It doesn't just strike at those who leave at 15 or 16, even University graduates ask the same question as they come to the end of their academic stint.

Some prospective employees will face a very limited and lonely choice—a choice which may point their whole lives in a certain direction. The Careers Advisory Service or Youth Employment Officer face a fearsome task in trying to place young clients into the vacancies that exist.

That's the first problem—the field is only as wide as the vacancies that exist—that is if one is realistic. Secondly, difficult, dirty, dull repetitive jobs have got to be undertaken by someone—and of course recommended to someone. Thirdly the student has often got an odd impression of his own capabilities, interests and possibilities. Or at least he may have a very different view of these from those who constitute authority to him.

Problems of Parents

Then of course there's the problem of parents—either they want to influence the choice or help in the interviews or they are supremely indifferent. I'm told reliably that the difficult parent is more a problem than the absentee—but I don't suppose everyone would agree that parents can ever be a nuisance. But it's never easy to see who's view of "potential worker" is the most accurate.

Many of us would settle for a view which indicates self-choice on the basis that the young person has to do the job. But many young people have a glorified picture of their job choices—therefore need to be given a realistic picture where possible. But how do you know what its really like until you've been involved in the 'action'.

Government reports have indicated the importance of real job experience. But Union, National Insurance and timetable problems have forestalled the effective ad-

ministration and fulfilment of such aims. Indeed even if we could release young people en bloc into industry—there is no doubt that periods of release would need to be prolonged—and consequently the number of opportunities open to each young person would be limited.

What can then be done—especially at the time when young people face a minimum leaving age of 16. Some children would prefer to have left school by two or three years. So how can we use these latter years of schooling to improve the value to some young people and universally to facilitate the work/school relationship?

No dabbling

Somehow we need to develop a junior series of sandwich courses during which assessment can be made of, and by, the student. Courses must run for prolonged periods—not one day a week dabbling. Industry must remain consistently honest and not prepare "glorified tasting" courses in order to impress. Employment Officers need to be brought into schools in positions of seniority to direct the work concentrated course for each individual. Careers teachers need to be given wide industrial experience and seniority on the staff to emphasise the importance of their role in the new educational framework.

Hard facts surround work: we all face it for 40 or more years. The days when women were thought to be mere marriage fodder and therefore unimportant are going fast. Therefore the majority take careers with more than a degree of seriousness. We must make sure that our schools do so too. Perhaps for the non intellectuals and those under great pressure to "become breadwinners" as soon as possible, the balance should be moved so that work is given the place of greatest importance. I'd rather have the complaint that "young people are being programmed for their job, rather than being educated" than have another generation asking "What shall I do?"

THEY'VE GIVEN US THEIR NAMES by C. J. Francis

LOUIS BRAILLE 1809 — 1852

In 1812 a three-year old French boy named Louis Braille was playing in his father's saddlery shop when he accidentally damaged his eyes with an awl. Very soon the youngster became blind. Luckily for him when he attained schoolage he was able to study at the renowned French medical school Institute National des Jeunes Aveugles.

Braille completed his education at the Institute and later in life became one of its professors. Being blind himself Braille fully understood the plight of blind people and he was convinced that their handicap of being unable to read could be overcome.

After many years of research he perfected a system of reading by touch, using

raised dots instead of letters. Ironically enough this breakthrough in reading, which became known as the braille system, was little used during its inventor's lifetime. Nowadays, however the system is in worldwide operation. Blind people are able to keep in touch with their own newspapers and many great literary volumes have been translated into braille, including the bible.

Mixed Words

TOMB CROSS MANGER
GARDEN SHEPHERDS
INN STONE SPICES
STAR ALIVE DREAM
CHILD

Nobody is quite sure how the name EASTER first came to be used. The word is mentioned only once in the Bible—in the 12th chapter of the Book of Acts. Some people believe that when the first missionaries came to Britain they found a festival was held every year in the Spring. It was called the Festival of Eastre, named after Eastre the goddess of Spring. The missionaries took over the old festival and gave it a new meaning by linking it with the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

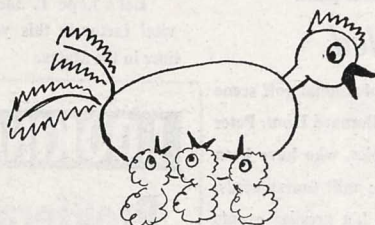


*The time of the singing birds
is come.*

For, lo, the winter is past
The rain is over and gone,
The flowers appear on the
earth;

Make an Easter garden on an old tray. Cover the base of the tray with soil and damp it well. Plant it with moss, and if possible get violet and primrose plants to put in it. Use twigs for trees. The tomb was a kind of cave or grotto, and you can build it of stones. Put a large stone across the entrance to the tomb until Easter Sunday morning. Then on Easter Day, remove the stone from the entrance, and place in the garden the figures of Jesus and Mary, which you have previously made from plasticine.

This hen and her chicks are very easy to make. Boil an egg for ten minutes and leave it to get cold. Then stick the egg lengthwise on a firm piece of cardboard. Cut out and colour a hen's head and stick some fluffy feathers on the other end for a tail. Make the chicks from blobs of cotton wool pulled into shape, with a stiff little black beak and two beady eyes stuck on with glue or some other adhesive. Colour the chicks with yellow water colour applied as dry as possible.



Have you ever spoken to someone in the street and then found it wasn't the person you thought it was? Easily done, especially if the light is a bit dim. And more easily still if your eyes are blurred with tears. This is exactly what happened to Mary Magdalene very early on the first Easter morning—though it happened in a garden and not in the street. She'd gone with some of her women friends to anoint the body of Jesus with oils and spices—only to find that the body was missing. She was heartbroken. Suddenly she saw a figure in the early morning light, and thought it was the gardener. The man asked her why she was crying, and she explained that the body of Jesus was missing and could the gardener tell her where it had been put? Then the supposed gardener said her name, 'Mary'. The truth dawned on her. This man wasn't the gardener. He was Jesus, and as much alive as she was!

The Easter list should contain TOMB CROSS GAR-DEN STONE SPICES ALIVE. The remaining words belong to the Christmas list.

For COMPASS Club Members

We are disappointed that nobody has written a letter to us lately. We shall be glad to print any letters you send. So do write and

tell us what you are doing. Perhaps you could tell us about your Easter holidays. Meanwhile, do you know this story.

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READING THE BIBLE WITH A DIFFERENCE

by Brenda Holloway

In the good—or bad—old days even quite young children were expected to read long passages from the Bible each and every day, and comprehension did not appear to be as important as the mere technicality of reading the Scriptures. The Ladder Books recently published by the Bible Reading Fellowship put a new and exciting complexion on Bible reading for children. There are fifteen books in all, three for each of five age groups, beginning with the 7-8 years olds and finishing up with the 11 to 12s. Each book gives a reading



a week for seventeen or eighteen weeks, and what is most important they start with the child's own experience and understanding. The notes for each week include a variety of activities, graded according to the capabilities of the particular age group, and these re-inforce the theme of the readings. The children are encouraged to find things out for themselves. The notes have been produced by a number of writers, all of them experts in modern educational methods, and Haro has illustrated the books in his own inimitable style.

Parents' Day and Sunday School teachers and Junior Club leaders could

use the books with great advantage. A glance through the notes quickly shows that the chore has been taken out of getting children to read the Bible, and that the readings are relevant in showing children that the Bible is a help in meeting and tackling those problems which confront them—for children like the rest of us have their problems.

If the Ladder Books are not on your Church Bookstall (and they ought to be there), they are obtainable through booksellers, or from Church House, Harborne Park Road, Birmingham B17 0BH, or direct from the Bible Reading Fellowship, 148 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1. Each book costs 15p.



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A LOOK AT GOLF STAR TONY JACKLIN

Tony Jacklin is a ruthless executioner with an iron nerve. Unlike so many post-war British golfers, he's not afraid of the big moment. He revels in it, responds to it. When the chips are really down he can go on reproducing his immaculate swing and his delicate finesse on and around the green. On a particular ground in a friendly game, there are probably about a dozen golfers in the country who will match him. But when the crowds on the course tense and hold their breath and concentrate on the lonely figure lining up a vital shot to the green, my money would be on Tony Jacklin to hit his shot. And I can think of one or two who, when it really matters, would be a fairly safe bet for dumping the ball in a greenside bunker or for taking three putts.

'Cool' has failed

Those who have followed the professional golf scene for any time can think of players like Bernard Hunt, Peter Allwi, Christy O'Connor and Neil Coles, who have been top scoring winners in the run of the mill tournaments, but whose 'cool' has failed when the big prestige events come along.

In contrast, Tony Jacklin so often seems to have the composure and ability to weather a crisis, hold his game together, as it were, accelerate and win.

In the third round of the 1969 British Open Championship at Lytham he was three times in a green side bunker. Three times he came out within inches of the hole and sank his putt. Those were vital crisis shots.

His ability to play them under tension and pressure set him up to hold off the challenge of the New Zealand left-hander Bob Charles and go on to become the first British Open Champion since Max Faulkner in 1951.

Established figure

That victory made him an established figure in the golf world. His status has since been increased by the way he spearheaded Britain's Ryder Cup Challenge against the U.S.A. in the autumn of '69 holing a now historic putt across Royal Birkdale's 17th green to tie the match. And as if that was not enough, he is the current holder of the U.S.A. Open Championship won by the handsome margin of 7 shots in their own backyard.

Let's hope T. Jacklin's nerve holds. It could be the vital factor in this year's Ryder Cup match, held this time in the States.



LOOKING IN WITH ERIC LAWSON

Proliferation of Punditry

No doubt you've heard of the chap who suffered a rare ailment which he swore he'd caught from reading the magazine *Readers Digest*? If he went down with the same thing today he'd be bound to blame it on watching the telly.

Producers of TV documentaries know only too well the pre-occupation of so many of us with the state of our ill-health, and there are few diseases of mind, body or of 'society' (the 'in' subject) which have not already been, or will soon be, prodded, probed and generally picked

over by the camera and chat men on one or other of the TV channels.

I don't, of course, include such harmless exercises as *The Doctors* which simply provide innocuous entertainment for those to whom the sterile gown and stethoscope have an aura of glamour only equalled by pop-singers and first-division footballers.

What I—and I may well be a minority of one—am getting sick and tired of is the 'searching documentary', the significant probe into all the ills that flesh is heir to. Teams of researchers delve in depth (the jargon phrase) and brainwash us with waves of statistics and soul-searching interviews with suffering humanity. The drop-outs, misfits and unfortunates peer out at us with such regularity these days that the whole object of the exercise—to



stimulate our awareness—is evening when the pundits becoming counterproductive parade their doom-laden con- and provokes an 'oh hell! sciences before the cameras not another one' reaction on any topic which seems and a mad dash for the immediately relevant. channel-change switch.

Tired of Documentaries

However, one saving grace is that the eggheads who inhabit that effete little exercise in intellectualism *Late Night Line-Up* on BBC-2 come on so late in the evening that most of the honest toilers are safely tucked up in bed immunised from at least this one boring apotheosis of out at us with such regularity 'significant' chat.

But there are still plenty of discussions earlier in the

A LIVELY LOOK AT THE TV SCENE

Appreciating Farces

One yearns for an antidote. The surfeit of social significance makes one warm to the programme whose only aim is to entertain. *Up Pompeii*, *Steptoe and Son*, or *Dad's Army*, or at a pinch, *Crossroads*. The doom threatened eardrum longs for the sugary comfort of *Mantovani* or *Stars on Sunday*—especially now they've brought back the dolly birds as announcers.

After brain-washing by plays of the *Cathy Come Home* ilk one appreciates an *Aldwych Farce* or the *Six Wives of Henry VIII*. One looks through rosy specs at *Old Time Music Hall*, *Come Dancing* and even the *Wrestling*.

Doubtless those to whom life is forever real and earnest see TV's prime function as stirring the social conscience, but sad tho' it must seem to them and to the trendy young men and women of BBC-2, the majority of viewers buy their licences to be relaxed and entertained; not to be educated, but simply to save stirring from the fireside on a cold and wintry night.



A bit of both—David Frost, an entertainer who is not averse to stirring the social conscience.



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