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MATTERS OF LIFE AND DEATH

The advance of medical science is rapid and in some cases spectacular. There are many people alive today and leading normal lives who would have had no chance of survival a few years ago. No one can fail to be impressed at the skill and the care lavished on individual patients in our hospitals; or marvel at the human ingenuity that has made such care possible.

But every advance in medical knowledge brings more problems. Problems of application and responsibility, and the future promises to bring even more.

A New York gynaecologist—Landrum B. Shettles—has recently written a book with the title—'Your Baby's Sex—Now you can choose'.

When the sex of children can be determined—who is to choose?

A television programme has shown the vast amount of time and skill involved in keeping alive a ninety year old person who had suffered a heart attack.

WHO DECIDES ?

Already bodies can be kept alive by artificial means while the mind is in a state of coma with no probability that consciousness will return—who decides to stop the artificial means?

A distinguished professor of obstetrics in this country has recently said how glad he is that he is soon to retire. Because in a few years time it will be possible to find out at an early stage whether an unborn child is abnormal in any way.



**Chris Brodan
calling**

When abnormalities can be detected in unborn children, who is to decide whether they live or die?

It is not sufficient for us to shrug our shoulders and say we are content to leave such decisions to the doctors' discretion. It is too great a responsibility for us to off load on to a particular profession.

We must all get down to some pretty hard thinking. We must decide just what we believe about man, about life and death, and about the purpose of life. In the end such considerations are much more important for us and for our children than whether we enter the Common Market, but because of their complexity they are not given the same publicity by the mass media.

We may even decide that some avenues of research are better left unexplored.

The problems are complex, so there can be no easy answers. But general considerations can easily become personal. If you were faced with the possibility of being a parent of a deformed child—what would you do?

If we've done a bit of thinking we'll be in a better position to make decisions when we find ourselves caught up in such a situation.

CHURCH IN ACTION !



**GROUP
WORK
WITH
STUDENTS**

The Church does not have to have a specifically 'church' building filled with large numbers of people to be alive and flourishing. That is the growing discovery of the Chaplains and Christian students and others working together to form the Church in Imperial College, part of London University, which is almost entirely devoted to the training of engineers and scientists.

The lives of the members of the College, similar to so many present day lives, are governed by considerations of work, travel and study. As a result it would be impossible to gather the whole of the College's Chaplaincy (Church) community together in one place, at one time. So no one tries to do it, on Sundays or any other day. Instead the Church in the College is formed of a network of thirty to forty small groups. Each group keeps in touch with the whole community of groups and with the wider church through an easy to read, easily disposable news sheet and also through the meetings of the student leaders of the groups who meet on Sundays.

MEETING TOGETHER

The groups meet for questioning learning, worshipping. Those Christian students who live in residential halls will often meet early in the

morning for Communion. It is celebrated very simply, perhaps on a coffee table with the priest in every day clothes and the group members sitting, squatting, standing around and passing the bread and wine from hand to hand among themselves. Breakfast and talk will follow. Other groups for those who live out of student residence, meet in the lunch hour and also in the evening, a time when non-students associated with the Chaplaincy life can join in. The groups are built around the breaking of bread, Bible study, meditation, discussion, friendship. These groups are the Church in Imperial College: they are not extras for the pious or a device for forming some bigger gathering. Are they a pattern for the life of the Church elsewhere?

HUMANISING POWER

Perhaps most important, these groups allow people to meet each other deeply. For many students fear the impersonal, dehumanising world to some extent, of their University life and certainly of the kind of systems and institutions into which they will have to fit when they have completed their training. Yet within the life and deep meeting of the groups students are beginning to know a humanising power based in the promise of Christ that where two or three are gathered together there He will be in the midst of them.

BRAZIL

Sir,

In February you published an article by Chris Brodan which contained allegations of torture and brutality practised by the authorities in Brazil. The article quoted at length a document smuggled out of San Paolo prison by seven Dominican friars who had been imprisoned there since 1969. This told a terrible story of oppression by the military government running the country. All forms of opposition, they said, were suppressed by imprisonment and torture, Christians were systematically persecuted and informers were everywhere. There was no freedom of expression, of assembly, of public demonstration, and no freedom of the Press.

This story was unfortunately painfully familiar to anyone who had followed the situation in Brazil as revealed in newspaper reports in this country, in the Journal of the International Commission of Jurists, in periodic reports issued by Amnesty International, and so on. It did not satisfy one of your correspondents, however, and you published a letter from him in June challenging the allegations. On the basis of 2 visits to the country this correspondent, Mr. Tylor, doubted whether the allegations could be substantial and said that in his view they should only have been made after a thorough investigation of the facts. He felt quite certain that all of the Brazilians he had met would have considered the allegations outrageous and highly insulting, and had seen nothing to support the suggestion that Brazil was a place which "carried on where Nazi Germany left off".

No-one would wish to question Mr. Tylor's sincerity, but he tells us that his visits were made in connection with an expensive hospital project and it seems most likely that this would have kept him quite fully occupied. Did he make any enquiries about political conditions? Did he enquire about those held in prison without trial for political offences? Did he try to find out about conditions in prisons and to ascertain the truth about allegations of torture? It appears not, and one wonders where he would be now if he had. The fact that he saw nothing amiss is not convincing: many people actually living in Hitler's Germany remained quite

unaware of the existence of the concentration camps and the atrocities being committed there.

Mr. Tylor says that the allegations should be investigated, and many people would agree with him, but how is this to be accomplished? If he refers to Amnesty's last annual report recently published he will see that reports of torture under interrogation are still being received from reputable organisations. The reports are extensive, carefully documented, and, in Amnesty's view, apparently credible. An investigation seems clearly needed, and one would think that Brazilians, if as shocked and insulted by the allegations as Mr. Tylor suggests, would themselves want such an investigation to take place but Amnesty's report indicates that the Brazilian government would not allow a representative of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (to which Brazil belongs) to visit the country to investigate allegations of torture. In the interests of all concerned Amnesty would like to carry out its own investigation on the spot, but it is very doubtful whether the Brazilian authorities will receive this suggestion any more favourably. Meanwhile, according to international observers, as many as 12,000 political prisoners are under detention in Brazil, and no-one can be happy about their treatment. One of the prisoners adopted by our Amnesty Group is a Brazilian and we have been trying for months to find out more about the nature of his offence but have received no replies at all from the Brazilian authorities. If justice has been done—and, in fairness, this may be the case—why cannot this be made apparent? As if it is, justice in this case and in many others has certainly not been seen to be done, and there is a strong possibility that torture of prisoners is being practised systematically and extensively in Brazil. This question cannot be regarded as settled until an impartial investigation has been carried out and meanwhile everyone who places any value on freedom of thought and expression should press for a fair and thorough enquiry.

STANLEY A. HOLLAAD,
Chairman,
Bournville Amnesty Group.

letters

HEALTH SERVICE

I refer to page 3 of the September issue, "The Plain Man's Guide to Papering the Cracks in the N.H.S." by Tom Chapman. I have never read so much rubbish. Very well, the N.H.S. is "creaking in every joint", as Sir Keith Joseph says in his Consultative Document. And however can we call the tripartite administration and financing of the present service satisfactory beats me; he therefore rightly lays stress upon good management. Remember it is your money, my money, Tom Chapman's money and indeed, the Plain Man's money that gets poured into this out-moded ninth largest business in the world.

You do not need me to tell you that the N.H.S. is good, the envy of the world. And those of us who serve in it are, in the main, proud to do so. The general practitioner has always "Contracted in" to the service and will continue to do so in the future.

Mr. Chapman has not helped the Plain Man to understand what is a Green Paper and what is a Consultative Document and what is a Bill, so I will try to do so. A Green Paper is a document setting out a series of proposals by a Government Department and is issued with the intention that persons qualified to do so may argue, disagree and make constructive comment upon its contents. To issue two such documents seems to me to be pretty generous. As a result of all the comments and opinions collected, Sir Keith has presented his Consultative Document which is an outline of the possible future way in which the N.H.S. will function in April 1974. Coincidental with the re-organisation of Local Government, according to the Maud Report as interpreted by the Conservative Government. No "Bill" has yet been formulated to lay before Parliament. A Bill is a document which precedes enactment. A White Paper is a document which means that the chat is over now and this is what will go into the Bill. A White Paper follows a Green Paper and a Consultative Document. (What a good job most of us are not colour blind!)

Sir Keith Joseph is so aware of the

need to get the N.H.S. right this time that he has set up a series of committees, as he declared he would in the Consultative Document, to study the new proposals and to recommend to him and thereby to the Government, the way in which the new N.H.S. will be managed and the way in which new links will be made with the new Local Authorities. This will be especially important for the Social Service Departments which the Seebohm Report and subsequent legislation severed from Health. All this is a far cry from Tom Chapman's wrong assumption that all is cut and dried. There will be central control, there will also be Regional Health Board control and there will be Area Health Board control. Everyone surely knows that the essence of good management is by delegation and this structure, even at this early stage with no details formulated, shows this. There will be lay representation but not so much lay control as before. But why train people into professional expertise and management skills and then, like the proverbial dog, "bark yourself"?

Could I just add that I am so proud to tell you that Sir Keith Joseph has appointed me to serve on the Steering Committee which has been set up to make an expert study of and recommendations for the management structure of the new N.H.S. When we think of the N.H.S. we always tend to depict it as the acute crisis, the hospital theatre and the wards of sick people. Could I remind your readers that the N.H.S. has also a preventive side with Medical Officers of Health and Health Visitors working to preserve the Plain Man's Health. And that 90% of all episodes of illness that require medical and nursing care are looked after by general practitioners and district nursing Sisters. They all need our prayers too, and they do not get them quite so often. Incidentally, I have met Sir Keith Joseph, he is most charming, but he would never suffer fools gladly.

ELSIE FEW (Miss),
Chief Nursing Officer to
Buckinghamshire County
Council.

ANGELS IN CHURCH

Sir,

I noticed on Page 4 of the August edition of Compass mention of Animals in Church and would like to draw your attention to St. Giles, Edinburgh, where there is a very nicely carved screen much decorated with carvings of angels and with two angels dressed in kilts and playing bagpipes. I saw these whilst on a conducted tour of Edinburgh, our attention being drawn to them by our tour guide.

A. J. BUDDEN,
Chandlers Ford, Hants.

POLLUTION

Sir,

Being a regular reader of your paper for some years now and knowing as I do the type and quality of your readers I would like to draw their attention to the serious problem of pollution in our small rivers and streams. There seem to be three main reasons why this pollution is caused, accident, carelessness, and the deliberate pouring of toxic materials or liquids into either open sewers or ditches which have direct access to our waterways. In lots of cases the person or persons who do this damage are unaware of the dangerous qualities of the substance they may be handling. This calls for the manufacturers to mark more clearly on cans and bottles just what is contained inside them and the danger involved when handled.

I live by the river Till in Lincolnshire and last March this small and most beautiful stream received a terrible blow from a toxic pollution of this kind, it killed all life both in the water and on the banks (over one million fish perished).

Personal Posers

Our feature "Personal Posers" and correspondence on past posers have been held over until the December issue.

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LOOKING IN ON THE POLITICAL SCENE

THE PLAIN MAN'S GUIDE TO THE REVOLUTIONARIES

Most of us lazily go along with things as they are, grumbling here, fighting back there, but on the whole putting up with it all.

Others, mainly young people, want to do away with the complete set-up. Tinkering about won't do for them. They want a revolution of one sort or another, because they reckon our way of life is shot through with injustice and corruption.

They come in four totally different varieties

One of these treads a very tricky tightrope and is criticised by the others for even trying. It is made up of those who aim to change the system from inside. Peter Hain's Young Liberals are the best example. They are fermenting the innards of a political party with a view to fashioning it into a vigorous, but non-violent, tool for creating a new, truly just, truly free, truly democratic society.

Quite opposed to this in strategy and tactics are the anarchists and the out revolutionaries, who attack the system from the outside.

Anarchists are after the overthrow of all Law and order, since these can never be anything but unjust and

oppressive. To free each individual anarchists have the policy of grabbing what they want by any means at all.

You will find our third variety, the really revolutionary revolutionaries in the Communist Party, the Young Socialists and similar bodies. They are disciples of Marx or Mao and are working for a war of total revolution—with violence, if necessary. This would replace capitalism with communism, the unequal possession of wealth and opportunity with equal, but enforced, sharing.

The last variety contains hippies and drop-outs—hardly revolutionary at all, but fellow-travellers with the others because of their hatred for restrictive and materialistic modern life. The wizards of 'Oz' brought this category's aims into the headlines again earlier this year. Many hippies only want to escape. They are just sick of the society they detest. They don't mind sponging on it, but they have no policy or programme to change it. They just want to save their own souls.

It's startling that we usually take the most notice of this particular anti-social group.

PROFILE

JOHN GOLLAN General Secretary to the British Communist Party

Not many people know where the British Communist Party stands in the overall plan of the Communist world. It is likely that Chairman Mao and President Kosygin are as much in the dark as Ted Heath and Vic Feather.

If anyone at all knows, it is likely to be 60-years-old John Gollan, for the last 15 years the Party's General Secretary.

If you suspect that the party is aiming to undermine our economy rather than take power by violent means, you will find support in John Gollan's life story.

This first political activity was selling strike papers in the General Strike, and this industrial concern led him to join the Party in 1927.

Incidentally he did not work in industry himself. He was a painter and it must have been a disappointment later to realise that Adolf Hitler started in the same way.

However it was anti-militarist activity that led him to be arrested four years later and sent to prison for six months on a charge of sedition and incitement to mutiny, after conducting his own case in court.

Gollan grew up in the Party from the time of these experiences in the years when "Harry Pollitt was a Bolshevik and



one of Lenin's lads".

After some years as General Secretary of the Young Communist League, he progressed through being Scottish Party Secretary and member of the Executive Committee to becoming Pollitt's Assistant in 1947.

Thoroughly trained and experienced and dyed-in-the-wool, John Gollan has usually concentrated on quietly directing British Communism along his own lines. He is a leading Party speaker and writer, and no mere administrator.

His influence can be traced in the new party programme "The British Road to Socialism", published under his chairmanship in 1958.

As always with Communist tactics you have to read between the lines and then de-code to get at the real Gollan and the real British way of communism. His life gives clues.



The Rt. Hon. Harold Wilson being interviewed by Robin Day in Panorama.

THE AGE OF TELEPOLITICS (Part 1)

INSTANT INTERVIEWING

London airport 1950: a gentle uncle of a middle-aged T.V. reporter welcomes a returning Cabinet minister.

"Good morning, Sir. We all hope you've had a good journey and are not too tired."

"It was quite enjoyable".

"I don't suppose you can let our viewers know the outcome of the talks".

"No—I'm afraid not. I have to go straightaway to Downing Street to report to the Prime Minister".

"Thank you—we quite understand and look forward to hearing a later bulletin".

London Airport, 1984: an aggressive young T.V. reporter buttonholes a returning Cabinet Minister.

"Now look, minister, we all know your talks have been crucial. You are obviously very tired".

"Yes, I am. But I've still got to report to the Cabinet".

"All in good time. We want to know what you will tell them".

"Well, er . . ."

"Do you mean you failed?"

"No, but . . ."

"The whole thing was a fiasco then?"

We stand between these two imaginary extremes—and, in more ways than one, nearer 1984 than 1950.

Our politician of the seventies has to keep a sharp eye on the cameras. Millions of casual viewers will be weighing up what he is really worth. A hesitation, a shifty look, can damage his career or his cause.

He will be prised open like a tin of sardines by an aggressive expert interviewer, who knows his politics and knows his medium.

This interviewer wants news and he wants it quick. He must deliver it to his watching customers before they decide to switch off and wait for tomorrow's papers.

So he drives on.

Our man may be brilliant at the despatch box but bewildered by the square box. He may risk a quick "Nothing to say" and hope no one remembers when he does have something to say.

But he's more likely to try and play ball, only to find he is being pushed into saying more than he might like.

His work may die of over-exposure before it's even been developed.

This instant treatment of politics has one big advantage. It gives us facts quickly and clearly. T.V. presentation is, with exceptions, careful and effective.

We are all in the picture. We are informed.

This must be good as long as we use our heads and aren't just mesmerised because it's on the telly.

But it carries a big disadvantage with it. Instant information for millions may not be the most important thing about the situation. Some far-reaching decision may have to be made. This will need time, careful thought and confidential discussion. The hungry box doesn't encourage these.

Somehow we ought to let our T.V. interviewers know that we don't want our decision-makers rushed off balance just to satisfy our craving to be in the know. (Next Month — Unveiling the leaders).

VISITING LONDON ?

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FUN OR FOLLY on November 5th?

by Dee Dover



Few responsible parents allow their children to play round an unguarded fire. Yet on November 5th caution is far too often thrown to the wind because it is Bonfire Night. There is no reason why Guy Fawkes' celebrations should not be enjoyed, if a few simple precautions are taken.

To begin with it is illegal for young children under the age of thirteen to buy fireworks. Help the shopkeepers to keep the law by buying them yourself. Once the fireworks have been purchased keep them in a safe place, preferably in a container.

The building of the bonfire begins quite early. You find that children fling the most unlikely objects onto the heap to make it bigger than the one next door. It is safer to have a small pile to which wood can be added. Large ones with wobbly foundations may topple and cause injury. Don't put wood, which has been in contact with paint or chemicals, on to the fire. Don't let the children rummage in the garage or workshop for materials. Even tins with lids and tubes are dangerous, the tops jump off when the metal gets hot. Jumping crackers are also hazardous in the fire.

Build bonfires away from other wooden buildings, such as sheds or garages. Keep the wood dry by covering it with sacks or polythene. Have some really dry sticks ready to start it if the night is wet. Avoid using paraffin or petrol to get the fire underway.

On Bonfire Night insist that either a teenager or an

adult is responsible for the matches. Keep the fireworks in a box, with a lid, well away from the fire. If the manufacturer says **not to be held in the hand**, it means just that. There are plenty of safe fireworks that children can hold. Most eye injuries are caused by anxious revellers examining slow starting crackers too closely. If they don't 'go' after being lit—LEAVE THEM.

November nights are never warm so make sure the children are warmly clad. Close fitting jeans and sweaters are much safer than floppy coats and scarves, which could easily catch alight. If the worst does happen roll the child on the floor to extinguish the flames. Keep a bucket of sand or soil ready in case the blaze gets out of hand. If you doubt your ability to cope, ring the brigade immediately. A 999 call does not need coins in the box, just make sure you know where the phone is.

It is only kind and fair to leave pets indoors away from the bangs and whoops of delight. A nervous animal may benefit from a sedative. This can be obtained from the local vet or free from branches of the P.D.S.A.

Guy Fawkes' night can be fun for everyone, if you remember a few simple rules. You would imagine it is only a matter of common sense, but every year there are over 2,500 casualties as a direct result of fireworks.

Remember to map the necessary preparations and precautions this year, then you can go ahead and enjoy the bangs, whizzes, baked potatoes, roast chestnuts and treacle toffee in safety.

A simple question

by Olive Parker

IT'S funny how a simple I said heartily, "Yes. Ever question can flummox you so happy".

Our friend Jim retired and should have said something moved to the coast. After a like this:—

few months I went to see him. His friends in London were eager to know how he was.

"Is he happy?" I was asked over and over again.

I hesitated. What did they hold his fears and anxieties mean? What was being at bay, giving money and happy, anyway? In the end, time and concern to other

people but never able to accept anything in return.

He still has some experiences that bring him pleasure. The light on the sea, for instance, is a thing he loves and he can see that every day now, or every day that it isn't raining.

On the other hand he's having new problems at the moment. He thought it would be lovely to retire as he always hated his job and wasn't particularly good at it. But he finds that he's all over the place without it. He wonders if he's a person at all and whether there's anything to live for. Instead of rejoicing that he can do what he likes when he likes, as he had expected, he longs to be under pressure to get on with things.

So what does all this add up to in the way of happiness? A credit here, a debit there. The total seems to come out just about the same as before.

He's carried his own happiness and unhappiness with him, like his furniture. His familiar table and chair look strange in a different room. His personality has to adjust to changed circumstances too.

Perhaps I'm right in answering in the affirmative. Yes, he's happy. He's determined to make a go of it. He's courageous and intelligent, not looking for a paradise on the south coast, but trying to find reality in his new way of life.

And then these people ask an even more difficult question. "How are you?"

It would take a long time to tell the truth about me, even if I was certain of it myself.

"Fine, thank you", I say.



TIPS FROM THE PAST

by ERIC KING

THE following are a few of the 2,520 helpful hints contained in a cloth-bound book 'Enquire Within Upon Everything' published just a hundred years ago price 2s 6d. For another shilling it could be bought with gilt-edged binding.

To get rid of the smell of paint plunge a handful of hay in a pailful of water, and let it stand in the room newly painted.

Old cotton stockings may be made into lamp wicks and will answer very well.

Have your horses shoes roughed directly there are indications of frost.

Never meddle with gunpowder by candlelight. Insect stings: press the barrel of a watch-key over the part so as to expose the sting, which must be removed.

Dr. Kitchener's Rules for Marketing: you will be enabled to manage much better if you will make out a bill of fare for the week on the Saturday before; for

example, for a family of half-a-dozen.

Sunday — Roast Beef and Pudding.

Monday — Fowl, what was left of the pudding fried, or warmed in the Dutch Oven.

Tuesday — Calf's head, apple-pie.

Wednesday — Leg of Mutton.

Thursday — Ditto broiled or hashed, and pancakes.

Friday — Fish, pudding.

Saturday — Fish, or eggs and bacon.



for
smart
people

Harris cleaning

BRANCHES ALL OVER THE MIDLANDS



ST. PAUL'S CROSS

St. Paul's Cross, in the Cathedral churchyard, not only commemorates the Saint whose festival falls on 25th January but also has historical interest.

Father Garnet, implicated in the Gunpowder Plot, was executed close by the cross. The original cross was put up in 1191, was re-built by Bishop Kemp in 1449 and destroyed by Cromwell's orders in 1643. The present cross erected in this century is a memorial to members of the Richards family. Henry Richards M.P. for East Finchley 1895-1905 was a Citizen Baker and Turner.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, NOVEMBER, 1971—ONE

November 1971

THE NEWSPAPER OF ANGLICANS, FREE CHURCHMEN AND ROMAN CATHOLICS IN CAVERSHAM

Number 86

GARDEN CITY

MANY OF US WILL RECALL, HAVING BEEN TOLD THAT THE BIBLE BEGINS BY DESCRIBING A GARDEN and ends by describing a city. To-day a great many people live on land that was a few years ago someone else's flowerbed. These lines will probably be read by many people in a room that was until recently the site of a rose garden or a field.

Some preliminary findings of the recent census have now been released. Berkshire has grown in population by 129,000 people in ten years and Reading is now the 36th largest town in England and Wales. Professor Buchanan has said that after the fundamental question of preserving peace it is the form and organisation of urban areas that is looming up as the great social challenge of the century.

Among the books I read while on holiday was a stimulating paperback by the Bishop of Kingston, the Right Rev. Hugh Montefiore, entitled "Can man survive?" The book comprises three lectures given by the Bishop on the subject of the rapid expenditure of our natural resources, and a number of sermons preached when he was vicar of the University Church at Cambridge. In these he discusses many contemporary problems to which we Christians ought to be turning our attention, and the book contains ample material for study groups. Many of the problems which the Bishop considers are the result of a growing proportion of people living in urban areas. City life raises many problems—there are problems of community and there are human problems as so many people lose their identity and find themselves really lonely in new housing areas.

The Church has a vital role to play in creating a sense of community in such situations. All the time we have to be asking ourselves what we are doing about this—the work of welcoming newcomers, and the work of the Bridge scheme are ways in which as Christians we can help to create community in Caversham and Reading. But this is an endless task and with our population changing so rapidly it is necessary to say the same thing repeatedly.

But there is another function for the Church. We are, I know, faced with the problem of many church buildings to-day being in the wrong place, and some people think that church buildings as such do not matter, and that we could dispense with them. To a limited extent this is true, but the very buildings do symbolise another dimension in our lives. They point not just to our fellowmen but to God.

Long before I ever set foot in Caversham I had seen St. Peter's from the railway line as I travelled between London and Oxford; and the presence of St. Laurence's, St. Mary's and other churches helps us all to realise that if the centre of Reading had the finest Town Hall and shopping centre in Europe it would still be a town without a soul if it lost its churches. Day by day a considerable number of people come into our churches just to be quiet—not to escape from the world but to discover themselves and God and to learn to face the world with new strength. When we are all so busy "doing" the Church has an immense contribution to make simply by "being".

The Bible in ending with the description of the heavenly city suggests that city life is a good thing. It is only evil when man tries to leave God out of the city. And so it falls to us as Christians to play our part in shaping the life of the community in which we dwell: nor should we omit from our prayers the architects and builders who have to plan the cities where so many of us will live our lives.

John Grimwade

Freeman of the Borough

Many of our readers will have noticed a somewhat infrequent event which took place in Reading a few weeks ago, the making of three Freemen of the Borough, Alderman Busby, Alderman Woodrow and Alderman Evans.

Alderman Evans, or Charlie as he is known, is 'father' of the Council on which he has served continuously ever since being elected to represent Caversham in 1935. Coming to Reading at a very early age, he and his wife have lived in Mayfield Drive for many years. In 1960 he retired from the Post Office after 51 years, during which he had, at various times, been Secretary and President of the Local Post Office Workers' Union.

He joined the Labour Party when he was very young, being convinced through what he had seen of the poverty and distress of the slump era, that a fairer distribution of wealth was needed. Nevertheless he gained a reputation for being able to work along with people of other views, once he had stated his own point of view and his appointment as Mayor in 1960 was a popular one with all members of the Council.

As he says, Caversham is a very different place today from what it was when he came here to live; all the same, he thinks there is still a great need for concern for the chronic sick and mentally handicapped. Most of all he will be known for his work in connection with traffic control in Reading; the introduction of the new traffic regulations came into force during his term of office as chairman of the Highways Committee, and it was on this basis that the recent innovations have been built.

As the Mayor said at the ceremony, the bestowing of the freedom of the borough, while carrying no special privileges, is an acknowledgement of outstanding service to the community. In the case of Charlie Evans, it is a well-earned acknowledgement for, as he says, he has always regarded his job as a Councillor as an opportunity for doing something for the people of the borough. This he has certainly done and the Caversham Bridge would like to add its congratulations to the many others he has received.

W.D.



CAN MAYDAY WEEK BE REPEATED?

At a meeting held on September 16th—thirty people representing the churches and secular groups of Caversham were unanimous in welcoming the idea of another Mayday Week programme to continue the work of popular education about World Development and to raise money for development projects.

Mr. Charles Buck chaired the discussion after the Revd. J. Y. Crowe, Organising Secretary of Mayday Week 1970, had stressed the need for a co-ordinating group if the project was to get off the ground.

"If the wish many have expressed to have another educational programme culminating in a week like we had last year is to become a reality—we'll have to have an Organising Secretary, an Educational Secretary and a Press and Publicity Officer," said Mr. Crowe. Because he was moving away from Caversham at the end of the year Mr. Crowe was unable to offer himself for any of these tasks.

It was decided that a small steering committee consisting of Mr. C. Buck (71 Blenheim Rd, Caversham), the Revd. J. Y. Crowe (2 Blackwater Close, 475152) and Miss E. Hawthorne (School House, Mapledurham, Tel. Kidmore End 3128) should try to recruit people to fill these jobs before the end of 1971. Then there could be a Mayday Week in 1973 or 1974.

It was also suggested that church and secular groups should include aspects of the problems of World Development in their regular programmes. Christian Aid and Oxfam would be pleased to supply speakers.

If anyone is interested in being involved in the Mayday Co-ordinating Committee—please contact any member of the steering committee whose names are printed above.

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Walton Adams.

HALF A CENTURY AT THE SURGERY

Miss Hinton began working at the Surgery in Priory Avenue in September, 1921, when, as she put it, she was a bit short of sixteen. She came with the intention of training for dispensing, but when Dr. Hope retired and Dr. Hooper took over the practice dispensing was given up. As the clerical work was gradually mounting with the development of Caversham, Miss Hinton stayed on to deal with the secretarial side. Since then fifty years have come and gone and she has grown to love her work to the extent that it takes first place in her life. She is proud to be secretary to this practice and because it means so much to her, of her own choice, she puts in long hours of work. For thirty-five years when she lived in a flat over the surgery she was responsible for manning the phone night

and morning without a day's break. It is probably such faithful service as this to the doctors and public alike that earned her the MBE a short time ago.

LAST HOLIDAY IN 1938

There was a time when Miss Hinton had two weeks' holiday a year. A member of the Royal Photographic Society and the Ladies' Swiss Alpine Club, she used to spend these weeks in the mountains photographing the scenery and doing her own developing on her return home. These holidays ended when war broke out in 1939.

NOT RETIRING YET

Meeting people has been of great interest to Miss Hinton. She believes that contact with others teaches you a great deal, and feels her work in the practice has been a fine education for life. She still hopes to carry on whilst she has continued good health, and when she does retire Caversham Bridge will send her their best wishes for many busy and happy days in her attractive home in Oakley Road.

M.K.

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Around Caversham

Retiring recently after 21 years with the BBC at Caversham, Ald. Stansfeld-Taylor will continue to be a familiar figure in the district, since retirement for him will probably mean increased work on the local council. Since he joined it a few years ago, he has been very active, particularly in connection with the new traffic control innovations in Reading, which have caught the attention of the national press and TV.

At the time of going to press, Mr. Stansfeld-Taylor and his wife, who retired from the BBC last year, are enjoying a well-earned holiday in France. We would like to offer them both our best wishes for their official retirement and trust they will find time for some relaxation in their very busy lives.

Two younger and newer members of the BBC staff were married a few weeks

ago at Douai Abbey. Margaret Ponetz and Michael Elliott, now Mr. and Mrs. Elliott, have set up home in Caversham Heights. We hope they will be with us for many years yet and offer them our sincere congratulations on their marriage.

Unfortunately we have not had much success in obtaining more news of our young people, many of whom are busy starting work or settling down at university. We did hear, however, that Miriam Fawcett of Woodcote Road, a recent pupil at Kendrick School, has gone to University College to study physics. Incidentally, may we add our appeal to those already issued for accommodation for university students at Reading. It is very hard on young people to have to start their studies with no proper accommodation and if anyone can offer hospitality during term time it will be most appreciated by all concerned.

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WEDDINGS



Married at St. Peter's a few weeks ago, was Valerie Crook of Hampden Road, a very popular young lady who has lived all her life, in Caversham, attending school at E. P. Collier. After leaving school she worked with the Post Office Telephones Service, where she made many friends who were very sorry to see her leave.

For the time being she and her husband, Corporal Roger Granger of the R.E.M.E., who hails from Wakefield in Yorkshire and is at present stationed at Aborfield, will be making their home in the district.



—Hymor Photographers.



The wedding took place at St. Barnabas' Church, Reading on Saturday, 11th September, 1971 between Mr. Paul Hogan and Miss Patricia Green. The bride from a very early age attended St. Barnabas' Church, Reading, where she sang in the church choir and taught at Sunday School before the family moved to Emmer Green. The happy couple are now residing at Hampstead.

—Hymor Photographers.

Miss Beryl Hutchison and Mr. James Green were married at St. Peter's on September 18th. Beryl Hutchinson was for many years a keen member of the choir of the parish church until she began her training as a nurse. After qualifying at the Royal Berkshire Hospital she moved to Northwick Hospital, where she met her husband, also on the nursing staff.

On 4th September Madeleine Bradley was married shortly after emigrating to Melbourn with her husband. They also have two sons, one of whom is at Loughborough College studying physics and physical education, and the other at St. Lawrence College Ramsgate. One of the things for which the family are well known is their activity in teaching swimming at their home in Albert Road; these classes were started by Heather when, at the age of 17, she became concerned at the number of drowning accidents involving young children. Both Madeleine and her mother are members of the Reading Madrigal Choir, music being one of the main interests of both Madeleine and her husband. The young couple were married by the Rev. Neil Hall of Woodcote Road, Madeleine's two brothers acting as ushers; the best man was Michael Winward, an old school friend of the bride and groom. Andrew Rosser, young son of Dr. Rosser, acted as page-boy. The reception afterwards was held in the garden of Madeleine's home in Albert Road. Mr. and Mrs. Parry will be living in London and we offer them our very best wishes for a very happy married life.



Miss Maureen Wood and Mr. Parker were married at Caversham Parish Church on September 4th.

—Walton Adams.



Miss Harmen was married to Mr. Bray at St. Anne's, Caversham, on September 4th.

—Walton Adams.



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SCHOOL and COMMUNITY

SINCE IT WAS OPENED IN THE SUMMER OF 1970—Caversham Park Primary School has quickly become a focal point in the life of the community in Caversham Park Village, and surrounding areas.

Local Builder.

Designed according to the Ministry of Education regulations the school was built by a local building firm, T. C. Chapman Ltd.

The refreshing modern approach to education doesn't allow us to think of schools as forbidding buildings surrounded by walls and railings to keep children apart from the community for so many hours a day.

Schools are now seen as an integral part of the life of the community, and not just places of concern for children and their parents. So their design has to be flexible and "friendly".

Caversham Park School immediately strikes the visitor as light and airy, and a friendly place. It is made up of the junior and infant departments connected by the

hall, domestic and administrative areas. Because of the open-plan design there is a sense of spaciousness.

Used day and night.

The building is in constant use. Every Sunday morning an ecumenical family service is held in the hall at 11.15 a.m. Visitors who have attended baptisms which have taken place from time to time have been impressed with the use of the building as a church—and the decision to use it as such—instead of trying to put up a specifically "church" building seems to be a wise one.

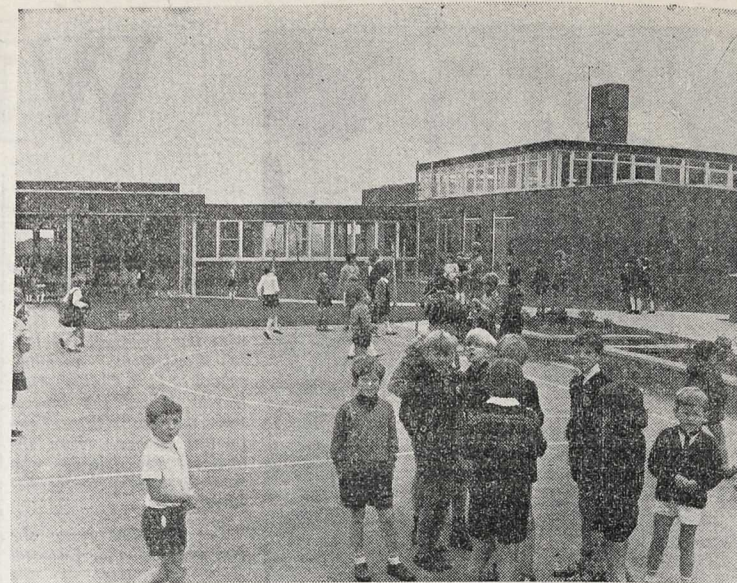
The Cavmic youth club has the hall for one evening a week. The Caversham Park drama group do their rehearsing in one or other of the areas available. The

We are glad to publish the first of two articles about the modern approach of primary education. The articles are focussed on Caversham Park Primary School which was opened last year with a building designed to assist the new approach to learning. Next month's "Bridge" will include an interview with Mr. George Haysom, the Headmaster.

guides meet one a week. The Dunsden and Eye Parish Council and the Caversham Park Village Association hold their meetings at the school. Often there are two groups using different parts of the building.

The building is the pride and joy of Mr. Williams, the caretaker and his wife, who combines the roles of cook and cleaner.

In many ways the school is being used as a community centre—but the fact that so many groups want to use it—and during school hours inevitably there are restrictions—shows the need for the community centre project to become a reality. Both the school and the proposed



Playtime at Caversham Park School.

Walton Adams,

community centre could be used to the full.

Relationships important.

Mr. George Haysom, the Headmaster has a staff of 7 teachers, a full time helper and 2 part time helpers. Designed for 280 children the school already has 240 children. When the last phase of Caversham Park Village is built during the next 12 months, there will be over 280 more houses in the school's catchment area which extends to the part of Emmer Green which is outside the borough of Reading. Both permanent and temporary extensions will soon be necessary.

Just what is the emphasis of the modern approach? Mr. Haysom sees it this way—

"We are involved with the development of the whole child—with the social and emotional aspects as well as with the academic side. Everything is done through the individual approach and a lot depends on the relationships children form with the teachers and with other children".

When people are settling down in a new community where they are trying to make a new life and establish new relationships a school like Caversham Park School is ideal because of this emphasis on relationship. The children are not kept rigidly in age groups. The "family grouping" means that brothers and sisters can mix together

which was not likely to happen in the schools of 20 years ago.

Informal and enjoyable.

There is no desire to have a "school atmosphere". Everything is as informal as possible. When concerts and events are held they are often introduced by the children who enjoy these occasions because they have not been over-rehearsed merely to impress the visitors who are able to attend.

It would be wrong to jump to false conclusions because the children enjoy what they do at school. A lot of work is done—objective tests enable the staff to keep an accurate measure of progress—but more of this next month when we'll be putting a series of question to Mr. Haysom.

J.Y.C.

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WALTER CANNING — AN APPRECIATION

—Walton Adams.

MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Mapledurham Parish Council was held on Thursday, 9th September, 1971. Mr. W. H. Wheeler, Chairman of the Council, presided at the meeting.

The Council received a report of a meeting that had recently been held and which had been addressed by technical officers from Oxfordshire and Berkshire County Councils and Reading County Borough Council when explanations were given concerning proposals to improve the B.479 between Cane End and the Reading Borough boundary.

In view of the concern that is felt over the conditions of the B.479 between these two points, urgent requests were made at the meeting for some positive action to be taken to make the road conditions safer and to warn motorists of the real dangers that exist. It was therefore gratifying to note that already the County Council have painted road marking and warning signs on the road at Greendene Bottom, as this is probably the most dangerous section of this particular stretch.

As a result of a meeting with a representative from the County Surveyor's dept., the Council were informed the kerb stones at the entrance to Boundary Lane are to be lowered, so that vehicles using the Lane should find an improvement when they enter from Upper Warren Avenue.

The Council discussed various matters relating to

the proposals that Henley R.D.C. have made in connection with the formation of a new District Council when the new Area Authorities are functioning. The Parish Council have already expressed the view that Area 39 (Berkshire) would be the most advantageous area from which it should administered having regard to the parish's close proximity to Reading. It has also expressed the view that it would like to maintain its associations with Henley. The Parish Council having noted that Henley have expressed a desire that they would be prepared to amalgamate with Bradfield Rural District and so form a new District Council, were unable to accept this proposal, and having considered the matter, the Parish Council expressed its surprise and concern that an amalgamation of Henley Rural and Henley Borough with the area of Reading County Borough Council north of the R. Thames, i.e., Caversham, has not apparently been considered, and it suggests and urges that a District Council, which includes these areas, should be considered as part of a working and viable unit.

The Council have strongly resisted an application for two houses to be erected on the eastern side of Hewett Avenue, adjacent to the Playing Field.

The Council strongly request all householders to control bonfires and to ensure they are not alight at night time, as complaints have been received about the nuisances these cause.

BEST BUTTER

"It was the best butter", said the March Hare, trying to justify having used butter at all.

This seems to be the attitude of the Town Council with regard to the Caversham Bridge Flats. They have rejected the detailed plans because they do not think them good enough. Only the best will do. But the point at issue is that with such a controversial development, no one was given the opportunity of expressing an opinion as to whether the flats should be there at all.

However, perhaps we should be grateful for small mercies. Perhaps it is an indication that the voice of public opinion has been heard, albeit too late, and that this kind of mistake will not occur again.

It certainly ought not to, after the recent circular from the Department of the Environment to all local authorities recommending that public notice should be given of all planning applications for important sites.

REMEMBER: Come and hear Dr. A. Gatherer, Chief Medical Officer of Health, speaking on Health and Welfare in Caversham on Monday, 8th November at 8.0 p.m. at Church House, Gosbrook Road. (Opposite Prospect Street).

M. C.

With the probable exception of Mr. and Mrs. Kearey I should think I had known the late Walter Canning far longer than anyone now connected with St. Peter's Church. Walter was a Caversham man and he started singing as a boy chorister in St. Barnabas' Church, Emmer Green, about 65 years ago. When his voice broke and he sang tenor he joined St. Peter's Choir and remained a member of it until his death. Walter was a very keen and conscientious choirman; he was a member of the Reading Festival Chorus from its inception in 1945 until he was forced to resign owing to ill-health, about two years ago. He was also a member of the Reading Madrigal Singers.

He was a sincere Christian and liked nothing better than to sing in the choir, Sunday by Sunday, morning and evening. As no doubt many members of St. Peter's congregation know, he was a member of the Parochial Church Council for 47 years, and was Secretary from 1933 to 1952, and until ill-health compelled him to retire, he acted as Recorder of Planned Giving for St. Peter's.

Walter was also a keen sportsman, swimmer and cyclist. I can well remember Walter, in his green and white striped jersey, playing full-back for Caversham Rovers on what was then known as Knighton's Meadow. For many years he used to bathe in the River Thames every morning before setting out for his work in London, and I have no doubt many Caversham people will recall seeing Walter sitting bolt upright on his cycle and looking as though he was "monarch of all he surveyed". On his retirement from work he took up golf.

There was little he did not know of Caversham history and one thing he specially loved was to talk of Caversham and its people in the days when we were boys and when St. Peter's Church was often filled to overflowing, especially at Harvest Festival when we had to put chairs in the aisles. He often said to me: "I wish we could see those days again".

Walter and his wife Dorothy worshipped in St. Peter's for many years. He will be greatly missed and to his wife, his son Geoffrey and his daughter Margaret and his grand-children we extend our most sincere sympathy.

H.S.B.

"I WILL SING WITH THE SPIRIT AND I WILL SING WITH THE UNDERSTANDING 1 Cor. Ch. 14. V. 15.

My first contact with Walter Canning was at Choir practice on my appointment at St. Peter's. I soon realised that he came not only to sing, but to do his best to ensure that the evening's work produced as good and perfect rendering of everything that could be achieved.

He was always ready to start, right on the beat and indeed do his utmost to help in the musical side of the service. Walter's musical knowledge was really very great and he used it whenever he could to help the Choir produce music worthy of our church. A more loyal person one would not wish to have had in a choir and we know that everything he did was for its good.

We in the Choir are all the worse for his passing, but we shall always remember him for his many years given to the worship of God and help and leadership in singing his praises Sunday by Sunday.

R.J.B.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As a family who had left the flock at Caversham, so to speak, we were thrilled when our request to join the Parish Holiday at Embley Park was accepted. However, when the date approached and we learnt that for various reasons we would not be able to have a family room, two members of this family were not a little anxious. How wrong we were to worry. From the moment we arrived we were welcomed as if we had never left the district. We did enjoy the fellowship of this holiday and as well as ing our old friends again, made many new ones.

Although the weather was not always kind, we had a wonderful time, from the laughs in the men's dorm, making cups of tea and coffee for several ladies (especially early morning) over two small gas stoves, cooking sausages over the same stoves under two large umbrellas at the Friday night bonfire, and the very refreshing swim in the pouring rain.

Thank you very much everyone in Caversham for allowing us once again to share in your very special holiday. The only thing we have to complain about is that it has taken us one whole week to get on our feet again!

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Father Gibbard

Round the Anglican Parish

November will open and close with two big parish services. On All Saints' Day, Monday, November 1st, there will be a Thanksgiving Eucharist at the Parish Church at 7.30 p.m., when representatives of the different districts will present the pledges made during the Stewardship Campaign. The preacher is to be Father Mark Gibbard of Cowley, whose addresses nightly during Key Fortnight in 1967 are still remembered vividly by those who heard them. After the service all who took part in the Campaign as hostesses and canvassers are being invited to Balmore Hall. Then on Tuesday, November 30th, St. Andrew's keeps its Patronal Festival, and the preacher there at the Eucharist at 7.30 p.m. is to be Bishop Leonard Alufurai of Melanesia. Bishop Alufurai is on a visit to England in connection with the centenary of the martyrdom of Bishop Patterson the first Bishop of Melanesia. The combined choirs of the parish will sing at both these services.

Honour for Miss Few

Miss Esme Few, the Chief Nursing Officer for Buckinghamshire, who lives with her mother in Berrylands Road, and is a well known member of St. Peter's congregation, has just been appointed by Sir Keith Joseph to serve on the Steering Committee which has been set up to make an expert study of and recommendations for the management structure of the new National Health Service.

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St. Peter's Notes

Members of the congregation are reminded that the annual service of Advent Carols will take place on Sunday, November 28th at 6.30 p.m.

Choir boys are in short supply and the organist would like six more. Few choirs have the opportunity that has befallen Caversham choristers of singing recently in a number of Cathedrals and boys receive a good musical training. The choir-master, Mr. R. J. Brind, will be glad to see potential choir-boys at practice any Thursday at 6.30 p.m.

The church flag (the cross of St. George with the arms of the Diocese of Oxford in the first quarter) had become damaged after flying for many years in strong winds. Grateful thanks to Mrs. E. Beardmore for her repair work to it.

St. John's News

WANTED

Have you one of those folding screens (so useful before the days of central heating) stored away in the attic or garage?

St. John's Sunday School badly needs one to serve a double purpose—to display the results of the children's work, and to store material during the week.

If you have such a screen lying idle, or know of someone who has one for disposal, Mrs. Yates (Tel. 477895), would be delighted to hear from you. It doesn't matter if the covering is shabby or non-existent as long as the screen itself is sound.

IT'S PHAB!

It may not be everyone's idea of a holiday but this year two of St. John's Sunday School teachers, Jenny Bartlett and Jane Harris, have given up their time off in order to take part in week-long, residential courses run by Phab. The initials stand for Physically Handicapped—Able Bodied indicating the purpose of Phab clubs up and down the country, which is to foster friendship between young handicapped people and others of their own age who are able-bodied. This year's residential courses took place in Wales and at Cobham Hall near Rochester, Kent.

Jenny was only one of about 100 young people taking part in the latter course. Group work, the main feature of the week, helping those present to get to know each other through a common task, took the form of studying subjects like photography, art, music and journalism. At the end of the week local visitors came to see exhibitions of each group's work.

It wasn't all work however. There were outings to Sissinghurst Castle, Hythe, a show in Tunbridge Wells and a Hoppickers' Festival; and swimming and archery were offered as leisure time pursuits.

Jenny and Jane wouldn't want to think of rewards, but these courses, helping as they do to overcome the stigma society still tends to attach to handicap, bring a great deal of satisfaction to all who take part.

THE REV. JOHN CROWE OFF TO EVESHAM

THE Rev. John Crowe, who has pioneered Church work at Caversham Park, has been appointed by Christ Church Oxford to the living of Great and Little Hampton in the borough of Evesham. He and Mrs. Crowe will be leaving Caversham at the end of the year. The Caversham Bridge congratulates him on his preferment and we shall include a report on his work in Caversham in a subsequent edition.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY

at

ST. ANDREW'S

Tuesday, November 30th

7-00 a.m.

Holy Communion

7-30 p.m.

Parish Communion

Preacher:

Bishop Leonard Alufurai

(Melanesia)

Refreshments after the

service in St. Andrew's

Hall.

Barbecue and Dance in Mapledurham

This event was held on a perfect September evening at the Parish Hall, Trench Green, and was rated a great success by all who attended. The sideshows outside did a brisk trade and the barbecue itself was most popular. Music for the dancing was provided by the Chymes Discotheque and the floor was crowded with eager dancers.

Over sixty pounds was raised for the Parish Hall Fund making all the effort well worth while.

C.A.

Children's party in Mapledurham

Members of St. Margaret's and their friends spent an energetic and rewarding Saturday afternoon giving a picnic party, before summer finally departed, to some twenty young people. Their guests were children from less fortunate homes in Reading and they spent several happy hours in a Greendene Farm field playing games and tucking in to a wonderful tea laid out on straw bales. It is hoped to see all our young friends again for their indoor party at Christmas.

CAVERSHAM PARK VILLAGE

The Family Service and the need for Social Evenings were discussed at an open Church Meeting in September.

It was suggested that from time to time a short Communion service should take place at the Ecumenical Family Service.

Social events to enable those who come to the family service and the house communions to get to know one another more than just at a superficial level have been arranged for November and December.

A Family Fireworks party will take place on Friday, November 5th to be organised by Mrs. Myra Parsons, 9 Gayhurst Close Tel. 478005.

A "Cider and Cheese Evening" will take place at the home of Geoff and Sheila Goldsmith, 1 Mallory Ave., at 8 p.m., on Friday, November 12th. Tickets at 15p will be available towards the end of October at the Family Service and at the House Communions or from 1 Mallory Ave (475303) or Blackwater Close (475152).

Services during November.

Every Sunday—11.15 a.m. at Caversham Park School—Half Hour Family—an interdenominational service. If you have a small baby—don't be apprehensive. There is a relaxed atmosphere, and there are always two or three babies present.

November 7th—Mr. David Parsons (Methodist): November 14th—the Revd. J. Y. Crowe (Anglican); November 21st—Mrs. Myra Parsons (Methodist); November 28th—the Revd. J. Y. Crowe.

House Communions

8.30 p.m. Wednesday, November 3rd at Blackwater Close. 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 10th and 24th at 6 Devon Drive and 5 Kendal Ave. respectively.

The morning house communions are especially appreciated by mothers with small babies and children of pre-school age. If you are a newcomer to the village—please come along and introduce yourself.

St. Andrew's Women's Group

The St. Andrew's Women's Group ended the summer session with a mystery tour along the country lines of Berkshire and Hampshire, stopping en route for light refreshments. Husbands and friends were invited, and several brave men put in an appearance.

The new season started with a very interesting and informative talk by Mr. W. Hawkins on the Highways and Byways of the city of London. Members heard about the derivation of many of the streets and lanes off the usual tourist track, and found that these offered a better insight into the real city than many more famous places. The evening concluded with a 'ploughman's supper' which was enjoyed by all.

Meetings take place in St. Andrew's Hall on the fourth Thursday in the month at 8 p.m., and new members are always welcome.

St. Margaret's

This autumn some of the young people of St. Margaret's have left secondary school, and started a new stage in their lives, which takes them away from home at least during the week.

Stephen Allwright has become an army apprentice in the Catering Corps at Aldershot, Susan Beacroft is doing a course in hotel management at Guildford Technical College, and Jane Martyn-Johns is at Oxford and County Secretarial College.

Best wishes to them in their new ventures, hoping they will find them very worthwhile.

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Maplewood W.I.

The President, Mrs. Betty Lewis, welcomed members and visitors from other Institutes. The speaker was Mr. J. E. Pitkeathley, Organiser of Voluntary Work in Hospitals, including the Royal Berkshire Hospital. Mrs. Turner agreed to be our delegate to the Autumn Council Meeting. Many thanks were given to Mrs. Woolbridge, who, assisted by Mrs. M. Clark, entertained members and friends at a tea party in her lovely garden. Our W.I. funds benefited by £19, raised by the sale of cakes etc. There was an interesting Scrapbook Exhibition and 3 books for children in hospitals. At Social Time, members recounted amusing incidents in hospital. Mrs. Duckworth showed members the contribution made by the Grazeley Group to "This Green and Pleasant Land Exhibition". On September 24th Mrs. Lallo gave a talk on Eating for Health.

The Jubilee Club, Mapledurham
Activities in recent months have included a cooking demonstration, a talk by the police on road safety, and a garden party

at Kempwood, Cane End, kindly given by Mrs. Skinner and members of the Mapledurham W.I. Some new members have joined during the summer and it is hoped that anyone who is interested in Senior Citizens will come along to the annual Open Afternoon and small Sale of Work on Monday, November 8th, at 2-45 for a cup of tea and a chat in the Parish Hall, Trench Green. The 2-30 Chiltern Queen bus from Reading stops at Mapledurham Village turning and returns at 4-50 so do please come along.

Rosehill W.I.

Mrs. Buckle our Vice-President took the chair at the September meeting and introduced one new member, Mrs. Jones, bringing our numbers to 70. Work was going ahead for an Autumn Fair in November. Suggestions were put forward for autumn outings. A letter of thanks was read from the Community Nursing Service to those who help at the local Clinic. The request to the Town Council for a litter bin at the pond was under review. Mr. Turner spoke to us of the work in

ROUND THE CLUBS

involved in putting out even one television item; Mrs. Grey gave the vote of thanks. The competition, "Your Prettiest Scarf" resulted: 1) Mrs. Stringer, 2) Mrs. Grey, 3) Miss C. Stevenson.

Blagrove W.I.

At the September meeting members heard with regret of the death of Mrs. Enfield, founder President and a staunch member of the organisation for over 50 years. The afternoon was informal. Mrs. Hector gave an account of her holiday in Ontario and several members showed some of their favourite holiday slides. Mrs. Sholl has been awarded the second bursary for Denman College. Mrs. Bartlett, the Secretary, was the Southern Region winner of the British European Woman of the Year Contest. Her reward is a four-day shopping trip to Luxembourg.

Mapledurham W.I.

Mrs. Mortimer was in the Chair at the September meeting of the Mapledurham W.I. Mr. P. Radley gave a very interesting and instructive talk on brass rubbings—his own magnificent collection being much admired. Mrs. Bramwell gave the vote of thanks and commented on the intense interest shown by members on this subject. The raffle was won by Mrs. Harper and Mrs. Palmer.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

23rd September, 1971.
The Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild resumed their meetings on September 16th. The Chairman, Mrs. A. E. Smith, reviewed the social events held during August.

Mrs. Russell proposed that donation should be sent to the Ian Coward Memorial Fund. Mrs. C. Mitchell seconded the proposal.

"Some Customs and Costumes of India" was the title of a talk given by Mrs. Myrtle McTear. Having spent 35 years in India Mrs. McTear was able to explain some of the superstitions associated with the country. Mrs. M. Starkey and Miss E. Baker were the very sporting members who volunteered to be models as the speaker demonstrated the 'sari' and the 'dhoti'.

On behalf of members and friends, Miss A. K. Hind thanked the speaker for such an interesting and entertaining talk.

The informal half hour followed the tea break when Mrs. T. Kirby showed a number of transparencies brought by the members. They included the Birthday Party, the Holland Outing, the Reading Festival Procession, winning entries in the Floral Art Exhibition, Summer in the Garden etc. — a most enjoyable close to a very pleasant meeting.

Dates to remember—Saturday, November 6th, the Autumn Fair at Balmore Hall. November 18th, at 2-15 p.m. the Annual General Meeting at the Caversham Community Centre.

Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild

29th August, 1971.

No official meeting of the Caversham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild was held during August but various social events have taken place.

Mr. and Mrs. Tiffen invited the Committee and new members to an "At Home" afternoon at 37 Peppard Road. The sun shone and everyone enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon. Thanks were expressed by Mrs. A. E. Smith on behalf of the visitors to Mr. and Mrs. Tiffen.

The Annual Garden Party was held on August 12th at 19 Grosvenor Road. Unfortunately the weather did not favour us on this occasion but Mrs. Bale very kindly allowed the full use of the verandah and garage. Between the showers the visitors were able to appreciate the freshness of the garden. The afternoon was a complete success, socially and financially. On behalf of the Guild members and friends Mrs. A. E. Smith expressed sincere thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Bale.

On August 25th a party of 40 members and friends enjoyed an outing to Hever Castle in Kent. The weather was perfect and after a picnic lunch everyone enjoyed a tour of the castle. A leisurely hour to admire the beautiful garden was followed by tea. We are grateful to Mrs. L. Grey for arranging such an enjoyable day.

At the Reading Show on August 20th the Caversham Afternoon Guild came 2nd in the Arts and Crafts Competition with their interpretation of the set theme entitled "Look to the Future".

Meetings will be held as usual on every third Thursday in the month at 2-15 p.m. at the Caversham Community Centre.

CAVERSHAM BRIDGE, NOVEMBER, 1971—SEVEN

sham Community Centre, School Lane, Caversham. An interesting programme has been arranged for the coming year and new members are advised to join now

Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild

At the September meeting of the Caversham Heights Townswomen's Guild, Mrs. Hill welcomed Mr. Bernard Moss, who gave his talk "Around the World in 140 Days" which was illustrated by many beautiful slides, and gave members a most enjoyable evening. As a result of a business trip he has encircled the world by 19 different air lines (only one—the Malaysian—had taken off and landed on time!). He had stopped at India, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Mexico. Such faraway and exotic places are only a dream to most people, but Mr. Moss's engaging commentary gave everyone an opportunity to learn a little of the wonderful towns, countryside and beaches to be visited in such distant lands. The extreme friendliness of different peoples was something Mr. Moss had discovered during his travels.

The theme of the Social Studies talks this winter is "Transport through the Ages". Mrs. Hammond is arranging some crochet classes and it is hoped to start a group for members who would like to learn bridge.

At the first meeting of the International Section, Mr. Ellingham gave an illustrated talk on Rhodesia.

Emmer Green Townswomen's Guild

Mrs. M. Crowther gave a most amusing talk on "Our Superstitions and their Origins" at the September meeting of the Guild. First, she described some of the old methods of curing diseases which sound horrifying to us in the modern scientific world. We were surprised to learn how many of our strong superstitions come from the time of the Crucifixion, although many are much older.

The Arts and Crafts section were congratulated on their success at the Reading Show, and the Social Studies had arranged a talk on "Water Resources", to be followed by a visit to the Oxford reservoir.

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Harvest Festival Services

The Harvest Festival services at Gosbrook Road were held on Sunday September 19th. In the morning a family service was conducted by the Reverend T. R. Harris. The children's gifts were received by Mrs. West and the church was full to capacity with children and parents. At the evening service The Reverend Atkinson was the preacher.

The weekend concluded with the Harvest Supper on the Monday evening. Fifty people sat down to a salad meal prepared by the ladies and afterwards they were entertained by four members of Gillott school who read poems and readings with a theme called 'September Song'.

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METHODIST NEWS

OVERSEAS MISSIONS ANNIVERSARY

The weeknight Overseas Meeting is being held this year on Thursday, November 11 at 7-30 p.m. at Gosbrook Road Methodist Church. The speaker will be Rev. M. Hillier and the Women's Fellowship Choir will be taking part. The meeting will be followed by a Bread and Cheese Supper.

The Sunday services on November 14th will be conducted by at 11 a.m. Rev. J. O. Cochran and at 6-30 p.m. by Rev. C. D. Phippin.

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

The Methodist Missionary Society headquarters in London is sending a deputation to Reading in November, and in connection with this there will be a meeting at Caversham Heights Church on Tuesday, 9th November at 8-0 p.m. when the Rev. John S. Naylor will give an illustrated talk on "Town and Village Life in the Channel Islands".

In the financial year ending on 31st August, 1971, the amount contributed by the church to the Overseas Missions General Fund was £249.90, whilst the Youth Missionary Association raised £11.73.

TWO INVITATIONS FROM CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODISTS

Do you live near Caversham Heights Methodist Church? If so, on behalf of the Squash (Young Peoples' Fellowship Group) you are warmly invited to attend our Bonfire Night on Friday, 5th November, at the church.

The bonfire will be lit at 7-00, with fireworks at 7-15 and 8-15 approximately and from 8-15 to 8-45 there will be a buffet supper. Please obtain your tickets in advance if possible (to assist in catering). They may be purchased from any member of the Squash or from 11 Sandcroft Road (Tel. 475174) at 15p each.

This will be an evening for the family and you are invited to bring your larger fireworks to join in the display.

You are also invited to a concert by the Bulmershe College Choir at Caversham Heights on 10th December at 8-0 p.m. The Church is very fortunate to have secured this now famous choir, who are renowned far beyond the bounds of Reading, and who are Eisteddfod award winners. The proceeds will be for overseas missions and further details of the arrangements will be given in the December "Caversham Bridge".

THE WORLD WITHIN US

A Psychiatrist writes about the problem of ALCOHOLISM

This month I would like to refer briefly to two patients, both apparently with the same trouble, and both middle-aged. One could be claimed, at the time of writing, as a successful case and other as a failure. The problem in each case was, or is, alcoholism.

The two men had much in common. They had started drinking as young men in the usual way by joining friends in the evenings. Later they had begun to drink at lunch time, and if they could find no one to join them they would drink on their own. Very soon, from being a social enjoyment alcohol consumption became a necessity. Without it both men became morose and irritable. From lunchtime onwards their efficiency was reduced. Finally both began to drink in the mornings. Everything had become so difficult that they could not even start the day without the so-called fortification of whisky or gin.

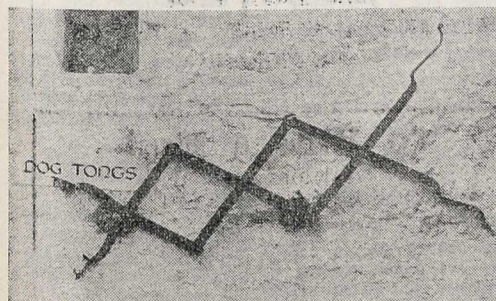
One of the men was self-employed and his business began to go into debt—the worry of which increased his drinking still further. The work of the other man was becoming less and less useful to his employers—and it would not have been long before he was dismissed.

The difference between these two men—let me call them Dennis and Robert—was their response and attitude to treatment. Initially both were taken into hospital for the painful process of withdrawal from alcohol—the so-called 'drying out'. At the end of ten days or so both looked fitter and fresher than they had for several years.

Dennis, unfortunately, was convinced that he was cured. This was a bad sign. Alcohol was a problem of the past he said. He needed no further help. As a new man he would soon have his business back on its feet and all would be well. He declined the services of Alcoholics Anonymous, even though one of their members called on him. What was the good, he declared, if you didn't have a problem. In this euphoric state he discharged himself from hospital against medical advice, and was seen absolutely drunk three days later. Several further admissions have failed to help him.

Robert on the other hand had a different attitude. He considered that alcohol would always be a problem for him, even if he didn't touch it again. It would always be a temptation. He would never be able to have a single drink like other people because his response would be different, he would not stop at that. Robert welcomed the advice of Alcoholics Anonymous and still attends their meetings regularly. He still regards himself as alcoholic, even though it is several years since he last had an alcoholic drink. An alcoholic, he says, is one who has a problem with alcohol—not only one who drinks too much.

My reason for recounting these two case histories is very simply to point out that alcoholism is still a very common condition, yet one in which a 'cure' is possible. So often it is regarded as a weakness until too late, and then is a subject for gossip on the part of the friends of the man or woman concerned. Yet with help and concern so much can be done. If, as in the case of Robert, the alcoholism is regarded as an illness, and treatment is sought a return to a full life can be anticipated. I can only finish by praising and commending the work of Alcoholics Anonymous. In their own way they so often give hope where none existed.



GRIPPING STORY

These dog-tongs are displayed in the church at Glynngofawr in North Wales. They date from the days when dogs were useful scavengers and often wandered into churches. In sheep farming districts the dogs accompanied their masters to church, and disorderly dogs were removed by gripping their neck with the tongs. Dog tongs are found mostly in Wales.

PEOPLE I HAVE KNOWN by Ronald Adkins

A Former Inmate of Broadmoor



YOU won't upset him, will you, sir?"

I looked at my landlady and smiled, "No I will be very careful".

I was then only a young Curate with not much experience of people but I certainly new, after what Mrs. Rogers had just told me, that I should have to be careful with the visitor who was coming to tea that afternoon.

Mrs. Rogers, my landlady, was a widow and, until that day I did not know that she had had a son. He had been born over fifty years before when Mrs. Rogers was still only a girl, in fact, he had been born before her marriage, before she had even met her husband.

As soon as Arthur, her son, had left school he went to work on a farm and lived in the farm house, seeing his mother only occasionally.

At the age of eighteen Arthur fell head over heels in love but, unfortunately for him, his love was not returned. Being a very simple youth he felt that this was due entirely to the influence of a girl called Rhoda who was Mary's great friend—Mary being the girl who had captured Arthur's heart.

The two girls were inseparable and, every time Rhoda saw him, she burst out laughing and this caused Mary to have a fit of giggles and this further inflamed his dislike of Rhoda.

Arthur decided that Rhoda must be got out of the way, just for the time being and then he believed that he would win Mary.

But how was this to be done?

CRUEL LAUGHTER

He knew that both the girls went to Chapel every Sunday night and so he decided to borrow an old shotgun of the farmer's, and then, when they came out of Chapel he would be hiding behind a hedge and would take aim at Rhoda. He wouldn't hurt her badly but just enough to keep her out of action for a few weeks.

The Sunday night came and Arthur, hidden behind the hedge, fired at Rhoda. In his excitement his aim was not too good—and he hit

Mary. She left out a terrific scream and fell to the ground.

Arthur, terrified at what he had done and thinking that he had killed his loved one cried out, "Oh, my God?" ran all the way back to the farm, got into bed and hid beneath the bed clothes.

The village policeman was sent for and, Arthur's voice having been recognised, went to the farm to arrest him. He took the precaution however of taking four men with him.

This was just as well for it needed the strength of all five men to overpower him and he only quietened down when it was brought home to him that Mary was not badly hurt.

At his trial he was found to be mentally weak and was

sent to Broadmoor where he spent thirty years, giving no trouble at all.

That was the man who was to come to tea that afternoon.

He was working on a farm, some miles away, and wanted to see his mother.

He was a very big man but he was terribly shy. I took to him from the moment I met him. Soon we became real friends.

SADNESS

I never talked to him about Broadmoor and he never mentioned it to me but the sadness at the back of his big brown eyes worried me. He reminded me of a dog that had been punished severely and did not know what

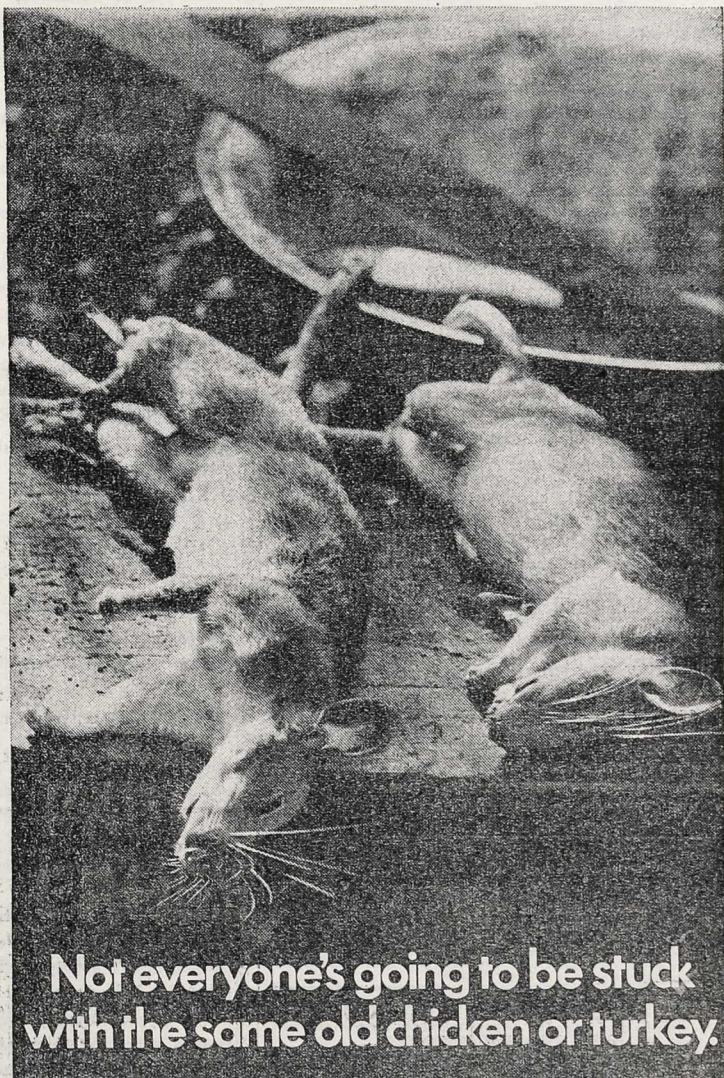
he had been punished for.

Only on one occasion did he seem upset. I had, rather foolishly, been talking to him about the boxing I was organising with some of the village lads. Soon I noticed his enormous hands clenching, and unclenching convulsively. He was obviously agitated by the subject and I made sure that I never talked about it again.

A little later I left that Curacy and therefore those lodgings and so had my last meeting with Arthur.

Life had not been good to him but he took my hand and said very quietly, "I believe in God".

I smiled at him and said my last words to him, "God be with you".



Not everyone's going to be stuck with the same old chicken or turkey.

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(Lazarus would have.)

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THE TWILIGHT PEOPLE

"I am convinced that many of these people could be salvaged from personal wreckage if the right effort and resources were made available . . . and if those in appointed authority would listen to those who have recovered".

These are the twilight people of Great Britain. The vagrants — men and women of no fixed abode who keep a parody of life flickering by drinking vast quantities of methylated and surgical spirits; known to them as 'bluey' and 'jake'. They also drink gas and milk, anti-freeze from car radiators, concoctions of boot and metal polishes, hair oils and after-shave lotions, cheap wine and anything which contains alcohol, no matter how crude. There are about two hundred thousand of them in England, living on wastelands or in derelict houses.

Many are ex-servicemen, some decorated for valour. But not all are ex-soldiers or sailors or airmen. Significantly, younger people are arriving on skid row. Young people from the drug-jungle who once had the currency of sexual exchange with which to purchase drugs, but drug-intake ravages have destroyed their sexual capital and they are forced to seek substitutes with which to still the cravings of their ruined metabolisms. Some of these youngsters have college educations, and bring new sophistications to skid-row, new dangers.

One finds very little social work being done on skid-row. It would seem that the vagrants, the 'wet brain smelhow crude', are considered incurable. No one wants to know about them, I've pulled one of these men off a patch of wasteland who was drowning

by Archie Hill

in his own blood, having fallen on a broken bottle. I've stood by helpless as another burned to death in a derelict house. I've mixed with, and still mix with, men and women who are living in filthy cellars with rats for company. I know vagrants who hide themselves from schoolboys; in the streets, the vagrants fear the law. But on the wastelands there's nothing more cruel than a boy with a stone.

Escape from Society

Yet the vagrant will not willingly help Society—(that phantom and menacing abstract) — to rid him of his illness since by and large society is what he wishes to escape from. Absence of drink is the methy's problem, not the intake. He will cheat for it, lie for it, steal for it . . . and many have died for it.

The vagrant is suspicious of the religiously motivated helper, there's a deep seated fear that HE as a person is secondary, that what is being sought is nothing more than an extra pew-member. Above all, the vagrant needs to be put into perspective and not into a compartment. There is little value in a pseudo-acceptance of Christ from a person who hasn't eaten for days on end but who has lived off anti-freeze or brasso strained through a sock.

There just isn't enough knowledge about this terrible

DAVID COLLYER LOOKS AROUND THE YOUTH SCENE AND GOES ...

UNDERGROUND

The Oz trial suddenly focused a great deal of attention on the 'Underground' or the 'Alternative society'.

What is it all about? This is the question that parents and others seem to be asking. I suppose its proper that they should not know much about it because it is deliberately contrived to be different, unacceptable to the system. And of course being Underground it doesn't really want its music, publications and ideas to be represented on our media. When one of the Underground groups achieved prominence on 'Top of the Pops' and Radio 1 this was described by the Underground as 'an unfortunate disaster'.

So the first thing that is clear about the Underground is that it doesn't like our Society as it is. It may of course overlook the fact that we want change as well.

Some members want total change—revolution is their cry, and they say 'the Angry Brigade', bombs and all, is part of this. They say our system has forced this tactic on to the group. Others feel violence is not the way — example is their key to change.

They believe the family is finished and they live in communes. Unfortunately 'commune' is often a loaded term but it is a mistake to think that it necessarily means a group with total sexual interaction. There are communes of married couples who share kitchen, cars, concern, home and all material comforts but regard marriage as sacrosanct. There are indeed Christian communes.

The free use of drugs is another controversial question. Some young people say nicotine, alcohol, caffeine and a host of other drugs are sold, why not rationalise the position—allow all or stop all. But not all alternative society people are by any means side tracked into drugs, anarchy or violence.

They believe there must be a new era of non-materialistic society—when capitalism will be changed by shared ownership, when University will be open to all. They have their own Free University run by many figures who are better known in the existing University system.

They believe in tenants' movements, in social caring for the abused and down trodden, a better deal for the aged—not by a state system but by virtue of a change of direction in the total society—a revolution of attitude and life style.

Their own press, music and maybe the denim uniform express the feelings of this movement. It is not just a group of young long-haired 'weirdos'.

Despite its difference of tactics and sometimes of objectives, it has a feeling of purpose. As a movement it is prepared to suffer for what it believes. It is not irrelevant. It exists because we exist representing something different.

There is a freshness about the Alternative Society that reminds me of my idealistic days when 'I was going to change the whole world'. If they remind me of that ideal they're not wasting their time; if they make us think about our society they have value.



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social disease called alcoholism, not enough money or resources to stem the liquid cancer. The overall ignorance is a desperate one, and the human tragedy is that it is INCREASING every day.

A third of our prison population (standing at near 40,000) is 'inside' for drunkenness or offences prompted while under the influence of drink.

Sewing Mailbags

They are 'banged up', 'dried out', bathed and fumigated, given a haircut and a

bed for a few weeks or

months — but 'treatment' doesn't get past a vitamin B tablet and a few hours of floor-scrubbing each day, or sewing mailbags with eight regulation stitches to the inch. When discharged from prison, the vicious circle starts all over again.

Beyond everything, the vagrant is a pathetic 'wet-brained' eye sore; moved on by the police, ignored by society, the absolute outcast of the welfare case-load. He is shuffled around by courts in his dim cycle of drink, wastelands and prisons. An embarrassment to the on-looker and often to himself.

Sixteen years of my own life were addicted to alcohol-

ism, and I lived for two years on skid-row. I recovered, and I am convinced that many others could be salvaged from this wreckage if the right resources were made available and if those in appointed authority would listen to those of us who HAVE recovered.

In this modern age, at a time when we spend millions of pounds upon empty values, it is both tragedy and farce that such conditions should continue to breed in our own backyards.

If we're not careful, collection boxes will be rattled on street corners with the plea "ALMS FOR BRITAIN".

We desperately need a Ministry of Compassion.



BE CALENDAR WISE

1. What is the date of the extra day in a leap year?
2. Which will be the next leap year?
3. Will the year 2,000 be a leap year?

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

Begin collecting coloured pictures, thin cardboard, odd lengths of wool and pieces of silver paper. We'll give you ideas for making them into Christmas presents next month.

CHANGING TIMES

How come that some people moan so much about changes and new things? Decimal money, metric weights and measures, the Common Market — you name it, they grumble and moan! To hear them you'd never think that things had ever changed before. **Junior Compass** has been taking a look at the calendar, and there's a story of change, if you like!

NOVEMBER TAKES A PUSH

We traced our way back to the year 700 before the birth of Jesus. A man named NUMA, in an attempt to get the calendar correct, added the months of January and February to the Roman calendar, and foggy old November got pushed on from being the ninth to the eleventh month in the year.

CHANGE AGAIN

But when January and February first appeared, the month of February came first and January followed. And so they remained until 445 B.C. when it was decided to change them over, and January became the first month and February the second.

CHANGE ONCE MORE

Things didn't work out too well during the next three hundred years or so. The length of a year, which is the time the earth takes to turn a full circle, hadn't been calculated correctly, and so eventually the months got 90 days in advance of themselves! So Julius Caesar, who lived from 101-44 B.C. tried his hand at putting things right by making a new calendar. He worked out that the average length of a year was 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days, and to keep the months right he threw into his calendar an extra day every fourth year, and called these Leap Years.

WRONG AGAIN

But even a Roman Emperor can sometimes get his sums wrong!! It takes the earth 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds to turn a full circle, so Julius Caesar's year was about 11 minutes too long. These eleven minutes a year added up to quite a long time over hundreds of years, so another attempt to get things right was made in 1582, when a Pope named Gregory XIII introduced a new calendar into Italy. He kept mainly to Julius Caesar's calendar, the leap years being those when the last two figures could be divided by four, but in Gregory's calendar century years (e.g. 1700, 1800, 1900 etc.) didn't count as leap years unless they could be divided by 400.

BRITAIN MAKES THE CHANGE

Britain didn't adopt the new calendar until the year 1752, when it was found that our dates were 11 days behind those on the continent of Europe. So in that year we jumped eleven days and at long last came into line with the rest of Europe.



A Song of Winter

Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving:

He giveth snow like wool,
He scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes,
He casteth forth his ice like morsels.
He sendeth out his word, and melteth them;
He causeth the wind to blow, and the water to flow.



Rhyming Slang again

Just over a year ago **Junior Compass** gave some examples of rhyming slang. Here's some more. Can you guess what the expressions mean? Remember the words you have to guess must rhyme with the slang term.

I was in the Dolly Varden picking some April showers. I took a butcher's hook through the Burnt sinder at the dickory dock. It was four o'clock. So I went indoors for some Rosy Lea and some stammer and stutter. Of course I washed my hands first with Cape of Good Hope and Fisherman's daughter. Mum had said they looked proper two-thirty.

For Younger Readers

Can you change DOG into CAT? In the squares below, change one letter at a time, making a complete new word.

D	O	G
C	A	T

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Calendar-wise: February 29.
For younger readers: DOG
DOT COT CAT.
Rhyming slang: Garden, flowers,
look, window*, clock, tea,
bread and butter, soap, water,
dirty.
*This rhyme may sound a bit
odd to some people, but Cock-
neys pronounce window as
windy.

Compass Club

L85? X94J 5 YI3Y*4?
25TT X9 L84B 3?
J ? 9 C J I9TT3CBF
T96?J I9IBX

Take a pinch of salt



by Jean Fielding

SALT is used as money in parts of Africa where, packaged in ten cylinders of palm-leaves, it will buy a wife.

In Britain, besides its countless uses in cooking, salt is invaluable in many ways. A little salt added to the vase will make sweet-peas last longer while salt makes an excellent substitute for toothpaste.

Tarnished brass will glow brightly again if rubbed with a mixture of salt and vinegar, rinsed well immediately and then polished when dry. Copper cooking utensils can be kept gleaming by scouring them with the same mixture.

Salt sprinkled on a damp cloth will remove dark stains from china or egg stains from silver, and it makes a good cleaning powder when scouring pans.

When boiling eggs, add a teaspoonful of salt to the water then if they crack, they will not burst. Salt will help poached eggs to keep their shape. A pinch of salt removes the insipid taste from boiled milk or milk puddings and it improves the flavour of cocoa and coffee.

Soak discoloured or slimy sponges or face flannels in a pint of warm water containing a tablespoonful of salt, leave for an hour, then rinse and hang in the fresh air to dry.

When washing vegetables, add salt to cold water, as this crisps the leaves and brings any small insects to the surface. A pinch of salt added to egg-whites will make the whipping easier.

To relieve stiff muscles after exercise, add two handfuls of salt to the warm bath water. Rubbing down the whole body with salt tones the system by stimulating the circulatory and excretory systems, while the skin develops a healthy glow.

Bloodstains can be removed from linen by soaking the affected part in cold salted water. Ink-stains will disappear if rubbed with a cut lemon dipped in salt, then washed as usual.

Wine-stains on white materials can be covered with salt moistened with lemon-juice, then exposed to sunshine.

Salt water proves a useful emetic, while gargling with salt water is a time-honoured cure for a sore throat.

And why endure the misery of a bilious attack? Sip a little salt and lemon juice every few minutes until you improve.



MARIAN MONTGOMERY—"the best chirper."

LOOKING IN WITH ERIC LAWSON

A LIVELY LOOK AT
THE TV SCENE

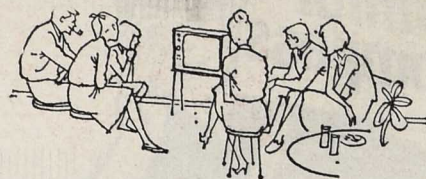
And here and there a lusty trout

(TENNYSON: THE BROOK)

A simple rustic at heart, the TV programmes of late summer and autumn which cling to my memory were all concerned with the great outdoors.

Bernard Venables' charming little 'late-tight-line-up' ANGLERS' CORNER made budding Izaak Waltons of us all. Never having graduated beyond a bent-pin I can't judge the series from an angler's angle, but I certainly enjoyed the telly jaunts to remote and scenic piscatorial places. There is obviously much more to fishing than a boozy coach trip and a canal bank lined with green umbrellas. The sparkling, rock-strewn streams and the varied skills of fly-fishing for trout and salmon contrasted wonderfully with the almost contemplative—and no less skilled—pursuit of coarser quarry with ground-bait and float. This was TV at its best; taking us to places and letting us share in activities we may never hope to enjoy at first hand.

Similarly, NAIRN'S JOURNEYS transported us by rag-roofed Morris Minor through great chunks of Europe in the company of individualist-extraordinary Ian Nairn. We looked at towns and cities with his idiosyncratic eye and enjoyed his pertinent comments in a North British brogue like an "Eddie Waring" of the architectural scene. Switzerland was 'Sense and Sensibility—with a touch of the giggles'.



In yet another out-of-doors series we made several trips by helicopter for a BIRD'S EYE VIEW of various regions of the British Isles. We flew low over tracts of Wales and the Border Counties and swooped down over the Highlands and Islands of Western Scotland. "If you see a man on the top of a mountain he's not a Highlander. The only time a Highlander climbs a mountain is to rescue some darned fool Lowlander who has got himself into trouble".

With John Betjeman as helicopter guide we saw buildings from fresh viewpoints; hovered over the stately piles of long-dead aristocracy and flew at window height with the highrise anthills which modern man has built on dockside wasteland. Is it right, asked Betjeman, that humans should have their being in such friendless soul-destroying atmospheres?

And as memories of autumn fade we curtain out the darkening night and begin the week with PARKINSON—certainly the telly 'find' of the year. Intelligent but not overtly egg-headed, good-looking, good-humoured without being in the least inane, as a chat-show host Mike Parkinson brings out the essential 'niceness' of most of the people he interviews. And with an occasional song spot from Marion Montgomery, the best chirper in the business, Parkinson may well turn out to be the high-spot of many a TV week.

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Princess Superstar

The recent performances of Her Royal Highness Princess Anne, competing against the best in the equestrian world, and beating them as well, have no doubt warmed the hearts of many people, young and old alike. There is indeed something to be said for a member of our Royal Family "joining the fray" of open competition, and obviously enjoying herself in doing so.

I must confess, however, that in watching some of her performances on Television, I became rather tired of the

SPORTS SPOT

by Stew Linnell

fountain of over-exuberant ravings, apparently well rehearsed, for Her Royal Highness's performance. Now please don't think that I am suggesting that Princess Anne does not deserve all the praise and credit that followed her performances. Indeed, I am sure that we have seen only a glimpse of what promises to be a career of great distinction and achievement should she decide to pursue it. However I think it is important

Fans in the truest sense

Down in the depths of Division Three of the Football League sits founder member of the league, Aston

Villa. To say they are in the depths of their Division is not really fair, as they have been well in touch with the top clubs ever since they dropped from Division Two in 1970.

They are a remarkable club. Not so much for their performances on the field, but more in spite of them. I refer of course to that astounding set of people, the Aston Villa supporters. Week after week, while Third Division pace-setters Notts County have only managed a top "gate" of 13,000 and Villa's lowly neighbours Walsall can only scrape a meagre average 5,000, Aston Villa attendances rarely fall below 25,000.

The Aston Villa attendance figures for the 1970/71 season were only bettered, in fact, by clubs in the First Division.

End Smile



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