

HAMPTON HILL PARISH MAGAZINE.

PAROCHIAL NOTES.

Vicar—The Rev. R. H. Brunt, B.A., A.K.C., The Vicarage, St. James's Road. Telephone: Molesey 2069.

The Vicar may usually be seen without appointment between 9-15 and 10.0 a.m., and 6.45 and 7.15 p.m. Messages about people who are sick or in special need should be sent to him as soon as possible.

Churchwardens—Mr. W. F. Wigginton, 9, Oxford Road Teddington
Mr. E. Beckett, 35, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill

Organist—Mr. C. Haydn-Bull M.I.G.C.M.

Parochial Church Officer.

Mr. S. V. Forrow, 68, Sunnyside Road Teddington.

Sunday School.

Held at 11 a.m. every Sunday

In the Parish Hall Infants—Superintendent—Miss B. Rooney.

Boys—Superintendent—Miss O. Wright.

Girls' Fellowship—Superintendent—Mrs. G. Casey

In the Club Room Senior Girls—Superintendent—Miss R. Phillips
Junior Girls—Superintendent—Miss B. Stewart

Children's Service every Sunday at 3 p.m. in Church

Missionary Committee.

Hon. Treas.—Miss Cox, 6 Queen's Road, Hampton Hill.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Stanton, 63 Park Road, Hampton Hill.

Mothers' Union.

Monthly Meetings, First Wednesday in each month in the Club Room, 3 p.m., and Quarterly Services. Corporate Communion First Thursday 10.30 a.m.

Enrolling Member: Mrs. Brunt.

St. James's Youth Club.

Meetings in the Club Room, on Mondays and Fridays at 7.30 p.m.
Hon. Sec.: Mr. L. J. Sumner.

Girl Guides. Captain—Miss Cynthia Hayward.

Brownies. Brown Owl—Miss D. Proctor.

Meetings in the Club Room on Thursdays at 5.30 p.m.

Scouts. Scout Master: Mr. G. Casey, 89 Connaught Road, Teddington

Cubs Cubmaster: Mr. S. R. Childs, 126, Uxbridge Road, Hampton Hill

District Nurse—Mrs. S. Shaw, 5, Regina Court, Gloucester Road Teddington

Churchyard.

Contributions towards the up-keep of the Churchyard will be gratefully received by Mr. E. Beckett, 35, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill.

Magazine Committee.

Hon. Treas. and Advt. Sec.: Mrs. H. F. Beckett, 6, Cross St.

Hampton Hill.

Hon. Sec: Miss H. Stanton, 63, Park Road, Hampton Hill.

Vicar's Notes.

THE CHURCHYARD.—I am sorry that because of the mention of a point that was far from being the main issue, a good deal of needless worry seems to have been caused. The fact that no one has an exclusive right to any grave except by faculty, even when a memorial has been erected, and the grave is lovingly tended, has been interpreted in ways that have caused unnecessary alarm. It has been taken to mean that perhaps the vicar will at any time in the near future open such a grave and bury within it a complete stranger. Nothing of course is further from my intention. I mentioned the fact only in illustration of what is the law about the whole matter. But no marked and cared-for grave-space would ever be interfered with, except as a very last resort—and when that stage is reached, most, if not all, of them would be full. The need for protection by faculty hardly arises here.

When no new ground is available, what would be the procedure then? Well, it now appears that there is more free space than I at first thought, and this may well last even for as long as twelve or fifteen years. There are some unaccountably vacant strips in the old part, and there are pathways in the new which will in time be dug up. But sooner or later, an end to this will come. Then, all ground that had been reserved but not protected by faculty might have to be used first—though I myself should hope to leave this a little longer, and take first the neglected, unmarked graves (of which there are unfortunately far too many) where places are known to exist, but no one took any further interest. After these, certain marked grave-spaces, where the family was known to have died out or to have left the district, and to need the empty places no longer. We have already been told of several such cases, including one family-grave which is completely empty, though it has a big monument upon it; but the person commemorated is not buried therein, and we hope in time to move the memorial to another place where no grave could be dug and to utilise the ground thus freed. And then other neglected graves would have to come up for consideration, even though marked and monumented, if it were known that there were some places left in them. But I cannot easily envisage the possibility that a marked and well-cared for grave might be taken for one who was not a member of the family concerned. This issue would arise

only if there were no room at all anywhere else. The stage may ultimately be reached when the only places left for interment are in such graves, and a parishioner dying before a member of the families concerned would undoubtedly have a right to be buried in one of these graves, unless they were protected by faculty. Therefore, though the matter may never become pressing, it is advisable for people who have places in graves that are likely to be unused for some years to allow their names to go forward as petitioners for a faculty to grant them exclusive right to these.

The far more pressing issue, of course, and the one which I had mainly in mind, is that of the reservation of empty grave-spaces. In some cases these have been reserved for sons and daughters, and even grandsons, etc., who might conceivably live for thirty or forty years, or even longer. Without a faculty, of course, these could not be kept for anything like so long, and after the present cases have been dealt with, no further faculties for reservation of empty spaces are likely to be granted. All such reservations in the future will have to be on a strictly provisional and temporary basis. I shall try to keep spaces for members of the same family near to a used grave as long as there is still free space for other new graves elsewhere, but the filling-up of the ground available obviously puts a time-limit to this, as I have mentioned above.

Some people who have been worried are those who have the least need to do so at all—the old people, who have been anxious whether anything may now prevent them from resting in a dearly-loved husband's or wife's grave. I am very sorry if distress has been unwittingly caused to some of them. There is no necessity for any anxiety at all on their part, and though I am entering their names on the list of petitioners for the faculty to make absolutely sure, there is really no need. They are quite safe without it.

GOOD NEWS.—Everyone will have heard by now the good news that so much rejoiced and encouraged us all at the beginning of last month. The most kind action of that generous benefactor, Mr. Gorst, entirely changed the whole situation with which we were faced. Mr. Bull was working hard writing letters appealing to people to support the Organ Renovation Fund; money was slowly coming in; but with only two months to go

before the bill would have to be paid, less than half the sum needed had been received. Then Mr. Gorst made his splendid offer to pay the whole amount of the estimated cost, with a margin to allow for certain extra but much-needed improvements, on condition that those who had already given would allow their gifts to be used for other Church purposes. This was a challenge which all donors who have so far learned of it have been pleased to accept. There are some who no longer live in the parish or neighbourhood and we are getting in touch with them by letter. There are of course, other Church purposes for which there is urgent need to raise money, and a special appeal will shortly have to be made (perhaps in connection with our Dedication Festival, which we have now found should be celebrated on December 11th) for repairs to the exterior of the church and improvements to the interior. Also, as we go to press, we learn that much of the electric-wiring of the church is in a dilapidated and even dangerous state, and though it can be patched up for the time being to make it safe, the whole system will before long need completely renewing. And then, of course the renovated organ will need various adjustments and repairs from time to time to keep it in a state of full efficiency, and the cost of tuning has lately been considerably increased. Some people may therefore well like their gifts to go to an Organ—not now Renovation, but—Maintenance Fund.

The organ is now playable on, but the work is not yet complete, and we intend to carry on with the piano for the time being, and then, on a Sunday in September, when most people are back from their holidays, re-open and re-dedicate the organ in a way worthy of the occasion, with a full choir and congregation, and special music. A plate will be affixed, with words to the effect that the renovation was carried out in 1951 in thankful memory of Emma Gorst. Her body now lies in our churchyard, and many people in the parish remember her with deep affection.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.—I am hoping to be away from the parish for a time in August, but even if I have to remain I intend to reduce the number of services to a minimum, and from August 9th to the 31st there may be no week-day services at all (please examine the notice-board in the church-door about this), and Sunday services for the last three Sundays in August will be only at 8.0 a.m., 11.0 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Reports and Announcements

THE MEN'S SOCIETY.—We have now been officially registered as a parochial branch of C.E.M.S., and on Sunday, September 23rd, the General Secretary of the Society, the Rev. Eric Yelverton, D.D., is coming to admit the founder members at the evening service, and to preach. After the service there will be a gathering in the Parish Hall. The Committee has met to plan out the programme for the autumn and winter, and interesting speakers, including the Rural Dean of Bethnal Green, have already been invited and have accepted. We intend to meet monthly, usually on the second Tuesday in each

month, but the next meeting, will have to be on the first, on September 4th, when the Director of Studies will be the speaker.

MOTHERS' UNION.—Starting on September 19th, we are arranging an "extra" women's meeting on the third Wednesday of each of the winter months. This is partly so that we can concentrate more fully on M.U. business on the first Wednesday and partly so that we can open our fellowship to *all* women of the parish who would like to join us.

For the sake of distinction this second meeting will be called the "Women's Guild", but we hope that members will attend both sets of meetings.

N.B. Jumble Sale on Saturday, September 22nd, in aid of a fund to start a "Baptism Roll" and to redecorate the Baptistry. For this latter we hope to be able to take full financial responsibility.

THE SCOUTS had a successful Jumble Sale recently, and raised over £12 towards the expenses of the summer camp, which is to be at Sunningdale at the end of August. The Cub Pack, which started only in February, has been progressing by leaps and bounds under the leadership of Mr. S. R. Childs. On March 28th the Investiture was held by the Assistant District Cubmaster, when 12 boys were enrolled. But there will be room for more recruits again after the holidays. Inquiries at the Club Room, Wednesdays, 6.0 p.m.

THE SUMMER FETE.—A most enjoyable day, crowds of happy people, lovely weather, and many people hard at work in front of the scenes and behind. People going up the cleaned-out tower and spire (a great deal of work had to be put in here to get things ready for visitors); the fancy-dress parade, so well organized and planned by Mr. Christie; the smooth-running of all the different events owing to the quiet control of Mr. Sumner at the centre; the generosity of the lady who paid for the insurance to cover the procession and tower-climbers and everyone else from accidents of every kind and food-poisoning (fortunately no one did come to any hurt); the stall-holders at their post for hours in the blazing sun; the queen and her attendants; the car put at her disposal; the dance organized by the Peter Pan Club Yes, columns could be written about the whole affair, and many people's names recorded with thanks. Suffice it in the space available to say that the success was due to the generosity, keenness and team-work of a group of helpers, and the large number of people who turned up on the day itself to support them. The complete financial result is not yet known, but will be recorded next month.

P.S. The Churchwardens gratefully acknowledge an anonymous gift of £5 for Church Funds.

OBITUARY.—Amongst the large number of deaths that have been recorded in recent issues of this magazine are names that have been long familiar to St. James's people, and held in high esteem.

We have space to mention only one—Charles Hamilton Evans. He was born at Criccieth, in 1870, and knew Lloyd George well. He was appointed an assistant master at the old Hampton Hill Church of

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England Boys' School in 1896, and continued to serve in the new school in Windmill Road, from which he retired in 1929. He was very keen on sport, and used to take his pupils to the river at Hampton, and he often used to recount how in teaching them to swim, he had great difficulty in preventing some of them from drowning!

He was People's Churchwarden at St. James's for a number of years, and it is largely due to his generosity and untiring efforts that the old Boys' School was converted into our present excellent Parish Hall.

He had a keen sense of humour, and was a good public speaker. He was of a genial, kindly nature, with simple tastes, and helped many people in times of trouble. He was a man of a deeply religious spirit, and devoted to his Church. By all those who came in contact with him, including all his former pupils, he will be greatly missed.

DATES TO NOTE.

August 3rd.—Sunday School outing.

August 6th.—The Transfiguration. Holy Communion
7.0 a.m.

September 4th.—8.0 p.m. C.E.M.S. Meeting.

September 5th.—3.0 p.m. M.U. Service.

September 7th.—Magazines Ready: Distribution Meeting
7.0 p.m.

September 9th. 11.0 a.m. (Provisional) Re-opening
and Re-dedication of the Organ.

September 22nd.—3.0 p.m. M.U. Jumble Sale.

September 23rd.—6.30 p.m. Preacher: The Rev. Eric
Yelverton, D.D. Admission of Members of
C.E.M.S.

October 4th.—7.15 p.m. Harvest Thanksgiving.
Preacher: The Rev. Niel Nye, Rector of Clapham.
8.30 p.m. Harvest Supper.

BAPTISMS.

June 24th.—Bridget Claire McCauley, 65, Clonmel
Road, Teddington.

June 24th.—Keith William and Sally Katherine Tapsell,
14, Halstead Road, Winchmore Hill.

July 8th.—Paul Hedley Maynard, 1, Cross Street.

July 8th.—Richard George Gordon-Smith, 6, Coles-
hill Road, Teddington.

July 14th.—Josephine Bridget Biles, 2, St. James's Road.

July 22nd.—Susan Miles, 47, Sherwood Road, Luton.

July 22nd.—Linda Patricia Bayton, 43, Windmill Road.

July 22nd.—Barry Stephen Pike, 28, Westbank Road.

MARRIAGE.

June 30th.—Charles Albert Brandon to

Joan Mary Shaw.

BURIALS.

June 27th.—Emma Hudson, 9, St. James's Road, aged
88 years. (At Twickenham Cemetery).

June 28th.—Henry George Bird, 37, Uxbridge Road,
aged 45 years.