

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

The question of the erection of a new small hall has been re-considered, and the decision to proceed with it as soon as possible has been rescinded. The Council did not relish having to make this 'volte-face,' but the financial risks of proceeding with such a venture at the moment were far too serious to be taken. The Council also cancelled its previous resolution binding itself to meet monthly. It was felt that this was not now opportune, as many members would be heavily involved in the "commissions of enquiry" which have been set up; and though the number of committees has been reduced, some are still necessary, and they take up a good deal of time. Mr. John Lloyd has been appointed as Secretary of the Renovation Committee in succession to Miss Stanton, who will shortly be taking a course in Theology at Oxford. The Council's long search for an individual or group who would undertake the organising of the Summer Fête has also had a very satisfactory ending: Mr. Cyril Tarrant, whose ability as an organiser has already contributed a great deal to the gaiety of the Parish, has kindly consented to take on this arduous job. He is being supported by a group of volunteers who have formed themselves—with the full approval of the Council—into a special "Fête Committee" to see the thing through. It is very important that the Fête this year should be a bumper one, as the financial needs of the Parish are very pressing, and 1953 saw a serious decline in income all round, apart from the encouraging response to the Renovation Appeal. The very success of this — the £1000 mark was reached in March, only 16 months after the Appeal was launched — may have been partly responsible for the stringency elsewhere. This year we hope to make good all ground lost last year, and strengthen our position so that a real advance may be made.

THE REVEREND FREDERICK PEARCE POPE HARVEY

The Rev. F. P. P. Harvey, Vicar of St. James's from 1923 to 1950, died at his sister's home in Blundellsands on 18th February in his seventy-sixth year and was buried in St. James's Churchyard on the 23rd February.

Mr. Harvey was educated at King's College, London, and at Durham University. He was Ordained in 1902 and spent four years as Curate at Little Ilford in Essex. His next Curacy was at Jarrow Grange on the Tyne before he moved south again to Stretton Grandison and then to Leominster in Herefordshire. In 1911 he was appointed Curate in Charge of All Saints', Hampton, and remained there until he was offered and accepted the living of St. James's in 1923, so that in all he served for thirty-nine years in this district.

As one of his Church Wardens in his early years at St. James's I would like to recall the changes which have taken place in Parochial life since those days. It was the end of an era in which Church finance was administered by the Vicar and the Church Wardens while the necessary funds for ordinary and extraordinary expenditure was almost entirely obtained from those who rented pews. Parochial Church Councils were just beginning to operate and had not yet realised their powers or their responsibilities. At the same time the custom of renting pews was falling out of favour. Not only did this reduce the Vicar's income but it also lost the select list to whom application for special funds could be made. The P.C.C. had to realise in the end that it was now their duty to obtain funds for all purposes.

During the early years Mr. Harvey applied himself to keep the Church so that the congregation was comfortable and items such as the enlargement of the heating boiler, provision of kneelers for every seat in the Church, by voluntary labour and by purchase as

well as other small matters were accomplished. Among these were the enlargement of the Church Yard, the conversion of the old school buildings into a Parish Hall and Club Rooms and the replacement of the old Vicarage by one of modern design. It was fortunate that the Church escaped damage by bombing during the war but in spite of this it was found that the Spire had been badly shaken and this damage was made good before Mr. Harvey's period of office ended.

Mr. Harvey, who was endowed with musical taste, always endeavoured to maintain at a high standard the musical services in the Church and had a good voice so that reading and preaching could always be heard and understood by all.

When he had completed twenty-five years as Vicar the Parochial Church Council and others were showing ever keener interest in Parish affairs and it was a shock to all when his health broke and he had to retire in 1950.

C. JAKEMAN.

THE MEN'S SOCIETY

Our next meeting, at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11th, will be an open one in the Hall, when Mr. F. Alvey has kindly consented to give another Gilbert and Sullivan lecture-recital, this time on "The Gondoliers." Judging by the previous occasion, this should be something well worth hearing so (whether C.E.M.S. members or not) please come and bring your friends. Ladies are welcome, of course.

At the meeting on Tuesday, April 6th, Mr. Ford spoke on "The International Aspects of Civil Aviation." It was most interesting to hear how differences between the various, mostly State-sponsored, airline "operators" are discussed and slowly ironed out, proceedings being greatly assisted by the "camaraderie" which has grown up between the representatives of the interests concerned. One could not help feeling what a pity it was that some means did not exist to ensure that other international matters be similarly dealt with on the lines of "a solution MUST be found." The intricacies of multiple journey ticket-booking (and subsequent account-

ancy) were also lucidly explained. Some lively discussion followed, during which the heartening fact that no colour bar existed in B.O.A.C. employment was brought out. We are grateful to Mr. Ford, and hope that others, not necessarily in C.E.M.S. (yet!) may volunteer or be prevailed on to tell us of aspects of their experience.

Finally, we badly need a secretary to replace Mr. Sargeant, whose health has necessitated his resignation after doing invaluable work ever since the Branch was formed; it is difficult to see how we can continue unless someone comes forward in this capacity. Apart from this, new members are needed if the Branch is to flourish, especially from amongst those who are not burdened with other church duties and can therefore take a lively part in our activities. Either the Vicar or I would be glad to hear from anyone interested in joining.

C.W.S.

MOTHERS' UNION AND YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

The Enrolment Service will take place in church on Wednesday, May 5th, and afterwards there will be tea at the Hall. Children and prams will be welcome in church and if the weather is fine there will be an opportunity for children to play in the Vicarage garden under supervision from 2.45 to 3.45.

There are still some seats available for the Y.W.G. Theatre Party to the Lyric, Hammersmith, on May 7th. Enquiries should be made to Mrs. Severn. Tel.: Mol. 382.

Typed slips for the Y.W.G. programme for the next four months were available at the last meeting. Please will those who did not get them then ask their representative?

The needlework group begins again on April 29th.

Badminton at the Vicarage will begin on TUESDAYS in the middle of May.

On May 6th there is a special Overseas Sale and Meeting at Christ Church Hall, Chiswick, from 2.30—9.0 p.m. Our Deanery is responsible for a "Village Stall" which means that we can send anything that might be bought at a village shop. I should be glad

to receive gifts as soon as possible before May 4th when I will send them in one parcel to Mrs. Morris, our representative. Handbills are displayed at church and please ask your representative for one with full particulars if you are likely to go to the meeting. Of special interest will be the showing of a film descriptive of M.U. work overseas and one of our own M.U. workers in Africa will be speaking at some point during the programme. C.H.B.

THE DRAMA GROUP

"A Question of Fact" is a serious and clever play, well acted and enjoyed by those of us, i.e., members and friends of St. James's Drama Group, who saw it at the Piccadilly Theatre, London, on April 21st. The play is one which gives food for thought regarding the adoption of children and the disclosure of the fact to them, and they in turn perhaps discovering the fact of crime in their ancestors. The unhappiness and sense of frustration which these discoveries could produce on an impressionable mind was well brought out in the play as it unfolded itself.

Many thanks are due to the Group's able Secretary, Mr. Cyril Tarrant, for all his forethought in the arrangements for a very comfortable and pleasant outing.

C.M.

"Shadow of the Eagle"

At 8 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, May 20th and 21st, the St. James's Drama Group will present at the Parish Hall, School Road, "Shadow of the Eagle," a play in two acts by Ronald Cockram. Production will be by Mrs. Dorothy J. Crabb, who will be remembered, apart from her other achievements, for her work on the Nativity Play in the church in January, 1952. "The Shadow of the Eagle" has a religious theme, portraying the impact of Christianity on Jews and Romans alike during the first century A.D., but the thoughts and acting will be found strikingly modern, and much food for thought will be found in the treatment of the highly topical subject of world peace and means of ensuring it. C.T.

THE GUIDE COMPANY

The main event for which we had been working last month was an Open Meeting held on April 1st. Miss Whisker (District Secretary) enrolled S. Baker, M. Jost, G. Martin, H. Macniece and J. Hall and presented second class badges to A. Warren and D. Wells. The meeting also included a demonstration of gadget-making for camp, morse-signalling and a parents' game, and ended with camp-fire singing. We were very pleased to have the Vicar with us and also to welcome Mrs. Casey, our Brown Owl, who brought four of her older Brownies along. We are indeed grateful to all our friends for joining us on this occasion and helping to make it such an enjoyable evening.

Congratulations to Ann Squire, who has just passed the Cook's badge test, and to Avis Warren, who has been elected Leader of the Bullfinch Patrol. Also to her Patrol, who won the Inter-Patrol Competition and are to be rewarded by a visit to Headquarters in London.

At present the Guides are very busy with a money-raising effort which is taking the form of individual trading. We have decided that this money shall be divided equally between Summer Camp expenses and Company funds. We are also collecting jam jars in an effort to raise money to help towards the expenses of sending our four Leaders to a District Patrol Leaders' Training Camp at Whitsun.

S. E. SIMMONS (Captain)

SMALL ADVERTISEMENT SERVICE

In response to various inquiries, we are now offering facilities for small advertisements to our readers. We hope to be able to allow space for three a month. Price 1/6, limit 30 words. Mrs. Nickols, 56, St. James's Road (Tel.: Mol. 3484) is kindly organising this service. Application should be made direct to her not later than the 15th of each month.

WANTED. Used Gramophone Records in good condition.—Ring Mol. 382.

WANTED. Badminton Racket.—Ring Mol. 2069.

FOR SALE. Child's High Chair £1; Child's Car Seat with Steering-wheel 10/-; Pram Seat 10/-; Dunkeley large cream and black Pram, good condition £5; Canopy 10/-.—Mol. 6523.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- May 3.—8.0 p.m. Fete Committee (Laurel Dene).
 May 4.—8.0 p.m. News Team Fellowship (Vicarage).
 May 5.—3.0 p.m. M.U. Enrolment Service. 7.30 p.m. Parish Easter Social (Hall), Tickets 1/6.
 May 6.—2.30 p.m.—9.0 p.m. M.U. Overseas Sale, Christ Church Hall, Chiswick.
 May 7.—7.15 p.m. Y.W.G. Theatre Party. 8.0 p.m. Junior Sunday School Teachers (Vicarage).
 May 8.—2.30 p.m. Scouts' and Guides' Jumble Sale (Hall).
 May 11.—8.0 p.m. C.E.M.S Open Meeting: "The Gondoliers" (Hall).
 May 13.—8.15 p.m. Church Council (Vestry).
 May 16.—3.0 p.m. Annual Parade Service, West Twickenham District Girl Guides.
 May 20 & 21.—8.0 p.m. Play "Shadow of the Eagle," pre-

ented by the Drama Group (Hall).

- May 26.—7.45 p.m. Young Wives' Group (Hall).
 May 27.—Ascension Day. Holy Communion 7.0 and 10.30 a.m. 7.45 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.
 May 28.—7.30 p.m. Magazine Distributors (Vicarage).

BAPTISMS

- Mar. 28.—Richard Frederick Lovelock, 16, Uxbridge Road.
 „ 28.—Ann Patricia Manning, 9, Eastbank Road.
 „ 28.—Harold Michael Greenbank, 8, Seymour Road.

MARRIAGES

- Apr. 3.—Jay Walker Ball to Pauline Mary Whitta.
 „ 3.—Anthony Richard Mason to Beryl Lletitia Trotter.
 „ 10.—David Arthur Henson to Sheena Margaret McAllen.

BURIAL

- Apr. 14.—Albert Critchley, 74, Wellington Road, aged 85 years.

N.B. No Holy Communion at 10.30 a.m. on Thursdays, May 6th and 20th.

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

THE DIOCESE OF LONDON A Brief History

(This year our great Diocese is celebrating its 27th Jubilee. Further particulars of the various events to mark this will be given in due course. To help us to form an idea of the historical background to the Jubilee, we are presenting a series of four articles written by a leading Church Historian. Here is part of the first.—Ed.)

1. The Saxon Church

The history of the London diocese begins in 604 A.D. Before that time, during the Roman occupation of Britain, there had been a Christian community in the city, and in 314 Restitutus, Bishop of the City of London, attended the Council of Arles, but his is the only name of which there is any certainty, and there is no reliable evidence of the strength or organ-

isation of the Church during this period. By the end of the 4th century, the Roman power in Britain was broken, and the country lay increasingly open to the inroads of barbarians from northern Europe, Angles, Saxons and Jutes, who brought with them the worship of pagan gods, of Woden, Thor, Frig and Tiw, who are commemorated still in the names of four of our days of the week. The British clergy withdrew westward and the churches fell into ruins. The invaders became settlers and traders. Their merchandise included slaves, and it was the sight of English boys exposed for sale in the market-place in Rome which prompted St. Gregory to send missionaries to England.

(The remainder of the article is held over until next month owing to pressure on space.)