

## Vicar's Notes

The Young Wives' Group are to be congratulated on their initiative and persistence in carrying through their Nursery School project. It should meet a real need, as there is very scanty provision in this area for children under Primary School age, and owing to overcrowding Primary Schools cannot now always accept children at the statutory age. The Parish will also benefit in other ways from the scheme. Though it will not solve the grave financial problems connected with the Hall, the rent from the new school will certainly ease them. The Church Council was reluctant to resort to such drastic measures as closing the Hall for all or part of the year, or selling it, or doubling or trebling the hiring charges, but something like this might have been forced upon it, if bankruptcy was to be avoided. Now the Hall (with its roof now well repaired and made water-proof) will continue to be a centre of social activity, and that is all to the good.

Mention of the Young Wives' Group brings to mind one of the very few local organisations that does not have to complain of lack of interest or support. Their problem rather is to accommodate all who wish to join. But most other

societies and committees that I know find lack of support a pressing problem. Whether it is a social, or something serious, or a mixture of the two, you never seem to know whether people will rally round or not. It is not only the Church that is affected: many good civic and secular agencies are similarly up against it. For the last seven years I have attended whenever I could the training classes of Civil Defence, and most interesting many of them have been, but the support, particularly here, has been pathetically small, though some improvement has begun to show at last. I do not need to elaborate this, as most of us are only too well aware of it, and the need is for encouragement than for stressing how "few and small and weak your bands." I have sometimes spoken of T.V.A. (Thames Valley Apathy); here is a group that puts us all on our mettle in combatting this. I know many of us are expected to attend far more functions than we should. But on the whole, we ought to mix more than we do, become more of a community and congregation, not just a collection of isolated individuals and families keeping themselves to themselves. There is a need for more fellowship, more discussion, more praying and playing together.

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## AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about  
people, activities & organisations

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### THE RENOVATION FUND

We acknowledge with thanks an anonymous gift received by post (Teddington postmark) with accompanying note: "Kindly place enclosed £1 to the Renovation Fund. In return for friendly help."

Another Dance is being arranged for Saturday, February 9th, in the Hall, the proceeds of which will be for the Fund. We are also hoping to arrange another such event before Lent, perhaps a Shrove Tuesday Party. All such things are rather gambles from a money-raising point of view, for one can never tell how many people are going to turn up, and it is not always possible to sell a large number of tickets beforehand.

The Concert Party entertainment "Any Moment Now!" fully lived up to its reputation, and was most enjoyable. We admired the wit and brilliance of Mr. Fred Smith, who not only produced the show and acted as compère, but also wrote all the music, lyrics and sketches himself—and very good these were. The only sad thing was that more people did not come to share this very pleasant evening. We hope that next winter they will come again with the fifth edition of their show, and that on this next occasion we shall support them as they deserve. This first visit, though very successful from the point of view of entertainment, escapes being a financial loss to the Renovation

Fund only through some later gifts received by the Vicar. Expenses were higher than they would normally have been because, owing to petrol rationing, the Company had to come by coach instead of in private cars, but against this is to be set the fact that all the refreshments were given by members and friends or the Renovation Committee. Mr. Eric Dorrell duplicated the tickets free of charge, and Mr. Rockliffe as well as spending hours with his small team of helpers fixing and arranging the stage and lighting, was able to borrow the extra lights required without any hiring-cost. So here is how 2/3 profit was made for the Fund!—

**Receipts:** Sale of Tickets, Programmes and Refreshments £8-14-0; Later Donations 12/6. **Total** £9-6-6.

**Expenses:** Occasional Play Licence from County Council 5/-; Duplicating of Programmes 9/6; Posters 19/9; Hire of Coach £6; Hire of Hall £1-10-0. **Total** £9-4-3.

Net proceeds for Renovation Fund 2/3.

Another 50 people present would have made all the difference.

### A NURSERY SCHOOL

The Young Wives' Group, with the approval and support of the Church Council, is sponsoring a Nursery School, to open on March 4th in the Parish Hall. The scheme has had to be submitted to the appropriate committees of the County Council, who have given helpful advice and full permission to go ahead. Miss Tudor-Hart gave the benefit of her wisdom and long experience to the Committee in helping them to choose the right person as teacher, and what seems to be an excellent appointment has now been made. An assistant is to be appointed shortly.

The school will meet for morning sessions only, and will be run on the "learning through play" method. Equipment will include poster-paints, clay, sand, bricks, etc., and there will be music and movement daily.

The school will, of course, be non-profit making, and the fees charged will be to cover cost of

hiring the hall, teachers' salaries, provision of equipment, and other necessary expenses. For a full term they will be 6½ guineas, payable in advance, with an enrolment fee of 10/6. The school is primarily for the children under 5 years of age of members of the Young Wives' Group, but there may be room for others. Applications for enrolment should be made to Mrs. Saunders, 82, St. James's Avenue (Mol. 4938). Further information about the school may be obtained from her, or from:—

Mrs. White, 189½, Uxbridge Road (Mol. 5226); or

Mrs. Smith, 4A, St. James's Road (Mol. 7027).

### THE MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting will be held at Wayside on February 6th at 3 p.m. Speaker: Miss I. Swinford Edwards. Subject: Baptism.

February 13th, 8.0 p.m.: Film "Design for Living," in support of the Renovation Fund (Parish Hall).

#### Prayer for the month:

Alone with God: oh, help me more and more  
To seek Thy face, Thy blessed Name adore,  
To live so close, to walk with Thee each day,  
To hear Thy softest whisper and obey.

M.J.B.

### MARMALADE TIME AGAIN

Once again we are making marmalade for the Renovation Fund. Unfortunately the increased price of sugar and oranges requires us to charge 1/6 a pound. We think that you will still be satisfied with the value: we have very high class confectioners (preservers?). It will be on sale at the women's meetings and some others; or enquiries can be made of Mrs. Gloyns. MOL. 7020.

### THE CHURCH LADS' BRIGADE

Sixty years ago, in 1896, Her Majesty Queen Victoria inspected a parade of the C.L.B. at Osborne, Isle of Wight. The lads were in camp near Portsmouth and were

invited by Her Majesty to visit Osborne for the inspection.

It is difficult to imagine these lads of the Victorian era, but somehow I feel there is very little fundamental difference between those lads and our own—they would undoubtedly answer a similar call with pride, and earn the merit of a job well done.

Talking on inspections reminds me of the 1954 London Regimental Camp—it was the day of the inspection usually carried out by the Camp Commandant of a neighbouring camp (or should I say friendly-cum-hostile camp next door). In the interval between reveille and morning prayers the camp was a hive of industry; this resulted in the lads being mustered late for prayers.

The Padre was at the flag staff in good time, and had patiently waited our convenience. His opening remarks summed up the position perfectly. He said that the camp was of secondary importance against the fact that we were assembled for inspection by the Almighty. This should never take second place.

This is typical of the very sound spiritual training that makes a camp really worthwhile. It is all very well to be able to light a fire with one match, but I've no doubt a cannibal can manage this very well, without even the match.

We marked our 64th Anniversary by taking part in the monthly Youth Service, very appropriate I think, because it fulfils two of the objects of the Brigade.

The Church Lads' Brigade is the only National Boys' organisation belonging to the Church, and its prime object is:

"To extend the Kingdom of Christ among lads and to make them faithful members of the Church of England, or other Episcopal Church in communion with the Church of England."

The opportunity for Christian teaching is unsurpassed, by any other organisation and the bounds that a lad has of growing up as a devoted son of the Church, and a man of God are only limited by the frailties of man.

If one of the lads can be of service to you, give him the opportunity, the pleasure of service comes with practice and I'm sure the average boy, and that includes the Teddy boys, would rather be doing something useful, if we can show them where and why there is such a need for service in this World of ours.

Since early in 1956 the fortunes of the Company have changed and the appeal for help has been answered and a strong capable cadre of officers is forming. This has enabled the Company to open a senior section at the Parish Hall. The meeting time is 6.45 on Tuesdays, and the programme? That depends entirely on how much is put in by the lads. They have a self-elected management committee and it is encouraging to see that a place for religious instruction has been allotted in the programme.

May I thank all the parishioners that have done so much for the Company, and for the welcome we have received in our homecoming.

B.A.H.

### THE SCOUT GROUP

The Cubs' Christmas Party was held on January 9th, and I would like to thank all those parents who sent cakes and biscuits. It was intended on this occasion to make a presentation to Kim, but unfortunately he was unable to be present.

It was then decided to do this at the first opportunity, which was the next Cub meeting, when "Guv" made the presentation of a Clock in appreciation of the help given by Kim to the Pack and Troop over a number of years.

Kim (Michael Childs) has sent the following letter.

College of St. Mark & St. John,  
King's Road,  
Chelsea, S.W.10.

20/1/57.

Dear Scouters, Parents  
and Friends,

I am writing to say how much I appreciated the lovely clock which was presented to me by Guv last Wednesday at Cubs. It came as a great surprise and I shall always treasure it.

As you know I have greatly enjoyed working with the Cubs and Scouting with the Group in the past, and I sincerely hope that I shall be able to join you on some occasions in the future.

Yours very sincerely,

KIM.

Unfortunately owing to National Service the Scout Troop is now losing another helper, who although he has been with us only a comparatively short period has proved by his enthusiasm and keenness a welcome member of our Group. "Good Luck," Derek, from the Group, and we shall look forward to seeing you whenever you are home on leave.

The Group's New Year Party on January 5th was a great success and it was certainly encouraging to see so many young people, especially our friends in the Movement from Sunbury and Hampton.

Please note the following future events:—

Group Committee: Thursday, 21st February.

Group Open Evening followed by

A.G.M.: Wednesday, 27th Feb.

Jumble Sale: Sat., 16th March.

"Our Show": Sat., 4th May.

The Group Committee sincerely hope all parents will make a special effort to attend the Open Evening on Wednesday, February 27th.

### SOME DATES TO NOTE

Feb. 9.—8.0 p.m. Dance: Proceeds for Renovation Fund (Hall).

Feb. 12.—8.0 p.m. Properties Committee (W).

Feb. 13.—8.0 p.m. Film "A Design for Living": Collection for Renovation Fund (Hall).

Feb. 16.—3.45 p.m. Infants' Sunday School Party (W). 4.0 p.m. Old People's Party (Hall).

Feb. 18.—7.30 p.m. R.D. Conference (Twickenham).

Feb. 21.—8.0 p.m. Scout Group Committee (W).

Feb. 22.—8.0 p.m. Sunday School Teachers, Junior Dept. (V).

Feb. 25.—St. Matthias, Holy Communion 7.15 p.m.

Feb. 27.—7.0 p.m. Scout Group: Open Evening and A.G.M. (Hall).

8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group: The Work of Marriage Guidance Councils (W).

8.0 p.m. Old People's Welfare Committee (Fitzwygram Club).

Feb. 28.—8.15 p.m. Church Council (W).

March 1.—7.30 p.m. Magazines ready: Distributors' Meeting (V).

March 6.—Ash Wednesday—Lent begins.

### BAPTISM

Jan. 27.—Ian Fisher, 7A, St. James's Road.

### BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

Jan. 17.—George Herbert Orton, 12, Gloucester Road, aged 79 years (at Teddington).

" 21.—Septimus Arthur Edridge, 7, Lindsay Road, aged 77 years (at S.W. Middx. Crematorium).

" 21.—Thomas Winter, died at Leicester, formerly of Hampton Hill, aged 81 years (at Teddington).

" 23.—John William George Taylor, 26, Seymour Road, aged 36 years (at Twickenham).

" 24.—Annie Elizabeth Tozer, 223, High Street, aged 89 years.

" 26.—Brenda Mary Canning, died at Northampton, formerly of 30, Bushy Park Gardens, aged 45 years (at Teddington).