

## Vicar's Notes

It is not easy to make a change in tradition, especially in one so well-established as the St. James's Summer Fête, with its large number of gay stalls making money surrounded by eager and not-so-eager customers spending it. But the change had to be made sooner or later, and this year the time seemed ripe. So the Summer Fête now passes into history, and the Garden Party takes its place. And we want it to be a real party; gayer than anything that has preceded it.

### What is the Difference?

What then will be the main difference between the old pattern and the new? The most striking will undoubtedly be the absence of stalls with things for sale. The only such stall will be that provided by the Old People's Welfare Committee, and the proceeds from this will be for their own funds, not ours. Apart from this there will be nothing to buy or pay for except ice-creams and soft drinks, and bran-tub dips and one or two similar items of amusement for the children. All the rest will be free. Some of our organisations were ready to run stalls, and we are very grateful to the Mothers' Union, whose preparations were well advanced, but who are now kindly giving the money which they had raised for this purpose direct to the funds. The only drawback is that we cannot this year give free entrance and free teas. Though our only financial concern this year is just to cover expenses, not to make a profit, this is still indeed a concern. We cannot afford to make a loss, and it would not be right to do so. The Committee has therefore decided that admission shall be by ticket only, for which application should be made by the end of June, otherwise we shall not know what numbers to expect or how many teas to provide. We hope to send shortly a separate leaflet containing a form of application and fuller details about all this to those whose names are on the Electoral Roll and other lists. The charge for tickets will be two shillings for adults, one shilling for children and young people still at school. There

will be no additional charge for tea—it will all be included. At first sight this may seem a good deal to pay, but the Committee feel confident that people will get more than their money's worth, if the programme goes forward as planned and no last-minute snags crop up. The programme already arranged includes an open-air orchestral concert and one-act play, lighter music, sports for children, exhibitions and competitions. There will also be the chance to meet one another and talk and chat in lovely surroundings. So let's have a great gathering of the family of St. James's without the constant worry of feeling—"I must support this stall—I ought to buy a raffle-ticket at that." And if it's wet—there will not be the risk of a big financial loss as in former years, when we have always taken a terrific gamble on the weather—this year the entertainment and teas will be transferred to the Hall, and the rain will be defied.

### Money by Better Ways

The reason why we no longer wish or need to hold a summer event as a money-raiser is because the Christian Giving Scheme and other ways of direct giving have been seen to be better and worthier ways of providing financial support for the maintenance and extension of the work of the Church—not only better in principle, but also more fruitful in result. This year we should have an income from direct giving alone which will be £300 more than was raised from all sources, including the Summer Fête, last year. This is indeed a splendid beginning, but of course we are by no means out of the financial wood yet. And the very success of the Christian Giving Scheme—through which 65 individuals and families raise £860 a year between them—is a standing challenge to the far larger number of people not in the scheme who are providing only about £260 a year between them.

### What another Parish has done

I have been much interested to see that the Parish of Mansfield, which I served as curate and priest-in-charge for nine years, has after some hesitation (which references to what had been written in "The

Spire" may have helped to dispel carried through a scheme similar to ours. But there was sufficient money in hand to enable them to go the whole way and call in the professional help of Wells. The results are now to hand, and the Vicar is able to report that Mansfield Parish Church will now have a pledged income of more than £5000 a year from 400 families and individuals. In a small way, we perhaps helped them to launch their scheme: now they certainly challenge us! Why cannot we interest more of the 500-odd families whose names are "on our books" to give more regularly and generously? If we could raise our total of committed givers to the same level as Mansfield, I am sure we could also attain a similar income to theirs. Please give this matter serious thought—and if as a result you decide that the right thing to do is to join the Christian Giving Scheme there is no need to wait until the end of the year—a word to Mr. Whiteley, and he will be glad to arrange for you to start at any time.

### Recent Achievements

Everyone will have noticed the "new look" of our clock, and be glad to know that the works which lie out of sight have also been cleaned and overhauled. So the clock now resumes its interrupted service, and the handsome appearance of the dials accords with the dignity of the spire.

We hope to be able to send a cheque of over £60 from the Hampton Council of Churches to help forward the work amongst refugees. £10 of this was already in from the proceeds of "Everyman"; £2-14-6 was given in our church on Ascension Day. We have not yet heard what the stalls at Hampton raised, but those manned by us and members of the Congregational Church raised just under £24 between them. We are grateful to all who helped, and showed how the churches can work together in friendship to carry through something of great urgency and importance.

### The Parish Meetings

The recent Parish Meetings have been most interesting, though not always as well supported as we had hoped. In April, Mr. Stevens spoke to us about the Holy Land, and showed some striking photographs. In May, we listened to a chapter from J. B. Phillips' "New Testament Christianity," read by a member of the Young People's Fellowship; then we split up into small groups to discuss questions on it. This led to everybody's taking a full and active part, and the findings, reported back to the whole meeting, showed the remarkable extent of our common mind. On June 12th we hope to welcome two members of the Parish Meeting at Molesey, who will speak to us on "The Layman's Responsibility." They have something important to share with us.

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## AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about  
people, activities & organisations

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### THE SCOUT GROUP

The Scout Troop enrolled nine new boys on May 7th, making the Unit now 24 strong, a larger number than for many years. The Cub Pack also has once again attained the maximum number it is allowed, and any boy now wanting to join will have to have his name entered on a waiting-list. The Cubs meet at 6.0 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Hall, and the Cubmaster would be pleased to see any parents wanting to make inquiries at 7.30 p.m. All new recruits must be regular members of St. James's Sunday School.

On April 28th the Annual General Meeting of the District Association was held. It was reported that "Bob-a-Job" Week for 1957 was a record, £323 having been raised. The number of badges gained by our Troop was 25, which included two "Leaping Wolves."

The Cubs are entered for the District Sports on Saturday, June 21st, 2.30 p.m. at Denmead. It is hoped that many parents and friends will come along to cheer them on.

The Fête on May 27th was prepared for in very doubtful weather, but the afternoon itself was not too

unfavourable, and a large crowd was soon in attendance round the stalls. A very enjoyable display was given by the Elizabethan Reel Club, and the Bugle and Drum Band of the Kingston Association put on a dramatic toy soldier action. As a result of it all it is hoped to add a large sum to the Building Fund.

Remember: June 10th — Bingo Drive (H); June 21st—Cub Sports; July 1st—Group Committee (W).

### 1st HAMPTON HILL GUIDE COMPANY

This Company was founded in June 1948, though the actual day of the month is uncertain. Now is the time for birthday celebrations. A Party is planned for Saturday, June 28th, and on the previous Sunday the Company hopes to attend the monthly Family and Parade Service in force, after inspection by the District Commissioner.

In November the Brownie Pack will come in for their share of the celebrations, for their fortieth birthday occurs then.

### THE MOTHERS' UNION

#### Dates to remember:

June 4th.—Branch Meeting, Parish Hall, 3 p.m. Speaker: Miss Vera Morton (M.U. Overseas Speaker).

**The World-Wide Conference** is in July—note the following events: July 8th, 4.15 p.m.—Opening of the Mothers' Union Panorama in the Central Hall, Westminster.

July 10th, 2.30 p.m.—Overseas Meeting in the Central Hall, at which several Overseas Speakers will be taking part. Also from 11 a.m.—9.30 p.m. The M.U. Panorama.

#### Then, in our own Parish:

July 2nd.—M.U. Service in Church, 3 p.m. Guest Preacher: The Rev. Eldred Tipper, of Kensal Green. Tea in Vicarage Garden, if fine; if wet, at Wayside.

### THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

A number of appointments have been made during the last month and the Fellowship is now settling down to its new existence under a Provisional Constitution. We are

looking forward to a busy programme during the summer months. We hope to welcome those who are now preparing for Confirmation, to the activities being arranged in July. All young people in the Parish are warmly welcome to any of our activities.

Sunday evening meetings at 8 p.m. :—

June 15th.—Guest Speaker: The Rev. G. H. Stevens.

June 22nd.—Opening of the Problem Box.

June 29th.—Vicar's Evening — Confirmation.

July 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th.—Studies on the Epistle of James.

Other activities include:—

Communion Breakfasts, June 29 and July 20.

Services at Laurel Dene, June 8, 22, July 13, 27.

Table Tennis, June 13, 27, July 11.

Outdoor Activities, June 21 and July 26.

Indoor Evenings, June 28 and July 19.

Garden Party at Laurel Dene, July 5.

R.E.P.

### SOME DATES TO NOTE

June 11.—St. Barnabas.

7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.

3 p.m. Garden Party for Mothers and recently-baptised babies (Vicarage Lawn).

June 12.—7.45 p.m. Parish Meeting (W).

June 14.—3.30 p.m. Old People's Party (H).

June 16.—7.30 p.m. Ruri-decanal Conference (St. Mary's Hall, Twickenham).

June 17.—8.0 p.m. Garden Party Planning Meeting (Laurel Dene).

June 18.—7.0 p.m. People's Offering Service (St. Paul's Cathedral).

June 20.—8.0 p.m. Bishop of Rangoon speaks at St. Mary's Hall, Twickenham. (Limited number of tickets for each Parish).

June 21.—4.0 p.m. Bishop of Rangoon meets members of Ruri-decanal Conference at All Souls' Hall, St. Margaret's.

June 22.—11.0 p.m. Monthly Family and Parade Service. 40th Anniversary of the Founding of the Guide Company.

June 24.—St. John Baptist.  
 9.0 a.m. Holy Communion.  
 8.0 p.m. Festival Service at St. Mary's, Twickenham. Preacher: The Bishop of Rangoon. (Admission by ticket).

June 25.—7.45 p.m. Young Wives' Group (W).

June 27.—7.30 p.m. Magazines should be ready (V).

June 29.—St. Peter's Day.  
 Sunday Services as usual.

July 5.—3.0 p.m. Summer Garden Party at Laurel Dene. (If wet, entertainments and refreshments in Hall).

### BAPTISMS

May 13.—Derrick Beckett, John Richard Bullock (of Riper Years).

„ 25.—Susan Caroline Adam, Blackmore Farm, Sixth Cross Road.

„ 25.—William Kennedy Ketcher, 26, St. James's Rd.

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## FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

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### TOO WET TO GO TO CHURCH?

From Kashmir, a C.M.S. missionary writes: "The weather was unusually wet, but in spite of it we managed three good treks. The longest was up to the Cave of Amarnath, a sacred place of pilgrimage for the Hindus. Every summer thousands visit, chiefly at the time of the August full moon. This year it was reckoned that five thousand went up at that time, some of them Sadhus (holy beggars), but many of them ordinary folk. The weather was cruelly wet, and as the cave is 12,500 feet up and the last part of the way is chiefly over snow, it can be bitterly cold too. Yet we saw holy men go up bare-foot, clad in little except ashes; frail old ladies and mothers with little children; all struggling up the last 29 miles of hill paths, where wheeled traffic is impossible, and the only means of transport are ponies or litters carried by four men. I couldn't help thinking of the numbers of Christian people at home who think that a wet Sunday is a good reason not to go to Church."

### LOOKING TO LAMBETH

Some 320, bishops will attend the Lambeth Conference this summer, and among them there will be twenty-four archbishops. The word 'archbishop' means 'leading bishop.' There is an archbishop in every province or group of dioceses.

Not every province of the Anglican Communion uses the actual title 'Archbishop.' The Episcopal Church in Scotland has its 'Primus'; the Episcopal Church in the U.S.A., and

the Church in Japan their 'Presiding Bishops'; the Church of India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon its 'Metropolitan'; and the Church in China has a Chairman of its House of Bishops. But their status and responsibilities are similar.

The Anglican bishopric in Jerusalem has recently been made an archbishopric, and the first Archbishop in Jerusalem has been appointed, with jurisdiction over other dioceses in the Middle East.

The Lambeth Conference of 1958 will be what it is because of the missionary spirit which transformed the Church of England into the world-wide Anglican Communion of today. In 1800 there were 12 Anglican dioceses overseas: in 1956 they numbered 260.

In that shaping and development the C.M.S. has, under God, played a considerable part. Many of the bishops who will be at Lambeth this year come from parts of the world where C.M.S. missionaries were used by God to plant the Church. Some of these bishops are, or were themselves, C.M.S. missionaries; others, African or Asian in nationality, were trained for the ministry by C.M.S. missionaries. We are members of the same family.

"Looking to Lambeth" is the title of a leaflet issued by C.M.S. giving information about books, pamphlets and visual aid material on Lambeth and the Unfinished Task. Copies may be obtained from C.M.S. Area Representative, C.M.S. Book Depots, or the Manager, Publishing Dept., C.M.S., 6, Salisbury Square, London, E.C.4.