

## THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

**Dancing.** With regard to this matter, the General Committee authorises the following statement:

We find there are a number of factors which have to be considered:

1. We appreciate that this activity, if brought into the Fellowship programme, would offer convenient and suitable and economic opportunity for learning to dance and for mixing with the opposite sex.

2. Primarily, however, our age range is from 13 to 21. Some parents would consider dancing premature for the younger aged members.

3. With the memory of previous youth groups in this parish certain parents have already intimated their fear concerning disagreeable influences that may arise with this activity, if it is not wisely conducted.

4. We believe that there is nothing inherently wrong with dancing. However, in considering the place of dancing in Fellowship activities, we foresee it producing certain practical difficulties:

(a) The time factor in organisation and control, which falls to the lot of senior members.

(b) **Suitability.** This is not an activity suitable to our entire age range. It also has a tendency toward the formation of small groups. The purpose of the Fellowship is to provide a more general atmosphere of friendship.

(c) **Popularity.** Dancing can invoke strong interest. It could come, therefore, to encroach upon or even displace our aim, which is essentially that of Christian interest..

5. We feel the Fellowship achieves a wholesome relationship between the sexes with the present type of activity.

All members were given opportunity to express their opinions on the subject at a General Meeting held on 24th January. A vote was taken showing that ten people were interested in dancing if introduced

as an activity. Twenty-one members were present. It was made clear at the meeting that it is the job of the General Committee to make final decisions on policy.

The General Committee will now consider the matter further.

## THE GUIDES & BROWNIES

As previously announced in these notes, the 1st Hampton Hill guides and brownies have celebrated their 40th anniversary, and as a memento of this occasion they decided to present two flower vases to the Church. These were dedicated at a thanksgiving service on Sunday, November 23rd, which was also the monthly parade of the uniformed organisations.

Thinking Day, when the birthday of the founder of the Scout and Guide movements (also the Chief Guide) is remembered, falls on Sunday, February 22nd. As the monthly church parade will be on the same date, the service will not only be a thanksgiving for the life and example of the 'Chief,' but also an opportunity for re-dedication of all those who have taken the promise.

D.M.C.

## THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

In spite of the worst fog for some time on January 28th, nearly 40 stalwart young wives turned out to hear Mr. Lawrence Bradbury speak on "Modern Art in relation to the Housewife."

Mr. Bradbury's talk was very entertaining and interesting and will help many of us to appreciate more easily the Artist's "Message" when we are confronted with some of the modern masterpieces. However convincing though Mr. Bradbury most certainly was in his remarks regarding art and the "kitchen sink brigade," I, for one, feel I could never find anything beautiful in a sink full of dirty dishes first thing in the morning! Maybe, after a good many years of housewifery I'm a little prejudiced!

Please remember the February meeting on the 25th and the Discussion Group on March 18th—both at Wayside.

M.F.

## DAMAGE — ACCIDENTAL AND DELIBERATE

Accidental damage has been caused again, by a car which skidded into the churchyard wall in the fog and made five yards of it dangerous. Many other cars were involved in the subsequent pile-up, and the police were apparently too busy straightening things out to take any names, so we have no redress from the insurance company of the motorist responsible unless he himself comes forward and volunteers the information. Drivers seem most reluctant to do this—a section of the wall was demolished some time ago by a lorry, and no report was made; we had to pay the cost of rebuilding. On another occasion a lorry loaded with bricks twice deliberately mounted the pavement in St. James's Road so that it could enter a new building site more easily. About 50 flagstones were smashed and the pavement made very dangerous. If my little boy had not been watching, no one would have known anything about it. I went across and tackled the driver and his mate, who would give me no helpful information; but I took the contractor's name from the lorry (which proved later to be incorrect) and reported the matter to the Borough Surveyor, who in the end traced the real owners, and payment was made by their insurance company, and not from the rates.

This latter was avoidable and unnecessary damage, and it is the deliberate and wilful damage to the churchyard which causes us most concern, not the occasional accidental damage, costly though it is. I spoke last month of people with shoplifting urges; many more and especially young people seem to have 'destructive urges'—delighting in smashing and wrecking. A week ago, between thirty and forty small crosses, vases and other ornaments were wrenched off their pedestals, overturned and where possible, broken. "It is deplorable, but it is the kind of thing children do today," said a boy's guardian when I was talking to him about the lad's own behaviour. This sort of thing is taken as a matter of course by too many parents—so long as the destruction is not on their own property! As I write, a

boy has been brought into me caught red-handed demolishing the temporary repairs to the wall, and scattering bricks all over the pavement, a boy who has been repeatedly warned, and who has many times promised 'not to do it again.'

We do not wish to prosecute fellow members of our parish, young or old, but the Church Council may be driven to consider such steps if this annoyance and vandalism continue.

## CORRECTIONS TO STANDING MATTER

It may be that proof-correcting was more hurried than usual this year in order to speed the publication of the magazines, and bad fog prevented a journey to the printer's office for a final check-up. As a result, certain errors have got through and will be with us for a year. It is intended to note any corrections or changes monthly in this part of the magazine. Those already noted follow:

P.3.—Line 21, read 'Agency' (This is an obvious mis-print, and need not be mentioned again.)

P.4.— Under 'Church wardens' read "Mr. W. F. Wigginton, 18, Cranmer Road." Delete 'Teddington.' All addresses are in Hampton Hill unless otherwise stated.

## SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Feb. 18.—8.0 p.m. Parish Meeting. Speaker: Miss Clare Lawrence, Founder of the Tumelong Mission. (W).
- Feb. 19.—8.0 p.m. Annual Meeting of the Hampton Hill Old People's Welfare Committee. (Windmill Road School).
- Feb. 24.—St. Matthias. Holy Communion at 7.15 a.m.
- Feb. 25.—8.0 p.m. Short Service, Address and Discussion (Vestry). 8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group. Speaker: Dr. Maddison, Medical Officer of Health (W).
- Feb. 26.—8.0 p.m. Executive Committee of the Church Council (W)
- Feb. 27.—Copy for the March magazine due in.
- March 4.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union Service.
- March 8.—Mothering Sunday.
- March 10.—7.30 p.m. Magazines ready (V).
- March 17.—8.0 p.m. Annual Parochial Church Meeting (H).

March 22.—Palm Sunday.  
March 27.—Good Friday.  
March 29.—Easter Day.  
April 7.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union  
Deanery Festival Service in St.  
James's Church.  
April 15.—3.0 p.m. Service for the  
Re-dedication of Women's Work  
in the Borough of Twickenham in  
St. Mary's Church, Twickenham.  
Members of all Women's organi-  
sations invited.

April 15 & 16.—Presentation of the  
play "The Vigil," in St. James's  
Church.

#### MARRIAGE

Feb. 7.—Philip Edward Lee to  
Correen Elizabeth Car-  
penter.

#### BURIAL

Jan. 28.—Henry James Howard, 25  
Windmill Road, aged 79  
years.

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## FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

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### THE TUMELONG MISSION

We are glad to know of the splen-  
did work that Miss Hannah Stan-  
ton is doing as warden of this mis-  
sion. The Vicar-General, in his  
foreword to the Annual Report,  
says: "It is for me to say that  
Miss Stanton, in the short time she  
has been here has shown that she  
is one who will not only maintain  
the fine traditions of Tumelong, but  
will also extend them in many  
directions. The founding of the  
centre for training African women  
as missionary workers is one of the  
most important new developments  
in the Diocese for some time."

Miss Clare Lawrence, who found-  
ed the Mission and herself worked  
there for 11 years, is coming to  
speak to us about all that goes on  
there at our next Parish meeting  
on February 18th. She will also  
show her own colour-slides. She  
writes: "I hope to go over to  
Tumelong in May at the invitation  
of Miss Stanton, so it would be  
specially good to come to her own  
parish first."

### ELIZABETH LEARNS TO SMILE

"Perhaps you would like to hear  
about one of our little patients,  
Elizabeth, aged 8 (but looking more  
like 4) who has been with us since  
January, suffering from T.B. of the  
spine. A pathetic little figure, she  
arrived in her father's arms in con-  
tinual pain," writes a C.M.S. mis-  
sionary in a hospital in Western  
Nigeria. "It seemed impossible  
for her to find a comfortable posi-  
tion, and the hospital was a strange  
and frightening new world for her.

"Two plaster casts were made  
round her, so that she could lie  
immobile on her bed. For about

two months it was impossible to  
get a word out of her, and none of  
us saw her smile. One of the mid-  
wives has taken a special interest  
in her, teaching her Bible stories  
and songs, and her A.B.C., and it  
has been wonderful to see her  
change into a happy little girl.  
About ten days ago, she was taken  
out of the cast and allowed to  
move freely,—a very great joy for  
her to find she could move without  
pain."

Please pray—for "our new nurses;  
for the senior nurses; for the mid-  
wives working often in lonely con-  
ditions in the Maternity Homes;  
and for all our life and witness  
within the Hospital."

### "HE TAKES AWAY ALL FEAR"

A C.M.S. missionary, teaching in  
a girls' boarding school in the  
Madras area of South India, writes  
to tell of the keen desire of many  
Hindu parents to get their girls at  
the school, and how whilst there,  
many come to know and to love  
the Lord Jesus Christ.

"One day our Indian boarding  
mistress told me that when she was  
making her usual round of the dor-  
mitories one night, she noticed one  
of the girls about to smear some  
'holy ashes' across her forehead. 'I  
asked her why she was doing this,  
and she replied that she was afraid  
of the dark. So, sitting down be-  
side her I told her—and the girl  
next to her—about the Lord Jesus  
who loves them all, and who can  
take away their fears. How eagerly  
those two girls listened! Later I  
taught them to say a simple prayer  
each night, and now they are not  
afraid to go to bed; the Hindu  
charm has been put away."