



THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE of ST. JAMES'S CHURCH

VOLUME LXXXVI HANDBY HILL JANUARY 1919

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St. James's Church, Hampton Hill, Middx.

CHURCH OFFICERS

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Hall Secretary

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Lock 5041.

Supervisors of Wayside

Mrs. Melville, 106, Park Road, and
Mrs. Warwick, 52, Park Road. All
applications for the use of rooms—
and for the use of the Hall by Church
organisations—should be made to the
latter. Tel. Mol. 7004.

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday* :

8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.

9.0 a.m. (Second & Fourth Sun-
days in month). Holy Com-
munion.

11.0 a.m. Matins and Sermon.

12.15 p.m. (First and Third Sun-
days). Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

Holy Baptism is administered
after notice on the Fourth Sunday
at 4.0 p.m.

Week-days :

Holy Communion: Wednesdays
7.15 a.m.; Holy Days 7.15 a.m. or
9.0 a.m., as announced; Thursdays
10.30 a.m.

No collections are taken at Sun-
day or week-day services. Christian
Giving envelopes and other offerings
should be placed in the receptacles
provided before the service begins—
also the oblation of bread on the
paten before the early services of
Holy Communion on Sundays.

Various arrangements are made
for Religious Education. Sunday
Schools and Bible Classes are held
at 2.30 p.m. in the Church and
Vestry, at Wayside, and at Rectory
School. Confirmation Classes for
adults and young people are
formed from time to time, and
Study and Discussion Groups arranged.

There are Societies and Clubs at-
tached to the Church, information
about which may be obtained from
the Vicar. In addition Parish
Meetings, open to all, are held from
time to time, and smaller groups are
encouraged to meet in people's
houses in different parts of the
parish.

TO READERS OF THE PARISH MAGAZINE

The Vicar is anxious to help you: please make your needs known by
cutting this out and sending it to him.

NAME

ADDRESS

(Please indicate below as required)

I would like you to call when convenient

I would like to see you privately

I would like to have the magazine delivered

I would like my children to attend Sunday School

Please tell me about the Christian Giving Scheme

The above is sick/in hospital

AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about
people, activities & organisations

THE 1st HAMPTON HILL GUIDES

Ten Guides went Carol-singing on Tuesday, December 23rd and the sum of 25 shillings was collected. This will be sent to World Refugee Fund. We would like to thank all those who gave us money and encouragement. We needed the latter, especially after one man had told us to "clear off," and a woman had given us some money not to sing at her house.

We started the Christmas holidays with a "pyjama party" and started again on January 7th.

We have, for some time, had the 5th Hampton company staying with us, as they have no Guider.

We are all very grateful to Mrs. Fisher who has now left the company after taking it over when it was in the same position as 5th Hampton, and threatened with dissolution.

The company is now being run by two lieutenants.

R. MILLS, ex-C.L.

A YOUTH CLUB

"Remember St. James's Youth Club—opening soon," says a poster in the church porch; and it goes on to announce that details will be given in this month's issue of the magazine. "Opening soon" may well be so, but as the matter is still undergoing intensive discussion and various meetings are taking place to consider the project from all angles, details will have to wait until a later issue. It may well be that the position will be much clearer in a week or two's time.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

Epiphany was celebrated by a Carol Service held in the small hall. A small choir (Mrs. Nickols, Mrs. Prentice, Mrs. Pyne, Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Swatland, Mrs. West, Mrs. Wigginton, Simon Nickols and Richard Stevens) led the singing and sang several carols on their own. There were also solos by Mrs. Prentice and Richard Stevens, and lessons were read by Mrs. Severn, chairman of the Young Wives' Group, and Mrs. Stevens, chairman of the Mothers' Union branch. Mrs.

Rockcliffe was at the piano. The family feeling of the occasion was enhanced by the presence of a number of members of the Young Wives Group and their children. After the service, tea and mince-pies were served—thanks to all those who made them. We are also grateful to the Rev. and Mrs. G. H. Stevens for their kind hospitality to the choir during practices, and all the help which they gave in many ways.

By the time this appears in print, the party will have taken place; but please make a note of the next monthly meeting—Wednesday February 3rd, 3.0 p.m. at Wayside. The speaker will be Mrs. Hopkinson, whose husband is director of the Industrial Christian Fellowship and editor of the "London Churchman." As well as having a distinguished husband and six children, Mrs. Hopkinson is a person to be reckoned with in her own right. She last visited this parish about five years ago, when she spoke to a joint meeting of the Young Wives' Group and the Men's Society on "Children and the Cinema." This time she will be speaking about the interesting and important work done by the Watch and Social Problems Committee of which she is a member. Visitors and friends will be welcome, and a special invitation is given to members of the Young Wives' Group.

We are glad to know that Mrs. Ashworth, a member of this branch for many years, is now making splendid progress since her return home from Ashford Hospital.

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

We had a very stimulating meeting at the end of November, when Miss Elmslie, who works as deputy to the Headmaster of the Hinchley Wood Comprehensive (or Multilateral?) School, spoke about what happened in schools of this type, and about the educational system in general.

On Sunday, November 29th, we had a Corporate Communion. Many members attended with their husbands and families. Afterwards we all enjoyed coffee and hot rolls at Wayside, Mrs. Robinson and Mrs.

Brunt ably coping with the much larger number of people than was expected.

The meeting on January 27th is a demonstration by Yardley's. Visitors will be most welcome.

E.V.S.

THE MAGAZINE

It is now known that this issue of "The Spire" will appear very late—probably not until the end of January. The actual date of publication is still uncertain as I write. There have been difficulties on our side—hold-ups in getting all the standing material together—and on the printer's side too—delays by the firm making the plates for their new photographic process. We hope to get the dates of publication normal again as soon as possible. The February issue will probably appear on February 12th, and the March one on March 4th.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

Feb. 2.—The Presentation. Holy Communion at 7.15 a.m.

Feb. 3.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union (W). Speaker: Mrs. Hopkinson.
Feb. 4.—8.0 p.m. Church Council (Vestry).
Feb. 9.—8.0 p.m. Prayer Group (Vestry).
Feb. 15.—7.30 p.m. Ruri-Decanal Conference (St. Mary's Twickenham).
Feb. 24.—St. Matthias. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion. 8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group (W). Talk on "Character Training," by Mrs. Fox.

BAPTISM

Dec. 27.—Wendy Anne Major, 3, Sunnyside, Habrough, Lincs.

BURIALS

Dec. 29.—Mary Ann Hogg, 18, Myrtle Road, aged 80 yrs.
Jan. 2.—Agnes Mary Ovington-Jones, 54, Park Road, aged 71 years.
,, 4.—Annie Nancy Williams, 34, Edward Road, aged 66 years.

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

CHURCH MISSIONS TO JEWS

One of the gifts we sent off just before Christmas for work outside the parish was to the C.M.J. This is an extract from the letter of acknowledgement we have received:

Dear Mr. Brunt,

On behalf of Church Missions to Jews I thank you for your contribution and I shall be grateful if you will thank those who contributed for their support.

With the more settled situation in Israel today we have been thinking in terms of possible developments in that country, and while we hope to continue our work in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, we feel the time has come to think perhaps of another Centre in Tel-Aviv and of a new approach in the Lydda area. We are glad to report that the school at Jerusalem is now growing and in September over 50 scholars were enrolled. When more accommodation is available these numbers could easily be increased.

We are glad to report that a young Persian Jew was ordained

this year and after his diaconate will be taking up work amongst Jews in Teheran. In Calcutta too, one of the curates of the Old Parish Church is now able to give most of his time to work amongst Jews in that city. In Ethiopia the Swiss and German missionaries who have been helping us for the past eight years, now feel that they should seek work elsewhere, and although the Rev. D. M. Hewetson will be joining the staff early in 1960, we shall now need a number of missionaries for Ethiopia and the means to support them.

We are also glad to report that a new Head of the Tunis Mission has been appointed as from January, 1960. Added to these encouragements we thank God for having four candidates in training at present.

To mark the 150th year of Church Missions to Jews we plan to establish a Christian Fellowship Centre at a cost of £30,000, but the usual work of the Mission must be maintained and we are grateful for your gift towards our General Fund.

PEACE IN HIS HEART

A C.M.S. missionary, a doctor, working in a hospital in Kashmir, writes of a young doctor with whom she came into contact:—

“He belongs to an old Muslim family, but during his training has inevitably mixed with many people professing different religions or none. I had only met him once before, but as he showed me round the little Government hospital for which he was responsible he managed to detach himself and me from the knot of people who had tacked on to us. In tones of urgency he whispered: ‘I want to know more of your religion. I simply can’t find peace. I stay awake at night thinking, thinking. I have been lent a Bible, but I want help. May I come over and see you one day?’

“In due course he came. We talked together and I prayed with him, and gave him a book to guide him in his Bible reading and prayer. Before long he left Kashmir for further studies. From the distant city, he wrote: ‘I want you to know how much that prayer with me helped. I now have peace in my heart. I do believe in Him, but to follow openly at this juncture would be very difficult.’

“When I think of such as he, I think with hope and thanksgiving. Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea were secret believers until the confessed disciples had scattered in fear and then openly showed their devotion in courageous acts of love.”

SUMMER, 1959

During the hot summer months—July, August and September—of 1959, 7,750,000 barrels of beer, worth £157,000,000, and 136,000,000 gallons of soft drinks (46,000,000 gallons more than in 1958) were consumed in this country.

Ice cream sales reached new records, too. Before the end of the year over 4,800,000,000 portions had been eaten.

ADDITIONAL CURATES SOCIETY

ACS has promised this year £47,000 in grants for 807 assistant curates, approximately ONE THIRD of all the assistant curates in England and Wales. In many of these

parishes, if the grant were to be withdrawn, the assistant curate would have to go, as the parish could not raise the rest of the money. He would, however, get another job at once in some parish that can afford to pay him. Your prayers and gifts are asked not to help poor curates but to help poor people. Not necessarily poor financially, but desperately poor in that they have no knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and will probably not have any knowledge until a clergyman can visit them and bring them into the body of the Church—or inspire and help groups of laymen to do this work, which is too much for the clergy alone, even when there is more than one priest in the parish.

In addition to this there are some 50 parishes who desperately need an assistant curate in order that the visiting and pastoral work and training of lay people may be properly carried out, but they cannot have an assistant curate until ACS can make a substantial grant. Please consider what the ministrations of your own clergyman mean to you and regard ACS as giving you an opportunity to shew your gratitude for this by enabling some other person to receive the same.

Gifts may be sent to the General Secretary, Additional Curates Society, 14 Rothamsted Avenue, Harpenden, Herts. (or to the Secretary in this parish—Mrs. Rockliffe, 40, Gloucester Road, Teddington).

Some of the monies offered through the Christian Giving Scheme will also be used to support this Society.

THE TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY

The need for more men and more money to maintain them is becoming increasingly urgent in England. The average age of the clergy today is now 55 years (in 1859 it was 44) and it is steadily rising. This means that the rate of decline from death and retirement will gather speed to an alarming extent in the next 10 years, and a great challenge to the Church is inevitable.

But serious as the situation is in England, overseas it is rapidly becoming desperate. Three of us from this parish went to the C.M.S. special conference at the Central Hall on November 16th, when the world situation in all its gravity

and with all its opportunity was squarely put before us. It is estimated that the world-population will more than double itself in the next 40 years, and reach at least 6500 millions in 2000 A.D. What proportion of this enormous number will be in any sense Christians? A much smaller one than now, unless the whole Church rises to the challenge presented and to the call of God in regard to it—a call becoming increasingly clear.

The missionary societies, guided, impelled, they believe, by the Holy Spirit, are now boldly coming out into the open and telling the Church what they need if they are to play their part in this great task. The C.M.S. is asking for 60 extra men and women of the finest quality and £300,000 extra money each year for the next five years; the S.P.G. is asking for an annual increase of no less than half-a-million pounds.

It is up to us in the parishes of England to see that they get what they ask, and more.

HOW THEY HEARD THE GOOD NEWS

Writing from Ruanda-Urundi, East Africa, a C.M.S. missionary tells of a conversation she had with three African teachers.

“Our talk turned to how these men had first heard the Gospel. ‘Oh,’ said one, ‘The thing that drew me first was a tennis ball! I saw some school children playing ball, and I thought it would be wonderful to go to school. So I went, and that’s how I heard the Gospel!’ ‘Well,’ said another, ‘I started

school because I wanted to be able to wear a shirt and shorts.’ ‘So did I’ said the third. ‘It was the shirt that did it!’

“These three are teachers now. The first accepted Christ as his Saviour when a child in Year III and is now one of the leaders in the schools and in the church. The second was converted in his teens; he is now headmaster of a large primary school, loving his Lord dearly and longing to serve Him. The third man yielded to Christ during his last year in Teacher-Training College.

“These young men, typical of many, were all caught in the Gospel net through educational work. How we need your prayers that many more may be won for the Saviour. How we need your prayers for more missionaries to serve on the staffs of schools . . .”

SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN JAPAN

Known as Church Schools, the Sunday Schools of Japan have to do battle for their existence. The only time they can be sure of getting some children is early on Sunday morning, before the compulsory athletic and other meetings arranged by the Japanese educational authorities begin, that is, about 8.30 or 9.30 a.m.

There are about 250,000 children in 6,700 Sunday Schools with 12,000 teachers. The children are mainly of Primary age (up to seven years), older children being too occupied with school to be able to attend. It is said that 90 per cent. of every child’s daily programme is school work—Sundays included.