

# AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about  
people, activities & organisation

## THE MOTHERS, UNION

Our extra meeting on the evening of November 16th was well attended in spite of the bad weather. We were amply rewarded by Mrs. Stevens' succinct and colourful account of her two visits to Oberammergau and by the lovely film-strip pictures.

The next meeting will be the regular afternoon one on December 7th, and the title "Let's have a Gossip,"—come and see what this means!

## THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

Our October meeting was an open one to which we invited all parishioners and Y.W. Groups from neighbouring parishes to come to see the Faith and Fact film entitled "Dust or Destiny." The film comes from a special American Research Group of Christians and is remarkable for its integrity and high standard of production. Apart from the films of the big Missionary Societies, religious films are not usually as good as we could wish them to be. This film presented some most interesting facts and left for the audience to answer for itself the question "is all this blind chance or God?" adding a slight push one way by showing a watch and asking whether its existence didn't presuppose the existence of the watch-maker!

The drawback of film-showing for us is the high cost of hiring a suitable projector.

The next meeting will be on November 30th, when Mrs. Gardner, from Twickenham Library, will speak about "Children's Books." This will be a very useful talk especially as it comes just before Christmas.

Please don't forget the Jumble Sale on November 26th, to help our funds. Offers of help on jumble needing collection, please phone Mrs. Severn, MOL. 1954.

## Annual General Meeting

This was held on November 2nd and was well attended.

It is a sign of a healthy state of affairs that well before that date, eight people had been nominated for the five committee vacancies and that so many people took part in the discussion of our affairs during the evening.

Mrs. Farnsworth and Mrs. Humphrey both leave the committee after serving their two years in office. Mrs. Dowse, Mrs. Harper and Mrs. Robinson have for various reasons had to give up after one year. Small children and jobs—part or whole time—make it very difficult to add to the normal routine a monthly committee meeting and the work involved and we are very grateful for the excellent work that all these retiring members have put in for us. The new members of committee are Mrs. Lambourne, 47, Uxbridge Road; Mrs. Olesker, 13, Hampton Road; Mrs. Nutley, 10, Park Road; Mrs. Green, 165, High Street; Mrs. McNabb, 32, Burton's Road.

The annual subscription will now be 5/-. This is mainly due to the increased per capitem fee to Headquarters, but also to our increased expenses. We still believe that it is quite a bargain. Mrs. Nickols will be glad to receive subscriptions as soon as possible.

The meeting decided that next month members should all come labelled as a means of do-it-yourself introduction. This is intended as a step towards overcoming the difficulty of getting to know each other which our increasingly large meetings seem to involve.

## THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

Our belated annual general meeting was held on Friday, 29th October. It was very short, but much was done. After the treasurer's report, those eligible for leadership left the room, while the others voted for three leaders. Those re-elected were Kenneth Lapworth and Seymour Harris, and Ann Jennings was newly elected. Ann explained that she was willing to be a leader, but warned us that she would be unable to attend as regularly as she would like to. This, however, did not deter the female members, all of whom wanted one of their sex in the capacity of leader. A committee was elected, most of whom were those who had formed the previous one. James West is our newcomer, the others are Ann Swindale, Robert Salisbury, Ruth Mills (secretary), and George Robey, who was a leader and has now been elected as 'Director of

Additional Activities. Kenneth was re-elected as treasurer, although many volunteered!

The boat, after many months of hard work is nearing completion, and the name "Boanerges" (sons of Thunder, which is the name Christ gave to James and John) was painted on by Lawrence Keene, a friend of the Y.P.F., who came with us on the Broads last year. We are hoping to launch it on 19th, weather, work and river permitting.

Our yearning for water is apparently not satisfied by the prospect of travelling up and down the river in an outboard motor boat, so plans for another trip to the Broads are going ahead.

After Christmas we intend to perform a Nativity Play with a difference—"Christmas in the Market Place," which Mrs. Stevens is producing (she has not quite reached the stage of standing over us with a whip). We ask for the support of all the Parish.

Our thanks are due to John Mortimore who is now in hospital having operations on his foot, and George, both of whom have served the Y.P.F. as leaders very well. We are also very grateful to Robert Salisbury, who has retired from a very busy term as secretary, and also to his assistants Rowena Harris and Ann Swindale.

Andrew Long and Graham Peel are new members.

R.M.

### THE JUNIOR SUNDAY SCHOOL (alias Cross-Bearers' Club)

It was with great disappointment that we started this September without Miss Stewart. We have come to rely very much on the efficiency of her organisation and on her leadership as superintendent. She frequently gives part of her summer holidays to attending teachers' courses and some of her weekends to conferences on the subject so that we are kept well abreast of modern trends. In particular our disappointment was greater because she had planned to start this year with a complete reorganisation on the lines of the "Cross Bearers" scheme. Much thought and planning had been given to this. The four assistant teachers mentioned in the August issue of the Spire who had come in to take a special part in this scheme had been assured that they would not be required to teach. Unfortunately, by September we were faced not only

with Miss Stewart's prolonged, but temporary absence, but also with the retirement of Mrs. Melville and Miss Wright owing to health problems. They were both experienced teachers and Mrs. Melville's music was always an asset.

However, under these circumstances the four young teachers have risen wonderfully to the occasion and with great care and enthusiasm are taking weekly lessons with the small classes into which part of the Sunday School has been divided.

Miss Margaret Sayce—a professional teacher—also came to our rescue and we were glad to hand to her a full class of 7-year-olds. On some occasions we have also welcomed Miss Stanley to take this class.

And now after two months, although we started it rather lamely, the new scheme is dovetailing in with the old, and we think it is working out well. If you had been in on last Sunday's edition you would, at one time, have seen three separate classes acting the "Good Samaritan" in three separate corners of the church—swords, donkeys and all, and in three other corners—you would be surprised how many corners there are to our church—three other classes relating all this to the Catechism, and no disorder beyond the pleasant hubbub of busily occupied children.

Now, what does a morning's session amount to?

We all start together with fifteen minutes worship. This is an introduction to methods of prayer that can be adapted to private use and also includes introduction to well-known parts of the liturgy. The aim of our Sunday School is to train Church members. Bible stories are well taken care of at the local Primary schools and we think our job is to build church teaching on to this.

In the past decade or so Church Sunday Schools in a laudable attempt to be attractive and suitable to children, often failed to offer any vision of the richness of full adult church membership. When the children left at eleven, churchgoing was put away with other childish things.

The language of the Prayer Book is difficult. It is difficult even to grown ups who meet it for the first time. But whatever one's feelings about its revision, we may still be grateful for the heritage of beauty

and spiritual devotion of our ancient Book of Common Prayer. We think we have a privilege to introduce to our children its lovely language and worship. The children like it; they know that the prayers of babyhood don't take them very far.

Our fourth Sunday Family Service fits into this.

For this reason also we introduce parts of the Catechism, in spite of its difficulty as a background to our four-year course. There is nothing so very old-fashioned about "my duty towards God" and "my duty towards my neighbour" is there?

The course we use is the one published in 1955 by the Children's Council of the Church Assembly. It is arranged in cycles of courses fitting in with the Church's Year. Each set of lessons is covered in four or five weeks which is why it is so helpful if children can attend regularly, and we like all those who can read to bring Bibles with them. Spinks in the High Street have a good selection and are helpful about choosing them. We particularly recommend the British and Foreign Bible Societies Jubilee edition because of its good pictures and subject headings. This costs 8/6 but there are several cheaper ones that are good.

Sunday school ends promptly at 10.30. After lesson time there is an opportunity to borrow books from our new small library. At present most of the books are on loan from the Mothers' Union Library so that before buying our permanent collection we can find out which are the most popular.

By now most of the children will have taken home their first "achievement" card. A glance at these will show how they fit into the scheme mentioned above. On completing them, the owners will be given their Cross Bearers' badge and be ready to go on to a series of six or seven cards of increasing difficulty, most of which they will be able to "achieve" by the time they are eleven.

Although we are at present fully staffed for teachers we should be glad of offers of help from:—

A pianist.

Occasional typist.

Home visitors—all but two of the thirteen teachers of all of our Sunday Schools are only free at weekends and it is very difficult for them to visit the children's homes, for instance in cases of illness.

For those who have attended regularly we have arranged a pantomime outing for the Wednesday after Christmas.

### INTER-DIOCESAN CHILDREN'S EXAMINATIONS

At the Family service on the first Sunday in Advent, certificates will be presented to the successful entrants of this year's examinations. Those receiving them are:—

Senior:

1st Class—Clare Brunt.

3rd Class—Lorraine Lansley.

Upper Junior (9 - 11 years):

1st Class with Distinction—Ann Uden; 2nd Class—Gillian Howard, Richard Melville, Bernard Brunt, Linda Giles; 3rd Class—Andrew Fisher, Anne Warwick, Elizabeth Clack.

Lower Junior (7 - 9 years):

1st Class with Distinction—Elaine Hunt, Rosalind Melville, Charles Wright; 1st Class—Martin Dix, Jane Bessey, Jeanette Warwick, Elizabeth Woodward; 2nd Class—Jane Smales, Rosalind Pyne.

The system of marking was slightly altered this year so that the standard required to pass was higher and those who did not secure a third class failed.

### STANDING MATTER ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS

Magazine Secretary:

Mr. C. W. Smith, 9, Carlisle Road, Hampton. Tel.: Mol. 1956.

Organist and Choirmaster:

Mr. C. G. Welling, A.R.C.O., R.A.C.M., 16, Clive Road, Twickenham. Tel.: Pop. 5958.

Addition to Advertisement:

Messrs. E. & B. Horne, 143, Uxbridge Road, are now on the 'phone: Mol. 2744.

### SOME DATES TO NOTE

Nov. 30.—St. Andrew. Holy Communion at 7.15 a.m.

8.0 p.m. Young Wives Group (W).

Dec. 7.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union (W)

Dec. 11.—Dedication Festival (Church consecrated on this day in 1863).

Sunday services as usual.

Dec. 24 - 25.—

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Communion at 11.45 p.m. (Midnight Eucharist) 8.0 a.m., 9.0 a.m., 12.15 p.m. Matins (Family Service) at 11.0 a.m.; Evensong and Carols 6.30 p.m.

All matter for the December magazine should be sent to the Vicarage not later than Monday, December 5. Publication should be on Friday, December 16. It would be helpful for accounting purposes if distributors would kindly pay any outstanding monies to the Vicar or Mr. Smith before the end of the year.

Inquiries about advertisement space in the magazine for 1961 should be made to Mr. Smith or Mrs. Mills (40, Oldfield Road. Tel.: Mol. 6626) as soon as possible.

There will be a Confirmation at this Church in July 1961. Names of intending candidates should be sent to the Vicar before the end of the year.

The Adult Confirmation Group will begin its meetings early in the new year. The Vicar would be glad to hear of any others who wish to join.

### BAPTISMS

- Oct. 23.—Susan Jane Churcher, 115, Uxbridge Road.  
 „ 23.—Michael John Cox, 56, High Street.  
 „ 23.—Paul David Harris, 174, High Street, W. Molesey.

- Oct. 23.—Carol Ann Ingram, 27, Longford Close.  
 „ 23.—Anthony Taylor, 1a, Hampton Road.  
 „ 23.—Geoffrey John, David Robert and Michael Coe, 195, Uxbridge Road.

### MARRIAGES

- Oct. 22.—Leslie Leonard Russell to Catherine Ann Craig.  
 Nov. 5.—John Proctor to Ada Maltby Stacey.

### BURIALS

- Oct. 26.—Gladys Mary O'Bryen, 6, Hessel Road, London W.13, aged 77 years.  
 „ 27.—Dorothy Ruder, Laurel Dene, aged 67 years (at Teddington).  
 Nov. 2.—Alice Mabel Hack, 101, Uxbridge Road, aged 73 years.  
 „ 9.—Elizabeth Sarah Woolford, 4, St. James's Avenue, aged 92 years.  
 „ 15.—Frank Lewis Hancke, 159, High Street, aged 58 years.  
 „ 17.—David Martel Thomas, 59, Burton's Road, aged 51 years.

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## FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

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### ADDITIONAL CURATES

#### SOCIETY

ACS is a missionary society whose principal object is to do pioneer missionary work in England and Wales, enabling assistant curates to be put to work where there has been none before. Its principal task is to provide priests for the new towns and the vast new housing areas which have sprung up all round our big cities; but it also helps to maintain assistant curates in poor parishes which are unable to pay assistant curates themselves. Of the 2,702 assistant curates at work in England and Wales, 835 receive a part, sometimes a major part, of their stipend from this Society, which has promised in grants during 1960 £50,000. Only by enabling assistant

curates to be provided can the necessary pastoral work of visiting and caring for new souls be properly done, and at this moment the Society has on its books some 50 requests for new grants; in these parishes the assistant curate cannot be engaged until the grant has been promised, and the grant cannot be promised unless the friends of ACS can increase its income.

ACS endeavours to provide an opportunity for you to shew in concrete way your gratitude for all that your own clergy have done for you by enabling someone else less fortunate 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.