

AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about
people, activities & organisation

THE MOTHERS' UNION

It was a great pity that the Annual Carol Service had to be cancelled, but no one anticipated that the day chosen would be one on which the weather was at its lowest, and sickness among members at its highest level.

On January 7th, Mrs. Lydia McClellan died, after a very short illness; her passing leaves another gap in the Branch which it will be hard to fill.

At our meeting on February 7th the Rev. G. H. Stevens gave us a most interesting talk entitled "They Can't All Be Right"—a thought-provoking summary of the beliefs of the non-Christian religions of the world. We are all pleased that Mr. Stevens is soon to be instituted as the new Vicar of All Hallows' Twickenham, but we are going to miss his wife and him very much. Mrs. Stevens has helped the Branch tremendously in the past three years for she has a wealth of experience of M.U. work in many other dioceses, which she has shared with us, at all times. However, we shall continue to enjoy her vigorous talks, for she is still in the Deanery, and is Vice-Chairman of Deanery M.U. Committee. In addition, as Diocesan Overseas Representative Mrs. Stevens serves on Diocesan Council. She is also one of the special speakers on Christian Family Year, which opens in May. So, we have been fortunate to have her as a Branch member for so long.

During Lent, Miss Una Satchell is giving a Course of Lectures in Mary Sumner House, on "Teaching the Catechism." All M.U. members and friends are invited to attend these. The talks, to be given on Tuesdays, begin on March 13th at 11 a.m. Any member who can be present is asked to take a copy of the Book of Common Prayer with her. V.R.

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

On the 16th January, 1962 a joint meeting of the M.U. and Y.W. was held in Wayside and a most interesting talk was given by Mrs. Swan on Dietetics.

It is doubtful whether it is realised how much work is involved in producing palatable diets for

people suffering from complaints which require low salt, low fat and high protein diets to name only a few but Mrs. Swan went to great lengths to explain these and various other problems.

For those of us who had forgotten, Mrs. Swan also went through the various Vitamin Groupings explaining which foods contained which vitamins and what job those vitamins did within the body. The thing that struck us most was the fact that all vegetables should be plunged into boiling water when being cooked. This was particularly interesting with regard to potatoes and carrots. The reason for this procedure is due to the fact that in most vegetables there is an enzyme which destroys the vitamin content in the vegetable. By using boiling water this enzyme is destroyed before it can harm the vitamin content.

This talk was most informative and one that was greatly enjoyed.

The Y.W. Group listened to a most interesting talk on Censorship in relation to Plays and Books in Wayside on the 31st January, 1962.

The talk was entitled "To Ban or Burn" and was given by Mr. Speake who is a resident staff tutor at London University and belongs to the W.E.A.

Mr. Speake told us about the sort of things that the Lord Chamberlain dislikes when plays are submitted to him for approval. Apparently nobody really knows for sure what these dislikes are as the Lord Chamberlain and his office never see anyone. However, some idea can be gleaned from the plays that are turned down and the alterations that are made to others. Nobody can appeal to the Lord Chamberlain's office. His word is law.

With regard to books Mr. Speake explained how the law had changed over the years, particularly in regard to the charge of obscene libel. He quoted as an example the case of "Lady Chatterley's Lover." In this instance prominent men in literature were allowed to defend the book on its literary merits, which was something that was not allowed previously.

The "... or Burn" part of the talk is explained by the fact that

if a book is declared 'obscene,' the police, on an order from the magistrate can seize the said book or books and burn them. A.B.R.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

The examination season is with us, so apologies, but to write the magazine notice I was told. Past events especially enjoyed were the warming of Ann Jennings's house, the party at Amyand Park Chapel, and the slides and tape on the China Inland Mission literature work in the Philippines.

We have booked two Thames minibuses for our holiday in Wales, and we have a full load of 24 bodies so plans for the invasion are going ahead. On Friday, March 2nd at 197, Uxbridge Road, it is hoped, weather permitting, to hold a PAN-CAKE PARTY in the hope of raising money to complete the cost of hire of the vehicles. Details and tickets from Y.P.F. members.

On Sunday, 18th March at 8 p.m. we are holding our annual OPEN MEETING at Wayside, to which all parents and friends are invited—it is hoped some slides will be shewn previewing our Welsh holiday (English subtitles).

Congratulations to Ruth and Janet on being accepted at Middlesex and London hospitals respectively. One of them has to diet, the doorways are rather narrow at Middlesex.

R.P.B.

THE 1st HAMPTON HILL GUIDE COMPANY

We are still desperately in need of a Captain. If anyone you know, or even yourself would be willing to take the company, please do not be afraid to say so. "I'm too old for that game." Don't you believe it! "But I've never even been a Brownie!" Don't let that put you off, we can see that you learn all you need to know. Don't be afraid that someone else has taken the post before you. We'll welcome ALL enquiries—

RUTH MILLS,
(Acting Lieutenant),
40, Oldfield Road,
HAMPTON,
(MOL. 6626).

February 22nd is, in the world of Guiding, a very important day. It is the joint birthday of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, (the founder of the Guide movement and his wife,

the Chief Guide). This is the day that the members of the Guide Movement, whether Brownies, Guides Cadets, Rangers or Guiders, all over the world, make a special point of thinking about, and praying for each other.

Celebrations, in the form of ceremonies, plays or parties take place in many companies, packs, etc., and greetings are sent across the world to and from over forty countries where Girl Scouts and Guides are.

In Britain, every member of the Guide Movement is asked to give a penny to the "Thinking Day Fund." This fund is an international one, contributed to by all Guides who can afford it. The money is used to help Guiding in those countries who have very little money.

R.M.

NEWS OF WAYSIDE

Improvements are gradually being achieved at Wayside. As most of us know we have had Mrs. Burton installed for some time as Caretaker and what a difference she has made—no longer the 'musty' smells of closed rooms—no longer the dirty ash trays, empty milk bottles and other scraps left from the previous night's meeting (a few users of Wayside were not always too particular about "leaving things as they found them").

An advance word to Mrs. Burton during the Wintertime, and the requisite 6d. or 1/- for the meter, has ensured a 'warmer' welcome than we had hitherto received.

The house has received a new look outside, with the painting completed—even the gates close now (did anyone see a certain bearded Gentleman driving his bubble car with gate-posts protruding through the top in an attempt to save expense on a new post?) A certain little girl passed information that timber was to be had from a front garden carrying a "Help Yourself" notice—and the bearded Gentleman was off! How sad to relate, after all, that the posts did not fit and a new post was unavoidable!

And now the kitchen has been re-decorated. This was in a very bad way, with broken plaster on various parts of the wall and a door that would not close. It took three coats to cover the main walls and even now a large piece of new plaster will have to thoroughly dry out before that bit of painting can be

touched us. We are hoping to have some fresh curtains passed on to complete the kitchen improvements.

Two members of the P.C.C. were detailed to investigate supplementary heating at Wayside, but as other services besides the G.P.O. seem to have been bitten by the 'Go Slow' bug, they have not been able to finalise this satisfactorily.

It is possible now that this item will be postponed till there is more money in the Wayside kitty.

The Y.P.F. have expressed the wish to try and nicely furnish the smaller of the two main rooms at Wayside—a carpet on the floor, a few easy chairs, etc., so if there is anyone who has any of these items in good condition 'surplus to requirements' perhaps they could advise Mr. Seymour Harris, or Mrs. Warwick. D.W.

A NOTE TO OLDER PEOPLE

The Hampton Hill Old People's Welfare Committee meets fortnightly on Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m. at Wayside (by kind permission of the Vicar) for a little "get together" to arrange for sewing and knitting to culminate in a SALE OF WORK to swell the funds of this voluntary organisation and help it to continue its good work.

The next date is Tuesday, March 6th, at 2.30 p.m. D.W.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

Mar. 3.—8.0 p.m. St. James's Youth Club: Dance in Hall.

Mar. 7.—Ash Wednesday. 7.15 and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union Service, followed by Annual General Meeting.

8.0 p.m. Prayer and Study Group (Vestry). This Group will be meeting every Wednesday at 8.0 p.m. throughout Lent, studying some of the themes of the Epistle to the

Romans, and anyone interested is warmly invited to attend).

Mar. 9.—Women's World Day of Prayer. Special service at the Congregational Church, High Street, at 8.0 p.m. Address by the Rev. Elsie Chamberlain.

8.0 p.m. Pledge Fulfilment Committee (106, Park Road).

Mar. 12.—8.0 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches Study Group (20, Cranmer Road).

Mar. 15.—8.0 p.m. Joint Mothers' Union and Young Wives' Group Meeting — "Mothering Sunday." Speaker: The Rev. Elsie Chamberlain (W).

Mar. 24.—3.30 p.m. Old People's Party (H).

Mar. 26.—The Annunciation.

7.15 and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

Mar. 28.—8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group: Crown Wallpaper (H).

April 1.—Fourth Sunday in Lent—"Mothering Sunday."

All copy for the April magazine should be sent to the Vicar or any other member of the Editorial Board not later than Tuesday, March 13th. Magazines should be available to distributors on Friday, March 30th.

This March issue is the first one to be produced by the new Board. The result has been that, instead of the Vicar's having to do most of the work, he has to do hardly anything, and there is no room even for his 'Notes!' He is very grateful for this cooperation—and relief!

MARRIAGE

Feb. 17.—Godfrey Victor Edward Bristow to Mary Elizabeth Jost.

BURIAL

Feb. 19.—Emily Louisa Cushen, 40, Wolsey Road, aged 65 years (at Teddington).

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

TO LEONARDSLEE BY COACH AND CAR

Early in May the Social Committee (Chairman: W. Robinson) are arranging a visit to what must be one of the most beautiful places in the Home Counties. From the terrace of the imposing Palladian style mansion which overlooks the Sussex Weald one is confronted by a vista

of colour. Acres of brilliant rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias are backgrounded by ancient oaks and beech and birch, intermingled by stately conifers. Masses of bluebells and lilies bloom at will and streams and ancient hammer ponds water the floor of the valley. Beyond lies parkland where one can wander and gaze at the wallaby families which roam at large.

These gardens, whose colour effects have been achieved without losing the wild character of the setting, were started by Sir Edmund Loder, grandfather of the present owner and are open for six weeks in the year for visitors to enjoy the living picture of beauty that is this family's heritage.

Look out for details of this outing in the April issue of "The Spire."

M.O.

HOLIDAYS FOR FAMILIES . . .

For the benefit of those who may not have seen the leaflet at Wayside about this scheme, organised by the Mothers' Union (Diocese of London), a few of the details are given here (further particulars can be obtained from Mrs. Adam, 123, Old Church Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex. Telephone: Grimsdyke 1683).

When?

August 4th to August 18th.

Where?

Stower School, Newton Abbott, Devon. (A mansion in lovely grounds with swimming pool, tennis courts, only a few miles from the sea).

For whom?

Families. Priority will be given to members of M.U. and Y.W.G. with young families.

Activities?

Enjoy Devonshire countryside and sea; Entertainments; discussions; daily worship.

Parents!

Children are cared for by a trained staff mornings and evenings.

Fees?

Per week

	£	s.	d.
Adults and Children,			
15 years and over	6	0	0
Children 10-14 years	5	0	0
Children, 6-9 years ...	3	10	0
Children, 2-5 years ...	3	0	0
Children, under 2 years	1	10	0

Application forms are now being printed so there is still time to apply. It sounds a wonderful opportunity for people with young families and modest incomes to have a real holiday. One day's outing is organised with packed meals each week. A variety of entertainments is arranged for the evenings—participation is, of course, optional.

Mrs. Warwick knows a few more details and will be glad to answer your questions so far as she is able.

D.W.

. . . AND FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

For boys and girls aged 11-14, the London Diocese arranges a special

kind of holiday each year. This summer it is to be held at the Shaftesbury Society Camp, Seasalter, Whitstable, Kent, August 3-10. The fee of 5 guineas includes cost of travel. The end of February is really closing date for applications, but if you act immediately after reading this there may still be room. Further details from the Vicar.

. . . AND FOR OLD PEOPLE

A week's holiday by the sea at Cliftonville is again being organised by the Hampton Hill Old People's Welfare Committee in June this year.

Any Old Age Pensioners interested can obtain particulars from the President:—

Mrs. TROTTER,
188, Uxbridge Road,
Hampton Hill.

or any other member of the Committee.

MEDICAL WORK IN THE VILLAGES IN KASHMIR

(continued)

Anantnag and Rainawari are always busy. Cases of vitamin deficiency—the result of malnutrition—are very much in evidence. And week after week there are serious maternity cases to be dealt with—cases never seen in England now. Some remarkable results are achieved. There was the wife of a Muslim religious leader who went home joyfully, with a bonny baby boy—after five still births at home. "They came to me, husband and wife, before leaving for home and asked me to pray for them. Away they went to their village, praising God and deeply grateful for the hospital."

For both are Christian hospitals. Daily the Gospel is preached, in the wards, to the out-patients. From Rainawari the news is: "We have regular Bible teaching by one of the staff. Many copies of gospels are sold, too." And at Anantnag: "When possible we play gospel records in Urdu and Karshmiri, and the waiting group listens attentively. Many buy gospels and Christian booklets."

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In Kashmir there are thousands who are without Christ, without hope. And thousands, too, who desperately need medical help. Rainawari and Anantnag are typical of the small rural hospitals throughout Asia with which C.M.S. is concerned, seeking to minister to body and soul. How they need our backing—our prayers and our giving!