

AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about
people, activities & organisation

"99" PARTY

Despite the appalling weather conditions the "99" Party held on 19th January, was very well supported and all those who braved the snow to attend were well rewarded for their efforts. By various means the hall had been thoroughly warmed since early afternoon, and this enabled everyone to enjoy in comfort the varied and entertaining programme put on through the evening. Added to this were plentiful refreshments of a very high standard so that all in all the whole evening was well worth while attending.

The Social Committee are to be congratulated on starting the year with such a successful function, which augurs well for their future programme.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

It is proposed to arrange a mid-May outing to Canterbury Cathedral. In order for coach bookings to be made, would all those likely to be interested in such an outing please contact a member of the Social Committee as soon as possible.

HAMPTON HILL OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE

We have been asked to say that helpers are urgently needed to augment the team visiting the sick and house-bound Old Age Pensioners in the Parish.

Any offers of help in this way can be made to Mrs. Mills (Molesey 6626) or any other member of the Committee known to you. The President of the Committee is Mrs. Trotter (Molesey 6196).

Mr. REDINGTON. It is sad to hear of the death of such a familiar figure in the district. Mr. Redington, a member of the H.H.O.P.W. Committee, was well-known in the equestrian world—with his ponies he created much pleasure for children at some of our Church fetes in the past. Our condolences go to his wife.

TYPEWRITER NEEDED

Has anyone a typewriter (preferably portable) that they no longer require? Mrs. Warwick (Molesey 7004) would be very pleased to hear from you—if she can get one at a reasonable figure it will save the borrowing and transporting of one each month for typing the magazine matter.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

It is most regrettable that owing to the severe weather so many of our meetings have had to be cancelled, but I do not suppose we have suffered any more than others in this respect.

However, we were most fortunate in being able to hold our meeting on February 6th, and to have with us Mrs. Cockran, who came all the way from Finchley to talk to us about "Peace." I think it was very noble of her to come. She gave us a lot to think about which I am sure helped us to appreciate more and more, in these times of tumult and turmoil, what a wonderful gift, "the peace of God which passeth all understanding" can be.

Sometimes when we visit homes where there are young children and lots of bustle and noise there is still this wonderful atmosphere of "Peace"—or perhaps it is contentment.

Do not forget March 6th, at 2.30 p.m., our service in the Church, followed by the A.G.M. at "Wayside." I hope the weather will have improved by then and that we shall have a good attendance.

The Women's Day of Prayer service is to be held in our Church this year on Friday, March 1st, at 8 p.m. The same form of service is being held in churches all over the world, so let us all be there and help to swell the thousands of prayers ascending to the Throne of Grace.

V.P.

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

Our speaker in January was Mr. Travers of the Peter Lawrence Organization. He told us of the holiday tours which they promote. As the travel is by canoe, these are certainly holidays with a difference. We saw a film of one of last summer's groups canoeing down the River Rhone to spend a glorious week swimming and water-skiing on the French Riviera. It made us forget the snow and ice outside.

For our visit to the Food and Cookery Centre Ltd., on February 6th we were a smaller party than we had hoped to be, but it did not lessen the enjoyment of those who were there. We were given a demonstration of "Short Cuts to High Teas and Suppers," by a young lady whose delightful Scots accent made one

expect good cooking. She prepared several dishes, in addition to soups and vegetables, using Batchelors tinned and packet soups, etc., to add savour to fresh foods, with truly inspiring results. With a cup of tea, we were invited to taste the attractive dishes which had been prepared. We did more than taste! The food was as delicious as it looked and we practically ate the lot! We returned home determined to make an early return visit.

Congratulations to Betty Harrison on the birth of her third child, Jonathan, and to Audrey Hunt who a few days later also produced a son. We hope to see them at our Babies' Party on June 12th.

TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY

Monday, March 11th.—Proposed visit to Ideal Home Exhibition. Fare and entrance charge 7/-. Closing date for applications, February 27th. March 27th.—Mrs. Stevens speaking on "Holy Week and Easter." April 26th.—Children's Party at 3 p.m. at the Parish Hall. Tickets already issued for Christmas Party remain valid.

M.S.

THE GUIDE COMPANY (1st Hampton Hill)

If you saw several dirty, ragged children with old newspapers and beer bottles protruding from the most unlikely places on the evening of December 20th, you may be assured that most of them were Guides going to their last meeting of 1962—a tramps' supper. The competition for the best tramp was won by a "husband and wife" team—Gloria Lansley and Jane Perry. I think it was the chips and sausages that made all the Guides ask, "Couldn't we have a tramp's supper every week?"

The main event of November was the visit of four Guides to the Senior Branch Pageant at the Albert Hall. Mrs. Casey took them, and they all enjoyed watching Rangers and Cadets representing, by acting and dancing, a few of the many Senior Branch activities. The colour and ceremony of the parade of over fifty county standards (many of the larger counties are divided) from all over England, followed by the energy and gaiety of Camp-fire songs sung by hundreds of Guides, Rangers, Cadets and

Guides, provided an enjoyable introduction.

The Guides who have gained their second class are now working hard (so they tell me!) for the first class and proficiency badges. I hope that they will be able to complete their first class, a badge with a very high standard, by the end of 1963.

Next month I hope to report that ten enrolments and at least one "flying up" have taken place—a good start to the New Year! R.M.

THE YOUTH CLUB

A meeting of the Committee was held on January 21st. The Club reports a successful year, and there are now 140 members, aged 13 to 21. They are not all resident in the Borough, and come from Staines, Bedfont, Ashtead, Isleworth and other far-flung outposts. We are gratified that they brave the appalling road conditions at the present time to come to the Club.

The Club has its own jazz group "The Scorpions," who play frequently for us, and have also played several one-night stands in the Borough.

The Club is regularly represented at the Youth Members' Council at Heatham House by Mr. C. Rogers and Mr. P. Hopkins, and they have assisted in efforts to raise money for the Old People's Welfare Committee.

A theatre visit is planned for March 7th, to hear Cliff Richards and the Shadows when they appear at Kingston, and it is hoped to take a party of 50.

A second billiards table is being purchased from Mr. Len Smith. The darts board which we bought a few months ago is very popular and matches against other clubs are planned.

A dance is to be held in the Parish Hall towards the end of March—the exact date is still to be arranged.

"TRAVELOGUES"

Our thanks go to Major and Mrs. Wilcox who showed some of their large collection of coloured slides to a crowded room at Wayside on the 14th December last. They took it in turn to comment most entertainingly about the slides which illustrated some of their travels in the Far East. Major Wilcox was stationed in Malaya and was able to show us something of the various Malayan ways of life and sources of revenue. The main industry is rubber, but banana cultivation is another flourishing source, as well as fishing. There

were slides of these as well as of the exotic scenery, gorgeous temples and showed us pictures of a brilliant houseplant which she had been successful in cultivating. The flowering of this was quite an occasion because it bloomed seldom and then only at night, dying by the morning. It was a custom among her friends, she said, to invite guests around when it was due to blossom so that they could share in its spectacular beauty and lovely fragrance. It was certainly something for the horticulturally minded of us to remember when we water our humble philodendrons!

We journeyed "by slides" southwards from Penang to Singapore and Vietnam and onwards from Saigon to Manila and Hongkong, where we saw some saddening pictures of refugees from Red China who pour in from Macao and live in squalor above the slopes of the city. Our journey ended in Japan beneath the slopes of Fujiyama and the evening was over all too soon. The Social Committee have hopes of persuading these two interesting and good-natured travellers to "come again" and give us the benefit of sharing as armchair participants in some more of their many and varied experiences.

M.O.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- March 1.—Women's World Day of Prayer: 8 p.m. Service in St. James's.
- March 4.—8.0 p.m. Film in preparation for Christmas Aid Week (Public Hall, Hampton).
- March 6.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union: Service in church followed by Annual General Meeting (W).
- March 8.—8 p.m. Church Council (W).
- March 20.—8 p.m. Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Hall).
- March 24.—Mothering Sunday: 11 a.m. Family and Parade Service.
- March 25.—Annunciation of the B.V.M.: Holy Communion at 7.15 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.
- March 27.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union. Speaker Mrs. Hanchet—"Kindness" (W). 8 p.m. Young Wives' Group. Speaker Mrs. Stevens—"Holy Week and Easter" (W).

March 28.—8 p.m. Scout Group: Annual General Meeting (Hall).

N.B. No service of Holy Communion at 10.30 a.m. today.

April 7.—Palm Sunday.

The four Confirmation groups will continue to meet as arranged.

The Prayer and Study group will meet on every Wednesday in Lent (except on March 20th) at 8 p.m. in the Vestry. The special subject for study will be the Epistle to the Philippians. Anyone interested is warmly invited to these Lenten meetings.

All copy for the April Magazine should be sent to a member of the Editorial Board not later than Tuesday, March 12th. The Board itself will meet at the Vicarage at 11 a.m., on March 14th.

As we go to press we hear of a symbolic fast which all Christians will be asked to observe on one day in the third week of Lent, giving up their lunch, and spending an hour in a nearby church instead, in prayer and penitence and fasting for the world's hungry. A special form of Service will be used. As soon as we know more we will announce the local arrangements.

BAPTISMS

Feb. 17.—Hayley Agatha and Julian Anthony Skey, 53, Park Road.

BURIALS AND CREMATION

- Jan. 18.—George Richard Blackall, 14, Holly Road, aged 74 years.
- „ 22.—Ethel Margaret White, 35, Park Road, aged 81 years, (at Twickenham Cemetery).
- „ 23.—Edith Bowpitt, 66, Windmill Road, aged 78 years.
- „ 26.—Henry Ernest Harper, 38, St. James's Avenue, aged 79 years.
- „ 30.—Louis William Davidge, 167, Uxbridge Road, aged 80 years, (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).
- Feb. 11.—Thomas Henry Fewster, 21, St. James's Avenue, aged 71 years.
- „ 18.—Edward Whitby Vincent, 108, High Street, aged 83 years.

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

LETTER FROM AFRICA

(This is the first part of a letter

received from Miss Hannah Stanton from Makerere University College,

Kampala.)

I can hardly believe that I have been here for six months. The time has shot by. I have been digging myself into my job here—as Warden of the Women's Hall of Residence, Mary Stuart Hall, named after Mary Stuart, the wife of Bishop Stuart who was out here for 22 years. Bishop Stuart and Mrs. Stuart were out for Uganda's Uhuru celebrations, and attended our Independence Dinner. This Hall houses the women students of Makerere: we have 95 plus 6 non-residents, making 101, out of a total of nearly 1000 students in the whole college. We include: 36 African students, 37 Asian students and 28 Europeans—Europeans being partly a misnomer as it includes 11 Americans and 1 Canadian. The Africans and Asians come from all over E. Africa: Uganda, Kenya, Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

Makerere is most impressive with its very high-powered Arts and Science Faculties in all subjects; with its famous Medical School with seven Professorial Chairs; its Dept. of Political Science with Colin Leys as Professor; its School of Fine Art with Professor Todd at its head and people like Gregory Maloba the sculptor on its staff. There is a first rate School of Agriculture; also a Faculty of Education and an Institute of Social Research. Next year a Dept. of Religious Studies is being started with Professor Noel King from Ghana as Director; into this I hope to fit in some capacity. At the moment I am doing a bit of coaching for Higher Certificate Theology.

Students take their degrees (University of London) at Makerere, and they take their Higher Certificate A levels at school before they come here. Many of the important people in E. Africa today have studied at Makerere. Many of the leading politicians in all three countries are Makerere graduates. Mr. Julius Nyerere took his Teacher's Diploma here. Mr. Sam Ntiro, Deputy High Commissioner for Tanganyika, in London, was on the staff here, and Mrs. Ntiro was one of the first students in Mary Stuart Hall. The Hon. Mrs. Florence Lubega, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Community Development, is another past member of the Hall. Mrs. Pamela Mboya is yet another.

Getting to know the present

students has been most interesting. It is not easy to combine regulations and discipline with the freedom of a University life, and it is difficult having students from remote areas in E. Africa to whom the new life is rather strange in the same residential Hall with sophisticated American and British girls used to all the freedom of a flat of their own during their years at a University. Some of the African students are the only women in their districts to achieve a university education, and they come realising the weight of this responsibility upon them. They as a group have very high ideals in front of them and there are many outstanding girls among them. At Makerere they are in a thoroughly westernised community and framework. In the vacations I shall hope to get to know something more of their backgrounds. Most of our Europeans are post-Graduates doing their Diplomas in Education, and at the end of this year will go off to teach in Secondary Schools throughout East Africa.

Makerere has a beautiful chapel and we are fortunate indeed in having the Rev. Denis Payne as chaplain. The Sunday morning Eucharist is the central service with a full congregation of staff and students, and this is followed by a chapel breakfast. Our latest addition to the chapel is a most lovely altar frontal worked in browns, cream and corn colours of fruit, leaves, birds, lizards and insects and has the heading, "All ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord" upon it, and was made in the Art Class at the Makerere College School. Preachers in our Chapel at Evensong this term have included our most beloved Archbishop of Uganda, the Archbishop of York and Father Neil Russell from Tanga. Bishop Huddleston is visiting us in January, so we feel quite in the middle of things on the whole! The view from our chapel looks over to Namirembe Cathedral situated on one of the neighbouring hills; this is a lovely structure (one of the discarded plans for Liverpool Cathedral was adopted) and its calmness and completeness is very satisfying. It is particularly beautiful when seen above the layers of early morning mist. It looked glorious when it was floodlit during the independence Celebrations.