

AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about
people, activities & organisation

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Trip to Canterbury Cathedral

The date has been fixed for May 18th, when we hope the fruit blossom will make the journey especially pretty. The coach will leave the church at 9 a.m. and the cost per seat will be nine shillings.

Members of the Committee are anxious to accept firm bookings and will willingly answer any queries. *Please*—and this is a cry from the heart!—contact the Committee members and do not leave it to *them* to get into touch with *you*.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

During the winter our Friday evening activities have been somewhat dormant but they have restarted successfully with a Table Tennis Tournament, etc.

Activities proposed for the coming months include an Easter Party in the Church Hall, to which friends of the Fellowship and members of other local youth movements will be invited; a coffee party; a cycle ride on Easter Monday.

Towards the end of March a visit to Coventry Cathedral has been arranged—the journey to be made by coach. A.L.

MOTHERS' UNION

The Deanery Festival takes place on Tuesday, 23rd April, at 2.30 p.m., in St. Mark's Church, Teddington, (alight from 285 'bus at Holmesdale Road). Banner bearers and attendants are asked to be present by 1.30 p.m.

The London Diocesan Festival Service is on Tuesday, 7th May, at 7 p.m., in St. Paul's Cathedral. We are planning to hire a coach to take members to and from this service.

On the following Tuesday, 14th May, a half-day outing to the Old Mill House, Aldermaston, has been planned (fare 5/-). As no party has been arranged this year for the Branch, tea will be provided to members free of charge.

The Secretary would like to have the names of those wishing to go by coach on these two dates as soon as possible. I.V.R.

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

In mid-February we held a joint meeting with the Mothers' Union when, by courtesy of the British Lighting Council, Mr. Lord of the South Eastern Electricity Board spoke to us about "Lighting in the Home." Mr. Lord brought along samples of electric lamps and explained the purposes of the various types, whilst photographic slides were used to show the good and bad ways of lighting the home. Mr. Lord volunteered to answer questions on electricity in the home, and had several questions on cooking and heating as well as lighting.

At our group meeting on February 28th, we were to have had a talk by Mrs. Enid Rands about Nursery Schools, but she was unfortunately prevented from doing so by illness. Mrs. Rockliffe came to our aid at very short notice and spoke to us about "Answering Children's Questions," which proved to be a subject arousing great interest, and brought forth a number of serious and amusing questions as asked by children. Mrs. Rockliffe provided some very commonsense ideas about coping with those awkward ones to which you just do not know the answer, and I think we gave her a few new questions to add to her list. Our thanks to Mrs. Rockliffe for an enjoyable evening.

"Getting to know you"—a song from a well-known musical play, "The King and I." Do we know our fellow group members as well as we might? Our Committee thinks not, and so, from time to time, a number of "Come for Coffee" invitations will be issued. About ten people were invited to the first of these coffee evenings, and although only about half were able to attend, the hostesses felt well rewarded by the fact that three of the five present had never met before, but were soon chatting merrily.

On April 24th, we present a programme of films by the British Railways Commissions in the Parish Hall, at 8 p.m. We extend a hearty invitation to every reader to come along. M.S.

3rd HAMPTON HILL (St. James') CUB PACK

Since our last notes we have had a very successful Parents' Evening, also our usual jolly Christmas Party which, in number, was larger than ever this year.

We have now lost Greg and Jeff Neesham. Jeremy Bryan, Mike Douset and Andrew Thompson to the Scouts and wish them every success in their new venture.

On Wednesday, March 6th, Mr. John Buckhurst, Branch Librarian of Southall, gave an interesting talk, with appropriate illustrations, on books and their origin.

Now the weather is back to normal, football practice has commenced on Saturday mornings and matches have been arranged against other packs.

KIM.

FREE!!

Use of large garden, suitable for growing vegetables. 'Phone: Molesey 6931, after 6 p.m.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

March 1st. was women's World Day of Prayer, and about one hundred and twenty women met in our Church for a service led by Mrs. T. Shepherd, wife of the Minister of Hampton Hill Congregational Church. This service had been prepared for world-wide participation by a group of Christian women of Korea.

Mrs. Brunt read "A Story from Korea," which told of a pastor in a leprosarium in Korea, who not only forgave his son's killer, but eventually led him to God.

Miss Garwood Scott, Headmistress of Lady Eleanor Holles School gave the address and urged us all to set aside a little time for quiet reflection and meditation. She knew from her own experience that ten minutes of such quietness could help one to attain peace of mind and leave one feeling refreshed and able to cope with the daily round. So interested were the members of the congregation, that as Miss Garwood Scott spoke in her clear quiet voice, there was complete stillness throughout the Church.

I came away from Church wondering why we women of the West had left it to the women of Korea to prepare and inaugurate this World Day of Prayer. Is it because in our more materialistic society we are too

occupied with living and all too rarely find time for meditation and reflection?

On behalf of the congregation I would like to thank Mrs Brunt, Mrs. Shepherd and Miss Garwood Scott and that group of Christian women in far off Korea, for a most inspiring service. M.L.

(Editorial Note: Though we have not the information by us, Women's World Day of Prayer is not a new thing, though it is being observed more widely every year. As far as we remember, it was first thought of in Canada and groups of Christian women in different countries take it in turns year by year to choose the theme and draw up the form of service to be used).

OVERSEAS VISITORS

The Missionary Committee of the Ruri-Decanal Conference is drawing up a list of church people who would be willing to invite a lonely visitor from overseas into their home for a meal and a chat. There are many of these lonely ones in our midst, and the Committee will have no difficulty in supplying a guest for every host. There is a notice inside our church, giving particulars of the scheme, and beneath a space for those who can supply this hospitality to write their names.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO PUBLICISE CHRISTIAN AID WEEK THIS YEAR

"What is "Bread for the World?" Because of your connexion with the Church you will—or should—know about Christian Aid Week and Inter-Church Aid. But the majority of people in Hampton Hill know little or nothing about it.

Because they know nothing about it many of them are understandably reluctant to give any money to the volunteer collectors—including members of your own Church—who make the door-to-door collection during Christian Aid Week.

They will tell their callers that they have never heard of "Bread for the World" or "Christian Aid Week;" and what they say is absolutely true. *What is needed is far more publicity.*

The best possible form of publicity for Christian Aid Week is for the whole area to come out in a rash of "Bread for the World" posters.

Every Christian home should show at least one of these posters in a window, or on a board in the front garden. Every churchgoer with a car should have a sticker in its rear window. Every shop with space to show a poster should have been asked by a Christian to show one.

Please accept one to display when it is offered.

THE POST BOX MYSTERY

People in St. James's Road and Park Road rubbed their eyes when, just after Christmas, they saw a brand new tablet on the Larkfield box, offering seven times of collection from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. No more walking down to Uxbridge Road or the High Street for a late post—no, people would be flocking up to us, for here was a later collection than any other in the district! It seemed too good to be true—and indeed so it proved. After some weeks, when doubts began to accumulate, a letter to the Head Postmaster caused inquiries to be made. A courteous and detailed reply some time later, warmly thanking us for drawing attention to the matter, indicated that someone had blundered. Now another new tablet has appeared (and a new coat of paint!) but alas, with the same old times—but at least we know where we are!

SOME DATES TO NOTE

April 3.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union (W). Mrs. Ackroyd speaks on, "Preparation for Old Age," 8.00 p.m. Compline and Bible Study (Vestry).

April 4th.—7.00 p.m. R.D. Youth Conference (All Souls' Hall, St. Margaret's). 8.00 p.m. Passion Play, "Christ in the Concrete City" (St. John's, Hampton Wick).

April 7.—PALM SUNDAY. Crosses will be distributed at all services.

April 8.—9.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

April 9.—9.00 a.m. Holy Communion. 10.00 a.m. Editorial Board. 8.00 p.m. "Christ in the Concrete City," (All Hallows', Twickenham).

April 10.—7.15 a.m. Holy Communion. 8.00 p.m. Compline and Bible Study (Vestry).

April 11.—MAUNDY THURSDAY. 7.15 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 8.00 p.m. "Christ in the Concrete City," (Sunbury Parish Church).

April 12.—GOOD FRIDAY. 10.00 a.m. Children's Service. 12.00—3.00 p.m. The Three Hours' Devotion, to be conducted by the Reverend E. Evans, Vicar of All Saints', Twickenham. 3.30 pm. Open-Air Service in Carlisle Park, Arranged by the Hampton Council of Churches. 6.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. Peter Albery (Theatre Group Productions) presents the Passion Play. "The Way of the Cross," by Henry Ghéon, at the New Theatre, St. Martin's Lane (All seats bookable Box Office: TEM. 3878).

April 13.—Decoration of the Church for Easter. Gifts of Flowers brought up to the Church before 9.45 a.m. would be much appreciated—also help in arranging them.

April 14.—EASTER DAY. 7.00, 8.00, 9.00 a.m. and 12.10 p.m. Holy Communion, 9.45 am. Children's Service. 11.00 a.m. Matins. 6.30 p.m. Evensong.

April 22.—8.00 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches (All Saints, Hampton).

April 23.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union Deanery Festival Service (St. Mark's, Teddington).

April 24.—8.00 p.m. Films sponsored by the Young Wives' Group (Hall).

May 1.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union (W). Speaker: Mrs. Minchin, "The Fruit of the Spirit-Love."

May 1.—S.S. Philip and James. Holy Communion 7.15 am.

May 7.—7.00 p.m. Mothers' Union Diocesan Festival Service (St. Paul's Cathedral).

May 18.—9.00 am. Coach leaves for Canterbury Cathedral.

May 13-18.—Christian Aid Week. Volunteers are urgently needed.

All Matter for the May issue of the Magazine should be sent to a member of the Editorial Board not later than Monday, April 8th.

There will be no week-day services after Easter, until May 1.

Arrangements about the resumption of Confirmation classes will be made known to members.

BAPTISMS

Feb. 24.—Carolyn Eileen Allnutt, 7, Cranmer Court.

„ 24.—Michael John Garcia, 18, Uxbridge Road.

„ 24.—Andrew Thomas Jones, 27, Longford Close.

MARRIAGES

- Mar. 9.—John Alfred Clement to Lorraine Margaret McCormack.
" 9.—Keith William Sivyer to Sandra Pauline Osborne.
" 9.—John Louis Martin to Kay Reith.

BURIALS

Feb. 19.—Emma Eliza Tickner, 11, Cobham Road, Kingston, aged 83 years.

Feb. 19 Herbert Thomas Redington, 15, Westbank Road, aged 59 years.

" 23.—Harriet Elizabeth May Hyde, 95, Hampton Road, aged 72 years (interment of ashes).

Mar. 5.—Alice Singleton, 88, Raynton Drive, Hayes, aged 81 years.

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

LETTER FROM AFRICA

(This is the conclusion of a letter received from Miss Hannah Stanton at Makerere University College, Kampala).

In September I went down to Bukoba in Tanganyika on the western shore of Lake Victoria and stayed a few days with Else Orstandius a Swedish missionary whom I met in Oxford in 1955. The Swedish Lutheran Church is strongly established in the Bukoba area, "The Church on the Equator," as its leader Bishop Bengt Sundkler calls it, and it has been a great privilege to see it and to meet him. I am hoping to visit Bukoba again in the Christmas vacation. The country districts of Tanganyika seem rather empty after crowded Uganda. I felt very much on the frontiers of Christianity with spirit worship not so far away; while I was staying in Bukoba we went to visit a Mission school and on the way called on an old lady, now a Christian, who is the widow of a spirit priest. We saw the spirit tree near their village where the worship of the tree spirit was carried on in the past. The son of this priest, realising the limitations of his father's powers, sought out one of the missionaries in the district, asked for instruction and is now a leading Christian minister in the local church. In Bukoba there were voluntary self-help schemes organised, and the people were responding with enthusiasm and making up gangs for road making. This I am told is happening all over Tanganyika. Every-day life seemed a bit hazardous, there were leopards about: "Never turn your back on your leopard," I was warned! I carefully came back from bird-watching much earlier than I would otherwise have done.

I have also been to Nairobi to visit Miss Miriam Janisch, my opposite number, Warden of the Women's Hall of Residence at the Royal College. I felt that going up to Nairobi was rather like going up to Johannesburg—a big cosmopolitan centre, and I suppose really the cultural and economic centre of future East Africa. I have never seen more beautifully laid out grounds and borders of flowering shrubs. Also it was cool, much cooler than in Uganda where from November until March it is hot and sticky. We went to visit the African Girls' High School in Kikuyu; I asked the Head, Miss Bruce, to send us more Kenya girls to Makerere: we only have two African Kenyans at the moment. Kenya must be remembered in many people's prayers in 1963; it is so important that things should go peacefully and well there . . . as they have gone in Uganda. It was very thrilling to be here for the Independence Celebrations when everything did go very peacefully and well. Uganda is very largely a non-racial country; there is to some extent a policy of Ugandization, but generally one does not think about racial differences at all. Uganda's Independence came with a calm and mature acceptance of responsibility and one wished that more publicity had been given to this in the Press (there was nothing about it at all in the Observer), for this calmness should have a reassuring effect on other African countries shortly to attain to their own independence.

The Rev. Asa Byara is in Kampala with schemes for church expansion in the townships and urban areas; he is only just introducing me to these plans, and they make me feel nostalgic for the Lady Selbourne type of existence.