

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN

T.V., radio, publications, pop music — every powerful mass persuader — projects London as “the swinging city,” an irresistible magnet to young people everywhere. Wel-Care only too often sees the other side of this over-glamourised golden coin. Only too often the total freedom and so-called sophistication of London living ends in the pathetic problems of unmarried parenthood.

Wel-Care's most “with-it” and topical task is to help “pick up the pieces” of shattered young lives. The Wel-Care organisation has specialised in constructive Christian Moral Welfare work for over 75 years. It represents the Church in action — a Christian Social Service to the community, and especially to young unmarried parents and their innocent children.

Professionally-qualified trained caseworkers are maintained by Wel-Care throughout the London Diocese. They offer practical help and advice over accommodation, facilities from statutory and other bodies, pre- and post-natal care, adoption and family problems. Their caseload is increased by the many provincial and overseas girls who come to hide their trouble in huge, anonymous London.

Only the Wel-Care worker knows the amount of prejudice and ignorance which still surrounds the problems of her work. People, even professing Christian people, so often prefer **not** to face the facts. The figures for illegitimate births in London are tragically high. But the vast majority of these young mothers are **not** “bad girls, who will only get in trouble again if Wel-Care helps them.” They are often just over-romantic, pathetically ignorant, or from a loveless, unstable background.

The Wel-Care workers in this area are Mrs. J. Evans and Mrs. P. Aylward. Their office is at 15, Bulstrode Road, Hounslow, Tel. 570 3594.

Intercessions will be offered for them and all Wel-Care workers in the Diocese at St. Paul's Cathedral and in all parish churches on April 13.

A special service of thanksgiving for the work of Wel-Care in the Bishop of Kensington's area will be held on Thursday, May 22 at 8.00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton Road, when the Bishop will celebrate Holy Communion, and Canon Stancliffe will preach.

Last year the Church Council decided that Good Friday should always be one of the days on which all offerings (except, of course, those in pledged-giving envelopes) should be given to a specified “good cause,” and there was a generous response. This year it was decided by a vote taken at the Annual Church Meeting that it was the turn of Wel-Care to be the good cause on this day, and we hope, in the light of what has been said above, for an even more generous response.

THE OLD DAYS

(Extracts from letter from J. E. Chapman — aged 80)

I wish to obtain a copy of “The Birth and Growth of Hampton Hill” to send to my brothers in West Australia. We were born in Hampton Hill and my brothers were members of the choir at St. James's until they went to Australia. I was a member of Mrs. Fitz Wygram's Bible Class. My grandfather was licensee of the Jenny Lind (built 1839) for many years. My father had The Olde Shoppe as a tobacconist and confectioners. In your book you mention the old wells and pumps before mains water was supplied — at the rear of the Olde Shoppe an additional building had been added, like an old farmhouse

kitchen and in the corner of this kitchen was a well and pump still in good order. It was there two or three years ago and probably is today with an old type glazed shallow sink, probably the last in existence.

You also mention the Jubilee mugs given to the school children — well — two of the Diamond Jubilee mugs are now in West Australia. In the old days a Mr. Woolgar who lived at Penn's Place at Hampton was the village carrier and once a week called at the tradesmen's shops for any commissions on his way to London. He had an old high-wheeled Dickensian type of covered cart and used to bring us a consignment of tobacco, etc., from Will's warehouse in town on his way back about six or seven in the evening. Another diversion of the High Street during the summer was the coach and four which used to run from Hyde Park Corner to the Mitre at Hampton Court — the coach-horn going full blast along the whole length of the High Street. Another event was the Company of Cavalry, Lancers and Hussars clattering through the village returning to their barracks at Hampton Court from morning exercises in Bushy Park. I also used to watch the horsemen and Deer Hounds hunting in the Park at times during the winter months from a perch on the Park wall at the back of the shop and also the men from the Old Mud Hut — official name "The Brewery Tap," (now 46, High Street) playing quoits for pints of beer just over the park wall.

N.B.—If anyone has a spare copy of the Birth and Growth of Hampton Hill, please contact Mrs. Orton. As we go to press the current price of this book as advertised in the village is 3 gns! and 5 gns. have been offered for a copy!!

CONSIDER A VICAR

There is no doubt about it, being pastor of a church can be a most exacting task. To begin with the sheer physical process of projecting one's voice over ten or twelve empty rows of pews to the congregation for a prolonged period can be extremely exhausting, apart from the mental concentration and the draining of one's spiritual resources in expounding a message containing the elements of comfort, instruction and unction. A vicar's life can impose an almost intolerable strain on a conscientious man — who can at times be called on to devote twenty-four hours a day to the job. Taking the Sunday Services and weekday evening meetings is only the "tip of the iceberg" of his work; behind that alone there may be hours of study, prayer and preparation.

As well as all this many hours can be spent visiting the sick — sometimes over long distances on a bicycle — the poor, the aged and bedridden as well as newcomers to the district — and in addition, there will be many who call on him at his own house about all kinds of matters at all hours of day or night. There are business matters to be dealt with, the ultimate responsibility for the care and maintenance of buildings and churchyard . . . involvement with local affairs and associations; visits to hospital. At night he may be called out to help to attend the dying, to give comfort to victims of road or rail accidents, to exert his powers of prayer and healing — I could fill this page with the list of possible activities in which he may become involved — not to mention the calls of his own family and private cares. In so many cases, all this work has to be carried out with very inadequate income Not only may the pressure bring about physical or nervous breakdown but it is not unknown for a pastor to commit suicide as a result of extreme distress and overwork — or he may retire from the

ministry. A contributory factor to the strain of the job may be the criticism, spoken or unspoken, of members of the church who do not understand fully the immensity of their pastor's task.

There is an urgent need for all members of the church to support their minister by giving of their time, physical and mental energy, financial help, constructive ideas, and to refrain as much as possible from mischievous criticism, obstruction, indifference and a "leave it to the other members" attitude. It behoves every church member periodically to ask himself in all sincerity — "Am I helping my minister and church enough?" And if he can't truthfully answer "yes," to see what he can do to remedy the situation.

(Extracted substantially from the Sunday Companion by a parishioner).

THE CHURCHYARD — A DIFFERENT APPROACH

Last year we conducted a not-very-scientifically controlled experiment on reducing the growth of grass and weeds by using a chemical retardant. Applied in mid-summer at about half-strength, it kept back growth on and around the graves for some seven to eight weeks, to such an extent as to encourage us to try it for a full season this year.

The essential conditions are:

1. the vegetation must be growing when sprayed (i.e. it's no good doing it in Winter, when dormant),
2. it makes sense to trim it short first,
3. it shouldn't rain for twenty four hours after spraying with retardant.

To meet the first two conditions, we think the best idea will be a large scale trimming exercise in early April: we can't do much about the third one, but obviously we shall spray as soon after trimming as the weather permits.

T-Day (for trimming or tidying) is APRIL 12; the objectives for the day are, if possible, to give every grave and surround a 'short back-and-sides,' and, we hope, to spray them as well. This is a hefty task, but as use of the maximum strength solution should give up to twenty weeks control over growth, we may well eliminate any need for later 'mass attacks.'

We hope, therefore, that everybody interested will try to come for as many hours as possible: sharp shears, rakes, and barrows are the ideal equipment, and though we have a fair number in the shed, it helps if you can bring your own — labelled please! We have two sprayers (of the pump-up polythene container type) and one or two more would be most useful.

Refreshments will be laid on throughout the day, and we hope for fine weather, a goodly attendance, and, for once, to deal with the vegetation **before** it becomes a problem!

THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

There will be a grand Parish Concert in the Hall on Saturday, April 19. Tickets will be available shortly price 1/6d., including refreshments. Don't miss this great show of local talent.

The outing this year will be to Blenheim Palace on May 17. Further details later.

NEW PARK WORKING WEEKEND FEBRUARY 28 — MARCH 2

The Junior Council of Churches, armed once again with paint-brushes, rags and an assortment of hats, set out for New Park, Cranleigh on the Friday evening. This time about twenty seven people went, representing every church on the Council. The work was diverse: two ceilings were washed and painted (one 30ft. x 15ft., and one so high that only girls on strong men's shoulders could reach it), old plaster was hacked down — a satisfying job; four hundred roses were pruned, two hundred more were dug up, as was a low dry stone wall. The spirit of fellowship on the weekend was again much in evidence, and the ecumenical group attending Holy Communion in the sitting room at 7 o'clock on Sunday morning reflected the unity of the group.

A mini-bus hired to transport the workers proved to be good training experience for the Y.P.F.'s driver to Scotland at Easter. She coped splendidly whenever it went on strike

There is yet more work to be done before the beginning of May and other working parties will be arranged. J.H.R.

TUESDAY CLUB

On May 6, Mr. C. Clarke, a Senior Medical Officer of the Borough, will be speaking on the care and after-care of people suffering from mental and nervous breakdowns.

Anyone who is in any way interested in the subject will be very welcome to join us in Wayside, St. James' Road, at 8.00 p.m.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday, March 7, women all over the world united together in prayer, on the theme "Growing Together in Christ." The services in the Hampton Deanery were held at the Methodist Church, Percy Road, Hampton.

The theme, scriptures and prayers were proposed by women in Sierra Leone, Ghana, South Africa, Congo, Zambia and Kenya, and were co-ordinated by the Secretary of the Department on Home and Family of the All Africa Church Conference.

The speaker in the afternoon was Mrs. Leigh-Hunt, who said that in the face of the enormous changes in the world today women should not become so busy and involved in everyday affairs that they cannot find time for prayer and meditation. The evening speaker, Mrs. Angela Ball (of the Mothers' Union and wife of the new Rector of Shepperton) likened the growth of people to that of a tree — the branch, leaves and blossoms representing the physical, mental and spiritual development, and stressed that we must **want** to Grow Together in Christ.

J.B.

THE PARISH WEEKEND

The time for this is now drawing very close—May 9 to 11 or, if you can stay on, 12. We have had a number of bookings, but need many more—so don't delay, **BOOK TO-DAY!**

For extremely comfortable accommodation, lovely surroundings, time for discussion and reflection on our faith—for a time of real inspiration and fellowship, fill in the form below, and hand it or send it to Mrs. Helen Taylor, 90, Ormond Drive, Hampton.

PARISH WEEKEND BOOKING FORM

Name

Address

Please reserve place(s) for adults, children (under 12) for the Parish Weekend, May 9-11 or morning of May 12, 1969, and I/WE would prefer:—

A room	...	...	£5 15 0	
B room	...	...	£4 15 0	
C room	...	...	£4 10 0	
D room	...	...	£3 0 0	(reserved in the first place for people under 21).

The prices can be only approximate at present as they depend partly on the numbers attending and partly on whether the Hildenborough Hall Trust has to increase its prices this year.

I ENCLOSE DEPOSIT (10/- per person)

Signed

Date

THE MOTHERS' UNION

At our March meeting Mrs. Fidgin, whose husband is the Vicar of St. Stephen's, Hounslow, came along to talk to us about a recent holiday she and her husband and family took in South and East Africa, revisiting old friends and places they had known well when her husband worked there for some years. She showed us slides of many parts of Africa, and we saw many simple churches, nursery schools, clinics, and the people who use them. We are very grateful to Mrs. Fidgin for giving us some idea of church work which goes on in Africa.

CONFIRMATION

The Festival of Candlemas was a very appropriate occasion for a Confirmation, and the church, spring-cleaned and beautifully decorated by our hard-working and very skilful voluntary helpers, certainly provided a worthy setting. In addition to the nine candidates from the Lady Eleanor Holles School and one from St. Richard's, these six were presented from our own church: John Gostling, Derek Pearce, Roger Severn, Siobhan Bellingham, Sally Dafforne, Hazel Gubbins. (Paula Higgins was unfortunately unable to be there owing to illness, and she is to be presented at a Confirmation at St. Mary's, Hampton, on March 23.)

The Series 2 Service of Confirmation was used for the first time in our church, within the framework of the Series 2 Communion.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

Mar. 31.—7.30 p.m. Holy Communion; 8.15 p.m. Final meeting of Lent Course—'Inclusive Community' (W).

Apr. 1.—7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

.. 2.—12.00 noon until 2.00 p.m. Austerity Lunch—all proceeds for Christian Aid (W); 2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union open meeting—reading of a Passion Play (W); 7.30 p.m. Holy

Communion; 8.15 p.m. First meeting of the newly-elected Parochial Church Council (W).

- Apr. 3.—7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.
- „ 4.—GOOD FRIDAY: 10.00 a.m. Children's Service; 10.30 a.m. Ecumenical open-air Service (outside Barclays Training Centre, Teddington); 12.00 noon until 3.00 p.m. The Three Hours' Devotion (continuation of last year's theme—further aspects of the Atonement and the Saving Work of Christ: it would be a help in following the meditations if people had their Bibles available); 3.30 p.m. Ecumenical open-air Service (Gloucester Road—Wensleydale Road triangle). N.B.—All offerings in church to-day for Wel-Care.
- „ 5.—9.00 a.m. onwards—decoration of the church for Easter; gifts of flowers and help in arranging them welcomed.
- „ 6.—EASTER DAY: Holy Communion at 7.00 a.m., 8.00 a.m. and 12.10 p.m.; Parish and Family Communion at 9.30 a.m., followed by the usual light refreshments at Wayside; Children's Service at 11.10 a.m.; Evensong at 6.30 p.m.; Young People's Fellowship at 8.00 p.m.
- „ 7.—Members of the Y.P.F. leave in the early morning for their Easter holiday in Scotland.
- „ 8.—Many students leave for the Manchester Congress on world poverty and racial tension—'Response to Crisis'; 8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club (W).
- „ 12.—TRIM 'N' TIDY (Churchyard).
- „ 14-18.—CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HOLIDAY WEEK; full details on the programmes which are being sent to all homes with children, and which will also be available in church.
- „ 14.—8.00 p.m. Committee of Hampton Council of Churches (Methodist Church Hall).
- „ 18.—10.30 a.m. Editorial Board (34, Burton's Road).
- „ 19.—7.30 p.m. PARISH CONCERT (Hall—tickets 1/6).
- „ 22.—8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club (W); 8.00 p.m. Liturgical Committee (33, Beech Way).
- „ 25.—Saint Mark's Day: Holy Communion at 9.00 a.m.
- „ 27.—8.00 p.m. Young People's Fellowship: Open meeting and discussion, with special speaker, on Sunday Observance and the Sunday Entertainments Bill (W).
- May 9-12.—PARISH WEEKEND AT HILDENBOROUGH HALL
—BOOK NOW!

BAPTISM

On February 23:

Kim Michele Knight, 54, Laurel Road.

MARRIAGE

On March 1:

Terence Allan Mant to Brenda Audrey Moore.

CREMATIONS

On February 26:

George Arthur Thomas Moorman, 38, Hanworth Road, aged 54 years (at South West Middlesex Crematorium).

On March 12:

Ann Pooley, 28, Wolsey Road, aged 43 years (at South West Middlesex Crematorium).