

FURTHER IDEAS ABOUT SERIES 2

The Liturgical Committee has been considering some of the suggestions that people have been making about the Series 2 Order for Holy Communion which we have been using for two years and intend to continue to use until the experimental period comes to an end in 1971, when a further revision is due to be made. We have also been thinking about ways of enabling members of the congregation to take a fuller part.

Nearly everybody feels that the service is a great improvement on the older order, even if still far from perfect. Some would of course say that it is still too penitential and servile, and that the joy of being children of God does not come out strongly enough. 'We are not worthy' needs to be countered by such assertions of our dignity in Christ as abounded in the ancient liturgies: 'Thou hast made us worthy . . . kings and priests unto God.' We do get some great affirmations in the Thanksgiving—'thou hast fashioned us men in thine own image . . . hast made us a people for thine own possession'—but they do not go far enough.

Some people naturally would like the old familiar comfortable words to be used—others the Ten Commandments. But there are objections to the use of both of these which we will just mention briefly. The Commandments seem to many an inadequate statement of what should be the Christian's response to God and to man: and how for instance, does the fourth apply to us now we no longer have the old Jewish Sabbath (Saturday), but the First or Lord's Day (Sunday)? One objection to the comfortable words, coming immediately after the Absolution, is that they seem to imply that the declaration of God's forgiveness is not enough: it needs reinforcement by four passages from Scripture. 'This repeated affirmation of what is claimed as a certain fact indicates, and must often produce, doubt of its truth. One would not, for instance, in an airliner feel very comfortable if an announcement that all was well was made twice by the pilot, then by the wireless operator, then by the stewardess. One might be excused for fearing that something was seriously wrong. It is inevitable that what looks like Cranmer's deep lack of faith in God's mercy should communicate itself to many who use his liturgy, and should produce in them that spirit of bondage again unto fear from which Christ came to deliver us.' (H. A. Williams).

Then again, there are a number of people who have told us that they cannot bring themselves to join in the saying of the words of paragraph 27: 'The cup of blessing which we bless . . . We being many are one bread, one Body, for we all partake of the one bread.' They may not have realised that these words come from St. Paul (1 Corinthians 10, vv. 16-17), and whether or not they are entirely appropriate at this point, they bear witness to an important truth which none of us has yet fully grasped.

The music of all our services is being reviewed by the Committee. One thing is clear—we certainly need new and modern words to sing, as well as those of times long past. It may be that we shall find help here in the new supplement to our hymn-book just published—'100 Hymns for Today'—which we shall be considering in detail as soon as the sample copies are received.

With regard to greater participation, from November 2 members of the congregation will be leading the intercessions at the Parish Communion, and if you would like to be on the rota for this, please let Seymour Harris, Alan Taylor or the Vicar know. On any particular Sunday the leader in prayer might be one person, or a family, or a small group of people from one of our organisations. We hope that when the service receives its next revision in 1971, the versicle and response after each section will be changed. 'Lord, in thy mercy, Hear our prayer,' like other similar phrases we have been considering in our evening sermons recently, imply a false idea of God — that he may be reluctant and unwilling to hear us, and that we have to batter away at him to overcome this: whereas the reluctance is all on our side, not his! Better words would be: 'Father, we thank thee that thou hast heard us, And we know that thou hearest us always,' or more simply, 'The Lord hears us, Thanks be to God.'

EXTRACTS FROM LETTER FROM RUTH MILLS IN CANADA

Dear Everyone — Here I am in "sunny" Alberta trying to find something to tell you about sea-less, tree-less, oh-so-flat Edmonton. This isn't quite fair as I enjoyed my walk along the river yesterday and the building I'm working in is magnificent. Of course, although Edmonton itself is on the plain, Alberta has most of the Rockies which really are lovely. It is impossible to describe the scenery — I could tell you there were mountains, trees, flowers and views beyond all imagination but that would apply to the Rogers Pass, the Fraser Canyon, Mount Baker National Park (U.S.A.), Garibaldi National Park, the Vancouver Mountains and parklands, and all were different. You may be glad to know though, I have enough slides to bore everyone to tears!

I left Toronto six and a half weeks ago with a Vancouver native whom I'd met in England. We had a car to deliver to Calgary where we were to collect another to deliver to Vancouver. It is a lovely car and we got very attached to it — 15 ft. long, 6 ft. wide station wagon, power-car window (mini-trap) and the back door opens down or out. After 2000 miles "test drive" we decided, at Calgary, to buy it and it is called Melchior. The trip from Toronto to Sault Sainte Marie in Ontario was lovely — lakes, trees and hills, with enough rocks to make it interesting, especially along the northern part of Lake Superior. We spent one night at Port Arthur and duly observed the grain elevators — not really very inspiring but they are the largest in the world. Winnipeg was our next stop and the area around it is one of those flat, dull stretches of prairie. There we had a look at Fort Gary, one of the many little "forts" set up by the Hudson Bay Company. It is now a museum and quite picturesque. The rest of Manitoba and Saskatchewan was fairly flat but quite lovely, almost rolling at times and if you supplied your own gorse, heather and sheep, much like the Yorkshire Moors. After Calgary it was flat and dead apart from the round-up we watched — a huge beef herd and about five genuine cowboys on horses — and a small truck! A friend drove us round Calgary and along twenty miles of mud track just to get ice cream! We were both quite impressed with Calgary as a city and interested to see the preparations for the "Stampede."

The next day we drove in "our" car with the Rockies before us. We arrived in Banff in time for lunch and spent most of the day sight-seeing. All the way across we had been seeing and, unfortunately running over, "gophers" (prairie dogs). We decided to take the gondola lift up Mount Norquay, and, driving up to the lift, past a lovely patch of flame-coloured plant called Indian Paintbrush, we saw a wolf. Up in the mountains there were wild rock roses, chipmunks and a magnificent view. We paid a visit to the Natural Bridge which is exactly what its name implies and is beautiful. On the way between that and Emerald Lake a moose ran in front of the car and we stopped to take photos and saw three of them drinking at a pool—a male with huge fluffy antlers and two females. Emerald Lake was lovely and is a beautiful turquoise colour. As the weather looked promising we decided to stop at Glacier and see the Rogers Pass. On the camp site we saw bears—two cubs up a tree and 'mother' down below. They disappeared fairly quickly and we drove on through the Rogers Pass. B.C., desert, complete with wild cactus and sage brush, then through the Fraser Canyon to Vancouver where my sightseeing began!

Love to you all,

RUTH.

(Ruth's new address is: Nurses' Residence, Aberhart Memorial Sanatorium, Edmonton 61, Alberta, Canada).

HAMPTON HILL OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE "MARKET MEDLEY"

On Saturday at Laurel Dene
Fairly chosen was our Queen.
Crowned by the Mayor with Regal Bliss,
(I know she'd never thought of this,
For it really did seem like fate
As she'd left her entry rather late.)
Her attendants too looked pretty and fair
From top of toe to crown of hair.
The photographs are in the Press—
Mrs. Bough, Mrs. Polly and Mrs. Denness.
For ever more they will be still
The pride of all in Hampton Hill. *To be concluded.*

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

Over the past few months the Y.P.F. has been engaged in various activities concerning social work. Several people helped the Parish with the Trim and Tidy campaign, although the Y.P.F. en bloc had spent a Friday evening previously in clearing an area in the churchyard. A couple of the girls have been spring-cleaning an elderly lady's kitchen. Many members helped to sell programmes for the recent Old People's Welfare Fete and over £6 was collected in one evening. At the Fete the Y.P.F. "manned" four stalls, and one member in wig and gown, posy in hand, was "odd man out" amongst the prospective Forget-me-not Queens!

The Y.P.F. appeals to many people and it is not by any means a "closed shop"; if you know of those who might be interested in coming to the meetings, let Alan Taylor or myself know, and we will go along and see them.

M. C. EDMONDS.

THE FAMILY CHARITIES

At the garden sale on September 10, Wel-care benefited by £5-3-4 and a large bundle of baby clothes; Shelter, by £8 and some promises of help for their forthcoming street collection; and Save the Children by a profit of over £5. These totals include money paid for refreshments which was equally divided between the three. A lovely sunny day was helpful.

The organisers felt that the effort had been well worth-while and were grateful for the response that had been made.

THE SCOUT GROUP

This year Akela decided to take the Cub Scouts further afield, and a very good camp was held on Hayling Island. The actual location was St. Peter's Institute, North Hayling and the 30 odd parents and friends who visited on the Wednesday had a thoroughly enjoyable day. 18 boys attended the Camp, but this number was increased on the Wednesday by 2 German Scouts who were hitch-hiking through the country and stayed with us until the Saturday.

Mr. Fuller, our new Chairman of the Supporters' Association, has already organised two very satisfactory functions. Our Barbecue on July 26 was a very good evening, but we would welcome more support from friends of the Group. The Jumble Sale on September 13 was a great success, a record £55 being added to our Funds.

Now for a more serious matter. Last Wednesday the Cub Scout Section re-opened after the holidays. Akela was able to admit only a very small number of new entrants from the long waiting list. We have enough boys to start another Pack — surely there must be some young men or women in this parish willing to do such a worth-while job. If you have never had any experience of Scouting, it doesn't matter, there are first-class training facilities in this District of Twickenham. Also the Scout Leader who is trying very hard to raise the Troop to the required standard, both as regards numbers and achievement, badly needs an Assistant.

S. R. CHILDS, G.S.L.

“ALIVE IN GOD'S WORLD!” WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN IN?

“Nothing as dynamic as religious experience can ever be captured” (i.e. in print). “All we can do is to try to help people to become involved in the adventure of living — not as future citizens but as present children, not as the Church to come but as the Church day by day.” This is a short extract from a fine introduction to this year's book for 5—7 year old Sunday-School; *Alive in God's World*.

The title for the subject matter for now until Christmas is “Our Wonderful World” and this is an extract from the note to the teachers of this section:

“... Is it possible that we of this century of technological development have ceased to wonder at the creative processes of God? We marvel at the products of the ingenious mind of man, and perhaps forget that he himself comes from a single cell, or, if our minds can go back even further, from a single atom of inanimate matter.

As we grope our way into the past we are confronted by the surging power of life, flowering, dying and changing in a multiplicity of shapes and species, for myriads of years. Here is the creative mind

of God at work, the contemplation of which brings us to our knees.

The more industrialised our society becomes, the further removed we grow from the nature of things as they are, and the more prone we are, to lose sight of the fact **nothing that is** has any existence apart from God. If we are to help children to grasp something of the wonder of God in His creation through their experiences of handling, tasting, seeing the world in which they are learning to live, we must rediscover this wonder for ourselves".

My own experience of the "5—7's" is that one way to this re-discovery is to see it in the understanding of young children, so that I have sometimes wondered who teaches whom.

At present we have no "5—7's" group because we haven't enough teachers who can give the time to it. Would you like to join in? Myself, I prefer the 11 pluses, but I can assure you that there is plenty of fun with the Under-7's and plenty of hard work too. Many years ago we had a rota system of teachers which made it easier on Sunday time. Weekday meetings have been considered, but since we are so dependent on help from people still at school, this doesn't seem feasible at the moment.

(It is now hoped that the Infants' Department will be able to re-open on October 12, but help is still urgently needed, as it is in the Junior Department also, — Ed.).

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

"Remember, Remember the Fifth of November,
Gunpowder, Treason and Plot."

There is no doubt about it, there are those amongst us, normally God-fearing, loyal and solid citizens, who on occasion have been sorely tempted to emulate (successfully!) the thwarted attempt of the ill-fated Guy Fawkes.

"Treason" is naturally out of the question, but "Gunpowder" aplenty there will be on November the Fifth. The "Plot?" — the grounds of Laurel Dene, thanks to the traditionally good offices of Matron.

The Gunpowder has been nurtured with loving care by experts to produce not only the highly satisfying explosions so beloved by all boys (young and not so young), but also an unparalleled display of pyrotechnics — the like of which has never before been seen.

Refreshments for all, sparklers for the kids. Blast off at 7.15 p.m. sharp. The price? Not 5 guineas, not thirty bob, but just 3/6 per head — can't be bad can it?

There is a limit to the numbers of lucky people who can enjoy this spectacle, so make sure to get your tickets as soon as you can from any member of the St. James' Church Social Committee.

A.H.M.

Note the date in your diary now—Tuesday, December 2. There will be a WHIST DRIVE held in Wayside on this date commencing at 8 p.m. Grand prizes so come along and show your skill. Tickets will be 1/6.

APOLOGY

The printers regret that many copies of the September issue of "The Spire" were wrongly put together. If you had a defective copy,

and found it difficult to make head or tail of it, you will find that it makes sense if you realise that the pages go 3, 2, 1, 6, 5, 4, and read them accordingly in that order.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Oct. 6.—8.00 p.m. Committee of Hampton Council of Churches (All Saints' Hall).
.. 7.—8.00 p.m. Liturgical Committee (23, Cranmer Road).
.. 10.—10.30 a.m. Editorial Board (34, Burton's Road); 7.00 p.m. District Cub-Scout Swimming Gala (Richmond Baths).
.. 12.—11.15 a.m. Infants' Sunday School re-opening (W.); 6.30 p.m. Evensong, with film (The Ministry of Christ).
.. 14.—8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club (W).
.. 16.—8.00 p.m. Scout Group Coffee Evening—gifts for Bottle Stall welcome (W).
.. 18.—St. Luke (to be commemorated on Sunday 19).
.. 19.—6.30 p.m. Evensong, with film "The Road to Emmaus."
.. 20.—8.15 p.m. Properties Committee (7, Blandford Road).
.. 21.—8.00 p.m. Stewardship Committee (106, Park Road).
.. 22.—8.00 p.m. Parochial Church Council (W).
.. 28.—8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club (W).
Nov. 1.—All Saints' Day (to be observed Sunday 2); 3.00 p.m. Scout Group Bazaar (Hall).
.. 17.—8.00 p.m. Ruridecanal Conference (St. Mary's Hall, Twickenham).
.. 20.—7.45 p.m. ANNUAL REVIEW OF STEWARDSHIP—ALL INTERESTED INVITED (Hall).
The Prayer and Bible Study Group meets every Wednesday at 8.00 p.m. in the Vestry.

BAPTISMS

- On September 7:
Rachel Naomi Glasspool, 15, Bushy Park Gardens.
Lisa Maxine Long, 22, Rectory Grove.
Samantha Waddington, 15, The Wilderness, Park Road.

MARRIAGES

- On September 6:
James Edward Mortimer to Lesley Patricia Young.
On September 13:
Henry Paul Burnell to Alexandra Mary Cockburn.
On September 20:
Beverley Donald McGillivray to Pamela Mary John.

CREMATION AND BURIAL

- On September 3:
Maud Wells, 18, Park Road, aged 83 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).
On September 10:
George Thomas Austin, 7, Holly Road, aged 66 years (at Hampton Cemetery).