

THE BISHOP WAND SCHOOL

Mr. Jones, the Headmaster of the Bishop Wand School at Sunbury, addressed the last meeting of the Ruri-decanal Conference at Twickenham, and I went along because I was interested to hear about this new Church comprehensive school, which seems an anomaly in our increasingly secular state, and which is so different from the schools in our borough.

The Church of England has spent some £7½ million on secondary education since—well, I can't remember precisely when, about the last ten or fifteen years, which means that the State has spent four times as much, to help Church parents to send their children to Church schools. Mr. Jones asked the pertinent question: "How much longer will the State continue to do it?"

However, while it does, and while there are Church schools in existence, how should they differ from ordinary State schools? The headmaster gave clear and thoughtful answers. He believed that the morning assembly should be an occasion for genuine worship, for lively religious teaching put over in a realistic and contemporary style. This is often impossible in State schools where unwilling and unbelieving staff have, legally, to make the attempt. He felt that the staff in a Church school should, by the nature of their beliefs, be people of integrity who, more by their actions and their way of life than by their words, would set standards of living for their students. He also felt that there should be a greater sense of the value of the individual and a concern that each child should develop his potential in every way.

Such principles should provide an excellent ground base for the development of the new school.

The counterpoint—the equipment and curricula—were interestingly described by Mr. Jones. His opinions on education were refreshing. I was pleased to hear him say that he believed that multitudes of "O" Level passes were unnecessary and that a better education in, say, history, could be provided if it did not have to be narrowed to the demands of an examination. I wonder how far the school will be able to resist the contagious competition of examinations, and pressures from parents, and set instead the excellent ideal of work for its own sake and interest. I wish it all success in this aim.

The buildings and equipment sound admirable, and it would seem that the 120 children able to start this year (out of about 350 who applied) will be fortunate. It may be that the present rush of applications is partly a result of Richmond's selective policy, but it may well be that this popularity will continue as parents watch the school develop.

Although the State pays the vast proportion of the running cost, it is still necessary for the governors of the school to have a sum of money at their disposal for various items (the quin-

quennial redecoration of the school being one). It is hoped that the parishes in the Staines and Hampton Deaneries who are served by the school will consider this a case for donation. I think that it may be a worthy one.

J.R.

OUTING TO PORTSMOUTH

A card bearing good wishes from the Vicar, a few words of rather fundamental wisdom from a Churchwarden, and we were on our way; our coach and its driver both venerable but still serviceable. After a journey, in consequence somewhat leisurely, we drew up at Southsea Common to unload from the coach boot the picnic lunch provided by the Social Committee: a full and varied menu, complete with sweet and coffee, served with a smoothness which spoke volumes for the underlying organisation.

The afternoon passed in sampling the various pleasures available: the old town with its many historical interests to be explored; the fun-fairs an irresistible attraction for the younger teenagers; and the beach, where first a few family parties, and later, the Y.P.F. contingent, discovered that the sea was surprisingly warm.

To round it all off, a tour of the "Victory" capably conducted by an A.B. whose essentially official commentary was enlivened by much (sometimes apocryphal) detail and a pithy lower deck viewpoint, one matter of domestic arrangements being illustrated, quite involuntarily, by tiny Alexandra Carrick!

And so, from the dockyard homeward again, latterly to the tune (?) of singing from the back of the coach, which made up in enthusiasm what it occasionally lacked in accuracy and pitch.

Throughout the day the sun shone warm from a cloudless sky, and the expression of thanks at the end of the day was no mere formality.

J.G.

WANTED FOR SINGING

Our Choir, which serves us so well, is in urgent need of reinforcement. Boys and girls as trebles, women as contraltos, men as tenors and basses—there is room for all, and need for all. If you can help, please get in touch with our organist and choirmaster as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY SERVICE

There exists in the Hampton area a voluntary service provided by men and women who are prepared, day and night, to be called to help with any emergency in the home. If at any time you need this service, which is absolutely free to anyone in the Hampton area, PLEASE RING 01-979 2897 or 01-979 7197.

This service for all local people is organised by Hampton Parish Church.

Two people are on duty each week and their help is required only for emergency, not for regular service. For instance, if a mother with little children has to be rushed to hospital a baby-minder is urgently wanted to hold the fort until the father or granny can arrive. People who drive cars are wanted to offer lifts to people attending or visiting hospital when their regular transport is not available. Perhaps coal needs to be got in and the fire lighted for an old lady who cannot get a home help while she is in bed for a short spell.

Perhaps this is YOUR chance for service. There will be a list at the back of the church for the next few weeks for volunteers. You would not be called upon very often, but, my goodness, you would be useful when you were!

MAYPOLES AND GAMBOLLING LAMBS

These provided the theme for the Social Committee's Spring Dance at the Parish Hall on Saturday, May 2.

The Hall was transformed. Much thought, time and a great deal of hard work must have been necessary to achieve such a colourful effect. We danced to the music of Max Castelli, and refreshments were provided by the ladies of the Committee.

It was a most enjoyable evening which seemed to pass all too quickly and I am sure all those members who in any way contributed to the success of the dance should be given a most hearty vote of thanks.

There was an excellent fellowship through the evening and those who were possibly experiencing St. James's hospitality for the first time must certainly be looking forward to future functions.

B. Place.

GUIDES' DIAMOND JUBILEE PAGEANT

It was the morning of May 16. We wondered if the weather would be fine, for it was the day of the Diamond Jubilee Pageant at Twickenham Rugby Ground. We had been there the week before to a rehearsal. I had been chosen to present the basket of flowers to the World Chief Guide. We had seen all the costumes of the Guides and Brownies who were taking part in the Pageant. It all looked very exciting.

The Brownies who were presenting flowers and who were in the Guard of Honour had to go to a room by the players' lounge. We all had to stand in a semi-circle for Lady Baden-Powell to come up the stairs.

All the Brownies were very clean in freshly washed socks and clean uniforms. We stood a bit nervously waiting for the

great moment to come. Lady Baden-Powell came up the stairs. We all saluted and held out our left hands. She held them together with the person next to one, instead of shaking hands. She was then taken to her seat and the four girls—including me—were taken to the players' lounge and shown their bouquets which they had to present. I had a basket of daffodils and irises for the World Chief Guide. They were all blue and yellow, Guides' colours. We then went down a passage to get to the seats where they were sitting. I was told to walk forward to the Chief Guide's seat. As I did so there was a round of applause. She looked very smart in an old-style uniform with a cockade on the hat. She smiled at me as I gave her the flowers. Lady Baden-Powell said it must be exciting for me. I told her it was my birthday and she wished me "Happy Birthday". I thanked her and she shook hands with me. I went back to the other Brownies who congratulated me. We then went back to our seats to enjoy the pageant.

I sat back thinking about what had happened to me and how proud I was to represent our Pack—the 3rd Hampton Hill!

Lucinda Ganderton.

STAINES GROUP OF HOSPITALS

Tel: Ashford 51188

Ashford Hospital,
Ashford,
Middlesex.
June 1970.

Dear Friends,

Your Vicar has kindly given me sanction to write a short letter of appeal to you. All of you will know of Normansfield Hospital, which is situated at Teddington in thirty-eight acres of beautiful grounds, within easy reach of Waterloo from Hampton Wick Station, on the 285 'bus route from Twickenham, and within walking distance from Kingston over the bridge. The Matron, Miss M. K. Vaughan, and a small but devoted staff of nurses care for three hundred mentally-handicapped children and adults: the service is given twenty-four hours a day for seven days a week. Each patient is treated as an individual; each patient wears his or her clothing; and great care is taken to see that education, recreation, work and dietary are provided within the capacity, and according to the needs, of each patient.

This kind of work does not appeal to everyone: some aspects of it are distasteful, and yet the little children and, yes, the adults too need loving care and training. There is a staff-shortage, and sometimes when sickness and holidays occur it is doubly hard for those who are left to cope.

Those among you who are gardeners will know that if a patch is left even for a short time untended it will become untidy and weed-ridden. It is the same in hospitals, only in a

different sense: buttons need to be sewn on various garments, records get behind, cupboards become untidy, and numerous matters are left on one side—all of which ultimately makes the work harder. But the patients are NEVER NEGLECTED I am glad to say. Please will you help us to keep up the standard of nursing care? Money is available for wages, and we will endeavour to arrange hours to fit in with your domestic commitments. We require nurses, both full-time and part-time, male or female, experienced in the care of the mentally handicapped—or inexperienced, as initial training will be given. We need them for day or night duty. Ladies who are able to undertake household duties, washing-up, and looking after the nurses' quarters are also urgently needed.

Thank you for reading this letter. I shall be most grateful and personally encouraged if as a result of it one willing helper comes forward.

Yours sincerely,

Eileen S. Greenaway,
(Principal Nursing Officer).

SCOUT GROUP

At last our camp site at the rear of the Holly Road Recreation Ground is really coming into its own.

It was a rewarding sight to view the tents and other equipment erected for the week-end June 12–14 when twelve of our Scouts and twelve boys from 5th Teddington camped together. The weather was good, the over-head rope-pulley was great fun, and the “Bangers and Mash” do for parents and friends on the Saturday evening a great success.

We were very pleased that Derrick Stevens, the District Commissioner, was able to pay us a visit, also Father Toovey from Teddington.

Those of you who attended Twickeree in Marble Hill Park, week-end 27th to 29th June, will know what an inspiration that was for Scouting. Our Troop was in Camp with 5th Teddington, also two of our Cub Scouts camped for the whole time.

Over two hundred Cub Scouts took part in the Pageant which depicted the knighting of Sir Francis Drake by Queen Elizabeth I, and Sir Francis Chichester by Elizabeth II. The costumes were fabulous; what a lot of hard work the parents must have put into them! Our boys also gave a Gym Display on the Sunday, and competed in the Soap Box Derby.

On Friday July 17 the Group are holding a “Going-up” Ceremony at the Camp Site, when Akela will be saying goodbye to some of his boys who will be joining the Troop. After refreshments we hope to end the evening with a Camp Fire, and all parents and friends of the Group are invited to come along.

G.S.L.

LOCAL CHEMISTS' OUT-OF-HOURS DISPENSING SERVICE

Week commencing:

July

26 Mrs. Eileen James, 205 High Street, Hampton Hill.

August

2 F. G. Martin, 3 Station Approach, Hampton.

9 Mrs. Eileen James, 205 High Street, Hampton Hill.

16 H. Hall, 62 High Street, Hampton Hill.

23 F. G. Martin, 29B Priory Road, Hampton.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

July

26 SAINT JAMES' TIDE: PATRONAL FESTIVAL. Arrangements as usual for the fourth Sunday, except that there will be no Parade at 9.30 a.m., and the Evening Service will take a special form and begin at 6.00 p.m. It will be preceded by FAMILY AFTERNOON TEA on the Vicarage lawn (if wet in Wayside) beginning at 4.45 p.m.

27 10.30 a.m. Editorial Board (34 Burton's Road); 8.15 p.m. Properties Committee (21 St. James' Road).

28 8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club: "Grumbles Evening" (W).

N.B. SUNDAY SCHOOLS closed throughout August: all departments reopen on Sunday September 13.

MARRIAGE

On July 4:

Terence Michael Garratt to Penelope Boagey.

BURIAL AND CREMATIONS

On June 9:

Elizabeth Stride, 15 Rectory Grove, aged 51 years (at South-west Middlesex Crematorium).

On June 29:

Elsie Hetherington, 5 Laurel Road, aged 71 years (at Twickenham Cemetery).

On July 3:

William Oldfield Wyche, 9 The Wilderness, Park Road, aged 55 years (at South-west Middlesex Crematorium).