

THE TUESDAY CLUB

The talk given by Mr. A. Woodward, the Parks Manager, was enjoyed by all members present. He brought a huge map with him showing how widespread the area of his work was. His department is responsible for all the cultivated parts of the Borough—for instance the “roundabout” islands which have in many instances lovely displays of roses. There is a large nursery at Ham where great quantities of plants are grown for bedding out.

Our visit to the theatre on October 27 was a great success. We saw “Content to Whisper” at the Thorndike Theatre, Leatherhead.

At our meeting on December 8, Lady Connor will be demonstrating the making of Christmas arrangements. That will be the last of our autumn meetings; we meet again on January 12, more details of that later. M.R.

THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND TEDDINGTON, AND THE HAMPTONS

Last year a small group of us living in this area was formed to further the aims of this long-established and worthwhile fund. We are still a small group and would dearly love to be joined by others interested in helping needy children at home and overseas.

Please consider a moment before you dismiss this as just another begging letter. There are so many ways in which you might help.

Could you offer us any help in organising or administering fund-raising events?

Have you the sort of garden which you might consider loaning us for such events?

Could you yourself, or anyone you know (an elderly uerson perhaps) knit small garments or blanket squares?

Could you circulate our folder of very attractive Christmas cards among your friends?

We would be very grateful for any of the following and will gladly collect:

Used clothing, in good condition, for infants up to teenagers.

Used postage stamps, English and foreign.

Oddments of wool, however small.

Trading stamps . . . Green Shield, S. & H., Co-op.

We are especially keen to interest young people and children in the Fund. The group sponsors a thirteen-year-old boy in Swaziland, who, we hope, will make children feel that fund-raising has a personal objective. If you can help us, or would like to hear more, please ring:

Mrs. Rendall, 39 Park Road, Teddington, 997 6872.

Mrs. Connor, 43 Park Road, Hampton Hill, 979 5578.

Mrs. Ward, 40 Fieldend, Twickenham, 892 8316.

Mrs. Gerard, 28 Windmill Road, Hampton Hill, 979 9707.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

I have already expressed my thanks at the Deanery Meeting at St. Mark's for all the help given to the "Housewives' Choice" stall at the Overseas Sale in Church House on October 13 and 14. As so many were not able to attend then I should like you to know how much all your help was appreciated—those who cut out, sewed, knitted, contributed in any way and especially those who helped to sell at the stall. To date, the total raised on this stall is about £1,050—the final amount raised by all the stall-holders is not yet known.

Our December meeting promises to be somewhat unusual—"Preparation for Christmas in Music and Poetry"—the Speaker will be Mrs. Bean from St. Paul's. We shall be making this an open afternoon, so do bring a friend.

During my recent visit to British Columbia I was the guest of honour at a tea-party arranged by the M.U. members of St. Margaret's Anglican Church, East Vancouver. I was told beforehand that one of the ladies had lived in Teddington, so I went prepared with the June "Spire", and a copy of the Richmond and Twickenham Times. What joy these gave to Mrs. F. Coates who had left this country in 1914, especially as she had been connected with our Church for many years! As Vicky Wells, she lived in Seymour Road for a long time; she sang in the Band of Hope Choir at the Crystal Palace, was a Sunday School teacher in St. James', attended the church when Mr. Dawkins was organist, and knew the late Miss Lush well.

Before returning home I visited her in her apartment—Suite 303, 1533 East Broadway, Vancouver 12, B.C. Do write to her if you knew her in the past; she was widowed very suddenly about six months ago. She showed me many items about St. James' which I have requested for the Parish Archives. I left Barbara's copy of "The Birth and Growth of Hampton Hill" with her; she was going to show this to her brother who was at one time solo boy in Hampton Court Chapel Choir.

V.R.

THE TENTH (AT LEAST!) NEWCOMERS' PARTY

Wednesday October 21 saw a large gathering in the Church Hall. Each time there is a Newcomers' Party it is obvious that these functions are getting increasingly well attended as time goes by. We think the word has gone round that there really are "no strings attached" to the invitation which is offered out of goodwill to those coming to live in this area—to welcome them, to help them to meet their new neighbours and to make them feel a little more at home.

This party, which entailed as usual a great deal of hard work by many people, was again a great success. Afterwards guests went out into the kitchen spontaneously to thank the

helpers there for the refreshments or went round shaking hands with the Vicar and members of the Stewardship Committee and many stayed interestedly asking questions about various items which had interested them in the illustrated lecture on the history of the village given, as usual, by Mrs. Orton, until nearly 11 p.m. Enthusiasm was so great that the speaker for once in a lifetime was in danger of running out of voice!

The newcomers from Pigeon Lane learned that birds had nothing to do with the naming of their new abode, but that as early as 1557 there was a John Pigeon, gentleman, living in Hampton and it was his great-great-grandson, Edmund Pigeon, who was the second benefactor of Hampton Grammar School, bequeathing in his will of 1657 his yard and stables, an area of roughly 60 x 30 yards, to "the ffreeshole of Hampton for ever". This plot adjoined the earlier Hammond bequest near Hampton Church, to which the school then adjoined.

They also learned that it was the crest of the Pigeon family that the then Headmaster "Bossy" Roberts adopted as the school's badge in 1900, and of course, two houses of the school are named Hammond and Pigeon after these two benefactors.

Apart from the many people who stayed to say a special "thankyou" for what they termed a "delightful evening" many comments were overheard—all complimentary!—one being that it was so nice to have so many young people present, both as audience and as helpers, and that not many gatherings these days were so pleasantly represented by all the age groups, all obviously enjoying each other's company.

One gentleman was heard to say he would like to come again next time. Well, he will be welcome and if YOU reading this know of anyone who would be interested to come to the next party, please tell either Mrs. Leatherdale or Mr. Bridges of the Stewardship Committee so that note can be made of the fact.

There were some new slides shown this time, notably of the Christmas decorations and lights and of Bushy Park Plantations at Azalea time. As the area changes there are many new scenes to be recorded, so if you have a special interest in photography and would like to help, please contact Mrs. Orton (Tel. 979 5868—30 St. James's Road). What is particularly needed is someone who has the skill to produce 35 mm. slides by the photographing of pictures or photographs. What offers?

KEEP FIT

We have now started our "Keep Fit" sessions, so if you like to move to music and ache all over come to the Parish Hall on Friday afternoons at 2 p.m. for one hour's hard work!

THE CHURCHYARD

(Here is the concluding portion of the article which appeared in last month's issue. We are glad to report that in the

last few weeks the amount of damage done in the churchyard has been comparatively small—but another brick has just come through the already damaged stained-glass window in the church, scattering glass far and wide, and making the existing holes twice as big!)

The question is often asked: "Why do children have to use it as a playground, when so many of them have large gardens, and the district is plentifully provided with open spaces?" The children themselves often answer: "Mum told us to play here, where she knows we are safe." or they say: "We can't play in our own gardens, the grass is too high!" Well, we have seen neglected gardens where this is undoubtedly true—but if Dad can't see to it, surely it wouldn't harm the youngsters to do a bit of mowing and weeding? And as regards safety, there are hazards which parents do not always take into account: a boy has been pulled out of an open grave from which he could never have climbed himself, and children have been assaulted or badly frightened by unbalanced older people. But it is clear that—apart from the question of vandalism and damage—things are now getting out of hand and a public nuisance is being caused: children and older boys and girls often tearing about all over the place, or racing up and down on bicycles: litter scattered everywhere, and especially round the seats which seem to have become the headquarters of teen-age gangs and are rapidly being carved up with initials, and so on. In view of all this, the Church Council asks for the co-operation of all parents in doing all they can to stop the abuse of the churchyard.

Then there is the problem of keeping the churchyard tidy and in decent order. For years now this has been tackled entirely by voluntary effort, aided by equipment paid for wholly out of Church funds (for unlike the public cemeteries or closed churchyards, in spite of what many people think, we get no help at all from the Borough or any public funds, except for the upkeep of the small number of war-graves). Many have grumbled about the state of the churchyard in the past, but have done nothing to help—it is always left to the others. And the others have responded valiantly: a few giving regular help week by week or month by month, but most joining in the "Mass Attacks" which have been held regularly at about four-monthly intervals for ten years or more. But lately their numbers have been getting fewer, and on the last occasion, October 3, a pleasant autumn day, the attendance was very disappointing, though several thousand people must have known about it. But despite this, nearly all of the newer portion of the churchyard was cleared, which will be a great help next Spring. Several children helped and all enjoyed the refreshments provided. But when will those who never lend a hand cease to moan and complain and criticise, and DO something practical for a change?

WHIST DRIVE

There will be a Whist Drive in Wayside at 8 p.m. on November 25. Tickets, from the Social Committee, are 1s. 6d., including refreshments.

NEW YEAR PARTY

Last year's party had the theme of the "Wild West" and was a great success. It has been decided that next year's party will also be in fancy dress and the theme will be "Eastern". The party will be on January 9, 1971—so start thinking about your costume now. The tickets will be available shortly, price 5s. adults, 3s. 6d. children.

LOCAL CHEMISTS' OUT-OF-HOURS DISPENSING SERVICE

Week beginning:

November

29 James, Eileen, 205 High Street, Hampton Hill.

December

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

13 Martin, F. G., 28b Priory Road, Hampton.

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

SOME DATES TO NOTE

November

19 7.45 p.m. ANNUAL REVIEW OF STEWARDSHIP: Special Speaker—Mrs. Campbell: "Life in the West Indies". ALL WELCOME! (Hall).

22 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY.

24 10.30 a.m. Editorial Board (34 Burton's Road); 8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club: "Old Hampton" (W).

25 8.00 p.m. Whist Drive (W).

28 2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union: Jumble Sale (Hall).

29 First Sunday in Advent.

30 Saint Andrew's Day: Holy Communion at 9.00 a.m.

December

1 8.00 p.m. Social Committee (18 St. James's Road); Liturgical Committee (Vestry).

2 2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union: Open Meeting—"Preparation for Christmas in Music and Poetry". Speaker: Mrs. Bean (W); 8.00 p.m. Stewardship Committee (106 Park Road).

5 3.00 p.m. Old People's Party (Hall).

8 8.00 p.m. Tuesday Club: Lady Connor—"Planning for Christmas" (W).

9 8.00 p.m. Confirmation Service (All Saints' Church, Twickenham).

16 8.00 p.m. Parochial Church Council (W).

22 7.00 p.m. Parish Carol Singing.

BAPTISMS

October

- 4 Garry James Buck, 18 Cross Street.
- Richard John Hawkins, 13 Chelsea Close.
- Kim Louise Healy, 233 Uxbridge Road.
- Richard John Soddy, 1 Vincent Row.

(N.B. We apologise for the lateness of some of the following entries, owing to a misunderstanding on the part of the printers.—Ed.)

MARRIAGES

August

- 8 Anthony Leslie Brook to Susan Mary Beachamp.

September

- 11 Ian Creighton McClellan to Gillian Mary Dowse.

October

- 10 Michael Black to Anne Lesley Freeman.

CREMATIONS

August

- 10 Ernest Edwin Williams, 61 Burton's Road, aged 87 years (at South-West Middlesex Crematorium).

September

- 2 Nicholas Charles Richard Green, 2 St. James's Avenue, aged 12 years (at South-West Middlesex Crematorium).