

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME,

NOVEMBER, 1971

I left the parish in 1954, and since that date St. James's has become a stewardship church. On my return in 1970 I have been encouraged and delighted by the families, men, women, young people and children, who are now a dedicated and lively part of the church. I am sure that much of this new life is due to stewardship.

Members of St. James's congregation have gone out and talked about stewardship in the context of the care and the life of the church in Hampton Hill. There is now real concern: for the structure of the church, for the worship therein and for the prayer and spiritual strength of the parish; also there has been a coming to life of the social responsibilities of the parish; also there has been a coming to life of the social responsibilities of the parish; more is done for the elderly, and there is a determined effort to try to make newcomers feel at home. The laity, men and women, have gone out and visited and tried to promote the idea of responsibility and friendship in church and parish. The church finances have improved tremendously. There is great enjoyment at parties and functions. People have realised that involvement brings with it duties and commitments and they have responded to the call. There is still a long way to go.

A fresh urgency in this call was made at the supper organised to inaugurate the Christian Stewardship Development Programme in Hampton Hill on Monday November 22 at York House, Twickenham. The tables were beautifully laid out and it was on a large scale. Great honour is due to its planners, to the speakers and to the sincerity and devotion with which they put over their message. They wish to involve more people in the work of the widening church; they remind people of their growing responsibility in money, time and loyalty. They enumerated what had already been achieved. This is what stewardship has done for our church and for us, they say, "Come over and help us" as St. Paul was told in his vision. New life has come and more new life is needed. The Church, the Vicar, and the laymen and laywomen of the parish must work together in this effort of development.

H.M.S.

If any parishioners who did not receive our invitation to the Parish Supper are interested to know more about the Development Programme, would they please contact the Secretary of the Stewardship Committee, Mr. R. E. Bridges, 19 St. James's Road, Hampton Hill, who will arrange for them to receive copies of our Brochure.

"AWAKE ON PLANET EARTH"

On Friday November 19 300 young people assembled in Southwark Cathedral for an all-night Vigil. The theme was world poverty, and the programme included a drama/opening worship, discussion groups, a film, "The Godrock" Salvation Army Group (successor to "The Joystings"), interspersed with the inevitable (i.e. essential) coffee breaks.

A minor hitch was caused by the fact that Father Cyril of the Society of St. John Evangelist was unable to take part at the last minute, but his deputy, Brother Terence, managed admirably.

At about 5.00 a.m. the Vigil was forced to move from the Cathedral to the Chapter House, a little way down one of the many side streets, because of a fire in a next door building. This was accomplished with great calmness and much chatter.

The evening (or morning) finished with a con-celebrated communion after which everyone dispersed, presumably to bed! An extremely interesting, stimulating, exciting and enjoyable time was had by all.

C.M.G.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

It was pleasant to have Mrs. Futter with us at the A.G.M. last month. After Mrs. Bellingham and Mrs. Young had presented their reports of the year's work and finances, Mrs. Young entertained us by showing transparencies of holidays in Constantinople, Tangier and Carthage and we all enjoyed being transported to sunnier climes.

Our Christmas Party is planned for Wednesday January 5 when we hope to have a good attendance of members and friends. We hope that our invalids Mrs. Archer, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Ogden will be well enough by then to be present.

May you all enjoy the peace and happiness of Christmas to the full, wherever you may be spending the festive season.

I.V.R.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Tickets are now available from all members of the Social Committee for our Christmas party at 35p for adults and 20p for children of 14 and under inclusive of all refreshments etc. This year our theme is gypsies so come and have fun with the "gypsies" of Hampton Hill. If you have never been to one of our parties this is a good year to start.

Carol singers good and bad, young and old will all meet at the church at 7.30 p.m. on December 21. If you miss us there join us at Taylors Close, our first port of call, or anywhere else on the rout which will be pinned to the church notice board. Refreshments will be waiting for us at Wayside at about 9.00 p.m. Do come.

THE HERO WHO LIVED AT WAYSIDE

The only grave in our churchyard to which anything approaching pilgrimages appear to be made is that of Colonel 'Joe' or 'Klondyke' Boyle. There are many people throughout the world who hold his memory in the greatest respect—and there are some who reverence him as almost a saint. A visitor this summer was Professor William Rodney, of the Department of History in the Royal Roads Military College, Victoria, B.C., not by any means the first to come over to do research into Colonel Boyle's life and background with the intention of producing a book about him. But the professor has now got beyond the intending stage, unlike perhaps some of the others, and he tells us that his book should be finished by Christmas, though the date of publication is still uncertain. We sent him for use in this book some excellent photographs by Mr. Webb of the grave and also of Wayside—our Wayside ('the cottage', as the professor always refers to it, in which the Colonel spent the last years of his life, and where presumably he died in 1923). The fact that Colonel Boyle had been a resident in Wayside was new to us: we knew he must have been a parishioner at some time or other for his grave to be in our churchyard, but had thought that he had lodged for a time somewhere in Park Road. Mrs. Barbara Stover (née Rockliffe), who now lives in Victoria, has been in touch with Professor Rodney since his return, and as he is anxious to learn as much about Hampton Hill as possible, she has lent him her copy of 'The Birth and Growth of Hampton Hill'.

Who then was this remarkable man, to whose grave there come, year after year, people from distant parts of the earth, and especially transatlantic pilgrims, like the man from Washington, D.C., ten years ago, whose main purpose in flying to England was that he might pay silent homage at the graveside? All that we know about him at present is what we have gleaned from these pilgrims, and from the yellow and tattered remains of an old newspaper cutting of an article written by his daughter in 1940. Apparently he had done remarkable things in the Klondyke in 1898, but the climax of his adventurous career came in 1917, when he appeared dramatically on a motor-cycle at Jassy, and took decisive action to save the lives of the Rumanian Royal Family, and then proceeded so to take charge of things that he was able to save the whole country from famine and disaster, becoming in fact its 'uncrowned king'. Queen Marie trusted him immediately, and the friendship between them became almost an idyll. After his death she wrote of him: 'He was all strength and honour, and he had given me his faith and I had given him my trust . . . I was in distress; he recognised at the same time some of his own spirit in me—I was something of a miracle in his life—and when he had his stroke I was the haven in which he anchored for a while. My companionship helped him over that first break in his colossal strength, and the companionship

became sweeter than anything he had ever known.'

Queen Marie had the ancient stone cross which stands at the head of the grave brought specially from Rumania, and she herself dug up at a lonely spot in that country—'as lonely as Joe was in the days of his life'—a small shoot of Rumanian ivy which she planted at the foot of the cross, where it still flourishes today. On the simple flat stone are inscribed the cross of the Order of Regina Marie, and beneath it (almost indiscernible now after nearly fifty years) the name Marie. But it is still possible to read the striking lines which the Queen chose from one of Robert Service's poems: 'A man with the heart of a Viking, and the simple faith of a child'. That perhaps sums up as well as any few words can the character of this great but humble man.

The lady who gave me the cutting years ago told me that she had often seen Queen Marie when she came to bring flowers to the grave, but I have never met anyone who knew Colonel Boyle himself when he lived in our parish. If there are any older parishioners who do remember him, we should be glad to hear from them, so that their reminiscences may be included in any further edition of our book.

KEEP FIT

LADIES—our Winter CREAK-FIT session is now in full swing. If you enjoy exercises to music—do come along—with a little practice we can all creak together. Come this week—or any Friday to the Parish Hall, 2 p.m. sharp.

VIGIL OF PRAYER FOR RACIAL UNITY

The 24-hour vigil of prayer for racial unity was started in Cape Town, South Africa, in 1967 at the instigation of Canon E. J. Rowland of Woodstock, and in the churches and cathedrals of the Anglican Church of the Province of South Africa this is now kept annually on October 26–27.

In recent years this has been extended to the Anglican Church in this country, and this year I was asked by Canon Jack Churchill of the Cathedral in Bury St. Edmunds in Suffolk if I would help them in their vigil by showing slides of South Africa and East Africa and leading them in their prayers. This I was most happy to do and went up to Bury on Tuesday, October 26:

I took some slides of South Africa indicating the injustice imposed by separate development and the misery it causes, and also slides showing the happiness of Tumelong Mission, in Lady Salborne near Pretoria, where in an African township we lived in racial harmony with our African friends and neighbours. I also showed slides of East Africa, principally of Makerere University College where for eight years, from 1962–1970, I lived and worked in a very harmonious community of Africans, Asians and Europeans, where there were many mixed marriages, and where we worked and thought about the needs of the

students, academic progress in East Africa, medical treatment and research and the priorities of developing countries. We had no time to bother about being different colours. Our boss, Mr. Y. K. Lule, was a Ugandan, and it was a great privilege for us all to work under him. Colour was irrelevant, we got on with the job. And so I was able to talk to the gathering of worshippers at Bury of racial harmony in practice, and we prayed for its extension.

Norwich Cathedral had a 24-hour vigil of prayer, and in Stepney also, where I went on the 27th to attend a Conference on Liturgy, it had been observed in the largest of the local parish churches. Perhaps next year we could hold our own vigil here at St. James's, Hampton Hill.

H.S.

ORBIT '72

A day and night of thought, prayer and action in London on Saturday January 8—especially for young people. Michel Quoist is flying over to take part in the all-night vigil. Details and application forms from Gillian Gostling, 21 St. James's Road.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

December

- 23 10.00 a.m. Decoration of the church for Christmas: gifts of flowers and greenery (which may be left at 19 St. James's Road, any day this week) and help in arranging them welcomed.
- 24 CHRISTMAS EVE: 6.15 p.m. Carol Service at Laurel Dene; 11.45 p.m. Midnight Eucharist.
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY: Holy Communion 8.0 a.m. and 12.00 noon; Parish and Family Communion 9.30 a.m.
- 26 ST. STEPHEN'S DAY: **No** Service at 8.00 a.m. Parish Communion 9.30 a.m. (but **no** Parish Breakfast this Sunday). Infant Baptism 4.00 p.m. Festival Service of Lessons and Carols 6.30 p.m.
- 27 St. John's Day: Holy Communion 10.00 a.m.
- 28 The Innocents' Day: Holy Communion 10.00 a.m.

January

- 1 The Circumcision: Holy Communion 10.00 a.m. Old People's Christmas Party (Hall) 3.00 p.m.
 - 2 Second Sunday after Christmas: Sunday arrangements as usual, with the addition of a Family Service—'Christmas in Worship, Song and Mime'—11.15 a.m.
 - 4 Tuesday Club (W) 8.00 p.m.
 - 5 Mothers' Union Christmas Party (W) 2.30 p.m.
 - 6 THE EPIPHANY: Holy Communion 10.00 a.m.
 - 7 Liturgical Committee (68 Park Road) 8.00 p.m.
 - 8 PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY in the Hall, 7.45 p.m.
- ORBIT '72 (in London).

- 11 Stewardship Visitors' and Helpers' Social Evening (W) 8.30 p.m.
- 12 Parochial Church Council (W) 8.00 p.m.
- 14 House Group (for Prayer, Study, and Discussion) at 47 St. James's Road, 8.00 p.m.
- 17 Deanery Synod (SS. Philip and James, Whitton) 7.30 for 8.00 p.m.
- 18 Tuesday Club (W), 8.00 p.m. Speaker: Representative from a Private Detective Agency.

N.B. ALL NON-PLEGDED OFFERINGS AT CHRISTMAS SERVICES FOR CHRISTIAN AID.

BAPTISMS

(N.B. Those listed in last month's issue for September were those for **October.**)

November

- 7 Christopher Andrew Taylor, 68 Park Road (at the Parish Communion).
- 28 Paul John Gray, 36 Taylor Close.
Helena Frances Elizabeth Jeffries, 1 Grenville Mews.

MARRIAGE

December

- 4 Terence Raymond Benwell to Jean Mary Conolly.

BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

November

- 8 George Bernard, 43 Holly Road, aged 88 years (at Hampton Cemetery).
- 11 Richard Charles Bulley, 11 Myrtle Road, aged 71 years (at Hampton Cemetery).
- 19 Lucy Clare Claxton, 81 Longford Close, aged 3 months (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).
- 23 Lottie Rose Medley, Hartswood, Uxbridge Road, aged 80 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).

December

- 6 Rose Annie Aird, 30 Cranmer Road, aged 84 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).
- 10 Beatrice Lown, 23 Longford Road, Bognor Regis, aged 72 years.