

VICAR'S NOTES

One of the marks of present-day organisation and administration is the great amount of paper work it involves and imposes. For instance, a principal of a technical college, recently retired, stated that when he took over his last post thirty years ago, with exactly the same number of students as on the day he left, he had a woman who came in two half-days a week to deal with this. By the time he retired he had three full-time secretaries, and had to call in supplementary help during certain periods of the year. We have also heard of head teachers who spend more hours writing testimonials for former pupils than they do in teaching present ones. So it is in many other fields as well as that of Education, and a similar development has also taken place in the Church. The number of forms and questionnaires which the clergy have to fill in goes on increasing, and so does the pile of letters to be answered on their desks.

The danger to avoid is the feeling of being swamped by it all. But if the trend continues, it may not be long before a paid secretary is a necessity in every large parish. In the meanwhile, we are very grateful for the voluntary helpers who give so much time to ensure that the business-life of the parish functions smoothly. We are very sorry that we shall shortly be losing one of the most essential of these — Miss Patricia Stanley — who has done a longer stint as secretary of the Parochial Church Council than anyone else except Mr. Forrow. She is resigning because she is moving across the river to set up house with her mother. In her years of service she has combined a very high standard of efficiency with charm, pleasantness, patience and serenity, and we want to express our deep appreciation.

The "Time and Talents" campaign now in progress has also involved a great deal of complicated paper-work, but instead of engaging a temporary full-time paid staff to cope with it, the hard and highly-skilled work of three people — Mrs. Leatherdale, Mrs. Orton and Mr. Bridges — has seen us triumphantly through. Again, many thanks. We are hoping that the campaign itself will result, among other things, in bringing forward people who can offer secretarial ability for limited periods — and we shall soon be able to offer a newly-decorated and well-equipped office for them to work in!

Those of you who have read "The Birth and Growth of Hampton Hill" will remember the important place St. James's Day has always had in the parish, both as a day of worship and thanksgiving and also as a day of rejoicing and fun and games. Though we no longer have the bands and processions, we still carry on the tradition in quieter fashion, and we hope that many of you will be able to come to the services in church and to the social gathering in the Vicarage garden.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Mrs. Eustace, who is the very energetic and enthusiastic local organiser of this campaign, has advised us that the total collection amounted to £678 — it had been hoped to raise £630, so it is a very satisfactory result. There was a good increase of £100 in the house-to-house collections (thanks are due to innumerable helpers for bringing about this improvement).

Special fund raising events were organised in the parish — there was the “austerity” lunch (the work of the promoters is very much appreciated); eggs were sold at the Vicarage, and the Warwick girls, Anne and Jeanie, held a sale in their garden on the final Saturday, having gathered a large assortment of items from their friends — in particular the girls of Kneller School really rallied to the call with an excellent supply of toys and books. A good morning’s business was done, and in the afternoon it was decided to move to the site outside the Congregational Church (with kind permission and cooperation) where there was a further brisk sale. The money was not kept separately but without doubt these individual efforts helped to swell the total.

The beginning of Joseph’s education is therefore assured and one of the many families, at present existing in mud and wattle huts, housed, which is an edifying product of the time and money given — many thanks to all concerned!

D.W.

ZOO TRIP

The church clock struck 9.30. The driver eased the coach into bottom gear. Hold it! The latecomers climbed aboard, numbers were complete, we were off.

Through our western portal — the Hope and Anchor, turned east, twice across the river and into battle on the North Circular. Open country, then St. Albans — searching for “the ruins.” Was it a roadhouse or the verulim . . . ium . . . ium . . . ? This mystery will remain. We all found coffee. Some found a museum.

On again, up the hills to Whipsnade, people, coats, bags, sandwiches, push chairs all delivered. Buy a guide, a map, an ice cream, then off in twos and threes, gliders soaring overhead. The restaurant, the lions, a picnic spot or camera fodder, we take our choice.

Friends seen in the distance, now close to, a few words, off again Hippopotami (one with a bleeding tooth), colourful paroquets, clever monkeys, lethargic elephants, a cold wind keeps us moving. At feeding time, jostling for a view, we smile across at friends whilst sea lions entertain; what are they feeding the bears with?

Final postcards, plastic animals, through the tunnel, back on to the coach and homeward bound. A taste of the M.1, a tour of north-west London to avoid Wembley crowds, under the low-flying planes, we draw up beneath the spire. Goodbyes, quick glances under the seats and along racks, crisp notes in the driver's palm—it's all over. Many thanks to the organizers.

M.R.J.

WAYSIDE

Members of the Y.P.F. spent a very different holiday over Whitsun from their trip to Scotland at Easter for, ably led by Trevor Atkinson, they spent many hours both individually and collectively decorating the parish office, passage and kitchen at Wayside.

The attractive result has given the parish a pleasant meeting place and the greatest thanks are due to the Y.P.F. for their magnificent effort.

D.L.

CHURCHYARD

A sterling days' work was put in by a band of volunteers in the churchyard on June 11, with extremely gratifying results, so that the older part, at least, looks tidy.

Thanks are due to everyone who helped and to the ladies who prepared and served the refreshments.

D.L.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

We have been very fortunate with the weather for the two events in our June programme. On the "glorious first of June" twenty three members and friends went by coach to Bramber in Sussex. The journey was through beautiful country which we all appreciated. On arrival at our destination we found the little Norman church most beautifully decorated for a four day flower festival; the colourful and fragrant floral arrangements, set against dark oak panelling and grey stone walls, were admired by all present. A delicious tea was served at the Old Tollgate, after which we had time to visit a beautifully laid out garden, and so benefit "Feed the Hungry Campaign." There was also the Potter Museum which houses a quaint collection of curiosities, and stuffed animals, which must be seen to be believed. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Oliver and to Mrs. Bellingham for their work in organising this outing.

On Thursday, June 9, Mrs. Gloyns organised a Coffee Party in her garden. As a result of this we were able to send a substantial donation to the Church of England's Children's Home at Roehampton — in which we, and the Y.W. Group, have taken an interest for some years. We had a pleasant time together and are most grateful to Mrs. Gloyns and her helpers, and to all those who came to this event.

After our closing service in Church at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 6, followed by tea at Wayside, we shall not meet again as a Branch until the first Wednesday in September. Happy holidays, and a safe return to all our members.
I.V.R.

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

At the General Meeting we received with regret the resignation of Mrs. June Manns. She has been a very staunch member for some years and a real "friend in need" to everyone using the Hall, especially through this last winter when there were no cooking facilities. We wish her every happiness in her new home in Worthing.

The new committee was appointed as follows:—

Chairman: Mrs. Bellingham, 43, Wellington Road.

Mrs. Mackenzie, 11, Lindsay Road.

Mrs. Keogh, 32, Park Side.

Mrs. Knight, Uxbridge Road.

Mrs. McCullagh, 107, Burtons Road.

Mrs. Saunders, 48, Ringwood Way.

K.B.

THE HAMPTON HILL OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE is holding a Fete at Laurel Dene on Saturday, September 3, 1966.

Everyone is welcome so come along and join in the fun with your friends.

We want it to be a big, big success as our commitments are increasing with the growing community.

We look forward to seeing you on September 3, at Laurel Dene.

L.M.

THE MENTAL HEALTH COFFEE MORNING held at 30 St. James's Road, on Thursday, June 9, was a great success. Between sixty and seventy people supported this event which was in aid of the Twickenham Mental Health Association's plans for a Day Centre to which patients can come on their release from hospital. Such a centre will go a long way towards preventing the feelings of loneliness and isolation experienced by patients suffering from nervous disorders from retarding, or even preventing, their recovery.

At first, owing to the extraordinary arithmetic incapacity of the organiser, it was thought that £20 had been raised but when the totals came to be re-checked the total was found to be £17 which, however, exceeds the previous highest figure by £2. All who came or sent gifts and donations are to be congratulated and thanked for their spontaneous giving.

M.O.

THE SCOUT GROUP

On May 1 a very inspiring service took place at Twickenham Sports Arena. It was the St. George's Day Parade for the Borough of Richmond and the Salute was taken by the Mayor of Richmond. We felt rather proud that one of our Cubs, Denis Wise, was chosen to read the Cub Law.

The following Saturday the District Sports took place at Marble Hill Park. It was a lovely afternoon and very gratifying to see so many parents and friends there. Since the formation of the new Twickenham District the 2nd Whitton Pack again won the Trophy and again we came second, Mark Olesker and Keith Lambert receiving the Shield on behalf of the Pack.

AKELA.

Taken from the Wolf Cup Jubilee Book

Give us, Lord, a bit o' sun,
A bit o' work and a bit o' fun;
Give us in all the struggle and sputter
Our daily bread and a bit o' butter;
Give us health, our keep to make,
An' a bit to spare for others' sake;
Give us, too, a bit o' song
And a tale, and a book, to help us along.
Give us, Lord, a chance to be
Our goodly best, brave, wise and free,
Our goodly best for ourself and others
'Till all men learn to live as brothers.

(an old English prayer).

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- July 6.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union Closing Service and Tea in Way-side.
- „ 7.—8.0 p.m. Stewardship Committee (106, Park Road).
- „ 8.—10.30 a.m. Editorial Board (52, Park Road).
- „ 11.—8.0 p.m. Social Committee (21, St. James's Road).

- .. 14.—8.0 p.m. Parochial Church Council (W).
- .. 18.—2.30 p.m. SS. Philip and James, Whitton, M.U. Deanery Committee for Enrolling Members, Branch Committee members and Y.W. Group Leaders. 8.0 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches: Quarterly meeting of Committee (Methodist Church Hall).
- .. 24.—9.30 a.m. Parish Communion is also the monthly Family and Parade Service, and there will be no Sunday Schools: these will now be closed for the summer holidays, and open again on September 11.
- .. 25.—ST JAMES'S DAY: PATRONAL FESTIVAL. Holy Communion at 7.15 a.m. and 7.0 p.m. Parish "At Home" at 7.45 p.m. (Vicarage garden — in Wayside if wet).
- .. 26.—8.0 p.m. Sunday School Teachers' Meeting (V).
- .. 27.—8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group (W).

STOP PRESS : The Floating Mission on the Thames of the Missions to Seamen, the m. v. John Ashley, will be at Teddington Pier July 9th to 11th (inclusive), and visitors will be welcome each day between 10.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

CREMATION

June 17.—Sidney Bevan Watkins, 41, Park Road, aged 64 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).