

Vicar's Notes

This month we come to Christian Aid Week, May 12-17, when we want to do all we can to remind people of the terrible plight of the millions of refugees in the world, and raise some money to help to alleviate it. This vast problem will not be solved until pressure is put upon Governments to give far more financial aid than they at present do: this would mean higher taxation and a lower material standard of living than we at present enjoy, but it would be well worth it. In the meantime, we must see that all that can be done by voluntary effort is done, and that there is money to do it. On Saturday, May 17th, we and our friends from the Congregational Church will be manning two stalls in the High Street, asking passers-by to give as many sixpences as they can: if you could help for an hour, please let Mr. Forrow or myself know.

There was little enthusiasm for a coach party to the Albert Hall on Ascension Day, so the usual evening Service will now be held here, followed, if the next Parish Meeting so decides, by a short social gathering at Wayside. All monies given at any Service in church on this day apart from the Christian Giving Scheme will be devoted to Christian Aid, and I hope that we shall also make a grant from the Scheme as well.

Mrs. Lewis has had a difficult task lately in seeing that the Altar is provided with flowers each Sunday, and we are grateful for all that she has done. The Church

Council has now undertaken full financial responsibility for this, but it is felt that some members of the congregation may still wish to provide and arrange the flowers themselves on certain Sundays, and there is now a list of free Sundays on the table in church against any one of which you are invited to write your name.

The need for an overall plan and policy for the Parish, perhaps a 5-year plan culminating in our centenary year, has become increasingly urgent. We need to decide and define priorities and objectives in all the closely inter-related spheres of the Church's life and work, and then to fashion a purposive strategy. To survey the whole field and make suggestions for further consideration, the Church Council has now appointed a small Planning and Policy Committee which will shortly be setting to work on its important task. Pray for them, and for the new Church Council, as a whole, which is showing an excellent enthusiasm—for example, attendance 21 out of 25 at the last meeting.

We are grateful for the teamwork of Mrs. Wigginton, Mrs. Melville, and Mr. Bishop, with the loyal support of all members of the Choir, which kept the musical standard of our Services so high during the four months without a regular choirmaster and organist. We now welcome Mr. Aldersea, who comes to us with high qualifications and excellent testimonials for a temporary period with the possibility of something more official and permanent later.

AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about
people, activities & organisations

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

At a General Meeting of the Fellowship held on 18th April a Provisional Constitution was presented and accepted unanimously. There were twenty members present.

The following are some extracts from the Constitution:

The Aim: The Aim of the Fellowship is to promote in young people a fuller understanding of the Christian Faith, products of which are the development of Christian char-

acter and the enjoyment of Christian fellowship. The Fellowship is concerned with showing the reality of the Gospel, its importance, its demands and its relevance in present day circumstances. All Fellowship activities arise from this aim.

General Committee: The committee shall consist of chairman and four members. The four members shall be elected at a General Meeting of the Fellowship and hold office for a maximum period of one year.

General Meeting: A person must be a member of the Fellowship to be entitled to vote at a General Meeting.

Membership: A person may become a member of the Fellowship if he or she is thirteen years of age or over, by application to the General Committee. Younger persons may apply to be considered for admittance to membership. A person is granted membership if there is evidence that the person has shown maintained interest in the activities of the Fellowship over a period of one month.

Finance: Subscription is deemed unnecessary. Extra items, e.g. Communion Breakfast, Energetic Evening refreshments, expeditions, are paid for by those who attend.

At the General Meeting the following four members were elected to serve on the General Committee: Miss Jennifer Salisbury; Messrs. Seymour Harris, Kenneth Lapworth (Treasurer), Richard Palk. Later Richard Palk was appointed Secretary by the Committee.

The Parents' Evening

We felt that the many people present (there were thirty visitors and 22 young people) at the At Home held for our Parents and Friends on Palm Sunday was indicative of their interest in and warm support for the Fellowship. For this we give them our sincere thanks, especially as they put up with our ever increasing numbers in their homes on Sunday evenings. One or two parents at that time kindly intimated their wish to see the Fellowship placed on a sound financial basis and we are glad now to report that the Executive Committee of the Church Council has made us a grant to cover running expenses. Because the Fellowship in its relationship with the Church is similar to the Sunday Schools, we have not wanted to have a subscription and we now find it unnecessary.

Arrangements.

Sundays at 8 p.m.

- May 11 Topic: Temptation and how to beat it.
,, 18 The Ascension.
,, 25 Whit Sunday: What happened?

June 1 The Trinity (Quincunque Vult).

,, 8 Amos.

,, 15 The Revd. Geo. H. Stevens.

,, 22 Problem Box opening.

,, 29 Vicar's Evening.

Other Activities include:—

June 1, 8 a.m.: Communion Breakfast.

May 11 & 25: Services at Laurel Dene.

May 16 & 30: Table Tennis at Wayside.

We shall be arranging various other indoor and outdoor activities.

R.P.B.

THE CHOIR

The Choir has worked hard in the last four months: two Lenten carols, "White Lent" and Tchakovsky's "Legend" and since Easter, "This Joyful Eastertide" and The Metrical Psalm. The boys' pay has been increased and the girls have been robed with what was not being used. We are still very short of men, bass in particular.

The Choir has enjoyed two outings, one of which was to the Plaza, London, to see "The Ten Commandments."

We are most grateful to Mrs. Wigginton and Mrs. Melville for their tremendous help in the absence of an appointed Organist and Choirmaster.

R.P.B.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

Result of Jumble Sale: £13-1-7.

To those who gave, bought and helped very many thanks.

Dates to remember:

May 7th: Branch Meeting in Parish Hall 3 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Jennings.

May 20: Combined Young Wives and Mothers' Union Social Evening at St. Mary's Hall, Twickenham, 7.30 p.m. Husbands invited.

May 21: Diocesan Festival Service at St. Paul's Cathedral. Coach leaving School Road 5 p.m.

June 3rd: Quiet Afternoon at All Souls' Church, St. Margarets, 2.30 to 4 p.m.

June 4: Branch Meeting in Parish Hall 3 p.m. Speaker from M.U. Overseas Department—Miss Vera Morton from Nigeria.

THE SCOUT GROUP

We are very pleased to welcome to the Cub Pack four new members and hope that their stay will be long and happy.

It is hoped that all Scouts and Cubs will attend the St. George's Day Parade which this year takes place at St. Nicholas Church, Sheperton.

The main object in April was Bob-a-Job week, at the moment there aren't any details of our financial success, by all accounts it looks as though the figure will be high. To all our friends in Hampton Hill who gave the boys a job may I thank you all. I hope that in future years when Bob-a-Job week comes round you will find more jobs for them.

On April 1st and 29th two more successful Bingo Drives were held at the Hall, as a result of which another useful sum has been added to the Building Fund. The next such Drive will be on June 10th.

On Friday the 11th of April an enjoyable evening was spent at Wayside in the form of a Table Tennis match with the Young People's Fellowship, which resulted in a win for the Scouts and their Parents by 3 games to 2. All Scout Parents and Friends are invited to these evenings at Wayside—further particulars from Mrs. Bruce, 8, Cranmer Road.

May I remind you that on May 17th the Scout Group are holding their Fete at Laurel Dene. There will be something to interest everyone, so forget about the troubles of every day life and come along and have an enjoyable time. Admission by Programme 6d., Children 3d.

A. R. COOK

(Press Representative)

OFFERINGS IN CHURCH

March/April, 1956:

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------|----------|
| F.W.O. | ... | ... | £27 18 3 |
| Collections | ... | ... | £66 17 0 |
| | | Total | £94 15 3 |

Weekly Average ... £11 16 9

March/April, 1957:

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------|----------|
| F.W.O. | ... | ... | £32 3 0 |
| Collections | ... | ... | £73 0 8 |
| | | Total | £105 3 8 |

Weekly Average ... £13 2 11

March/April, 1958:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Christian Giving Scheme | £134 5 8 |
| Money on Plates ... | £57 0 5 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | £191 6 1 |

Weekly Average ... £23 18 3

The above amounts do not include the Easter Offering, which was as follows:—1956, £47; 1957, £49; 1958, £54. The Vicar is very grateful for this generous response, which this year is the highest total on record.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

May 12/17.—Christian Aid Week

May 14.—8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Discussion Group (W).

May 15.—Ascension Day.

7.15 and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

7.30 p.m. National Rally—"The Christian Challenge in a Changing World" (Albert Hall).

8.0 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

8.45 p.m. It is hoped to arrange a Christian Aid Week 'At Home' (W).

9.15 p.m. Preliminary Meeting of Planning and Policy Committee (W).

All money given in church on Ascension Day (apart from Christian Giving Envelopes) will be devoted to Christian Aid for Refugees.

May 17.—11.30 a.m. Adult Confirmation at St. Paul's Cathedral.

9.0 a.m.—4.30 p.m. Stalls in High Street collecting "Pounds of Sixpences" for Christian Aid.

3.0 p.m. Scout Group Fete (Laurel Dene).

May 20.—7.30 p.m. Mothers' Union Branches and Young Wives' Groups: Social Evening (St. Mary's Hall, Twickenham).

May 21.—7.0 p.m. Mothers' Union Festival Service at St. Paul's Cathedral.

May 22.—8.0 p.m. Garden Party, Planning Committee (Laurel Dene).

25.—Whitsunday.

8.0, 9.0 a.m. and 12.15 p.m. Holy Communion.

11.0 a.m. Matins (Parade and Family Service).

(N.B.—No Children's Service or Sunday School).

4.0 p.m. Holy Baptism.

6.30 p.m. Evensong.

May 28.—7.45 p.m. Young Wives' Group (W).
 June 1.—Trinity Sunday.
 June 4.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union (H).
 June 6.—7.30 p.m. Magazines should be ready (V).
 July 5.—3.0 to 6.0 p.m.: Parish Garden Party at Laurel Dene.

BAPTISMS

Apr. 27.—Sarah Nutley, 10, Park Road.
 ,, 27.—Colin Mervyn Cox, 56, High Street.

MARRIAGE

Apr. 12.—David James Hudson to Margaret Ann Peel.

BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

Apr. 14.—Nellie Wakelyn Wright, 153, Uxbridge Rd., aged 58 years (at S.W. Midx. Crematorium).
 ,, 16.—Sophie Louise Hews, 11, Victoria Street, aged 73 years (Interment of Ashes).
 ,, 18.—Hedley Lawrence Davies, of Thornton Heath, formerly of Hanworth Road, aged 79 years (at Hampton).
 May 2.—Mary Emma Gloyns, Laurel Dene, aged 76 years (at Teddington).

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

LIFE FOR THE WORLD

The Student Christian Movement held a Congress in Edinburgh during Easter Week, and I was privileged to be one of the delegates from my college, and so with another 2,100 students I went to find out how in different vocations and countries we could show people that Jesus Christ brings "Life for the World."

Excluding Sunday, we met every morning and evening in the McEwan Hall for a short service and address, and also to hear the main speakers. In the morning we would then go to our Commissions which were: Christian Ministry, Industry, Commerce and Finance, Agriculture and Rural Economy, Education, Healing, Social Services, Politics and Administration, Research and Scholarship, and Music and the Arts.

I was in the first of these commissions, which was led by Canon Tomkins, of Lincoln Theological College. Our other main speakers were: Rt. Rev. George MacLeod, Moderator of the Church of Scotland, and Leader of the Iona Community, Rev. Visser 't Hooft, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, and Dr. Kathleen Bliss, who was a member of our Brains Trust, which concluded the Commission's meetings.

Each commission was divided into discussion groups, in which we discussed points raised by the speakers, or other important matters, on how the clergy and the laity should serve the public and draw them into the Christian Fellowship. These discussions often proved quite lively, especially on the matter of Women in the Ministry.

In the afternoon we had the opportunity of meeting the speakers, or to get to know Edinburgh. We later met in Area Groups, which covered nearly all the world, and here we divided into discussion groups as before. I was in the Commonwealth group, which was led by a West Indian, while my discussion group was led by a Canadian. The Colour Problem became our chief topic of discussion.

On one night we had denominational meetings, the Anglican one being led by Dr. Kathleen Bliss, and the Bishop of Peterborough.

By Sunday we were quite bewildered by all we had heard, but the Very Rev. John Baillie in his sermon at the final service in St. Giles' Cathedral, showed us how it was our job as students to go back to our colleges and universities and show the rest of the community that Christianity is the "Life for the World."

BARBARA ROCKLIFFE