

THE CHURCH BOOKSTALL

The Young People's Fellowship have presented this report to the Church Council, but it is also printed here in the hope that it may encourage someone to continue the pioneering work which they have begun.

1. The Trial Period.

A bookstall was prepared and maintained in the Church from March to June. It gave indication of being worthwhile.

For this trial period, books were bought retail and sold retail in order to see how much the turnover would be.

The turnover was just over £4-- the value of books actually sold. We have maintained throughout approximately £5 of stock.

2. Information concerning methods of running a bookstall.

(a) The method we have used,, that of buying and selling at retail prices, is unsatisfactory as the stall can only run at a loss, e.g. Bible notes getting out of date; holding a certain amount of stock any of which if not sold, is loss.

(b) A licence could be obtained from the Publishers' Association which would enable us to buy books from the publishers at wholesale price. At present our turnover is far too small for us to obtain their licence.

(c) We could become an agent for a local bookseller. In this case we should share the profits with the bookseller. This is an arrangement made with the cognisance and agreement of the Publishers' Association. We have made enquiries from a religious book-seller in Kingston with reference to this. He says that we would need to increase our turnover to near £10 a month to make it worthwhile his applying to adopt us as an agency.

3. Opinion.

(a) We feel that the bookstall should be run as a business concern and that at the moment **it is not**. We think that the turnover should be worked up to £10 by encouraging parishioners to buy and **order all** their religious literature

through it. Then we could become an Agency and obtain profit to cover losses on periodicals and stock.

(b) We believe that this venture will require a lot of initiative, drive and undivided effort from a person who has time to interest himself in it, and we older members of the Y.P.F. regret that we do not have that time.

4. Conclusion.

We intend now to disband the bookstall. We send the P.C.C. the above report with the prayerful hope that someone will be found who will feel he has time to serve God and our Church in this way.

Fellowship members would be very willing to offer assistance to other management.

R.P.B.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

The Indoor Evening, held at Wayside on September 27th, was a successful and enjoyable experiment. Richard Palk presented a recording of the Twentieth Century Folk Mass by Father Beaumont and then we heard excerpts from the St. John Passion (Bach). In the interval John Mortimore led us in some singing with James West as ever squeezing the box. Then Kenneth Lapworth took the chair to present us with lively topics for discussion, ranging from "parents" to "History is bunk."

On October 4th we were invited to St. Stephen's Church, East Twickenham by their Y.P.F., to see "Martin Luther." We were grateful for the opportunity of seeing this controversial film and to make contact with their youth group.

For the first four Sundays in November we are doing a series of talks on "The Bible as a whole." The full programme is:—

- Nov. 2.—Old Testament.
- „ 9.—Old Testament.
- „ 16.—Jesus, His life and death.
- „ 23.—Jesus, His resurrection and after.
- „ 30.—The Christian Year. St. John's Gospel: Prologue

Note also:—

Saturdays, Nov. 1 & 29 from 6.30 p.m. Indoor Evenings at Wayside.

Sats., Nov. 15 and Dec. 13 from 6.30 p.m. Energetic Evenings in the Hall.

R.P.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

Nov. 5th.—Service in Church at 3 p.m.—our speaker will be Mr. W. Thomas (Parochial Reader). Tea will be served in Wayside. Young Wives and any one interested in M.U. will be warmly welcome.

Dec. 3rd.—Meeting at Wayside 3 p.m. Speaker, Mrs. Ackroyd (M.U. Official Speaker).

Kindly note that our new Deanery Presiding member is Mrs. J. Charles, wife of the Rev. J. H. A. Charles, of All Hallows, E. Twickenham.

The new Secretary for the Deanery is Mrs. G. Stevens wife of the Rev. G. H. Stevens.

M.J.B.

YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

A very enjoyable evening was spent on September 24th, when the Young Wives held their "At Home" to commence the winter programme.

Our 'special guest' was Mrs. Joanna McLean who charmed us all with her delightful songs to the guitar. We hope she will come again!

We have to say goodbye to another of our members—Mrs. Berryman—who has moved from this district. We hope she will be happy in her new home.

The next Y.W.'s meeting is on October 29th at **the Hall**, when there will be a talk and films on "Prevention of Fire in the Home," by an officer from the local Fire Brigade. Remember too, the A.G.M. on Tuesday, November 4th at the Hall.

Last month's discussion group dealt with the question of education. With so large a topic, it was, of course, only possible to touch on the surface of some of the deep and fundamental problems involved. The next discussion group will be on November 12th at Wayside and will continue the subject of Education, but will be a "questions out of the hat" evening.

There will be no discussion group in December or January.

THE SCOUT GROUP

Dear Readers,

On Saturday, November 22nd, our Scout Group are holding a Christmas Fair, which His Worship the Mayor of Twickenham has been invited to open at 2.30 p.m.

Should any readers feel they would like to contribute to stocking any of the stalls i.e., cakes, sweets and grocery, white elephant, mystery parcel, or assist on any of the stalls will they please contact me at the above address.

Admission to the Fair is free.

So don't forget November 22nd, at St. James' Hall.

A.R. COOK,

Organiser.

11, Myrtle Road.

The Cubs and Scouts are now back to work after their summer recess and are preparing for a busy season. We wish all the Patrol Leaders every success at Sunbury where they are taking an extensive course in November.

Readers may be interested to know that Arkala has now moved to the following address: 60b, French Street, Sunbury-on-Thames.

On Tuesday, October 14th, a large number of parents and friends enjoyed another of the monthly Bingo Drives. We hope even more will come to the next one!

MISSIONARY EVENING AND EXHIBITION

We were very fortunate in having the Reverend A. G. Freeman and Miss Foss from the Church Missionary Society to speak to us and show a film and slides in the Parish Hall on Tuesday evening, October 7th. One of the latest films of the C.M.S. "The Unfinished Task," depicting work in Hong-Kong and Kowloon was shown. We saw that, although much has been achieved in propagating the Christian Gospel much work remains to be done, especially among the less fortunate inhabitants of these places.

Miss Foss, home on furlough from Japan, gave a talk illustrated with slides about her particular sphere of work in a college for girls.

As well as the film and slides there was a bookstall which attracted considerable interest, especially as Miss Foss was autographing copies of her own book, "Seven

meet a Typhoon," for all those who purchased one!

Perhaps the main innovation at the meeting was the Missionary Exhibition kindly loaned to us by the C.M.S. The exhibition was general in content, showing something of all the main spheres of C.M.S. work. This exhibition was also on show in the North Aisle of the Church on Sunday, October 12th to enable people to view it who were unable to come along to the Missionary meeting.

We intend to maintain and, I hope, increase our interest in this great work, not only by our giving, but by our praying and genuine concern for the Christian Church outside our own immediate environs.

K.C.L.

PARISH COMMUNION AND BREAKFAST

A House Discussion Group which meets regularly in the parish (the first we hope of many more, it is in fact now in the process of forming two or three new ones) has taken the initiative in making plans for a breakfast at Wayside on Advent Sunday, November 30th. The Holy Communion at 8.0 a.m. will be the only one that day, and we hope it will be in a real sense a 'Parish' one, and that as many people as possible will join together in the family meal afterwards. Children will be welcome with their parents. It would help the Group in their catering if they could know beforehand how many to expect—so please write your name on the paper in Church on the previous Sunday, or let the Vicar know. A small charge may be made to help meet expenses. If successful, we hope to repeat the venture from time to time, perhaps once a quarter.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

Nov. 1.—All Saints' Day. Holy Communion at 9.0 a.m.

Nov. 4.—7.45 p.m. Young Wives' Group Annual General Meeting. (H).

Nov. 5.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union Service.

Nov. 9.—Remembrance Day, Morning Service begins at 10.55 a.m. in preparation for the Silence at 11.0 a.m.

Nov. 10.—7.30 p.m. Ruri-Decanal Conference (St. Mary's, Twickenham).

Nov. 12.—8.0 p.m. Y.W.G. Discussion Group (W).

Nov. 16.—6.30 p.m. Preacher: The Rev. B. L. Treanor, Rector of Hanworth.

Nov. 18.—8.0 p.m. Prayer Group. (Vestry).

Nov. 22.—2.30 p.m. Scout Group Fair (H).

Nov. 24.—8.0 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches Drama Group (Methodist Church, Percy Road).

Nov. 26.—7.45 p.m. Young Wives' Group. Speaker: The Rev. B. L. Treanor (W).

Nov. 28.—7.30 p.m. Magazines should be ready (V).

Nov. 30.—First Sunday in Advent. Parish Communion at 8.0 a.m. followed by breakfast at Wayside.

Dec. 2.—St. Andrew. Holy Communion at 7.15 a.m.

Dec. 14.—Dedication Festival.

N.B.—A Parish Bonfire Party is under consideration for the beginning of November, but final details have not yet been settled as the magazine goes to press. Please look at Church notice-board.

BAPTISMS

Oct. 26.—Heather Caroline Bennett
4, Cannon Close.

„ 26.—Paul James Kelly, 8,
Hanworth Road.

„ 26.—Trevor Lawrence Darling,
38, Windmill Road.

BURIALS

Sept. 27.—Richard Walter Bird, 20,
Westbank Road, aged 72
years.

Oct. 21.—Lydia Osmon, Laurel
Dene, aged 82 years.

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

PARSONS AND PARISHES

The Church Commissioners have again produced a booklet which they wish to be as widely read as possible. The booklet makes clear how wisely and carefully they

handle the money of which they are stewards, and how they wish it were more! As a result of their efforts combined with increased giving in the parishes, the income of parish incumbents has steadily

risen until to-day the average is £717 with a house, whereas in 1948 it was £400—and perhaps not much less than this in 1938. But we must remember that £1 in 1958 is the equivalent of 13s. 4d. in 1948, and of only 6s. 8d. according to the monetary values of 1938. So in terms of the real purchasing power of money, the clergy to-day are slightly better off than they were in 1948, but much worse off than in 1938. No wonder that more and more are having to take on part-time jobs, and that their wives go out to work. And on some, the strain of it all is beginning to tell—and it would tell far more if it were not for the increasing fellowship in work between clergy and laity. No longer does the parson feel that he bears the whole weight of the parish on his shoulders. In days when few parishes were larger than 200 families, the Vicar could be effective pastor to all his flock, and give them constant personal attention. To-day, in parishes ten or twenty times as large, this is no longer possible, so, as an American book studied by the Bishops at the Lambeth Conference says, the modern vicar “can think of himself neither as parish parson responsible for all the people in a geographic area nor as the abbot of a convent of the saved, but only as the responsible leader of a parish church; it is the Church, not he in the first place, that has the parish and responsibility for it.” Because this is being more and more widely realised, many a vicar, who might otherwise have broken down in trying to do all that needed to be done in the parish as well as struggling to make ends meet in his home, now goes forward with zest knowing that a praying and working Church shares his task with him and he is no longer “just on his own.”

AN AMERICAN BISHOP'S IMPRESSIONS

Some of us will have read with interest in the September issue of “Church Illustrated” an article by an American Bishop, over here for the Lambeth Conference, giving his impressions of the Church of Eng-

land. He finds some pleasant and encouraging things to say, but he does not “pull his punches” when he thinks charitable criticism might be helpful. For instance, he says: “In some quarters in England as well as in America, it is fashionable to write off the Church of England as a tradition-bound and lifeless institution supported by the activities of only a fraction of its members. This is not an altogether false generalization. You are bound by tradition in ways that make you move with ponderous slowness, if you move at all. You are supported by the faithful church life of a few. Many of your churches are sparsely attended. Some services of worship we have attended ourselves were as lifeless as a corpse.” The Bishop himself admits that a broad generalization like this points at only one side of the picture. There are also areas of life and spirited movement as well. But he puts an unerring finger on one aspect of church life where he feels a radical change is needed. He says: “If I should point out one sphere where I would pray most for a change in the Church of England, forgetting for the moment that the American Church has its own alarming weaknesses too, it would be in the matter of Christian Stewardship. In general, it is true that your congregations and your leaders have no vision of what it means to give gifts to Christ’s Church for its mission at home and throughout the world. You usually speak of money only in terms of needing it, and in terms of spending it. In terms of balancing budgets and destroying death-watch beetles. To this end you settle for a round of bazaars and other gimmicks to raise money that cheapens the mission of Christ’s Church and provides but a poor substitute for the faithful to experience the joy of Christian giving.

“The truth should be made clear to every Christian, that we do not give our gifts because the church needs money, but because we need to give . . .”

The Rector of Hanworth will be speaking to us on this theme of Christian Stewardship when he comes as preacher at Evensong on November 16th.