

## **STEWARDSHIP HAS TO DO WITH THE WHOLE OF LIFE**

This month many of you who read this will be receiving a letter about the stewardship of your time and talents, and then a visitor will call to discuss with you opportunities of service in the parish and in wider spheres beyond. There are things that God wants to get done, and He wants us to do them, as “workers together with Him” and as stewards of all the gifts which we hold in trust from Him. “It’s you that are chosen now for this thing God has in mind, a thing so fitted to your life that it won’t get done in exactly that way unless you do it.” It is good that we should find what “this thing” is, if we haven’t already done so, and enter more deeply a course of life that not only enriches and fulfils our own personalities, but also glorifies God and blesses our neighbour.

### **STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE, SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1966**

**The Lord Bishop** says that Stewardship is bringing a sense of unity to “amorphous mass” of the Diocese. Success acts as stimulus for reluctant parishes.

**The Rev. J. C. Matheson on Stewardship Continuation:** Every Christian must ask himself “Why am I a member of the Church and what does my membership mean to me in terms of mission. Do I even appreciate what mission is?” “Use the vast potential tapped by Christian Stewardship outwardly — don’t turn in on yourselves congregations, get out into the main stream of the Church’s life in the world.” Liberality must never be confined by stewardship of money or time. There must indeed be disciplined giving but it is the spontaneous giving out of gratitude to God that is the essence of true religion. In times of stress man wants to share with “his kind” — this is an act of communion natural to humans but Man’s vision of who is “his kind” needs widening. The whole of mankind is now Man’s neighbour. Religion is in danger of being regarded by many as mere spiritualism but this conception is far divorced from Christ’s practical “down to earth” teaching.

**The Rev. Dewi Morgan - commenting on “The Long March”:** Stewardship could be seen as God’s plan for the twentieth century — a time of unprecedented revolution — a **total** world whose inhabitants are in touch as never before in history through increasing literacy, radio and television. Christ said “The things that I do, do you also, and **greater** things than I do, shall YE do.” Where Christ fed the five thousand modern Man could feed five million if he only would. One man on a donkey and on foot performed wonders — what should the Christian of today not be able to achieve towards making God’s will done on earth as it is in Heaven?

**The Archdeacon of London:** The Church is made up of the people of God. If You believe in God YOU are the Church. The Church can be alive only through YOU. The young particularly are tired of mere theological argument, they want to see Christian action and to hear relevant prayers arising out of the experience of those praying. The Church is the Body of Christ and WE should walk about the world today as His Body, His Hands and His Word.

**The Diocesan Council for Mission** will be responsible for stage two of Stewardship (Time and Talents) and stage three (The Ministry of the Laity). Their first project for next spring will be “The People Next

Door" and will be in two parts, I— Study and II— Activity!

**Read** "The Seeds of Peace" by Dewi Morgan — "The dramatic story of how one man saw Christian Aid in action" and "Yes to Mission" by Canon Webster.

The Conference proved so inspiring that by unanimous acclaim it was decided to hold one annually! M.O.

### THE BIBLE IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Bible Reading Fellowship Reading for the week following **Christian Aid Week:**

Ezekiel 36, v. 33 . . .

"Thus said the Lord God: In the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities" (and blindness to our neighbour's need is iniquity) "I will cause the cities to be inhabited and waste places shall be builded. And the land that was desolate shall be tilled, whereas it was a desolation in the sight of all that passed by. And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined places are fenced and inhabited. Then the nations that are left round about you shall know that I the Lord have builded the ruined places, and planted that which was desolate; I THE LORD HAVE SPOKEN IT AND I WILL DO IT."

Anyone who has seen The Long March or read Dewi Morgan's book The Seeds of Peace and knows that through Christian Aid Persian villages ravished by earthquake are being rebuilt, forests ruined by war are being replanted, plains denuded by drought are being watered by dams and water systems, will testify to the practical truth of the above quotation.

And to a parish that a little while ago was almost dead and that is finding new life and vitality under the impetus of **Christian Stewardship:**

Ezekiel 37, v. 1-10.

"And he said unto me, Son of man, can these dry bones live? and I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest . . . O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones: Behold I will cause breath to enter into you and ye shall live . . . and breath came into them and they lived, and stood up on their feet, an exceeding great army."

And a prayer for the beginnings of the stewardship of time and talent:

"Oh Lord God, who hast called thy servants to ventures of which they cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing whither we go, but only that Thy hand is leading us, and Thy love supporting us." (B.R.F., May 21st, 1966).

### PROGRAMME OF SONG AND RECITATION

To conclude Christian Aid Week at Evensong on Sunday, May 22, instead of a sermon, a series of dramatic recitations and music entitled 'I am the World's Surplus Man' was given by the Hampton Council of Churches led by the indefatigable Mrs. Eustace.

St. James's rang with the resonant voices of the men and the clear tones of the ladies declaring the plight of the people in under-developed and over-populated countries and behind the Iron Curtain and extolling the help which Christian Aid is giving.

Interposed between the utterances were campaign songs of the Christian Aid Movement accompanied on the guitar by Richard Cox,

including one song by Raymond Draper and the Youth Fellowship which was in the 'Top Twenty' of the Christian Aid National Song competition. Felicity Hammond sang solo sweetly and movingly.

Although the congregation was not over-large the presentation sent many away with the resolve to help Christian Aid in the excellent work being carried out overseas. R.B.

### **OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS ADOPT A LEPER BOY**

Our boy — Gundar — is 14. He lives in the N.E. of India, and symptoms of leprosy were recently discovered in his hands and fingers. He is now in a LEPRO colony, and if his treatment can be sustained, he will be cured.

Mrs. Rockliffe first introduced the scheme to the Sunday Schools, and told the children stories of the boys in Africa which her own family had adopted. The teachers and children were much impressed by what she said, and Mrs. Brunt was asked to make enquiries to see if we could adopt a boy of our own. This has now been arranged, and photos and particulars of Gundar have been displayed on our bookstall. To support him and pay for his treatment will cost £16 a year, and we recently sent our first contribution of £4. All monies (except of course pledged-giving envelopes) now given in our Sunday Schools are for Gundar, and we know that many children are contributing from their own pocket money (not forgetting to put some aside for any Sundays that they may be absent), and not just bringing money from their parents.

### **THE MOTHERS' UNION**

The Deanery M.U. and Y.W. party held on May 10 at All Souls', St. Margaret's, was a very enjoyable affair. Members of that branch were hostesses and had prepared and served most delectable refreshments. Mrs. Devo, of St. Stephen's, organised games to suit all ages, and our own "Keep Fit" rehearsal and Mime were received enthusiastically.

Our June meeting takes the form of an afternoon coach trip to Bramber, Sussex. Mrs. Oliver is organising this outing, also she has booked a coach for Wednesday, October 5, to take members to Overseas Sale at Church House. London Diocese is responsible for supplying refreshments this year, so helpers will be needed to prepare and serve these; (I shall be glad to receive names of those willing to help.). The actual sale is always most enjoyable, the quality and variety of goods on the stalls has to be seen to be believed. One rubs shoulders with people from all parts of the world, and there is an opportunity to hear a first hand account of work overseas from the afternoon speaker. Make a note of the date—more details later.

Miss Elder's talk proved most interesting as she described life on a Mission station, and training of African women as organisers, both in teaching and in M.U. work. The photographs she displayed of the beautiful country in the Transkei helped us all to realise why Africa takes such a hold on those who go out there to work.

Dates for Calendar:

Closing Meeting, Wednesday, July 6. Service in Church.

Monday, July 18. Deanery Meeting for E.M's and Group Leaders and Committee members at SS. Philip's & James. Whitton, 2 p.m.

I.V.R.

## THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

Four of the World's main religions in two talks of one hour each sounds rather like the proverbial tourist 'doing' Europe in two days, but we must thank the Rev. G. S. Stevens for attempting this and condensing so much information into such interesting talks. Although they gave mere outlines of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism, they showed clearly man's need to strive for a higher life and the effect on the community of the spiritual values adopted.

Programmes for June include a talk by a Marriage Guidance Counsellor on Wednesday 29 in Wayside and on Tuesday, June 7, at 8 p.m. a Cookery Demonstration on 'Fork Suppers' at the Kingston Gas Board Show-Rooms. Anyone who is interested is very welcome to join us. K.B.

## THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

The Y.P.F. holiday in Scotland after Easter was a great success. Not only did we have a thoroughly enjoyable time but we came to understand a little better the true meaning of 'fellowship.' Despite all the energetic hiking, scrambling, climbing and other more orthodox methods of getting from A to B, everyone returned intact. Again, we should like to thank those who enabled us by financial help to have such a wonderful time, and Dawn and Seymour and Helen and Alan Taylor for organising everything so expertly.

On May 13 the first joint meeting of the Hampton Junior Council of Churches took place at the Methodist Church, Hampton. This scheme has so far been excellently received. It is run on the same lines as the Hampton Council of Churches, but the council is comprised of representatives from the youth associations in the area. The Y.P.F. representatives are Gillian Howard, Jennifer Makepeace and Raymond Draper who must be congratulated on being elected chairman of the council. It is hoped that many more joint meetings will be arranged throughout the year, social activities as well as combined services, and that the scheme will meet with great support and success.

We have been pleased to see so many new faces at Y.P.F. meetings recently and any young person in the parish who is interested in the Y.P.F. is warmly invited to come along to our Sunday evening meetings at 8 p.m. at Wayside. The programme for the next two months will be as follows:

- June 5.—The Conversion of St. Paul, Acts 9, vv. 1-19.
- .. 12.—The 'New' Paul, Acts 9, vv. 20-31.
- .. 19.—Bible Study, Mark 9, vv. 33-50.
- .. 26.—Guest Speaker.
  
- July 3.—'Drifting away from God,' Isaiah 1, vv. 1-17.
- .. 10.—'Acting on the knowledge of sin,' Isaiah 1, vv. 18-31.
- .. 17.—Panel.
- .. 24.—Guest Speaker.
- .. 31.—'Psalms.'

## THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A Barbecue will be held in the Vicarage Garden at 7.30 on Friday, June 24. Tickets are available from the Committee, price 4s.

R.M.G.

## MASS ATTACK

DO NOT MISS this opportunity to spend a day, or even a few hours, on Saturday, June 11, in the fresh air and enjoy some health giving exercise cutting grass and generally clearing in the church yard.

Everyone will be welcome and light refreshments will be served during the day.

People bringing their own tools, and this is advised, are requested to mark them for identification. D.L.

### 3rd HAMPTON HILL BROWNIE PACK

We were officially opened on February 24, the date nearest our Founder's birthday. We were pleased to welcome among our visitors the Divisional Commissioner Miss Whisker, Miss Cooper, Miss Sutter, the Vicar and the Rev. A. L. Hunter—Brown Owl, Brownies and Captain and Guides of 1st Hampton Hill, and parents and friends.

We have a full Pack and a waiting list. Our activities so far include an item for the Parish Entertainment, helping on the "Penny on the Packet" stall at the District Easter Fair and attending Church Parade. We meet on Thursday evenings 5.45 p.m. to 7 p.m. at St. James's Parish Hall and if any lady would like to come along to help me I would be very pleased.

B.M.O., Brown Owl.

### THE HAMPTON HILL OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE

We appreciate the prompt response to our House to House appeal. In reply to a few queries—

Economical as we try to be, we find we cannot extend our services to the Old People without further finances. We would like more opportunities for getting the Old People together such as extra parties and outings. With sufficient funds we could open a Day Centre providing we could find suitable accommodation near the Town Centre where our Old People can sit in the warm with a cup of tea, to read the papers and see their friends. A Mobile Shop-cum-Library would be an asset.

We urgently need a few kindly people to be just neighbourly to the Old People who live near them, and to report to their Area Wardens when necessary. In this respect, we would like to say 'Thank You' to the Y.P.F. and the various school Social Services who not only delivered all our letters, but act as Good Neighbours to many of our Old People, much to their joy. L.M.

### SOME DATES TO NOTE

- June 11.—St. Barnabas: 9.0 a.m. Holy Communion; 9.30 a.m. onwards Mass Attack in Churchyard.
- .. 13.—8.0 p.m. Parochial Church Council (W).
- .. 15.—6.30 p.m. Parish Outing to Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford.
- .. 16.—8.0 p.m. Properties Committee (36, St. James's Road).
- .. 19.—9.30 a.m. (at Parish Communion) Baptism, and Commissioning of Stewardship 'Time and Talents' Visitors.
- .. 22.—3.0 p.m. Garden Party for mothers of babies recently baptised (Vicarage lawn).
- .. 24.—St. John Baptist: 9.0 a.m. Holy Communion; 7.30 p.m. Barbecue (Vicarage garden: tickets 4/-).

- „ 26.—9.30 a.m. Parish Communion is also the monthly Family and Parade Service, and there will be no Sunday Schools at Wayside or in church.
- „ 27.—8.0 p.m. Liturgical Committee (14, Cardinal's Walk).
- „ 29.—8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group (W).
- July 3.—6.30 p.m. (at Evensong) Presentation of offers of service, time and talents.
- „ 25.—**ST. JAMES'S DAY: PATRONAL FESTIVAL. IN THE EVENING THE TRADITIONAL PARISH 'AT HOME' WILL BE HELD IN THE VICARAGE GARDEN—ALL INVITED.**

### **CONFIRMATION 1966**

Intending candidates are asked to stay behind after Evensong on June 19 for a short meeting with the Vicar.