

Feb '70

February 1970

THIS is the second winter that my wife and I have had the comfort and convenience of central heating in our house here. In fact it's the first house we've ever lived in where we've had it, and it's prompted me to think how could we bear to do without it when the time inevitably comes to move? At least this is how I thought until I was reminded that when we lived at Lincoln we managed well enough without even running hot water, let alone greater luxuries.

HABITS

It seems that as our standard of living improves, so does our capacity for taking it for granted and for regarding our material state - whatever it is - as something which couldn't possibly be reduced without making life intolerable. It is all to do with habit. The more we are settled in material comforts, the more and more we sink deeply into that particular way of life. The inessentials we acquire as helps to comfort and convenience we soon come to look on as essentials. Small wonder our Lord tells Christians to deny themselves.

LENT

It is not a question of whether to get into habits or not, but which habits to get into, for we human beings are by God's intention creatures of habit. Lent is the time for Christians with God's help to strengthen good habits and acquire more of them. The first habit for the Christian to acquire is prayer.

Last Lent we started church discussion groups which with a break for the summer have continued ever since. I suggest we give them a rest for a bit. The discussions have been very helpful and useful, but we don't want to run the risk of the church's becoming just a 'talking shop'. Talking is valuable but doing is better.

Something I suggest we could do for the six weeks of this Lent is a little weekly project of private prayer. It involves a packet of six modern prayer leaflets - one for each week - and the giving up of ten minutes of your time each week in private. If you're interested I can let you have a packet in church or at my house, or if you ring me I can call with one. I'm afraid I've got to charge 1/2d for each packet as that's what they cost me, but I think you'll find them very helpful. Will you try one?

J.S.N.

PS: Mrs. Riley of 11 The Bit has asked to put her point of view as a Baptist in reply to my editorial in last month's newsletter:-

May I thank Rev. J.S. Nightingale for allowing me to answer his question in the previous newsletter "Do you believe in purgatory?" The answer is no. It is through no feeling of pride or supposed worthiness that born-again Christians have this wonderful assurance of Salvation through Jesus Christ here on earth. It is simply that they believe and have faith in the word of God "for without faith it's impossible to please Him" (Heb.11 v.6)

The joy which a Christian experiences is not gained by the belief that our souls will eventually be in a state of suffering in order to be purified (it's our works as Christians which will be tested) it is because sinners have responded to the invitation given in Rev.3 v.20 "Behold I stand at the door and knock etc.") and Jesus has entered in and given to the sinner new hope and new life, and they know the joy of forgiveness of sins.

To believe in anything other than the complete forgiveness of sins here on earth is to make a mockery of the Cross because "by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified (Heb.10 v.14) "Since therefore we are now justified by His blood much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God (Romans 5 v.9) and in Ephesians 2 v.19 we read "that we are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God".

Let us then thank and praise God for the love that sent Jesus to die that we, if we know Him as Saviour, can live here and now in the victory over death on the Cross. Jesus said, as He hung there, to the criminal (Luke 23 v.43) "Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise." Purgatory!! I think not.

In His Name

Plcasancc Riley.

COLESHILL SUCCESSES AT RAANS

Coleshill pupils were prominent among the Raans School boys who were awarded prizes at the Speech Day in December. Kenneth Edwards of 9 Hill Meadow won the Governor's Prize, the Headmaster's Prize, and a prize for physics, as well as the tennis singles trophy. Marian Antosiewicz of 12 The Bit won the art prize, and his brother Jan a prize for woodwork. We congratulate them on their success.

MOTHERS' UNION PARTY

The Mothers' Union had a very enjoyable party in January as the guests of Mrs. Antosiewicz of 12 The Bit. There was a magnificent tea, party games and a raffle, which besides giving everyone a prize raised £1 for "Shelter" the organisation to help the homeless. The February meeting is at Winchmore Hill.

DRUG ADDICTION - WHAT PARENTS CAN DO A meeting at Chenies Primary School at 8 p.m. on Tuesday 24 February; speaker - Dr Geo. Birdwood

REPORT FROM MAGILA

Letters of thanks have been received from Magila Hospital both for the gift of £5 sent from the Mothers' Union and other friends for the motherless babies in care at the hospital and also for the donation of £8.11.0. from the offering at the Crib at Christmas. Sister Edith Frances is most grateful for the babies' present and says she is using the money towards providing a climbing frame and swing for the children which will give endless pleasure.

The gift to the General Hospital came at the most opportune moment as the operating theatre was about to fall down and had to be rebuilt! This has been done - with the result that there is a debt on the work so an unexpected donation is more than welcome. The work in the hospital is expanding rapidly and the nurses say that there are often more patients than beds! In addition to the in-patient work, eight clinics are now run in neighbouring villages and those are very busy with big programmes of immunisation against polio and other diseases. Finally, perhaps one of the most valuable parts of the work is the training of large numbers of African nurses (both men and women) and of village midwives. This will help to provide the trained staff needed for the new Government hospitals which are being built.

HOW TO GET HOT WATER AT MAGILA

During the last year "solar heaters" have been installed on the roof of the Convent at Magila. By an ingenious arrangement of pipes, these give as much hot water as is needed for ten months of the year heated only by the sun's rays! They soon pay for the cost of installation. What a pity we cannot follow suit!

ORGANIST IN THE HEADLINES

Our organist, Mr. Ward, who is the chief building inspector for Amersham Council, appeared in the national press in January when an article he wrote on the fire risks in old inns attracted considerable attention. Mr. Ward wrote the article after the disastrous Saffron Waldon fire on Boxing Day in which 11 people died in an old coaching inn. He suggests the annual licensing of hotels by local authorities which would make the hotel owners state the precise means of escape where necessary. Bedrooms should be sacrificed to provide easy escape routes and new hotels should be built with bedrooms on the ground floor. Where old buildings cannot be brought up to standard Mr. Ward says they should be converted to private houses or other uses where they will not be a hazard to human life.

WELCOME HOME

Miss M. Stone of Amber Cottages arrived back in Coleshill shortly before Christmas after her round-the-world tour which took her away for most of 1969

SADNESS AT RUSHMEAD

The matron and staff of Rushmead have had a difficult time recently in coping with the outbreak of 'flu among the residents (who all come from the London borough of Hillingdon). It is sad to report that seven people have died and more have been seriously ill. We hope for a speedy return to normal life. May God grant to those who have died eternal rest.

INVALIDS

Your prayers are asked for Mr Lionel Edwards of Glebe House who is still far from well.

Miss Chrington, Mrs. Baldwin and Mr Leith have all been making good progress and this month of February will, we are glad to say, see them back in their own homes.

We are also glad to hear that Mrs. Gibbon How and Mrs. Beryl Adams are recovering satisfactorily from operations, though for the moment Mrs. Adams suffers from a moratorium (as they say these days) on speaking.

R.I.P.

Monday 2 February, Candlemas Day, is the year's mind of the death of Mr. Frederick James Ware. Of your charity remember him in your prayers, and his brave widow, Kay.

POLICE PARTNERSHIP

Congratulations to Richard Attridge of 26 Hill Meadow on his engagement to Miss Sue Rowsley of Beaconsfield. Both Richard and his fiancée are in the police force, so together they will be a formidable pair!

W.I. MEETING

The W.I. met in January on one of the coldest days of the winter when the Village Hall water was frozen, but Mrs. Cross's slides on the Holy Land and Petra brought the warmth of the Middle East into the room. It was good to see that one's illusions about Petra need not be shattered. The slides showed us that Petra remains in this age of commercialisation still Flecker's 'Rose-red city half as old as time'.

MISS ADA HARRIS

We were sorry to hear of the death of Miss Ada Harris, aged 69, of Marlin Villa, while she was away at Abingdon on Saturday 3 January. Her funeral took place the following Saturday afternoon in Colcshill church and she was buried in the grave of her sister, Alice. May she rest in peace.

CHURCH FETE

The date for the fete this year is Saturday, 13 June.

MARRIAGE OF MISS JANET PALMER

The wedding took place on Saturday, 24 January, in All Saints Church of Miss Janet Palmer of Westrip, Barrack Hill, to Mr. Edward John Adkins of Amersham. A reception was held for the guests at the Mill Stream Restaurant and the couple left afterwards for their new home in Little Chalfont. We wish them every blessing in their married life

CARD PLAYING

"Look down in mercy, O Lord our God, upon those who, at cards, play games of hazard and skill; and, howsoever the lot may fall, give them grace always to deal justly and to think kindly one of the other."

This prayer appeared, in all seriousness, in "A Book of Prayers" by A. Campbell Fraser, published in 1932 and reprinted in 1934 & 1947.

FOOTPATH DOWN GORE HILL

Mrs Stevens asked the W.I. in January to support her plea to Amersham Council for a footpath down Gore Hill. We are sure that all the residents of Colcshill will want to support this scheme as it is extremely dangerous to walk in the road. There is plenty of room for a path on the grass verge and it would be especially welcome to mothers with prams and to the old people of Rushymead. We wish Mrs. Stevens every success.

THE FUEL FUND.

A good few years ago the Rcvd. Algernon Curling and Miss Lucy Taylor of Porch House bequeathed a sum of money which would enable a number of villagers in Colcshill to have a gift towards their winter fuel every year. The fund is administered by Colcshill Church, and in this year's distribution 17 people received 30/- each. It is possible that the sum given out won't be as much as this every year, and we trust that beneficiaries will understand this. Also of course it cannot be guaranteed that anyone who receives money from the fund one year will receive it the next. We hope that these necessary hazards won't obscure the generosity of the benefactors.

JUSTICE

'Justice is to be observed not only in the distribution of wealth, but also in regard to the conditions in which men are engaged in producing this wealth. Every man has, of his very nature, a need to express himself in his work and thereby to perfect his own being. Consequently, if the whole structure and organisation of an economic system are such as to compromise human dignity, to lessen a man's sense of responsibility or rob him of an opportunity for exercising personal initiative, then such a system, we maintain, is altogether unjust -

no matter how much wealth it produces, or how justly and equitably such wealth is distributed."

Pope John XXIII

THE VILLAGE HALL

There will be a Village Hall Committee meeting on Monday, February 23 at 8.15 p.m.

CONTRIBUTION FROM AMERICA

We were very pleased to receive through Mrs Ovington a contribution towards the newsletter appeal from Mrs Fisher who used to live in Chase Close but is now in the United States. It is good to know that the newsletter has an appreciative readership so far afield.

Since January Mrs Plumridge of Highfield, The Bit, has taken over the job of typing the stencils and we are most grateful to her for giving her time and skill.

LONDON PRICES.

'Eight shillings for a bed and eightpence for a glass of sherry pointed to one of the most expensive hotels. There are not many in London which charge at that rate'. Sherlock Holmes to Dr. Watson in 'The Noble Bachelor' by A. Conan Doyle, c. 1900.

February

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

- 2 (Mon) The Presentation of Christ in the Temple - HC: 10 (R.I.P:FJW)
- 11 ASH WEDNESDAY (1st day of Lent) - HC; 10 a.m. & 7.30 p.m.
- 12 (Thurs) W.I. at 2.30 - Speaker: Mrs Fenwick ..
Travelling Library
- 19 (Thurs) Mothers' Union at Winchmore Hill at 2.30
- 22 (Sun) 2nd in Lent. No evensong at All Saints' - at 6 at St.Mary's instead, followed by the annual parish meeting.
- 23 (Mon) Village Hall Committee Meeting at 8.15 p.m.
- 24 (Tues) St Matthias the Apostle - HC: 10 a.m.
- 26 (Thurs) Travelling Library.

CURIOSITY

Can any of our readers offer an explanation of why the present coinage of the realm still bears the title 'F.D.' (Fidei Defensor - Defender of the Faith) which Pope Leo X bestowed on Henry VIII in 1521 for his strongly pro-papal treatise, 'Assercio Septem Sacramentorum', in defence of catholic doctrine against Luther's 'Babylonish Captivity of the Church'? Henry adopted the title by statute in 1543, but Mary repealed this statute and Elizabeth I confirmed the repeal.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, COLESHILL

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd. J.S. Nightingale, The Parsonage (tel. 422°)
Pro-Churchwarden & Secretary: N.N. Nicholls, Orchard House (tel. 6734)
Pro-Treasurer: R.G. Stubbings, Springfield, Tower Road, (tel. 4738)

Every Sunday: 9.00a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
10.15a.m. Sunday School
6.00p.m. Evensong
Every Tuesday: 10.00a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
Every Wednesday: 7.30p.m. HOLY COMMUNION
Every Friday: 12.00 noon HOLY COMMUNION
Morning and Evening Prayer each day at 8.00a.m. and 6.00p.m.

For other services, please see the weekly notices in the church porch.

ST. ANDREW'S MISSION CHURCH, WINCHMORE HILL

HOLY COMMUNION on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10.30 a.m.

ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH, AMERSHAM

Rector: The Revd. A. Campbell, M.A. (Cantab), Beaumont, Hervines Road, Amersham ((tel 7135) or St. Mary's Parish Office, Church Street (Tel 4712)

Sunday Services: 8.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
10.00 a.m. Children's Service
11.00 a.m. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays:
HOLY COMMUNION (New Service)
2nd & 4th Sundays: Mattins
6.00 p.m. Sung Evensong

Every Wednesday: 10.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION

Published by All Saints' Church Committee.