

March 1970

IT IS being said that there is a crisis of law and order in Britain at the moment, but this seems rather an exaggeration. If we compare the situation today with the lawlessness, say, a hundred years ago or with the amount of crime in America and in other countries we shan't be so alarmed. Nonetheless there has been a significant increase recently in crime, especially violent crime in this country, and this is bound to give us some concern.

Some people say that the major way of tackling the problem is to increase the powers of the law. This may help, but I don't believe it would get to the heart of the problem. The criminologist, Mr Edward Glover, has observed that 'each community produces the criminals it deserves'. If this is true, it suggests that the roots of any sustained increase in the nation's crime are to be found in the state of health of British society as a whole.

DECLINE IN RELIGION

For Christians the steady decline in English religion during this century is very much a contributory factor in the decline in the general health of society, but this is not to deny that societies can produce morals of varying qualities without religion. What Christians do believe is that though their gospel is not primarily a moral one it does offer to men the supreme means of living agreeably together as sons of their heavenly Father.

AUTHORITY

A conspicuous feature of the present day is a questioning, and further, a general discounting of the role of authority; and this is not confined to the young. Now I don't believe that authority is the most important thing in human societies and systems, but it has a vital role to play and this needs to be recognised both by those under authority and those in authority. Let's not attack the basic idea of authority just because we quite properly object to the excesses of authoritarianism..

When authority itself is so much at a discount there is a special need for all of us who are in any position of authority - parents, clergy, teachers, employers, police, local-government officers - to show that we are making responsible, unselfish, humane and yet not timid use of our position.

THE TEACHERS

This is what makes the action of those teachers who have recently

been striking peculiarly unfortunate. They are in a special position of authority because, whether they like it or not, they help to shape the moral background and general character of society. And yet they're showing that although they aren't on the line of absolute poverty, they are prepared to jeopardise children's education in order to force an increase in their own personal income. Teachers teach as much by example as anything else, and what example are they showing their children except 'Grab as much as you can' and 'The end justifies the means'? I don't deny that the lower paid teachers deserve an increase, but I suggest the nurses' methods were a better way,

STRIKES

Not that striking work is necessarily wrong - it is a valuable human liberty, but no one can make you strike against your will unless you lack courage. A union may give orders for a strike but it's incumbent on the individual person to decide in his own conscience whether a particular strike is morally justified or not. No one can escape the moral consequences of his own action on the pretext of following the crowd. In the present national rush for increased wages teachers have, like others, to decide whether their position requires them to lift their noses from the trough of self-gratification and take a higher view.

J.S.N.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

<u>Maundy Thursday</u>	7.30 pm:	Eucharist of the Last Supper
<u>Good Friday</u>	12 noon:	at Coleshill (about 1 hour)
	2 pm	at Winchmore Hill (about 1 hour)
<u>EASTER DAY</u>	9 am :	at Coleshill
	10.30 am:	at Winchmore Hill

I want to arrange extra services for the earlier part of Holy Week, but there seems little point in my doing this if you, the people, don't observe the latter part of the week. Do come on Maundy Thursday and especially on Good Friday. It is the christian's duty to observe our Lord's passion as well as his resurrection. "Could you not watch with me one hour?"

The rector has asked that there be no evensong on Sundays at Coleshill till 5 April. Instead villagers are invited to go to evensong at St. Mary's, where there will be well-known preachers.

J.S.N.

Obedience today seems to be a lost virtue - Jean Danielou

GOOD PROGRESS

It is a pleasure to report that Mr Edwards of Glebe House is improved in health although he is still kept indoors, and that Mr Waite of Dewpond is now about again after an attack of pleurisy. Mr George Brackley of Hillside, Barrack Hill, is also making progress.

MR POWELL-PRICE ELECTED CHURCHWARDEN

The annual church meeting of All Saints' elected Mr David Powell-Price of Coleshill Lodge as churchwarden in succession to the late Mr Cyril Saunders whose loss is still deeply felt by the church and village. The meeting also asked for suggestions about the form Mr Saunders' memorial should take so that the subject can be fully discussed at the next church meeting.

FEBRUARY BABIES

Many congratulations to Mr and Mrs Shirley of Chapel Field on the birth of their son in Amersham hospital on 22 February. At the time of going to press the baby's name has not been definitely decided. We are also pleased to report that Fr. and Mrs Griffiths of St. Michael's, Amersham had a son born to them in February. They have called him Adam. February seems to be a good month for boys after the birth of three in Coleshill last year.

MR WINGROVE

Mr Wingrove of 5 Manor Way has not been at all well recently and we miss seeing him about the village. Kind neighbours have rallied round to help him and his wife who can get about only with difficulty. We hope he will soon be a lot better.

THE NEW MORALITY

Sex education, coping with a husband's hobbies, preparation for old age, and looking after elderly relatives were among the topics which provoked very lively discussions when the Mothers' Union met at The Parsonage in February. The theme was 'Some Problems of Family Life' and members were asked to give their own answers to some of today's vexing questions. What emerged was what a lively, liberal-minded branch we have, but one still old-fashioned enough to believe that the ginger-bread of marriage is worth any amount of today's fashionable gilt. The next meeting is at Winchmore Hill when Mrs Newberry-Fox will be the speaker.

VILLAGE HALL A.G.M.

The Village Hall A.G.M. will be on Tuesday, 21 April, at 8.15 in the Village Hall.

THE CHURCH FETE

We are grateful to Mr and Mrs Raymond Pusey for again allowing the church fete to take place at Little Bowers. Mr Norman Shelley, the B.B.C. actor has provisionally agreed to open the fete. Everyone who remembers the old Children's Hour will immediately recognise his voice as that of Pooh Bear and Conan Doyle's Dr. Watson, but he has played in a great number of B.B.C. productions. Mr Shelley is a regular worshipper at St Michael's, Amersham.

FAREWELL AND WELCOME

We were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Gardiner (formerly Mrs Courage) of Stock Place, on her moving to the Cotswolds after her marriage. We wish her every happiness with her husband in her new home. It is a pleasure to welcome to Stock Place -Mr & Mrs Vince who, we hope, will quickly make friends in Coleshill.

TWO COLESHILL FAMILIES UNITED

The wedding at All Saints' on Saturday, 7 February, united two Coleshill families, the Whites of Lourdes, Barrack Hill, and the Boltons of Coldharbour Farm. Jacqueline White married Mrs Bolton's brother, Larry Davies. The wedding reception was held at The Crown, Old Amersham. We wish the newly married couple every blessing and much happiness in their home at Great Missenden.

IN HOSPITAL

The children's ward at Amersham hospital received Ian Jamieson soon after it discharged Giles Nightingale - Ian unfortunately had to have his appendix removed, but he is now getting on nicely. How fortunate we are in having in Amersham an enlightened hospital which not only allows parents to visit children at any time of the day but actually provides beds for mothers of children under five. Amersham was one of the hospitals to pioneer this practice, which makes all the difference to parents and above all to the children.

SCHOOL WHIST DRIVE

The annual school whist drive will be held this year on Wednesday, 11 March at 7.30 pm. Mr. Ray Pusey will be the M.C. Mr Barker, the headmaster, hopes that everyone will try to support the event by playing, by buying tickets, or by giving a prize or a contribution towards the refreshments. The proceeds will go towards school funds.

W.I.

There will be a Group Meeting of the W.I. at Little Chalfont on 17 March when Captain Batson will speak on police work. This will be in addition to the normal monthly meeting on 12 March when Miss Taylor will speak about 'Great Aunt Martha'.

BRIDGE DRIVE

A Bridge Drive in aid of the Village Hall will be held on Friday 3 April at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall. Players are asked to make up parties for the occasion. The price of admission will be 7/6 each person and tickets will be obtainable from any member of the Committee or from the village shops. The same pair will play together all the evening but will meet another pair at the end of each rubber,

THE RECTOR

The Rector has been suffering from a hemorrhage of the vocal chords since January and he has been ordered not to use his voice at all. He is to see his doctor again at the beginning of March when we hope there will be good news to report.

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 16 March at 8.30 pm in the Parish Room. The business will include a discussion of the Amersham Bypass proposals, which should be of interest to everyone in Coleshill as the most favoured proposal suggests that the new road should go on the Coleshill side of Amersham.

* - ALL IN THE DEEDS - A GLIMPSE OF COLESHILL IN THE 19th CENTURY

You don't have to live in Coleshill for very long to realise that its society is changing rapidly. As the families who have lived here for generations die out or move away the old village cottages are bought up, enlarged and improved by people of means from elsewhere. The small community of craftsmen and agricultural workers, closely knit by inter-marriage, has largely disappeared, and Coleshill, like any village within forty miles of London, is now the home of many commuters and retired professional people. In case one should think this is a purely twentieth century development, the result of the motor-car and the spread of urbanisation, it is interesting to follow the history of one Coleshill house throughout the nineteenth century and see the germ of this development in the reign of Queen Victoria. "The village is not what it was" no doubt was the lament when the folk from Winchmore Hill came over to Coleshill in a dry season to get their water.

The 'Black Horse' of Coleshill

Wheatsheaf Cottage, one of the few houses in Coleshill with a mid-Victorian facade, stands on the crest of the hill overlooking the Common and facing the Parsonage. But behind its imposing front there lies what was originally a much humbler building, older than both the present church and Parsonage. This was an eighteenth-century public-house known as the "Black Horse". In 1799 this building changed hands, but at that

time beer was no longer sold on the premises. At some earlier date business had declined or the landlord had drunk away the profits, for its occupant, Henry Simmonds, went bankrupt and the property was assigned to his creditors, a London grocer and a High Wycombe draper. They sold the house to William Toms of Amersham, and in 1799 it was bought for £135 by Edward Ivory, a potter of Coleshill.

The Ivory Family

In 1803 Edward Ivory married a girl called Mary Briant, and four children, Daniel, George, Martha and Charlotte, lived to survive their father who died in 1819. The potter made two of his friends, John Page the blacksmith, and Charles George the village shopkeeper, his executors, and instructed them to sell his business, the pot-kiln, kiln-yard, and cart-house which he had built near his house, for the highest price they could get. The rest of the property was to go to his wife, provided she did not marry again. Ivory had converted the old 'Black Horse' into two cottages. His family lived in one and an Alexander Wakefield in the other. Neither cottage can have had more than two bedrooms so the Ivory family, like most of the villagers, lived in cramped conditions. But outside there was a garden, orchard, stable, warehouse and pigstye, and also a piece of land across the road (probably where the Parsonage now stands). Furthermore, Ivory had been assigned two plots on 'Coleshill Green' by the Amersham Enclosure Act of 1817. One of these bordered on 'the eighth public watering place' set out by the Act.

To be continued...

<u>FORTHCOMING EVENTS</u>	
March	
11 (Wed)	School Whist Drive at 7.30 pm
12 (Thurs)	W.I. 'Great Aunt Martha' Mobile Library
16 (Mon)	Annual Parish Council Meeting
17 (Tues)	W.I. Group Meeting at Little Chalfont
19 (Thurs)	M.U. at Winchmore Hill.
22 (Sun)	Passion (Palm) Sunday - Holy Week begins.
26 (Maundy Thursday)	H.C. 7.30 pm. Mobile Library
27 (Good Friday)	Services at Coleshill at 12; at Winchmore Hill at 2 pm.
29 EASTER DAY	
April	
3 (Fri)	Village Hall Bridge Drive, 8 pm.
21 (Tues)	Village Hall Annual General Meeting, 8.15 pm.

Real self-conquest is the conquest of ourselves not by ourselves but by the Holy Spirit - Thomas Merton

• ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, COLESHILL

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd. J.S. Nightingale, The Parsonage (tel. 4229)
Pro-Churchwarden & Secretary: N.N. Nicholls, Orchard House (tel. 6734)
Pro-Treasurer: R.G. Stubbings, Springfield, Tower Road, (tel. 4738)

Every Sunday: 9.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
10.15 a.m. Sunday School
6.00 p.m. Evensong

Every Tuesday: 10.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION

Every Wednesday: 7.30 p.m. HOLY COMMUNION

Every Friday: 12.00 noon HOLY COMMUNION

Morning and Evening Prayer each day at 8.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.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

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