

The Chronicle Of All Saints Petersham

Rector: Rev. S. W. GISSING, Th.L.

The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Road, Petersham, 2049—56-4735

Hon Assistant: Rev. A. E. C. GARDNER, B.A., Th.L.

OCTOBER, 1975



RECTOR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

Here at the Rectory we are very fortunate in having two apricot trees which last year bore a very abundant crop. I was noticing recently how the previously stark and bare branches have burst out into evidence of life. There have been those delicate blossoms which pre-shadow the fruit, and then the small but quickly growing green leaves which are throwing a lovely garment over the whole tree. Sadly there hasn't been nearly as many blossoms this year as I recall were there last year.

Blossoms are lovely and attractive in themselves and the floral artist will see them as perhaps the best part of the yearly cycle of growth and rest. However on such a tree as we have I'm afraid they speak mainly to me about promise of good things to come—those gorgeous looking and quite large fruit. I must admit I have a particular fondness for apricot! Maybe this explains why I was so grieved last year to find at the harvesting that all the fruit was riddled with "grub". Maybe it also explains why I feel that maybe the lack of blossom this year is not really such a disaster!!

After all "promise" that never results in fruition, or in fruition which only shows an outward attractiveness but has no real inner goodness, is not a very satisfying promise. We all very soon learn in life not to put much store by such "promise"! The words of Jesus are so true, "By their fruits you shall know them". It isn't the attendance at the House of God—nor the ability to speak "religious phrases"—nor the being active in "church work"—which really testify to the spiritual vitality of people. It really is the quality of life—the grace, the love, the glow of Christlikeness, the friendliness, the real interest in the welfare of others (and not just their material welfare either)—that testifies to the being one of God's own family.

Elsewhere in this paper there is a quote from Robert E. Speer which points up what I'm trying to convey.

We are in need of the support of people here at All Saints. Of course we are. The public worship of God is the way in which men and women declare the worth God has for them. That's what the word "worship" really means—His Worth-ship as far as the individual is concerned. And attendance at the public honouring of God speaks volumes about the priority one gives to Him and His Values in one's life.

But we also need to be sure that those of us who belong and actively associate with the church are not like the blossoms on my apricot tree! We must continually be opening our hearts to the sweet and purifying influences of God's Holy Spirit. Asking Him to give us that inner life of the Spirit which will show itself in true reflection of the Heart and Mind of Jesus in our dealings with one another and with others. Any of us who doesn't yearn and long for and work toward that goal is betraying our Saviour's Cause. In a true Christian fellowship there can be no room for rivalries, or animosities, or resentments or the harbouring of unhappy memories. Such things can only destroy the beauty of character and the spiritual insight of those who make place for them. Such "fruit" on the "Tree of God's people" are only fit to be rejected and discarded—as we so sadly were forced to do with last year's apricot crop!

Let us all pray for a protective endowing of God's Spirit so that such things will be excluded from us at all times. Thus the fruit of the Spirit

which Paul speaks of in Galatians chapter 5 will be harvested in our fellowship together—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, fidelity, gentleness and self control.

To quote a T.V. ad—"Now I ask you" wouldn't such a fellowship be a regular magnet to the confused and searching folk around us!

May I suggest a re-reading of those verses from Galatians—chapter 5, verses 13 to 26. Let us make that passage our meditation theme for this whole month.

Yours in the Service of Jesus Christ,

S. W. GISSING, Rector.

—oOo—

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Mulberry Jam "Bee":

On Saturday, 11th October we will be commencing our mulberry picking and stalking and we are looking for your support in this jam making effort. The young folk of the Sunday School will be asked to pick the mulberries and if the Parishioners have a spare hour on the 11th, 18th, or 25th October we would appreciate your help to cut the stalks off the mulberries.

The commencing date of the 11th October all depends on whether the mulberries are ripe. Please keep an eye on the Weekly News Sheet for further details.

Grocery Stall:

This Month we are starting our appeal for tinned groceries. Towards the end of October the appeal will turn to packet groceries until the week of the Fete.

This year we have not had a good response from the Grocery firms, and so we are asking for your support.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent.

—oOo—

CLUB NEWS

Ladise' Guild:

On Tuesday, 21st October, we plan to commence our meeting at **twelve noon**, so please remember the change in time.

At 1.30 p.m. on the same day we have arranged a "Jewellery Display" which is both interesting and reasonably priced. Visitors will be very welcome. Afternoon tea will be served as usual.

E. M. BOSWARD, Honorary Secretary.

Women's Evening Group:

The next meeting of the Women's Evening Group will be held on Tuesday, 14th October in the Parish Hall, commencing at 8 p.m. This

will be the final meeting to arrange the stocking of our fete stall. We would be grateful to receive any donations of cakes or sweets for sale at the fete.

IDA BARRETT, Honorary Secretary.

Senior Parishioners' Club:

There is still more room for new members at our Thursday afternoon Club which commences at 1 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Ladies and gentlemen of all denominations and any age are welcome. The contribution of 25 cents covers afternoon tea as well as "cards" or "housie".

Many thanks to Mrs. Gill for all her work in the annual stall which once again proved very popular. Also thanks to all those members who are so generously donating goods or money towards our annual Christmas Party which will be held this year on Thursday, 11th December in the Parish Hall.

We regret that so many of our members are on the sick list and we wish them all a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing them back with us very soon.

IDA BARRETT, Honorary Secretary.

Indoor Bowls Club:

Intending members, or visitors, ladies or gentlemen are invited to come and share an evenings entertainment with us, commencing at 7.30 p.m. any Wednesday night. You will be made very welcome.

—oOo—

IN THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE IN JERUSALEM

From "Innocents Abroad", Mark Twain

The tomb of Adam! how touching it was, here in a land of strangers, far away from home and friends! True, he was a blood-relation; though a distant one, still a relation! The unerring instinct of nature thrilled its recognition. The fountain of my filial affection was stirred to its profoundest depths, and I gave way to tumultuous emotion. I leaned upon a pillar and burst into tears. I deem it no shame to have wept over the grave of my poor dead relative. Let him who would sneer at my emotion close this volume. Noble old man—he did not live to see his child; and I—I—I, alas! did not live to see him. Weighed down by sorrow and disappointment, he died before I was born—six thousand brief summers before I was born. But let us try to bear it with fortitude. Let us trust he is better off where he is. Let us take comfort in the thought that his loss is our eternal gain.

—oOo—

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Some people get so busy in Christian work that they have no time for prayer and none for friendship, and the consequence is surely seen in lessened power and improverished love. Many Christian workers are the slaves of good purposes. They are not free. They are bound. The

intensity of their will to accomplish much of good prevents their minds from ever being at leisure from themselves to soothe and sympathise, for cheerful fellowship and unrestrained kindness. The Saviour left us an example here. He made it his meat and drink to do his Father's will, yet the little children knew he was accessible and were not repulsed, and the people thronged him, and the Pharisees called him the friend of publicans and sinners. He was himself, and he was all men's.

—ROBERT E. SPEER.



ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE

The Stork

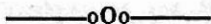
One of the largest and most spectacular migratory birds is the White Stork, a bird that wanders even to this country from time to time. Just across the Channel it is a more familiar sight, and in several towns in Holland and Denmark storks can be seen sitting on huge nests perched on the top of platforms provided for the purpose. Europe and South-west Asia are its summer nesting quarters, and as autumn approaches the stork flies south again, into Africa or Arabia. Palestine is thus on its migration route, and it is also a breeding ground. The Greek Old Testament translates the original Hebrew word in no less than four different ways, but in the Authorized and subsequent versions these are all rendered "stork," which seems to be correct.

Once again the first mention of the stork is in the lists of animals prohibited as food, and, again, this is reasonable enough, for although the natural food of storks consists largely of frogs, locusts, etc., and also snakes, they also act as scavengers around the towns.

It would be easy to recognize the stork as a migrant, for it could hardly be overlooked, and Jeremiah writes of the stork in the heavens knowing her appointed times (chapter 8.7), perhaps referring to those that passed over on migration without stopping. With the stork he bracketed the turtle dove, crane and swallow, which are all well-known migrants. Not all storks passed straight over Palestine; some stayed to breed, as we see quite clearly in Psalm 104.17: "As for the stork, the fir trees are her house."

It has been suggested that the Hebrew name for the stork means benevolent, largely because of the supposed devotion that young storks had to their parents. They are also said to show gratitude to those who provide them with nesting-places, and, in some countries, it is thought that disaster is foretold by the desertion of an old nesting-place.

GEORGE CANSDALE.



CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Service is due to be held on Sunday, 12th October, at 11 a.m. Bishop A. J. Dain is then to admit six young people and two adults into the responsible committed witnessing life of Christ's Church. The Rector asks that the congregation will be especially mindful of these folk in their prayers.

MR. & MRS. A. SHAW

Mr. and Mrs. Shaw are moving to a new residence and this will necessitate their severing of ties with All Saints. They have played an active part in parish life over some 30 years and will be missed by their may friends. An informal farewell was held in the Rectory on 28th September after evening service when they were bid God-speed in their future.

—oOo—

MISS E. BASKIN MEMORIAL

The family of the late Miss Edith Baskin have generously given a floodlight for the church grounds as a memorial. This memorial is to be dedicated during the evening service on Sunday, 12th October. Parishioners are most grateful to have such a useful gift to remind them of this lady who cherished a deep regard over many years for the friendship she enjoyed at All Saints.

—oOo—

WORD CHANGES VILLAGE

Last year in Indonesia a young man purchased a New Testament and took it home to his small village in South Sumatra.

Several months later, when students from the Batu Bible School in East Java visited the village they discovered that God had done His own work through His Word.

Not only had the young man been converted, he had also led many others in his village to Christ. The students were amazed to see that a church was established without the help of a preacher but through His Word.

—oOo—

CHURCH FINANCES

The following figures are included so that parishioners may be aware of the trend in church affairs. These figures also indicate how much we are dependant on the results of the annual fete.

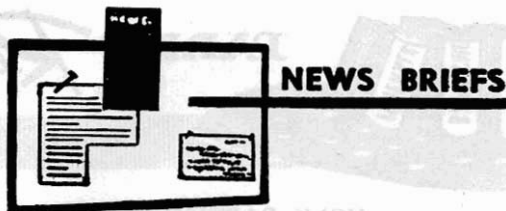
General Fund—August, 1975

	\$
Cash Receipts	582
Cash Payments	1012
Deficit	430

Deficit for period 1st January to 31st August, 1975—\$3,261.

Although the position at present may be comparatively sound no institution can hope to eventually continue to function with a retrogression in attendances and the general working account as the above indicates.

The assistance of all parishioners in our endeavour to increase church attendances and general operating funds would be greatly appreciated.



FETE NOTES

Pottery Stall: Mrs. Hearn is looking for your support with donations of pottery or china for her stall. Collection will be arranged by 'Phoning 56-1852.

Book Stall: The Boy's Club are running the book stall this year and they are asking for donations of secondhand books. If a message is left at the Rectory for John Arrowsmith, collection will be arranged.

White Elephant Stall: Mrs. Humphreys is looking for items for the White Elephant Stall . . . WHAT MIGHT BE JUNK TO YOU MIGHT BE USEFUL TO OTHER PEOPLE. Donation may be left at Mrs. Humphreys home.

Plant Stall: Mrs. Willis would like to know if you could pot some plants for her stall. If you can they may be left at her home or at the Church.

Jewellery Stall: Miss Hunt is seeking donations of jewellery for her stall. If you have any donation they may be left at the Church or collection will be arranged by 'Phoning Miss Hunt on 56-2047.

Home Made Jam Stall: The Sunday School is asking for your support with a donation of sugar for the home made jam. Also bottles for the jam. We would like the bottles to be of the 2 oz. coffee size or smaller. Donations may be left in the Special Box in the Church Porch.

"Chronicle" Articles for the November issue are due no later than Sunday, 19th October, 1975.

PARISH INFORMATION

HOLY COMMUNION—Each Sunday at 8 a.m., 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11 a.m.
3rd Sundays at 7 p.m.

MORNING PRAYER—1st and 5th Sundays at 11 a.m.

EVENING PRAYER—Each Sunday at 7 p.m.

FAMILY SERVICE—3rd Sundays at 10 a.m. Sunday School and Kindergarten on other Sundays at 9.45 a.m.

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND FUNERALS BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE RECTOR.

CHURCHWARDENS: Messrs. E. Quelch (Rector's), F. G. Hearn, W. Williams.

PARISH COUNCIL: The Churchwardens and Messrs. J. Arrowsmith, J. H. Bretherton, N. Cragg, B. Dryden, Mrs. Gorman, Messrs. B. Livingston, H. E. Quelch, Mrs. W. Sopwith, Mr. H. Swankie, J. Williams.

SIDESMEN: Messrs. V. Barrett, G. Clarke and H. J. Shaw.

HON. TREASURER: Mr. E. Quelch. **HON. SECRETARY:** Mr. H. E. QUELCH.

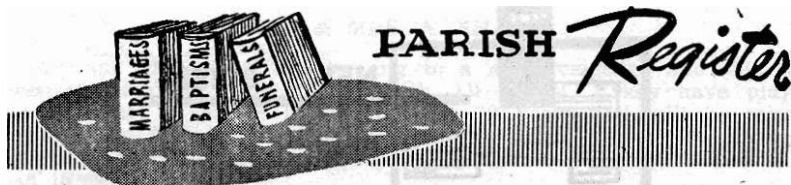
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. N. Cragg.

KINDERGARTEN LEADER: Miss J. Evans.

PUBLICITY OFFICER: Mr. H. J. Shaw (797-6967).

ORGANIST: Mr. J. Birkett.

CHRONICLE EDITOR: Mr. H. E. Quelch.

**HOLY BAPTISM**

"In token that he shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ Crucified".

September, 7th—Melissa Gaye Williams of 19/1 Merchant Street, Stanmore.

September, 21st—Scott Jon Sheppard of 2/22 Holt Street, Stanmore.

HOLY MATRIMONY

"Till death do us part, according to God's holy law, thereto I give thee my troth".

September, 6th—Kenneth John Stammers (Gladesville) and Gisela Jolanda Heus (Redfern).

September, 15th—Peni Tavalu Faau (Lewisham) and Denise Maxine Luke (Glebe).

September, 20th—Kevin Raymond Grant (Petersham) and Susan Bell (Alexandria).

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all be made alive".

August, 28th—Walter Ambrose Malcolm Stevens of 87 Bedford Street, Newtown.

September, 2nd—Mrs. Joy Dods of 11/50 Albert Street, Belmore.

September, 4th—Norman Edmund Innes Hockley of 60A Harrow Road, Stanmore.

**SANCTUARY FLOWER ROSTER**

October 5: Donated by Mrs. A. Cook in memory of her Parents and by Mrs. Bosward and family; arranged by Mrs. Clark.

October 12: Donated by Mrs. Beatty, of Melbourne, in memory of her Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Brother and Sister (late of Chester Street); arranged by Miss Nisbet.

October 19: Donated by Iris and Colin in memory of their Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hunt from their Daughters; arranged by Mrs. Clark.

October 26: Donated by Mrs. Willis; arranged by Miss Nisbet.

November 2: Donated by Mrs. Kent in memory of her Son and Daughter, Charles and Elsie; arranged by Mrs. Clark.

WALTERS & SON**FUNERAL DIRECTORS****Offices and Chapels:**

433-35 NEW CANTERBURY ROAD, DULWICH HILL—560-9999

890 CANTERBURY ROAD, LAKEMBA—759-4044

You are invited to enquire about our funeral fund.

People of all ages are accepted without medical examination.