

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

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

The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Rd., Petersham, 2049—569-4735

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SEPTEMBER, 1977



All Saint's Choir at Centenary Celebrations

Rector's Notes

My Dear Friends,

The other day my wife and I were 'cleaning out' some things in the laundry. I had to take out several large and good bottles (they call them 'crowd pleasers'—which is sufficient free advertising!). They were no longer any use to us!—and were no deposit/no return! So, out to the garbage. Then a day or so later I heard a "Waste Specialist" being interviewed on the radio. He was explaining what a 'big business' waste is today. It was most interesting. His task is to try to influence the national habits with regard to waste disposal and re-cycling. Apparently it is a multi-million dollar matter.

Well it set me to thinking about one of my most valuable aids. I must admit I've not valued it consciously very much. It's my W.P.B.—waste paper basket. I guess we've all got at least one. I couldn't do without mine—really! Could you?

Have you ever thought about the continual selection and rejection it represents?

There are risks attached to its use you know. I remember reading of certain very well known and highly prized items that have been rescued from a W.P.B. I understand that Kipling's "Recessional" is an example. It was sent to the editor of the Times, who found it on his desk one busy day. He gave it a cursory run through and tossed it into his W.P.B. Fortunately, on second thought, he dug it out a few months later.

I've done that sort of thing—and I suppose you have too.

Ernest Renan once said "I predict that the twentieth century will spend a good deal of its time picking out of the waste-basket things which the nineteenth threw into it". He was right on the ball really. Just as surely as we do it in the area of day to day living with our process of selecting and rejecting of items—and then on second thought, rescuing certain ones—so we men need to re-claim some of the things out of past discarded practices.

Things of value in danger of being lost—unless we take a second thought! Things we have regarded as passed their usefulness. Maybe we've felt that way because they've been misused or misdirected, and we've been short-sighted enough not to see the continuing value or new application that is inherent in them.

First among such I would put the practice of family church-going. Our poorly filled churches today are seen as the evidence of our liberty to do what we want. Years ago it took more courage to stay away. But on second thought I wonder what contribution this selection and rejection has had on the disappearance of the extended family so much bemoaned by our socialists. And what of the breakdown in mental and spiritual health—young people at our local high school were telling me the other day that we human beings are only animals! And we are alar-

(Continued on Page Four).

med at the growth of crime and delinquency and a spirit of lostness. Where, I wonder will the final answer to this selection and rejection, lie

J. B. Priestly said "People like my parents attend places of worship. Now I see that old phrase with a fresh eye. I also see how astonishing it is. Places of worship. How much have we lost, we of the younger generation, by having no places of worship? Perhaps this new world must remain desolate at heart until it achieves new places of worship."

What he is saying is—"Look again at what you've thrown away, and see if its not worth picking out of the W.P.B."

There are many other precious things we've valued too little—self-discipline, respect for others particularly those in authority, personal responsibility—but the list grows long. In no case has the casting out of those timeless values brought men success, happiness or progress! Rather the reverse. The time has come for us to take a second look and see if we wouldn't be wise to bow humbly in the sight of a patient loving Heavenly Father who waits to run down the road to greet and embrace the returning prodigal.

Let's pick out of our life's W.P.B. some of the precious things.

Your sincere fellow voyager throunh life,

S.W. GISSING, Rector

—oOo—

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Annual Fete is now only 3 months away. During the Saturday mornings in October we will once again be making Mulberry Jam. I would like to ask the Parishioners if you could spare one hour on any of these Saturday mornings to help cut off the stalks on the mulberries. Please watch the Weekly News Sheet for the first date. I reported to you in the July Chronicle that from the first Sunday in that month the whole Sunday School was to combine for the lesson period. The re-organisation has been successful. Each Sunday except Family Service Sunday, one teacher is responsible for the main lesson. After the main lesson the children break up into their groups for activity work.

I would like to thank Mrs. Gissing for conducting the lesson the first Sunday in August.

Noel Cragg, Superintendent.

—oOo—

WOMEN'S EVENING GROUP

A delightful evening was spent at our last meeting which was a Tupperware Party, held in the Rectory. We were very pleasantly surprised to find our demonstrator was Miss Dupre our new organist.

Mrs Osling from St. Clements, Marrickville will speak at our next meeting on Tuesday, 13th September. All ladies welcome.

In October following a business meeting re the Fete in November, Mrs. Eve Sharpe, Deputy Mayor of Marrickville, will speak to us on Local Government. Please keep Tuesday 11th October in mind for this night.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Sec.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH OF ENGLAND PETERSHAM

JULY, 1977

RECEIPTS

	\$
Offertories	472.75
Hall Rent	39.00
District Visitors	75.60
Donations	5.00
Fete—White Elephant	115.00
Re-crediting overpayment to Organist	22.00
Re-crediting overpayment for Cleaner Supervisor	4.00
	<u>733.35</u>
Deficit for July	233.26
	<u>966.61</u>

PAYMENTS

	\$
Stipend, Travelling allowance	736.66
Parish Super'n Contribution	19.15
Chronicle	55.20
Cleaning	56.00
Elizabeth Jack—Gestetner Stencils	12.10
Wormald Int. Ltd.—Soda Acid Foam	12.10
Two Garbage Cans	5.40
Northside Paper Supply—Paper Towels	19.81
A.G.L. Co. — Main Hall	16.00
Adverts—New Organist—Herald 29/6 and 2/7	11.92
Twin 40w Fluor. Tubes in Church	19.19
	<u>966.61</u>
	<u>966.61</u>

Balance as at 31/7/77	296.57
PLUS Interest Bearing Deposit	4924.04
Savings Investment Account	2000.00
Total Balance of General Account	<u>\$7220.61</u>

OTHER ACCOUNTS:—

Columbarium Account	1597.44
Endowment No. 1	6396.34
Endowment No. 2	5526.91
Capital Reserve	3445.12
Organ Fund	114.82
General Mission	397.05
Special Purposes	297.55
Sunday School	297.99
Kindergarten	237.48
PLUS various stocks & Shares in Endowment Account—approx value	<u>\$6000.00</u>

SENIOR PARISHIONER'S CLUB

I am pleased to report Mrs. Rhyder is home from hospital and we look forward to seeing her back at the Club in the near future. Also to be able to say welcome back to Mrs. Myer after her long stay in hospital and at home.

Now that the days are brightening up and should soon be warming up we look forward to seeing a full attendance each Thursday. Don't forget if you want to spend a pleasant afternoon, we always have room for one more. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. every Thursday in the Parish Hall.

IDA BARRET, Hon. Sec.

—oOo—

BOWLS CLUB

The cold evenings during the past month have severely affected attendance at Bowls, and on two occasions the meeting has been cancelled. In all the years of existence this is the first time the Club has failed to meet. The Bowls Club, like other All Saints' bodies, is affected by the lack of youth and is gradually declining. It now appears that it would be better for the Club to go into recess during the winter months.

F. HEARN, Hon. Sec.

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LADIES' GUILD

Our next meeting, Tuesday 20th September, commencing at 12.30 p.m. in the Guild Room. Following at 1.30 p.m. "Shopping Kaleidoscope" demonstration by Public Relations. They will show and explain Products' which are new and not so new.

We extend a warm welcome to all ladies to join us at 1.30 p.m. for the demonstration and afternoon tea.

E. M. BOSWARD, Secretary

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PAUSE A MOMENT

I once read an article by a journalist called Bertram Jones, on cramp. I suppose that most people at one time or another have experienced that stabbing pain when a muscle knots, often when we are lying in bed. Now it seems that no one quite knows what causes cramp, and it also appears that no one quite knows how to make it better.

Different people have different ways of dealing with cramp, according to Mr Bertram Jones, and very interesting some of them are.

Dr. Roger Bannister, the first man to run a mile in less than four minutes, claims to have beaten cramp by carrying a small magnet around with him.

A Hampshire housewife takes a bag of corks to bed with her to beat cramp. A London man claims that barrel bungs are best.

- Others use a ring of buffalo horn, a crimson thread tied round each

toe, the powdered teeth of a sea-horse, the skin of an eel, a hippopotamus tooth. All of them claim that their own special method brings a cure.

When you read things like that, you can almost think that you are back in the days of magic and spells. But all this is just another example of the fact that, if you think a thing is going to do you good, it will do you good and this brings us back to the fact that the cure is in the mind, not in the body.

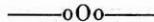
Now all this adds up to what the Bible calls the necessity of faith. Faith just means that, if you believe that a thing can be done, then it in fact can be done.

It often happens that a student finds some subject difficult to pass in examinations, not because it is difficult, but because he thinks it is difficult. Anyone who has, for instance, worked with choirs knows how a choir will get a mental stagger at a bar or two of music, not because it is really difficult, but because they themselves think it is difficult.

This all means that life is built on faith. It is the truth that with God all things are possible (Matt. 19:26).

A PRAYER: "Father, help us to know that to believe that a thing can't be done is the surest way never to be able to do it; to believe that a thing can be done is half way to doing it, for when the mind is convinced, the body will follow."

—Dr. William Barclay



STORY OF A HYMN

Frankly, there wasn't much that could be said in favour of Young John Newton.

His mother, a gentle soul, whom he loved dearly, died when he was seven, and when he was only 11, his father, a ship's captain, took him off to sea with him.

Later, while still in his teens, John was press-ganged into the Royal Navy—and when he attempted to desert, he was flogged for his pains. Then he entered the slave trade and worked in a plantation on the Gold Coast of Africa, indifferent to all the horror and misery around him.

Yet, the strange thing is that when John died at 82, he was a beloved minister—for at 40 he turned aside from his past life and became a country parson. It is well for us that he did, for in our hymn-book there are no fewer than nine hymns by him, among them "Aproach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat", "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken", "Amazing Grace", "One There is Above All Others", and perhaps the loveliest of them all—

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear;
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear . . .

John died serving the faith he had fought so long to destroy—and through his hymns, he serves it still.

Flower Roster

- Sept, 4th No donation.
- 11th Donated by Mrs. M. Humphreys in memory of Mr. Jack Humphreys.
- 18th Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Swankie and family in memory of Mother and Grandmother,
- 25th Donated by Mrs. Willis and Mrs Garland in memory of Mr. Sheriff and by Mrs. D. Pullen in memory of her Husband & Parents and by Miss M. Pullen in memory of her brother.
- Oct. 2nd Donated by Mrs. Beatty (of Melbourne) in memory of her Parents (Mr. & Mrs. Jones, Chester St.) Brother & Sister and by Miss M. V. Glanville in memory of her Parents William and Mary Glanville.
- 9th Donated by Mrs. A. Cook in memory of her Parents (Mr. & Mrs. Furnell) and by Mrs. E. Bosward & Family.
- 16th Donated by Iris & Colin in memory of their Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Walter.
- 23rd Donated by Mrs. L. Graham in memory of Eulalie Graham & Alice de Saldoval.
- 30th Donated by Mrs. M. Willis.



FESTIVAL DINNER

The Festival Dinner was fairly well attended and very well catered for and served. Rectors Warden, Mr. Bruce Livingston welcomed our guest speaker, Mr. John Gillroy of St. Peter's our guest artists Mrs. Smee and Mrs. Randall, Mr. and Mrs. E. Champion and Mr. David Hunter, and Mr. Worthy Stanley.

After dinner Mrs. Smee and Mrs. Randall entertained us with singing and piano music. The appreciation of the Parish was emphasised by a presentation gift to Mr. John Gilroy and posies to Mesdames; Smee and Randall. Opportunity was taken to acknowledge the dedicated past service of Mrs. J. Clark to All Saint's, in the form of a large sheaf of flowers and a personal gift.

After Mr. J. Gilroy had given his address, Mr. Noel Cragg moved votes of thanks to Mr. John Gilroy, Mesdames; Smee & Randall and to the people who had assisted in organising and preparing the dinner.

The following is a precis of Mr. J. Gillroy's address prepared by Mr. John Martin.

"The Church in our community is continually tempted to line up with the Establishment. The facts are however that the Establishment cannot be trusted. The Establishment within the Petersham community has let us down."

With these words Alderman John Gillroy introduced the theme of his Festival Dinner address on Friday night August 12.

"In our community", Alderman Gillroy added, "we have the worst roads, the worst schools, and the weakest welfare services in the entire state of New South Wales."

He quoted from a recent study—the Vinson—Hemel Report,—Indicators of Community Well-being, which evaluated welfare services and risk factors in the 75 Local Government regions of New South Wales.

"This report shows that the citizens of Petersham are subject to greater risks than any others. They rate among those most susceptible to educational disadvantage, family breakdown, health problems and mental health risks."

He challenged members of the Parish to become actively involved in community affairs and to take up the fight for a better community. He also called upon them to support more Christians who were undertaking community and civic responsibilities.

Alderman Gillroy noted that Church people are conspicuously absent when it came to being involved.

"Recently" he said, "I issued a circular in my Ward of St. Peters inviting people to help with the local Meals on Wheels Programme. Not one of those who volunteered to help were Church members".

Alderman Gillroy pointed out that there existed a general apathy which meant that people leave community responsibilities to others.

"Humanists and the like are poised and ready to move in to take the initiative."

He challenged Christian people to put aside apathy and to work to bring justice and well-being to the community and in so doing to fulfil the commission that Christ has given His people.

STOP PRESS

An Australian Prayer Book is Coming

As this Chronicle goes to press the General Synod of the Church of England in Australia is poised to authorise the use of the new Prayer Book

The Draft Prayer Book passed the committee stage with only minor amendments and awaits final approval following the third reading scheduled for 10 a.m. August, 31.

The book contains both conservative and radical revisions, which, the Chairman of the Church's Liturgical commission, Bishop John Grundrod of Rockhampton says, "provides the Church with a gentle challenge to grow".

WALTERS & SON

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