

The Chronicle Of All Saints Petersham

Rector: Rev. T. E. CHAMPION, Th.L.
The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Road, Petersham—LM 4735
Hon. Assistant: Rev. A. E. C. GARDNER, B.A., Th.L.
UA 4336

FEBRUARY, 1961



"OPERATION ASSIMILATION"

PARISH INFORMATION

8 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION (Every Sunday), 2nd and 4th SUNDAYS T 11 a.m.
3rd SUNDAY AFTER EVENING PRAYER.
SAINTS' DAYS AS ANNOUNCED.

9.45 a.m.—SUNDAY SCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN AND EXTENSION GROUPS

11 a.m.—MORNING PRAYER 7.15 p.m.—EVENING PRAYER

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
THE RECTOR

CHURCHWARDENS: Messrs L. C. Calver, W. Sopwith, E. Quelch.

PARISH COUNCIL: The Churchwardens and Messrs V. Barrett, H. G. Brodie,
A. Cook, K. Grant, W. H. Hall, J. Humphreys, D. B. Hunter, K. G. Locke,
B. Pullen, H. J. Shaw, W. F. Williams, R. Wright.

SIDESMEN: R. F. Atkinson, R. Boats, J. M. Boyle, J. Ditchburn, H. F. Jones,
R. Livingston, R. Minter.

ENVELOPE SECRETARY: T. H. Bosward—LM 2778.

PUBLICITY OFFICERS: H. J. Shaw A. F. Jones—LM 5218.

ORGANIST: Miss Kathleen O'Neill.

CLUB NOTES

Ladies' Guild: The first meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday, 14th February. We shall be making arrangements for our Annual Luncheon to be held on Wednesday, 22nd March, and hope for the attendance of all members.

Senior Parishioners' Club: The Club resumed its meetings on January 12th, and is looking forward to another happy and successful year. Ladies and gentlemen who would like to join or visit the Club are invited to come along to the Parish Hall any Thursday at 2 p.m. for a social afternoon. Membership increased considerably last year and between 40 and 50 people attend each week to enjoy the company of their fellow parishioners. The last major function was the very successful Christmas party, and the Club members would like to thank all who helped in any way.

Y.C.I.: The Fiftieth Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, 17th February, commencing at 8 p.m. in the Clubroom. The Secretary's report will be presented, office-bearers elected and the Treasurer's financial statement submitted. The Y.C.I. Annual Meetings are always of great interest and there is a special significance about the 50th Annual Meeting. We hope and believe that there will be a good attendance of members, and cordially invite ex-members to be present. Any men of the Parish who have not yet linked up with the Y.C.I. are also invited to come along. This is an excellent time to join the Y.C.I., but you will always be welcome. Any further details will be gladly supplied by the Rector or Church officers.

Fellowship: Meetings resumed on 31st January, following a successful outing to Lane Cove National Park on the Australia Day holiday. We regret that our leader, Bob Chapman, has been forced to resign. Bob is taking up teaching duties at Bulli, and we wish him well. John Minter has taken over as leader, with Alan Humphreys as his assistant. We should be pleased to welcome any teenager of confirmation age or over at meetings held on 2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesdays or at Fellowship Tea on 4th Sundays at 5.15 p.m.

Physical Culture: Classes resume on Monday, 6th February, commencing at 6 p.m. for girls from 5 years of age to seniors and mothers. Joining fees are 2/6 and 1/6 per night thereafter. All girls are assured of a cordial welcome.

Indoor Bowls: Bowling began again on 4th January, and we are pleased to have another new member. Several matches have been arranged for the year, and we expect that these will be very enjoyable if our experiences of last year are repeated, as we renew friendships with other teams. We should be pleased to welcome any new players and teach them the art of bowling.

Basket Ball: The Senior Competition for 1961 commences in March or early April. Any girls 15 years and over interested in playing are asked to contact the secretary, Marjorie McPherson (LM3950) before the middle of February, as teams participating must be registered by the end of the month. Those wishing to play must be prepared to train regularly, before and during the Competition. The Junior Competition does not begin until May, but girls between 11 and 15 years who would like to play should notify the secretary before the beginning of March. Practices will begin towards the end of March.

Cricket: The "C" grade team resumed after the Christmas break and tied in their match against St. Luke's, Concord. Captain John Yard put up a great effort to score 140 runs and also took 4 wickets for 81 runs. Neil Moore assisted with 67 runs and Richard Cornford was the best bowler taking 3 wickets for only 35 runs. The boys were a little unlucky not to win. Congratulations are extended to John Yard on being selected to play in the combined team at Goulburn on Australia Day. The "D" grade side is also performing well under the guidance of Mr. Warren Nelson and Mrs. Gorman. The players appreciate the interest of Mr. Keith Dingle who is conducting a coaching class to improve the boys' batting. His experience should greatly lift our batting standard. The next meeting of the club will be held on Monday, 13th February, at 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

OPERATION ASSIMILATION

The photograph on the cover of the "Chronicle" shows a house constructed at Kempsey in just under 3 weeks after Christmas. There were more than 50 builders who came from 4 states and represented 7 Christian denominations. Petersham was one of the three Sydney Anglican parishes represented. The builders, aged from 18 to 30, were united through the Australian Christian Youth Council, the Youth Section of the Australian Council of Churches, and chose to spend their annual holidays, paying their travelling and living expenses, at this ecumenical work camp.

This was the first such national camp to be held in Australia, although many have been organised in Europe since 1947. They started as an experiment in practical Christian service to see what could be done at an ecumenical and international level. By 1959 there were more than 50 camps around the world involving over 1,000 young people.

In the early years, work camps did post-war reconstruction and fostered reconciliation between young people alienated and isolated from one another during the work years. The projects later included

churches, youth centres, refugee camps, relief work in disaster situations and other social and community efforts.

In Australia, the problem of the assimilation of our aboriginal population into the normal community presents some great difficulties. Most New South Wales aborigines live either outside our country towns in very poor accommodation, often in patched iron huts, or else on Government Welfare stations where again conditions are perhaps below those acceptable to the average Australian.

The problem of making it possible for these people to share in the normal life of the community seemed one which might be tackled at a work camp. And so the campers undertook to build a 9-square timber house with 3 bedrooms and all the modern conveniences for an aboriginal family in a residential suburb of South Kempsey within a large white community.

The land and the materials were provided by the N.S.W. Aborigines Welfare Board and the local welfare committee in the town arranged for the foundations to be set before the campers arrived. A family well respected in the town, with five children, was chosen from those who applied to be tenants for a rental of £2/15/- per week.

Work began at 5 a.m. on 27th December, and thereafter about 40 young men were to be found sawing, hammering and digging on the site each day. About eight girls began their day at 5.45 a.m. as cooks, frequently working through till 10 p.m.; three others spent most of their "holidays" with a washing machine and iron coping with the camp laundry. And as they were needed, the girls also acquired building skills—creosoting, punching nails, painting and puttying. Hardly any of the workers had building skills or much experience in such work, coming from many other professions—school teachers, chemists, engineers, students, office workers, a farmer and fortunately, a plumber, an electrician and a few carpenters, although rarely more than one carpenter was in the camp at the same time.

House building was not the only task at the camp. All were anxious to get to know the local aborigines and church people. Social functions were organised by the campers at their Showground headquarters, campers sat on the floor with the aborigines at the station film evenings and attended a dance at the station. Activities were also shared with the local churches, including barbecues and film evenings, and campers took part in services with Presbyterians, Anglicans, Methodists and the Salvation Army, as well as attending a combined New Year service.

Daily worship, periodic discussions and working together did much to show the campers that they were all serving the same Lord, in spite of their denominational differences. They were also hopeful that the community might recognise this unity among Christians, dispelling some of the frequent criticisms that the Churches can't get along together. Further, they wished to arouse greater interest among the local people about their responsibilities for their aboriginal neighbours encouraging them to carry on a task just begun in the camp.

From the campers viewpoint, the long hours, hard work and sleeping on the floor under a show ground grandstand were amply compensated for by the satisfaction at seeing the house go up, the shared fellowship, the opportunity for Christian service, and the feeling that

perhaps a contribution was being made towards achieving aboriginal assimilation.

AROUND THE PARISH

Many of our young people have just received their examination results. We congratulate all those who were successful in their school, technical college and University examinations. To those leaving school after gaining Leaving or Intermediate Certificates, our best wishes in their chosen careers.

During Christmas week 336 gifts were distributed to the ill and aged in the parish in hospitals and private homes. On behalf of the organisers, Mrs. Shaw would like to thank all who sent parcels of soap, washers, etc. For gifts of money during Christmas week we thank Mrs. Andrews, the Misses Bayley, Miss Darke, Miss Napier, Mrs. Napier, snr., Mrs. Parker and also the giver of a £2 donation handed to Mrs. Bosward.

Mrs. Shaw would also like to ask the ladies of the parish to begin saving any left-off clothing, bed'spreads, table linen etc., for a sale. This sale is of good used clothing and is being organised by the Senior Parishioners' Club. The date will be announced in the March "Chronicle".

The girls of the Extension Group also made an effort to share their Christmas. Just before Christmas they made a visit to the Bishop Stone-Wigge Memorial Home for Girls at Burwood, where there are about 15 girls between the ages of 6 and 15, mostly from broken homes. Our girls took along pretty clothes as Christmas gifts and spent the afternoon at the Home, with everyone enjoying the occasion.

The Y.C.I. would like to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of an anonymous donation to the funds raised by the recent car drive.

The thanks of the Parish are extended to the management of Walters & Sons, of Dulwich Hill, for undertaking the french polishing of our new memorial doors in the front porch. Another addition this month to Church furniture has been two oscillating electric fans; we are grateful to the Senior Parishioners Club for donating them.

The annual Harvest Festival services will be held on Sunday, 12th February. As usual, we should welcome gifts of fruit, vegetables and groceries from all parishioners on this day. We invite you to bring these gifts as an expression of your thankfulness to God for the blessings and bounty we enjoy here. We also remind you that the gifts are sent from the Church to the Home of Peace hospital and urge you to take this opportunity of remembering those who are ill.

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, 15th February. Throughout Lent, special services will be held each Wednesday at 6.30 a.m., Holy Communion and devotions with a short address at 7.30 p.m. The time of the early service has been altered to 6.30 a.m. in the hope that more people will be able to attend before they have to go off for their day's work. We do hope for good attendances at these services. Lent is a season for self examination and reflection on our Christian lives—for comparing ourselves with the pattern of Christ.

FLOWER ROSTER

- Feb. 5th—Donated by Mrs. Sealey in memory of Mr. G. Kay, arranged by Mrs. Malone.
- „ 12th—No donation, arranged by Mrs. Colburt and Mrs. Bellamy.
- „ 19th—No donation, arranged by Mrs. Ingoldsby-Brown.
- „ 26th—No donation, arranged by Miss Speight.
- Mch. 5th—No donation, arranged by Mrs. Malone.

On January 5th, the flowers were donated by the John Street friends of the late Mr. H. Deacon, in his memory, and on January 29th by the family of the late Mrs. Quin, in her memory.

For Christmas Day flowers or money for flowers were donated by the following: Mr. and Miss Meyers in memory of their sister, Mrs. Sumner in memory of her husband, Mrs. Ayrton in memory of her husband, Mrs. Williamson in memory of her husband, Mrs. Shaw in memory of Judy, Mrs. Colburt, Mr. and Mrs. Meatyard, Mr. and Mrs. Plowman and Miss Juleff, Mrs. Malone, Senior Parishioners Club, Mrs. and Misses Nisbit, Miss Budd, Mrs. Fogwell and an anonymous friend.

THE BIG YEAR

The end of 1960 brought to a close what was possibly the biggest year in the history of the Parish of All Saints' Petersham.

For over thirty years we had the load of the Parish Hall debt, but, thanks to a splendid Fete effort in 1959, this debt was cleared, and we began 1960 able to "look the whole world in the face, and owe not any man."

We were soon making preparations for the Centenary of the first Church of England service held in Petersham; a list of past parishioners was drawn up, a history was written and the memorials of the Parish were tabulated. A fund was launched to raise the amount necessary to install an electronic carillon as a commemoration of the Centenary.

The great day arrived, and what a huge attendance! The church has never been so crowded. The splendid service, the dedication of the carillon, the Archbishop's sermon and the singing of the large choir all helped to make the Centenary Service an unforgettable experience.

During the winter months, the baseball team, under the guidance of Reg Miniter, won the premiership of the Western Suburbs Churches' Baseball Union—the first time for 24 years that the competition had been won by an All Saints' team.

The next big event was the Golden Jubilee of the Y.C.I., held on November 11th. It is somewhat remarkable for any organisation to function for fifty years, and the Y.C.I. has good reasons to be proud of its unbroken record through two World Wars and an economic depression. Quite a lot of organising was put into arranging the Jubilee. Former members were contacted, donations sought to place a pair of maple-framed plate glass doors in the Church porch, and the necessary arrangements were made for a Jubilee Dinner and Commemoration Service on the following Sunday.

The Jubilee was an outstanding success. The Commemorative doors were installed and dedicated, and it is fitting to mention that they were designed and made by Y.C.I. members. The Dinner was another great success. There was a wonderful atmosphere about it with the opportunity to renew old friendships and for past and present members to become acquainted. The Jubilee concluded with the Commemoration Service on November 13th in the Parish Church, bringing the celebrations to a fitting climax.

Then came the Fete, which was a remarkable success. For the first time in the history of the Parish the wonderful total of just over £1,000 was raised in a day.

To claim that 1960 was a really big year for our Parish is no idle statement. But it is also a challenge to each one of us to keep the work of our Parish going. Someone once wisely said that "milestones are

not made to sit on, but to tell us how far we have come, to pause a short while, to look back on the way we have come, and then, taking a deep breath, go forward into the future." We could well take this advice, having arrived at an important milestone in the life of the Church, let us look back, at the history of our parish, and then, take a deep breath and press on into the future, determined to pass on to the generations yet to come, the heritage that is ours.

(The above article appears by courtesy of the Editor of the Y.C.I. "Manuscript Journal").

OVER THE FENCE

"Good morning, Mrs. Loyal," said Mrs. Critic, "what a lovely morning for washing. I was up at 6 o'clock this morning and had the copper boiling—I do like to get an early start in case I get hindered during the morning. That reminds me—talking of 'boiling'—as you know, I call myself a good Anglican. Well, I went to Church yesterday. I had not been for about six months, and the Vicar preached fully twenty minutes for my benefit on the subject of sin! By the time he had finished I felt as though I never wanted to go to Church again. I am sure he prepared that address just for me. He looked straight at me most of the time, and said we all need a Saviour. Well now, Mrs. Loyal, I was baptised and confirmed and I go to Church about three times a year. I reckon I am as good as anyone in the parish. I have never done anyone any harm, and I pay my twenty shillings in the pound. There are plenty worse than me. I think it is about time this business of sin was dropped and the Vicar gave us a message of comfort. I had a good mind not to go near the Church this Easter."

"Mrs. Critic," said Mrs. Loyal, "If the butcher sold you bad meat, or the baker sold you stale bread, or the grocer gave you short measure, what would you think of him?"

"Not much," replied Mrs. Critic. "I like value for my money; I like fresh goods and proper weight."

"In other words, Mrs. Critic, you like honest dealing," said Mrs. Loyal.

"That's right."

"Well now, just as the butcher, the baker and the grocer have a standard to follow, so has the clergyman. He does not pretend to be perfect, but, as a student of God's word, he stands up to interpret the message of the Bible by the help of his conscience, or, shall I say, by the Spirit of God. Sometimes it must be a temptation for a man to water down his message rather than give offence, but one day he will give an account of his earthly ministry. The shopkeeper knows that there are sixteen ounces to the pound. The clergyman has his standard in the Bible in what God says."

"Now, Mrs. Critic, the Bible says we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. The only exception is in the case of Jesus of Nazareth who was the eternal Son of God. We have just celebrated Christmas and thanked God for giving us His Son. The gifts we gave one another were reminders of the great gift of God. If we were not sinners, we would have no need of God's gift, but the Bible clearly teaches that we all need a Saviour, and that without faith in Christ we are lost. Baptism, Confirmation and attendance at Holy Communion are all to bring us closer to God. We are baptised into Christ—that is

the first step. Then, having reached what we believe to be the age of discretion, we publicly acknowledge Christ as our own Saviour and Lord. We come to Holy Communion at our Lord's invitation, who said, "Do this in remembrance of me." It is not a service for perfect people, but for sinners who want to be better men or women. Having become a member of Christ's Church or Body, we must be healthy and active members. We have a washing day every week and boil and scrub our clothes, and sheets and towels, because they become soiled through use. Now, Mrs. Critic, we should come regularly, at least once a week, to the House of God, to confess our sins and ask forgiveness. Then with a fresh start we can commence the new week, asking God to help us to live for Him."

DATES TO REMEMBER THIS MONTH

Sunday, 12th—Harvest Festival Services—Gifts for the Home of Peace.

Wednesday 15th—Ash Wednesday:

6.30 a.m.—Holy Communion.

7.15 p.m.—Devotions and Address.

Friday, 17th—Guild Street Stall—10 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Outside Church gates.

Y.C.I. Fiftieth Annual Meeting.

Sunday, 19th—Table Tennis Church Parade.

Sunday, 26th—Social Hour with Film after Evensong.

AN APPEAL FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL TO—

WEEKLY ENVELOPE SUBSCRIBERS

ARE YOUR ENVELOPES FORWARDED REGULARLY

If you are having difficulty in returning them to Church, would you please advise the Rector (Tel. LM.4735) or one of our District Visitors and we will arrange to collect your Envelopes from you each Month.

Proceeds from the Envelope System must be maintained to meet our normal running expenses and special costs such as the Centenary Carillion, the new concrete paths, and the exterior painting of the Church and Parish Hall.

WE EARNESTLY SEEK YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND
CO-OPERATION

WALTERS & SON

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

435 NEW CANTERBURY ROAD, DULWICH HILL

Phones: LM 1676 — LM 1458

James & James, Printers, 209 Liverpool Road, Ashfield