

THE CHRONICLE OF

All Saint's Church of England, Petersham

STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM (Opposite Fire Station)

Two minutes from Petersham Railway Station

Rector Rev. S. W. Gissing, Th.L. — Phone: 569-4735

JULY, 1980

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WHEN PRESIDENT GARFIELD (of the United States of America) WAS A BOY, AND WAS ASKED WHAT HE WOULD BE, HIS REPLY WAS:

"Well, first of all, I must make myself a man; for, if I do not succeed in that, I shall not succeed in anything."

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RUFUS JONES IN "A CALL TO WHAT IS VITAL":
"I maintain—and it seems to me tremendously important—that Christ is as truly a revelation of MAN as He is a revelation of GOD. We see at last in Him what man was meant to be. That means that in the light of His life we ought to reinterpret—as we usually have not done—the divine possibilities of the human nature we bear".

From your Minister's Desk



My dear friends,

One of the young people in the High School Scripture class asked earnestly—"How do you KNOW God is there helping you?"

That question is concerned with one of the most common problems that "face" people. How do we "see" God and know He's real?

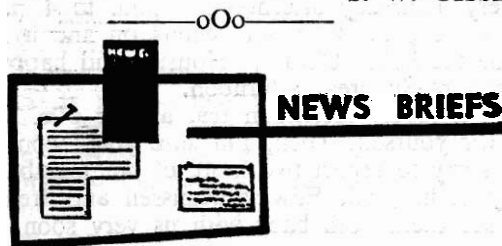
Not long ago I found a pair of binoculars that hadn't been used for some considerable time. I was rather pleased to find them as I'd often thought how handy it would be to have some. I lifted them to my eyes to look at a building that was a fair way off. Well, I just couldn't seem to "find" that building clearly. I adjusted the focus, but that didn't seem to bring my objective close and into focus at all. Finally I had a look at the lenses and found one was dirty. So having cleaned them up, I tried again—and behold, there the building came clear and close!

There's only one reason why God is unreal to anyone. In some way we are evading His challenge. If we tolerate any known evil in our lives, the mere fact of that evil being present blurs our vision of God. It may be easy to have evil thoughts and deceive our friends, but the moment we entertain evil we draw a veil over the face of God. The evil may be as great as murder or as small as pride—the result will be the same. We shall lose the vital sense of God's presence.

The penalty of sin is not in being found out by our friends, but in losing touch with God. It is seldom that argument will restore our vision of God. The most effective way is to face our sin and surrender it to God's control. People who have read theology till they are tired in their quest for God should stop reading and ask themselves, "What lack I yet?" The real barrier to the vision of God is nearly always within. We have no need to grope morbidly in the maze of the mind. If we sit quietly for five minutes we shall find the things that require immediate attention. If we start with those in the forefront of our minds today, we shall have enough to go on with. Tomorrow our vision will be greater—and as we advance it will become clearer.

It was Jesus Who said "The pure in heart shall see God".
Your sincere friend in the wonderful name of a great
Saviour,

S. W. GISSING.



REQUEST FROM OUR ANGLICAN HOME MISSION SOCIETY

Toys Wanted

Care Force new settlers team is planning a mobile toy library which will distribute toys to the many Vietnamese children now in their care.

If you could donate attractive, solidly made toys to the library, please phone Betty Powell or Pam Reynolds on 799-5222.

WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

"Nurse" Elvy Brown has spent the last 27 years of her life living in a Campervan and spending her time and energies in working voluntarily among children living in the inner-city area of Sydney.

Her life has been one of sharing and caring, so much so, that she was made a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours recently announced.

Nurse Brown will be our Guest Speaker at our July Meeting on Tuesday, 22nd, at 1.30 p.m. We would love to see you among our guests on this occasion. There will be a Business Meeting at 12.30 p.m.

The June Second-hand Clothing and Jumble Stall was a great success, profit being \$123.00 and a lot of goods left over sent off to the Home Mission Op. Shops.. Thank you all who donated or helped in any way. We plan to have another sale in a couple of months' time, so please think of us once again, with anything saleable.

Advance notice of a date to keep — Sunday, 17th August, there will be a Parish Family Barbecue following the Confirmation Service at 9.30 a.m. The details will appear in the next "Chronicle".

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

The Senior Parishioners' Club is still waiting for you to join. Every Thursday afternoon, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Even when its cold outside, we have our heaters on and it is really not so bad inside the hall. "Cards", "Housie" and happy company will give you a really great afternoon.

Also, a lovely afternoon tea, all for 50c. Just come once and see for yourself. Then, I'm sure you'll come again.

I'm sorry to report two more of our members are spending a holiday in hospital. Edwina Hanssen and Irene Condan. We hope to see them both back with us very soon.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.



OUR BUS FUND

"Praise the Lord"—Psalm 67 (1-7), page 665.

"God be gracious to us and bless us,
 God make His Face to shine upon us,
 That His ways may be known on earth
 And His saving Power among all the nations.
 Let the peoples praise Thee, O God;
 Let all peoples praise Thee.
 Let all nations rejoice and shout in triumph;
 For Thou dost Judge the peoples with justice.
 And guidest the nations of the earth.
 Let the peoples praise Thee, O God;
 Let all peoples praise Thee.
 The earth has given its increase
 And God, our God, will bless us.
 God grant us His blessing,
 That all the ends of the earth may fear Him."

It is a wonderful thing when God answers our prayers. Our Bus Fund has now passed \$1300 and is still climbing. Will you add your prayers, and praise the Lord for providing our Parish with the Bus which can only bring us closer together.

—SUE RITCHIE.

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.

HOW H. C. SPURGEON FACED DOUBTS . . .

I have many a time had doubts and fears as most of you have had; and where is the strong believer who has not sometimes wavered? I have said, within myself, "Is this religion true, which day after day, I incessantly preach to the people? Is it the correct one? Is it true that this religion has an influence upon man-kind?" And I will tell you how I have measured myself. I have looked upon the hundreds, nay, upon the thousands whom I have around me, who were once the vilest of the vile — drunkards, swearers, and such like — and I now see them "clothed and in their right mind," walking in holiness and in the fear of God; and I have said with myself, "This must be the truth, then, because I see its marvellous effects. It is true, because it is efficient for purposes which error could never accomplish. It exerts an influence among the lowest order of mortals, and over the most abominable of our race. It is a power, an irresistible agent of good: who then shall deny its truth."

Therefore, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good".

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TRAGIC REFUGEE SITUATION IN AFRICA (Uganda and Somalia) AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA

"World Vision" has joined other relief groups in appealing for support in forwarding urgent aid. The recent 40-hour FAMINE was one way of trying to promote a public response. The TV news drew attention to one young man who was trying to raise \$400 by continuing his famine for about a week. Just another example of the fair-dinkum quiet, worthwhile members of the human race.

"World Vision" provided the following interesting and challenging facts and figures that are worth keeping in mind—not only in this particular context either!!:—

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GUNS BEFORE CHILDREN

The nations of the world will be spending about 500,000 million dollars on armaments during 1980.

In 1979, UNICEF allocated \$207.5 million into projects for children in 102 countries.

That means that governments spend the entire UNICEF budget every five hours on guns and bombs.

GLOOMY FIGURES

UNICEF estimated that 12 million children under the age of five, died of hunger in 1978.

The U.N. Council adds that this is despite the fact that the world food supply is large enough to feed every man, woman and child on earth.

Each year between 10 and 20 million people die from hunger related causes.



ARE THERE TOO MANY PEOPLE?

Sometimes you will hear it said that the world food crisis is the result of too many people in the world.

The present population of the world is about 4300 million.

If they were gathered together in one huge crowd they would fit easily on to the island State of Tasmania.

Tasmania has an area of more than 68,000 square kilometres. This would provide each person in the world with a space of about 4 metres square. That's about the size of the average lounge room.

If all the people in the world were spread all over Australia, each would have a space about 100 metres by 20 metres to live in. This is about the size of two suburban blocks of land.

Gather them together into families of six people and each family would have about 1.2 hectares (2½ acres) to grow their own food on.



DO YOU EAT TO LIVE OR LIVE TO EAT?

The average Australian family of two adults and two children eats 365 loaves of bread a year and drinks 434 litres of milk.

This family also eats 721 eggs a year and drinks more than 7 kg. of tea and over 4.5 kg. of coffee in the same period.

Most of the family's consumption of 71 kg of green vegetables is probably eaten by the parents, but it is probably the kids who drink most of the total of 167 litres of soft drink.

Altogether, in one year, this average Australian family eats 2.2 tonnes of food! They would probably be a lot healthier if they ate only half that much!

THE OLYMPIC DEBATE!!

It continues—and I guess it will for a long time—even after the whole thing finishes in Moscow. I can't help but feel that many of us have missed the point somewhere along the way.

Anyway, I came across the following the other day in the paper put out by our Diocesan Youth Department and felt it was worth drawing to your attention. It came under the heading of EDITORIAL:—



THE GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

So Australian athletes are going to Moscow amid the turmoil of a boycott by some of our allies. This year's Olympic fiasco is nothing new.

The "Olympic Ideal" of international goodwill and brotherhood through beating each other at sport seems to have never really existed. The Russians and other Eastern European nations have never accepted it—to them the Games have always been political. The Western nations have essentially forgotten it—the medal tally has become all important. In the 1930's there was talk of holding three separate Olympiads—White, Black and Asian—a "biological grouping" to remove "unfair racial advantages".

And whatever happened to the couple of Olympiads after Hitler's 1936 Berlin Olympics?

Not to mention the murders in Munich, the withdrawal of African nations in '76 protesting about Apartheid, the massive security necessary to prevent terrorism, the various drug and sex tests, the talk of surgically improving athletes' performances. . . .

Yet, Russia plans to use the slogan, "From friendship in sports to peace on earth" for the current Games.

Christians should stick their necks out and denounce the Olympics for the farce they are. And declare the peace that we know as a reality—non-political and lasting forever.

—hm.



FLORAL MEMORIALS

We are most grateful to all who help beautify our church on Sundays by contributing towards flowers as a way of remembering loved ones.

July 6: Mr. Bill Williams and family, in memory of Mrs. Aileen Williams.

13: Misses Nisbet, in memory of their parents.

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- 27: John and Lindsay, in memory of their mother, Mary Joan Nance.
- August 3: Mrs. D. Jones and family, in memory of the late Mr. P. Jones.
- 10: Mrs. Willis, in memory of Mrs. Shiels.
- 10: Mrs. R. Roberts, Beryl and Gary, in memory of Mr. William John Roberts.

B.C.A. Annual Fair

in the Chapter House, St. Andrew's Cathedral,

FRIDAY, 18th JULY, 1980,

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Stalls — Displays and Audio-Visuals.

Tea and Coffee Snack Bar.

WORSHIP ARRANGEMENTS AT ALL SAINTS



MORNINGS at 9.30 a.m.:—

Holy Communion on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Morning Prayer on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Family Service is the 3rd Sunday.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN is at 9.55 a.m.

EVENINGS at 5 p.m.:—

(This changes to 7 p.m. during summer months.)

Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Evening Prayer on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals by arrangement with the Rector.