

BADSEY & ALDINGTON NOTES

THE VICAR'S LETTER.

My Dear Friends,

We have had a memorable time during the past month. The first outstanding event was the special "Mothering Sunday" Service. This, I believe, made a deep impression, and the hope has been expressed that it may become an annual event. The dedication of the Standard of the British Legion. (Women's Section) at Evensong was a fitting close to the day.

The distribution of Palm Crosses on Palm Sunday was also generally approved, and large congregations were present. I was greatly encouraged by the attendances at the Service of Preparation for Easter Communion and also at "The Watch at the Cross," and an atmosphere of reverent devotion prevailed throughout. The same can be said of the "Hymn Story of the Passion." We are most grateful to those who took part in this dramatic representation of the story of the first Good Friday and brought home its message to us so vividly.

The Services on Easter Day were truly joyous and inspiring, and I want to thank all who helped to make the Church so beautiful for this great Festival.

I also wish to express my deep gratitude for the very generous Easter offering of over £20.

I feel that if we can conserve the spirit of fellowship and devotion manifested during these past few weeks, we need have no fears regarding the future of our parochial life. I know that many of you will be very busy on the land during the coming weeks—I am warned that I shall rarely find you at home! It will be a time of hard work, and, perhaps, you will experience some anxious days. I pray that God's blessing may rest upon your work. You may find it difficult, but *do* try and attend once, at least, at God's House on Sundays, and in prayer and communion find strength for the daily round. "Then, fresh from converse with your Lord, return and work till daylight softens into even. The brief hours are not lost in which ye learn, More of your Father, and His rest in heaven."

We offer hearty congratulations to Mr. J. C. Sladden on being awarded the Ellerton Theological Essay Prize for 1948.

The sudden death of Mr. G. Moisey has removed from our midst a familiar and beloved figure. No one could have served the Church with greater devotion than he did. Mr. Binyon has kindly contributed to this issue a short memoir of him.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,
W. B. CHAPMAN.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

MOTHERS' UNION.

Meetings have been held on March 3rd and 17th at Seward House, by kind permission of Miss Sladden. On March 3rd, Mrs. Chapman formally took over the Branch as Enrolling Member and gave a short address on "Knitting."

At the meeting on March 17th, Mrs. L. Sparrow, on behalf of the members, presented to Mrs. Reed a Prayer and Hymn Book, suitably inscribed, as a small token of affection and of gratitude for her many years' devoted service as Enrolling Member. Mrs. Reed expressed her thanks and said how much she had been helped by Miss Sladden. An address was given on the hymn "How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds." At both meetings Tea was served by the committee.

At the final meeting of the session on April 21st, we shall welcome Miss Holmes (Worcester) and hope for a good attendance.

Apr. 1948
Mrs. Reed entered Evesham Hospital on Easter Monday. We are glad to report that her operation has been successful, and we all sincerely hope that her progress will be maintained and that she will soon be restored to complete health.

There were very good attendances at the Corporate Communion and at the Deanery Festival Service on Lady Day.

A.M.C.

P.C.C. At the meeting on April 5th, Mr. C. A. Binyon was re-elected Lay Vice-Chairman and Treasurer, Miss M. E. Sladden re-elected Secretary, and Mr. J. Major re-elected Assistant Secretary. The Standing Committee (consisting of the Vicar, Churchwardens, Treasurer and Secretary) was elected, and the following appointed to form a Missionary Sub-Committee: Mrs. Sparrow, Mrs. Major, Miss E. Sladden, Mr. Binyon, Mr. Savory. It was decided to invite members of the N.F.U. to attend a Rogationtide Service, and the Vicar announced that there would be celebrations of Holy Communion on Ascension Day (May 6th) at 7 a.m. and 10 a.m., and that Evensong would be at 7 p.m. It was decided to distribute handbills and envelopes for the annual Gift Day on June 24th, and several members kindly volunteered to be responsible for the distribution. Appreciation was expressed of the generous response to the appeal for donations to the Churchyard Fund and of the work of the collectors. Over £54 has been collected to date. A lengthy discussion took place as to the meagre attendance at the 11 a.m. Service on Sunday mornings, and the Vicar stressed the need for a great improvement and asked for the help of members in this matter. It was agreed that the collections on Ascension Day should be given to the work of the S.P.C.K., and on Whit-Sunday to our Sunday School.

Sanctuary Guild. A well attended meeting was held in the Parish Room on Thursday, March 11th, following a service in Church. Mrs. K. G. Johnson was welcomed as a new member of the First Sunday Group, and arrangements were made for the decoration of the Church at Easter. It was decided to postpone the spring cleaning until after the removal of the old organ. Tea was served by the Third Sunday Group.

A.M.C.

PARISH REGISTERS.

Baptisms.

- Feb. 15. Margaret Isobel Jane Major, Janet June Anderson.
- Mar. 7. Margaret Hatcher.
- Mar. 21. David John Jelfs, Sheila Joy Reeves.

Burials.

- Feb. 17. Henry John Johns, aged 78 years.
- Feb. 26. Hannah Perkins, aged 82 years.
- Apr. 6. George Moisey, aged 74 years.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS.

Church Expenses. March 7th, £8 4s. 1d.; March 14th, £1 15s. 7d.; March 21st, £2 7s. 6d. Total: £12 7s. 2d.

Other Receipts. Church Box, 1s. 9d.; Covenants, £2; Envelopes, £4 1s. 9d. (No. 3, £1; 4, 7s.; 6, 11s. 6d.; 7, 3s.; 8, 3s. 6d.; 11, 4s.; 13, 3s.; 14, 10s.; 16, 1s. 6d.; 17, 5s. 3d.; 18, 5s.; 19, 1s. 6d.; 21, 5s.; 22, 1s. 6d.). Lent Services, £8 15s. 6d. (Total: £12 3s.). Churchyard Fund donations (to date), £54 9s. 9d. Easter offering, £20 13s. 2d.

IN MEMORIAM—GEORGE MOISEY.

The sudden death of George Moisey gave us all a great shock. There were not many in the parish who were better known or held in more esteem. He had been Clerk and Sexton for 38 years, and his familiar figure will be greatly missed. He was most regular and conscientious in carrying out his duties. Nothing ever seemed to be too much trouble, and he put in many hours of unrequited work for the Church he loved so well. Those that knew him best were conscious of his sincere faith and were aware that his work was done not with eye service as a man pleaser, but as a servant of Christ doing the will of God from the heart.

C.A.B.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

THE VICAR'S LETTER.

My Dear Friends,

This may seem a very short letter compared with what I have written in the Badsey and Aldington Notes, but I want you to realise that what I have written there with regard to the Services during the past month applies also to Wickhamford. I feel sure these Services will linger long in our memories. Our Church was most beautifully decorated for Easter Day, and we do indeed owe a debt of gratitude to all who helped to achieve such a result. The comments of numerous visitors have borne eloquent testimony to the efforts of our faithful workers.

I should like to congratulate the choir on the rendering of "O Sacred Head" (Good Friday evening), and "This Joyful Easter-tide" (Easter Day).

Please accept my warmest thanks for the very generous Easter offering (over £22). In addition, I wish to say how much I have appreciated the kindly hospitality shown to me on my visits to Wickhamford on Sundays and Fridays, and how greatly indebted I am to Mrs. Carter, Miss Sherwin, and Mr. Field for help of a most acceptable nature!

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

W. B. CHAPMAN.

Sanctuary Guild. A meeting was held at Robin Cottage on Friday, March 5th, by kind invitation of Mrs. Cooke. There was a very good attendance, and apologies were received from other members who were unable to be present. A list of groups was drawn up and arrangements were made to clean the Church during Holy Week and for the Easter decoration. Mrs. Cooke served tea and cakes, and everyone felt they had spent a happy and profitable evening.

A.M.C.

PARISH REGISTERS.

Baptisms.

Mar. 28. Ivor Edwin Sayer.
Apr. 4. Sally Arthurs.

Church Collections.

CHURCH EXPENSES (March 7th, 14th, 21st, 26th), £9 13s. 8d. Sick and Needy, 13s. 9d. Church Box, 17s. 10d. Easter offerings, £22 5s. 10d.

Mothers' Union. Meetings are now discontinued until the autumn. The Corporate Communion on April 6th was well attended, and the Branch was worthily represented at the Deanery Festival Service. The debt we owe to Mrs. Pearce for her faithful work is very great indeed.

W.B.C.

LAMBETH CONFERENCE.

The Lambeth Conference is to be held from 1st July to 8th August. The Conference is usually held about every 10 years, and all the Bishops of the world-wide Anglican Communion (including those of the American Episcopal Church and the overseas missionary dioceses of that Church) are summoned to it. The last Lambeth Conference was held in 1930, and all preparations had been made to hold another in 1940, but the Second World War caused its postponement. The following table shows the growth of the Conference, reflecting the remarkable growth of the Anglican Communion in recent years:—

Year	President	No. of Bishops present
1867	Archbishop Longley	76
1878	Archbishop Tait	100
1888	Archbishop Benson	145
1897	Archbishop Temple	194
1908	Archbishop Davidson	242
1920	Archbishop Davidson	252
1930	Archbishop Lang	307

REPORTS OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The very good attendance at the Centre is being maintained, and advantage is taken of the distribution of Welfare foods, etc.

We are most grateful to Mrs. Tuckwell for a gift of lovely soft toys.

We are in need of a fire-guard. Could anyone spare this for us?
E. H. IDIENS.

T. E. WHEATLEY

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BRITISH LEGION (WOMEN'S SECTION).

At the evening service on Sunday, March 7th, Badsey Church was crowded with British Legion men and women members for the dedication of the Women's Section Standard. Before the ceremony the women members assembled at their Headquarters, the Bell Inn, where Mr. Major (Chairman of the Men's Section) formally presented the Banner (which was given by the Men's Section) to Mrs. Harvey, Chairman of the Women's Section. The members then proceeded to Church, where the dedication was performed by the Vicar, Rev. W. B. Chapman.

The Standard Bearer (Mrs. I. Knight) and her two escorts (Mrs. M. Cook and Mrs. W. Keen) carried out their duties admirably.

The Branch Meeting was held at the Bell Inn on Tuesday, March 23rd. Mrs. Harvey presided over a good attendance. There was a fully laden "Bring and Buy" stall.

Mr. John Holding gave a very interesting talk on the objects and work of the British Legion, and congratulated the members on the dedication of their Standard. He was thanked by Mrs. Arthur Salter. Please note that the April meeting will commence at 8 p.m.

R. M. BARNARD.

BRITISH LEGION (MEN'S SECTION).

At the Committee Meeting on March 15th, it was decided that Oxford should be the place of the annual outing, and Saturday, July 10th, was the provisional date chosen. The programme includes a river trip with lunch and tea en route. The evening is to be spent as members desire. A talk on "Income

Tax and the Small Grower" will be given by Mr. C. P. R. Raymer at the Royal Oak on Tuesday, April 13th, at 8 p.m. An open invitation is extended to all interested.

P. SPARROW.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

At the March meeting, under the chairmanship of Mrs. S. B. Carter, Mrs. Haines was appointed Sick Visitor for the month.

Mrs. Chapman gave a most interesting talk on "My early musical experiences," followed by a solo, "The Kerry Dance." The W.I. choir sang two folk songs. The annual Bulb Show was held, judged by Mrs. Cooke, of Wickhamford. Mrs. Savory was the winner of the silver cup. Other prizes were won by Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Shelley. Mrs. Taylor was the winner of the monthly parcel. The meeting concluded with the singing of "Jerusalem."

At the half-yearly meeting of the Avon Group of Women's Institutes, held on March 24th, Mrs. Carter welcomed Cleeve Prior (the "baby" Institute of the Group) and Mrs. Odling, V.C.O., congratulated Badsey on winning the first prize for narcissi at the County Bulb Show at Worcester.

Mr. Iceley, of Blockley, gave a talk on Cotswold history ranging from 1500, and Mrs. Sheaf, of Honeybourne, proposed a vote of thanks.

The entertainment was provided by Badsey Women's Institute Choir singing a group of three songs and Brother James' Air. Mrs. Chapman sang a solo "The Kerry Dance." A musical quiz was won by Mrs. Haythorne, of Cleeve Prior, and Mrs. Bennett, of Offenham.

It was resolved that the next Group meeting be held at Bretforton on October 26 and that Wilfred Pickles be invited to attend.

N. E. KEEN.

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HISTORY OF BADSEY

(Continued)

There appears to have been little disturbance in Badsey during the time of the Civil War and in the time when Oliver Cromwell was Protector. Indeed in 1654 very considerable work was done to the chancel. Apparently the gable end had collapsed and had to be rebuilt. The date in leaden letters can still be seen over the East Window. This accounts for the very curious tracery and round head of our East Window which I think is unique. No doubt the round arch was substituted for the acute point of the original Gothic window as being in keeping with the times when classical and Italian architecture was in fashion and Gothic considered barbarous. However, the general effect of his alteration is, I think, very pleasing. In the following year the accounts "toward the reparation of the Church" were presented at the Easter Vestry Meeting.

		li. s. d.			
Imprimis.	To Wm. Lane of Evesham for glazing	...	0	18	0
	To the same man for plumbing	2	12	0	
May 9th,	To Wm. Whilford for slattinge	0	18	6	
1655	For slatt and carriage	...	0	16	0
	To Jo. Willys Carpenter	...	0	6	8
	For timber nayles and other necessarys	...	1	10	0
The whole sune		7	1	2	

Received for reparaire of the church 7 3 0
 Richard Cragg, Minister.
 Francis Grove } Church Wardens and
 Thomas Harward } Overseers of the Poor

One would imagine this was not the whole, as considerable work by masons was necessary. On the same paper:—

Provision for the poore for Badsey.

		li. s. d.			
Imp.	John Holman hath a house erected on the Comon at	1	0	0	by the yeare
Item.	Katherine Harrison, widdow, hath a house erected on the Comon	...	1	0	0 by the yeare
Item.	Dorothy George, widdow, hath a house erected on the Comon at	...	1	0	0 by the yeare
Item.	John Whyte hath a house on the Comon at	...	1	5	0 by the yeare
Item.	John Tayler, a blind man, hath a house erected on the Comon at	...	1	10	0 by the yeare

C.A.B.

(To be continued)

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