

Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford
Parish Review

SEPTEMBER, 1956

THE MAKING OF SERMONS

My experience teaches me that a man who spends eight hours on a sermon, and has a couple of sermons a week to prepare, is taking a great deal out of himself. In all probability such a man writes out his sermons in full. If his practice is to preach for twenty minutes his manuscript will run to at least two thousand words and many run to as many as three thousand. The mere physical labour of writing out a sermon of this length will occupy anything from three to five hours. When to this is added the time spent in deciding on a theme, arranging one's thoughts, looking up and checking references and quotations, and on the exhausting, and often exasperating, labour of forcing the recalcitrant English language to give adequate and graceful expression to what one wants to say, it is easy to believe that there are many preachers who spend even more than eight hours on the composition of a single sermon.

What, it may well be asked, is the reward one is likely to get for this expenditure of time and labour? The chances are that one's sermon will be heard by only a small congregation, of whom not all will listen to it attentively enough to follow or appreciate it. The effect of the sermon may be, or appear to be, out of all proportion less than it deserves, and to bear no relation to the cost in labour and time. And, one cannot but think, these are discouraging thoughts that must often assail a conscientious preacher.

("Galatian" in "The Halifax Weekly Courier").

THE EDITOR'S SCRAP BOOK

Two Views concerning The Church:

(1) "I don't go to Church but I am as good as those who do."

"Churches are places, I've heard say,
Where sinners go to kneel and pray;
Shall I my reputation smirch
By being seen with them in Church?"

* * *

(2) "Here, through the centuries, men, women and children have sought Him—and not in vain. Here He gives pardon to sinners, peace to sufferers, strength to warriors, heavenly food to hungry souls. Here, heaven and earth are united by the presence with us of our Lord, crucified, risen, ascended."

Toleration is easy because we are indifferent and uninterested. The enemy now is apathy, boredom with Church worship, scepticism of doctrinal teaching, and distrust of prophets, ancient and modern. — Dr. Inge.

Education is not given you for the purpose of earning a living; it's learning what to do with a living after you've earned it. — Abraham Lincoln.

We fall too easily into the error of confusing joy with pleasure and imagine that we could be really joyful if we could fill our lives with an uninterrupted succession of pleasures. This is the fallacy of the "having a good time" school of thought (if "thought" is the right word).

Many a man who has few pleasures knows the meaning of joy, and many more who tirelessly seek for new pleasures never catch a glimpse of her face. Indeed, to be constantly grasping at pleasures is a symptom of the lack of joy. The distracted and divided self tries to get relief from its unease by a succession of passing satisfactions. Joy, however, springs up within us and cannot be imparted to us by any external circumstances; it is, in short, a spiritual grace.

(The Dean of St. Paul's).

PRAYERS

(a) O Lord God, Who art a Hearer not of the voice but of the heart, make our prayer which goeth up to Thee as eager as Thy pity which poureth down upon us, for Christ's sake. Amen.

* * *

(b) Lord, what we know not, teach us:
Lord, what we have not, give us:
Lord, what we are not, make us.

Amen.

* * *

(c) He speaks to us His divine word:
and we are too busy or careless to listen, or have forgotten how to hear.
He shows us the ways of His kingdom:
and we love the ways of the world better.
He calls us to hate the evil and to choose the good:
and we limp along between the two.
He calls us to serve others at our own cost:
and we are too full of ourselves, or too sorry for ourselves.

We pray Thee, O God our Father,
To forgive what we have been,
To help us amend what we are,
And to order what we shall be;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

* * *

(d) O God, who hast made of one blood all nations of men, mercifully receive the prayers that we offer for our anxious and troubled world.

Send Thy light into our darkness, and guide the nations as one family into the ways of peace. Take away all prejudice and hatred and fear. Strengthen in us day by day the will to understand.

And to those who by their counsels lead the peoples of the earth, grant a right judgment that so through them and us Thy Will may be done.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Sept. 2nd.—Services as usual.

Sunday Sept. 9th.—Services as usual. Preacher at 6.45 p.m.:—Rev. Alan Knowles, Regional Secretary, British and Foreign Bible Society.

Sunday Sept. 16th and Sunday Sept. 23rd.—Services as usual.

Sunday Sept. 30th (HARVEST THANKSGIVING AND GIFT DAY):—

8 a.m. Holy Communion.

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist.

6.45 p.m. Evensong. Preacher: Rev. Canon Braley (Worcester Cathedral).

(N.B. A circular letter regarding Gift Day will shortly be distributed.)

P.C.C. Next Meeting, Monday Sept. 3rd, in the Parish Room at 7 p.m.

Choir. A beautiful day for the Annual Outing on July 21st and a very pleasant seven hours' stay at Porthcawl. Thanks are due to all who contributed towards the cost and to Mr. A. G. Crisp who made all the arrangements.

Men's Fellowship. A Meeting to discuss the future of the Fellowship will be held in The Parish Room on Tuesday Oct. 9th at 7 p.m. This preliminary notice is given so that Members may book the date. They are asked to make every effort to attend.

W.B.C.

Sunday School (Parish Room). We are sorry to lose Miss Mary Hurman, who has now begun her Hospital training. She has given most valuable assistance as a Teacher. On Sunday, August 5th, we presented her with a Gift Token as a mark of our appreciation.

Jean Dyke.

Mothers' Union. Members are asked to note that Meetings re-start on Tuesday Oct. 9th.

Thanks are due to Mrs. G. H. Crane for the gift of a Stoneware Vase for the Sanctuary Table.

Mrs. F. E. Knight, one of our oldest Members, passed away on August 11th. Until her health failed, she was most regular in her attendance at Church and at M.U. Meetings. Her cheerfulness and ready wit gained for her a wide circle of friends and she will be much missed in our village. We extend our deepest sympathy to the members of her family. M.U. Members attended the Funeral Service and a Wreath was sent from our Branch.

A.M.C.

Our best wishes are extended to Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Marshall (née Constance Kate Wixey) who were married in Badsey Church on July 30th.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. A. L. Jones on the death of her father. Mr. Powell died in Evesham Hospital on August 14th. He was in his 92nd year and was much esteemed. Many of us will remember his friendliness and his delightful old world courtesy. This latter quality is, alas! so often lacking in these days, and therefore, is all the more appreciated wherever it is found.

"For in my walks it seems to me
The grace of God is in courtesy."

Donations for Church Funds are gratefully acknowledged from the Rev. J. C. Sladden, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Marshall, and Mr. and Mrs. Forbes (Halifax).

ROTA OF SIDESMEN ON DUTY

Sunday Sept. 2nd. 8 a.m. Mr. G. H. Stewart; 11 a.m. Messrs. D. Peet and G. A. O. Jones; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. J. T. Batchelor, N. Cleaver and M. Brady.

Sunday Sept. 9th. 8 a.m. Mr. A. L. Byrd; 11 a.m. Messrs. T. W. Hardiman and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. D. A. Jelfs, M. J. Barnard and A. W. Smith.

Sunday Sept. 16th. 8 a.m. Mr. M. Brady; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. R. Hartwell, R. Knight and T. C. Sparrow.

Sunday Sept. 23rd. 8 a.m. Mr. J. Major; 11 a.m. Mr. P. H. Sparrow and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. C. Stewart, A. W. Sparrow and R. J. Taylor.

Sunday Sept. 30th. 8 a.m. Messrs. T. W. Hardiman and P. S. Tucker; 11 a.m. Mr. J. Major and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. A. L. Byrd, D. A. Jelfs and G. H. Stewart.

Sunday Oct. 7th. As Sunday Sept. 2nd.

WAR MEMORIAL

The following are kindly responsible for the Flowers: Sunday Sept. 2nd, Mrs. G. W. Marshall; Sept. 9th, Mrs. C. Stewart; Sept. 16th, Mrs. A. W. Ballard; Sept. 23rd, Mr. and Mrs. Brady; Sept. 30th, Mrs. Chapman; Oct. 7th, Mrs. P. H. Sparrow.

SERVERS AND CRUCIFERS ON DUTY

	Server	Crucifer
Sunday Sept. 2nd.		
8 a.m.	H. Wheatley	
11 a.m.	R. Salter	R. Hall
6.45 p.m.	A. Sears	B. Caswell
Sunday Sept. 9th.		
8 a.m.	E. Harker	
11 a.m.	A. Sears	H. Wheatley
6.45 p.m.	B. Caswell	R. Hall

Sunday Sept. 16th.

8 a.m.	N. Langstone	_____
6.45 p.m.	H. Wheatley	E. Harker

Sunday Sept. 23rd.

8 a.m.	R. Hall	_____
11 a.m.	B. Caswell	E. Harker
6.45 p.m.	R. Harvey	H. Wheatley

Sunday Sept. 30th.

8 a.m.	D. Barrand	_____
11 a.m.	E. Salter	A. Sears
6.45 p.m.	R. Hall	R. Harvey

Sunday Oct. 7th.

8 a.m.	B. Caswell	_____
11 a.m.	R. Salter	R. Harvey
6.45 p.m.	E. Harker	A. Sears

COLLECTIONS FOR CHURCH EXPENSES

July 22nd, £8 0s. 6d.; July 29th, £8 2s. 0d.; Aug. 5th, £10 7s. 0d.; Aug. 12th, £7 16s. 0d. **Total £34 5s. 6d.**

PARISH REGISTERS**Baptisms**

Aug. 12th. Wendy Jane Reeves; James Hardiman;
Yvonne Cynthia Syril.

Marriages

July 21st. George Ralph Marsden and Josephine Mary Keen.

July 30th. Thomas Henry Marshall and Constance Kate Wixey.

Burials

Aug. 14th.—Fanny Elizabeth Knight, aged 77 years.

CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN

16th August 1956

Dear Mr. Editor,

I am glad to say that I have recovered and am now able to render my useful service to the Village. Without being a "Big Head," I believe I have been much missed. The specialist's fee amounted to £22. I hope that all those who were anxious to see (and hear) me in good working order again will make a contribution on Gift Day (Sunday Sept. 30th) so that I can pay this account.

Yours sincerely,

The Church Clock.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services.—As usual during September.

The Preacher at Evensong on Sunday, September 9th, will be the Rev. Alan Knowles, Regional Secretary, British and Foreign Bible Society.

Harvest Thanksgiving—Sunday October 7th.

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (with Hymns).
5.30 p.m. Evensong.

Collections for Church Expenses (July 22nd to Aug. 12th incl.) **£9 8s. 9d.**

Mothers' Union. Members are reminded that Meetings re-start on Wednesday October 3rd.

Sunday School. It was hardly a "perfect summer day" for the Outing to Stratford-upon-Avon on August 15th, but, fortunately, the rain held off until it was nearly time to return home. It must be regarded as one of the happiest of our Outings and thanks are due to all who contributed towards the cost as well as to Teachers and Helpers. Mr. J. Drysdale once again most generously defrayed the account for the Tea. His kindness is deeply appreciated by us all.

Advt.

F. MASTERS

Painting - Decorating
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**4 BELMONT TERRACE
BADSEY**

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Poor Vicar!

"So the Doctor called to see her,
But the Vicar didn't go;
For the Doctor had been sent for,
But the Vicar didn't know.
Now the Doctor gets his bill paid
With a useful little cheque,
But the Vicar, for not knowing,
Simply gets it in the neck."

—Selly Hill Magazine.

An old villager of ninety-two was accosted by a visitor. "I expect," said the visitor, "you have seen a great many changes in your time." "Aye," replied the old man, "and opposed every one of 'em."