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THE VICAR'S LETTER.

My dear Friends,

I see on looking back to last year that when I was writing my March letter we were in the midst of the Postal Strike. I spoke of the many things which the 'General Public' had to put up with and mentioned the Power Strike which just preceded the Postal strike.

It is sad to think that just 12 months later, as I write the March 1972 letter, we are in the middle of a Miners Strike, with all its attendent dislocation of industry and very great hardship to so many people especially the old and the sick.

Undoubtedly the miners feel that they have a just cause which can only be pursued by every means that they have at hand, and there has been a good deal of sympathy for them among the public. But there is a very real Christian dilemma here as to how far it is permissable to push ones' own causes however just they may be, when so much hardship is caused to so many people. General Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, was once asked to send a message to a big gathering which was being held, I think, in the Albert Hall. This cabled message (he was abroad at the time) consisted of one word - 'Others'. He meant, of course, that the cardinal Christian precept was to put other people first at no matter what inconvenience to oneself.

This is a precept which we might all take to heart. After all it was a basic principle of Our Lord's teaching, and he re-iterated it again and again. God first, others second and self third.

This may very well mean that you may receive unfair and unjust treatment, that you may not be as well off as less deserving people, that you undergo hardships which others do not have to suffer, but it does not give as the moral right to pursue our own claims to the discomfort and hardship of other people; and to the detriment of the country.

I am very sorry to have to tell you that our Lay Reader, Major James Wilson has been "posted" and will be leaving the district at the end of the month. Many of us will miss his sincere sermons, full of faith and conviction; and I shall miss him personally greatly. He has been of so much help to me in taking services both at Bere and Kingston, especially when I was endeavouring to give Kingston an Evensong at the same time as Bere.

We shall all miss him very much and wish him and his family every happiness as they move on to their new sphere of work.

Your sincere friend & Vicar,

EASTER DAY Mrs. Tranter Mrs. G. Griffin. Mrs. Wyatt.

April 9th. Mrs. G. Griff: April 16th. Mrs. Roffey.

Mrs. Sharman.

April 23rd. Miss E. Lys.

Miss A. Lvs.

April 30th. Mrs. Carter Jonas.

Mrs. J. Applin.

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SIDESMEN'S ROTA FOR MARCH.

March 5th. 11 a.m. Messrs. F. Lys & K. Woolfries.

6 p.m. Messrs. G. Ward & F. Marsh.

12th. 11 a.m. Brig. D. Tadman & Major J. Hudson.

6 o.m. Mesers. R. Barnes & M. Barnes.

" 19th. 11 a.m. Messrs. I. Mullins & F. Lys.

6 p.m. Messrs. J. House & D. Poore.

" 26th. 11 a.m. Mr. K. Woolfries & Col. A. Barne.

6 p.m. Messrs. H. Dashwood & F. Marsh.

April 2nd. 11 a.m. Messrs. F. Lys & K. Woolfries.

6 p.m. Messrs. G. Ward & M. Barnes.

The next Quarterly Sidesmen's Moeting will be held at the Vicarage at 8 p.m. on Monday, March 13th. Will Sidesmen please note this date and endeavour to be present.

VILLAGE CALENDAR.

March 6th. Mon. 8 p.m. First Confirmation Class - Vicarage.

7th. Tues. 3 p.m. Congregational Church Women's Guild Spring Sale. Church Hall.

8th. Wed. 8-9. Coffee & Conversation - Vicarage.

9th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

12th. Sun. 3 p.m. Mothering Sunday Service.

15th. Wed. Royal British Legion Womens Section Spring Sale-2.30 p.m. Drax Hall. 8-9 Coffee & Conversation, Vicarage.

16th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

18th. Sat. Put clocks on 1 hour.

22nd. Wed. 2.30 Jumble Sale, Drax Hall.

8-9 Coffee & Conversation - Vicarage.

23rd. Thurs. 2.30 Mothers Union Deanery Festival, Milborne St. Andrew.

26th. Sun. Palm Sunday.

27th. Mon. 7 p.m. Compline.

28th. Tues. 2.30 Social Committee Summerrods.

7 p.m. Compline. continued/.....

March 29th. Wed. 7 p.m. Compline.

" 30th. Maundy Thursday - 7 p.m. Holy Communion.

" 31st. Good Friday - 11 a.m. Mattins. 7 p.m. Devotional Service.

April 1st. Sat. Church Decorating.

2nd. EASTER DAY.

5th. Wed. 7 p.m. Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Drax Hall.

13th. Thurs. 7 p.m. Coffee Evening - Mrs. Todman.

15th. Sat. 4 p.m. Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Bellringers Annual Service.

20th. Thurs. Congregational Coffee Evening - Mrs. Hewitt, 97 North Street - 7.30 p.m.

25th. Tues. Bere Regis Floral Group - Spring Show - 2.30 p.m.
Drax Hall.

26th. Wed. 7 p.m. Archdeacons Visitation, Bere Regis.

May 6th. Sat. W.I. Coffee Morning 10,30 a.m. Sitterton House.

11th. ASCENSION DAY - 7 p.m. Friends of Bere Regis Church Annual Service.

18th. Thurs. Musical Evening in the Church.

19th. Fri. 7 p.m. Confirmation Service - Bere Regis.

21st. Sun. WHIT SUNDAY.

June 8th. Thurs. Congregational Church Coffee Morning - Mrs. Boyd, 19 South Mead 10.30 a.m.

17th. Sat. P.T.A. Carnival with Procession.

24th. Sat. Bere Regis Garden Party.

27th. Tues. 7 p.m. Young Wives' Summer Market at Broadwater.

July 13th. Thurs. R.B.L. Womens Section Garden Party - White Lovington.

16th. Sun. 6.30 Deanery Evensong at Piddletrenthide.

Aug. 12th. Sat. R.B.L. Horticultural Show.

EASTER LILIES FOR REMEMBRANCE.

Will those of you who would like to give a lily at Easter please fill in the list which you will find at the back of the Church. I am hoping that we shall be able to obtain Arum lilies again this year. The names <u>must</u> be down by Passion Sunday, March 19th. The list will be removed on the evening of that day and once it is removed no more names can be accepted for inclusion.

BERE REGIS MOTHERS UNION.

There was a splendid attendance at the first meeting of the newly started M.U. on Feb. 9th. We had a good number of new people at the meeting who were greatly impressed with what Mrs. Shipp had to say. I very much hope that many of them, if not all, will eventually become members of the M.U. Meanwhile I hope to see them all at the next meeting

on March 8th when the M.U. will be coming to Coffee & Conversation at the Vicarage at 8 p.m. and any others who were unable to attend this first

Later on in the month on March 23rd at 2.30 p.m. there is the Deanery Mothers' Union Festival Service at Milborne St. Andrew and I very much hope that a large number of our members will be coming to that.

Name please, as soon as possible to Mrs. England, South Mead or to myself.

PHYLLIS TRANTER.

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JUMBLE SALE

A Jumble Sale will be held in the Drax Hall at 2.30 p.m. on Wednes-day. March 22nd.

The proceeds of this sale will go towards the cost of making up the magnificent kneeler which has been worked in tapestry by members of the Southay Guild for the Altar Rails.

Jumble, good clean clothes only please or hardwear, may be brought to the Vicarage, or to the Drax Hall on the morning of the Sale.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LENT & EASTER.

Special Preachers during Lent:

March 5th. 6 p.m. Rev. A. H. Johnson, Vicar of Affpuddle.

- " 12th. 3 p.m. Mothering Sunday Service Rev. J. Cattell Vicar of Piddletrenthide.
- " 19th. 11 a.m. Rev. H. Treasure, Vicar of Puddletown.
- " 26th. 6 p.m. Rev. K. Bale, Vicar of Piddlehinton.

MID-WEEK:

Evensong 3 p.m. every Thursday with the exception of March 23rd when there is the Deanery Mothers' Union Festival at Milborne St. Andrew.

Coffee & Conversation every Wednesday from 8 - 9 p.m. approx.

Mothering Sunday Service - 3 p.m. March 12th. Preacher, Rev. J. Cattell.

Palm Sunday - Distribution of Palm Crosses at all Services.

HOLY WEEK:

Monday, March 27th. 7 p.m. Compline.

Tues. " 28th. 7 p.m. Compline.

Wed. 29th. 7 p.m. Compline.

Maundy Thursday - 30th. 7 p.m. Holy Communion.

GOOD FRIDAY - March 31st. 11 a.m. Mattins. 7 p.m. Devotional Service of the 7 Lessons with special music sung by the choir.

EASTER DAY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Mattins. 12 noon Holy Communion. 3 p.m. Family Service. 6 p.m. Evensong.

From the Book of Common Prayer: Every Confirmed member of the Church shall communicate at the least three times in the year, of which Easter to be one.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION.

Come and talk about anything you like on Wednesdays between 8-9 approx. at the Vicarage.

Everything absolutely free and easy; air your pet 'bee in the bonnet' no matter how outrageous it may be. Talk about things you feel strongly about. No holds barred!

Religion - life - the times - politics - church - the old - the young - television - cinema - theatre - anything you like.

Come and go as you please but do come. Your coffee is free too!

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - WOMEN'S SECTION. Bere Regis & District Branch.

Owing to the fuel emergency the February Meeting was cancelled.

Members are reminded that the Spring Sale is on March 15th, 2.30 p.m.

Admission is free.

Stalls - Grocery, Cake, Jumble, White elephant, Tombola & Raffle.
Any gifts can be left at the Drax Hall 11 a.m.

A. L. COLES - Sec.

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The following was anonymously put through the Vicarage door for publication in the March Magazine. With some hesitation the Editor has included it as requested.

YOUR VICAR.

Have you ever thought how nice it is
To have your own about the place?
To know he's always there on call
Prap's popping in and out?
What 'ere may come your way to bear
To know he's there to care?
When babes are born its him you need
With all your care and thought
To see the little child you love
To God be safely brought.

When you are young and love should call Your life and self to share, Then to your church you go at once Your promise to make there.

cont'd

And what if ill or sorrow come
Does he desert you then?
Not he, his prayers and kindly thoughts
He offers up to heaven,
And all the way he goes with you
Your dear one's left to rest.
He may not be all you desire
But surely does his best.

Some villages have not their own, But share him with some others, And find it not so easy there To ask him re their bothers. Should you not go on Sunday each Your care for him be lent, Then don't forget on Easter Day Your gift to him be sent.

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ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

RETIREMENT OF SECRETARY:

To many people the Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society is just a name, but to Bro. Alfred Barnes it is a Society which he has served as secretary for the past 52 years, surely a record of service of which not many can boast.

He succeeded the late Mr. J. Bugby as secretary when the funds and membership were not in such a healthy position as they are today and until the National Health Insurance was taken over by the State in 1948 he had control of 500 National Insurance Cards. Until his retirement his working life was spent with Bedford & Jesty (Farm Foods) Ltd., in the local watercress industry, this service only being broken during the years he served his country in the First World War. His connections with the various organisations in the village will always be remembered and appreciated by those with whom he served.

Recently Bro. Barnes has not enjoyed the best of health and his spell in hospital finally decided him that the time had come for his retirement. The Committee and all members of Court Prospect express their thanks and appreciation for the loyal service he has rendered to the Court and sincerely hope that his health will improve for him to enjoy his retirement.

As from the 1st April, 1972, P. Mintern, 8 Egdon Close, Bere Regis, will succeed Bro. Barnes as secretary of Court Prospect.

The meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall, on Tuesday, 14th March there will be a talk with slides about Canada by Miss Beatty, and on the 28th slides by Mrs. Benjafield.

BERE REGIS WOMENS INSTITUTE.

The January meeting took place in the Drax Hall. Mrs. Howard the President welcomed Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Davies and Mrs. Knowler who are new members, also Mrs. Sharman, Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. F. Applin who rejoined. Miss Hyde and Mrs. Abbott were re-elected as Group Representatives. Mrs. Andrews read a link letter from New Zealand. A competition for a bowl of fruit was won by Mrs. Cleall. The speaker was Miss Beatty, who gave a talk with slides about Canada. Mrs. Collis gave the vote of thanks, and the tea hostesses were Mrs. Collis and Mrs. Porter. There is to be a Coffee Morning at Sitterton House on Saturday, 6th May at 10.30. The speaker for March will be Mr. D. Whatmoor, who will be talking about Old Class.

LUNCH CLUB.

Will all those able to help organise a Lunch Club for the elderly people of the village please come to CULEAZE on Thursday, 9th March at 6.30 p.m.

It would be a great assistance if heads or representatives of all relevant organisations could come too.

MRS. BARNE.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP.

Results of bulb competition held last month:

Bowl of Daffodils - 1st. Mrs. Cross.

Bowl of Hyacinths - 1st. Mrs. Tranter. 2nd. Miss Llewellin.

Pot Plant - 1st. Mrs. Tranter.

Winner of Rose Bowl for most number of points - Mrs. Tranter. On March 14th Mrs. Joan Dunne will talk about drift wood and

Our Spring Show will be held on April 25th.

P. H.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTER

Burial: Feb. 7th. James Vacher. 71 years.

"SMALL ADS".

(15p every three lines).

FOR SALE:

dried

Childs metal garden swing - £1.50. No.7 South Mead, Bere Regis.

The A.G.M. of Bere Regis Youth Club will be held on Tuesday, May 2nd, 8 p.m. at Club Hut. Parents or anyone interested are invited to attend.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTHS QUIZ.

- Respectively: Brookfield; Harrow; Dotheboys Hall; United Services 1. College (then at Westward Ho!); Rugby. One mark each.
- Respectively: Impecuniosity (blent with incurable optimism!); confusion between words; jealousy; avarice (and/or ruthless vindictiveness): hypocrisy. One mark each.
- Respectively: Ethel Mannin; Jerrard Tickell; Margery Sharp; 3. Graham Greene; Winston Churchill. One mark each.
- 4. (a) Julius Caesar; (b) Pickwick Papers; (c) The Wind in the Willows; (d) Goldsmith's Elegy on the Death of a Mad Dog; (e) Through the Looking Glass. One mark each.
- 5. (a) Lute (or more correctly lyre); (b) harp; (c) bassoon. One mark each.
- 6. (a) Shakespeare; (b) Bacon; (c) Anne Hathaway; (d) Stratford-on-Avon. One mark each.
- Respectively: Charlotte Bronte; Cannon Hannay; Charles Dickins; Charles Lamb; Rev. C. L. Dodgson. One mark each.
- 8. Respectively: Little by Little; What you Will; A Lesson to Fathers. One mark each.
- 9. Respectively: Bedford Gaol; Stoke Poges; Reading Gaol. One mark each.
- ALICE IN WONDERLAND. Two marks. 10.

Full marks are 40; 30 and over - excellent; 20-29, passable; under 20 - better luck next time.

PRIMATE'S VISIT TO ULSTER.

The cheerfulness, alertness and high morale of the troops and chaplains he met were the points which impressed the Archbishop of York during a one-day visit to Northern Ireland last month.

Accompanied by the Chaplain-General (Archdeacon J. R. Youens), the Archbishop spent the morning visiting the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, a unit which comes from Catterick in the Archbishop's own diocese. He spent time talking to officers and men both in barracks and on the streets of Belfast.

After lunch with the GOC-in-C (Lieut-Gen. Sir Harry Tuzo) the Primate flew by helicopter to Londonderry to talk to troops on duty in the city. He then returned to RAF Aldergrove to meet personnel before flying back to Leeds.

Back in York the Archbishop commented: "I was most impressed with all I saw, but particularly the cheerfulness, alertness and morale of the men to whom I spoke. The Army in Northern Ireland is obviously doing a first-class peace-keeping job under very difficult conditions".