ST. MARY THE VIRGIN WITH ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
MARLBOROUGH

Tower and Town

No. 15 *NOVEMBER* 1961

Ring up good bells ! ring up ! ring down !
May Marlborough towers call Marlborough town.
John Betjeman

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RECTOR'S LETTER

My Dear Parishioners,

When we are worried the best line to take is to make up our minds what, if anything, we can do about the cause of the worry. If the answer is " Something " we must begin to work out what that something is. If the answer is " Nothing " then we must accept it. In either case we shall stop worrying.

Two big worries of the ordinary man to-day are the possibility of catastrophe from nuclear bombs or from a collapse of morals. There is something we can do about both these.

We may or may not be certain as to who is in the right of it about unilateral disarmament ; but whether for, against, or undecided, we can all pray about it. Why and how we should do this the Archbishop of Canterbury has been telling us on T.V. and radio : in case you missed this we have given the substance of it on page 3. For the danger lies in men's minds and in recesses of the spirit accessible only to prayer.

The second cause of our disquiet—the decline of morals—is thought by some to be the greater. You do not need me to tell you all that it involves, for you can read in your newspaper every day about depravity and violence and about incitements to self-interest and self-indulgence as the be-all and end-all of life. Again we can do something about it : indeed we are not behaving as Christians unless we do. Our every act of worship and witness, in church and out, *is* doing something about it. As a writer in the *Spectator* put it recently, " the Christian directive remains as humdrum and as vigorous as it has always been ; prayer and the sacraments, doing battle with all one's loveless impulses, being faithful to one's family, one's friends, one's fellow-believers, caring for the poor and the sick, accepting the unlovable and unattractive ".

November, with its themes of thanksgiving for the example of the saints and Remembrance-tide, is a particularly good time to think about this. For the Christian life is always a warfare, it is always "fighting the good fight": there is much encouragement to be had from remembering the victories of our faith.

Your friend and Rector,

FRANCIS BROWNE

DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

Our regular Services on Sundays and week-days are listed inside the front cover. Additional Services and changes in time or place are given below. For forthcoming events see the *News* : *Views* : *Coming Events* page.

1st Wednesday. **All Saints' Day.** Holy Communion at 7 a.m. in St. Mary's and 10.30 a.m. in St. Peter's. (*Thanksgiving for the Saints*)

2nd Thursday. **Commemoration of All Souls.** Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*Departed Souls*)

5th TRINITY XXIII. Sunday in the Octave of All Saints. Special Preacher for C.M.S. at 11.15 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.: The Rt. Rev. John Mann, D.D., formerly Bishop of Kyushu (Japan). Congregational Music Practice after Evensong. (*The Parish and Christian Leadership*)

8th Wednesday. Commemoration of the Saints, Martyrs and Doctors of the Church of England. Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*The Communion of Saints*)

12th TRINITY XXIV. **Remembrance Sunday.** Matins 10.55 a.m. Congregational Music Practice after Evensong. (*The Parish; the Peace of the World*)

15th Wednesday. Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*The will for peace in Russia*)

19th TRINITY XXV. Parish Communion 9 a.m. (Martin Shaw setting). (*The Parish and Christian Fellowship*)

21st Tuesday. Holy Communion 10.30 a.m. St. Peter's. (*The parishes of the Deanery*)

22nd Wednesday. Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*The Rural-deanal Conference*)

26th SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT. (*The Parish, especially the Stewardship of Time and Talents*)

29th Wednesday. Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*The old and the lonely*)

30th Thursday. **St. Andrew, A.M.** Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*Vocations for Missions*)

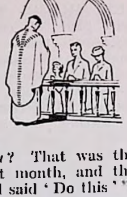
ALFRED SWANN, *PRIEST*

Canon Alfred Swann, D.S.C., M.A., Canon Emeritus of Salisbury Cathedral, former Dean of Hong Kong, Rector and Rural Dean of Marlborough 1941-1952, died at his home at Combe Florey, Taunton, on October 7th.

Many of you had experience at first hand of the wonderful fortitude and grace which enabled him to overcome a pain and disease which brought him to the very edge of the grave before he left Marlborough. No-one in his full strength could have been more generous of time and trouble in handing over his parish than Alfred Swann in his weakness was to me. His great wish and work for Marlborough was the unity of the parish. We are truly grateful for that work, and for the witness of courageous acceptance which he maintained through years of pain. We offer Mrs. Swann and the family our affectionate sympathy. A Memorial Service was held in St. Mary's on the day of the funeral, Wednesday, October 11th.

FRANCIS BROWNE

HOW OFTEN?



Is it an optional extra? That was the question we asked last month, and the answer was "Our Lord said 'Do this'". The next question is bound to be *How Often?* For to go to Holy Communion is not merely to go to a service: it is to go to Someone—our Lord Himself.

Such a great privilege and duty can't be a matter for last minute decisions, for fitting in when we have time or aren't feeling tired, so we must make a rule about it. When we were Confirmed one of our first duties was to make this rule. But we don't have to stop there: rules need revising as we grow and develop.

Perhaps our first rule was once a month. Next, then, we shall begin to make our Communion also on special occasions: special Church occasions, such as Ash Wednesday, during Holy Week and on parish festivals like St. Peter's day and the feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and on our own personal special occasions—anniversaries (birthday, Confirmation Day, wedding day), when we are taking up new work, if someone we love is ill, or when we want to say thank-you for a particular happiness.

Then our Prayer Book gives us guidance. The rule we find there, of "not less than three times a year", is amplified and buttressed by the provision of Epistles and Gospels for the Holy Communion service for every Sunday in the year and many Holy Days as well. The first Christians partook of the Lord's Supper every first day of the week.

There can be no such thing as "going too often", as long as we never go without the proper preparation of prayer and penitence. It isn't what we *feel* when we go that matters—trying to "feel holy" never got anyone anywhere. We don't have to worry about that. What happens to us at Holy Communion we can safely leave to our Lord: He has told us we shall find Him there.

FRANCIS BROWNE

Next month: *HOW TO PREPARE*

THE BOMB

On Sunday October 15th, and again early on the following Monday and Tuesday mornings, the Archbishop of Canterbury broadcast a message on Praying for Peace. This is what he wrote about it in his Diocesan Notes last month:

"No one wants war, least of all Russia, which like the rest of us, would gain nothing from war except her own destruction in the general holocaust. If the Powers possessed only conventional weapons there could be the risk of an aggressive war being planned, and with the existence of the present balance of deterrence every Power knows that an aggressive war can achieve nothing.

"Yet the nuclear weapons, while they deter aggression, provide the constant danger of war erupting through some foolish, impetuous action on someone's part. Hence the need is more urgent than ever for a detente, with the will to discuss. Because this depends upon the collective will of the leaders, it can be affected powerfully by the prayers of those who will pray.

"I ask that in the coming weeks the clergy will specially lead the people in the parishes in prayer for peace. Pray for the leaders that wisdom may guide their actions, and that whenever there is obstinacy, cynicism and fear they may yield to willing co-operation, concern for humanity and trust.

What We Can Do

"Pray for the people of Russia, that their love for peace may influence the actions of their leaders. Pray that we may light the evil of Communism by the submission of ourselves more truly to God's purposes in the care for the impoverished wherever we may help them, and by practising urgently that love and respect for persons which Communism denies.

"There is nothing new for Christians in being near to danger: the first Christians felt themselves very near to the end of the world. But they were enabled to possess the peace of God in their hearts in a God-given serenity and trust. That gift God still gives if we ask Him".

CAN'T WE GET TOGETHER AGAIN SOON? *We miss the Church Fair . . . . can't we have another party? . . . . what about something new?* We "had it all over" in the P.C.C. last month, and we hope we shall succeed in pleasing everyone with the result: *First—A COFFEE EVENING* (7 p.m. to 9 p.m.) in the Town Hall on Wednesday, November 29th, with Stalls and Competitions. Everyone on the Electoral Roll will receive an invitation, but anyone else reading this who attends our churches will be very welcome, too. At Christmas we like to remember the children, so we hope to make a good sum of money during the evening to divide between the Church of England Children's Society, the N.S.P.C.C., and the Pestalozzi Children's Village. *Second—A BUFFET SUPPER AND SMOKING CONCERT* in the Town Hall on Wednesday, February 7th. So be practising your parlour tricks—conjuring? a song? or maybe something more ambitious? M.B.

★

LAND OF CHERRYBLOSSOM and of earthquakes, of Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples . . . . but also of 93 million people in an area only half as large again as the United Kingdom, the most literate country in the world—where scarcely one-half per cent. of the whole population is Christian: that is the field for Christian missionaries in Japan, an immense and continual challenge. The week-end of November 5th to 6th will find us hearing about their work. Bishop John Mann, who was formerly Bishop of Kyushu, will be preaching on behalf of C.M.S. at both Matins and Evensong on the Sunday, and on the following evening, Monday, he will be showing a new C.M.S. film about Japan, in the Toc H Room at 7.45 p.m. The Rev. E. Corr, C.M.S. Area Secretary will also be at this meeting.

★

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Parents will like to know that for the time being the Sunday Schools will go on just as usual. Mr. Armand Smith will take over the leadership of the Junior Sunday School when Miss Lewis sails, with our love and best wishes, to New Zealand. It seems possible that new proposals may emerge from the enquiries we are making, but until they do it will be "Sunday School as usual". F.B.R.B.

NEW MUSIC. The P.C.C. has been very glad to endorse Mr. Gartside's suggestion that we should enlarge our repertoire of music for the Sung Communion service yet further. The music by Martin Shaw, which many churches use as an alternative to Merbecke, is a setting for congregational singing which is more tuneful than Merbecke, without being either jazzy or off-beat. We shall have congregational practices of Shaw after Evensong, as we did last year before using the Beaumont setting. These will be on November 5th and November 12th. We shall use the Shaw setting first at Parish Communion on November 19th, and then for the next few Sundays up to and including the Parish Communion on December 19th. By then we shall know how well we like it and shall be able to discuss how often it should be sung as an alternative to Merbecke. F.B.R.B.

★

HARVEST FESTIVAL GIFTS—"*The Season's Greetings*". On the Monday morning after Harvest Festival forty or fifty visits are made round the Parish. First the harvest gifts are arranged in baskets, each with a bunch of flowers. A name is then put in each basket from a list which includes some who can no longer get to church, some who no longer have a garden of their own, and some who we know will especially like to have this greeting. These tokens of remembrance and affection are invariably greatly appreciated. We shall always be grateful to those who suggest names for this list and enable us to give this pleasure. F.B.R.B.

★

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY. Mrs. H. E. Lansley, writes that the Jumble Sale on September 16th raised the very satisfactory sum of £28, and asks us to express the Society's thanks to the very willing helpers, and also to all those who came to buy.

★

ONLY SIXPENCE—the special B.F.B.S. edition of St. John's Gospel in the New English Bible translation. This attractively produced booklet is now on sale in both our churches. If you haven't yet read the New Testament in the new translation and are not sure whether you like the idea of the Bible in contemporary English, why not use this "sample" to try it out?

PERSONAL POSER

Do I have to believe in Hell?

"The whole conception is wicked, shocking, and monstrous, and not a splinter of its nauseous wreckage can be retained". That was the view of Canon Percy Dearmer. He was speaking of a doctrine which, put crudely, asks us to suppose that God created millions whom He knows to be destined to endless agony; and that He has devised means of torment for these unfortunates whose lives He will prolong for ever in order that they may be for ever miserable.

This is a crudity that need not trouble you. It is not a doctrine of our Church. God is love. Believe nothing of God which you cannot believe of Jesus Christ.

But what other word would you use for the experience of finding out that something for which you had schemed and worked because you thought it would satisfy you was, when you got it, quite worthless? And that you wanted something quite different which it was now too late for you to find?

To use a very rudimentary example: it might be a fisherman's hell to catch enormous fish day in day out for ages; a hell because he was made for something more than that. It might be the only way for him to learn what he *was* made for—that the chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him for ever.

If there is a happiness, a Heaven, to be found in attaining the goal for which we were created, there must also be a misery, a Hell, in the loss of it by our own fault. Yet the great gulf fixed, which separates us from what alone will give us joy—that gulf is not fixed by God but by us. His love continues and He has all eternity to work in.

F.B.R.B.

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FAMILIAR FACE No. 15

AUGUSTA SIMONS

When we see Mrs. Simons' cheerful, determined figure walking up the High Street to church it is hard to believe that she will be 85 on Christmas Eve. All her long life has been lived in Marlborough and around St. Peter's Girls' School; she was married in 1903 in St. Peter's Church; and her husband was a sidesman there from 1906 till his death in 1947. Mr. Simons, who came from Thame in 1897 and was the proprietor of the baker's and confectioner's shop at the College end of the High Street, was twice Mayor of Marlborough—and Mrs. Simons enjoyed being Mayoress. She has very happy memories of church work, particularly when Mr. Hoste was Rector—of sewing parties at the Rectory and of helping with the Sunday School treats in the days when, after a service in St. Peter's, all the children walked up to the Forest for a picnic at Bradon Oak. To-day she is an enthusiastic member of the Over Sixties, the Bright Hour, and Preshute W.I. It was rather hard work persuading her to be Familiar Face No. 15, but we are very glad we succeeded.

A WEEK TO REMEMBER

IRENE PHILLIPS

* * * * * * * * * * *

I have just experienced the most memorable week of my life: I have been to Lee Abbey.

Some of you may not have heard of it, so I will begin by telling you what Lee Abbey is and stands for.

It is a large country house, standing in its own grounds of 260 acres of the most lovely North Devon coastland, two miles west of Lynton. The estate was bought in faith in 1945 by means of a large sum of money raised through gifts and loans from a number of men and women who believed that if an ordinary, everyday life could be lived out somewhere by ordinary but vitally Christian people, others could come and live with them for shorter or longer periods, and a good holiday could be combined with an opportunity of discussing the deeper things of life.

Holiday with a Difference

Lee Abbey is staffed by a community of dedicated Anglican Christians, some fifty in number and of all ages, and the house accommodates about 130 guests in rooms for from one to four people. Guests, who need not belong to the Church of England although the majority do, are asked to attend the evening Epilogue, when talks and discussions take place dealing with some of the essentials of Christian faith and living. But there is no compulsion on anyone to attend the morning sessions for training in Christian leadership and evangelism which are held for those who wish to learn more of their faith. So nearly all day can be free for guests who want to take advantage of the lovely walks and drives, the tennis and bathing, which are within a stone's throw of the house—if you are good at throwing stones!

Hard to Describe

There is a service at the conclusion of each party at which those who wish can become "Lee Abbey Friends". A Friend must be willing to declare acceptance of Christ as his or her personal Saviour, must be prepared to work for the conversion of others within the life of the Church, and undertake to pray for the renewal of the Church, for the work of Lee Abbey, and for other Friends. Seven thousand people have made these promises in the fourteen years that the house has been open.

This bald description can give no idea of the wonderful atmosphere of Christian love which permeates the house. Under its influence visitors of all ages have come to understand that God needs them for special work, and very many have answered the call to become missionaries and to take up all kinds of social work.

St. Francis Again

You will have read in last month's issue of *Tower and Town* about St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis called his monks together for a great conference before sending them out on their missionary venture—it was called "the Chapter of Mats" because the monks were housed in straw-thatched huts. This was the origin of the "Chapter of Friends" which I attended from September 9th to 16th, when 500 out of the 7,000 Friends gathered at Lee Abbey to consider "Our Task for Tomorrow". Needless to say, we could not all get into Lee Abbey itself, so we were quartered in hotels in Lynton, Lynmouth and the surrounding area: and we met in a huge marquee on the lawn —rather perilously it seemed sometimes, as we caught the tail end of "Hurricane Nancy" and a working party with mallets was kept constantly on the go hammering in the tent-stakes.

Our programme was very full. Every morning we had a most inspiring Bible Study from Canon Wallace Bird on "The Kingdom of the Spirit", followed by talks on the changing aspects of the world from various points of view. Then in the afternoon we met in groups of a dozen to talk over the theme of "The Lee Abbey Friends in the Life of the Church", when we considered any special aspect or need which had been experienced by members of the groups. Finally at night we met again in the marquee for "Meeting Point", when the results of the afternoon group meetings were announced and again discussed in a body. It was surprising how often the same need had been felt by several groups.

Continued on page 7

THE LAST OF THE HOLIDAYS

LOBSTERS AND TIMINIES



"I did like all the timinies in the pools", said a small London boy at a seaside outing; and it took his teacher a moment to recognise the quotation from the Fourth Commandment—". . . . the sea and all that in them is". You meet with lots of timinies when you go lobster fishing.

We use a team of three creels which we set alongside cairns of stones which are going to stay covered at low water. The best bait is garnets, which are tough and tasty, but any fresh white fish will do such as haddock or whiting. We sometimes use mackerel or herring but these are liable to attract dog fish which are useless, and conger eels which are unpleasant companions in a boat —" If we get a conger Dad gets out and walks!"

It is fun lifting the pots. Sometimes there is a lobster, or even two or three; but more often not. But the creel is never empty. The lobsters keep the creel to themselves, but if there is no lobster there will be crabs, perhaps twenty or thirty. The green "Jack Ablers" and the brown "Shiners" are useless. The eating crabs, if they are hard shelled, are very welcome. There will be whelks, and hermit crabs in whelk shells; these are nice people whom the ruthless use for bait on their fishing lines, tapping the end of the shell to get the crab to walk out. Twice friends of ours have caught an otter in their creels. Otters are fond of conger eels, for food not company, and will sometimes follow a conger into a creel and get drowned. Sometimes there are star fish in variety and prawns too greedy to leave the bait.

On the way to set the pots we usually see porpoises and sometimes seals, and we have met whales. On a calm day there is a lovely world to be seen on the sea bed; the sea urchins, anemones, scallops, flat fish and the tangle of weed and wrack. We may not get lobsters but we do see some lovely timinies.

F.B.R.B.

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continued from page 6

Top Speakers

The Chairman of the Council, the Bishop of Coventry, was one of the speakers. Others were the Bishop Suffragan and the Archdeacon of Maidstone, the Bishop of Liverpool, the Bishop Suffragan of Crediton, the Bishop-elect of Whitby and the Rev. Donald Knight, Rector of Harlow New Town (all members of the Lee Abbey Council); Father Mark Gibbard, one of the Cowley Fathers, who spoke on the Liturgy; Mr. Donald Hughes, Headmaster of Rydal School, on the changing background of youth to-day; and the much-loved Warden of Lee Abbey, Geoffrey Rogers. Everything was quite informal and we laughed a good deal more than seemed possible, considering the seriousness of the subjects under discussion—another link with St. Francis.

Looking Forward

The Chapter ended with a closing address by the Bishop of Coventry, and then all 500 of us received Holy Communion. Afterwards we said goodbye to the friends we had made and hoped to meet again at another gathering, all of us very much heartened and eager to know what God had in store for us.

IRENE PHILLIPS

TOPICS OF THE TOWN

RETIREMENT OF MISS F. M. SLADE

It is twenty-eight years since Miss Slade joined Miss Marjorie Pearce, then a newly appointed Head Teacher, at St. Mary's Girls' School and started a career of teaching service in Marlborough for which innumerable families must be grateful. It is proposed to mark the occasion of Miss Slade's retirement at the end of this term with an expression of this gratitude. Miss Marjorie Pearce, 36 St. Martin's, has kindly agreed to act as Treasurer of a "Miss Slade Testimonial Fund", and will gratefully acknowledge every gift to the Fund which is sent to her.

As Chairman of the School Managers I commend this Fund to you most warmly and ask you to make it known as widely as possible among old pupils and their parents. F. B. R. BROWNE

SEEING THE WORLD

During the summer vacation I spent three-and-a-half months in North America. To defray part of the cost of getting there and seeing the country, I worked for two months in a paper mill, on the engineering side, in Kenogami, about 100 miles north of Quebec City. The whole district is French speaking and only a few people there are bilingual. The country is rich timber land and many of the rivers have hydro-electric plants. Thus the paper mills have power and raw materials on their doorsteps. The trees are cut in the fall and pulled to the river banks. In the spring they are floated down to the mills. Some of the wood is used immediately and some stacked for the winter.

In the mill I became friendly with a Canadian student who had always wanted to do a tour of America, but had never been able to find a travelling companion. He had a car and so we set out for the West coast, picking up his brother and two of my friends on the way. We saved on living costs by camping and cooking our own meals. We travelled 6,500 miles in the car: from Kenogami west to Vancouver, south to San Francisco and Los Angeles, and then east across Arizona, Texas and Oklahoma to St. Louis. I travelled the rest of the way to New York by bus. A cruise round Manhattan and a ride on the Staten Island Ferry completed a wonderful holiday. D. H. CHANDLER

NEWS BRIEFS

Marlborough Congregational Church. Advance notice: Christmas Sale in the Schoolroom on Saturday, December 2nd. Fancy Goods, Provisions, Teas. To be opened by the Mayoress. Doors open at 2.45 p.m.

Savernake Hospital is extremely grateful to the boys of Marlborough College for their hard work at the successful fete which they held at the College on September 30th in aid of the Nurses' Recreation Hall. £102 was raised. All the Nurses are now busy in their off-duty periods knitting and sewing for the Hospital Christmas Fayre which is to be held in the Town Hall on Saturday, November 18th.

Christopher Crook was unavoidably prevented from joining the Voluntary Service Overseas Organisation in Vietnam. He has now been appointed to the Secretary's Department of the Central Electricity Board in London.

N.S.P.C.C. is holding a Jumble Sale on Saturday, November 4th, at 2.30 p.m. in the Toc H Room.

SCHOOL NEWS

Marlborough Convalescent School

Our school is small in comparison with most schools: there are 70 to 80 pupils at present and six teachers, including the Headmaster. The children here now come from many different places —Walsall, London, Oxford, Swindon, Weymouth, Bridgwater and the Isle of Wight.

We keep to a timetable. The form-master takes us for all our lessons except Art and Handicrafts. A woman teacher takes the girls for needlework, while the boys go off to do leather-work or basketwork. We also watch a Science programme on the television, and listen to a Music programme and another Science one on the radio.

During the morning children with asthma have to be excused for about

twenty minutes while they do breathing exercises with the physiotherapist. Also those who need leg exercises or sunray treatment have to go to the special room while the others continue with their lessons. Some of our school hours are spent seeing the doctor, or having blood-tests in our own ward.

The view from our windows is very pleasant. We are able to see the various caravans parked on the Common ready for the Fair. On some days the College boys pass by, either doing cross-country running or training for rugby. Tractors go up and down the road, their drivers sometimes stopping to check if the cows are contented. The Secondary Modern School is about 180 yards away from us. We can often hear the school bell and their voices echoing across the Common.

Most children enjoy the school and greatly appreciate all that the staff do for them. FAY EAVES

Marlborough Infants' School

After the summer holidays we have a lot of new children and a new teacher called Mrs. Hope. The rest of us all went into a new class. I am in the top class now. REBECCA LAWRENCE

St. Mary's Girls' School

At School the Prefects have been chosen. Kathryn Kuster is Captain of Elizabeth Barrett Browning House (Yellow), Lindsay McLeish of Florence Nightingale House (Red), Janet Raisey of Mary Slessor (Green) and I am Captain of Kathleen Ferrier (Blue). We are very pleased to welcome Mr. Armand Smith who comes to teach Form II Scripture on Tuesdays. We have not had much fruit this year in the school garden because the frost killed most of the blossom. CHRISTINE EDWARDS

Marlborough Grammar School

At the beginning of this term we welcomed three new additions to the staff—Mesdames Pearson, Pollock and Hardstaff, all of whom have joined us at a very difficult period. With part of the new building already in use, it has been an almost impossible task for the Headmaster to draw up a practical time-table. Nevertheless, we have by now settled down to a somewhat different routine, even if it does mean catching 'buses to lessons!

The School Rugger XV have made a very promising start to the new season —mainly due to their fitness. After all, who wouldn't be fit after missing the 'bus a few times and having to walk three-quarters of a mile uphill!

GRAMMARIAN II

St. Peter's Boys' School

Our autumn term started on Monday, September 11th. This year we have the lowest number of boys on record —only 112. We extend a hearty welcome to Mrs. Dimmock, who has come to teach the boys in Standard 3. We hope she will enjoy many happy years with us. The following appointments have been made: *Prefects*: John Hunns, John Dobie, Roland Styles, Brian Mabbutt. *'Bus Prefect*: Nicholas Flippence. *Librarians*: Brian Mabbutt, Robert Dyson. *National Savings Monitor and Dinner Boy*: R. V. Huxley.

R. V. HUXLEY

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

I think St. Peter's Curfew Bell was stopped when the 1914 War started. If I remember rightly all bells were stopped. I have lived near St. Peter's Church all my life and remember the Curfew ringing each evening at eight o'clock. It also rang the date of the month. As children we used to count the strokes to see if the right date had been remembered. St. Mary's rang at 9 o'clock. I remember my mother telling me when I was a child of a family that was lost on the downs and it was the Curfew Bell that guided them back to Marlborough. Yours faithfully,

A. E. SIMONS

WHAT'S COOKING?

Scotch Black Bun

Pastry: 8 ozs. flour; 4 ozs. margarine; milk to mix. Filling: 1 lb. currants; 1 lb. raisins; ½ teasp. Jamaica pepper; ½ teasp. black pepper; ½ teasp. mixed spice; 8 ozs. flour; 4 ozs. brown sugar; ½ teasp. ground ginger; 1 teacup milk.

Prepare pastry and with it line an oblong tin, leaving sufficient for lid. Mix all ingredients of filling together, press into the tin and put on pastry lid. Bake in a hot oven for 10 minutes, then at a moderate heat for 2 hours. Very strengthening!

Contributed by Mrs. D. O. Bedbrook

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ROUND THE PARISH IN OUR PRAYERS

NOVEMBER

This month please ask God to bless all who live in these roads, on the Sunday named, and the week following :—

1st Sunday : Forest Hill (top)
2nd Sunday : High Street 1-50
3rd Sunday : Queensway
4th Sunday : "The street I live in"

"O Heavenly Father, bless our neighbours, that they and we may share Thy heavenly calling; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen".

The Wardens for these streets are :
1 Mrs. Harrison
2 Mrs. Pratt
3 Miss Bradshaw

HOLY BAPTISM

Oct. 8th Debra Crole

HOLY MATRIMONY

Sept. 22rd William Patrick Gowers to Caroline Molesworth Maurice

26th David Alexander George Verney to Judith Susan West (at Huish)

30th Michael Anthony Francis Ponting to Wendy Margaret Watson

R. I. P.

Aug. 24th Frederick William Charles Rushen, of Herd Street

Oct. 4th Alfred Swann, Priest, at Bicknoller, Taunton. Formerly Rector of Marlborough

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PARISH PRAYER No. 13

For All Saints'-tide . . . .

Grant, O Heavenly Father, that in the communion of saints we may become true companions of those who have loved Thee in this life, and with them keep Thy commandments unto the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

From Milner-White, "Daily Prayer".

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* FAMILY NEWS *
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Bon voyage to Una Lewis who sets out for New Zealand on November 30th on the S.S. Orcades sailing from Tilbury. She will arrive at Auckland on January 6th (after three days in Sydney) and expects to be met by her sister Winnie and her brother-in-law, and also by the Godfreys. She plans to be home again for Christmas 1962, but we shall hope to hear from her often in between.

* * * *

Thank you to Mrs. E. H. Webber for giving a tapestry mat of her own working for the font at St. Peter's to replace the worn one which went astray at this year's spring-cleaning.

* * * *

Five members of the congregation offered cars to take *the Disabled* to church on Harvest Festival Sunday.

* * * *

Stephen Speight, a former chorister and later a tenor in the choir, and an old Grammarian, writes that he is marrying a German girl in Hamburg at Christmas. He graduated from Oxford this summer with second class Honours and has just begun teaching at a new Comprehensive School in Slough.

* * * *

The Ruri-decanal Conference meets in Marlborough on November 22nd. This is the body to which each *P.C.C.* sends lay representatives to join with the clergy in a Conference of the Rural Deanery (in our case 13 parishes). This Conference in turn chooses lay representatives to join with clergy and ex-officio members in the *Diocesan Conference*, from which members are chosen to serve on the *Church Assembly* in London. The number of representatives each P.C.C. may send to the R.D. Conference depends on the number of names on each electoral roll. Marlborough sends six: they are Messrs. Bedbrook, Chandler and Figgins, Mrs. Lane, and the Misses Phillips and Barton.

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YOUNG MARLBOROUGH No. 3

WORKING A PASSAGE

Nicholas Maurice

Four of us, all members of the Voluntary Service Overseas organisation, sailed from Liverpool on the evening of August 31st to the strains of "Land of Hope and Glory" and the hooting of tugs. We were working our passage and so occupying seamen's cabins, which were not uncomfortable but extremely cramped.

Our first morning on board the bosun handed us a swab and a pail of warm water each and took us along to the crewdeck (which is one of the holds in the most forward part of the ship) and told us to swab down the deck head. The next day was spent chipping rust and painting over it with lead oxide paint. And then we got down to painting the whole deck head. The painting was frightful. There we were, right for-ard, where one got the maximum amount of motion, perched on trestles which rocked backwards and forwards, almost tipping us off. The smell of the paint, its sickly green colour, the continual reaching upwards and sloshing backwards and forwards, which made your arm feel like dropping off, all added to our discomfort. I was the only one to drop a full pot of paint and succeeded in doing this on two occasions!

As we were working and messing with the crew we got an inside view of merchant seamen. (Suffice it to say, they were just what seamen are reputed to be!) Unfortunately we were unable to use the facilities and activities laid on for the passengers, so our greatest enemy was boredom. But after exactly a week without sight of land, we arrived at Bathurst, capital of Gambia, where we had three hours shore leave and where we got our first taste of AFRICA. Delicious! Two days later we reached Freetown. This occupies a glorious position with a high range of forested hills rising sharply behind the town. Three days later we docked at Takeradi or rather we anchored in the harbour, as there was street rioting due to a dock strike and we were not allowed ashore. And then, finally, Lagos.

From Lagos two of us flew to Cotenou in Dahomey, and then on to Lome, capital of Togoland. I now await my

Continued in next column

Continued from previous column

marching orders for Sokode, a small town 300 miles inland, where I expect to remain for the coming year.

NICHOLAS MAURICE.

* * * * * * * * * * *

PARISH ROUND-UP

* * * * * * * *

NEWS OF MEETINGS

The Men's Society had a good attendance with several new faces, at their first monthly meeting on October 5th when Mr. Dennis Silk described the M.C.C. New Zealand tour, which he captained, and showed some excellent colour slides. This good start to the season is being followed up on November 2nd with *the Rev. P. F. Chapman*, of Marlborough College, speaking on *The Parson's Job*: no holds barred to the laymen present when it comes to the discussion afterwards. All men very welcome. D.G.C.

* * * *

The Mothers' Union, St. Mary's Guild and Young Wives' Group have their important *Business Meetings on November 9th at 7.30 p.m. and November 16th at 2.30 p.m.* when Officers and Committee will be elected for a three-year period, and the 1962 programmes will be discussed. If you want interesting, lively programmes come along and make sure the right people are elected to the committee! M.B.

* * * *

All those who attended the **U.M.C.A.** meeting after Evensong on September 24th will want to thank the Rev. Kenneth Whitfield for his talk and the fine colour film (which was up to the best professional standards) on the work of the Mission. Also the hostesses for serving tea. An enjoyable evening

D.M.F.

* * * *

During the third week in September the **3rd Marlborough Brownie Pack** were busy doing jobs to earn money for the County fund. We raised a good sum, enjoyed ourselves and hope that we were really helpful. On October 4th we met the Guide Company for an enrolment and a flying-up ceremony. We formed our ring inside the Guides' horse-shoe and Gillian Curnick, who was to be

Parish Round-up: continued on page 15

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Parish Round-up: *continued from page 13*

enrolled, was taken by her Sixer to the toadstool where she recited the law and made her promises. Brown Owl then presented Susan Marsh and Juanita Fuller with their wings and a patrol leader from the Guide Company fetched them from the Brownie Ring to her patrol in the horse-shoe.

THE LITTLE PEOPLE

FACADE

I was playing at a wedding last month, and an approving glance in my "driving mirror" told me that the Senior Chorister had got himself a pair of spectacles. My mind suddenly flashed back to the choir of 1956. Stephen Speight, a tenor at the time, wrote a poem about them, beginning

"May drowsy laymen never realise
What choirboys do while parsons
sermonise . . . . "

I wondered what had happened to these choristers—some of them we still see, some have left Marlborough. And the rest . . . ?

Choirs are like football teams—some years better than others—but it is a very odd team that loses seven front row forwards between seasons! But that is exactly what happened to our singing team at the start of this year's play. David Bentley, Andrew Timmer and Gareth Thomas have all joined the special choir. The others—no names—are just casualties. Though the rest of the team is in good heart, and playing well, may "drowsy laymen" never realise what organists have to suffer!

TREVOR GARTSIDE

IS THERE A CHANCE FOR THE WORLD?

Yes: "In His Hand are all the corners of the earth". A party of sixteen from Marlborough heard this challenging message from Mrs. Max Warren when she spoke at Devizes on September 26th on her world tour with her husband, the General Secretary of C.M.S.

Some would describe the world of 1961 as without God and without life, but everywhere the Warrens met people, Christian and non-Christian, seeking for God.

"Behold I stand at the door and knock". Missionary propaganda is Jesus knocking at the door: in Malaya, where it is illegal to mention Christ to a Muslim and where the local church asks for new missionaries to replace those about to retire; in Iran, where the new Persian bishop needs a secretary; in Nigeria, where Judge Mbanefo, whose sons are at Marlborough College, claims that it is Christianity that has made independence come so soon, and where the Bishop needs a chaplain; in India, where the headmistress of St. Thomas's School, Meerut, needs an English Christian teacher.

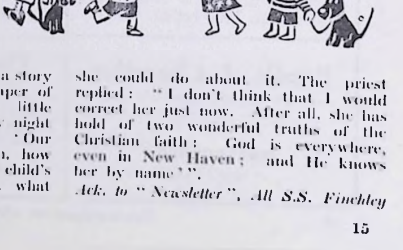
How can we help? We can all pray. The Church is one, and by our prayers we answer the knock at the door. Some can go to the mission field. Committed members of C.M.S. are another need. Money, too, is needed: if C.M.S. is to do all that it should do this year it must have 33s. for every £ it collected last year. Without this money it cannot open the door.

The above is a bare summary of a most moving address. If it inspires any one to become a member of C.M.S. please let me know at Merle Cottage and I will provide forms.

GEOFFREY CHILTON

IN THE HOME

LEARNING TO PRAY



"Harold be thy name". This is a story from the *Little Chronicle*, the paper of the American Franciscans. "A little girl kept making a mistake every night when she said the Lord's Prayer: 'Our Father, who are in New Haven, how did you know my name?' The child's mother asked her parish priest what she could do about it. The priest replied: "I don't think that I would correct her just now. After all, she has hold of two wonderful truths of the Christian faith: God is everywhere, even in New Haven; and He knows her by name'".

Ack. to "Newsletter", All S.S. Finchley

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