

JULY 1979

THE RECTOR WRITES

Many of us recently met and heard Mrs Pont, a surgeon working with her surgeon husband for the Church Missionary Society in the Christian Hospital of Isfahan. She gave us a very clear picture of the background to the present troubles in Iran, and of the uncertain and dangerous position of the Christian Church there. At the time she spoke to us a few weeks ago, her husband had cut short his furlough on being called back to his hospital, of which he was superintendent. Moslem officials had taken up permanent residence in the hospital and the future was very uncertain. The news now is that a revolutionary court has interviewed Dr Pont, and he and all C.M.S. staff have had to withdraw from the hospital to their homes, though Pakistani Christian staff are at present allowed to continue.

We need to pray, not only for Dr Pont and his wife (who has now flown out to join him) and for all missionaries in Iran, but for the Christian Church there as a whole, under its fine and courageous Iranian Bishop. May God protect His children, and the work they have built up there over the years.

2. CALENDAR FOR JULY 1979

1 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon
 - 10 am Children's Church
 - 11 am Morning Prayer
 - 4 pm Rectory Tea Party
 - 6.30 pm Evening Prayer
 - 7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage
- 4 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)

8 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- Holy Communion at 8 am
 - 11 am Morning Prayer: Speaker Mr Peter Wells of Scripture Union Staff. Also Sunday Club
 - 6.30 pm Evening Prayer
 - 7.45 pm Young People at The Rectory
- 9 Mon. 7.45 for 8 pm Parochial Church Council meets

15 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- Holy Communion at 8 am and 6.30 pm
 - 10 am Children's Church
 - 11 am Morning Prayer
 - 6.30 pm Holy Communion
 - 7.45 pm Young People at The Rectory
- 18 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)
- 20 Fri. 1.45 pm Church School End of Term Service

22 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am
- 10 am Series II Communion Service
- 11 am Morning Prayer
- 6.30 pm Evening Prayer
- 7.45 pm Young People at Little Woodlands

29 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- Holy Communion at 8 am and 7.30 pm
- 11 am Morning Prayer
- 6.30 pm Evening Prayer
- 7.30 pm Holy Communion
- 7.45 pm Young People meet

AND IN AUGUST

3.

5 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon

10 am Children's Church

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer in modern English

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

12 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at the Rectory

CHURCH FLOWERS

July 1 Miss E.F. Denny

8 Mrs E.A. Wieler

15 Mrs Alan Secrett

22 Mrs M. Caroe

29 Miss P.A. Hpy

FREE WILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for May 1979, £232.38p. E.F. Denny

OTHER SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY Mrs R.S. Vickery has received a letter of thanks for the sum of £15.22p sent from boxes.

N.S.P.C.C. The sale at Vann on 9 June raised

£74.31p. and the committee would like to thank all who supported this event.

ALEXANDRA ROSE DAY The house to house collection in Hambledon raised the record sum of £50. On behalf of the Church of England Children's Society thanks are due to all who gave so generously, and to kind collectors.

V.B.W.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND. The concert at Vann in aid of this fund made a profit of £146.

CHURCH REGISTERS

Baptism Victoria Elizabeth Jopp, of Hillside, Salt L

4.

PERSONALIA

We send our very best wishes to Julie Reeve of Hydon Farm Cottages and Timothy Pearson, who are to be married here on 7 July. May they be very happy together.

Mrs Ayling was in St. Luke's Hospital for a month while careful investigations were made, and has now come back home in much better health. We look forward to seeing her about again soon. Mrs Harris has had an operation in Mount Alvernia Hospital for the provision of a new hip joint, and is now convalescing from this. Mr Peter Harvey has been laid low by a painful disc injury to his back. To all our sick friends we send all good wishes for a full recovery. Mr Goad had to go into hospital to be nursed for congestion of the lungs, but after a few days was able to return home again.

We send congratulations and greetings to William and Jill Scarlett on the safe arrival of a baby daughter - another grandchild for Maureen Reynolds.

HELPFUL ADVICE FOR PERSONAL BIBLE READING

Most of us find that if we are to make the habit of daily Bible Reading effective and rewarding, we need a good deal of help. We hear on all hands that it is one of the most valuable and important habits to cultivate: but sometimes our early efforts are more difficult than we supposed, and less rewarding, and it is easy then to give up. It is practical help that we need. How do we set about it? How can we gain maximum benefit from our personal Bible Reading?

Our guest preacher at 11 am on Sunday 8 July is Mr Peter Wells of the staff of Scripture Union. He is well qualified to help us on this matter, and I hope that many of us will find his sermon a real help.

THE NATION'S PROBLEMS
"STANDARDS AND THE FATAL FLAW"

An article by the Bishop of Truro, Chairman of the Church of England Board of Social Responsibility.

It is ultimately our beliefs and attitudes which determine the health of our Society, not impersonal factors beyond our control. I select three underlying causes of the problems which confront our nation.

The first is the assumption that there are no absolute standards of right and wrong, and that every man, woman or section of society can do what is right in their own eyes. The Christian believes that such standards come from God. Only if there are accepted ethical norms by which the policies of governments, and the actions of individuals or groups are controlled for the sake of society as a whole, will there be the stability which is essential for freedom.

The second underlying cause is the assumption that man is intrinsically good, will always behave sensibly and bear the needs of others in mind. Human history points in the opposite direction and confirms the Christian belief that there is a fatal flaw in human nature. For this reason man needs laws, conventions and signposts to protect him from his own folly, which destroys not only his own happiness but that of others, and to enable him to achieve the good purposes which he sets himself.

The third cause is the assumption that welfare measured solely by material standards will produce happiness and security. The Christian, while committed to justice in the use of the world's resources, believes that man does not live by bread alone, nor for this world alone. But again the fact must be faced by all that material welfare by itself does not satisfy. Its pursuit as a goal for man leads to an insatiable desire for more and more and a denial of the basic rights of others.

6.

HELP FOR OUR CHURCH CHOIR

At our Annual Meeting last April a most helpful suggestion arose from the floor of the house.

We had been speaking of our Church Choir. Given the distance of the church from many of our homes, and the darkness of the roads in the winter months, we are not likely here in Hambledon to rise to a regular choir practice. On the other hand we really do need the presence of a sizeable choir in the choir stalls, for though the congregational singing is generally good, the chancel arch virtually cuts off the sound of the congregation's singing from the organist so that as he plays he cannot hear where the congregation has got to! So it is not only the congregation who values the choir. The organist finds it essential, as a link between organ and congregation.

At the Annual Meeting it was agreed that at both 11 am and 6.30 pm services a number of men and women would be welcome to sing in the choir stalls whenever they come to worship, not necessarily robing, and even if they are not able to come every Sunday. We are most grateful to a number who have already acted on this at the morning service. We appreciate this very much, and especially the organist!

Now we could do with three or four volunteers for the 6.30 pm services. Who could help augment our choir on Sunday evenings?

CHURCH FAMILIES' PICNIC

Following the very happy and successful occasion last summer, Mr and Mrs Nigel Pollock have again invited boys and girls of Sunday Club, and of Children's Church, with their parents and other relatives, to bring their own picnic to their garden at Brackenwood, Brook Road on Sunday 8 July from 12.30 to 2.30 pm. There is a pool, and there will be plenty of fun for all.

All this is of course weather permitting. If the weather is bad, it will have to be cancelled.

HOSPITALITY TO STUDENTS FROM OVERSEAS

It does not require much imagination to realise that an overseas student on one of our universities or colleges, or on some training course, may well find himself very lonely, particularly at weekends, and especially if he lives in a room in London. He might be a Christian, or he might be a Moslem or Hindu, or he may not know what he believes; but in any case he is likely to suppose that this is a Christian country, and the first few months here may bring much disillusionment. A really warm welcome into a home, where he is asked for his own sake, can make a great difference.

Both the Universities and Colleges Christian Union, and also the Church Missionary Society, have schemes for linking students with hosts and hostesses in this country who are willing to invite some individual student for an occasional weekend. They also give from their experience a good deal of helpful advice to protect hosts and hostesses from some possible pitfalls.

Any of our readers who are interested and would like to know more might like to enquire first from Mac and Sheila Bolton (Wormley 2748), or from the Rector and Mrs Thompson, who have had students in the past years.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN JULY

The fortnightly mid-week Bible Studies (when we study the story of the early Christian Church in the Acts of the Apostles) continues on July 4 and 18, at 8.15 pm in the Rectory. All are welcome.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The speaker at the last of our three talks on "Countries in the News Headlines" was Miss Mary Hayward, recently back from Uganda. She told of her work as Matron of a preparatory school run by the Rwanda Mission, which used to be multi-racial but is now 99% African. Thirteen of President Amin's children were there, some of whom had to be hastily evacuated at the beginning of the recent troubles!

She spoke of the problems confronting those working in South West Uganda, and of God's provision for the school. She also explained the lay-out of the country with the aid of a large map, and coloured photographs of the children and the school buildings.

The Fellowship closes down for the summer holiday months, and will reopen on Thursday 25 October.

S.M.S.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

It was unfortunate that Hambledon W.I. Garden Meeting had to be held in pouring rain, but through Mrs Steele's kindness in accommodating us indoors we were able to admire part of her lovely garden through the lounge windows.

The craft competition for the July meeting was discussed, and Mrs Allen and Miss Parker were thanked for arranging two very enjoyable outings. The one to Witley Common where the nightingales sang as if switched on for the occasion proved very popular. Plans for the Cranleigh show were also considered.

The Rev. Michael Powell gave a very humorous account of life in the Welsh Guards. He had found the life tough but enjoyable, and his experiences had proved of great value in preparation for later life. Mrs Vacher thanked the speaker. Teas was supplied by Mrs Steele and Mrs Allen won the raffle.

The next meeting on July 11 is an open meeting. Please bring friends along. The speaker will be Mr Alan Perry on "News and Current Affairs on Television"

E.G.F.