

JULY, 1948

LODERS & DOTTERY NOTES

A Parish Magazine does useful work, it helps the Vicar to keep all his parishioners informed of what the Church is doing. In a small parish like ours, there are not enough people to make a printed magazine a paying proposition. This is the best that can be done at present, and if every home in the parish takes a copy, the loss should not be more than a few pence.

Loders Church When the Vicar attended his first meeting of the Bridport Ruri-Decanal Chapter, he was told by one clerical brother after another that they envied him his lovely church. In age and beauty, the priory church of Loders has no equal in the Bridport Deanery. It is high time that the parish set aside one Sunday of the year on which to thank God for its church. Many parishes, with less to be thankful for, do this. Therefore we shall keep Sunday, July 25th, as our Dedication Festival. It is the Sunday nearest the feast day of our patron saint, Mary Magdalene. There will be Holy Communion at 8, matins at 11, children's service at 2.30, and evensong at 6.30. It is hoped that the ladies who decorate will make the church look its best, and that the congregation at evensong may be as big as that on Rogation Sunday.

Loders School. In 1869 Dame Isabel Nepean built an elementary school for the parish. Loders was lucky, for most parishes had to build their own school, by public subscription. In accepting the use of the school, the parish promised to keep it in repair. But for many years past the parish has not spent a penny on its school. The Board of Education now insists that the school building be brought up to the required standard. If Loders is to keep its school, the managers must produce a substantial sum for repairs by the end of this year. Hence, the Gymkhana and Fete in the Park on Saturday, July 31st. We hope this may raise enough to secure the school. The parish is rightly convinced that the policy of shutting village schools is detrimental to the countryside. The Fete gives us a chance to convert conviction into action.

Gymkhana and Fete. Given fine weather, July 31st should be a red letter day. There is something to suit all fancies - jumble stalls and the like for housewives seeking bargains, sports for the children, skittles and sideshows for the competitive, dancing for young men and maidens, and the gymkhana for everybody. The fete begins at 2, and the gymkhana at 2.30. The fete committee was in a dilemma over prices of admission. The usual charge for a gymkhana is 2/6, but parishioners who had already contributed to the stalls could not be expected to pay that amount. So parishioners - and parishioners only - are asked to enter the park by the main Court gate, for which the charge will be a shilling. Non-parishioners will enter by the gate opposite Yellow Lane, for two shillings.

Folk Dancing on Vicarage Lawn.

Miss Wilkes, Governess of Loders School, will be away on July 31st, so the children's display of folk dancing, which was to have been at the fete, will be on the Vicarage Lawn instead on Thursday, July 22nd, at 3. Parents, and all interested in the school, will be welcome.

Mother's Union.

There will be a service in church on Thursday, July 15th at 3. The Ringers have a few vacancies for their charabanc outing to Portsmouth on Saturday, July 17th. Ladies need not apply. Most of the ringers are married men, with decided views on what constitutes pleasure!

Personalia

"Happyknowle," the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Gale, has been living up to its name. Mr. and Mrs. Gale had a large and jolly party to celebrate the coming of age of their twin sons, Albert and Alfred. Albert is lately home from Palestine - to his parents' great relief. Alfred is now working away from home, to the regret of the ringers, of whom he was a regular and very useful member.

Boarsbarrow, landmark of Loders, and symbol of Loders Women's Institute, is not its usual self. It has been ploughed right up to the belt of trees on its summit. When parishioners heard the tractor, and saw the green mantle of Boarsbarrow turning brown, they thought the food situation must be desperate indeed. But it was also done to save their cabbages. Boarsbarrow had become infested with caterpillars, and a remedy was to plough them in.

Dottery Organist.

The congregation of Dottery were sorry to part with their organist, Miss Vera Legg, at the end of June. She had been "standing in" for over four years, while a permanent organist was being found. The permanent organist is no nearer being found. Love is the inducement that Dottery offers; for the salary is only £4 per annum. Meanwhile, Miss Thelma Cleal, a comparative newcomer to music, has promised to fill the breach. She has our gratitude and good wishes.

A Good Start Agricultural people have little time for reading. But we might have been saved our fears that these Notes would not be welcomed. Everybody seems to have read them, and people with indifferent sight say that the type is easy on the eyes. More than half of the parish have made an act of faith in paying for the Notes twelve months in advance. Our circulation manager is puzzled. A 100 Notes only were printed, and 110 have been sold! Mrs. Harry Legg may know the answer. She, Miss Holmes, Mrs. Osborne and Mrs. Gale of Dottery, have shown unexpected talent as newsagents. Without them there would have been no Notes, and we are deeply grateful.

Sunday School Outing. By a big majority, the children voted Bournemouth for their outing. Obviously, the amount of time a modern child has to spend in buses has not quelled the youthful instinct for getting as far afield as possible. We hope that many parents and friends will join the outing and share responsibility for the children. Seats at 5/- are available, provided they are booked early with Mrs. Willmott (Loders) and Mrs. Gale (Dottery). The coaches will call at the Blue Ball, Dottery at 8.45 on Tuesday morning, August 17th, will reach Loders Church at about 9, and will pick up passengers through the village as far as the Crown.

Walls have ears. Some good folk visit Dottery Church on Sunday afternoons to tend graves. Although there are many signs of it, they seem unaware that a service is going on inside the church. The walls of Dottery Church are thin. We inside try to be polite, and turn a deaf ear to conversation not intended for us, but it is difficult. When a sermon has to compete for the congregation's attention with a private heart-to-heart talk on the other side of the tin, what chance has the sermon?

The Archdeacon of Sherbourne and the Rural Dean have made their routine inspection of Loders Church. They were pleased with the condition of the church and churchyard. The Archdeacon noticed that the ancient Crucifixion on the outer west wall of the tower is weathering, and suggested the seeking of expert advice as to whether it could be put inside the church.

The holes in the ceilings of Ladye Chapel and the Porch have been skilfully repaired, but the cost, nearly £26, has left a hole in the Repair Fund. There is a widespread idea that because the Church of England is the national church, all parish churches, and more so cathedrals, are maintained out of rates or taxes. Actually, the money has to be found by the people who use the church. The State contributes nothing.

Choir Practice will begin again, after the summer break, on Aug. 20th. The choir badly needs more men, especially for the harvest anthem.

Gay Ladies Will this have been a record year for parish outings? The Mothers' Union have been to Wells, the choir to Bournemouth, the Ringers to Portsmouth, the Women's Institute to Torquay, and the Children's Outing is yet to come. All except the ringers were lucky in the weather, the Women's Institute notably so, for while the B.B.C. were scaring us with gale warnings, they were basking in Mediterranean Sun at Torquay. Yet nobody had a jollier day than the ringers. They can stand any amount of external moisture as long as they are not dry within. The nine Loders ringers were accompanied by their chaplain, their brewer, and twenty all-male supporters. On the way to Portsmouth they stopped, and the Ringers pulled the bells of Bere Regis Church. When they came out of the tower, a glance at the stocks of refreshment showed at once that the twenty all-male supporters were alarmingly expert at pulling of another kind. But all's well that ends well. The morning after was a Sunday, and the Ringers were manning Loders bells dead on time - just as if nothing had happened. P.T.O.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Elston Paul, on the gift of a second daughter. She was born on July 21st, the eve of Loders' patron St. Mary Magdalene, and tipped the scale at a quarter under nine pounds.

New Parishioners. We are told that the population of Loders is in a state of continual flux. The most recent arrivals are Mr. Bob Newbury and his sister, at Uploders Farm, and Captain Allen R.N., his mother and his sister, at Callington. We hope they may put out roots, and stay. Mr. Newbury caught the eye of the B.B.C., and of the national press, by moving his stock by train from Northamptonshire, where he had been burnt out of an old farm of monastic origin. He has been a victim of four fires in eleven years, and looks to Loders to change his luck. The arrival of Captain Allen has upset the balance of power at the Matravers end of the parish. The Army, in Colonel Dennis, is now outweighed by the Navy, in Commander Streatfield and Captain Allen.

To be listening to the nine o'clock news, and to hear it announced that your distinguished brother has been killed in an air crash, must be a great shock. The sympathy of the village goes out to Mr. John Gent, of Uploders, who lately had this painful experience.

The Dedication Festival is now a pleasant memory. Our lady decorators were on top of their form. Loders had not been used to a summer festival, and we did not know how graciously the old church could take to sweet peas, marigolds and gladioli. Congregations were good. They included a party from Dottery. A troop of Scouts from Coventry, who were in camp in the park, paraded at matins. Some of them were in church at five o'clock on the following morning, doing vigil before their institution as Rovers. The Rev. Lancelot Andrewes, of Oriel College, Oxford, who took part in the Dedication services, comes of an interesting family. One of his ancestors was the great Bishop Lancelot Andrewes of Winchester, who was the chief translator of the Authorised Version. Another was the famous "Merry Andrew", physician to King James the First, who danced before the Court at the age of 108! Mr. Andrewes' brother, an admiral, is head of the naval department of the Imperial Defence College, and is an A.D.C. to the King.

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism. July 4th. Susan Margaret Hansford, Cuckholds Farm.

Holy Matrimony. June 5th. William Robert Allen, Burton Bradstock
and
Miriam Grace Neave, Bearsbarrow.

Burial. June 8th. James F.W.A. Fitzgerald, age 39, Dottery.

LODERS AND DOTTERY NOTES (SEPTEMBER 1948)

Vicar's Letter. My dear Parishioners - on the Sunday after the Gymkhana and Fete I thanked the parish for making the event such a success. The aim of this letter is to extend the thanks to those who did not hear me in church. I am still rather dazed by your achievement, and people in other parishes raised their eyebrows, too, when they read how little Loders, population 638, and practically all working people, had raised £157 for their village school. If asked to account for it, I would say that (a) the village school, and the mistress who has served it so well and for so long, have a strong hold on village sentiment; (b) what the church workers of Loders lack in numbers they more than make up for in energy; (c) Loders people are generous - cottagers who could produce nothing for the stalls gave sizable cash donations instead; (d) Loders people are good humoured - if they opened their door to a different stall collector five times in one day, they only laughed, and sent the collector on her way rejoicing; (e) the weather was kind. I noted again how lucky Loders is to have Dottery inside its ecclesiastical boundaries. Dottery is not served by Loders School, but Dottery ran a profitable stall, several competitions, and supplied much needed man-power on the gate. I trust Loders may be as loyal to Dottery when any need arises up there. - Yours faithfully, O.L.Willmott, Vicar.

How the money was made Here is a rough balance sheet of the Gymkhana and Fete:
Receipts - Jumble £24.14.8; Provisions £21.4.11; Icos £8.1.5; Dottery Stall £7.13.7; Vegetables £4.7.10; White Elephant £6.18.0; Flowers £2.15.9; Teas £9.10.0; Auction £2.1.0; Treasure Hunt £2.4.6; Cork spearing 6.4; Witch £2.2.1; Darts £3.5.3; Skittles £10.10.6; Weight of pig £5.2.0; Cake competition £1.16.0; Sherry competition £4.17.0; Dobbin competition £2.4.0; Donation Mrs.Lane £5.0 0; Donation Mrs.Nicholls £2.0.0; Gate £13.11.0; Cars £31.0.0; Entrance Fees £9.19.0; Sale of programmes 4.0; Dance £10.8.0.
Total Receipts £191.16.10.
Expenses Advertising £5.5.0; Rosettes £1.3.3; Amplifier £4.0.0; Hire of Gymkhana gear £3.17.6; Printing & Postages £2.8.3; Hire of skittle alley £1.0.0; Haulage 10.0; Total Expenses £34.16.0. Profit £157.0.10.

An interesting figure at the Gymkhana was Mr.Robert Gordon, a guest of Mrs.Lane. In his day he was as famous a jockey as Gordon Richards, and won more steeplechases in a year than any other jockey. His highly original taste in dress is known the country over. At Loders he was not too startling, but his sombrero and shoes were of the same pattern as his check suit and socks. He was all of a piece, and watched the events on the back of a nag.

You may hear a complaint that two tug-o'-war teams from neighbouring villages took the trouble to attend the Fete,

and were not allowed to compete. The facts are that these two teams were the only entrants, and they were offered reduced prizes of £2 and £1. Rather unreasonably, they held out for a first prize of £4, and a second of £2, which meant that for their 16/- entrance fees they were bound to collect £6 between them. So there was no tug-o'-war.

The Sunday School Outing to Bournemouth was delayed an hour in starting, while a fourth coach was being fetched, to cope with the unexpectedly large company of trippers. The fine weather had decided many waverers at the last minute, and the Vicar had taken a chance which did not come off - he had not cycled to Dottery the previous evening and checked their final numbers. Fortunately for him, people are used to inconvenience these days, and this seemed but a trifle to the trippers. The day was a happy one. The party numbered over 120, and their ages ranged from a few months to well over 80 years. It was much regretted that the Elliott family, staunchest supporters of the Sunday School, could not join the outing. Mary had gone down with chickenpox only three days previously.

Monday Night at Seven. The Women's Institute has arranged through the County Council to hold leatherwork classes in the School on Monday evenings at 7 o'clock, beginning on Sep. 12th. Leatherwork is an interesting hobby, and may be made quite profitable too. The course of eight lessons costs 2/6 and is open to all. Miss Butterworth, of 25 Loders, would like names and fees as soon as possible.

Personalia. Patricia Ascott has a baby brother, Anthony Charles John, born on August 7th, in Bridport. His mother and he are doing well.

Nine year old Graham Roper, of Dottery, made an amazing recovery from an operation, his second within a few weeks. One day his life was despaired of; four days later he was sitting up and cheerfully receiving visitors at the hospital. We pray that his recovery may be complete.

The late Mr. Fred Crabb, of Watercleaves, came of an old Loders family. The native families are not so numerous as one would expect. His father was the local road contractor, with whom he worked until the Great War. He was exempted from military service on medical grounds, and went to work at Upton Manor, where he remained for nearly 30 years. Upton Manor casts a spell over its old employees. Shortly before his death, Mr. Crabb said it would break his heart to leave Upton.

Keeping Money in the Parish

"I'm glad the money is for the school. Too much goes out of the parish." Words to this effect were on several Loders lips at the time of the fete. They show how ill informed the parish is on its financial affairs. This may not be the fault of the parish. The story told by the minute book is that Loders gives much to its own parish church, but very little to the Church outside the parish. Yet the Church outside

the Parish has been subscribing about £100 year, for many years, to the maintenance of the church in Loders. The combined tithe of Loders and Dottery is worth only £210 year. Not even a Vicar could live on that. Last year other parishes subscribed about £150 to the maintenance of Loders Vicar and Vicarage. If other parishes took the line that no money was to go outside, there would be no resident vicar in Loders.

Parish Registers.

Holy Baptism 8th Aug. Peter James Smith, Dottery.
15th Aug. Graham Paul Fursey, Yeovil.

Holy Matrimony 31st July. Thomas Robert Ward and Annie Elizabeth Suatt(at Brixton).

Burial 10th Aug. Frederick Harold Crabb, age 68.

Services for September

Loders Sunday 5th Sept. HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.30
Sunday 12th " HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.30, Evensong 6.30
Sunday 19th " HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.30
Sunday 26th " HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.30, Evensong 6.30

Dottery Sunday 5th Sept. HC 9.30
Sunday 12th " Evensong 3.30
Sunday 19th " Evensong 6.30
Sunday 26th " Evensong 3.30

Harvest Festival. Fickle weather did not prevent the local corn harvest from being gathered, and the potato harvest is under way. Some corn had to be cut by mower, and some had grown out. Yet our farmers say that the yield is good. The Ministry of Agriculture estimates that this year's yield beats the ten-year average, and is well above last year's, which is surprising when one compares the golden days of last summer with the leaden days of this. Farmers are appreciative of their men, who were willing to work any hours to get in the corn. It is fitting that Britain's biggest, oldest, and most vital industry should set other industries an example. Loders harvest festival will be on Sunday, October 3rd, and Dottery on Thursday, October 7th. Gifts of flowers, fruit and vegetables will be welcomed at Loders Church on Saturday, October 2nd, and at Dottery Church on October 7th. After the festival, the gifts will be distributed among our own sick, and the remainder sent to the Hospital.

Miss Welstead and her small team of collectors have done well in raising £20.4.8 for the Bishop's Appeal in the quarter just ended. This included several generous donations, among them one of £5. The Vicar is heartened by this evidence that there are far-seeing people in the parish. Without parsons there can be no Church. At a time when the population of Britain is the highest ever, the number of the clergy is the lowest ever - last year 208 were ordained, as against 590 in 1938. Much of the Bishop's Appeal money goes towards the cost (at least £1,000 per head) of training the 1,500 Servicemen who have been accepted for the sacred ministry. Bear in mind the financial sacrifice these men are making! During their three years' training they earn nothing, and when they qualify, theirs will be a wage which is the joke of the other learned professions.

If any overseas tourist happened to be among the crowd at the wedding of Miss Heather Osborne to Mr. E.J. Pavey, he must have gone back with an idyllic picture of English village life. The flowers along the path to the church were in their glory, and the flowers in the chancel were no anti-climax. The interest shewn in this wedding was an indirect compliment to the bride's mother, whose public-spiritedness is almost a proverb in Loders. No deserving cause seeks her services in vain.

Know your County. Dorset folk are told by strangers that their's is the most fascinating county in England. If you wish to know why, then go to the talk on Dorset's past, which Mr. Beaumont Slegge is to give in the Hut on Tuesday, October 12th at 7.30.

Records. About 12 baptisms, 8 weddings and 6 funerals take place in a year in Loders Church. It was therefore a record when the Vicar took four baptisms in one afternoon. On the last Saturday in August he took a wedding and two funerals within two hours, but the wedding and one of the funerals were at Bradpole. Even the vicarage garden has made a record. It produced a potato (Majestic) weighing 2 lbs 10 oz - 9½ ozs. heavier than the Catriona mentioned in the Bridport News. It made two meals for four people.

New Guide Books are now to be had in Loders Church. The high cost of printing has doubled the price to 1/- each. Five of the first 25 books put out were stolen, a loss of 5/- to Church funds. The traditional honesty of Dorset folk is not in question. The culprits were hikers, who must have been invaders.

Mr. David Thomas has added the dignity of grandfather to that of verger. His daughter, Mrs. Bunnell, gave birth to a baby girl in September 10th.

Some Bridport people had difficulty in getting aboard H.M.S. Vanguard while she was in Weymouth bay. Loders people were lucky in having a friend at court in the person of Commander Streatfield, who is gunnery officer of the Vanguard. He shewed a charabanc party from Loders and Symondsburry over his ship,

including the royal apartments. It seems that he gave his guests a sumptuous tea in the wardroom, and pressed all the available ship's officers into service as waiters. The guests enjoyed the tea most in retrospect: the chocolate eclairs followed too closely on a choppy crossing from pier to ship. As gunnery Officer, Commander Streatfield will organise the ritual of "crossing the line," on the Royal progress to Australia. It is whispered that he has secured the help of that wit Sir Alan Herbert and also of a Punch cartoonist.

The Late Mrs. Sarah Hine. Speaking of her in church, the Vicar said she was remarkable for the dignity and the high sense of responsibility with which she filled her humble station in life. She was a clever needle-woman, more concerned that her work should be of the best than for what she made out of it. She bore a long illness with a grace which impressed her many visitors.

Our oldest parishioner. The passing of Mrs. Hine has left our octogenarians wondering which of them is the oldest inhabitant. They are not in the running! The honour goes to Mrs. Marsh of Dottery, mother of Mr. Cecil Marsh. She was 98 last March, and is remarkably fit. One of the duties of her grandson John, is to tell her the hymns after service, and give a synopsis of the sermon. (Hard luck on John - no sleeping in the sermon!) She never fails to send her collection money to church by the hand of her friend, Mrs. Wensley; for says she, the church has to be kept going, whether people are there or not. If all the parish thought and acted like her, there would be no need for appeals or subscription lists, and the Vicar would be in the blessed state of never having to mention the odious word "money."

PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism 5th Sept., Christine Paul, Michael Edward
Collier Marsh, Anthony John Collier Marsh
and Michael Barry Gill.

Holy Matrimony 8th Sept., Heather Jean Osborne and Edward John Pavey.

Burial 28th Aug. Sarah Hine aged 86

Services for October

Loders: 3rd Oct. Harvest Festival. Holy Communion 8, Matins 11,
H.C. 11.45, Children 2.15, Evensong 6.30

10th Oct. HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.15

17th Oct. HC.8, Matins 11, HC.11.45, Children 2.15 Evensong 6.30

24th Oct. Matins 11, Children 2.15

31st Oct. HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15 Evensong 6.30

Dottery 3rd Oct. HC.8

7th Oct. Harvest Festival 7.30

10th Oct. Harvest Festival 6.30

17th Oct. Evensong 3.30

24th Oct. Evensong 6.30

31st Oct. Evensong 3.30

LODERS & DOTTERY NOTES (NOVEMBER 1948)

Remembrance Sunday. November is the solemn month of the year. Within it occurs the fall of the leaves, the feast of All Hallows, All Souls' day, and the remembrance of those who fell in the two world wars. November 7th is Remembrance Sunday. We hope that Loders will make a big day of it. The new memorial tablet which the Parish Council is adding to the existing memorial, should be ready for dedication on that day. The chief service will be at 10.45 a.m. so as to include the Two Minutes' Silence. Will the parish organisations kindly regard this as an official invitation to attend - Parish Council, British Legion, Oddfellows, Discussion Club, Young Farmers, Agricultural Workers' Union, Mothers' Union and Women's Institute? The collection will be for Earl Haig's Fund. At Dottery, the Remembrance Service will be at 6.30.

Reflections. Both Loders and Dottery seemed to make more of Harvest Festival this year. Flowers, produce, and the decorators' art, were of the best, and the attendance at all the services was over 400. Eggs and grapes were given to the sick of the parish, Loders fruit was gladly accepted by Guy's Hospital in London, and Dottery produce was sold for church funds. Local hospitals were inundated with harvest festivals, and did not need ours. Loders choir received so much congratulation on their anthem that they are working up another for Remembrance Sunday. The second harvest service at Dottery was very homely. A father had his small baby in a cot at the back of the church, and a black cat strolled in and sat before the altar. As the behaviour of the cat, and of the baby, was exemplary, there was no need to eject either. They might have been trying to qualify for the bottle of milk which was prominent among the decorations. An observer could not note the approving looks that the more solid members of the congregation bestowed on the little keg of cider and the drinking mug as they went out of church. It is no use asking the Vicar who was the happy recipient of the cider.

Golden Wedding. Mr. and Mrs. V.J. Elliott, of Yondover, are shy, and are trying to keep secret, without much success, their golden wedding which occurred on September 8th. May we add our congratulations to the many they have received? Mr. & Mrs. Elliott are the proud, and the revered, heads of a family of 7 children, 28 grandchildren, and 10 great grandchildren. Family feeling among the Elliotts is strong and healthy, and the whole clan came to pay their respects on, or near, the anniversary.

The first wonder of Loders is its church. The second is Mr. H.W. Bishop of Yondover Farm. An ordinary man could not have survived the ills and accidents which have been his lot. Recently, the horse he was riding, fell on him, and broke his leg in two places. Previous to that, he had been badly damaged in a car accident, and before that he had been rolled on and broken by another horse. Earlier still, there were major illnesses - influenza, duodenal ulcer, and a pleurisy which put him out of action for a year. Every time, he comes up smiling, with his zest for life and horses unimpaired. His chief anxiety is lest his sons should be too ardent imitators of their father. Edgar is not fully recovered from his bad accident of a year ago, and Frank once lost a thumb to a threshing machine. The latest accident occurred shortly before Edgar's wedding to Miss Valerie Thomas, in Wandsworth, and rather spoilt the social part of it. If anybody can take "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" with a shrug and a grin, it is the Bishops.

New Arrivals. Sir Edward and Lady Le Breton are still rejoicing in the birth of a son, Edward Francis, to their daughter Mrs. Laskey. Mother and baby have returned from London to Loders Court. To be widely known is not all honey. Mrs. Laskey has about 100 congratulatory letters and 60 telegrams to answer. The letters included three from the families of former Vicars of Loders - the Palmers, the Beardmores and the Huttons.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Legg, of Pymore, are the proud parents of a baby daughter, Viven May, born September 30th.

Mr and Mrs. Harry Sanders have had their grandson and his parents staying with them, from Scotland. He is their first grandchild and is now four months old. His father has the distinction of having taken part in all the invasions of the last war, and holds seven campaign medals.

An underground lake? There may be a good-sized lake beneath Waddon. The depth of the old well at the crossroads near Bell was lately increased from 33ft to 83ft. Some 36,000 gallons of water were pumped out in a short time, and the level in the well sank by less than half an inch. An engineer tested the vicinity of the well with a mechanical water diviner, and came to the conclusion that a huge reservoir of water is there. The Parish Council may keep this in mind till the day when it is feasible to give the village an indoor water supply. Nothing takes the gloss off country life like fetching your water from a distance in all weathers, especially when there are several children to be tubbed.

Christmas Presents The Sunday School children hope that you will not buy your Christmas presents before you have been to the little sale they are to hold in the Vicarage early in December. It is a job of work they are doing for the Church overseas. Incidentally they want to recover the good name of Loders. Last year we contributed only 30/- to missionary work, and were at the bottom of the list for the whole diocese. Hamlets with a quarter of our population beat us hands down. To go and teach all nations is the first of Our Lord's marching orders to Christians, and Loders has no valid excuse for disobeying. Every parish has its difficulties, and we have less than most. To the person who sees no good in missions, the answer is that in this he is at variance with the Almighty, whose opinion is at least as good as his.

Mrs. Pritchard and Mrs. Paul became members of the Mothers' Union at an enrolling service held recently in Loders Church. The M.U. stands for the integrity of home life, and never, since the collapse of the Roman Empire, was this in more danger than it is today. Women who are not mothers, but who agree with the M.U. ideals, may become Associates.

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism. Oct. 8th. Anthony Charles John Ascott
Oct. 10th. Allan Keith Marsh.

Holy Matrimony Oct. 4th. Edgar Frank Bishop and Valerie Thomas,
(at Holy Trinity, Wandsworth)

Services for November

Loders Nov. 7th Remembrance Sunday, HC 8, Remembrance Service
10.45, Children 2.15.

Nov. 14th HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15
Evensong 6.30.

Nov. 21st HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.15.

Nov. 28th HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45. Children 2.15
Evensong 6.30.

Dottery Nov. 7th Remembrance Service 6.30

Happy Month! A parson's life has been described as "A succession of disappointments bravely borne." November brought the Vicar so much encouragement, and so little to scold the parish about, that he wonders whether he really is a parson. All Saints Day was a Monday, and rain was emptying itself down. The Vicar feared he might be celebrating the All Hallows Communion on his own. But by ten o'clock he had a crowd of mothers, including a dauntless band from distant Dottery. They were working mothers, too, for whom Monday is Monday.

Remembrance Sunday was another satisfying day. The deep throated bells of Loders, half-muffled, called the village to honour its war dead, and the church filled right up for the service. Poppies were to the fore - a wreath on the memorial, and three upright crosses in the chancel. The new memorial, commissioned by the Parish Council, was not ready, but the congregation bore the disappointment with good grace. The singing of favourites like "Jerusalem" and "Valient Hearts" was emphatic, and the choir's anthem exactly suited the occasion. It was pleasing to have the churchyard thronged with people after service, and the bells pealing overhead. God's house had again become a focus of interest, and the ancient place seemed happy.

The congregation at the fortnightly evensong is steadily increasing, and reached the fifties in November. There is a cosy, restful feeling about this service, and the singing is hearty. Uploders is very loyal in its support.

The Children's Sale of Work, for the Church overseas, will be at the Vicarage on Saturday, December 11th, at 3. The children will man the stalls, and serve tea. They have got together quite a collection of useful articles, and are hoping to do a good trade.

Potatoes again! The vicarage potato, weighing 2 lbs 10 oz, and making two meals for four people, was not a record after all. On view at the Travellers' Rest is an Arran Banner weighing 3½ lbs. Several such potatoes were grown by Mr. Fry of Sturthill. It seems that the vicarage has been robbing the chickens.

Christmas Arrangements. It is the custom of some churches to have a Communion service at midnight on Christmas Eve. In response to several requests, there will be one at Loders this year. Our church is a perfect setting for a service such as this.

At matins on Christmas Day the children will sing traditional carols in place of a sermon. They did it last year, to the great enjoyment of the congregation.

The choir are again aiming to serenade the village with carols near Christmas. Last year they decided to give the village a rest from appeals, and not to collect. But the village are so used to giving that they cannot help themselves. The choir had to refuse pound notes! This year they want to net all they can for the Church of England Children's Society, which cares for over 5,000 orphaned children.

A sturdy independence is characteristic of Dottery folk. The beginning of the winter evening services showed defects in the Church lighting. Without troubling the Church Council, some of the congregation clubbed together and bought new shades and bulbs, and fitted up an electric light for the organist.

A parishioner asks why no tobacco was sent to harvest festival, seeing it was one of the principal crops of the parish this year? Growers may be reserving thanks until they have emerged safely from smoking their "divine weed." Smoke a Loders cigar, and you learn unforgettably that the art is not in the growing, but in the curing.

Employees of the Brit Works are doing two sketches for the choir party in the Hut on Thursday, Dec. 16th. The choir have planned to give the village a very jolly evening. There will be songs, dancing, games, refreshments, and devices not to be disclosed, all for 2/- (children half price).

Mrs. Pitcher, of the Loders Arms, reached her 88th birthday last month. She is in tolerably good health. She is the oldest inhabitant of Loders, but not of the parish. Our oldest parishioner is Mrs. Marsh of Dottery, who is 98.

A quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles, lasting about 45 minutes, was rung on Loders bells in honour of the birth of the Prince.

Young Farmers' Clubs all over the country have lately held harvest homes. It is difficult to see how the Askerswill and District effort could have been excelled anywhere, though Miss Sally Barnes (Dottery) leading light of the Beaminster club, will have her own views on this. Askerswill and District showed that they were as good at producing plays as providing banquets. The play was written by their chairman, Miss Muriel Randall. In Dorset, the best harvest home wins the Gardiner Cup, and the name of the winning club is eagerly awaited.

Nine Choirs, including Loders, are to take part in the Women's Institute carol festival at Bridport on Friday, December 10th at 3.30. People are advised to arrive in good time, as no seats will be reserved.

Return of a Native. Mr. Frank Crabb, son of Mr. & Mrs. W.G. Crabb, of Loders, is home from Canada for the first time since he went there 18 years ago. He manages a ranch, and lives near his brother William, who migrated before him. Mr. Crabb says there is no danger of his overstaying his leave. The shock of having to exist on 2/11 worth of rations ensured that.

Seventy years of Church work. The late Mr. Frank Osman began as a choirboy at All Saints, Dorchester, at the age of nine, and continued to serve the church, first as sidesman, then as warden, till his death at the age of 79. On the eve of All Saints a reading desk was dedicated to his memory in the church he served so faithfully. Mr. Osman was the father of Mrs. Cecil Marsh, of Dottery.

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Dare have lately taken Hole House Farm, and are in the throes of settling in. They come from Powerstock, and were previously at Stoke Abbot.

Our Bishop has been ordered a complete rest. His formidable engagement list in the monthly diocesan gazette gave rise to fears that this might happen. Only the strongest can bear the present burdens of a bishop, and our Bishop may not be as strong as he looks. While he was with the troops in North Africa he contracted pneumonia and diphtheria, both at once! That must have left its mark. As we remember our King in his illness, we shall not forget our faithful Father-in-God.

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism. Nov. 7. Christine Mary Bunnell
Nov. 14. Vivien May Legg

Services in December

Loders Dec. 5, HC 8, Mattins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15
Dec. 12, HC 8, Mattins 11, Children 2.15, Evensong 6.30
Dec. 19, HC 8, Mattins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15
Christmas Eve, Midnight Holy Communion
Christmas Day, HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45
Dec. 26, HC 8, Evensong 6.30.

Dottery Dec. 5, HC 9.30
Dec. 12, Evensong 3.30
Dec. 19, Evensong 6.30
Christmas Day, HC 9.30
Dec. 26, Evensong 3.30