

Loders, Dottery & Askerswell.

"We Will Remember Them". Good resolutions tend to weaken with the passage of time. The resolve made, when war was fresh in our minds, to keep annual commemoration of those who gave their all, is one we must not get slack about. We till our fields in peace, and the English way of life continues in our age-old villages only because there were Englishmen ready to die to preserve this right. Sunday, November 9th., is their day - Remembrance Sunday. The best way to honour their memory is not in the cosiest arm chair, with the wireless on, and the feet up, and the old pipe puffing contentedly. It is no cosy thing that Remembrance Sunday brings back to us. The best way to honour the dead is to come to God's house, where their names are engraved on the wall, and to kneel wonderingly and prayerfully to that spirit of sacrifice which makes human nature divine. In Loders the main service will begin at five minutes to eleven, so that in spirit we can keep the Silence with the Queen at the Cenotaph. In Dottery it will be at 3 p.m., and in Askerswell at 7 p.m. All the collections will go to Earl Haig's Fund, which is doing for needy relatives of the dead, and for the disabled something of what the dead themselves would have done.

A Good Harvest. Our three churches can look back on their harvest festival services with the satisfaction that the farmer feels - but, of course, would not express - about this year's harvest. Decorations were exceptionally beautiful, congregation's were very large, and hymns and anthems were sung as if they were really meant. At Dottery the corn crosses beside the altar were evidence that Mrs. Wensley had recovered from her lengthy illness; at Askerswell the focal point was a small sheaf of corn, standing impressively alone at the chancel step, with a bunch of grapes at its waist (one wondered whether a bottle of olive oil might be hidden beneath its skirts to complete the psalmist's catalogue of human needs, corn, wine and oil). At Loders the special appeal for flowers brought dahlias and prize chrysanthemums in magnificent response. There was also an abundance of eggs, both at Dottery and Loders. These were distributed to old and sick people of the parish, whose pleasure at receiving them, though great, did not equal that of those who took them round. It was for the latter a blissful experience to be distributing for the church instead of collecting. Loders again achieved the distinction of filling the church both morning and evening. At both services the Vicar, while preaching, managed to precipitate a pulpit apple into the lap of a lady sitting beneath. The gentleman who is reported to have said quoting Scripture, at The Travellers' Rest, "Fancy he tryin' to tempt thy wife wi' a h'apple", will find, if he looks up Genesis, that the alleged apple was Eve's weapon.

Twins at the Font. Loders Sunday School children, who love a christening at their service, have lately been gratified. Following on the adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. Masters, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Collier Marsh (of Charminster), they have sung for the twin children of Mr. and Mrs. Green. On this occasion somebody other than the Sunday School was gratified. There was a baby for each grandmother to hold at the font, and had there been triplets, the empty arms of the great grandfather, Mr. George Crabb, who was standing benignly by, were ready to receive one. Fortunately for the Vicar, the twins entered not into vocal competition during the service, but favoured with a half amused smile.

A date for your diary is Thursday, November 6th., when, from 7 p.m. till midnight, there will be rich entertainment at the Askers Road House, and an opportunity in buying Christmas presents to help Askerswell Church out of debt. Besides the Christmas presents stall, there will be dancing to the tunes of musicians of whose identity we are in doubt because we are only told that they are The Flamingo Four, but of whose talent we have no doubt whatever. There will also be cabaret by the pupils of Miss Dulcie Gibbs. Another date for the diary is December 12th., when the children of Askerswell school will give a concert for church funds. STOP PRESS - The Oxford Dictionary defines flamingo as "Large long-legged long-necked heavy-billed scarlet-feathered bird." The word has affinity with flammenwerfer, which means "Machine spouting liquid fire in war".

Askerswell Bell Fund has received, through Mr. Marsh, of Hembury House, a donation from Mr. and Mrs. P.W. Day, of Gloucester, who wrote "Tell you Rectos it's from two Methodists, with every good wish for success in

raising enough to peal the bells again". The practical good wishes of these two Methodists are deeply appreciated. The Nonconformists of Exeter shew the same spirit; for they have lately given Exeter Cathedral a pulpit to replace the one destroyed in the blitz. Inter-denominational acts of kindness like this are reminders that the differences between Christian sects are as nothing to the spirit and the truth they have in common.

October has left a trail of bereavement in its wake, and our sympathy is with those chiefly concerned. Mr. David Symes, who had carried on a market gardening business near the Old Mill in Loders, died in Allington, and was buried at Loders cemetery, very near the plot of ground on which he had done his life's work. Mr. Sidney Collier-Marsh, who died following an accident in Bridport, was also of Loders stock. He was a martyr to an infection of the foot acquired in the trenches of France during the Great War. Mrs. Chignell, of Spyway, died under an operation. She was one who could love the seclusion of her own home, and yet be intensely interested in the doings of the parish. To chat with her was refreshment, and her serenity and sense of humour were with her to the end. The mother of Mrs. Streatfield, Lady Davies, died rather suddenly in London. Her ashes reposed for one night in Loders Church on their way to the family burying place.

May we emphasise that the missionary evening in Askerswell School on Friday, 28th. November, is not a money raising concern? Surely the efforts to wipe off the church debt are adequate to the spare cash that needs lapping up? The missionary evening, consisting chiefly of films, is educational and the shilling charged for the ticket is to cover expenses.

We would like to welcome the first newcomers to Loders after the great autumn change-over. Mr. and Mrs. Newbury and their son, who come from Sydling, are installed in the old home of the Bishops at Yonderover, and a married son is living nearby. Mr. and Mrs. Gregory, of West Bay, are settling into the house vacated by Mrs. Edwards. Mrs. Holland has taken Miss Martin's cottage in Askerswell.

Mrs. Aylmer and the ladies who ran the jumble sale for Askerswell church funds surprised themselves, and us certainly, by making a profit of nearly £42. When they hear the result, people say "Amazing!", and it certainly is for so small a parish. The sale not only roped in the shekels, but was really pleasant, and the workers found it full of fun. The two gentlemen who in the morning, emptied Miss Edwards' pretty cottage of the jumble that had filled it high to suffocating, and took it in their cars to the school, christened themselves Northover and Gilbert. To see them battling shoulder to shoulder with ottomans and pouffs, nobody would think that Northover, staunch churchman and Kiplingite that he is, had recently given Gilbert a tithe of some stuff smuggled across the channel, only to be denounced by Gilbert from the pulpit, Gilbert having first pocketed the contraband. Such an interlude might have reduced the temperature as between ladies. Great lad, Northover! He might also have taken umbrage at the school - and he didn't - when he was staggering across the playground under a load of coal and kilner jars, and an early arrival, Mrs. Fooks (veteran of many jumble sales) complained, with the Nelson touch, that she did not see any of the workers stirring, and had come expecting to find them "as busy as cats in a tripe shop". By the afternoon all the workers had done their stuff, and the schoolroom had the seductive atmosphere of Woolworths. The tea arrangements shewed genius definitely not Woolworths. You could get strong tea at one buffet, weak at the other, and exactly to taste by filling your cup up with the required proportion from each. Miss Edwards, of the haberdashery, also had a bright idea. She used one of the many charming ladies of the choir as mannequin, so that the customers who bought the jumble were beguiled into thinking that it would look as nice on them as it did on her. But the master stroke was Mrs. Aylmer's. When her jumble sale was over she sold its remains (quite profitably) to a jumble sale at Toller. Now we know: the brutes eat each other.

Services in November

Loders. 9th. Remembrance Sy. H.C.8, Remembrance Service 10.55, Children 2.
16th. H.C. 8, and 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.
23rd. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
30th. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.

Dottery 9th. Remembrance Service 3. 16th. Evensong 3.
23rd. Evensong 6. 30th. Evensong 3.

Askerswell 9th. H.C. 9.30. Remembrance Service 7.
16th. H.C. 9.30. Evensong 7.

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Christmas Services in Lodgers and Dottery have acquired a form which it would be heresy to depart from. Year by year the form is acceptable to an increasing number of parishioners, so to depart from it would be foolish as well as heretical. On Christmas Eve there will be the midnight service at Lodgers, with carols. At eleven on Christmas morning the children will sing carols round the Christmas tree in the chancel, and doubtless our Mothers' Union have it in their kind hearts to adorn the tree with sweets for each child. The Christmas Day service at Dottery will be at nine, with hymns. On the Sunday after Christmas there will be the joint carol service of the nine lessons for Lodgers and Dottery in Lodgers Church at 6 p.m. At Askerswell the service on Christmas Day will be at 10 a.m. and on the Sunday after Christmas there will be the carol service of the nine lessons at 7 p.m.

In the week before Christmas Lodgers Choir will sing carols round the village on behalf of the C. of E. Children's Society.

The Children's Mission Sale will begin at 2 p.m. in Lodgers School on Saturday December 13th. The children again offer useful articles for the home, and are to do singing and dancing. A kind offer by the Miss Willmotts to give a pianoforte recital has been accepted, and woe betide them if they make a botch of it.

The Bishop of Salisbury wrote to say how heartened he had been by the service in which he confirmed 43 candidates from Lodgers, Dottery and Askerswell. On this occasion the interior of Lodgers Church looked like a Hogarth engraving - only the faces were pleasanter than Hogarth's. The Bishop stood in the body of the church, talking first to the candidates, then to the parents, and he had scarcely room to move for congregation, which crowded the aisles before him and the chancel behind him. At the west end several young men found perches on the organ blower, and others on the window sills. The Bishop's text was a noble one from St. John, "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God". He told the candidates to mark it in their bibles. Have they done so? They certainly made a good start with their Communion. At Dottery all the candidates, some with their parents, attended the Communion on the Sunday after the Confirmation, so that the congregation was bigger than on Easter morning. All the Askerswell candidates made their Communion, too, and so did the majority of Lodgers. The candidates at Askerswell wish to thank Miss Edwards for having the classes in her home and for giving tea to those who came direct from work. Dottery candidates likewise are grateful to Mr. and Mrs. C. Marsh for having them at their house and providing such excellent fires. Mr. Marsh, Mr. Robert Barnes, Mr. Barker and Mrs. Aylmer kindly conveyed candidates to church on Confirmation day. The vicar would like to disclaim credit for the fancy names that the Bridport News attached to some of the candidates. He is not always responsible for the spelling and punctuation in his own Notes.

Earl Haig Fund collection at Lodgers and Dottery were £9.10., and at Askerswell £2.14.

The Askers Dance and Cabaret made a profit of nearly £60 for Askerswell Church funds. Mrs. Aylmer and her committee are to be congratulated on extracting our money from us so painlessly and pleasantly; and the parish on the fact that every family contributed something, from firewood and sherry to a home-made rug. Receipts were as follows:- Door (Messrs. Adams, G. Bryan and H. Spiller) £15.3.6.; Donations £5.19.6.; Girl Guides Stall (Miss Edwards, Miss Robinson, Sheila and Doreen Alford, Eileen and Joy Norman, Pamela Fry and Shirley Foot) £18.3.; Christmas presents stall (Mrs. G. Bryan, Mrs. J. Barker, Mrs. Adams, Miss R. Adams, and Mrs. Burt) £18.4.3.; Refreshments (Mrs. Aylmer, Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Swaffield and Mrs. Samways) £4.14.5.; Doll, per Joy Norman 17/6; Rug, worked by Mrs. Foot's family, per Pamela Fry, £2. 1s. 6d.; Cushion by Mrs. Aylmer, per Sheila Alford, £2.0.7; Sherry, given by Mr. & Mrs. Kirby, per Mr. J. Spiller, £2.9.6. Askerswell is now living in pleasurable anticipation of this year's final effort to get church finances on an even keel, the concert to be given by Miss Robinson's scholars in the school on Friday, December 12th.

A Holiday well spent. Mr. Cecil Legg's idea of a holiday is not everybody's and Askerswell Church has gained by it. During his week off work he refurbished the church stove, and painted the church gate, with an expert's hand. The cost of labour being what it is, this kindly act was worth two Sunday's collections to the churchwardens, who are extremely

grateful to Mr. Legg.

Askerswell Community Club gave Mr. Studley, its late chairman, an electric clock to mark his departure to a new home at Frampton. The Club secretary, Mr. Donald Marsh, made the presentation, and the chairman, Mr. George Bryan, paid tribute to the work Mr. Studley had done for the parish.

Obituary. Askerswell people learnt with regret of the death of Mrs. Gater in a Southbourne nursing home. A former occupant of the Grey Cottage, she was a great supporter of Askerswell Church, and a regular reader of these Notes. She was the widow of the late Rector of Figheldean.

Captain Aylmer has accepted nomination as Rector's Warden of Askerswell. The churchwarden's office is of great antiquity, and he is one who will grace it. What a pity for our pockets' sakes that the rates are not now fixed by churchwardens.

A Boom in Christenings. The baptismal register shows that babies are usually in short supply in Askerswell, and that the parish can get through a year without a christening. History was made, therefore, when three christenings took place last month, involving the Fry, Norman and Leigh families. The recent birth of a son to Wing-Com. and Mrs. Newall, of South Eggardon, makes another christening impending.

Couldn't Care Less. Weddings are notoriously prone to accident. The bride may be very late, the bridegroom may have come without the banns certificate, the best man may have lost the ring, or the parson may be missing at the appointed time. To all these, Loders has added something new and entirely original. A couple called at the Vicarage on a Tuesday, and arranged to be married by licence in Loders Church on the following Saturday at eleven. They furnished the particulars required for the register, engaged the organist and chose hymns. On the Saturday morning the registers were written up ready for the service, extra flowers were put in the chancel, and the organist left his work at Chideock and was at Loders by 10.45. Eleven o'clock came, but nothing else did. At 11.45 Vicar, Verger, Organist and Registers were still waiting. The Vicar then went to the bride's home. The door was answered by the bride's brother, who seemed as puzzled by the situation as was the Vicar. However, it was soon elucidated, for a taxi drew up, and out of it got bride and bridegroom, well garnished with confetti. The bridegroom told the Vicar that they would not be troubling him, as they had changed their minds, and got married in the Registry Office. When the Vicar asked why he had not been told of the change of plan, the bride said; with an air of langour, "We were very very busy, and we really hadn't time".

In their Element. The ceilings of Loders Church, damaged by the infiltration of water through the old lead roof, have been made good, and whitened. The plastered parts of the walls have been creamwashed with pleasing effect, and plaster has been removed from the built-in north door, and from the Easter Sepulchre, to show the stonework. The mess made by the builders offered scope to the feminine talent for springcleaning, and our Mothers' Union, assisted by non-Union volunteers, gave two days to scrubbing and polishing, and made a professional job of it. So infectious was their example that the two Harries caught it (Harry Legg and Harry Crabb, captain and vice captain of the ringers). These spring-cleaned the church tower, providing a study in methods. For while the ladies worked quietly and delicately on the dust of the church, raising not a speck, the two Harries made bedlam in the belfry above from whoselouvres came clouds of dust, and an occasional jackdaw's nest; no respecters of heads in the churchyard below. The Harries are sure that they made a better job than the ladies, which is saying something.

After Others - Themselves. Having raised a considerable sum for charitable objects in the past year, Loders Women's Institute find themselves short of funds. To replenish their coffers they are holding a sale in the Hut on the afternoon of Saturday, December 6th.

Services for December

Loders. 7th. H.C.8, & 11.45. Matins 11, Children 2. 14th. H.C.8, Matins 11, Children 2. 21st. H.C.8, Matins 11, Children 2. Christmas Day, Midnight Service, H.C.8 & 11.45, Children's Carols 11. 28th. H.C.8, Matins 11, Children 2, Carol Service 6.

Dottery. 7th. H.C.9.30. 14th. Evensong 3. 21st. Evensong 6. Christmas Day H.C.9 a.m. 28th. Carols, Loders 6.

Askerswell. 7th. Evensong 6.30. 14th. & 21st. H.C.9.30, Evensong 6.30. Christmas Day H.C.10 a.m., 28th. Carol Service 7 p.m.