

Loders, Dottery & Askerswell

Coronation Plans. Of our two parishes, Askerswell is ahead of Loders in its Coronation arrangements. At the time of writing, Askerswell has collected about £45, and the plan is that there shall be a tea for the whole parish, children's sports, and evening dancing, all at Askers Road House, followed by a bonfire on Chilcomb Down. The children are to receive Coronation mugs, and the people in need of a lift to the Road House will be offered one by those who have cars. The proposal to instal a television set in the school for the children to see the Coronation has been dropped because of the heavy cost. But Mr. Fry, of Nallers, and Mrs. Ascott, of Upton, have invited the children to their television. The road to Nallers is long, uphill, and full of pitfalls for the unwary. Mr. Fry would have been quite safe to invite the elders of Askerswell. The children's mettle may be his undoing. Compared with Askerswell, Loders has only just left the starting point, but like the tortoise it always manages to arrive where it wants to in its own good time. At present it is in the money raising stage. Four busy ladies - Mrs. Osborne (Uploders), Mrs. Randall, Mrs. Wells (Loders) and Mrs. Marsh (Dottery) have kindly undertaken a house to house collection. Mr. Charlie Gale is running a whist drive in the hut on Tuesday, March 17th. He has received several offers of prizes, and refreshments, and is open to more because he wants to see the Hut full of players. The skittling for Mr. Wells' pig will be on the Saturday before Easter and on Easter Monday at the Hut, this by courtesy of Mr. Frank Osborne, who has transferred the Loders Arms skittling from Easter to Whit Monday. The Coronation Committee will meet at the Vicarage on Wednesday, March 18th, at 8 p.m. It is hoped that parishioners with ideas for Coronation Day will pass them on to the Committee. With such a Queen on the throne as the young Elizabeth the Second, we can devoutly hope that this may be the last Coronation most of us will celebrate, and go "all out" to make it memorable.

Parents who have children at Loders School will be grateful to Messrs. H. Sanders, S. Tilley and G. Hyde for the Saturday afternoon work they have recently put in on the roof of the main cloakroom. This was leaking badly, and on wet days the cloakroom looked like a much used bath house. The County Architect ordered it to be repaired, but there were no funds to pay a builder. These gentlemen have made a good of it for the price of the materials only.

February brought with it an unusual amount of sickness, and the deaths of three parishioners. The first was that of an old soldier, Mr. Herbert Symes, of Pymore. He served twelve years with the Dorsets, and then worked for forty years at Pymore mill. He and his wife were only two years off their diamond wedding when he died. In his 82 years he never had a major illness. By sad contrast, Mr. Richard Hyde, an old soldier, who died at Uploders, suffered greatly in his few years of retirement, but shewed a brave face to the world. As a boy he had sung in the Bridport St. Mary's choir, and it was there that his funeral service was held. Mrs. Slade, of Yondover, died in Port Bredy Hospital after a long period of failing health, and was buried with her late husband at Shipton. She had been a keen worker for Loders Church, and was secretary of the Church Council in Mr. Beardmore's vicariate. Representatives of Loders Church Council attended the funeral. Shewas a native of Southall, Middlesex.

Not as bad as it looked. We were pleased to learn from Mrs. Taylor, of Uploders, that the press reports of her son Roy's accident were somewhat exaggerated. He is making a good recovery in Dorchester hospital, and expects to be home any day. As Loders knows, Roy is a great pedal cyclist, who thinks nothing of cycling to Paris. If the weather is not blowing a blizzard, he cycles to Poole on Friday nights for a cup of coffee. He was going for his coffee when this accident occurred. An overtaking car dismounted him, and made a total wreck of the bike on which he has covered so many thousands of miles.

Leaving Loders. The long tale of losses to Loders Church, beginning in the second half of last year, continues with further heavy losses.



Commander and Mrs. Streatfield are soon moving from Matravers to Broad Oak. They will leave a big gap in the Church Council, and the family pew beneath the pulpit will be conspicuously empty because it was so often full. The friendly atmosphere which newcomers find in Loders Church probably had much to do with the Commander, whose jeep would start from Matravers on Sunday mornings, assume that every pedestrian between there and the Farmers' Arms was bound for church, and take them aboard. The Commander's charm of manner was such that his passengers never had the heart to tell him where they meant to go. Besides, he was always careful to run them home again, but not before he had made tender inquiry among the worshippers who linger at the church gates, and encouraged them to keep their chins up. We shall miss our John Streatfield and family, also his neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hyde, who have moved to Waytown. Mrs. Hyde, herself no stranger to illness, had a fund of sympathy which neighbours were not slow to draw on. It is some consolation that she expects sometimes to be at the Dottery service. Our other loss is Mr. & Mrs. Shaw and Miss Vera Legg, who have moved to West Bay. Miss Legg was another keen church worker. Her voice was heard to advantage in the choir, she used to play the organ for the children's service, and was organist at Dottery. She was once secretary of the Church Council. "The old order changeth".

Mr. Edward Barnes is the first of that big family of farmers at Belshay to get married and leave home - if crossing a few fields and working with Commander Streatfield can be equated with the adventure normally associated with leaving home. Mr. Barnes' bride, Miss Walbridge, comes of another well known farming family, who knew what they were about when they made Beaminster Church the place of the wedding in lieu of their own little church of Toller Whelme, which could not have held the large congregation. A fall of snow made it possible for the bridal party to be snowballed as well as confettied as they left the church. The snowballs seemed to come from the church roof, and had an element of surprise which confetti lacks.

Loders Ringers did a Saturday ringing tour of the towers at Statton, Bradford Peverell, Sydling and Cattistock. The weather was bad, and the vice-captain, Mr. Harry Legg, has since been a victim of 'flu, causing him to miss Sunday ringing for the first time in years. Messrs. W. Symes, C. Rogers, C. Graves and B. Wheeler have learnt to ring this winter. Mr. Graves was not deterred by a narrow escape from death by hanging.

Firefighting in Uploders. A Chimney caught fire in Uploders, and was put out eventually by Bridport Fire Brigade. The account of it given by the householder concerned, runs something like this:- "Yes, there it were, a blaxin' away. I fought un till a got out o' me reach, then I went to the front door, and waited for the carrier to pass by. He were late that marnin, but I axed un if a wouldn't mind when a were in Bridport ta call at the Vire Station, and axe 'em to come out. He said a would, but a had a vew parcels to deliver first. When the Viremen come, they said they thought twas a hoax. They told I to be sure and zend 'em a registered letter next time".

Choir Outing. The senior members of Loders Choir went by car to a pantomime at Bournemouth, and a supper. They regretted that one of their number, Miss Peggy Pitcher, was laid low with 'flu, and unable to be with them. They greatly enjoyed the expedition.

#### SERVICES FOR MARCH

<u>Loders</u>	1st, H.C. 8 and 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2.
	8th, H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
	15th, H.C. 8 and 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2.
	22nd, H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
	29th, H.C. 8, and 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2.
<u>Dottery</u>	1st, H.C. 9.30, 8th Evensong 3.
	15th, Evensong 6, 22nd and 29th, Evensong 3.
<u>Askerswell</u>	1st, Evensong 6.30.
	8th, H.C. 9.30, Evensong 6.30.
	15th, Children 10, Evensong 7.
	22nd & 29th, H.C. 9.30, Evensong 6.30.



Loders, Dottery and Askerswell.

Tempus Fugit. To the writer of these Notes it seems odd that he should have come to the task of preparing his readers' minds for Easter when he has only just finished thinking about Christmas. These sunny days of March, some of them as warm as the normal English summer, make the anticipation of Easter even odder. One looks up at the rooks, whose nests are nearly finished, and down upon gardens, already dug and planted, and finds it hard to believe that Good Friday is yet to come. Good Friday is associated in many rustic minds with the breaking of the first sod in a winter bound garden. There are worse ways of keeping Good Friday than digging; for the first round of digging is painful, and may be a reminder that Good Friday is the memorial of the most painful thing that ever happened - when the world crucified its God and Saviour. Right minded people can never make a gala day of Good Friday. In one scene it is a triumphal day. The world's salvation was won on that day. The ancient poet looks at the Cross with perceiving eye and exclaims "Christ is reigning from the Tree, O tree of glory, tree most fair, ordained those holy limbs to bear". But the price paid on the Cross humbles and subdues rather than elates a right minded person. The day for elation is Easter. This is the day that proves what thinking people had always suspected, that good is bound to triumph over bad, and that death is not the end of a good life. Old Mother Church gives us the chance of coming early to the Sepulchre to meet the risen Christ, through the Communion service. Every confirmed parishioner is bidden to make Communion on Easter Day. Nothing is lovelier than to see whole families kneeling at the altar rail in a church converted by spring flowers - and by the Real Presence - into Joseph of Arimathea's garden. There are times to suit everyone; 7, 8 and 11.45 at Loders, 9 at Dottery and 10 at Askerswell. Those at Loders who like evensong and who have had one all the winter, are invited to church at 6 p.m. on Easter Day. Dottery evensong is at 3 p.m. and Askerswell at 7 p.m.

Coronation Plans are now taking shape. The Loders Committee have received £56.18. at the time of writing (collections, Uploders £20.5.3., U Yondover £8, Loders £13.17.6., Whist Drive £14.15.3.) The Dottery collection, which is understood to be doing well, is not in yet, and more is promised from Loders. Hopes are high concerning the revenue raising possibilities of Mr. Well's pig, which is to be skittled for at the Hut on Easter Saturday and Easter Monday. The Committee have been saved any expenditure on Coronation jugs by the offer of Sir Edward and Lady Le Breton to give one to every child in Loders and Dottery of school age and under. The sum saved to the Committee may be judged by the number of children eligible, which is in the region of one hundred. It is proposed, subject to the approval of the parish meeting, to make this the Coronation Day programme:- Afternoon, Procession of children and adults in fancy dress, and decorated vehicles, from Matravers to the Court followed by sports and tea at the Court. The evening celebrations to centre on the Hut, and consisting of dancing, items by Young Farmers, Women's Institute and Church Choir, continuous buffet and bar, skittling at Wellplot, all rounded off by bonfire and fireworks in Mr. Randall's field in Knowle Lane. Houses to be decorated for competition, children to be taken to the film of the Coronation in Bridport, and pensioners and anvalids to be given souvenir tins of tea or biscuits. Coronation funds raised in Askerswell are nearing £60, and there is more to come in. The Askerswell programme was outlined in the last Notes. If there is any money left over, Askerswell hopes to buy a new parish notice board, and seats for use in the school. This is not too ambitious! Rumour has it that our neighbours in Bradpole were intent on using their surplus cash to put a clock in the church tower, until they found that the clock would cost £500.

A Loders Character has passed from us by the death of Mr. Sidney Marsh. He was a model of industry and thrift. Until a long and painful illness put him to bed he had scarcely stopped work, which was his hobby. Like his father and his grandfather before him, he was a market gardener, and there was truth in the local saying that no weed could live where Sidney was. His large expanse of garden was as neat in dead of winter as in spring. By temperament he could hardly be called a clubable man, but his precisely measured visits to the local inn were always welcome. There his opinion on gardening matters was received like an oracle, and his prudence in withdrawing from table skittles at his first forfeit did not go unnoted.



In his younger days Mr. Marsh was a ringer, and he sang in the choir.

Askerswell School. We are sorry both for the school and for Miss Robinson that her health is such that the doctor has ordered her a complete rest, although it is pleasing to hear that the rest is already doing her good. Her work is being done pro tem by Miss Nicklen, who comes out daily from Bridport.

Mothering Sunday was a red letter day for the children. Askerswell children attended church in the morning, nearly at full strength, and Loders children brought flowers and presents to church in the afternoon. The presents were handed to their parents during the service, and afterwards the children took the flowers to old and sick parishioners.

A Change. Instead of joining the Lady Day service for the Mothers' Union at Sherborne Abbey, as in previous years, our mothers went to the service in Yeovil parish church. The fact (so ladies say) that Yeovil is a good shopping centre, and their renewing acquaintance with Mrs. Head, late of Knowle Farm, were added attractions. They spent an enjoyable day.

Easter Vestries. Easter week is the traditional time for a parish to receive the balance sheet of church accounts, and appoint churchwardens, sidesmen and church council. Every parishioner is eligible to come, and ought to come. We owe it to those who do our jobs to shew an interest. Loders and Askerswell are both good in attending this annual meeting, and we hope they will keep it up. The Askerswell meeting is in the school on Easter Tuesday, and Loders in the school on Easter Wednesday, both at 7.30 p.m.

A seat in the Mall. The Coronation seat allocated to Loders Women's Institute was balloted for by six members willing to pay the £4 for it, and was drawn by Mrs. George Bryan. Being in the Mall, the seat promises an excellent view, and Mrs. Bryan will not be harrassed by the thought of having to report the Coronation to the next meeting of the W.I., who have already extracted the promise of a report from Sir Edward. As a member of the Queen's bodyguard, his view will be as good as any.

Echoes of Moloch. During alterations to the old post office in Loders the workmen uncovered a brick-up oven. They were somewhat reluctant to obey the owner's order to open it up, alleging that unless the skeleton of a cat was found in the oven, bad luck would pursue everybody concerned. It appears to have been an old superstition that you could not brick up a bread oven without killing a cat and entombing it in the oven. This superstition is perhaps a relation of one which has left traces in the Old Testament, where it was good for a house to have a human being built into the foundations, and where it made a city wall impregnable to have a king's son built into it. No skeleton of a cat was found in the Loders oven, so the workmen are worried.

Colonel Scott, Vicar's Warden of Loders, has had the reward of months of house hunting in acquiring an attractive property in Netherbury, (complete with daily help) which he hopes to move into at the end of this month. Netherbury is one of the haunts of the faded aristocracy, and we would not expect him ever to acknowledge us again did we not know that his heart is still in Loders, and that he made every effort to get a house here. Loders church owes much to his family's example of regular churchmanship, and also to the work they put into the gymkhanas and fetes. If ever they can tear themselves away from lovely Netherbury, they will find a warm welcome in Loders.

#### Parish Registers.

Holy Baptism. 22nd. March, Christopher John Pavey.  
Burial 24th. March, Sidney Marsh, aged 73.

#### Services for April.

Loders. Maundy Thursday, H.C. 10 a.m.  
Good Friday, Mattins 11 a.m.  
Easter Day, H.C. 7, 8 and 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.  
12th. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2.  
19th, H.C. 8 & 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.  
26th. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2.  
Dottery. Good Friday, Evensong 7 p.m. Easter Day, H.C. 9, Evensong 3.  
12th, & 19th. Evensong 3, 26th. Evensong 6.  
Askerswell. Good Friday, Matins 10 a.m. Easter Day H.C. 10, Evensong 7  
12th. Evensong 6.30. 19th. Children 10, Evensong 7.  
26th. H.C. 9.30.. Evensong 7.