

Remembrance Sunday falls this year on November 7th., which is appropriately in the octave of All Saints. While the Queen leads the homage of the nation at the Cenotaph, we shall be paying our respects in our parish churches, where the names of our local fallen occupy a place of honour. Local Ex-Servicemen have given up their habit of marching to church on Remembrance Sunday, but most of them still come, which is more important. It would be good if they could aim at 100% attendance this year. Remembrance of the cost of war in lives and suffering is the best insurance against future wars. When war comes, it is because somebody has forgotten what war means. The collections at our Remembrance Day services will go, as usual, to Earl Haig's Fund except the Askerswell collection, which will go to the Ex-Services Welfare Society. This is the Society which deals exclusively with the mental and nervous wreckage of the two world wars. It is in touch with 27,000 Ex-Service patients in mental hospitals, and 12,000 suffering from nervous ailments. Will you please note the times of our Remembrance services? They are:- Dottery (Holy Communion) 9 a.m., Askerswell 10 a.m. and Loders 11 a.m. There will be evensong at Loders at 6.30 p.m., but this will not be a remembrance service.

Obituary. We record with regret the deaths of Mrs. Gollidge, who was lodging with Mr. & Mrs. Green at Uploders, and of Miss Meech, who had spent the last months of her life in Port Bredy hospital, where she was a popular patient with the staff, who called her their "Eva Rose". Miss Meech had been a familiar figure in the Loders scene, and had been in service at Loders Court.

Harvest Thanksgiving in our three churches was a somewhat patchy affair this year. Askerswell began the festival on a filthy black night with drizzling rain, knowing that corn at South Eggardon was not in, and trying to be consoled by the thought that the hundred-odd acres of corn then uncut at Stancombe were in Litton Cheney parish. In spite of the weather there was a good congregation, and a bright service was enlivened by an anthem in which the solos were taken by Miss Shirley Foot and Mr. Cecil Legg. One could not have inferred from the decorations that this had been a bad season, for these were as generous and as tasteful as ever. Dottery celebrated the bad harvest with a scheme of decoration more elaborate than anybody could remember. The entire flower garden of Belshay Farm looked to have been transplanted round the font, and the chancel looked more like a well stocked greengrocers than a sanctuary. Congregations were large, though the ploughing match prevented some from attending. Loders was lucky, as usual, in its weather. The sun shone on a full church at matins, and the moon on a tightly packed church at evensong - the biggest evening congregation for years. At both services the choir sang an anthem in which the solo was taken by Mrs. Tiltman. A new feature of the decorations (whose praise must have made the lady decorators' ears burn) were a miniature hayrick and two miniature corn stacks made by the Thatcher, Mr. Harry Legg. The two posters which advertised the festival were the work of Mrs. Gill. They were attractive pictures of Loders Church, and everybody seems to have had the same idea about them, viz. that they would bare framing and hanging in the best room.

Attendance at the Methodist harvest in Uploders was good. The service was conducted by the circuit minister, the Rev. E. Isherwood. The sale of harvest gifts was conducted by Mr. E. Gray. Enough money has now been raised to repair the chapel, and the work is being done as we go to print.

Rare Birds. Messrs. Spiller, of Crewkerne, who repaired Askerswell tower roof, contracted to do it for the sum of £168. They did more work than was in the contract, repairing windows and the nave roof after they had finished the tower. Their bill has just come in. It is for £158.5s.3d., nearly £10 less than the estimate, and making no charge for nave windows and roof. This is the first time in the present writer's experience that the bill has been for less than the estimate. Bills in excess of the estimate are woefully common. But why should they be? An estimate is only an approximation, and human nature being what it is, an estimate is much likelier to an over estimate than an under estimate. But it is rare indeed to hear the contractor say "Your bill is less than I estimated it to be".

Readers of the Western Gazette tell us that this paper carried a report that five Dorset schools had been commended by the County Education Committee for their progress and Loders school was among them. Enquiry of Miss Bryan extracted from her a reluctant confession that she had received a letter from the County Education Officer, which says: "The Education Committee have had before them at their recent meeting the report of her Majesty's inspectors on the inspection of your school. The Committee have directed that I should convey to you their congratulations on the very satisfactory nature of this report, which must be a source of pleasure to you. I should like to add that we are very pleased that you should have secured such a praiseworthy report at this early stage in your headship".

Holy Baptism. The daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Haines (nee Ann Crabb) was baptised Diane Elizabeth at Loders Church on Harvest Festival Sunday and the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Roper, of Allington, was baptized Gillian at Dottery on October 17th.

Mrs. S. Newberry has presented her husband and in-laws at Yondover Farm with twins, a boy and a girl. They were very small at birth, but are now making progress.

For the first time in several years Askerswell Church looks spick and span. Miss Pamela Fry has taken on the job of cleaner, and Sunday October 24th., saw the first fruits of her work in a clean floor and shining pews. Mrs. Spiller and Mrs. Norman had kindly given her a hand in the initial restoration of order. In congratulating ourselves on the acquisition of Pam we are not oblivious of the debt we owe to the flower ladies, who of their own volition added a bit of general dusting to the care of the altar flowers. Indeed there is a tinge of regret in the possibility that we may never experience again that stirring of The Square when Miss Webb and Miss Croxton, armed with dustbins and mops, and a truly ferocious look, went into action up Church Lane.

Another Pam, Mrs. Peter Rogers, has earned the gratitude of the five gentlemen who do turns at lighting Askerswell Church stove by again undertaking to keep it stoked, and Mr. Adams has kindly offered to clean it out each week.

Weddings. The name Crabb is not uncommon in Loders, and when the banns of Mr. Wilfred Crabb were called there was speculation as to which Wilfred and which Crabb he might be. He is the elder son of Mr. Harry Crabb, captain of the ringers, and since leaving the regular Army he has been driving a long-distance lorry operating from London. He and his bride, formerly Miss Joyce Bowditch, of Charmouth, are settling in London. Mr. Ronal Cornish and his bride, formerly Miss Jean Rogers, are living for the time being at Yondover. Theirs was a pretty wedding, with Loders church still full of harvest flowers, and a large congregation. The groom paid the bride the compliment of being so excited about the wedding that he forgot to bring his banns certificate. The bride didn't take it as a compliment that she arrived at the church gate just as the groom was rushing out and making for Bridport. Luckily the Curate of St. Mary's was at home, and the groom was back at the altar with his bride and the vital certificate in no time.

The Hat Trick. Mr. A.E. Hansford, Mr. C. Gale and Mr. J. Marsh have been elected chairman, vice-chairman and secretary, respectively, of the Loders Discussion Club for the third time running. Mr. Marsh has missed his vocation. He should have been a journalist. He is the writer of the masterly reports which grace the Club's minute book and the columns of the Bridport News.

Services in November.

Loders. 7th. Remembrance Sun. H.C.8, Special Service 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.30.

14th. H.C. 8 & 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2.

21st. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2.

28th. H.C. 8 & 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2.

Askerswell. 7th. Remembrance Sun. Special Service 10.

14th. Evensong 7. 21st. Matins 10. 28th. H.C.9.30 Evensong 7

Dottery. 7th. Remembrance Sun. H.C.9.

14th. Evensong 3. 21st. Evensong 6.30. 28th. Evensong 3.

Loders, Dottery & Askerswell.

Saturday, Dec. 4th., is the date of Loders children's annual mission sale. As usual, it will be held in the school, beginning at 2 o'clock, and it promises to be a pleasant social afternoon. The children have collected, and also made themselves, useful articles which will doubtless find ready buyers, and business is to be brightened by cups of tea and a few items of entertainment by the children. The need for the sale to raise a goodly sum is specially great this year. The missionary societies which we support have had war declared on them by the South African Government, and battle is already joined. In England church and state have long known how to work together, and the Church of England missions in South Africa are sympathetic towards the problems of government there, but they cannot allow themselves to be made instruments of the unchristian doctrine that the destiny of the African is to be merely a hewer of wood and a drawer of water for the white man. The Daily Telegraph reports that when the English Bishop of Johannesburg gave away the prizes in a big mission school, plain clothes policemen were there in force, and his speech was taken down. A smell of Nazidom there. What the South African Government regarded as sedition on the Bishop's part was only reiteration of the New Testament doctrine. "There can be neither Jew nor Greek... bond or free...for ye are all one man in Christ Jesus".

Our Remembrance Sunday collections for Earl Haig's Fund and the Services Welfare amounted to over £15 - Loders £10.10., Askerswell £3.7.9., and Dottery £1.6. In point of effort, Askerswell was easily the best service. Guides, Brownies and Cubs, under their leader Miss Edwards, were on parade, and in proportion to the size of the village the congregation was very large. Dottery congregation was also proportionately large, much larger than might be inferred from the collection, and included a gratifying number of young people. At Loders it was a fine service, muffled peals were rung, there was a magnificent rendering of the Dead March by the organist, and the collection was Loders' highest, but the attendance wasn't up to standard. It would be a moral calamity if all Loders people came to regard Remembrance Sunday as of no consequence to them. Agriculture prospers in war time, and agricultural communities more than most need to remind themselves that they have their fair acres to till in freedom only because brave men fought and died.

The late Miss Margaret Smith, who died recently at Pymore, had worked in Pymore Mills for twenty-three years, and her funeral at Dottery was attended by some of her old workmates. Ill health obliged her to leave the Mills seven years ago.

The profit on Loders Women's Institute sale, which was opened by Lady Peto, topped £19. Lady Peto was unaware that the sale also catered for children. When she found that the programme included a visit from Santa Claus, she dashed home to Bradpole to fetch her own children. The sale turned out to be more of a children's party than a sale, and they enjoyed themselves hugely.

Christenings. The infant son of Mr. & Mrs. Gay, of the Gardener's Arms, was christened at Dottery before he and his parents went to live at Bradpole. He was given the names of James Anthony. To the delight of Loders Sunday School, the twin children of Mr. & Mrs. Lowberry were christened at the children's service. Like James Anthony Gay, they were very quiet. The boy was christened David Charles, and the girl Dulcie Ann.

The Ashes. No, not those that are the dream of cricketers, but those that emanate from grates, whose useful and unobtrusive distribution are the daily concern of the country householders. The parish meetings of Askerswell and Loders met to consider a kind offer of Bridport R.D.C. to make a monthly collection of ashes in return for an eightpenny rate. Askerswell rejected the R.D.C. offer out of hand. The R.D.C. offer was small beer indeed compared with the offer of the landlord of the Three Horse Shoes at Spyway to take all the ashes that Askerswell could supply for his car park. The worthy landlord made no mention of any reward, but he is known to be one who would readily acknowledge that getting ashes to Spyway is thirsty work. At the Loders meeting there was no inkeeper bidding against the R.D.C. Indeed the R.D.C. had a champion, a solitary one, who maintained that the offer would be a boon to cottages whose garden plots were getting bunged up with ashes. In the course of the animated discussion that this gave rise to, somebody said that large

gardens always went with large incomes, which made the vicar sit up. However, the large incomes did not see why they should pay two shilling a time to have their dustbins emptied, which was what it worked out at for some of them, and as the cottagers were not there to vote, the offer was turned down. And so we may congratulate ourselves that another effort to civilise us has been successfully parried.

Christmas Services. These will follow the pattern of previous years. At twelve on Christmas Eve will be the midnight service with carols, which is becoming one of the most popular services in the year. At matins on Christmas Day the Sunday School children will sing carols by the Christmas tree, and at 6.30p.m. on Sunday there will be the service of the Nine Lessons. At Dottery there will be Communion service with carols at 9 a.m. on Christmas Day, and a similar service at Askerswell at 10 a.m. Askerswell will hold its carol service of the Nine Lessons at 7 p.m. on the first Sunday in the new year.

Loders Choir will sing carols round the parish on behalf of the C. of E. children's society, and there is a possibility that Askerswell Choir may do the same for Askerswell.

Miss Wilkinson. The people of Askerswell, and especially the choir, are now now well acquainted with the sad news that the operation which followed Miss Wilkinson's accident was not successful, and that it may be a year before she can return to Askerswell. In a letter to the Rector she says: "It was just one of the 50% of unsuccessful operations. Now I have to undergo a much more serious treatment, and I have elected to go to Ipswich hospital where Mr. Bell Jones will perform the operation ... I must remain in hospital for three months, then go on to their convalescent home, and then return to my sister, so as to be within reach of the hospital for periodic 'vetting', which will probably last nine months. Almost a year will elapse before I can return to Askerswell. I am truly sorry to be away from the choir. The girls have been so kind. They keep me up to date with news of the church, and of their personal interests, and it hurts me to have to let them down. I am indeed glad to hear reports of a 'live' atmosphere in the church, and I hope that all its activities will go from strength to strength". We reciprocate Miss Wilkinson's good wishes, and assure her that she is very much in our prayers and affections.

Mrs. Thomas, of Lodors, and Mrs. Enerts, of Uploders, are making good recovery from operations in Portway Hospital, Weymouth. Mrs. Gill, of Uploders, has returned from Odstock Hospital, Salisbury.

This year it was November, and not March, that went out like a lion. We didn't receive the mauling that some parts of the country did, but we came near to tragedy, as when a huge elm near the gate of Lodors Court fell in front of Mr. Bill Ives (chairman of our Young Farmers), catching his bicycle but not him - and to comedy, as when Commander Lumby, garaging his car at Spyway, looked up expecting to see the roof overhead, and saw the night sky and the outlines of a neighbouring tree instead. He eventually found the roof, no more than twenty yards away. Mrs. Henderson points out that the wind was not entirely an ill one; for it left Lodors High Street cleaner than she had ever known it.

A Word in Jest often comes true. When the Rev. Joost de Blank was senior chaplain of the 61st. Division he said to his staff chaplain (your present vicar): "The Roman Catholics and the Free Churches have decent church newspapers, that keep their people interested in their church as a whole. The Church of England hasn't got one. If I were a bishop I'd make it my job to give the Church of England a decent newspaper". The Reverend Joost de Blank is now the Right Reverend Joost de Blank, Lord Bishop of Stepney, and he is chairman of the new Church of England periodical to be launched in January. Launching a periodical of good taste when magazines like John o' London's have just gone under is an act of faith calling for no small courage. We hope our three parishes will help the new venture by becoming readers. It will be an illustrated monthly, on the lines of Picture Post, costing 6d. More about it in the next Notes.

Services for December.

Loders. 5th. H.C.8, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.30.

12th. H.C.8, & 11.45, Matins 11, Children 2.

19th. H.C.8, Matins 11, Children 2.

Christmas Eve, Midnight Service. Christmas Day H.C.8, Matins &

Carols 11. 26th. Matins 11, Service of Nine Lessons 6.30.

Askerswell. 5th. Matins 10. 12th. Evensong 7. 19th. Evensong 7.

Christmas Day H.C. 10. 26th. Matins 10.

Dottery 5th. H.C.8