

Loders, Dottery & Askerswell

The Beaminster Silver Band have again kindly consented to play at Loders Fete on Aug. 5th, and Sir Edward & Lady Le Breton have again kindly consented to the fete being held in the grounds of Loders Court. This happy conjunction of Band and grounds makes the fete a "draw". If there were no stalls or sideshows, people would be content to sit in those pleasant surroundings, and listen to the band, and renew old acquaintances during the intervals. Dottery will be running their usual stall. It is their painless way of raising their share of the Quota, which goes up, year by year, without fail. Miss Ruth Willmott has taken over the vacant post of sideshows organiser. By the way, the skittles prize is still vacant. We are waiting to hear of the pig that will fill it.

Both of our schools are running jumble sales this month, to provide the wherewithal for their Christmas parties, and for other desirable things which the County does not provide. The Loders sale is on the afternoon of Saturday, July 1st; and the Askerwell on the afternoon of Saturday, July 22nd.

Greetings from Miss McCombie, lately head of Askerswell School, were among those read out at the Women's Institute's very successful birthday party. She has found her year's course of study at Reading University most valuable, and has already secured a more responsible position in a school in far-away East Anglia. Her many friends in the Institute were disappointed at her not coming back to West Dorset, but were pleased to see her mounting the ladder of success. We are sure that the Dorset County Council, who sponsored Miss McCombie's course at Reading, were sorry to lose her services. Teachers are hard to come by these days.

Bells for the Archbishop. The bells of Loders & Askerswell joined with the rest of the bells of England in acclaiming the enthronement of Dr. Michael Ramsey as the hundredth Archbishop of Canterbury on June 27th. Prayers for him were offered in our churches on the Sunday previous. We will need them in this, one of the half dozen or so most difficult jobs on earth. Television has made everybody familiar with his fine patriarchal presence. Many remark how much older he looks than Lord Fisher, into whose shoes he steps, and who is twenty years his senior. But some of us remember our late local surgeon, Mr. Horton, whose head was snow-white at the age of twenty five. He used to say in fun, that it had been worth a fortune to him, giving his patients an impression of long experience and wisdom while he was yet a "greenhorn". Dr Ramsay may have similar cause to be thankful. He looks the part of perfection. When you can look the part as well as be it, the advantage is great. Our greatest archbishop, William Temple, had the misfortune to look like Billy Bunter, though this endeared him to students all over the world. As far as looks go, Dr. Ramsey is in the line of Archbishop Lang, who looked every inch a Prince of the Church.

Congratulations to Mr & Mrs William George Hunt, of Shipton Lane, on the birth of a daughter, and best wishes to Mr Hunt in his new role as an A.A. Scout, we suppose the first of that profession that Upoders has produced.

History in the making. When the West Dorset Guild of Ringers hold their quarterly meeting at Askerswell on July 15th, it will be the Guild's first visit to Askerswell, and the church's first time as host to a guild of ringers. Askerswell now has a reliable band of young ringers. Many who began the arduous business of learning have fallen by the wayside (as many always do), but there is a worthy residue - Peter Cowburn (Captain), Bill Hansford (Vice-captain), Susan Savage Juliet Willmott, Stuart Ascott and Gerald Porter, with Mrs Ernest Samways giving a helping hand when needed. Susan Savage began at the tender age of nine, is getting quite proficient, and ought to make all the older boys who could not stick it blush with shame - but doesn't.

St. Mary Magdalene's Day falls on Saturday, July 22nd, this year, but the dedication service of Loders Church will be kept on the Sunday following. That day will be suitable for another of the summer evensong. The evensong in June was perfection. There was a good congregation, the music was good, the hymns - all old favourites - were sung meaningfully, and the old church was at its best in the gentle evening sunshine, its air tinged with the scent of lilies and roses out of cottage gardens. Loders at its loveliest!

The pulpit frontal given to Dottery Church by Mrs John Marsh is now on duty. It is one of Wipple's best creations. To save it from fading it is kept in its box during the week. The last frontal suffered badly from being directly under the window.

Shades of Trollope. Loders has taken another step in the protracted and complicated business of getting the former ex-Servicemen's hut established as the parish hall, and getting rid of the Uploders parish room. A meeting of about thirty electors decided by a large majority to urge the Charity Commissioners to dispose of the Uploders room. But the last word is with the Commissioners, and they will take account of any objections by parishioners to the disposal of the room. Our hearts ought to ache for the clerk of the council, Mr Harold Brown. It is one of Loders besetting sins to put buildings on ground they do not own. The ex-Servicemen's Hut was built on ground privately owned. Now that it is the parish hall it still remains on private ground, and this has enormously increased Mr. Brown's difficulties in obtaining the substantial grant which may be got for improving the hall. Exactly the same kind of thing happened years ago over the Uploders room. We have been looking through the documents in the church chest, and they read like Trollope. The Uploders room was originally a school, built by public subscription. Instead of buying ground, the parish put the school on glebe ground, and failed to have deeds drawn up. As a result, the building became the property of the benefice, and the Vicar, poor man, had to pay dilapidations on a building which was in effect the parish hall. There were not as many flies on Mr. Hutton, the Vicar in 1920, as some people imagine. Not un-reasonably, he asked why he should be charged with the upkeep of a building the whole parish had the use of? So, after endless negotiations he put it fairly and squarely in the lap of the parish as a memorial of the Great War. The Ecclesiastical Commission sold the ground on which the room stood to the parish for £26, and room for a nominal £5. Mr Hutton got all the glory, of a public benefactor, relieved himself of the burden of repairs, and enriched the capital value of the benefice by £31. It will be interesting to see whether the Uploders room does cease to function. Beneath the controversy lies the fact that Loders, though one parish is two villages, and Uploders is jealous for its room. And, of course, the room has its charms. The Discussion Club likes to begin and end its meetings there in the pub next door. The Mothers' Union meets alternately in Loders & Uploders, and the aged members of Uploders like to walk as far as the room, but not the hut.

The distinguished residents of Uploders Place have been joined for a while by Sir Robert and Lady Armitage. Sir Robert was formerly a Governor of Cyprus, and was, until his retirement, Governor of Nyasaland. We are not likely to bask in their reflected glory for long. They are only here on the business of looking for a permanent home.

SERVICES IN JULY

Loders:	2nd:	HC. 8 & 12; Matins 11; Children 2.
	9th:	HC. 8; Matins 11; Children 2.
	16th:	HC. 8 & 12; Matins 11; Children 2.
	23rd:	(Dedication Festival) HC 8; Matins 11; Children 2; Evensong 6.30.
	30th:	HC. 8; Matins 11; Children 2.
Askerswell:	2nd:	Evensong 6.30; 9th: Matins 10.
	16th:	Evensong 6.30; 23rd: HC. 10. 30th Matins 10.
Dottery:	2nd:	HC 9.30. 9th: Evensong 3.
	16th:	Evensong 3. 23rd: Evensong 3. 30th Evensong 6.30.

The Vicar would like to remind the parishioners of Loders that he will be round collecting articles for sale at the fete in the week leading up to August 5th. The stalls need cakes, eggs, garden produce, groceries, china, glass, anything new or second-hand, and bottles for the tombola. Our appeal for a pig for the skittles was not in vain. Mr. Herbert Bartlett has kindly presented one. The Work on the church, which the fete is aid of, has already begun. The pointing at the lower levels has been done, and the men are now on the roof, where their main task is with pinnacles and battlements. The bill is going to be in the region of £800.

Mr. Vic Oliver, who is now appearing at the Alexandra Gardens, Weymouth, has graciously agreed to open the fete, at 2.30 p.m. He and his co-star, Miss Vanda Vale, will judge a competition for the best preserved grandmother, and dispense autographs for the fete fund. Vic Oliver is by birth an Austrian. He became a British citizen in 1945. "The Old Vic", as he likes to call himself, has successfully combined middlebrow comedy with highbrow music. He conducts the hundred piece British Concert Orchestra, and yet delights the multitude with "pop" songs and slap-stick comedy on stage, radio and television. His greatest venture in recent years was to take his West End Revue to the principal towns of South Africa in 1958. He has just returned from a second visit. His popular weekly radio show, "Variety Playhouse", will begin its ninth year in September. Salmon for the Ringers When the West Dorset Guild of Ringers made history for Askerswell church by holding their first meeting there, the mothers and friends of the Askerwell ringers made history for the Guild by offering them Scotch salmon at the tea, which is also a vital part of the proceedings. The salmon was that which Mrs Ernest Samways won at the Christmas Fair, and Mrs. Newall had kept it in deep freeze. It was cooked at the Vicarage, and served on a big dish with the appropriate garniture. For all the time the fish had been dead, it ate as though it had been hooked yesterday. None of it went begging, and to the ringers the haloes of Mrs Samways and Mrs. Aylmer (who killed the fish) were bright. The Guild shewed their gratitude by passing round the hat to help Askerswell ringers provide permanent sound-proofing for the belfry floor, which at present is proofed with sawdust.

Mrs Scott, the head of Loders School, wishes to thank all those who supported her jumble sale for the school fund. It made the satisfactory sum of over £16. Miss Grigg, of Askerswell School, wishes to do likewise. Her sale was on a bigger scale, because it had the V.S.A. premium to look after, as well as the school fund. It made £34.

While we are on the subject of thanks, Mr. Jim Lock, churchwarden of Dottery, wishes to thank those who were kind to him during his latest stay in hospital, especially Mrs Cecil Marsh for helping so much with transport. At the time of writing, he is home again, and much better. Mrs Darby, of Loders, was in Bridport Hospital at the same time, as also were Mrs Hoskins (formerly Beryl Tilley, of Uploders) now the proud mother of a boy; and Mrs Hile (formerly Pamela Fry, of Sturthill) now the equally proud mother of a daughter. The Parish was grieved to learn of the untimely death at Moffat House, Weymouth, of Mr. Alan Rice-Oxley, of Knowle Farm, Uploders. They knew that he was carrying on his farm at great odds of ill health, and were hoping that he would be spared to enjoy a quiet retirement after all his hard work and what he had endured as a prisoner of the Japanese. Those who sometimes have to foot it between Loders and Bridport will miss his offers of lifts, made so gallantly as to give the impression that it was he receiving the favour. He shewed us that farming can be a gentlemanly and civilised business. We offer our deepest sympathy to his widow. The burial was at Loders cemetery, after service in the church.

Those who take flowers to the graves in Askerswell churchyard are grateful to Mrs Lumby for providing a rainwater butt, and to Mr Charlie Gale for fitting it up. It will save a journey to the trough at Court Farm.

Askerswell congregation are glad to have Mr. Fred Marsh in their midst again after his long illness.

The oldest inhabitant of the civil parish of Loders is Mrs. Sarah Hyde, of Yondover, who was 91 on July 5th. Her long life has all been spent in Loders, and been tied up with the church. She is the widow of Albert Hyde, for forty years the sacristan; sister-in-law of the late John Hyde, sexton; and daughter-in-law of the late David Hyde, "the old sexton". Many times she has scrubbed the church from end to end, to help her husband, whose pay was a shilling a week. She is a monument to the old saying "Hard work never killed nobody" - an oracle quite Delphic in its ambiguity. Her memory is clear, her health good, and she is well cared for in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Wilfred Crabb.

Those of us who are neighbours of Loders Court can lift up our heads again. Sir Edward grows peaches on his side of the south wall of the churchyard. Lately the peaches have been vanishing at an alarming rate. We catch a mutter of "small boys" beneath Sir Edward's breath, and feel he is politely hinting at us, because the dearth of small boys is lamentable. But now we are cleared. Three grey squirrels live in the yew tree at the west end of the wall. They have been seen scampering along the wall to the peaches, and scampering back each with a peach in his paws. The peach itself is not the attraction, but the kernel inside the stone. Last Sunday at matins, the Vicar, high and lifted up in the pulpit, cast a preacher's ecstatic eye through the Ladye Chapel windows, and saw - one of the squirrels hopping along the wall to the peaches! This was the cause of the strange hiatus in the sermon, which he nearly forgot in his anxiety to draw the attention of the chancel to the spectacle. It seems, however, that the intelligence has now reached the chancel. It sounds, at this moment, as if the gardeners have opened fire on the thieves.

Mrs. Ethel Crabb's cottage in Uploders has been acquired by Commander and Mrs. Stranack. We bid them welcome to the parish, but can give none of the usual biographical details because they were up to the eyes in the business of settling in.

"Early to bed....". Children, unlike adults, are not given to burning the candle at both ends. If they do not get the proper amount of sleep by night, they take it, or rather it takes them, by day, which means in lesson time. Bright morning faces are now a thing of the pre-television past. The teachers at our two schools find themselves confronted by yawns, gapes, a stretching of arms, and an atmosphere of hangover. A question round the class elicits a time of going to bed which would make any responsible parent squirm. One tot of eight confessed that she went to bed between ten and eleven, and wondered what was strange about that. We are sure that all our parents want their children to get on at school, but how can they if they only go there to sleep? Parents who allow such late hours are unfair to the children, to the teachers, and to the taxpayer.

Miss Madge Marsh, of Pymore, has loaned us a volume of the Loders parish magazines for the year 1882, when the great Hebrew scholar and author, Dr. Edersheim, was vicar. We hope to insert some extracts in future issues. The magazines give fascinating glimpses of life in those days, and we wish there were more of them.

Services in August

Loders 6th. HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2.
13th. HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
20th. HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2.
27th. HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 6.30.

Askerswell 6th. Evensong 6.30; 13th. Matins 10;
20th. Evensong 6.30; 27th. HC 10.

Dottery 6th. HC 9.30; 13th. Evensong 3;
20th. Evensong 3; 27th. Evensong 3.

Loders, Dottery & Askerswell

Services in September. The Vicar hopes to be away for the first two Sundays in September. This will give the faithful an opportunity they too rarely get of hearing new voices and new ideas. But it will also mean some alterations in the times of services, because clerical assistance is extremely hard to come by, and the gentlemen who have so kindly offered to help are having to combine it with their own work. The communion service at Loders on the first Sunday in September will be a quarter of an hour earlier, at 7.45 a.m. It will be taken by the Rural Dean, Canon Dittmer. Matins at 11 a.m. will be taken by the Rector of Bridport. There will be no late communion, but children's service will be at 2 p.m. as usual. Services at Loders on the second Sunday will be at the normal times. Our old friend, Prebendary Chase, is coming over from Corscombe to officiate. At Dottery there will not be a communion on the first Sunday. On both Sunday service will be at 3 p.m., and the Vicar of Allington, will officiate. The arrangements for Askerswell have had a sad history. The Rev. T. H. Mousley, promised to fill the breach, then fell ill and had to withdraw. At much inconvenience to himself, the Bridport Reader, Mr. P.J. Jolley, offered to come, but died suddenly. This was a great shock to everybody. He looked so fit and cheerful and full of energy. Our deepest sympathy will be with his widow. They themselves were about to go on holiday when his death occurred. When he heard of the Rector's difficulties, another Bridport Reader Mr. Sanglier, fresh from a study course at Oxford, took the trouble to come over to Loders and offer his services. The superstitious will account him a brave or daring man. It is now arranged for him to take the Askerswell services. But will Askerswell please note that the services on both Sundays has to be in the morning, at ten? In the present unsettled weather, Loders can look back on its recent fete with satisfaction. The morning of the fete day was as unpromising as it could be - leaden skies and steady rain, with the wintry sound of the wind whining on the housetops. The postman brought a ray of sunshine to the Vicarage in the shape of a letter of good wishes and a donation from a former feteworker, Miss Marjorie Randall, now in sunny Tangyanika. Thereafter the morning lightened, and preparations went ahead in faith. In the early afternoon the ringers, acting unconsciously on some urge of ancient folklore, pealed the bells and cleared the air. The weather became all that could be wished, the sun beamed on a large assemblage, and the band, strategically parked near the tea and ice-cream booths, were soon perspiring. The highlight of the afternoon was the adjudication by the stage and television star, Vic Oliver, of a competition for glamorous grandmothers. Nobody envied the judge his job. Never before has mutton looked so lamb-like. His choice was Mrs Thomas, the wife of our worthy sacristan, whom he gallantly kissed. Asked next day how she was feeling, Mrs Thomas said she had had to take a sleeping tablet at 2 a.m.

Judging by the "gate", Vic Oliver drew about a hundred extra people to the fete, and yet the takings at £260. 13. 11d, a record, did not greatly outshine last year's figure of £254. 1. 3d. After expenses of Band £10; Bridport News £2. 2. 6d; Posters £1. 2. 6d; Teas £6; Hire of skittles £1; and prizes £11. 13. 4d, the profit was £228. 15. 7d as compared with £220. 3. 6d in 1960. It was a highly satisfactory result, and again gives us cause to be thankful for our workers, the generosity of our parishioners, the support of our neighbours - and our amazing good fortune with the weather.

The fete takings were as follows:- Stalls £134.4.0; made up of produce £8.5.3, Cakes £11. 1. 1, New articles £21.0.0, Jumble £7.7. 10, Bottles £21.1.0, China and glass £8.16.4, Dottery stall £24. 1. 1, Flowers £11.4.11, Ices £10.11.0, Children £7.10.0, Books £3.5.6. The side-shows produced £48.13.8d; made up of: Spinning Wheel £17.5.0, Roll-a-penny £2.6.0, Hidden Treasure £1.17.0, Clothes pegs £1.10.0, Ping-pong £1.13.10, Fishing £5. 4.3, Pennies in bath £1.9.9, Bowls £2.7.1, Fortunes £3. 0. 0, Pony rides 10/0, Skittles £10.15.9, Glamorous Grandmothers 15/0.

The competitions accounted for £17. 17.3d, made up of: Sweets in bottle £2.9.6, scent £2.12.6, chocolates £3.17.6, pullets £3.4.0, grocery £2.11.3, casserole £2.12.6. The teas were £27.8.0, the gate £17.16.0 and donations £14.5.0.

A month for christenings. At Dottery the infant son of Mr & Mrs. G.H. Crabb, was christened Alan Fred on July 30th. He was followed to the same font on August 13th by the son and heir of Mr & Mrs John Marsh, who was named John William Osmond. He comes from a good churchwarden producing family, and the Vicar mentally ear-marked him as a potential. At Askerswell, Mr & Mrs Hile (nee Pamela Fry) brought their first born a daughter, to be christened Brenda Anne, at evensong. The large congregation included a school friend of Pam's, Miss Joy Norman, home on holiday from the United States. The bells which were not ready for Pam's wedding duly functioned for the christening. At Loders, Mr & Mrs W.G. Hunt managed to get time off from his new duties as A.A. scout for the christening of their daughter on Aug. 15th. She was named Lucy Isabel Blanche. The grandparents, Mr. & Mrs I Forbes, and a bevy of aunts and uncles, left the height of the summer rush at Eype's Mouth Hotel to attend the service.

The people of Dottery were grieved to lose their oldest inhabitant, Mrs Agnes Gibbs, within two months of her ninety-seventh birthday. Her last work for the parish was to make articles of needlework for the Dottery stall at Loders fete. She was a wonderful old lady, who retained all her faculties to the end. She could see to do needlework and was a great reader. Her hearing was good, her reasoning unimpaired and her health excellent. Her example of active churchmanship has been followed by her children and their families, who all seem to be churchwardens or church treasurers or heads of mothers' unions. In the six years of her stay in Dottery she had been in the devoted care of her daughter, Miss Ruth Gibbs. After a service at Dottery Church the coffin was taken to Bishop's Stortford for burial in the grave of her late husband. Her belief in the knitting-up of severed friendships after death was strong and matter-of-fact.

Askerswell Church Council met recently to hear the recommendations of a valuer from the Ecclesiastical Insurance Office. In the light of the number of churches destroyed by fire last year, the council decided to raise the insurance on Askerswell Church to the full replacement value which, alas, means increasing the annual premium from about £6 to £26. The council also heard a report from the organ tuners that the organ is in desperate need of cleaning, and decided to ask for an estimate for the work. The Rector reported on the parishioners' response to the proposal of running an envelope scheme to increase church income to meet ever-rising expenses. Of the thirty five families he had interviewed thirty-one were willing to help in some way, but the remaining four took the line that as the church had done without their help in the past, it could do without in the future. Of the thirty-one families ready to help, only three were in favour of an envelope scheme as opposed to any other scheme, eleven were definitely against envelopes, and seventeen, though willing to take envelopes, preferred other means of money raising, such as annual fete. The council decided that as the parish were in favour of some annual effort, like a fete, the envelope idea should be dropped.

Services in September

LODERS:	3rd	HC 7.45, Matins 11, Children 2	
	10th	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2	
	17th	HC 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2	
	24th	HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2	
ASKERSWELL:	3rd	Matins 10.	10th Matins 10
	17th	H.C. 10	24th Evensong 6.30
DOTTERY.	3rd	Evensong 3.	10th Evensong 3
	17th	Evensong 3.	21st Harvest 7.30
	24th	Harvest HC 9.30.	

PARISH NOTES (October, 1961)

Loders, Dottery & Askerswell

Our Harvest Thanksgiving made a promising start at Dottery one fine evening towards the end of September. In the light of a waxing harvest moon, the feet of the faithful converged on the little iron church, and paused on their way passed the font as their owners admired the breathtaking exhibition of God's bounty which the decorators are now specialists in contriving at that strategic point. Most families in the hamlet were represented. They were, leavened, as usual, by a good sprinkling of former parishioners who still regard Dottery as home, and like to get back for harvest. The communion on the following Sunday morning which was more like high summer than autumn, also drew a good attendance. It is to be hoped that the weather will be as kind to Askerswell when it takes up the harvest theme on Sunday, Oct 1. The services will be Holy Communion at 10 am., and Evensong at 6.30. There will be a change from the Rector in the preacher, who is to be the Vicar of Bothenhampton. Loders choir have kindly agreed to lead the singing and do a harvest anthem. The edible part of the decorations will be on sale the following afternoon in aid of the church funds - those lean kine, who, the more they devour, the thinner they seem to get. Loders harvest will, as usual, bring up the rear on the second Sunday in October, giving Harvest festival fans the chance of one last lingering embrace of Ceres before she fades in limbo for another year. The Loders services will be Holy Communion 8 a.m., Matins 11 a.m., Children 2 p.m., and Evensong 6.30. p.m.

Dottery in grateful mood. When evensong ended on September 17th, the congregation remained in their pews while the churchwardens, Mr. Cecil Marsh and Mr Jim Lock, advanced and took charge of the proceedings. Mr Marsh informed the congregation that this was the last occasion on which Miss Ruth Willmott would function as their official organist. She had taken up the job at the tender age of eleven, and in the seven years of service had grown in the congregation's esteem. They wished her well in the college career on which she was about to embark, and hoped she would play for them in the holidays. They welcomed her successor and sister, Miss Juliet Willmott, and thanked God for the unending supply of organists that stemmed from the Vicar's ample family. Mr. Lock who had made a real effort to get to church for this occasion after his serious sojourn in hospital, was himself warmly received. He seconded Mr Marsh, and handed Miss Willmott £10. 3. 6d which the congregation had collected towards the cost of textbooks. She thanked them all very warmly, went home, framed the list of donors in cellophane, and put it in a place of honour in her room.

Busy Stork. Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Tom Foot, of Nallers, on the birth of a daughter; to Mr & Mrs Francis, of Yondover, also on a daughter; and to Mr & Mrs Cornish, of Well Plot, on a son.

The infant daughter. of Mr & Mrs Feist, of Uploders, was baptised Wendy Ellen in Loders Church on Aug, 27th.

Weddings. Askerswell Church was tastefully decorated for the wedding of Miss Audrey Marsh, formerly of Hembury, and Mr. John Rennison, of Sanderstead, Surrey. Mr. Rennison is the son of a Lloyd's underwriter. He had been a farm pupil in this neighbourhood, lodging with Mr & Mrs Harold Spiller. This was the first wedding at Askerswell for more than thirty years to have the bells. Mr & Mrs Rennison are making their home at Salwayash. Loders Church was also beautifully festooned with flowers and reverberated to the bells for the wedding of Miss Christine Barnes, of Loders Mill, and Mr Kenneth Edwards, of Almshouse Farm, Hermitage, Sherborne. The father of the bride, Mr Hamilton Barnes, gets more and more accomplished in the art of weddings as he marries off his bevy of beautiful daughters. This time, as he came down the church path with the bride on his arm, he presented such a masterpiece that the photographers clean forgot themselves, and had the bridal party posing as if they were in the studio. The knights of the camera were oblivious of the dislocation they were causing in church, where

the organist had played "Here comes the bride", and the congregation were getting anxious as the minutes passed and no bride came. In the end the service had to begin without the bride, but the sound of the opening hymn loosed the photographers' clutches as nothing else could. If the photographers do not curb their zeal, vicar as well as bride may be missing next time.

"The Dorset Scene" A course of ten lectures on this subject will be given at Askerswell School on Thursdays at 7.30. They began on September 28th, and being illustrated, appeal to the eye as well as the ear. The lecturer, Mr Geoffrey Poole, is a great student and lover of Dorset. All comers to the lectures will be welcome.

Loders Sunday School, chose Weymouth for their outing this year. They were not quite as lucky as usual in their choice of weather, but it was passable, and they had a most enjoyable day, tasting all the delights that Weymouth had to offer, from the boats to the funfair. The children wish to thank the many kind parishioners who gave to the collection. It mounted to nearly £15, and not only furnished the outing, but provided prizes for Christmas and new psalters for the junior choir.

Comings and Goings. This part of the "unchanging countryside" is in its usual state of flux. The Hansfords, of Cuckolds Farm, are about to leave the busy Dorchester Road for the quiet pastures beneath Hardy's Monument, and we shall keenly miss them. Such is the tempo of modern farming that the purchaser of Cuckolds is reputed to have it in the market already. The Berrys have gone from the Forge, in Uploders, and the parish have acquired another asset in their successors, a delightful family from Hong Kong. These are Mr & Mrs Vyvyan Davis and their two sons. The sons are away from home. In Hong Kong Mr & Mrs Davis took an active part in the life of the cathedral, and held various offices. Which does not mean that they want to be roped into anything here. Indeed, their one wish for the present is to be allowed to vegetate. To proceed:- The Lambert family have gone from Uploders to Milborne St. Andrew, and a much larger family from Bridport is in their place. Mr & Mrs Marsden have four small children, of whom the eldest has just begun at Lodors School. In Lodors a rare old re-shuffle is in progress. Mrs Beaumont is moving to London; Mr. Clifford Pitcher is going to Boarsbarrow, Mr Harry Newbury is going into Mr Clifford Pitcher's, a new cowman for Boarsbarrow is taking Mr. Harry Newbury's, Mr. Horace Read is going into the late Miss Agnes Hansford's, and who is going into Mr Horace Read's is something a multitude of hopefuls would like to know. Those of us at this end feel slightly giddy.

The Summer which is now ending has brought many welcome old faces back to services in Lodors Church. These are too numerous for all to be mentioned, but they have included Miss Joan & Mr & Mrs Edgar Bishop, formerly of Yondover. The Scott family who are well and truly scattered, have had a complete reunion at Colonel Scott's home in Netherbury, and have all been over to Lodors Church - Major & Mrs Robin Chater from Cyprus, Dr Ian Scott from the U.S.A., Miss Joan Scott from Aldershot, Captain Donald Scott from Blandford and his fiancée, and the former nanny, whose merit as such precludes us from knowing her by any other name. On Sunday we had the headmaster of Winchester in our congregation, and another the Bishop of Southwark. We have also had a visit from Mrs Stirling, widow of the colourful colonel of that name who is the hero of the book "Safety Last".

Services in October

- LODERS: 1st HC 8 & 12; Matins 11; Children 2.
8th Harvest, HC 8; Matins 11; Children 2; Evensong 6.30
15th HC 8 & 12; Matins 11; Children 2.
22nd HC 8; Matins 11; Children 2.
29th HC 8; Matins 11; Children 2.
- ASKERSWELL: 1st Harvest, HC 10; Evensong 6.30.
8th Matins 10. 15th Evensong 6.30.
22nd Matins 10. 29th Evensong 6.30.
- DOTTERY: 1st Evensong 3. 8th Evensong 3. 15th Evensong 3.
22nd Evensong 6.30. 29th Evensong 3.

PARISH NOTES (NOVEMBER, 1961)
Loders, Dottery and Askerswell

Mere mention of the word "November" is enough to send a shiver down most spines. It is the month of fog, cold and wet, of paths made treacherous by fallen leaves, and of increasing night. But it has its consolations. The long nights draw us to the fireside, and the fireside is a place of memories. If it really be a coincidence then it is a happy one, that November should also be a month of remembering. In November we remember All Saints, All Soules, the confounding of Guy Fawkes, and those who died for us in the two world wars. By the time these notes are in your hands, All Saints and All Soules will be gone, but Remembrance Sunday will still be ahead. This year it is on November 12th. In the great surge of sorrow and pride that ended the wars, we said of those that had given their all that we would never forget them - "At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them". The able-bodied will not keep this promise by sittin' with their feet up before the "telley", watching the Remembrance in Whitehall.

That is for the infirm, and the hospitals. We owe it to those "lesser calvaries" to make the effort to go to our parish church, where their names are engraved on the roll of honour, and pay our respects there. The Remembrance Service in Askerswell will be at ten, Loders at eleven, and in Dottery at six-thirty. The collections will be for the Earl Haig's Fund.

Harvest Festival is pleasant to look upon. At Askerswell the business of preparing, the day before, was almost as impressive as the day itself. The road outside the church was congested with cars, and inside, the church itself looked something like Covent Garden market, as the decorators got busy on the masses of flowers, fruit and vegetables at the strategic points. Congregations on the day were good. Evensong drew a crowd, and Loders choir delighted them with a harvest anthem. The worshippers took an interest in the bell ringing - the first for harvest in over thirty years. It is done from the ground floor of the tower, in full view of the congregation, and was creditable to the young ringers. The children had had a miniature harvest festival at school, with their parents, the previous Friday afternoon, and had transferred their decorations to the big stove in church, transforming it beyond recognition. Their collection of £1.10.6d had been sent to the Oxford Committee of Famine Relief. The Saturday preparations for Loders harvest looked lessopulent than Askerswell. The cars outside were few. Park near the church porch were the ancient push-chair and the sugar box on wheels used by the veteran decorators for carting their materials. But the inside of the church reflected none of this poverty. There was a wealth of colour. Thanks to the nice farmers who remember church when they put in the sickle, there was the display of sheaves in which Loders specialises, augmented by the corn dollies made by the village thatcher, the late Mr. Harry Legg, the loss of whom is felt anew every time they are brought out. After an unpromising start, the weather on the Sunday cleared wonderfully, and the church was full for matins, and again for evensong. Collections were only slightly short of £20. The choir excelled themselves. Their anthem was a rollicking one which some of us have been humming ever since. Loders School had had a most successful harvest service a few days previously. Practically all the parents and school managers were present although the time was an ungodly 9 a.m. (Countrymen rising with the lark is a myth; they have their work cut out to be up with the paperman, and you know at what time he comes).

A reminder. Mrs. Willmott is going into hospital for a leg operation, and will not be able to trot around reminding those kind people who make things for the December Mission Sale that it is time to "get cracking". Would they please take this in lieu of her usual visit?

Changes have lately come thick and fast at Dottery, which was once as constant as Julius Caesar's northern star. Mr. and Mrs. Bages have and family have (not surprisingly, as their cottage was no credit to

the parish) gone to Toller, leaving nobody to sweep the Dottery chimneys nor scythe the churchyard. The loss of Mr. Baggs is balanced by the gain of Miss Wallace and Miss Hornsby, who have come from Newcastle via High Wycombe to the late Mrs. Wensley's Cottage. Luckily for the church, they continue Mrs. Wensley's custom of regular worship, and already have their niche in the congregation. Mr. Youngs has ceased to live in Dottery to everybody's regret, and is in process of dispersing his home. He plans to spend his time with his children, in turn. At Belsahy the Broomfield family, who were a real asset to the parish, have gone to Winfrith, and their place is taken by a potential asset, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Harp, newly married. Mr. Harp is from Symondsbury, where he worked at Shute Farm. The Clough family, who, though living at Salwayash were very often at church at Dottery, have moved to Chideock. They were a fine example of parents and children doing their Sunday duty together, and will be missed. But the biggest and saddest change is at Belsay Dairy, where that fine old farmer and churchman, Mr. Charles Barns died suddenly at his work in the field. His passing was probably as he would have wished it - no illness nor suffering, working and joking till the last minute. But for his loyal and devoted family it meant shock, and a drastic readjustment after their thirty years at Belsahy. The sympathy of which they are the focus was impressively shown at the funeral, when the church was hopelessly inadequate for the number of mourners. The church was packed, and yet there were twice as many people outside. And never had the narrow lanes around the church seen such a chaos of traffic. 3

Medway Farm, Askerswell, has changed hands. The previous owner Mr. Biss, has gone to another farm in the Hawkchurch area. His son, Michael has taken a milk cum newspaper round at Dalwood. Michael and his wife now find that they have more than enough to occupy them. The new occupants of Medway are Mr. and Mrs. Martin Evans, their son Christopher aged 2; and their daughter Frances aged 6. They were farming in Sussex, but came immediately from Aylesbeare, near Exeter. "No place like..." Mr. Tony Wells, formerly an engineer in the Merchant Navy, deduced he had seen enough of the world, and has come to live in a cottage near his parents at Loders Post Office, with his wife and child. New neighbours of theirs are Mr. and Mrs. Eyles, and their two children aged six and three. Mr. Eyles is a Londoner, but has been a farmer for four years and likes it. He is now cowman at Boarsbarrow. out of three need had to be. 1. 2. 3. to be collected with

Christenings. There are three to record. The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Cornish, of Well Plot, was baptised Andrew at the County Hospital Dorchester, on Sept. 29th. After further treatment at Bristol he is doing well. Nigel Richard Brake was baptised at Dottery on Oct. 1st and Derek John Hoskins at Loders on Oct. 22nd.

Loders greatly misses the cheerful figure of Mr. Charles Neaves, who died at the age of sixtyseven, after a life remarkably free from illness, and looking the healthiest man in the parish. The secret of his popularity may have been that he could always find something good to say about everybody, and was content with his lot. He was a native of East Tytherleigh, Andover. For years he was butler to the Admiral the Hon. Matthew Best at Toller Fratrum, and then gardener to Mr. Edgar Howard, of Walditch; he then went to Boarsbarrow.

Autumn Bride. Dottery turned out in force for the wedding of a popular former parishioner, Miss Jillian Chubb, and Mr. Peter Chick, at Loders Church. The weather was its nicest, and the church its praxxis prettiest.

Mothers Union. At the triennial appointment of officers, Mrs. Lenthall was re-elected Enroling Member, Mrs. T. Rudd treasurer, and Mrs. J. Osborne, secretary.

Loders, Dottery & Askerswell

The Collections for Earl Haig's Fund on Remembrance Sunday were most gratifying. At Loders it was £20, at Askerswell £4.5., and at Dottery £3. It looks as if Loders has beaten the collections at the big civic services in Bridport and Beaminster. As for our Remembrance Day congregations, Dottery was easily the best. Three quarters of the hamlet were present, including several families complete. At the other two churches congregations were fair, but not what they should have been. Loders ringers marked the occasion with half-muffled peals before and after the service, and the organist, Mr. W. Tiltman, gave that impressive rendering of the Dead March in "Saul" which some say is the making of the service.

Attention, Askerswell! During the winter an evensong at 3p.m. will replace one of the two 6.30 evensongs, beginning on Dec. 3rd. This is to meet the objection that there are not enough services to which children can be brought. We hope those farmers who find 6.30 their only convenient time will give way to the children graciously. It is a pity that one of the 6.30 evensongs has to be dropped, because it is the only service in which the men outnumber the women. Complaints are often heard that the linking of three parishes under one parson greatly restricts the choice of service, but is that really so? Many parishioners are as mobile as the parson, and within a couple of miles of their home, in the course of a month they can get a service at 8 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 noon, 2 p.m., 3 p.m., and 6.30 p.m., - a choice which was not available before parishes were united. If parsons can be, and have to be, multi-church minded, there is no reason why congregations should not be, and anyhow it is the same God who is worshipped in each.

Loders Church Council has co-opted General Rome to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mrs Rudd, who has felt obliged to give up her offices in the Women's Institute as well. The Council expressed warm appreciation of her past services, especially in connection with the Fete. She remains Treasurer of the Mothers' Union.

Two New Families are getting acclimatised to Loders. Mr & Mrs Herbert Homer, and their two children have come to Court Cottages from Preston, Weymouth. Mr Homer works at Loders Mill. His wife is a native of Liverpool, but likes the country. The other family are Mr & Mrs Lionel Hine, who have taken the cottage next to Mrs Moreby. He is a native of Stoke-on-Trent, and works for Silcocks. She comes from Paignton. Passers-by who may have been puzzled by the name "Libra" on their door will be saved further cerebration if we tell them it is merely a compound of husband and wife's christian names.

The Mission Sale will be at Loders School on Friday, December, 15th. Through the kindness of Mrs Scott, and the day school, proceedings will begin with a nativity play, at 5.30 p.m. In our goings to and fro in the parish we have found many good people busy making things for the sale.

"Once more into the breach!" Poor Askerswell! This little parish having just completed the task of putting the tower and bells in order, is now faced with the unavoidable and urgent necessity of doing the same for the organ. Nothing much has been done to the organ since it was installed in 1919. The tuners have reported that it is now in desperate need of cleaning and repairs, costing £500, and the longer these are delayed, the more will be the cost. Group Captain and Mrs Newall have kindly offered South Eggardon as the venue for a fete, provisionally fixed for June 23rd next year, and already have arranged a Bridge Party for the Organ Funds. As we go to print, Miss Shimeld and Mrs Millington are giving the organ the benefit of a Coffee Morning; and the possibilities of a Bingo session of the refined type are being canvassed, although the outrageous price which the County charges for the hire of the school militates against this.

The children of Askerswell School will be doing their nativity play on the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 15th. They have delighted the parish with a proposal to end the term (on Wednesday, Dec. 20th) with a carol Service in church at 2.30 p.m., to which they hope that the parishioners in general, as well as parents, will come. They wish the collection to be for the organ fund.

Christening. On Nov. 5th, at Loders Church, Della May Williams, of Rewe, Exeter. Her mother is a sister of Mrs Ernest Crabb, of Uploders and was formerly of Askerswell.

The new officials of the Women's Institute, whose names, in the old days, were always awaited with the interest of a general election result, are:- Mrs Wells president; Mrs Moreby Vice-president; Mrs Spencer treasurer, and Mrs Knight secretary.

Loders Church is grateful to Mrs F. Gill for making and giving a goodly number of kneelers for the choir; and to Mr & Mrs George Hyde for giving a handsome wrought-iron flower stand in memory of "Granny" Hyde. It does duty in front of the lectern. Askerswell ringers are grateful to Mrs Spiller and Mrs Knight for stopping the draughts into the ringing chamber with a thick curtain filched from the south door, in place of which they produced another.

Loders Choir hope to do their annual perambulation of the parish shortly before Christmas, singing carols in aid of the C of E Childrens Society. The Sunday School reckon to sing carols round the Christmas tree in the chancel at 11 o'clock matins on Christmas Day, and hope that the Mothers' Union will not fail to see that the tree bears a good crop of sweets. The midnight service, whose hold on public affection increases with the years, will be as usual, beginning at twelve on Christmas Eve.

Grateful Choir. The senior members of the Loders Choir, who have never had the benefit of a parish collection on their behalf, were deeply touched by the kindness of Mr & Mrs Ian Forbes in giving them a dinner at the Eype's Mouth Hotel. The coldness of the November night made the warmth of their reception more agreeable. Obviously the proximity of the Lord Mayor's Show had influenced the host and hostess in their planning; for the dinner had a whiff of the Mansion House about it, and the memory of that roast duck still fortifies the guests. The Vicar tried, but not very successfully, to voice the choir's thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Ian Forbes. He is so used to making the bricks without straw that here the abundance of straw flummoxed him.

Dr. Edersheim, Vicar of Loders, writing in the December magazine of 1881, said: "As always, time has brought changes to our parish. Seventeen deaths have taken place, but I am thankful to say there has been no epidemic nor sudden accident. Twenty-eight baptisms have taken place during the year, and five marriages. At the same time the last census shows that our population, as in so many other agricultural parishes, has decreased - from 1,115 to 952." At the 1951 census the population was 644, and at the last census it was probably less than that.

We are asked to say that the party which Sir Edward and Lady Le Breton give the children of Loders at Christmas will take place as usual, but the date is not yet fixed.

SERVICES IN DECEMBER

<u>LODERS</u>	3rd. H.C. 8 & 12, Matins 11, Children 2.
	10th. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2
	17th. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2.
	24th. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2, Midnight Service 12.
	Christmas Day. H.C.8, Matins & Carols 11.
	31st. H.C. 8, Matins 11, Children 2, Carol Service 6.30.
<u>ASKERSWELL</u>	3rd. Evensong 3; 10th. Matins 10; 17th. Evensong 6.30.
	24th. Matins 10; Christmas Day. H.C.10; 31st. Matins 10.
<u>DOTTERY</u>	3rd. H.C. 9.30; 10th. Evensong 3; 17th. Evensong 3.
	24th. Evensong 3; Christmas Day. H.C.9; 31st. Evensong 3.