

THE PARISH NOTES enter their twenty-first year this month. When they began, they were the only parish magazine in the Deanery to be duplicated. Now, thanks to the high cost of printing, most of the magazines are duplicated. We have achieved about the maximum circulation for villages the size of ours - 240 - the number of readers must remain conjectural. Many copies are borrowed, and some circulate all over the world. It is an awesome thought that more copies of this poor little sheet are read in these villages than any other publication: which encourages in us a seemly sense of responsibility. How true is the saying that editors divide the wheat from the chaff - and print the chaff. The best parish news cannot be published. Yet that which we purvey is sufficiently interesting to cause a stir if the Notes do not appear on time. Well, many thanks to all our readers for their unflagging support, to Mrs. Olive Legg, Mrs. Jack Osborne, Mrs. Savage and Mrs. Rhennish for doing the monthly chore of distributing with the zest of sellers of hot cakes; and not the least to the one who does our duplicating, often under domestic difficulty and at a price whose resting quality will be restful indeed if it can withstand the urge of all prices to escalate.

WE ARE GRATEFUL for two donations for Loders church repair fund, one anonymous, and the other enclosed in a letter from Mr. C.W. Bagg, of Norwich, who recently brought his deceased Mother back to Loders for burial. Mr. Bagg says, "My family, and especially my son, who had never visited your church, all remarked how beautiful and old it is, and that must be the reaction of most who see it for the first time. We also felt that my parents' last resting place is a lovely spot, and hope that the years to come will not spoil its quiet, peaceful, outlook".

THE TIME has nearly arrived for the annual effort to repair the centuries' erosion of the fabric of Loders Church, which of course means fete time. The fete is not until August 3rd, but the financial success of it very much depends on what the parish gives for sale on the stalls, and cash donations. Collecting is a job that has fallen once again on the Vicar, and if he is to meet all the kindness of last year he will embark on it without trepidation. It is good for the parish that some of its ladies revel in collecting for good causes. The discipline is good for him, too, because he detests it. A saint would doubtless regard it an honour to collect for a church like Loders, and so must he. Between now and the fete would parishioners kindly be looking out anything saleable for the stalls? They know what is needful from long experience. Mrs. Cecil Marsh will be going round for the Dottery stall, whose proceeds are for the repair of Dottery Church, which is also in need.

NOT FORGOTTEN A duty to the needy persists even when parishes like Loders have to find £5,000 for the repair of their church. So we note with satisfaction a generous response to famine relief through Christian Aid. In Askerswell Mrs. Savage collected £4. 2s. 4d, in Uploders Miss Armitage £4. 16s. and in Loders Mrs. Willmott £7. 5s. 1d. Additional to this, Dottery Church gave £3. Askerswell Church £5 and Loders Church £20. The Children's Society have thanked the local boxholders for £11. 4s. 3d and Miss Muriel Randall, who organises them.

ASKERSWELL CHURCH attracted a sizeable congregation of former old boys and girls for the baptising of the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Hile (nee Pamela Fry) on Whit Sunday. She was named Rita Mary.

A WELCOME to Mr. and Mrs. Wilkie, who are hard at work trying to make habitable the cottage once occupied by those stalwarts of Dottery Church, the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cleall. Mr. Wilkie is a cabinet maker, lately retired from his work in London. They came to like this area when staying with a sister at Salwayash. They think that the clean air of Dottery and its splendid views, more than compensate for the snags in the cottage. Up the road at Myrtle Cottage Mrs. Plum has changed from an occasional weekender to a permanent resident. But her husband still commutes to London.

BAD WEATHER persuaded our Mothers' Union to begin their outing to Abbotsbury with a tea at The Flower Pot and not a perambulation of the gardens, as planned. The tea was a present from the Enroling, Mrs. Garrard, who was warmly thanked by Mrs. Willmott. The company then adjourned to the church for a service, in which they were joined by the Abbotsbury M.U. whose Vicar told them some of the history of the parish. In some respects it was the great day of Mrs. Thomas, wife of the Parish Clerk of Loders. She had been christened at Abbotsbury. The Vicar got out the register, and settled what had been a problem of years for Mrs. Thomas, whether she had been christened Caroline Ella or Ella Caroline. To celebrate the end of a debate which everybody had come to regard as eternal, Mr. Garrard took a photograph of the Vicar of Abbotsbury and Mrs. Thomas, with the register.



AT THE FIRST MEETING of Loders new parish council. Mr. Wilfred Crabb was elected chairman, and Mr. Ronald Price, vice-chairman. A resolution recognising the entitlement of Loders churchyard to an annual contribution of £50 from the rate was passed with six members in favour and one abstaining. Mention was made of an offer by Mr. Douglas Baggott to rent the Uploders Room for £50 p.a. and to keep it in reasonable repair, provided it were first cleaned up. Some members welcomed this as a means of providing the Hut with revenue. The Clerk pointed out that the trustees were trying to arrange a sale. He promised to do his best to activate the Charity Commissioners, who had been sitting on the subject for seven years. One councillor pointed out that time did not count with the Commissioners: they had been sitting on the project of another village hall for fourteen years! There was a discussion on the need for a playing field behind the school. At present the children have to be taken into Bridport for some of their outdoor activities. It has since been learnt that the County Education Officer has obtained permission to turn one third of an acre behind the school into a playing field., but whether he does depends on the outcome of a public inquiry on the development of the rest of Mr. Chown's land. This will be held at Bridport Town Hall on July 10th, at 10.30 a.m. Owners or occupiers of adjoining property are eligible to speak at the meeting if they so wish and this includes the school managers.

AT TIMES it is easy to see what makes some people superstitious about misfortunes occurring in a threefold cycle. The unexplained death of Mr. Arthur William Miller in a tractor accident followed two other fatal accidents within a year in which Askerswell people were involved. Mr. Miller was buried in his father's grave at Askerswell, after a service attended by a large congregation of sympathisers. His Mother has had a lot to bear, one way and another, and we feel for her deeply.

THE MANAGERS of Loders School elected Mr. Miles as their new chairman, after Brigadier Hammond had made it clear that he could not be dissuaded from giving up. The latter was thanked for past services and the former was greeted as a parent of present and potential pupils of the school. The headmaster's report shewed the school to be in good shape, with fifty-five pupils and the school fund replenished beyond expectation by the May Fair. He mentioned that two pupils had joined a camp for mixed English and French children at Wareham, to improve their French and the weather was seeing to it that they did little else but sit in tents and speak French.

FOR LODERS CONGREGATION to have a sermon from any but the Vicar is news. On The first Sunday after Trinity the preacher was the Rev. Dr. Martin Thornton, formerly a lecturer at St. Deiniol's, Hawarden, and the author of several books, who is staying in the parish pro tem. The congregation will be pleased to know that he has promised to oblige again. It is a small world, when the Vicar fell under the spell of one of Dr. Thornton's books some years ago it seemed beyond the bounds of probability that the author should ever preach for him.

THE LICENSEE of the Loders Arms had a good measure of success against our awful June weather when he tried to get us celebrating the Longest Day. A lamb was roasted over an open fire behind the inn by Mr. Albert Wells. A large number of villagers watched. Then the rain descended, and the delicious lamb sandwiches had to be eaten under cover. Since that day the rain has scarcely stopped. Cut grass lies rotting in the fields and the uncut grass will not be much good. The season seems to have converted some staunch advocates of hay to silage.

LODERS RINGERS' OUTING will be an afternoon one, with an evening show at Bournemouth on Saturday, July 27th. Mr. Maddison, of the Farmers' Arms, will be pleased to receive bookings.

#### SERVICES IN JULY

LODERS	7th	Holy Communion 8 and 12	Matins 11	Children 2
	14th	Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2
	21st	Holy Communion 8 and 12	Matins 11	Children 2
	22nd	St. Mary Magdalene, Holy Communion 8.		
	28th	Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2
ASKERSWELL	7th	Children 10	Evensong 6.30	
	14th	Matins 10		
	21st	Family Service 10		
	28th	Holy Communion 10		
DOTTERY	7th	Holy Communion 9.30		

All others at 3.



LODERS FETE will be at the Court, by kind invitation of the Hon. Alexander and Mrs. Hood, on Saturday, August 3rd, beginning at 2 p.m. With rain very much on their minds, people are asking what will happen if the afternoon is wet. To which the answer is, we shall try to carry on under the various kinds of cover available at the Court, and perhaps at the Vicarage. Sometimes the weather on fete day has been tricky indeed, but we have never been washed out, and occasionally fete day has seen almost the only decent weather in a disgusting summer. So let us trust that our good fortune may hold.

THE ARMY TANK that Mrs. Hood was getting from Bovington for the children to see the inside of at the Fete now cannot come, which is a disappointment. But the children will have their bran tub, which they prize for the amazing value it gives and doubtless the pram derby will be quite hilarious. The programme will follow the line which people seem to like. If the sun shines, there will be the grounds of the Court to enjoy, and tea to sip, with a back-ground of band music. There should be good things to buy on the stalls: and a chance to take home a bottle or a pig from the side-shows, or a most acceptable hand-made rug from the raffles. Once again there will be conducted tours of the manor house. Whether these will embrace Court Cottages remains to be seen. Under their new roof of thatch, and with the roses about them, the cottages look very inviting.

THE VICAR will begin collecting for the stalls in Uploders on Monday, July 29th, It takes him until Friday morning to get through the whole parish. How Mrs. Marsh proceeds with the Dottery collecting we will not attempt to say: she always delivers the goods. Anything saleable is welcome. Some things, of course, are specially welcome because they go so well. Bottles of all sorts are highly prized. There has never been a bottle left over from the bottle tombola, or cakes. Groceries, eggs, produce of all sorts and flowers go quickly; and the stall selling new articles and unwanted presents is one of the high fliers. Household ware and jumble are acceptable if good, and so are children's toys. People with homes that contain nothing superfluous may resort to a cash donation. Last year cash donations were far and away the bulk of the fete profit. But last year was exceptional. Water was coming through the Ladye Chapel roof and some thing had to be done quickly. The re-roofing of the chancel, which is the next task, is not quite so urgent, and we shall be happy if the fete produces the £300 we have come to expect of it.

THE SISTER of a former Loders policeman, Miss Jean Parham, who used to spend much time here in the reign of P.C. Ronald Parham, nourished a double ambition, to be married in Loders Church, and to have the reception in her friend the Williamses' hostelry. The Marquis of Lorne. There were difficulties in the way, for Miss Parham's home was in Weymouth, and her young man was a New Zealander, in Her Majesty's New Zealand Navy, unable to say where he would be at any time. However, on July 13th everything came to pass exactly as she had wished. The sun shone at the vital time despite an appalling weather forecast; the ladies who do the church flowers got them done early and so excelled themselves that the church looked its loveliest in the afternoon sun; the bells chimed and a large congregation, seeming to appear from nowhere at the last minute, sang the hymns with gusto. After service the cars threaded their way through the Dorset lanes, without hindrance, to The Marquis where an excellent refecton ensued. There was much taking of photographs for the benefit of friends in New Zealand, who will probably opt for the one of the whole bridal party in a farm wagon, in the inn yard, with Eggardon as a background.

ASKERSWELL SUNDAY SCHOOL hope to hold an open afternoon at The Orchards on Thursday, August 15th, at 3 p.m. Their books will be on show, they hope to do a playlet, and there will be tea. There will also be a bring and buy stall. Friends and relations are specially invited, but it is hoped that all the parish will take an interest in its Sunday School and come.

The MOTHERS' UNION will hold a corporate Communion and admit new members in Askerswell Church on Thursday, September 5th at 10 a.m.

THE PROFIT on the midsummer barbecue behind the Loders Arms was £2. 11s. The landlord, Mr. Smith, has very kindly divided this between the Catholic Childrens' Home and the Church of England Children's Society.



OUR VALLEY had the good fortune to escape the serious effects of the tropical storm which hit the West Country one night in July. There was a lot of water about, but the only noteworthy incident we have heard of is that Nurse Dorothy Fooks was barred at the railway bridge from getting to Mr. David Thomas to give him his injection until Mr. Harry Newberry came to her aid with a tractor. Right gallantly he drove her all the rest of her journey, waited outside while she officiated and took her back through the flood.

A WEDDING BOUQUET on the grave of Mrs. H.J. Paull beside the path in Loders churchyard stirred the curiosity of those who passed it on their way to church. It had been carried by one of Mrs. Paull's grand-daughters, Miss Ann Hostler, who was married to Mr. Richard Hughes at Chancellor's Grove Methodist Church, South-east London, on July 13th. Ann and her twin sister made their long childhood acquaintance with Loders as war evacuees. They were keen members of the Sunday School and never failed to renew the connection when they returned to London, and came back for holidays. Mrs. Louie Hostler (their Mother) has been here on holiday and kindly sent a donation for church restoration. She is a sister of Mrs. George Hyde.

THE AUGUST FAMILY SERVICE at Askerswell will be on the second Sunday instead of the third.

A GARDEN PARTY in aid of the funds of the Methodist Chapel in Uploders is to be held at Mrs. Bradshaw's on Thursday, August 22nd at 2.30 p.m. The Vicarage garden had been offered for the purpose, but the organisers felt that the unsettlement of the weather made it safer to be next door to the Hut, into which the party will move if necessary. The faithful little band of Methodists who keep the Uploders Chapel in being have had some re-inforcement through the closing of the West Milton chapel, but they can do with all the support we can offer. Like the church, the chapel needs to be kept in repair, and like the church it is a gem of its kind - a perfect specimen of the Regency period. We know to our cost how much a builder can do with a hundred pounds.

THE GREAT GRANDSON OF PARSON THOMAS, Vicar of Loders 1887 - 1914, has come with his wife and two-year old daughter, Vanessa to live at "West Winds" in Uploders. He is Mr. Nicholas Prideaux, who had been a farm manager in Cheshire, and has now taken a similar post with Messrs. O. and J. House, at Powerstock. His grandmother, Mrs. Prideaux, is well into her eighties, and lives at Weymouth. As the young Miss Thomas, she played the organ at the thanksgiving service for that part of the restoration of Loders Church completed in 1900. Parson Thomas cleared the church of its box pews and three decker pulpit and west end gallery, made good the floor of the nave and Ladye Chapel which was honeycombed with vaults, and removed the lathe and plaster from the walls, exposing the doorway to the pulpit and roodloft and the architectural delights concealed in the north wall of the chancel. He did not deal with the roofs, which still held a little wear in 1900. The nave roof was restored in 1952 and the Ladye Chapel roof in 1967. The chancel roof has still to be done. A comparison of costs is a salutary lesson on the decline of the value of money. In 1900 Parson Thomas's entire restoration cost £1,200. In 1967 the Ladye Chapel roof alone cost over £2,400.

EMIGRATING. Mr. and Mrs. William Hansford, of Upton Dairy, are flying to Victoria, Australia, at the end of this month, accompanied by their three children and by their ward, Tom Crawley, who is coming out of the Army for the purpose. They will be missed by a large circle of friends. We wish them Godspeed and the success that more than one local family has achieved "down under".

#### SERVICES IN AUGUST

LODERS	4th Holy Communion 8 and 12	Matins 11	Children 2
	11th Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2
	18th Holy Communion 8 and 12	Matins 11	Children 2
	25th Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2.

ASKERSWELL	4th Sunday School 10	Evensong 6.30
	11th Family Service 10.	
	18th and 25th Matins 10.	

DOTTERY 4th Holy Communion 9.30.

All others 3.



PARISH NOTES

LODERS, DOTTERY and ASKERSWELL

SEPTEMBER, 1968

LOOKING BACK on Loders fete, we can see why it was such an outstanding success this year. All the ingredients that make a good fete were present at one and the same time. We had not only the beautiful home of the Hon. Alexander and Mrs. Hood at our disposal for the day, but ideal weather for the enjoyment of it. We had not only stalls laden with good things but a crowd of people to buy them. And by great good fortune some of the Vicarage family, accompanied by useful husbands, were able to get home and put a shoulder to the wheel. Mr. Richard Lloyd and Miss Juliet Willmott burnt the midnight oil devising attractive posters and put them at strategic points in the holiday camps. In consequence the gate was up by a third, proving Mrs. Hood's point as to the importance of advertising. Dr. Ken Gray needed no lesson on advertising. What at first seemed a voice from heaven, speaking when the band stopped, proved to be his, coming from the top of the church tower, and not a few people paid a shilling to join him up there. For the record, it was not his voice that made the pony cart bolt and break a shaft, but the merry noise of the pram derby. A happy day usually means an empty pocket, but these pockets were emptied in a good cause. The fete took £520, which got the £5,000 appeal for church restoration off to a fine start. The strength of Loders fete is in the general and generous giving of the parish and for its continued success this parish needs to be fully aware of this. The stalls took £237, the teas £28 and the cash donations were £112. Which means that, with prizes included, parishioners and other members of the congregation had given about £400 in cash or kind before fete day. Other fetes may have stars to open them and more to look at, but it is the giving beforehand that puts Loders at the top. And how heroic some of this giving was - only God and the Vicar know. A church universally and deeply loved inspires it.

HERE is the fete balance sheet: Receipts, Cakes £26. 3s. 4d. New £30. 7s. - Children £7. 1s. 2d., China £23. 13s. -, Flowers £19. 3s. 10d., Jumble £12. 7s. 6d., Dottery £45. 8s. 9d., Ices £10. 2s. 6d., Bottles £43. 17s. 6d., Grocery £15. 15s. 3d., Books £3. 16s. 8d., Dips £18. 7s. 6d., Skittles £6. 3s. -, Viewing House £15. 9s. - Roulette £20. 1s. -, Fishing £5. 10s. -, Pony £2. 2s. -, Treasure £1. 7s. 6d., Drop In £3. 10s. -, Thimbles £2. - -, Feed the Boy 7s. 9d., Pram Derby --15s. 6d., Church Tower £2. 7s. 6d., Pennies £1. 15s. 5d., Clock £6. 1s. 6d., Whisky £21., Cake £9., Carpet £4. 1s. 6d., Teas £28. 10s. 6d., Gate £21. 6s. 6d., Cash Donations £112. 10s. -, TOTAL RECEIPTS £520. 2s. 8d., Expenses: Band £10. 10s. -, Adverts. £4. 19s. -, Posters £1. 12s. 6d., Roulette and Fishing prizes £10. 12s. -, TOTAL EXPENSES £27. 13s. 6d. BALANCE £492. 9s. 2d.

WET WEATHER reduced the attendance at Askerswell Sunday School party at Mrs. Garrard's, but the programme was carried out as far as possible in the house and the playlet was postponed to an afternoon which turned out to be delightfully fine. The play proved that morality can be a highly entertaining subject. It enacted the Good Samaritan, the thieves, in Arab kafiyahs and dishdashas, had the faces of cherubs; the Spirit of Evil, who deflected Priest and Levite from their duty, was indeed a spirited fellow that one could not help liking as much as the Good Samaritan, and the discomfiture of the racist innkeeper was funny to behold as he stood by his notice "Jews only - Samaritans not served", confronted by a Samaritan asking service for a half dead Jew. The thieves took up a collection for Oxfam, but were seen to pass it intact to Mrs. Garrard. Mr. Garrard gave a show of colour slides he has taken, including some very good ones of the church and the village.

MOTHERS' UNION New members will be admitted at a corporate communion in Askerswell Church on Thursday, September 5th at 10 a.m. The monthly meeting will be in Loders Church on Tuesday, September 9th at 2.45 p.m.

THE INFANT SON of Mr. and Mrs. P.J. Stebbings, of Uploders, was christened Nicholas Robert in Loders Church by the Rev. Dr. Martin Thornton on August 18th. The Hansford family, of Upton dairy, were present shortly before they flew to Australia.

THE GARDEN PARTY to raise funds for Uploders Chapel, held at Mr. and Mrs. Bradshaw's was blessed by fine weather, and gave many parishioners a pleasant afternoon. Unfortunately Mrs. Bradshaw was in hospital, and still is, but making good - if slow - progress. Mr. Bradshaw writes: "May we sincerely thank all helpers and donors for the good success of the bring and buy sale held in our garden? The princely sum of £33. 8s. 9d, was taken, made up of £24. 1s. 1d., from good given, and £9. 7s. 8d., donated. May I point out that this sum goes entirely to the upkeep of the Chapel and not to the Circuit? May we humbly say once again a big Thank you?"



HARVEST FESTIVAL Dottery begins on Thursday, September 26th at 7.30 p.m. and continues at 3 p.m. on the following Sunday. Askerswell will be on the first Sunday in October and Loders the second.

A SECOND DONATION for the restoration fund of Loders Church from Mr. G.F. Boon, is gratefully acknowledged.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL teacher at Askerswell had set her children to draw a picture of the Sower and was surveying their efforts. Looking at one little girl's she exclaimed "But this isn't a sower; it's a house?" - Said the little girl "He's in there, having his tea."

MERCIFULLY it is rarely our lot to record the death of four prominent parishioners of Loders in one number of these Notes. On the eve of fete day Mr. David Thomas, our parish clerk, passed to his rest, followed next day by Mr. Charlie Gale, former chairman of the Parish Council and a Rural District Councillor. A few days later, Mr. Harry Trickett of Gribb Farm, was found dead by his own hand. Finally, Mr. Albert Wells, of Loders Post Office, one of the most widely known of our parishioners, died a few days after a heart attack, as he was writing a letter.

MR. DAVID THOMAS was buried beside the lamp in Loders churchyard, the spot he himself had chosen. The hymns sung at the funeral were his choosing. It was doubtless to his liking again that the lesson was read by the Lay Rector, the Hon. Alexander Hood, and that his friend Mr. Bill Tiltman could be at the organ. Mr. Thomas was a parish clerk in the old tradition. Had our three-decker pulpit survived the 1900 restoration he might have been leading the responses from its bottom deck. At the west end, and among the congregation he was inconspicuous, but the moral support of his "answers" was fearfully lacking when his last illness kept him away from church. His long and faithful service of the church was inspired by a devotion akin to what he had felt as a ploughman for his horses. He was one of nature's aristocrats, a living ornament of the church. We and countless visitors cannot think of the church without thinking of him, too. So he passes into the church invisible with whom our earthly worship is joined.

MR. CHARLIE GALE was the only survivor of the parish's once considerable number of blacksmiths, and the line has died with him. His forge in Uploders, where he shod horses, and whither farmers in distress with their implements resorted, was a whiff of the old world whose passing we lament. He was a public spirited man, giving freely of his time to Parish Council, Rural Council, the Special Constabulary, the Ex-Servicemen's Club, the Agricultural Discussion Club and the Oddfellows. He was a man of forthright views. However widely one disagreed with him, one respected his sincerity and integrity. He was kind and generous, and in business was the rare type who as often as not had to be told that he was not charging enough for his work. Many a job did he do for Loders Church, and a request for a bill was always countered with "I don't come as much as I should so take it as my collection". The funeral was taken by the Vicar at Weymouth Crematorium and was private.

MR. ALBIE WELLS was also a public spirited man, and a member of many organisations of which his home, Loders Post Office, became the spiritual hub. The wide area over which he was known, and liked, became apparent at his funeral. Scores of cars lined the approaches to the church, which was not big enough for the congregation. The funeral procession from the Post Office to the church was impressive, the hearse having a large escort of police, of which he had been a member. Loders will not be the same without him. He was young in spirit, a schoolboy who had never really grown up, full of fun and enthusiasms. In his company it was impossible to be moody for long. An optimist he was, and generous perhaps to a fault. His like are in too short supply for him not to be missed.

MR. HARRY TRICKETT was a sad case of a farmer who failed to adjust himself to changed conditions. Ill health obliged him to part with his cows, and the control of his land, at Gribb Farm, and the hard fact that he could not restart farming unhinged his mind. Sympathetic neighbours attended his funeral at Loders Church in force. He was buried in the cemetery.

LODERS CHURCH RESTORATION FUND received £15. 10s. from kind people who would otherwise have sent flowers for Mr. Thomas's funeral.

#### SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

LODERS: 1st Holy Communion 8 and 12 Matins 11, Children 2.  
8th Holy Communion 8 Matins 11 Children 2  
15th Holy Communion 8 and 12 Matins 11 Children 2  
22nd Holy Communion 8 Matins 11 Children 2  
29th Holy Communion 8 Matins 11 Children 2

ASKERSWELL: 1st, Sunday School 10. Evensong 6.30. 8th Matins 10. 15th Family Service 10.  
22nd Holy Communion 10. 29th Matins 10.

DOTTERY: 1st Holy Communion 9.30 All others at 3 except Thursday, 26th Harvest 7.30 p.m.



BAD WEATHER has made this year's harvest one of the worst in living memory. But still we decorate our churches and sing, "Come, ye thankful people". And rightly so, we have not received all we would have liked, but what we have received is all from God and we cannot exist without it. The local cycle of harvest thanksgiving began, as it usually does, with a bright service in a gaily decorated chapel at Uploders. Mr. Grewer, the newly appointed minister of the Bridport Circuit, conducted the service and pinpointed the spirit of gratitude as a mark of regenerate human nature. The ladies who bestow such art on the decoration of Dottery church were dismayed by a day of ceaseless rain preceding their harvest, but for the day itself the sky brightened, and the rain held off, with the result that the old boys and girls who join the normal congregation for harvest found themselves in a place as like the Chelsea Flower Show as a church. Askerswell harvest will be on the first Sunday in October, at 10 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Loders will be on the second Sunday at 8 a.m., 11 a.m. and - please note - 7 p.m.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bradshaw, of Yondover, who celebrated their golden wedding on September 14th. Copious press coverage of the event leaves us nothing to add, except to praise Mrs. Bradshaw's determination to be home from hospital for the great day.

THE WEDDING of the Reverend Dr. Martin Thornton and Miss Monica Ritson at Loders will be inscribed with golden letters on the memories of the guests. First, because of the day, which was early autumn at its best, preceded and followed by high winds and deluges of rain. Then, because of the church, which in the sunshire, and with its flowers was also at its best, finally, because the wedding proper was divided from the Communion that followed by a violin recital, which exactly translated the spirit of the proceedings into music. Miss Jean Channon, wielded her bow under the chancel arch, while bride, groom, and congregation sat back and absorbed the beauty of it all. So benign was the sun that the reception could be held on the vicarage lawn in ideal conditions. Dr. Thornton is to be inducted to the benefice of Payhembury, near Honiton, by the Bishop of Exeter, on October 2nd. It is purposely a small charge so that he may continue his work as author and editor of theological books, in which he will doubtless be helped by his wife, who is a qualified theologian. If Loders is any guide, the Doctor and his lady are bound to go down well in Payhembury and we wish them every blessing. They wear their learning lightly, they are country folk to the marrow, and they have the art of fitting themselves into a new environment quite unobtrusively while bringing to it an accession of strength.

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES. Last month Mrs. Martin Evans and Nurse Dorothy Fooks, both of Askerswell, were admitted member and associate respectively. This month's meeting will be an open one, with a bring and buy stall, in Loders Hut, on the 17th, at 2.45 p.m. Mrs. Garrard will give a talk entitled "Windfalls" which she says will be her last as Enrolling Member.

#### ASKERSWELL SUNDAY SCHOOL

wish to thank the friends who supported the bring and buy stall on the torrentially wet day, and the bible play on the delightfully fine day. The stall took £7 and the collection at the play £5.17s. Of this £7 has been sent to Biafra, and the rest will defray Sunday School expenses.

THE SUM of £23.10s. was sent to Persian earthquake relief from collections in our three churches and the Mothers' Union.

MRS. ELIZABETH ESTHER STEELE, widow of the late Shepherd Steele, of Upton, died in Herrison Hospital, and was buried in her husband's grave at Loders cemetery after a sung service in the church. She was seventy. Until her illness she had been living with her daughter, Mrs. Parrish, and family, at Poole.

LODERS P.C.C. is grateful to Mr. Charlie Spillman and Mr. Jack McDowall for rubbing down the church porch and treating it with limewash, in an attempt to eliminate the marks left by the greasy backs of the workmen on the Ladye Chapel roof who took meals there. Also to Miss Muriel Randall, who is well on with the arduous job of freeing the churchyard wall of ivy.

MICHAELMAS is a time when we are specially conscious of movements in our population. At Dottery, the cottage near the church known as "Sea Glimpse" has been taken by Mr. and Mrs. James Elmore. He is a retired local government officer from



Stratford on Avon. They have a married daughter who lives in London. At Askerswell, Mr. and Mrs. Brook are settling into the new bungalow beneath the school. He is a retired business man from Cheshire. They have two married daughters, one in London and the other the wife of a major in Germany. At Shatcombe, Mr. Tilley's house is taken by a son and daughter of Erin's green isle - Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hall, he from County Monaghan and she from County Cork. They were both reared on Irish farms and are newlywed, although Mr. Hall has worked with O.J. House for the last six years. Mr. and Mrs. Tilley have moved to a bungalow in Crock Lane. Loders Choir are hoping that his fine bass voice may long continue to be their one foundation. At Uploders House Commander and Mrs. Parker are succeeded by newly retired Major General and Mrs. Worsley, who had to depart for a month soon after they arrived. There have been other moves within the parish - Mr. Ron Legg's family to the bungalow at Well Plot vacated by Mrs. Farnham, Mr. Record's family to the house vacated by Mr. Ron Legg; Mr. Heard's family from St. Anthony to near the Forge; and Mr. and Mrs. Barry Legg from Alexandra Cottage to Court Cottages. Mr. Legg will be in charge of the new piggery at Boarsbarrow.

A LOSS TO ASKERSWELL. The not unexpected news of Mrs. Aylmer's death at Askerswell House produced a keen sense of loss in the village and deepest sympathy with Captain Aylmer and the family. It was tempered with relief that he will continue at Askerswell House. The funeral service at Askerswell followed cremation and the ashes were buried in the churchyard. A very large congregation attended. The lesson was read by the son, Dr. Gerald Aylmer, who is Professor of History in the University of York. In the Rector's address he dwelt on Mrs. Aylmer's service to church and village and her quality as a country woman. She was born an Evans in Breconshire in 1891, the youngest of a large family. In the 1914-18 was she managed a farm in Shropshire. Marrying in 1925, she shared the life of a serving naval officer and was with him in China and Malta. She bought the old rectory of Askerswell in 1945, having served as a voluntary A.R.P. ambulance driver in the second war. Captain Aylmer joined her on retirement in 1946. She belonged to a generation when most young women of her background had little in the way of higher education, and led a rather cloistered existence, but she spoke excellent French, used well the business head she seemed to have inherited from her father, and was as good at driving a car as she was at riding side saddle. Her personal qualities were aptly gauged by one who knows her best as - enthusiasm and vigour of mind and body, a keen sense of fun, adaptability and loving-kindness.

ASKERSWELL VILLAGE HALL. Captain Lumby tells us that this project has qualified for a fifty per cent grant. Major Evans has given the extra ground required by the planning regulations and Mr. Turner has given some building material. Operations cannot begin until the original gift of the site has been formalised, which Mr. Syndercombe Bower, now in Kenya, is doing.

THE UPLODERS ROOM was the chief business at the autumn meeting of Loders Parish Council, which began with a tribute by the Chairman, Mr. Wilfred Crabb, to the work done for the parish by the late Messrs. Charlie Gale and Albert Wells. Mr. Baggott's application to buy the Room as an annexe of his leather workshop, to turn it into a store and showroom, had moved the Council to try to acquire the extra land for this purpose stipulated by the planning regulations and they had failed. If the Room is sold now, it will be without planning permission. However, Mr. Baggott has since offered to rent the Room for the purpose of a store only, on a repairing lease, at £50 p.a. This appeals to the Council very much, for several reasons (a) if the Room were sold for two or three hundred pounds now, only the £15 or so annual interest on this may be devoted to the Hut and the capital sum would lose its value (b) if Mr. Baggott rents the Room, it will be kept in repair and produce an annual income of £50 for the Hut; (c) when drainage comes to the parish the Room might well be grown in value. But the Council itself has no control over the Room or the Hut. This is vested in three trustees, appointed by the Council, but thereafter responsible to the Charity Commission. One of the trustees, Mr. Charlie Gale, being defunct, the Council appointed Mr. Lucas to serve in his place with the other two, who are Mr. Wilfred Crabb and Mr. Bartlett. The Council then passed a resolution recommending the trustees to accept Mr. Baggott's offer. But it would not be quite as simple as that for the trustees. To comply with the Charity Commission's regulations they would have to offer the room by tender. All horribly complicated. What a pity it is that the Room and the Hut ever got into the toils of the Charity Commission and were not vested in the Parish Council.

#### SERVICES IN OCTOBER

##### LODERS

6th Holy Communion 8 and 12 Matins 11 Children 2.  
13th HARVEST Holy Communion 8, Matins 11, Children 2, Evensong 7.  
20th Holy Communion 8 and 12 Matins 11, Children 2. 27th Holy Communion 8, Matins 11, Children 2.

##### ASKERSWELL

6th HARVEST Holy Communion 10, Evensong 6.30.  
13th Matins 10. 20th Family Service 10. 27th Matins 10.



GOOD WEATHER favoured every one of our harvest thanksgiving services, which is remarkable, seeing how much rain we were having, and that the services were spread over three weeks. The children's harvest at Loders School was beautifully conducted by the children themselves before a large gathering of parents. Afterwards the children distributed the gifts to the senior citizens of Loders and Askerswell, who have been loud in their appreciation. At Dottery a pleasing feature of the afternoon service was the muster of old boys and girls. For a variety of reasons Askerswell was not as full as usual, but Loders organist and choir took the lead in a very bright service, which seemed to draw vigour from the exuberant decorations as well. Being the last of the harvest services, Loders was the receptacle of all the corn from the other churches. The long chancel, lined with sheaves, had the feel of an old time harvest field, and a glorious morning sun completed the illusion at matins. In the soft light of the white barrel ceiling at evensong the church seemed like a well stuffed tithe barn. At both services the church was quite full, and the collections topped £26. Never was there such an anthem. Choir and soloists were on the top of their form. The valleys laughed and sang. Some of the congregation confessed they had come in the evening as well as the morning to hear the anthems again. Another said the rollicking tune was going through his head for days afterwards, and was a good form of "music while you work".

MRS. THOMAS, widow of the late parish clerk of Loders, has been appointed vergers in his place. As a parish clerk must be a man, this office, so fittingly performed by Mr. Thomas, is in abeyance for the time being. It is not to be confused with the office of clerk to the parish council, a new creation. The parish clerk's is an ancient office. In the Middle Ages he was in minor orders. Canon 91 says "The parish clerk shall be twenty years of age at the least, and known to the parson to be of honest conversation, and sufficient for his reading, writing, and also for his competent skill in singing, if it may be. And the said clerk shall have his ancient wages without fraud or diminution, either at the hands of the churchwarden, or by his own collection, according to the most ancient custom of every parish". An Act of King William the Third says that "a parish clerk, for assisting at a marriage without banns or licence, shall forfeit five pounds for every such offence" and five pounds was a small fortune to a poor man in those days.

SERVICES AT DOTTERY seem woefully different without the familiar figure of the late Miss Albertina Pearson. Come rain or shine, heat or cold, she never missed. The name she had given her cottage - "Content" - was the keynote of her life. Her sturdy self reliance in these days when so many look to the welfare state to crutch them along, was a shining lesson to us all. It was fitting that the last service she attended should be harvest. She died in Portland Hospital and was cremated at Weymouth. Fellow members of the congregation turned out in strength for the funeral service at Dottery, where the ashes were buried.

THE YOUNGEST DAUGHTER of Mr. and Mrs. F.N. Lakin (formerly Shirley Rudd) was baptised Heather Doris in Loders Church on Michaelmas Day. Her cousin, Topsey Rudd, read the lesson. Mr. and Mrs. Lakin's home is in Tasmania. They have now come to the end of a long holiday with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rudd at Mangerton.

THERE ARE TWO NEW FAMILIES to welcome into our fraternity. At Askerswell Mr. and Mrs. John Turner and their son James have come from Dorchester to live in the old school, which is converted with taste and skill, and is close to Mr. Turner's parents. In Loders a retired engineer and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Smeed, are busy settling into the cottage vacated by Mr. Steve Newberry. They come from Andover, and Mrs. Smeed is a sister of Mrs. Leaf, of Powerstock.

IT IS VERY PLEASANT to get letters from former parishioners of Loders now in far flung outposts of empire, especially when they contain a cheque for the church restoration fund, as did Mrs. Robin Chater's, from Khartoum. She says: "I was so very sad to read in the Notes of the deaths of Mr. Thomas, Mr. Gale and Mr. Wells. I shall miss dear Mr. Thomas dreadfully, and will never forget his welcoming smile at the door whenever we came back to Loders Church. One can only be thankful his long illness, with all its pain and discomfort, is over. Charlie Gale was always such a help with Rocket (her horse) and a very good blacksmith, and Mr. Wells always so cheerful on his rounds. They will all be sadly missed. I am glad you did so well at the fete. We are in the throes of the Cathedral bazaar, which goes on for a year! It is triennial, and I have the second hand clothes stall, called 'The Bishop's Boutique'. So far, since March, we have made £500 and nothing has been over £4, mostly cotton frocks at 5/-. I am having such an interesting time with the lepers at the Church Missionary Society Hospital. They now have 100 inpatients and 500 outpatients, all from the streets of Khartoum. Some have walked up from the south. None have any money and just the clothes they are wearing. They have never had physiotherapy before and we are getting wonderful results at straightening out hands and feet. They all need special sandals which protect their toes and Bata factory have given the insoles free. The Sudanese are terrified of the disease and do nothing to help." Presumably Mrs. Chater as a qualified physiotherapist is herself helping with that.



PERSONALIA. Mrs. Richard Hyde remains in hospital, but Mrs. Lenthall and Mrs. Tubbs are out. Mrs. Lenthall's eye operation has been successful and her broken ankle is nearly right. The Miss Newberry who used to live at Uploders Farm again succeeded in getting to Loders harvest evensong, where she was warmly welcomed by old friends. She had attended early communion in her own church in Northamptonshire that morning! In recording jobs done voluntarily to the church fabric last month we forgot to say that Mr. Skeats had done the cemetery a good turn by giving the gate a coat of black paint, picking out the cross in silver. Mrs. Garrard was too unwell to take the October meeting of the M.U. and Mrs. George Bryan deputised for her. It is a pity the latter is too busy to take over as Enrolling Member. Mrs. Willmott will be in charge till somebody is found.

THE SERVICES OF REMEMBRANCE on November 10th for those who died in the two world wars will be at Askerswell 10 a.m., Loders 11 a.m., and Dottery 3 p.m. Collections will be for Earl Haig's Fund.

A SITUATION TRANSFORMED. The highlight of the annual meeting of the Loders Hut management committee was the announcement that the Charity Commission had reversed its decision not to allow the proceeds of the sale of the Uploders Room to be spent on the Hut. The Commission will now allow three quarters to be spent on the Hut. This decision, announced by Colonel Woodward, of the Dorset Community Council, who addressed the meeting, was especially gratifying to the Vicar, who had written the Charity Commission early in October. It makes the decision of the trustees to sell, the right course. That said, Colonel Woodward's exposition of the advantages of being a charitable trust made all the clearer the superior advantages of being directly under the parish council. As a charitable trust the Hut gets a 50% reduction in rate, but the rate being only £6. 13s. 6d, the saving is a mere £3. 6s. 9d. Then for every pound the Hut puts up for improvement, the Community Council will give another pound. The snag is that in return for these two benefits, the Hut loses its independence, and is under the control of the Charity Commission (who will have taken ten years to merge the Uploders Room and the Hut in one trust!). Had the Room and the Hut not been made trusts, and committed to the parish council instead, as the cemetery was, the Room could have been sold without reference to the Charity Commission. There would have been no 50% reduction in rate, but the parish council could have levied a rate for the Hut (which it cannot for a charity). There would have been no pound for pound grant for any sort of improvement, but there would have been the local authority standard or discretionary grant (now up to £1,000) for specified improvement. And above all, the Hut, which belongs to Loders, would be under Loders control instead of London. Colonel Woodward's visit was a blessing for another reason. To the great surprise of the Vicar, he revealed that the proposed village hall for Askerswell is getting well and truly tied up with the Charity Commission. This is the price that has to be paid if there are to be grants for a hall, but the Community Club and the Church need to realise at this stage, before it is too late, that they will lose the ultimate control of the money they are putting into the Hall to the Charity Commission, unless they make safeguards.

#### SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

<u>LODERS</u>	3rd	Holy Communion	8 and 12	Matins	11	Children	2
	10th	"	8	REMEMBRANCE	11	Children	2
	17th	"	8 and 12	Matins	11	Children	2
	24th	"	8	Matins	11	Children	2
<u>ASKERSWELL</u>	3rd	Sunday School	10	Evensong	3		
	10th	REMEMBRANCE	10				
	17th	Family Service	10				
	24th	Holy Communion	10				
<u>DOTTERY</u>	3rd	Holy Communion	9.30	All others at	3 p.m.		



LOOKING FORWARD to it is half the delight of Christmas; perhaps more than half. At Loders School the children are preparing with great gusto their concert for Friday, December 13th. It will begin at 5.45 p.m. and be followed immediately by the Mission Sale. In Sunday School, Loders children are practising the carols they will sing at the family service on Christmas morning. In day school all the children are rehearsing for their joint service with parents, friends and Mothers' Union in Loders Church on Tuesday, December 17th at 2.45 p.m. The marvel is that the school staff work these things in without much encroachment on the ordinary curriculum, which, rightly, they are keen to avoid. They only succeed because they have a splendid and unpaid auxiliary staff in the wives of the headmaster, and the chairman of the managers, who see to the dresses, and a host of other matters. For them the days to Christmas are nothing like long enough.

REGARDING THE MISSION SALE, Mrs. Willmott asks us to say she is relying on her "old faithfuls" for the things to sell. Cakes of all sorts are a quick market.

LODERS CHOIR will be doing their usual stint of carol singing for the financial benefit of the Children's Society, in Uploders on Thursday the 19th and the following night in Loders. Let us hope that last year's experience is not repeated, when the rain was so heavy that they sang from inside cars. A carol party usually serenades Askerswell for some good cause, but we do not know the date at the time of writing.

LAST YEAR'S EXPERIMENT of beginning the Loders midnight service at a quarter to twelve on Christmas Eve was quite successful, and will be repeated this year. In some respects "the midnight" has more appeal even than harvest. Fifteen minutes before "the midnight" begins, the church may be empty. Then from the outer darkness people begin to troop in, to the light and warmth, sometimes whole families, united from the corners of the kingdom, and back in the church of their childhood. The lights go out, leaving only the flicker of the altar candles, and the little coloured lights on the Christmas tree. In spirit we are at the cave of Bethlehem, with the Babe whose birthday it is, and every time the lights go up we sing him the songs of Christmas.

ASKERSWELL SUNDAY SCHOOL will perform some of the rites of Christmas at their monthly family service on December 15th and the rest at the end of the first part of the Communion Service on Christmas morning.

MRS. FRED TAYLOR AND MRS. GEORGE HYDE raised £6.10s. for the Uploders Chapel in a pleasant way by inviting their friends to a show of colour slides at Mrs. Taylor's. The slides were displayed by Mr. George Hyde, who had taken them. Their appeal was that they were fairly local, and were a credit to Mr. Hyde's photography. Splendid refreshments, provided by the hostesses, rounded off the evening.

THE MUCH POSTPONED christening of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Crabb's fourth child took place in Loders Church at the children's service on November 24th, when the godparents, who were from afar, were able at last to get there. The baptismal names were Marylin Ann.

DOTTERY CONGREGATION learnt with regret that Mrs. Rhenish cannot continue as vergier after the end of the year. Doubtless she will remain the pillar of the church she always has been. She filled the role of vergier so naturally and for so long that we had forgotten she was only doing us a favour until somebody permanent could be found. Are there any volunteers?

LODERS IS FEELING SAFER now that it has a new policeman in place of Constable Scarrott, who has exchanged the Force for the Merchant Navy. He is Mr. Michael Moore, from Sturminster Newton, and he has a wife; and three children, aged seven, five and one. Mr. Billy Darby, who lived next door to the police station, has severed his long connection with Loders and gone to live nearer his work in Bridport. In his place we have Mr. and Mrs. Alistair Parker, of Bradpole, and their two children, aged four and two. He is a carpenter.

THE LATE MR. ALBERT HELSDON of Uploders, was known to his large circle of friends to have been ailing for the past year but his death in Bridport Hospital within a few days of admission came as a sad surprise. After a sung service in Loders Church, he was buried in the churchyard. He was 72. Much sympathy will be felt for his widow. In their seven years here they had taken part in the social life of the village and proved themselves good neighbours. They believed in using their legs and were great walkers, which was good for us all, because otherwise we would have missed some of the infection of their unfailing cheerfulness. Mr. Helsdon was a native of Romford, Essex and a dry cleaner by profession. He was of French descent and derived much amusement from a Huguenot Club to which he belonged. Like the rest of his family, who had musical connections with the Cheltenham Parish Church, he had a good voice.



A MEETING of Askerswell ladies over coffee at Mrs. Lumby's drew up a rota of those willing to do the church flowers. It will be posted in the church porch.

THE SICK Mr. Fred Marsh is hoping to be home soon, after his long stay, and an operation, in Weymouth Hospital. Mrs. Ford is home after a short sojourn at Portway Hospital, and later with her daughter Kathy in Weymouth. Mrs. Mary Gill is also home after visits to Bridport Hospital. Leonard Vickery is back at school after being rushed to Dorchester Hospital with incipient meningitis, which, we are glad to say, seems to have been quelled. Mrs. Adams, at Askerswell, has made a fine recovery from an attack which alarmed her large circle of friends and, incidentally, kept her husband away from the Remembrance Service for the first time. He is very devoted to this service.

MRS. DENIS LASKEY tells us in a Christmas letter that her husband has been posted from the British Embassy in Bonn to Rumania, and they will be moving in January. We suppose this means being the wrong side of the iron curtain. So the new year wishes of their old friends in Loders will be specially fervent this time.

HISTORY was made one Sunday in November in Loders Church when the churchwardens were counting the collection after matins. The congregation had been large, and the collection likewise, and for the first time anybody remembers, the collection did not contain a single copper nor even a threepenny piece. It could, of course, have been by chance. The faithful might not have been able to lay their hands on any before taking off to church. We hope the reason was that it is coming to be realised that inflation has rendered coppers and threepenny pieces almost valueless. Whereas a penny would once buy a newspaper it now takes nearly all of sixpence. Church collections should be stepped up to counter money's loss of value.

THE RECTOR OF BURTON BRADSTOCK (the Rev. Cyril Ridler) succeeded against a hot fire in keeping our Mothers' Union awake when they met in the vicarage to hear a talk from him on China. Which is saying something. The meeting had other delights as well. Mrs. Lenthall, her leg still in plaster, but feeling sprack in herself, was there for the first time in four months; Mrs. Sanders had managed to negotiate the steps even with a surgical frame; and Mrs. Mabel Crabb was there again as though she had not been out of the parish for years. The branch sent a record token for £6. to their "adopted daughter", Miss Juliet Willmott (who is at Bart's) for her 21st birthday. We heard from her direct how deeply touched she was by this. It needs to be explained that Juliet was the first child to be born in Loders Vicarage in many years. Because she was only a girl, and the fifth at that - she got no bells, as did the brother who followed her. So the M.U. made amends. Juliet bore the ringers no grudge. Indeed, she is now one of their number, and rings also at St. Bartholomew the Great.

WE LEAVE OUR READERS to imagine what was said across the vicarage breakfast table one morning, at the beginning of the Christmas rush, when Mrs. Willmott opened a letter inviting her to a meeting for clergy wives in this part of Dorset, to hear the new Principal of Salisbury Theological College lead a discussion on "Should clergy wives be trained and if so, for what?" Since the publication of the Paul Report there has been a lot of discussion on the best use of clergy manpower. Have Principals of theological colleges nothing better to do?

#### SERVICES IN DECEMBER

<u>LODERS</u>	1st	Holy Communion 8 and 12	Matins 11	Children 2
	8th	Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2
	15th	Holy Communion 8 and 12	Matins 11	Children 2
	17th	Combined School and M.U.	Carol Service	2.45.
	22nd	Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2
	24th	"Midnight" 11.45 p.m.		
	25th	Holy Communion 8	Family Service and Christmas Tree 11.	
	29th	Holy Communion 8	Matins 11	Children 2.
<u>ASKERSWELL</u>	1st	Sunday School 10	Evensong 3.	
	8th	Matins 11		
	15th	Family Service 10		
	22nd	Matins 10		
	25th	Holy Communion 10		
	29th	Matins 10		
<u>DOTTERY</u>	1st	Holy Communion 9.30 - All others at 3.		
		except Christmas Day at 9.		