

JULY 1969

THE FETE will be at Loders Court on Saturday, August 2nd, by kind invitation of the Hon. Alexander and Mrs. Hood. Beaminster Silver Band have again promised to attend. Children's sports will be a new feature, and there is a prospect of others. The financial object will again be the church repair fund. This now stands at something over £1,000, but at least five times that amount is needed. In order not to compete unduly with other good causes requiring parish support we make the fete our only concerted effort for the church fabric. The amount made by the fete depends very much on what is given to sell on the stalls, and on cash donations. This is where Loders people excel. They know by now what things to give. The collecting arrangements are different this year: there will be more than one collector. Mrs. Osborne will do from Matravers to Shatcombe; Mrs. Randall New Road; Mrs. Olive. Legg Well Plot; Mrs. Beavan Yondover; Mrs. Latta Loders; and Mrs. Harry Newberry and Mr. M. McDowall the outlying district. They will be collecting from the Tuesday to the Thursday in the week of the fete.

A VERY PLEASANT SURPRISE came via the postman for the Vicarage. It was a letter from Mr. Charles Ebbs, who was churchwarden of Loders in the year the present vicar was inducted, 1947. Mr. Ebbs was living then at Callington in Uploders. He and his wife were keen supporters of Loders Church. Their stay here was all too short. Mr. Ebbs now lives at Ipplepen, near Newton Abbot. His letter brought the sad news that the long and happy partnership with his wife had been broken by her death, which will evoke the sympathy of all here who remember them. Mr. Ebbs went on to say he would like to do something useful for the church in memory of her. The outcome of this kind thought is that the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Finance now holds a fund called The Elizabeth Jane Ebbs Trust, which will pay ten guineas a year in perpetuity to the repair of Loders Church. Everybody who has a care for the church will share our gratitude to Mr. Ebbs. A point of interest is that although he has been gone from the parish for so many years, he has been kept in touch by these Notes, which are sent him by another valued ex-parishioner, Mrs. Elston Paul, now living at Godalming, Surrey.

THE OLDEST INHABITANT of the hamlet of Dottery, Mrs. Maud Jane Chilcott, died in Darners Hospital on May 25th at the age of 91. She was buried, after a sung service, in the grave of her husband, who predeceased her by many years. Her whole life was lived in Pymore. She attended the now defunct school there and went to work in the mill at the age of eleven. Her recreations were few. She used to say the one she liked as much as any was the Sunday walk through the fields to Dottery Church.

EMPTY The quaint thatched cottage at Askerswell called The Nest looks horribly forsaken now that Mrs. Herbert, her daughter Joan, and her son, Barry, have removed to Bishopstoke, near Eastleigh. They are within a quarter of an hour of Mrs. Herbert's other son, Peter (formerly of Loders), and in a bungalow, which is better suited to Mrs. Herbert's complaint. Askerswell has a soft spot for them. They came to the village twenty-three years ago, finding peace and good neighbours to obliterate their bomb experiences in London. They were generous supporters of good causes. The late Commander Herbert was a member of the Church Council.

ASKERSWELL WILL BE PLEASED TO KNOW that Captain Aylmer has made a good recovery from a heart attack and is spending a few weeks with his son in York.

THE INFANT DAUGHTER of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Stone was christened Kelly at Loders Church during the children's service on June 8th.

A FREAK WAVE which overturned a boat at Abbotsbury took the lives of a young Loders parishioner, Mr. Geoffrey Churchill, and a friend. Deep sympathy is felt for his family and especially for his mother, who is a great sufferer from physical infirmities and was in hospital at the time. Geoffrey had been running the small holding near Travellers Rest alone after his parents' removal to West Bexington. The funeral service was at Martinstown, his former home. The Vicar of Martinstown said the prayers. The Vicar of Loders read the lesson and the committal. The church was full, and a retiring collection (instead of flowers) produced nearly £40. Half of this was given to Loders church repair fund. We would like to thank the family and the givers and say, if we may, how splendid was the fortitude of Mrs. Churchill, who came out of hospital for the service, sat in a wheel chair at the west end of the nave where she had an unimpeded view of the coffin of her son and returned to hospital when the funeral moved to the churchyard.

VISITING PREACHERS are by no means a feature of our services. The Rev. Eric Wastell will be welcome to Loders pulpit at matins on July 6th. He will preach for the U.S.P.G. He is Rector of St. Mary in the West Indian island of Antigua.

THE THIRTY-EIGHT YEAR connection of the family of the late Mr. David Thomas with the cleaning of Loders Church ended on June 30th, to the regret of the congregation, and the grief of the Vicar. Change is hateful when it terminates a marathon stretch of conscientious and loyal service, and alters a pleasant order of things. But we understand why Mrs. Thomas and her daughter, Phyllis, have come so reluctantly to abdicate, and this is but a poor expression of the universal sense of indebtedness to them. The comments in the visitors' book testify to the impression made on strangers by the labours of these two with duster and scrubbing brush. A consolation is that the surrender of the vergers' office will leave Mrs. Thomas on the P.C.C. and not affect their familiar places in church. A further consolation is that a worthy successor has been found in Mrs. Miles. The appearance of the church will not suffer by the change.

WEDDING Mr. Bryan Hyde, only child of Mr. and Mrs. George Hyde, of Uploders, was married to Miss Linda Pamela Ann Brake in St. Mary's, Bridport on May 31st. The securing by the happy couple of a house in Bradpole ensures that Bryan will be seen about in his home parish as of yore. His grandparents' grave in Loders churchyard had on it a posy of flowers which looked to be a memento of the wedding.

THE CHAPEL GARDEN PARTY is not to be in July, as some people suppose. The hostess, Mrs. Bradshaw, says it is more likely to be towards the end of August, when her daughter will be home from Africa.

A WELCOME herewith to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Pike, and Mrs. Pike's 85 year-old mother, who are at present savouring the difference in the quiet life of their new bungalow in Uploders (on the site of Mr. Roland Gent's) and the hurly burly of their working life at Romford, Essex, where Mr. Pike is engaged in the gas industry. They are not the first to have come to these parts for a holiday and developed an urge to settle. Mr. Pike's interest in church affairs has been life long. Both he and his brother were choristers of Durham Cathedral.

DOTTERY CONGREGATION are grateful to Mrs. Sylvia Johnson for taking over the organ during the indisposition of Miss Male, who they hope may soon be well. Farmers' wives are busy people, especially when there are small children in the family. The readiness with which Mrs. Johnson came to the rescue was highly appreciated.

CHANGING HIS TUNE The cheerful whistling of Mr. Reg Matthews as he goes to and from his work at Boarsbarrow is a tonic to the vicinity of Vicarage Lane. It is noted that he is not quite insensitive to the weather. When flaming June turned suddenly to Christmas the other day his tune was "God rest you merry, Gentlemen."

THE SILENT SERVICE is not given to showing enthusiasm for anything; even when enthusiasm is felt. We think, therefore, that Askerswell Church should take notice of the approval with which one of its wardens, Captain Michael Lumby, describes a church service he recently attended in Ireland. There were no bells, no organ and no choir. The deficiency was supplied by amplified gramophone records. The congregation blended their voices with the canned ones, and the service was a good uplifting effort. The Captain would like the church council to mull this over. He has certainly set the Rector thinking. Why not canned parson, too?

FRIENDS IN NEED At its meeting in June, Loders Church Council passed unanimously a resolution that it disbelieved the charge of dishonesty made publicly against the Vicar, had complete confidence in his integrity and wished this to be recorded in the Notes. The Hon. Alexander Hood proposed his re-election as treasurer, but he declined, thanking the Council for their faith in him, and assuring them he had not betrayed it. Miss Muriel Randall, who already negotiates the tax repayments on the covenants, was unanimously elected treasurer in his place.

SERVICES IN JULY

| | | | | | |
|------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| LODERS | 6th Holy Communion | 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 | |
| | 13th Holy Communion | 8 | Matins 11 | Children 2 | |
| | 20th Holy Communion | 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 | |
| | 27th Holy Communion | 8 | Matins 11 | Children 2 | Evensong 7. |
| ASKERSWELL | 6th | Children | 10 | Evensong | 6.30 |
| | 13th | Matins | 10 | | |
| | 20th | Family Service | 10 | | |
| | 27th | Holy Communion | 10 | | |
| DOTTERY | 6th | Holy Communion | 9.30 | | |

THE DAY OF THE YEAR. Saturday, August 2nd, is Loders Fete, of many happy memories and of much assistance to the church repair fund. Most of our readers will have planned to attend. This is not likely to be the business for them that it will be for Mr. J.G. Romanes, the Dorchester eye Surgeon, who has kindly agreed to bring his veteran steam engine, to give rides. As the engine only moves at three miles an hour, and will have to make use of water points en route, it will take him a good five hours to reach the fete and, we presume, another five to get home again. But Mr. Romanes is proud of his rare and splendid beast and thinks any effort to display it to the public is worth while. It was one of the features of the Hardy Festival, and won a prize. It was made in 1902. Like veteran cars, it has appreciated in value. Models like it have lately changed hands at Christies for £4,000. But they need to, for new parts are expensive. A fire box, for example, costs £400 and does not last long. Like other road vehicles, it has to pass an M.O.T. Test, so would-be passengers at the fete are not putting their lives greatly to risk. The Weymouth Flying Club had the kind intention of helping the fete with a display of aerobatics by their model aircraft. But an inspection of the fete site decided them reluctantly against it: There are too many trees. However, the children's sports are still on the programme! Past experience has proved that fete goers are not averse for overmuch entertainment. They are content to stroll about, listen to the band, meet friends, take copious cups of tea and imbibe the beauty of the setting; Loders Court.

DOTTERY PEOPLE scarcely need reminding that the proceeds of their fete stall go to the repair of their own church and not Loders. All the sunshine of recent weeks has illuminated the need for external redecoration. Paint is everywhere peeling off and from the outside the church looks dingy, the reverse of the inside. Anybody given to moralising could say that in this respect Dottery church is the opposite of human beings, who contrive to present an external character unmatched by that within.

THE LATE MR. FRED SAMWAYS, who died in Bridport Hospital within a few days of his ninety-second birthday, was the first of the three Askerswell parishioners who are over ninety to shake off this mortal coil. (The remaining two are Mrs. Martha Marsh and Miss Tuck.) His was a character so colourful and so instinct with the Dorset countryside that it needs the pen of a Thomas Hardy to delineate it. Mr. William Graves, a former landlord of The Crown in Uploders, could mimic him to perfection, but has long since been domiciled in Frampton, denying us that entertainment. Mr. Samways was born at Chilcombe, where his father and grandfather had been lords of the manor. He remembered in his boyhood racing across two fields at the call of another boy to see one of the first motor cars negotiating the Dorchester road. He also remembered how the driver of the Royal Mail, for some reason known to himself, used to whip his six horses into a gallop to go down Stony Head, which was then somewhat stonier than it is now. (Perhaps he liked to enter Bridport with a flourish.) When Mr. Samways moved over the hill into Askerswell he became sexton. The only enemy he ever made was the unruly drystone wall dividing the churchyard from Parson's Lane, which was always falling about and which he vowed to reduce to order and never quite did, though he used to have a jab at it when in extreme old age he would come from Litton to cut the churchyard grass. At the death of his wife his son and daughter-in-law shared their home with him. He deeply appreciated this and was happy there. He must also have appreciated it that one of his old friends, Mr. George Rendall, a martyr to ills of various sorts, managed to attend his funeral, which was in Askerswell Church.

A REMINDER herewith to the people of Loders that the preacher at 11 a.m. service on Sunday, August 10th, will be the Bishop of Sherborne. It was his wish to come. If he will travel fifty-five miles, from Salisbury, to talk to us, it behoves us to travel a few yards to listen.

THE FIRSTBORN of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Gray (nee Rosamund Willmott) was christened Sarah Elizabeth in Loders Church at the children's service on July 6th. The officiant was her grandfather, the Vicar who a few weeks previous had christened another grand-daughter, Catharine Morwenna (the third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lloyd) in Hereford Cathedral, where her father is organist.

THE SICK have been subject to so much moving about of late that some people may like to know their whereabouts, which we give with the warning that this was the position at the time of writing, which is always a week at least before the time of reading. Mrs. Hine and Mrs. Holmes are at Port Bredy. Miss Ellaman, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Bradshaw are at North Allington. Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. R. Hyde, Mrs. D'Alcorn and Mrs. Farnham are at Stoke Water.

THE CONFIRMATION SERVICE to be conducted by Archbishop MacInnes in Loders on Sunday, October 26th will include candidates from Bradpole as well as our own. Pre-Confirmation talks, led by the Vicar, will begin at the end of August. They are open to anyone to attend without committing themselves to Confirmation. A number of names have already been given in and these will be told the time and place of the talks. Would others who are thinking this way and have not yet given their names kindly do so?

ASKERSWELL will be needing an organist when Miss Denise Miller goes to the teachers' training college at Salisbury in September. Organists are in short supply. Would anybody who might have one in mind kindly tell the Rector? Fortunately the engagement is not exacting - only one service a Sunday and that in the morning except for the first Sunday in the month, which is evening. We shall also be losing two devoted ringers in Miss Susan Savage and Miss Sheila Newberry, who go away to college this autumn. Cynthia and Dolcie Newberry are taking ringing lessons and doing well at them. So is Robert Bryan. But the wastage of ringers needs a constant supply of recruits to mitigate it and recruits are always welcome. Loders is grateful for help from Mr. Derek Smith who is here from Gloucestershire at weekends and who is shortly to marry Miss Glenys Davies of Uploders, but that is not likely to be so frequent when they set up their own home.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY acknowledge with warm thanks a cheque for twelve pounds and ninepence, being the proceeds of the Loders collecting boxes, which are managed by Miss Maribel Randall.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Prideaux, of Uploders, on the birth of a son. It matches their daughter and was born in Bridport Hospital. It weighed nearly ten pounds.

HIGH SUMMER has brought a constant trickle of sightseers to our churches, which look their best in this unbroken succession of fine days and were especially beautiful when decorated for the Bridport Arts Festival. What the many visitors to Askerswell church think about it is not recorded, for there is no visitors' book. The Loders book is interesting. One entry beside the name of Geraldine Gasparelli (nee Travers) says "A visit to the church where my ancestors were married - Thomas Travers and Annabella Hyde, 16.2.1847 - and others died and are buried in this churchyard". The church registers bear this out: they are generously peppered with Travers's. The hand-made kneelers elicit much admiration so does the bell on the chancel step. One entry says "Great acoustics! I like your bell. It sounds lovely when tapped gently". Another seems to reprove this kind of conduct with "Quietness that is balm to the spirit." One extrovert writes "As England should be kept, Congratulations!" And some lovelorn maiden adds "This is the type of church I would choose to get married in". Several Canadians have left their autographs. One says "They have nothing like this in Canada." At one Sunday morning service the congregation included the Provost of Portsmouth, who left word that he had enjoyed it. One Saturday afternoon there was a congregation of ecclesiologists on a tour of historic Dorset churches under the aegis of the University of Southampton. They half filled the nave and sat there for half an hour as the Vicar expounded the church. At the end of the Vicar's impromptu talk the lecturer in charge gave him a copy of the printed notes that the party had been supplied with and had read up beforehand. This was a little disconcerting. The lecturer was profuse in his thanks, but left the Vicar wondering whether he had been an unwitting party to a public demonstration of the ignorance of vicars about their own churches.

SERVICES IN AUGUST

| | | | | |
|------------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| LODERS | 3rd | Holy Communion 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| | 10th | Holy Communion 8 | Matins and | |
| | | | Bishop of Sherborne 11. | Children 2 |
| | 17th | Holy Communion 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| | 24th | Holy Communion 8 | Matins 11 | Children 2 Evensong 7 p.m. |
| | 31st | Holy Communion 8 | Matins 11 | Children 2. |
| ASKERSWELL | 3rd | Children 10 | Evensong 6.30 | |
| | 10th | Matins 10 | | |
| | 17th | Family Service 10. | | |
| | 24th | Holy Communion 10 | | |
| | 31st | Matins 10. | | |
| DOTTERY | 3rd | Holy Communion 9.30 | All others 3. | |

PARISH NOTES

LODERS, DOTTERY AND ASKERSWELL

SEPTEMBER, 1969

LODERS FETE proudly achieved its dual purpose of giving hundreds of people a happy afternoon, and of reducing the £5,000 needed for church repairs. Of course, it cannot compete in attendance with seaside parishes which have holiday camps to draw on, but it remains unrivalled in pu capita takings. Those who paid for admission numbered 481 (children were free) and gross takings were £484. 1s. 2d. For this success the generosity of the givers and the zeal of the collectors and the other workers, is to be thanked, not forgetting that Loders Court, so graciously placed at our disposal, attracts the same visitors from a wide field year after year. To the uninitiated the weather might have seemed less than obliging, a dull moist day following on days of splendid sunshine. In fact, it was ideal, not good enough for the beach, and too good for staying indoors, with the result that our attendance was a record. The children enjoyed themselves hugely. Their sports more than kept them out of mischief, but the star attraction was Mr. Romanes' sixty-seven year old steam engine, which chugged round the park like the iron horse conquering the Wild West, with a load of Buffalo Bills behind it. Askerswell children who happened to be abroad early on the Sunday before the fete had a pre-view of the engine. To avoid any hold-ups by traffic congestion Mr. Romanes was getting it near the arena in good time. It was typical of him to go cheerfully to all this trouble in a good cause.

THE FETE BALANCE SHEET is as follows:- Receipts: Cakes £20. 2s. 6d; Gifts £43. 17. 6d; Children and Books £7. 15s. 11d; Household £26. 19. 10d; Flowers £14. 7s. 3d; Jumble £14; Dottery £47. 19s.; Groceries £18. 19. 4d; Bran Tub £15; Tombola £45; Church Tower £3; Viewing House £12. 3s. 6d; Steam Engine £7. 11s; Pennies 15s. 7d; Skittled £7. 10s; Roulette £9. 11s. 6d; Fishing £5. 1s. 8d; Aunt Sally £6. 12s. 4d; Hidden Treasure £2. 7s; Thimbles £1. 16s. 6d; Fred the Boy £1. 5s. 3d; Whisky £12. 15s; Soup Set £5. 4s; Cake £8. 5s. 6d; Chocolates £5; Fruit and Bowl £2. 18s; Teas £26. 1s; Ices £7. 5s; Gate £24. 1s; Cash Donations £80. 16s; TOTAL £484. 1s. 2d.

Expenses: Band £15. 15s; Advertising £7. 4s. Posters £3. 2s. 6d; Tombola £12. 15s; Roulette, Fishing and Aunt Sally £8. 12. 11d. TOTAL £47. 9s. 5d. The nett profit was £436. 11s. 9d.

THE BISHOP OF SHERBORNE has written to thank all concerned in the inspiring service in Loders Church at which he preached in August. Church and chancel were quite full and included the former Governor of Gibraltar, Sir Dudley Ward (and Lady Ward) an old friend of the Bishop. The sermon was to everybody's deep satisfaction. The service, says the Bishop's letter, was a real uplift to him. He probably found a straight matins relaxing. Adjustment to the local variations on the Series Two theme must call for fearful concentration on the part of a visiting officiant.

OBITUARY Each of our three parishes suffered bereavement in August. A former resident of the Terrace at Dottery, Mrs. Fanny Symes, died at the home of her daughter in Southampton, at the ripe age of 96 and was buried in the grave of her husband after a sung service in Dottery Church. Her son writes "Thank you for the very beautiful and comforting service you held for our dear Mother. We feel sad at her not unexpected passing, but are sustained by the service and the knowledge that she lies with our father, who died some sixteen years since. He was, by the way, born in Loders." Loders lost a light of the Uploders Chapel in the passing of Mrs. Bradshaw. She had done great service as a former caretaker of the School and the Hut, was a keen member of the Women's Institute and an energetic raiser of funds for the Chapel by the annual garden party at her house. She used also to be a stallholder at the church fete. Parishioners with her public spirit are not easily replaced. A large congregation attended the funeral service in the Chapel conducted by the Rev. K. Grewer. It was followed by cremation at Weymouth. An Uploders resident, Mrs. Violet Holmes, who died shortly afterwards in Port Bredy at the age of 82, was also cremated at Weymouth, after a service in Loders Church, at which the Mothers' Union was represented and their banner draped. Kind neighbours had helped her achieve her ambition to spend most of her old age at home with her beloved animals. When total blindness struck her towards the end she found life a burden, but did not complain. Indeed she was always asking after the welfare of friends in the parish. Askerswell knew how subject Mr. Fred Marsh of Hembury was to bouts of serious illness, but was quite unprepared for his passing, which occurred when he was doing a little work in his garden. At the funeral service, which was choral and well attended, the Rector paid tribute to his qualities as a son (his mother, now well over 90, survives him), husband and father, and said what a loss

he would be to the church, of which he was a sidesman and a councillor. The P.C.C. would like to thank Mrs. Marsh for suggesting donations for the church instead of flowers, and the donors.

CONGRATULATIONS to the headmaster of Loders School and Mrs. Price on the birth of a daughter (their fourth) on August 26th. We offer the same though belatedly, to Mr. and Mrs. Winters, of Yondover, also on the birth of a daughter. It is hard for us here to believe that more boys than girls are born in England as a whole, but the Registrar General says so.

DOTTERY HARVEST FESTIVAL will begin on Thursday, September 18th, at 7.30 p.m. and continue the following Sunday at 3 p.m. We are unable to discover the time of the Uploders Chapel harvest, which is usually in September. It shall be announced in church.

HEAD GARDENER HONOURED. The imaginations of all who know Mr. David Crabb should be stirred by a ceremony of which he was the focus at Loders Court after morning church on Sunday, August 24th. Before a gathering of the outdoor and indoor staff, the Honourable Alexander Hood presented him with an inscribed silver salver to mark his completion of fifty years of faithful service to Loders Court. Mr. Hood was supported by Mrs. Hood, the Viscount Hood, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm McDowall, Commander and Mrs. John Streatfield and Mr. and Mrs. Rob. Wrixon. Mr. Crabb had an escort of wife, children, grandchildren and sister-in-law. Words might well have failed him on an occasion so fraught with emotion, but he took it calmly and was applauded. He being of an unretiring disposition, Loders will continue to benefit by the picturesque touch he imparts to it. In the shirtsleeves of a worker, and with his dog Major, he is as natural to the village street as the houses themselves. When little difficulties occur, as they sometimes will, he can appear like magic to lend a neighbourly hand, or to offer advice distilled from years of intense observation of village affairs. Anyone assuming that he seeks the limelight would be entirely wrong. His friends in - and out of - the village could testify that it is a cardinal principle of his generous nature to try to do good by stealth.

MRS. MARGARET BROWN AND MISS THELMA RECORD deputised at the church organs of Loders and Askerswell respectively while the regular organists were on holiday. Many thanks to them both.

THE PAINTING of the exterior of Dottery Church will probably be finished by the time these Notes are read. The church now looks smart. The many coats of paint that have been applied should ensure that it is proof against the weathering in that exposed position. The young men who did the job were expeditious and thorough. But when they got into the work they discovered lots of unexpected decay, which they showed Mr. Cecil Marsh and the Vicar. There was no choice but to remedy it. This will raise the cost to the region of £300 and exercise the ingenuity of the congregation, for there is not as much as this in the kitty.

THE TREASURER of Loders Church acknowledges with many thanks a gift of fifty dollars to the repair fund by Mrs. Fred Vacher (nee Marjorie Budden) lately here on holiday from Canada.

MR. FRED VACHER, a former luminary of the Methodist Church, gave the address at Loders morning service on the Sunday preceding the Bishop and set the high standard that the Bishop was to maintain. The vigour of Mr. Vacher's mind, and the strength of his voice, quite belied his eighty-two years. Age has mellowed him; he was still more loveable, and a shade less critical of our sins. He insisted on speaking from the chancel step, where his happy married life began.

MR. HARRY CRABB, Captain of Loders ringers, and the only surviving champion of the ringers' annual "Out In," has had his faith in the therapeutic value of that institution severely jolted. This year our ringers joined a trip to Newquay, organised by the Netherbury ringers, who left out of their reckoning the horrors of the Exeter bypass on a summer Saturday. In consequence, Harry was marooned for five hours with a bottle of lemonade and the coach never got to Newquay.

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

| | | | | | |
|-------------|------|----------------|----------|---------------|------------|
| 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 |
| | 28th | Holy Communion | 8 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| ASKERSWELL: | 7th | Children | 10 | Evensong 6.30 | |
| | 14th | Matins | 10 | | |
| | 21st | Family Service | 10 | | |
| | 28th | Matins | 10 | | |

HARVEST is likely to be celebrated with enthusiasm this year because the season has been exactly to our liking. We have had long spells of dryness and sunshine. Hay and corn have been garnered in ideal conditions. The combines passing over the fields of brown ripe corn have carpeted them with straw gleaming in the sunshine like new gold. Fruit has been plentiful and vegetables seem not to have suffered for lack of rain. "All is safely gathered in" can be sung with conviction even if half a gale should be blowing for the harvest services. Askerswell harvest will follow the usual plan, on the 5th October, with Holy Communion at 10.0 a.m., and evensong at 6.30 p.m. Loders choir and organist have kindly agreed to attend the evensong and sing an anthem. Loders harvest will be on the following Sunday, with matins at 11 a.m., evensong at 7 p.m. and the other services as usual. Dottery harvest is already a happy memory. The Thursday evening was wet, but "her sons and daughters came from far" nevertheless. Mrs. Johnson at the harmonium gave a robust lead to the harvest hymns. The flowers were of exceptional quality and there seemed to be an urban elegance in the arrangement of them. Packets of tea and sugar, and a line of oranges on the altar, were a salutary reminder of our dependence on the harvests of other lands.

THE NEW PARISH HALL at Askerswell began what is hoped will be a useful existence with a housewarming on September 12th, which was greatly enjoyed by a company of young and old whose lively appetites were ultimately defeated by the banquet the ladies' committee had provided. The Hall was declared open by a former resident, Mrs. C.F. Paddison and a dedicatory prayer was said by the Rector. Miss Lucy Edwards was presented with a gardening token at her impending departure to Poole; and the builder, Mr. Savage, with an inscribed pewter mug. Captain Aylmer paid tribute to both when he made the presentations. Captain Lumby reminded the assembly what the hall owed to the foresight of Mrs. Paddison and the money raising efforts of the Community Club. Margaret Bryan presented Mrs. Paddison with a bouquet, Major Evans then took charge of the revels with the help of a record player. Anybody with any knowledge of the frustrations and delays inherent in any dealings with officialdom will marvel at Askerswell's achievement in getting its hall from planning to completion in eighteen months. One suspects that it needed an ex-submarine commander like Captain Lumby to do it. He was chairman of the building committee and this probably took more out of him than the war at sea. Here is one instance of what he had to contend with:- When the building was finished and he was in urgent need of the government grant to pay bills and had written and phoned all over the place, and been assured that the matter was receiving attention, he got an official letter containing a postcard, which said "Fill in and dispatch postcard the day site work begins". One also suspects, if one is knowledgeable about building costs, that the village owes more to Mr. Savage and his family (which helped with the painting) than it will ever know. The price he did it for was obviously his family's contribution to the common cause. Major Evan's public spirit was again shown in his making available the ground for a car park. His decision to lease it for a nominal rent instead of to give it outright to the hall is a wise one; for in the latter event the ground would have passed to the ultimate control of the Charity Commission, and Loders has found to its cost what this can mean. The playing field is not included in the trust deed of the hall, and is likewise free of the Commission.

AT THE FIRST MEETING of the Askerswell Hall Committee Captain Lumby was elected chairman, Major Evans secretary, and Mr. George Bryan treasurer. So intent were the Committee on devising a scale of charges which would both service the hall and attract users that we had to go to press before they had come to a conclusion.

THE TREASURER of Loders Church acknowledges with many thanks (a) a contribution of £6. 10s. to the C. of E. Children's Society by Mr. John F. Smith, of the Loders Arms, from the proceeds of a dance: (b) £5 from Mr. F. Boon and £3.3s. from Mrs. Barbara Davies for the repair fund of Loders Church. The treasurer of Dottery Church also wishes gratefully to acknowledge several anonymous donations to the repairs, which are now completed.

A BRING AND BUY SALE in aid of the Uploders Chapel had the incidental effect of producing an enjoyable social occasion on a very wet afternoon. Such stalwarts of the Chapel as Mr. and Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. George Hyde, Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Robinson, were helped in running stalls, games and teas by Methodists from Bridport, and the Minister, the Rev. K. Grewer, was present. Mr. Morris writes: "I shall be much obliged if you will convey our thanks to all the members of Loders Church who came along in rather dismal weather to support our sale, in aid of the Chapel repair fund. We are happy to report that approximately £25 will be credited to the fund".

ASKERSWELL SUNDAY SCHOOL were by contrast very fortunate weatherwise in the day they chose for their little garden party at Orchards. On a perfect afternoon the elders sat sipping tea, or watching some of Mr. Garrard's masterly colour slides of subjects of local interest, while the youngsters operated slideshows. Later came an entertainment which not only entertained, but showed the facility of Mrs. Garrard for getting the best out of children. It also educated the audience in the Bible and the Prayer Book without their knowing. To show that the motto of the Sunday School is "Mens sana in corpore sano", proceedings ended with a gymnastic display on bars so stoutly fixed by Mr. Garrard that they withstood all the efforts of the heavy-weights to bring them down. A gratifying bye product of the afternoon was £5. for the funds made by small charges. Nobody was more relieved than the Rector when the day turned out to be fine. Mrs. Garrard had considered applying for the use of the new Hall in the opposite eventuality. Whether a hall can be used before it has been opened is a poser that could have precipitated a constitutional crisis. The Rector's advice to Mrs. Garrard was to have Faith, and it worked.

THE NEW BUNGALOW in the orchard near the old forge in Uploders is now the home of Mrs. Pearce and her son Cyril, who came here from Stains mainly to escape the noise of aircraft. Mr. Pearce is an electronics engineer.

THE CONFIRMATION SERVICE to be taken in Loders Church at 11 a.m. on Sunday, October 26th by the former Archbishop in Jerusalem, Dr. Campbell MacInnes, looks as if it may be massively attended. There are fifty candidates in all, including twenty-two from Bradpole, which is more than the Vicar there anticipated. Relations and friends of the candidates like to attend and they alone could fill the church. Their number will be swollen, no doubt, by some of the congregation of Askerswell and Dottery, where there will be no services that day. Which leaves the regular congregation of Loders to be fitted in. Seating is the business of churchwardens and sidesmen. Presumably they will reserve pews for the candidates, and abandon the rest to the good old principle first come, first served. Classes for Loders Askerswell and Dottery candidates are held in Loders Church. The candidates are attentive and reverent and the Vicar is enjoying his weekly session with his teenagers, most of whom he held as babes in arms at the font. Marrying ones he had christened, as he is beginning to do, gives him an agreeable feeling of maturity.

AT THE INVITATION of the Rev. Dr. Martin Thornton, the Vicar was the preacher at the former's first harvest festival in his parish of Paybembury, Devon. It may be recalled that the Vicar married Dr. Thornton and Miss Monica Ritson in Loders Church last year. They are now blest with a baby daughter, whom they have called Magdala in memory of the patron of Loders Church, St. Mary Magdalene, near to whose day she was born.

THE MARRIAGE of Miss Glenys Ann Davies, of Uploders, and Mr. Derek Smith of Warmley, Gloucester, was a truly festive occasion. First, a glorious September day showing off the beauty of Loders Church as well as that of the bridal party; then the trumpeting of the organ; then the pealing of the bells. The Bridegroom is vice-captain of the Warmley ringers (not captain they say, "because he has all the vice"), who came in strength to reinforce our own ringers. Our ladies of the church flowers did them earlier than usual for this service, and with consummate skill, for which the bride wishes to thank them. As much of the congregation was Welsh, the singing was terrific, especially of the hymn with the Welsh tune. After the ritual photographs outside the church, the large assembly moved off to the Eype's Mouth Hotel for a fitting finale. There, in the sunny room overlooking the sea, was the feast that the travellers after their long journey had dreamed about. They fell on to it with gusto. The kitchen staff rose to the occasion and were never defeated. Plates - and glasses - were replenished by wave after wave of reinforcements until it was the guests who were defeated. They will not soon forget the Glenys-Derek wedding, neither will Mrs. Davies. After the coo-ing, the billing".

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

| | | | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| LODERS: | 5th Holy Communion 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 | |
| | 12th Harvest: Holy Communion 8 | " 11 | " 2 | Evensong 7 |
| | 19th Holy Communion 8 and 12 | " 11 | " 2 | |
| | 26th Holy Communion 8 | Confirmation 11. | | |
| ASKERSWELL | 5th Harvest: Holy Communion 10. | Evensong 6.30 | | |
| | 12th Matins 10 | | | |
| | 19th Family Service 10. | | | |
| | 26th No Service. | | | |
| DOTTERY | 5th Holy Communion 9 | | | |
| | No Service on 26th | | | |

PARISH NOTES

LODERS, DOTTERY AND ASKERSWELL

NOVEMBER, 1969

THE ST. LUKE'S SUMMER which we are in at the time of writing is a continuation of the wonderful harvest weather and makes us more than ever thankful for the blessings of 1969. The harvest festival at Dottery was recorded in our last issue. We turn now to the others. The Uploders Chapel had a happy time. There was a large congregation that included a party from Bridport and from Loders Church. Mr. Grewer, the Minister, took the service and next day the produce was sold for chapel funds. At Askerswell harvest it was good to see a glass jug of water sharing the place of honour at the chancel step with the harvest sheaf - a reminder that we can live for weeks without food but only days without water. Sprays of blackberries gathered by the children represented the fruits of the hedgerow. There were good congregations and the kindness of Loders choir and organist in leading the singing and giving an anthem was much appreciated. Harvest service at Loders School again drew a large congregation of parents, who had generously provided the good things that decorated the classroom. The children led the prayers and read the lessons, with their teacher, Mrs. Niven, saying the final prayers. The headmaster was at the piano. Afterwards the children took the flowers, etc. to the old people. At Loders Church on the second Sunday in October large morning and evening congregations gave the harvest a rousing send off. Sheaves of corn from the other churches, and the late Mr. Harry Legg's corn dollies, made the church look like an old harvest field. A profusion of magnificent flowers filled every window, niche and cranny; and some of the fruits and vegetables were up to flower-show standard. From their repertoire of anthems the choir presented another tuneful song. The collections neared £30 and were a record for harvest. The evening congregation trooped out of church into the darkness and a light fall of welcome rain. A rustic gentleman said: "I always come to Loders harvest. The singing is bloody good".

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY has sent a donation of £150 from his discretionary fund to the new village hall at Askerswell. This will be appreciated, not for its usefulness alone, but as a mark of the sympathy shown all along by the bishop for the parish in its struggle to get justice over the old school. The struggle was worth while. Without it the new hall would have had nothing from the old school, whereas it has now had £500, doubled by government grant to £1,000. Doubtless the P.C.C. will now offer an olive branch to the Diocesan Board of Finance - a resumed payment of quota.

A GREAT GREAT GRANDSON of Parson Thomas, Vicar of Loders, 1887 - 1914 and moving spirit of the restoration of the church in 1899, was baptised at Loders on October 19th at the children's service, in the presence of a large supporting company of relatives and friends. He was Robert Nicholas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Prideaux, of Uploders. Throughout the service he never whimpered, neither, surprisingly, did his godmother, who must have found this bonny babe an armful.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY falls this year on November 9th. An increasing number of people think the two world wars should be forgotten. But that is not the feeling of the friends of those who gave their all. Courtesy demands that a day solemn to them should be solemn to us, too. And true religion requires it to be understood that wars begin in the human heart. War will not vanish from the face of the earth until it is banished from the heart. It is good to have one day a year when this lesson is brought home to us. Moving from the general to the particular, the Askerswell Remembrance will be at 10, Loders at 11 and Dottery at 3. All the collections will go to Earl Haig's Fund, which works to discharge our debt to war widows, orphans and disabled.

THE MANY FRIENDS in Loders of the late Mr. Arthur Budden, of Montacute, were surprised and distressed to hear of his unexpected death. He was a frequent visitor to Loders, his old home and was seeing friends here shortly before he died. He would have been the last person to think it a compliment to be called religious, but he had a real affection for Loders church. He always considered himself "on the strength" and would call occasionally at the vicarage with his "collection", or a donation to the repair fund. He derived from one of the oldest Loders families and on the way into church his coffin passed the altar tomb of a Budden of the 18th century. He was buried in the grave of his parents, who had lived, as he did, in the old post office, now demolished. Market gardening had been his chief occupation. It was fitting that his funeral should have been in a church decorated for harvest festival, with flowers and vegetables all round him. It was also fitting that the organ

should have been played by a member of another of Loders' oldest families, Mrs. Vera Tiltman, nee Knight, one of whose 18th century altar tombs is also near the south porch. The chief mourners, Miss Jean Budden and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Budden, were supported by a sizeable congregation of Loders friends. The harvest hymn, "The sower went forth sowing" made an appropriate funeral hymn.

WINDFALLS. Mrs. Garrard gave our Mothers' Union an ingenious talk on this subject at their October meeting. She is now an M.U. speaker for this area, as she was previously in Suffolk. Our members say they hope to hear much more of her.

IT'S AN ILL WIND. The failure of the scheduled speaker to keep her appointment with the monthly meeting of Loders Women's Institute brought Mr. Anthony Sanctuary very nobly into the breach with a fascinating lecture on the history of the twine industry in Bridport. It was illustrated by slides which were of special interest to members engaged in cottage braiding.

THE CONGREGATION of Askerswell church again have cause to be thankful - like many another distressed soul - that Mrs. Swaffield lives in the parish. Without a word to anybody she took over the cleaning of the church when Mrs. Spiller fell ill. We are glad to say Mrs. Spiller is much better after a rest and change at her son John's.

LODERS CONGREGATION were delighted to have with them at morning service their former churchwarden and well proved friend, Colonel Donald Scott. He was having a weekend off from the military hospital at Midhurst, where he is a patient, and has been for a long time. He stayed with his daughter, Alison & Colonel Robin Chater, her husband, at their home in Netherbury. Sitting through the service on his emaciated frame must have been quite an endurance test, but he came through with a smile and nobody could doubt the pleasure with which he greeted old friends.

ANOTHER LOCAL HERO, very much in the minds of Loders people at present, is the landlord of The Crown, Mr. Jack Verrinder. When he had a leg amputated a year ago, and by sheer will power got himself back to serve at the bar, everybody hoped his troubles were over. But his other leg has now been amputated. Contemplating the stumps as he lay in Dorchester hospital with amazing sang-froid, Jack recalled his naval days at the Battle of Jutland and remarked on the strange way of things that a little sugar could do what hours of exposure to the sea could not when his ship went down. One thing the grim operation could not deprive him of was his balanced outlook on life, and his innate cheerfulness. His looks still belie his seventy years. As he reads this we hope he will be conscious of the sympathy and admiration of us all. An observant reader might ^{well} query how a man of seventy could have fought at Jutland. Like some other headstrong boys, he put his age up.

HOSPITAL was the magnet that seemed more attractive to some of our people than the sea or the countryside in October. Nurse Dorothy Fooks chose to go into Weymouth for a major operation, made the speedy recovery becoming to her profession, and is now convalescing in Devon. Mrs. Shirley had a painful but successful nose operation in Weymouth and is already immersed again in good work for the public weal. Mr. Albert May underwent a painful leg operation at Portland with customary fortitude, and hopes soon to be the man again. Mr. Chandler, of the Dottery Blue Ball has been moved from Damers House to Port Bredy Hospital. Mr. Lucas had a few days rest cure in Bridport hospital. Mrs. Herbert Bartlett was taken ill at Taunton during an expedition with her husband and found herself at the Musgrove Park Hospital, where she was making progress at the time of writing. If this catalogue should be incomplete, it is unwittingly so.

A DIFFICULT QUESTION: Alan Read, aged ten, the brightest Scripture pupil at Loders School, "Why can't I be confirmed? I can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments." To prove it, he recited the lot there and then. The Anglican Church has a prejudice against confirming young children. Indeed a proposal is afoot for admitting them to Communion before Confirmation. The Roman Catholic Church likes to confirm children young, and then admit them to Communion. If visible results are anything to go by, the Roman practice has everything to commend it.

BEST WISHES to Mr. Robert Newall, of South Eggardon, on his marriage to Miss Ann Mirams at St. Mary Boltons, London, on October 18th.

ARCHBISHOP LORD FISHER OF LAMBETH and Lady Fisher were lately in Loders. They were the guests at luncheon of Surgeon Captain and Mrs. Latta. Mrs. Latta's late father was Lord Fisher's chaplain when Lord Fisher was Bishop of Chester.

SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>LODERS</u> | 2nd Holy Communion 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| | 9th Holy Communion 8 | REMEMBRANCE 11 | Children 2 |
| | 16th Holy Communion 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| | 23rd Holy Communion 8 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| | 30th Holy Communion 8 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| <u>ASKERSWELL</u> | 2nd Children 10 Evensong 6.30. | | |
| | 9th REMEMBRANCE 10. | 16th Family Service 10. | 23rd Holy Communion 10. |
| | 30th Matins 10. | | |

LODERS, DOTTERY AND ASKERSWELL

DECEMBER, 1969

THE PROSPECT of a Confirmation service with nineteen candidates from Bradpole added to our own twenty-nine, gave rise to doubt in some quarters as to whether Loders Church could accommodate the congregation, but those with experience of its elasticity knew that it would be contrived. In the event, with chairs in the chancel and in other open spaces, every member of that great congregation had a seat, if a constricted one. A gloriously fine morning eliminated the complication of machintoshes and umbrellas and everybody was in the mood for singing. By pure chance the final hymn, chosen beforehand without knowledge of the subject of the sermon, matched it perfectly. The sermon was about St. Paul's reflections on the soldier who guarded him in Rome, and the hymn was "Onward Christian Soldiers." The service was taken by the former Archbishop in Jerusalem, Dr. Campbell MacInnes, who wore cope and mitre. When he had handshaken the congregation out of church he found himself besieged by young autograph hunters. We have since heard from him that he enjoyed the service and its architectural setting, and was grateful for the £20 donation for his two theological colleges in India. Our confirmation candidates were: Carol Marsh, Bridget Foot, Corinne Churchill, Susan Cornish, Heather Marsh, Sandra Crabb, Cynthia Newberry, Thomasine Rudd, Bridget Marsh, Sheila Winters, Christine Joyce, Jane Ellis, Dulcie Newberry, Faith Marsh, Susan Price, Christopher Miles, David Newberry, Johnathan Ellis, Leslie Cornick, Brian Johnston, Nigel Foot, Christopher Foot, Ian Foot, Robert Bryan, Michael Powell, William Rudd, Norman Powell, Richard Mead and Christopher Mead.

BONFIRE NIGHT was celebrated most earnestly at Askerswell this year. The committee of the new hall were hell bent on a frolic, and there was the worm-eaten stage of the old school to be burnt. A supplement of tarry railway sleepers gave the fire staying power, and the youth of the village, with many adults, turned out to enjoy the blaze, which was fanned by a light breeze. The night was perfect. Young people brought their fireworks so that all might enjoy them, not suspecting, perhaps, that it would be their fathers who would let them off. The ladies operated a field kitchen producing hot soup and hot dogs were dispensed through the kitchen window of the hall. As Mr. Tom Foot contemplated the glowing embers he suggested ending up with roast pig next year. The hall has certainly quickened the social life of the village. It has had its first session of bingo (conducted by the Bride Valley Young Farmers) and its first coffee morning. The tenth of this month should see its first whist drive.

THE CONGREGATION OF DOTTERY have been stimulated by something or other to new forms of activity. Things get done without any deliberation that the Vicar is aware of, and to him this is a welcome change. In the vestry one Sunday he noted that a smart curtain was now concealing his old easel and surplice hanging on the wall. Two chairs with foamy seats and a new window curtain seemed slightly suggestive of a bathroom, and new shelf coverings in the cupboard drove home the lesson that cleanliness is next to godliness. As he threaded his way out of church after service, it was pointed out to him that one of the three lampshades was ridiculously unmatched with the other two, which themselves were not beautiful, and there were to be three new ones, if he did not object. He could safely say he did not object. The natural posture of his eyes in divine service is heavenwards, and therefore lampwards. If for twenty-two years he had not noticed the ugly shades, he was not likely to be troubled by the beautiful ones. The church treasurer told him the names of kind people who had made donations to the outside painting of the church. These he remembers with gratitude. Then he was invited to a little sale for the same object which two valiant ladies of the congregation were holding in their home. Here he found a crush of ladies and one gentleman buying, selling, and drinking tea, and enjoying themselves. The passing of money the hostesses obviously considered indecent like Victorian chair legs, and in need of concealing, so he did not see much of that, but he will be surprised of the painting fund does not get a fillip. The final evidence of something stirring at Dottery was an advertisement proclaiming that Dottery Church would be holding a Christmas whist drive in Salwayash schoolroom on December 8th. If he had any fears of revolutionary tendencies in his flock they were allayed by the price of admission, a pre-war two-and-sixpence, very conservative.

THREE CHRISTENINGS. These were all at Loders. Mr. and Mrs. Price took advantage of a family gathering for Susan's confirmation to have their youngest daughter baptised Rebecca Mary on the same day. On November 23rd Mr. and Mrs. Bernard James, who still regard Loders as their spiritual home, brought their youngest daughter to be baptised Deborah Terisa. On the 30th Mr. and Mrs. Winters, formerly of Yondover, who had had difficulty in getting godparents together in one place at one time, succeeded in this, and their daughter was baptised Diana Jane.

MUCH SYMPATHY was felt in Dottery for the family of the late Mr. Arthur Chandler, licensee of the Blue Ball, who died at the age of 62 in Port Bredy Hospital, to which he had only just been moved from Damers House, Dorchester. He was cremated at Weymouth. Most of his working life had been spent in the hotel trade.

THE TREASURER of Loders Church acknowledges with many thanks another donation, of £25, for the repair fund, from Mr. David Hirst, Q.C. Also the promise of covenants from the Viscount Hood, Colonel Stack and Mr. Beavan. The Hon. Alexander and Mrs. Hood have promised a welcome gift of hymn and prayer books. At festivals and when we are honoured by visiting dignitaries, the shortage of books is very apparent. Our old English Hymnals are not dependable reinforcement, because they do not always contain the selected A. and M. hymn, and when they do, their version is sometimes worded differently, or minus whole verses.

MANY OF US were interested to read in the national press that after years as a member of the House of Lords, the Viscount Hood only recently made his maiden speech. Service with the Foreign Office, from which he has now retired, precluded his doing this. He spoke in the debate on the staffing of British embassies, a subject on which he must be very knowledgeable.

THE TIME for the annual Mission Sale has come round again. It will be at Loders School on Friday, December 12th, at the odd-sounding but convenient for parents and friends time of 5.45 p.m. The headmaster has devised means of relieving the congestion so that the children's play may be enjoyed in comfort. We look forward to the play very much. It is certain to give some new and interesting angle on the old message of Christmas. Beside our enjoyment, the motive of the enterprise is to raise money for the work of the church overseas. Mrs. Willmott is relying on old - and new - faithfuls to provide saleable stuff for the stalls.

THE SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE will be in Loders Church on Tuesday, December 16th, at 2.45 p.m. Mothers' Union join parents and friends for this occasion, and junior and adult members of the congregation read the lessons.

IT WOULD NOT BE CHRISTMAS if Loders Choir did not do their time honoured carol singing round the parish in support of the orphan children cared for by the C. of E. Children's Society. They reckon to sing in Uploders on Friday, the 19th and in Loders on Monday, the 22nd.

THE MACHINERY OF DEMOCRACY beloved of the Women's Institute went into operation recently, and a secret vote counted by extraneous tellers revealed Mrs. Latta as the choice of Loders branch for this year's president. Mrs. Taylor and Miss Ping are vice-presidents, Mrs. Wells treasurer and Mrs. Stebbings secretary. The branch were very conscious of what they owed to the retiring president, Mrs. Charlie Wilkins, who now finds living in another parish more compatible with being an ordinary member.

HALF-CROWNS cease to be money at the end of this year, and those minted in 1947 onwards have very little intrinsic value. It is hoped that church congregations may note these facts. The half-crown is said to be the mainstay of church collections. There are still many millions of half-crowns in circulation and if they get into church collections after December 31st they will only be a nuisance. If the new tenpenny piece becomes the substitute for the half-crown, it is hoped that the faithful will compensate the collections for the diminished value.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES will follow the traditional pattern. At Loders the "Midnight" on Christmas Eve will begin at a quarter to twelve, followed by 8 o'clock Communion on Christmas Day, and the family service with carols at 11. At Dottery the Communion will be at 9 on Christmas Day; at Askerswell it will be at 10, with a surprise from the Sunday School.

STOP PRESS: The little sale at Crock Lane made over £15 towards the cost of painting Dottery Church. Hats off to the Miss Males!

SERVICES IN DECEMBER

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| <u>LODERS</u> | 7th Holy Communion 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| | 14th Holy Communion 8 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| | 16th School Carol Service 2.45 | | |
| | 21st Holy Communion 8 and 12 | Matins 11 | Children 2 |
| | CHRISTMAS EVE, "MIDNIGHT" | 11.45 | |
| | Christmas Day Holy Communion 8 | Family Service and Carols 11. | |
| <u>ASKERSWELL</u> | 7th Children 10 | Evensong 6.30 | |
| | 14th Matins 10 | | |
| | 21st Family Service 10 | | |
| | CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Communion 10. | | |