

The "Notes" enter their third year of publication this month. Readers may be interested in their circulation figures and finances. In the year 1949-50, we sold 1,754 copies, an average of 146 per month, and our receipts were £14. 12s. 4d. We paid £12. 9s. 0d. to Southern Duplicator & Typewriter Supplies, Bournemouth, for duplicating the copies, and £2 to the Sarum Messenger, leaving a credit balance of 3s. 4d. It is gratifying to be able to make a small profit when many contemporary magazines, selling at fourpence, and carrying advertisements, make losses. As there will be no Sarum Messenger to pay for this year, we hope to make a bigger profit for the sick and poor fund. This is an occasion for thanking our subscribers, the ladies who distribute the copies (Mrs. H. Legg, Mrs. B. Osborne and Mrs. Gale, of Dottery), Miss V. Legg, who is our go-between with the duplicating firm, and, above all, the firm itself, for doing our small order so efficiently, cheaply and promptly.

The Day of the Year will be Saturday, August 5th., the eve of Bank Holiday, when we hope to hold the annual gymkhana and fete in Loders Park, at the kind invitation of Sir Edward & Lady Le Breton. Twice following, this date has proved propitious. The programme should be much the same as last year - gymkhana, comic dog racing, stalls, sideshows, teas, ices, baby show, and a dance to end up with in the hut. This year we want more sideshows, and we look to the youth of the village to lend a hand. Capt. Allen is i/c sideshows, assisted by Messrs. O. Gale, H. Crabb & S. Tilley; Mrs. Streatfield & Mrs. Randall are i/c stalls, Mrs. H. Legg, teas, Misses M. & M. Randall & Mrs. H. Pavey dance; Messrs. C. Marsh & F. Cleal, gate, and Col. Scott, gymkhana. Any of these would welcome offers of assistance.

Spreading the Load. That is what the fete does. The fete is the means by which the whole village helps the regular worshippers to maintain the parish church. The church collection amounted last year to £162, which was spent on cleaning, lighting and heating the church, mowing the churchyard, meeting the expenses of the services, paying insurances and parish quota, and repairing the village school. The church is everybody's church, and almost every family uses it for baptisms, weddings, churchings and funerals, and state occasions. It would not be cricket to expect the Sunday worshippers to bear the whole expense of an institution which belongs to the village. Those who are indifferent churchgoers realise this, and do their bit by supporting the fete. The main object of this year's fete is the repair of the church and of the stone path in the churchyard.

Mr. Eli Lenthall. The parish has been profoundly stirred by the serious illness of its churchwarden, who is also conceded to be the best farmer in the neighbourhood. A measure of his popularity is that his wife has been quite inundated by sympathetic enquiries; on one day there were over forty telephone calls alone. In the ebb and flow of the illness his endearing good humour has never left him. He has tried to make jokes without a voice. At the time of going to print, his doctors will not say that he is "out of the wood". Our prayers for his recovery will be echoed far outside the parish.

An Unexpected Meeting. The congregation were filing out of church one Sunday morning. A stranger among them made for the Vicar. "Can you tell me the name of that man who read the lesson?" "Sir Edward Le Breton", said the Vicar. "What a small place the world is", said the stranger. "When I came back from India on the troopship Nestor, after the 1914 war, he was in command of the men on board. I never expected to meet him here."

Readers who were interested in our report that the village cobbler, Mr. Walter Tudball, had gone to hospital, at the age of 82, for an operation which he hoped would take him off a milk diet and allow him to eat meat and vegetables again, will be pleased to know that he came out of hospital miraculously cured. Callers at his shop saw him sitting beside a fire, the picture of health, boiling the coveted meat and vegetables.

Loders Feast used to be kept up for a whole week round about July 22nd., the festival of St. Mary Magdalene, patron saint of Loders. One of the objects of the feast was to thank God for the lovely old church of Loders. If we cannot revive the picturesque externals of the Feast - the fun fair and the dancing in the street - we can, and ought to, continue the annual thanksgiving for Loders Church. It is a thing of beauty which has come down to us through the centuries, the "rude forefathers of the hamlet" sleep beneath its walls, and it is the ancient place where God and Loders meet. This year we shall keep the Feast on Sunday, July 23rd. We shall decorate the church, and trust that all Loders may come to give thanks for their mother church. Last year's observance was encouraging.

The Lent Boxes produced the satisfactory sum of £7. 8s. 6d. for the Church overseas (Loders £1. 3s. 11d., Loders children £3. 14s. 2d., Dottery £2. 0s. 5d.)

The Ringers have chosen Minehead and Ilfracombe for their outings. There are still vacant seats in the coach. Mr. G. Hyde, of Willow Cottage, is the person to see if you want to go. The trip is on Saturday, July 15th., and the cost 12/-.

Overheard in Dottery. Lady, looking up from newspaper: "Bless my soul ! The other day York Minster was asking for a quarter of a million, now they want a hundred thousand for Salisbury spire. They never stop begging. We want that money on our children's backs and feet" In another column of the same newspaper it was stated that in 1948-9 Britain spent £1,510 millions on tobacco, drink, cinemas, theatres and betting. The lady saw nothing remarkable in this. Those who think God is getting more than His share should ponder the recent discovery of a statistician, that the nation spends more in a year on matches than it does on religion.

Bringing them to Church. It is noticeable how often people who have left their home parish come back to the church and point out the pew where they and their wives used to sit when they were courting. The church is interwoven with the romances of a great number of today's steadfast married couples. Nothing could be better than this. Now it is not so common for courting couples to be seen in church. Indeed, the present experience of parsons is to miss their staunch young people from the accustomed pew, to miss them again the following Sunday, to think that they must be ill, and to find that they are courting. We note that some of our staunch young ladies bring their young men to church. We are delighted to have them, and are grateful for the example.

Another fifteen shillings have come in for the presentation to Miss Wilkes, who retired from Loders School in April.

PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism. 28th. May, Martin Charles Wheeler and Ronald Edward Tilley.

Services for July.

Loders. 2nd. HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15.
9th. HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.15, Evensong 6.30.
16th. HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15.
23rd. Dedication Festival, HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.15.
Evensong 6.30.
30th. HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15.

Dottery. 2nd. HC 9.30.
9th. Evensong 3.30.
16th. Evensong 6.30.
23rd. Evensong 3.30.
30th. Evensong 3.30.

If Wet? The succession of pouring wet Saturdays is raising the question of what would happen to our gymkhana and fete should Saturday, August 5th., be wet. A relentless downpour would extinguish the gymkhana, but an attempt would be made to carry on the fete in the outbuildings of Loders Court, and there would still be the dance in the Hut at 8.30 p.m. The stallholders would certainly want to sell their cakes and other perishable commodities. However, this is not the right note to harp on. It sounds as if we lacked faith in King Sol, who did us fine in '48 and '49.

If parishioners buy their tickets beforehand, they get them at half price - adults 1/-, children 6d. Tickets may be had from Mrs. H. Legg, Mrs. Bourne (at The Crown), Mrs. Streatfield and Mr. Cleal (Dottery). We have to make the general charge 2/- to cover the gymkhana expenses, which are heavy.

All Shapes & Sizes. Col. Scott is urging everybody with any kind of dog to enter it in the comic dog race at 6 p.m. The laugh that the comic dog race raised last year was heard in Bradpole.

The Dorset instinct for keeping money in the parish is agitating a few good people in Dottery, who have posed themselves the question "If this fete is for Loders Church, why should we support it, who have our own church?" Dottery is supporting the fete because the fete is to meet certain financial obligations of the whole parish, and not of Loders only. As parts of the same parish, Loders and Dottery have helped each other hitherto without comparisons: Dottery helped Loders to save its village school in '48, and Loders helped Dottery to start a church repair fund in '49. Each year, for the last three years, the children of Loders and Dottery have had an outing, and each time Loders has paid for its own children, and nearly half for the Dottery children as well. If either of the partners is losing sleep, it should be Loders.

The late Mr. Jack PETHEN. A sad event has happened so quietly in Uploders that the parish has been almost unaware of it. Only two months ago Mr. Jack Pethen, nephew of Mrs. Samways, of Cherry Tree Cottage, was running a 200 acre farm near Horsham, and living with his parents. He was of very fine physique, and scarcely knew what illness was. He went to his doctor with what he thought was a minor complaint, and discovered that he was a desperately sick man. The farm had to be sold up, and the family moved to Uploders, where, in a short time, Mr. Jack Pethen died. He was 43, and unmarried, an only son, with one widowed sister. His holidays had frequently been spent in Loders, where he was known as a sportsman and a good shot. The deepest sympathy will be felt with his parents, who are making their home in Uploders.

The Ringers will fight shy of St. Swithun when they choose the date of their next outing. He gave them lashings of rain for their trip to Minehead & Ilfracombe, with very few fine intervals, but they and their friends, who filled a 26 seater coach, had an enjoyable day. They managed to get in some ringing at Ilfracombe Parish Church. Sandwiches for the whole party had been provided by the Captain & Mrs. Harry Legg. The Vice-Captain, Mr. H. Crabb, supplied each ringer with liquid refreshment. Thanks were accorded the Secretary, Mr. G. Hyde, for his excellent arrangements.

Angels Unawares. "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares!" So says the Epistle to the Hebrews. And it is true. The day before he was going into hospital for an operation, the Vicar met two strangers, a lady and a gentleman coming out of the church. The gentleman looked decidedly tripperish. He had been scanning the notice board. "We hope to come to your Dedication Festival on Sunday", he said. "You will be very welcome", said the Vicar, "I am afraid I shall not be there. I have to go into hospital, and I cannot for the life of me find anybody to take the services on Sunday", "Shall I?" asked the tripper. He turned out to be Canon Buckley, sometime Precentor of Chester Cathedral & Master of the Choristers, now Vicar of Gulval, in Cornwall.

So on Dedication Sunday the congregation had the service intoned for them by a cathedral precentor with a magnificent voice, and got from him an equally fine sermon. He, for his part, was pleased with the church, choir and organist, and commended the taste of the ladies who had decorated the church so beautifully. The font had been done in wild flowers by the children.

Hail and Farewell. P.C. William Edridge and family have taken the place of P.C. Trevett and family at Loders Police Station. If Constable Edridge can win the hold on village affection that Constable Trevett had, he will do well. Constable Trevett has moved to Wimborne, where he reckons to add another two years to his thirty already spent in the Force. He will be within easier reach of his home town of Sherborne, and his wife of hers, which is Bournemouth. Constable Trevett had been stationed four years in Loders. Our recollection will be of a neighbourly policeman who recovered errant goslings, and quelled midnight roysterers with a look, who, in the relaxation of his own fireside could tell tales of mystery and horror; for, as Gilbert & Sullivan testify, a policeman's lot is not a happy one. Constable Edridge is newer to the Force. He has been stationed at Dorchester for the last three years. He has a wife and two surviving children, and his grandfather is also living with him. We trust that the move to the country may improve the health of the new Constable and his family. He came straight to Loders from hospital, where he had had pneumonia. Mrs. Edridge left hospital a week before he went in.

Of Bishops and their Ladies. The Bishop of Salisbury has lately done a pilgrimage on foot through the Wareham Deanery, preaching on village greens, putting up for the night at country parsonages, and meeting his people in their homes. His wife, Mrs. Anderson, has been in this Deanery. She stayed a night at Maffercombe, and called on the vicars of Toller, Powerstock, Loders, Bradpole and Allington. She was charmed by Loders Church, where she recommended a new east window and figures of St. Mary Magdalene and St. George to fill the two empty niches in the Ladye Chapel.

The Bishop of Sherborne, ever a lover of Loders, dropped in to tea on the vicarage lawn on a recent Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Lunt, widow of the previous Bishop, addressed the Deanery meeting of the Mothers' Union in Powerstock Church. Our own branch was well represented.

Mrs. Wright, of Dottery, a doctor's widow, is leaving Dottery to live with a daughter in Oxford. Being a great invalid - but always a cheerful one - she could take no part in parish activities, but she was always helpful and encouraging.

Mrs. Laskey, daughter of Sir Edward & Lady Le Breton, is home on holiday from America. Loders sees a great development in her bonny son Edward.

Two old friends of the village have paid brief return visits - Miss Wilkes to the school children's dancing on the Vicarage Lawn, and Miss Butterworth to the Women's Institute birthday party. Both received a warm welcome.

Parish Registers.

Holy Baptism - 2nd. July. Sarah Deborah Knight.
Burial - 15th. July Jack Morris Pethen, aged 43.

Services for August

Loders.

6th. HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.15, Evensong 6.30.
13th. HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15.
20th. HC 8, Matins 11, Children 2.15, Evensong 6.30.
27th. HC 8, Matins 11, HC 11.45, Children 2.15.

Dottery

6th. HC 9.30.
13th. Evensong 6.30.
20th. Evensong 3.30.
27th. Evensong 3.30.