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Secretary, Duplex System: Mr. CHAS. PAIN, 71 Beaks Hill Road. KIN 1016.

Magazine Secretary and Advertisement Secretary: Miss N. E. PACKWOOD,
65 BLENHEIM ROAD, MOSELEY. SOU 1164.

Magazine Editor: Mr. JOSEPH KING, 77 Rednal Road. KIN 1608.

Verger and Parish Clerk: Mr. EDWARD BLAKE, The Saracen's Head, with whom Baptisms and Marriages can be arranged on Monday and Wednesday evenings, 6 p.m.—9 p.m. KIN 3289.

ORGANISATIONS

MOTHERS UNION	1st Monday in month, 2.45 p.m., at Church.
G.F.S	Mondays, 6.30 p.m. Candidates, Wednesdays, 5.45 p.m. Both held in Saracen's Head.
Boy Scouts	Cuss. Mondays, 6.30 p.m., Council School. Scours, Thursdays, 7.30 p.m., Saracen's Head.
Youth Fellowship	Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Saracen's Head.
BADMINTON CLUB	Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Council School.
ST. ANNE'S	
JUNIOR CLUB	Thursdays, 6.30 p.m., Church Hall.
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP	Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Church Hall.
JUNIOR BOYS' CLUB	Mondays, 6.30 p.m.
Mothers' Union	2nd Thursday in month, 2.45 p.m. in Church.
THE EPIPHANY:	
SENIOR YOUTH FELLOWSHIP	Fridays, 7 p.m.
JUNIOR YOUTH FELLOWSHIP	Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
Men's Club	Mondays, 7.30 p.m.
WOMEN'S WORKING PARTY	Thursdays, 2.30 p.m.
Mothers' Union	Third Thursday in month, 2.30 p.m.
The Church of the Epiphan	y organisations all meet in their Church Hall.

SERVICES

	Every Sunday: Holy Communion, 8 a.m.; Mattins, 11 a.m.; Children's Service and Infant Sunday School, 3 p.m.; Evensong, 6.30 p.m.; First and Third Sunday in month: Holy Communion, 12.15 p.m.; Thursdays: Holy Communion, 11 a.m.
ST. ANNE'S	Every Sunday: Junior Church, 11.15 a.m.; Sunday School, 2.45 p.m.; Evensong, 6.30 p.m. Holy Communion on 2nd Sunday in month at 9.30 a.m.
THE EPIPHANY	Every Sunday: Junior Church, 11.15 a.m.; Sunday School, 3 p.m.; Evensong, 6.30 p.m.; Holy Communion on 4th Sunday in month at 9.30 a.m.
DRUIDS LANE	Every Sunday: Children's Church, 11 a.m., in the Council School.
BAPTISMS	1st and 3rd Sunday at St. Nicolas, 3.50 p.m.; Forms obtained at Churching or from Parish Clerk on Monday and Wednesday evenings.
CHURCHINGS	Thursdays, 10.30 a.m., at St. Nicolas.
Marriages	Banns Forms issued and received Ly Parish Clerk.
VISITATION OF THE SICK	Please notify the Clergy of any sick person.
Copy for the January maga 77 Rednal Road, by 8th Deco	nzine must be sent to the Editor, Mr. J. King, ember. The magazine will appear on 21st Dec.

KALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

3—ADVENT SUNDAY.

10-SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

17—THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

20-EMBER DAY

21-S. THOMAS, A.M.

24—FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

25-CHRISTMAS DAY.

27-S. JOHN A.E.

28-INNOCENTS' DAY.

31-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.

COLLECTIONS

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VICAR'S LETTER

THE VICARAGE, KINGS NORTON,

BIRMINGHAM 30. December 1950.

My dear Friends,

By the time this letter reaches you our minds will be getting very full of Christmas. Already I hear mention of Father Christmas, and I have no doubt that people are beginning to give out dark hints of what it is they would most like to receive as a Christmas present, that is, if any one is thinking of giving them such a thing as a Christmas present.

The central picture to us as Christians at this time is that of a young mother with her first babe, a boy, in her arms and her husband by her side sharing in her love for the child. It is the true and only picture of Christmas; that of parents and children, brothers and sisters and friends gathering together in the family. At this time our hearts reach out to those dear to us who are far from us and they, wherever they may be in this world, will be thinking

back to us.

So that it is not at all unsuitable that I should, this month, be addressing myself particularly to the parents of our parish, on behalf of their children. When I was speaking to a meeting of the parents of those young people who were being confirmed this year, a verse from the Bible came into my head, "Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost who build it." With it came the thought, "Except the parents be interested in the souls of their children, their labour is but lost who teach them in Church or in Sunday School." Of course this is not entirely true, but for the great part it is, alas, all too true. The great disappointment and heartache of us who try to bring the youngsters up into the life of the Church is the knowledge that in many, many cases we are fighting against an atmosphere at home which destroys what we are endeavouring to build in their characters, a knowledge and love for God.

By this I am of course casting no reflection upon the moral atmosphere of the homes. In this generation a vast number of parents are sacrificing most of the little pleasures of life, trying to give their children the best start in life they can afford. There is a really serious endeavour to do our level best for our children, and although we sometimes get very "browned off" with the monotony of life without frills; we get a far deeper satisfaction and happiness in the struggle to help our children forward.

We are intensely interested in the care of their young bodies. Look at the health clinics full of mothers intently keen on producing the perfect physical child, with good health in every sense of the word. I should say that the child clinics are one of the greatest influences for doing away with child suffering

this country has ever known. Excellent too, and thank God for them.

We are also intensely interested in our children's minds, although too inclined, perhaps, to suspect their teachers who are so keen on educating them in new ways and means quite beyond our understanding. Parents-Teachers Societies flourish in our schools, and fathers and mothers after a heavy day's work will turn up to meetings with the instructors of their children, and show a deep and understanding interest in the whole matter of the mind-training of their children. There is an absolute dedication in the lives of many parents in this seriously expensive age, to give up all for the best training for their children's mind. So the body and mind are well cared for.

But so many parents seem to be unaware, or entirely to have forgotten, that third part of the trinity of their child, the soul or spirit. A healthy mind in a healthy body is the limit of their ideal. Yet they can look upon a world peopled and dominated, in some countries with the utmost tyranny, by folk whose minds and bodies are sound, but whose spirits are dark with evil. Still they seem not to regard the terrible lesson before their eyes. They say, "I do not force my children to go to church; I shall let them choose." But with

the orange juice and cod-liver oil, or with attendance at school, there is no question of the child's choosing. "Doctor says," or "your school inspector

says," and that is enough. "God says," has no weight at all.

Of course I know that we can actually see if neglected teeth are decaying, and we can see the uneducated look on a human face, but we cannot, unfortunately, see the weakened spirit. Yet this body about which we care so much, and about which it is indeed our duty to care, may at any time be empty of the spirit. We, or our children, will have gone from it, and it will be empty, and as soon as we quit it it will begin that return to the dust out of which the old story tells us it was created.

I have people tell me that because they were made to go to church or Sunday School as children, they are not going to force their children to go. Nonsense—they apply this idea to no other walk in life—or if they do they soon find their children growing into impertinent, selfish, arrogant, unbearable

little nuisances, who put themselves and everyone else to shame.

Still, even then, there is little good in making the children go to church or Sunday School, if the parents never go themselves. Parents want them healthy, parents want them educated, but most parents do not begin to want them to be religious or aware of God. In the majority of homes in this parish, the only occasion people ever dream of coming to church is for christenings, weddings and funerals—and for national days of prayer when bombing or war has frightened them into thinking a little beyond the present moment. Yet when these people do come into real contact with God they are quite capable of feeling those same feelings of reverence as the most genuine Christians. They could all be first-class Christians. But their parents have neglected to tell them of God, just as they in their turn are neglecting to tell their children of God. So this place is peopled with souls starved for God, unthinking of Him, living lives quite out of touch with Him. So is the world—no wonder it is in such a dismal mess.

Parents, especially those of you whose children come to church, sing in the choir, belong to any of our organisations, please back them up. If not, unless they are specially gifted spiritually they will slip into that Godless, un-God-caring existence which the majority of people live to-day. And after all, this is only the first chapter of a life that goes on beyond this world into eternity. If only we could feel that vou parents were encouraging your children at home, taking an interest in their lives as Christians, reading the Bible with them and saying your prayers with them, we should feel that there was a great chance for the avoiding of wars. Without this, whether we arm to make ourselves strong against our enemies, or disarm to make ourselves weak, we shall in the end come to war again. Wars will never cease through man's planning, but only through God in man. So help us to train your sons and daughters to be Christian men and women with God in them.

A special word for any of you who have young people in your homes who are confirmed. You allowed, and probably wanted them to be confirmed. Now that they are confirmed, encourage them all you can to keep to the intention they had, never to miss coming to Holy Communion at least once in the month. I always suggest the first Sunday as being the easiest to remember. And don't only see that they come, but come yourselves with

them if you possibly can.

So, then, we shall begin to re-build and set up once again the ideal Christian family in this parish. And the light which shines from our Christian homes will be the light which has shown through two thousand years from the time of Jesus of Nazareth, and the spirit of Christmas will be in our homes all through the year.

God bless you. My wife joins me in wishing you every happiness this Christmastide.

Yours sincerely.

OUR JOYS AND OUR SORROWS

These were made Children of God in Holv Baptism. May God preserve them. 15th October-Susan Sola, Jances Lynn Gilmour, Denise May Tones, John Christopher Tones, John Vernon Dodd, Alan Leslie Owen, Stephanie Davis, Linda Susan Richards, Linda Gwen Seaton, Jean Elaise Hawkins, Robert George Randle, Keith Roy Humphreys, Stephanie Jane Pritchard, William George Matthews, Christopher Coles Brown, Elizabeth Hill-Kowley, Malcolm Alan Cleland, 21st October-Stephen Broughton Lunt, John Richardson, 28th October-Christine Margaret MacMillan, Gertrude Lilian Billington, 29th October-Bryan William Davenport, Patricia Mary Davenport, Susan Margaret Davenport, Barrie James Davenport, John France Whitfield, 1st November—Kathleen Nanette Millard, 5th November-Michael William Adams, Abraham Roy Williams, Celia Mary Robson, Trevor Norman Drake, Christopher Leonard Thomas, Janet Ann Crockett, Kathleen Mary Price, Barbara Ann Hollier, Barbara Jean Eden.

These have been joined together in Christian Marriage. May God bless them. 28th October-Walter John Goodyer and Ruby Rosina Cheshire, Eric Moulson and Mary Baldwin.

These have been given Christian burial. May they rest in peace. 27th October-Norman Alfred Hall, aged 58 years; George Dyer, aged 71 years: John Henry Gore, aged 84 years.

THE MAGAZINE

With the close of 1950 a very interesting and active year has passed concerning the magazine of the Mother and Daughter churches of Kings Norton. Last January our Mother Church started off with eight keen new distributors, during the year another seven have joined us, and now with our last issue Miss Garnett is undertaking a new, unheard of road.

At Turves Green, under Mrs. Moore's leadership, the distributors have

accomplished a great feat on entirely new ground.

At West Heath and Longbridge Mrs. France and Miss Bowen with their distributors all full of zeal, have done much towards increasing the circulation which all told shows an increase of 625 magazines during the year.

In September we all enjoyed the outing to Ludlow in spite of the inclement

weather.

And now a word of thanks to our committee who, during the summer months, helped forward the work of giving our readers a better magazine. The new cover and the clearer print on ivory paper has been greatly appreciated.

All will join with me in thanking wholeheartedly our editor, Mr. Skinner, for his untiring efforts in producing with such success our magazine month by month. Each one of us wishes him God speed in his new work at St. Albans,

Rochdale; their gain is our loss.

With the printing of this issue the editorship has been taken up by Mr. Joseph King of 77 Rednal Road and I do ask all those who send in contributions to let our new Editor have their matter by the date stated in the magazine under the list of services.

As in former years I must ask all postal readers and all the distributors, to

let me have their subscriptions in during December.

We also owe great thanks to Mr. Blake who so very kindly acts as my Treasurer, all the year through, in recovering all monies left at the church.

To mark the achievements of 1950, the Vicar has invited our Editor, Committee. and all the Distributors of the Mother and Daughter Churches, together with either husband or friend to a Christmas Social on 12th January 1951 at 7 p.m. prompt. Kindly R.S.V.P. to me by 1st January.—N. E. PACKWOOD.

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PAROCHIALIA

THE CHOIR.

We are very short of men's voices in the choir, especially of bass voices. At the moment, if one or two members happen to be absent together, we sometimes have no one to sing the part. We are setting ourselves seriously to raising the standard of our singing. I should be very grateful if any gentleman in the congregation who can read a part would come forward and offer his services. We have only one full practice a week, on Friday nights at 7.30 p.m. Please come and join us if you are keen on helping forward the music of the church.

THE REREDOS AND CHANCEL.

I can never express fully enough my gratitude to Mr. Webb and Mr. Winstanley for the work they have done in removing the upper part of the reredos. It always gives me particular pleasure when I see the actual members of a church giving their ability and time to its care. Here at the altar especially I feel that it is a task of especial responsibility and honour. They have done it well and I believe that when we have just got used to the absence of the old structure, the full beauty of our ancient church, which is the original church of Kings Norton, will grow upon us. Before the Victorian reredos was inserted, there was another, which, from an old picture, seems to be a Georgian screen, with the commandments painted on it. So perhaps for the first time for two hundred years, the lovely old window sill of our East Window stands revealed in all its ancient beauty, and I think that we have done much to restore to our church one of the hallmarks of its antiquity.

THE JUNIOR SERVICE.

Now that Mr. Skinner has gone I have asked Mr. T. Mackintosh, one of our Lay Readers, to become superintendent of the Junior Service. He has had much experience in this work and was once superintendent at West Heath where he built a Sunday School with great success. The Mackintoshes are returning to Kings Norton and are going to live in Mr. Skinner's old house, 14 Beaks Hill Road. I am glad to welcome them back, and they are glad to be back. I shall take the Service myself the second Sunday in each month. Mr. David Pendleton has also given Mr. Skinner much assistance and I am hoping that he will continue to help us, and that Mrs. Surman will also continue to give us the valuable assistance she has given in the past.

I am sorry to say that, owing to a change of plans, Mr. Turner will not be

joining us after Christmas.

ALMSGIVING.

Now that the Duplex System is established, the Finance Committee have agreed that all alms extra to Duplex at Communion Services shall go to the Parish Fund, known colloquially as the P.F. This is a fund at my own disposal to administer privately as I think fit. Obviously some such fund is necessary, as people come to me for help at times, in a way that they could not go to any other than their Vicar. Also it enables me to settle other accounts for church matters without bothering the finance committee about trifles. It is in accord with the early mind of the church that Communion Alms should be set aside for helping the poor of the parish. At the moment the fund stands low, indeed it is in my debt, but I hope that under the new arrangement it will grow strong again.

WEST HEATH.

I am sorry to say that Mr. A. Beasley, my warden at West Heath, has sent me his resignation. I am truly grateful to him for all that he has done to help, especially since Mr. Cooksley's departure. For one Sunday, West Heath was without a Warden, and I believe I am indebted to Mr. Danbury for acting in that capacity. Now I am glad to tell you that Mr. A. J. Ward of 435 Redditch

Road has accepted my invitation to be my Warden. I was going to ask him to stand as people's Warden at the next Annual Meeting, but in view of Mr. Beasley's resignation I have invited him to help me sooner. Mr. Ward will be a stranger to many people at West Heath, but I am commending him to them as my representative among them. He will take up his office immediately.

THE FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY.

On Advent Sunday, S. Anne's will celebrate her fiftieth birthday. A Jubilee is always a great occasion and I have little doubt that many of the older inhabitants will be looking back on that day. I had hoped that I could have found someone to write me an historical article about it all, and tell us of that day, when Canon Durrand was Vicar here, and the Countess of Coventry laid the foundation stone. West Heath was then a small village, and West Heath House, recently demolished under the new town planning scheme must have been the centre of village life. With the rapid growth of the district, S. Anne's will soon be the only church for a vast number of people. Responsibility will fall greatly upon her for the spiritual well-being of a big area. Some day she will be the Parish Church of that area. I pray that God will bless and prosper her in the years ahead. I hope that as many members old and new as possible will be at the 9.30 a.m. Communion Service, which I shall celebrate specially for that day, and for the 6.30 p.m. Evensong. I have tried to get one of the dignataries of the Diocese to preach, but in these harassed, busy days it has proved impossible. I shall therefore preach myself; perhaps it is not an entirely inappropriate plan as it was to a former Vicar of Kings Norton that S. Anne's Church owes her origin.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

PARISH CHURCH: Holy Communion—Christmas Eve: 11.45 p.m.
Christmas Day: 8 a.m.

Mattins: 11 a.m., The Vicar.

S. ANNE'S: 9.30 a.m., Holy Communion, Rev. G. Cope. EPIPHANY: 9.30 a.m., Holy Communion, Rev. P. N. F. Young.

ADVENT SERVICES.

For the morning services of Advent we are to have some visiting preachers. The Archdeacon of Birmingham, our own Archdeacon. The Ven. S. Harvie Clark is coming to us the first Sunday. He is known to most of you, to many personally. On the second Sunday we have Dean Beck, the Dean of Worcester. Those of you who were present at the prize-giving at the Kings Norton Boys Grammar School, will remember his brilliant and inspired address. I invited him for that Sunday as it is the Sunday of our patron Saint, S. Nicolas, and as this parish once belonged to the Diocese of Worcester, I thought it would be excellent if we could get a visitor from that ancient diocese.

On the third Sunday, Mr. J. B. Leather, the well-known surgeon is coming. I remember his outstanding talk on the wireless in a series with some such title as "My Faith and my Work." We were so impressed that my wife actually wrote for a copy of it. At that time, in the war, it was impossible to obtain. I never dreamt then that some day I should meet that anonymous surgeon and that he would come and preach in the church where I worked. But so it is.

I had hoped for the fourth Sunday to get the Rector of Birmingham, the Rev. Bryan Green and for a time thought we should be fortunate. But in the end he could not manage it, so that for that Sunday I shall preach myself. On the evening of that Sunday, which is Christmas Eve, we shall have the

Nine Lessons and Carol Service in the place of Evensong.

For the Sunday evenings, in my absence on the first Sunday at the West Heath Jubilee Evensong, Rev. G. Cope will take Evensong here. On the second Sunday, when we shall have a procession in honour of our Patron Saint Nicolas (those concerned please note), and on the third Sunday I shall preach myself.

FAREWELL TO MR. AND MRS. SKINNER.

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Farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Skinner, to Ruth and Stephen. We will not talk of our sadness at their departure, our rather of our happiness and good wishes for their future. I am sure that wherever they go they will soon be well loved. For you and for us nere at the Vicarage too, I wish them God speed.

FAREWELL.

In the departure of Mrs. Goode and Miss Goode for their tour to New Zealand, Kings Norton church will lose an oid and faithful family. They have sold their house, and intend, upon their return to England to live elsewhere. I hope that they may have a happy and prosperous journey and find the home they desire upon their return. Their going breaks one more link with that past when Kings Norton was a village round the Green.

It has been decided by the Parochial Church Council that the memorial to Canon Dunn, my predecessor, should take the form of moving the side altar from where it is to the opposite side of the church, to re-arrange the pews in that corner and as far as possible to make that part of the church orderly and beautiful. It was a project dear to the heart of the late Vicar, and Mrs. Dunn is pleased with the idea. I should be glad if those who are interested in this would send donations to my Warden, Mr. J. R. Brown, at Lloyds Bank, The Green, who has consented to act as honorary treasurer to the fund. A memorial tablet to Canon Dunn will be placed near the scene of restoration.

SIDESMEN'S ROTA

Date 8 a.m.	11 a.m.	6.30 p.m.
Dec. 3—Brown, J. R.	Marshall, W. J.	Greenhill, B.
Hadley, D. J.	Izon, T.	Haycock, P.
	Swain, A.	Slough, A. J.
		Searle, R. H.
10—Slough, A. J.	Winstanley, H. W.	Allan, J. B.
Pepper, R. J.	Reynolds, W. H.	Porter, T. A.
repper, re. v.	Jenkins, I. B.	Clews, H. T.
	Clarke, R. H.	Davies, W. R.
17-Blake, C. E. J.	McCullough, Dr.	Pepper, R. J.
Greenhill, B.	Pritchett, W. B.	Mackintosh, J. A
Greenini, B.	Wood, N. A.	Walker, G. C.
	Webb, F.	Lloyd, F.
24-Searle, R. H.	Block, G. H.	Plevin, J.
Yates, R.	Blinkhorn, H. W.	Griffiths, F. H.
Tates, R.	Jones, N. V.	Clarke, R. A.
	Barradell, N.	Greenhill, B.
31—Davies, W. R.	Smith, A.	Haycock, P.
Mackintosh, T.	Floyd, H.	Slough, A. J.
Wackintosti, 1.	Marshall, W. J.	Searle, R. H.
	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	Porter, T. A.

HYMNS AND PSALMS FOR DECEMBER

			MORN	IING		EVENSONG						
Dec.	3	10	17	24	31	3	10	17	24	31		
Hymns Psalms	270 1	243 11	268 73	640 94	165 8	49 46	53 67	537 82	ons &	165 133		
Hymns	48	358	50	202	176	291 51	222 531	47 353	Lessons of Service	134 175 290		
	362 203	51 219	360 541	51 49	297 179	28	437 604	776	Nine	735		
CUDIST	PALA	DAY.	Hymns	59. 329	. 60. 62.				~			

ALTAR SERVERS AND ALTAR FLOWERS

	ALIM	BLICVERS AND AL	TIME I.F	JO W	LICO
		Servers	Crossbearer	F	iowers
Dec.	3—8.0 a.m.	R. Clarke and G. Parker		IVITS.	Matthews
	11.0 a.m.	R. Hughes	B. Greenhill		
	12.30 p.m.	J. Kennerley			
		D. Jarrett	J. Clews	MITS.	Upton
Dec.		D. Pendleton and M. Southgate			
	11.0 a.m.	B. Whitehouse	A. Batson		
	6.30 p.m.		J. Oseman	lvirs.	Bensley
Dec.		J. Hill and M. Flynn			
	11.0 a.m.		F. Porter		
	12.30 p.m.				
	6.30 p.m.		B. Jelfs	Mrs.	Ashford
Dec.		C. A. P. Rogers and M. Davies			
		J. Pownall	B. Greenhill		
		R. Hughes	J. Clews		
		G. R. Vaughan and P. Haycock			
Dec.		R. Yates and D. Worth			
-	11.0 a.m.		A. Batson	Mrs.	Collett White
Dec.	31—8.0 a.m.				
	11.0 a.m.	D. Jarrett	J. Oseman		
•		B. Whitehouse	F. Porter		
Jan.		R. Stringer and G. Parker		Mrs.	Pepper
		D. Jelfs	J. Jelfs		
	6.30 p.m.	M. Carroll	B. Greenhill		

PREACHERS FOR DECEMBER

PARISH CHURCH:

11.0 a.m.—3rd Dec., The Archdeacon of Birmingham; 10th Dec., The Dean of Worcester; 17th Dec., Mr. J. B. Leather; 24th Dec., The Vicar; 31st Dec., Rev. G. Cope.

6.30 p.m.—3rd Dec., Rev. G. Cope; 10th Dec., The Vicar; 17th Dec., The Vicar; 24th Dec., Nine Lessons and Carols; 31st Dec., Rev. G. Cope.

S. ANNE'S:

6.30 p.m.—3rd Dec., The Vicar; 10th Dec., Mr. B. T. Firkins; 17th Dec., Rev. P. N. F. Young; 24th Dec., Rev. G. Cope.

THE EPIPHANY:

6.30 p.m.—3rd Dec., Mr. I. Cooke; 10th Dec., Mr. R. Canning; 17th Dec., Rev. G. Cope; 24th Dec., Rev. P. N. F. Young.

LOOKING BACK. By An OLD CHORISTER—Continued

As time went on, the success of this new style institution created at Monyhull became known throughout the country, and other local Authorities copied the idea. Just before the 1914-18 war broke out, additional "Homes" were added to the adult section of the Colony, also a Nurses Home, to provide accommodation for the residential female nursing staff. A number of "Homes" were also planned to form a complete children's section, together with a school building, but only part of the buildings had been finished by the time war broke out in 1914. However, the War Office offered to complete the buildings and use them as a Military Hospital for the duration. I can remember seeing convoys of wounded soldiers, including many colonial men, arriving here almost daily. One section of this Hospital was used for nursing the soldiers suffering from "shell shock," and there were many severe cases brought in. A large Y.M.C.A. hut was erected in the grounds, and is still standing now, being used at present as a gymnasium for the children.

So far I have not mentioned the Assembly Hall which had been built at the bottom of the main drive. The main purpose of this building was to provide entertainment for the patients in various ways. There is an excellent stage in the hall and "outside" artistes, concert parties and choirs have given first-class entertainment to the patients here. In addition to these, many fine shows have been given by the Staff and higher grade patients, particularly the annual pantomimes produced by the Assistant Matron, Miss Poole. A brass band was also formed amongst the male nursing staff, and here again a few of the male patients were trained to play various instruments and qualified for membership in the band. Besides concert work, this band provides music on the recreation field on Sports Day and early on Christmas morning, as the "Waits," the band makes a complete tour of the Colony, playing carols and hymn tunes outside the various Homes. Cinema shows are also held in the Assembly Hall as well as mixed dances and parties. Even Badminton is played here. During the Christmas season this hall is tastefully decorated and becomes the centre for all the main parties given to the adults and children in turn, also the annual Staff Christmas Dinner takes place here, when over 200 members of the staff, together with the Committee, partake of a first rate meal.

At the rear of this Hall several workshops were built to train the male patients, suitable for work, in various trades such as carpentery, house-painting, tailoring, boot repairing, rug-making, upholstery, stool and brush making, metal working, etc. These men are trained by experts and some first-class work is turned out. Some of our parishioners who have recently purchased wool rugs, stools, etc., from the workshops have been surprised and delighted by the excellent workmanship put into these articles. During a visit to one of the "shops" a few days ago, I was shown some very fine samples of electric table lamps which are now being made here. With the exception of the lamp holder, all the parts are made by the men including the machine-turning of the stand and the plastic shades in various colours and designs. Some of the male adult patients work in the grounds as gardeners and others on the farms and some of the women are employed in domestic work on the Homes and in the Hall, etc. There has always been keen competition amongst the Homes at Christmas time in decorations, and in pre-war days when paper was plentiful much time and trouble was spent in this direction. Many of the patients became experts at artificial flower making and this, together with the artistic arrangements of streamers and garlands, produced amazing results.

(To be continued)

C. A. P. ROGERS.

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FATHER CHRISTMAS IN ATTENDANCE ALL DAY

OVERSEAS NEWS

A meeting organised by the Missionary Sub-Committee of Kings Norton Parish Church (S. Nicolas) took place on Friday, 27th October, at the Saracen's Head. Missionary work overseas was well represented by two speakers who kindly consented to address the meeting.

From 7.30 till 8 p.m. light retreshments were served. At 8 p.m. the meeting opened with the Vicar, the Rev. E. G. Ashford in the chair. The first speaker was the Rev. W. J. Moxon, Honorary Organising Secretary of the Jerusalem and East Mission and also Vicar of Waisgrave-on-Sowe, near Coventry. Mr. Moxon was in Haifa at the time when Palestine was divided between the Arabs and the Jews and ne gave a most interesting talk on the changes this division has brought about. He also pictured life among the Arabs and life in the Jewish section, stressing the unfortunate fact that the dividing line goes right through Jerusalem. The Bishop of Jerusalem has to have a permit to pass from his

palace to people in his diocese living on the other side.

The audience were very grateful to Mr. Moxon for his most instructive address. After time had been allowed for questions, The Rev. P. Lea, who has lately returned from South India and is a Church Missionary Society missionary, spoke of the changes in South India similar in nature to those which have taken place in Palestine. He told the audience how much the Church appreciated the fact that India had been granted self-government. Through this decision, a great change had come about in the attitude of the natives towords the British. Now, Mr. Lea said, he could go anywhere and be sure of a welcome. the C.M.S. are doing all they can to help the South Indian Church. Mr. Lea's address was most illuminating and greatly enjoyed by all present and he was most helpful in answering questions put forward afterwards.

We all as a Committee very much regret losing our Chairman, the Rev. J. V. Skinner, but wish him every success in his new parish. He will be much

in our thoughts.—E. G. PACKWOOD.

DAUGHTER CHURCHES

THE EPIPHANY

HOLY COMMUNION. There will be no celebration of Holy Communion this month.

FLOWER ROTA. 3rd Dec., Mrs. McCracken; 10th Dec., Mrs. Sanders; 17th Dec., Mrs. E. G. Smith; 24th Dec., Ladies Working Party; 31st Dec., Mrs. Cawell.

MOTHERS UNION. On 21st December an afternoon Service will be held, to be followed by a Christmas Tea Party for the children of the members.

SOCIALS. The first of this Season's Socials was held in Turves Green School on 21st October, and proved most successful. Members of the Senior Youth Fellowship performed a short play, which was skilfully produced by Miss Jean Mills, and the audience greatly enjoyed the game of guessing what had really happened behind "The Bathroom Door."

S. ANNE'S

JUNIOR CHURCH. At the periodical meeting of S. Anne's Junior Church held after service on Sunday, 5th November, Mr. Palk presiding, the following were elected to serve for the coming period: Wardens—Neville Fennell and Brian Gough; Secretary to the Council—Eileen Henshaw; Council—Carol Hill, Marina Bevan, Doreen Scott, John Cottrell, Allen Jones and Brian Lawrence; Server—John Cottrell. Sidesmen and Readers were also elected from the Council and the Choir.

WHIST DRIVE. A Whist Drive, kindly organised by Mr. H. Hemming in aid of Church expenses is being held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 25th November commencing at 7.30 p.m. Admission, 2/-, including refreshments.

ALTAR FLOWERS. 3rd Dec., Mrs. Ashford; 10th Dec., Mrs. Thompson; 17th Dec., Mrs. Sansome; 24th Dec., Mothers' Union; 31st Dec., Mr. Matthews.

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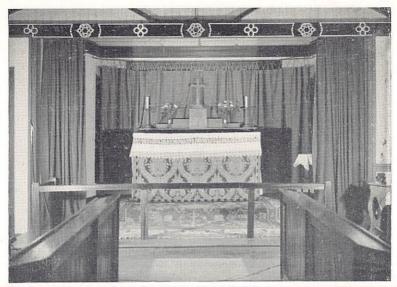
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