

# *The* CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

*January - December 1956*

*Volume 13 - Nos. 071 - 076*

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Goring United Reformed Church  
Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex.

No. 74  
Bi-Monthly

THE CHRONICLE  
Goring Congregational Church  
Shaftesbury Avenue

January and  
February 1956

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### THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Manse,  
December, 1955.

My Dear Friends,

Shakespeare in Hamlet sees Christmas as a time when the world is cleansed from evil things, when the spirit of wholesomeness and cleanliness takes complete command.

Some say that ever 'gainst that season comes  
Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated  
The bird of dawning singeth all night long,  
And then, they say, no spirit dare stir abroad,  
The nights are wholesome; then no planets strike,  
No fairy takes, nor witch hath power to charm,  
So hallowed and so gracious is the time.

As in so many other things Shakespeare shows not only a facility in the use of words that has hardly been equalled, but he shows that he was able to look into the place where truth grows and pluck it for us to admire. "The bird of dawning singeth all night long" he says. "Our God is full of mercy towards us, the light of heaven shall come to visit us -- to shine on those who lie in darkness---" said Zacharias when his son, John the Baptist, was born. The coming of light and the dispelling of darkness -- that is what the coming of Jesus has meant to countless millions of the world's people.

The calendar reminds us that we are in mid-winter -- the days of longest darkness are with us, but already the light is beginning to lengthen again. It is hardly noticeable -- winter's grip is not quickly loosened but it is fighting a losing battle. "Winter time is hoping time" writes F.W. Boreham. When Christ comes to a man's darkness His light is bound to win the victory. It is senseless and even cruel to suggest that this will always happen suddenly, but the conquest is as inevitable as the coming spring.

Writing those words I remembered the heading of a book review that appeared in the British Weekly a month or so ago. The heading was "Spiritual Phenobarbitone". As you may guess the review was not a favourable one. "---'s readers use religion to make them sleep, to ignore their troubles, to ward off neurotic dreads". The coming of Jesus was in no sense to drug us into a land of dreams where there was no effort, no tears, but it was a restorative enabling men to emerge from the no-man's land between waking and sleeping, out of darkness of no-hope into the light of no-defeat.

May you all have a real Christmas when the light of Jesus shines clearly for you and may the days of 1956 bring with them the light of confidence and trust.

Yours very sincerely,

C. C. FRANKS.

We fancy that God can only manage His world by big battalions abroad, when all the while He is doing it by beautiful babies at home. When a wrong wants righting, or a

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truth wants preaching, or a continent wants opening, God sends a baby into the world to do it. That is why, long, long ago, a Babe was born in Bethlehem.

Frank W. Boreham.

#### WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On 17th February, the first Friday in Lent, the women of all the churches in Worthing (of which there are 40) are called to unite with women of this and 133 other countries through the universal medium of prayer.

"One Flock --- One Shepherd" is the theme of this year's order of service which has been prepared by Indian American leaders in Arizona, for use at the hundreds of united gatherings.

During the last war we made much of our National Days of Prayer, and without doubt much was wrought by the sincere prayers on those occasions. Surely, in these days when the world is still struggling to achieve true peace, where love and trust are fighting to overcome cynicism and suspicion, we who ally ourselves to the cause of Christ, if we believe in prayer at all, should grasp this opportunity for providing the channel whereby God's power may flow through us into the world.

Will you note the date in your diaries and resolve to be present at St George's Parish Church, East Worthing at 3 p.m. on that day?

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NOVEMBER 16TH. 1955.
A DAY WE SHALL NOT FORGET

The marvellous result obtained on this memorable day, when more than £200 in excess of the sum required for the balance of the cost of the New Hall was received, was due to the grand co-operation of all the helpers under the direction of the two secretaries, and to the splendid support given by those who patronised the "Autumn Tints Bazaar".

The Church Hall was filled to capacity for the opening ceremony when the Chairman Mr S.W. Woolven, in his speech gave an admirable resume of the events which led up to the erection of the new building, and the financial position to date, which showed that the sum of £460 was required to meet the final cost of the New Hall.

We were grateful to the Mayor (Councillor D.W. Morecraft, J.P.) for coming to open our Bazaar in view of his many public engagements, and were also delighted that the Mayoress (who was presented with a bouquet by Helen Franks) was able to accompany him.

In his opening remarks the Mayor referred to his interest in the early days when the parent Church (Shelley Road, Worthing) first planned a Church in our district. He also alluded to the time when the services were held in the Elm Grove School and to the founding of the Church in June 1947.

We, as a Church, appreciated the presence and support given by many outside friends, including a number who had joined with us on our coach outings.

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#### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We have reached the half way mark in our Winter session, and look forward to the second half, which commences on Tuesday, 3rd January 1956.

We have arranged two guest evenings (on 31st Jan. and 14th Feb.) in the hope that many who are unable to attend our afternoon meetings will give us the pleasure of their company at 7 o'clock, when refreshments will be provided free of charge, before the meeting, which commences at 7.30 p.m.

Our thanks to our President, Rev. C.C. Franks, to Mr A.E. Pearn and to Mr J. Johnson

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for their most interesting talks, which were much enjoyed and appreciated by us all. We are indebted to the Ladies' Guild for their kindness in inviting us to share with them the wonderful lecture by Mr Clifton James, on his experiences as "Monty's Double". It was quite evident that everyone thoroughly enjoyed hearing of his thrilling adventures, which he related in such a masterly manner.

We are pleased to report that our numbers are gradually increasing, but we would like to extend once again a very warm welcome to any who have not yet joined our Fellowship.

Our grateful thanks are due to all the ladies who have provided us with such wonderful teas, which are always much enjoyed and appreciated by us all. T.G.W.

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#### CHURCH NOTES.

NEW MEMBERS. At the Church Meeting held on 1st December 1955 the following friends were admitted to membership: Miss E.L. Watts of 5 Ardingly Drive, Goring by Sea, and Mr & Mrs G. Parsons of 24 Melbourne Rd., Goring by Sea. Mr & Mrs Parsons come by transfer from Littlehampton Congregational Church. To these three friends we extend on behalf of the Fellowship a very warm welcome, trusting that they will find with us not only happy comradeship but the means of satisfying their spiritual needs and so strengthening the witness for Jesus Christ in our neighbourhood.

MR E. HODDER. At the Church Meeting referred to above it was resolved to comply with the request of Mr Hodder that his membership should be transferred to the Congregational Church at Victoria Avenue, Harrogate. While we regret the necessity for this transfer we do appreciate that Mr Hodder, now being permanently settled in Harrogate wishes to be in membership with the Church at which he attends, and we do wish him happiness in the fellowship in which he now joins. He knows however that he will be much missed by all.

THE WOMEN'S GUILD. The Working Party section of the Women's Guild concluded their meetings for the Autumn Session on Tuesday, 6th December, with a social afternoon, and Christmas tea and music. The new session will commence on Tuesday, 17th January, with the Annual Business Meeting. A very warm welcome is given to all ladies of the Church to join the Working Party. These meetings are held on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m. in the Church Hall. Tea is served about 4 p.m. M.H.

THE CHURCH CARETAKER. It was unfortunate that Mr & Mrs Marshall were unable to secure suitable accommodation in the Worthing area and that they were obliged to return to Yorkshire. We are grateful to Mr Marshall for his willing service to the Church during his time with us. Through the good offices of Mr Grew a successor to Mr Marshall is now undertaking these duties and we give a warm welcome to Mr Porter, who already seems to have settled down among us and to be quite at home.

THOSE HANDSOME AND USEFUL SCREENS. If you have not yet seen them, make a point of doing so. They will be found in the Children's Hall and in the Extension. They are the work of Mr Hughes and his son Brian, assisted by some members of the Boys' Club. Those of us who find difficulty in even knocking a nail in straight can but gaze in admiration at what has been accomplished. The Church is deeply indebted to Mr Hughes and his helpers for such a fine addition to the furnishings of the Church.

MISSIONARY NOTES. In previous Winters we have studied the L.M.S. at work in various countries; now we seek to assess "Man's Need", to examine the ways in which it is being met, and to ask what is the specific task of the Church, and therefore of the Missionary Society, in all this. The handbook is Leonard Hurst's "Hungry Men", 5/-.

A number of us are meeting four or five times in the New Year on alternate Thursdays starting on 5th January, to study and discuss this book. Mr Franks will lead us. We



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shall be very pleased if others will join us. The meetings will be held in the Small Hall at 6 p.m.

The collections at the January Communion Services will as usual be for the benefit of the Widows' & Orphans' Fund of the London Missionary Society. Please respond generously. L.M.S.

MODE OF ELECTION OF DEACONS. At the Special Church Meeting held on 1st December 1955 a number of alterations were made in the rules governing the election of deacons. In future deacons will serve for a term of four years, after which they will not be eligible for re-election for one year. The number of deacons will be 12 with in addition the Secretary and Treasurer, who will be deacons ex-officio. The Secretary and Treasurer will be elected annually at the Annual Church Meeting, and will not be subject to the one year ineligibility rule applying to other deacons. The rule which limited the number of women deacons to four has been rescinded, and there is now no difference as between women and men in this respect.

As a result of these alterations and of vacancies on the diaconate it will be necessary to elect four new deacons early in 1956. This important matter might well be receiving the earnest consideration of all our members, with a view to making nominations in due course.

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COPY OF LETTER FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE B.B.C.

At the monthly meeting of members of Goring Congregational Church held on 3rd November 1955 concern was expressed at the frequency with which references to intoxicating drink are introduced into B.B.C. programmes. These references it was contended appear to be not only unnecessary; but in the majority of cases undesirable. The effect on young people was considered to be particularly deplorable.

It was noted that according to a survey carried out by the Friends' Temperance Union of 1135 references to drink in the periods under review, 2 only could be considered favourable to the Temperance point of view.

Surprise was expressed that steps to counter this emphasis on intoxicants were not apparently being taken by the B.B.C. Religious Department in their broadcasts.

I have been asked to write you on this matter, the seriousness of which has been emphasised by the recent report of the Economic Research Council on the further increase in drunkenness among young people under the age of 21. May I request you to be good enough to enlighten me as to the policy of the B.B.C. with regard to these references to drink, and to inform me if the B.B.C. Religious Department is perfectly free to advocate total abstinence and to give the facts regarding the nature of alcohol, and the dangers run by those who commence to drink it.

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COPY OF LETTER FROM HEAD OF SECRETARIAT B.B.C. TO CHURCH SECRETARY.

I am asked by the Chairman to thank you for your letter of 4th November.

In view of your reference to the survey of the Friends' Temperance Union, you may be interested to know that this was the subject of a full discussion at the time between the representatives of the Union and the Director-General of the B.B.C. I attach an extract from an agreed statement which was issued for publication after the meeting. This gives the answer to your question as to what the B.B.C.'s policy is. I think you will see also that we attach importance to the point of view represented by the Union, though we recognise also of course that there are other and conflicting points of view which are widely held. You will appreciate the fact I am sure that in a matter of this kind the B.B.C. has no opinion of its own and this applies equally to the Religious Department as part of the B.B.C. On the other hand we would feel it our duty to represent in programmes any substantial body of fact that might be published on this question. Talks and news items have been broadcast accordingly from time to time.

(The underlining is ours. ED.)

EXTRACT FROM AGREED STATEMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE

Sir Ian Jacob explained that the B.B.C. could not advocate teetotal doctrines, neither was it prepared to advertise drink. Its policy was to keep references to drink within reasonable limits and to be watchful on questions of taste. Sir Ian explained that the guidance that was issued to the B.B.C.'s staff in this matter was that they should allow a reasonable amount of jokes and gags about drink but that they should be careful not to over do them or allow them in the wrong setting.

The deputation agreed that this policy on the part of the B.B.C. was acceptable and that it would be unreasonable to suggest that references to drink in a humorous setting should be altogether eliminated. They expressed concern about the interpretation of the B.B.C.'s ruling in practice and asked if the B.B.C. did not agree that their survey had suggested that there were too many incidental or humorous references to drink in B.B.C. programmes. Sir Ian said he felt that, in relation to the B.B.C.'s large output of programmes, the number of references which the Union felt to be of an undesirable character was not excessive. There had been no change of policy or directive in this matter for many years past. Sir Ian assured the deputation that their point would continue to be carefully watched.

EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

THE AUTUMN TINTS BAZAAR. It was a remarkable achievement for the target of £460 set for the Bazaar not only to be reached, but to be exceeded by £200. On page 2 reference is made by a contributor to this fact and we would like to add our congratulations and thanks to all concerned, to all the workers who under the guidance of the joint secretaries, Mrs Nodes and Mr Grew, did so nobly, and to those who loosened their purse strings in order to ensure that the stalls were practically cleared of goods. We heard a rumour that more than one stall holder that day, round about 6.30 p.m. was heard to whisper, "Oh, my poor feet". After due consideration we are prepared to concede that this rumour was probably capable of substantiation.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT. Mr Malcolm Rutt, in a letter in our last issue, presented a well-reasoned case in favour of the abolition of capital punishment. No contributor has written stating the opposing view. Does this we wonder signify that our readers are all abolitionists, or, dare we say it, that the non-abolitionists do not feel happy to cross swords with so redoubtable a campaigner as Mr Rutt? Anyway, we are still open to receive letters on this subject.

WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF THE B.B.C. RELIGIOUS DEPARTMENT? We publish correspondence which has taken place between the Church Secretary and the B.B.C. as a result of a resolution passed at a recent Church Meeting. We find difficulty in appreciating an impartiality in which out of 1135 items 2 only favour one side. Many do feel that the B.B.C. is one of the drink trade's most valuable means of advertising their products. What an outcry there would have been if out of those 1135 references to drink 1133 had been favourable to the Temperance point of view!

The most serious feature of this correspondence however is that which we have underlined. It can only be described as scandalous that on a matter of this kind, bearing in mind the appalling harm for which drink is directly responsible, the Religious Department is said to have no opinion of its own. What have our Congregational representatives in the B.B.C. Religious Dept. to say about this? It is inconceivable that they have concurred in such a state of affairs; is it then the case that they are forbidden to give any total abstinence teaching in their broadcasts? Perhaps we can have information on this matter from Memorial Hall.

CONGREGATIONALISM AND EPISCOPACY. Writing in the "Christian World" the minister of one of the largest of our Sussex Congregational Churches states in the course of an article, "Not but what I think we shall all have to accept Episcopacy one day as the gift the Anglicans wish to bring to the United Church." We

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wonder how many Congregationalists would agree with this contention. There is no doubt that even a fairly short time ago such a declaration by a Congregational minister would have seemed unthinkable.

Might we suggest that the implications of our Congregationalism be considered and discussed by Church members when a suitable opportunity occurs. Do we for instance still consider the Church Meeting fundamental to Congregationalism? We have made the mighty claim that the Holy Spirit works through this meeting, but if this were really believed would not the attendance at Church Meetings throughout the denomination be much greater than is at present the case?

#### ON MEETING THE WORLD'S GREATEST MAN.

It was a great privilege to spend a short time with Dr Albert Schweitzer when he was in London recently. My wife and I saw him at the now famous restaurant at St James' Park (nearly opposite Livingstone House) owned by Mr Emil Nettler, who is Dr Schweitzer's greatest personal friend in this country. The place was besieged by people wishing to catch a glimpse of the great man, and by journalists and others hoping for an interview.

The Doctor was looking remarkably fit for his 80 years, and shows no signs of falling down on his avowed intention to live to be 100! He had the previous day received the Order of Merit from the Queen, and had called on the Prime Minister at Downing St., The many richly deserved honours heaped on him in recent years would have been sufficient to turn the brain of most people, but he is quite unaffected by it all, and remains his modest, kindly self, with the humility of true greatness.

As this is being written he is about to return once again to Lambarene to continue the work of healing begun by Mme Schweitzer and himself in 1913. And so, a few weeks after being received by the Queen at Buckingham Palace he will be back again amid the heat and the swamps, attending to African natives suffering from all kinds of hideous diseases.

Perhaps all that need be said is, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these---" A.E.P.

-----ooOoo-----

#### COLLECTIONS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1955

SCHEDULES FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1955																			
Envelopes.					Loose Offerings.					Envelopes					Loose Offerings.				
		£	s	d			£	s	d			£	s	d			£	s	d
October	2	8	1	0		8	14	0		November	6	10	8	4		8	3	11	
	9	11	3	10		9	14	9			13	12	16	0		9	7	6	
	16	10	19	9		9	5	1			20	9	3	10		9	18	4	
	23	12	7	4		8	6	3			27	9	6	6		11	7	6	
	30	10	12	0		9	17	6											
		53	3	11		45	17	7				41	14	8		38	17	3	

TOTAL FOR TWO MONTHS: £179.13.5.

Girls' Life Brigade: £ 7.10. 0.

The Autumn Tints Bazaar realised a net sum of £60. After clearing the balance outstanding on the Extension to the Children's Hall and two additional items - a concrete path on the North side, and further folding chairs - it is hoped with the inclusion of the amount received from the refund of tax under Deeds of Covenant, to reduce the mortgage on the Church Manse by £250 this year. The amount still owing on the Manse will then be £1150. G.L.N.

When Mr Nodes announced the result of the Bazaar on the evening of 16th November he also informed us that over the course of the past five years some £4,000 had been raised by the Church in addition to covering current expenditure. This is indeed a remarkable effort for a Church the size of Goring and is a matter for profound thanks. We feel too that a special word of appreciation is due to Mr Nodes for so ably directing the finances of the Church during the last few years. ED.



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March and  
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Minister: Rev. C. C. Franks,  
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### THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Manse.

February, 1956.

My dear Friends,

It has been said that "the love of books is a love which requires neither justification, apology, nor defence". I confess to that love, and many of you have helped me to indulge in it by lending or recommending books to me. In one such, recently, this struck my attention, "--- the knowledge of God is not a theological blueprint which we may scrutinise when in the mood, and file for reference ----. A god whom we could discuss in a leisurely way, with our feet up, would not be the living God with whom we have to do". In another book, "Thy Kingdom Come" by Rom Landau, this appears, "Christ's teaching cannot become more than a theological or metaphysical theory unless we discover its truth and its power in our own lives. Otherwise Christ remains, in the words of my unbelieving friend, "a private possession of the clergy and the church-goers, and of no particular interest to the rest of the world".

Approaching Easter again there will be encouragement and persuasion to think about the message of the Cross and the Open Tomb. These two subjects are adequate for endless writing and preaching and thought, but what I want us to ask ourselves in this time of Lent is how far these "subjects" have "power in our own lives". Christianity has been, and still is, often interpreted as a fixed law, whereas it is in fact, for you and me here and now, a moral venture. And the place where you will see that most clearly is at Calvary. It is because that venture has not been made that "Christ remains of no particular interest to the rest of the world".

"God has made us agents of the reconciliation" says Paul to the Corinthians. Is this not a day where the world is crying out for us to exercise that ministry? The reconciliation of man with man and of men with God --- this is our business. Do you feel the power of the sacrificing love of the Cross and the transfusion of the spirit of the Living Christ in you that you are ready to share in its work? Industrial strife: the clash of "haves" against "have-nots": the plight of the refugees: the world's starving millions: the growing pressure of governments against individuals: the colour bar: our treatment of wrong doers. God knows we need the love and selflessness of Christ to begin to remove such wrongs. Yet is it not still true that "with God all things are possible".

Make your Lenten discipline one of deepening thought and growing submission and fuller receiving of power.

Yours very sincerely,  
C. C. FRANKS.



### AN INSPIRATION FOR MEDICAL MISSIONS WEEK

On January 26th. Dr Galbraith of Worthing Hospital gave what our minister truly described as "a fascinating and challenging address". She took us into her living portrait gallery. We met a Chinese orphan, trained in an American school, giving service later to repay the help she had received in scholarships. "Miriam" later reluctantly refused a medical appointment in a city hospital to undertake work in the country. Driven from a small town by the onrush of war, she and two Bible women lived on a boat, giving medical aid to refugees and enduring much hardship till a return to the town was possible.

Two Chinese "boys" helped Dr. Galbraith in a hospital within 18 miles of the war area. All other staff had left for safe districts. With no one has the Doctor ever had deeper spiritual contact than with these men.

The scene changes to the remote mountainous district of Yunnan. Here villages are scattered and are reached by perilous tracks, sometimes hardly visible. In every village the centre of Christian life is the hut of the Chinese pastor. To this spot the sick are brought for treatment during the day. Later there is a gathering round the fire for prayers. The Doctor goes to sleep to the sound of singing. Far into the night the pastor, responsible for twelve churches, holds consultations with visitors from other villages in need of help and advice.

A journey with pack horses and sometimes on foot, battling through a snow storm, brings the Doctor to a village where there is a severe epidemic of measles. She has the joy of seeing the baby of the pastor making progress towards complete recovery and not attacked by the blindness she dreaded. In one village in the prophet's room above the church a little child has had a successful foot operation. The Doctor, with her work barely finished, has an urgent summons to the church. There she is presented with a beautiful hand-woven and embroidered skirt, such as all Chinese women must make for themselves before marriage. Other lovely pieces of embroidery are tributes of grateful patients. A visit to an Hostile tribe in a most inaccessible spot might have ended in tragedy but a woman recognised the Doctor as having cured her daughter some time before. So tension was eased and the way opened for service.

So in the face of many difficulties the work of healing continued until the door closed in 1951.

What of the Church? With the devotion and spiritual zeal of Chinese pastors such as these we have met in the Doctor's portrait gallery the Church lives and the Church grows.

H. GREY.

### ONE WHO EXPLORED IN ADVANCE OF OTHERS!

(Edgar Thomas Wiseman)

The dictionary tells us that a pioneer is an early settler who opens up, or explores in advance of others. That in rather a hard matter-of-fact manner aptly describes the late Mr E. T. Wiseman of 5 Rosebery Avenue, who quietly passed away on 29th December last at the age of 88.

Many of our present members and friends know little of what our Church Fellowship owed to the efforts of this friend in the early days of our Elm Grove School Hall services, and before he and his family left us for Bexhill in 1944, the connection thus broken being happily resumed some years later on their return to this town.

It, therefore, seems fitting to remind ourselves of what was written in the third issue of our Church Chronicle dated October 1944. The minister's letter of that time contained the following note by the Rev. F.J.H. Humphrey:- "Mr Wiseman literally lived for our work at Elm Grove, and it was he who gave body and actuality to the idea of a Congregational Church at Goring. Securing the Council Schools for our services he was generally the first to come, and the last to go. To him, and the loyal helpers he gathered around him the cause at Goring will ever be indebted."

But possibly Mr Wiseman's greatest achievement was the fact that he had the courage to speak to Mr Humphrey one day when the latter was working in his garden, and suggest that he might care to consider becoming our temporary minister. What really happened on that momentous day remains a mystery, but within a week or so the ex-President of the Baptist Union, and former minister of large Churches at Leytonstone, Norwich and Ealing, with fine Christian humility consented to serve our small and unimportant fellowship, and this was the beginning of great days for us.

So when our former Church Secretary returned to Worthing in 1953 it was to find a strongly established Church, with buildings of its own, and a full time ministry. It is not given to many men in their later years so to keep their zest for life that they can still meet the challenge for creative living. But our old friend did this in a marked way during the four years from 1940 onwards, and built even better than he realised at the time.

To Mrs Wiseman and family we offer our loving sympathy in their great loss. But for some of us --- what a happy memory!

C.H.C.

#### THE LATE MR S. J. KNOTT

We are pleased to give below an appreciation of our old friend sent to us by Mrs Doyle, who writes:-

"As one who knew Mr Knott for some years previous to coming to Worthing I have been asked to write a few lines in appreciation of our friend.

At Streatham Congregational Church under the ministry of the late Rev. Charter Piggott, Mr and Mrs Knott, my husband and myself were all members of the choir together. Mr Knott was always willing to help, whenever help was needed, in the various activities of the Church, of which he was a deacon. Among his other activities he was secretary of the Streatham Boy Scouts. At Goring, where until recently he was treasurer of the Free Will Offering Fund, he will always be remembered for his cheerful smile.

He was an outdoor man, being a keen golfer and also a member of the Marine Gardens Bowling Club, where he much enjoyed playing.

After coming to Worthing he gave, over a period of several years, his time, thoughts and energy in working for the local Blind Society."

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr Editor,

Some months ago Mr Franks gave a series of interesting biographical talks on Heroes of the Faith at the Thursday evening devotional meetings.

I have recently read Horold Begbie's biography of William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army. How this one time pawnbroker's assistant became the friend of kings and emperors and beloved by millions of ordinary folk the world over is indeed inspiring reading. May I commend to the readers of the "Chronicle" this work, which is obtainable from our Public Library.

W. G. HITE.

#### THE TRAGEDY OF THE EUROPEAN DISPLACED PERSON

Some time ago you were introduced in the "Chronicle" to Mr Abramenko, the very clever Ukrainian engineer whose name was sent to me in connection with the Adoption Scheme for Displaced Persons. Adoption means the offer of friendship through correspondence with one of the displaced persons for whom (in this case) return to his own country would mean death. This man has employment, but his means are not sufficient for buying books. Study, when the day's work is done, is his release from fits of depression and bitter disappointment. A writer understands something of his problem when, writing

of refugees, he says, "The hurt to their souls from being cast out from the body of humanity must be deep and keen."

Help for refugees was suggested as an outlet of service for the Women's Guild. At the last meeting Mrs Franks spoke of Mr Abramenko's desire to read Prof. Eddington's "Fundamentals of Science", and suggested that all members had a share in this adoption scheme and so might like to contribute to the cost of this book. The response was unanimous. This is a real expression of friendship and understanding which Mr Abramenko will not fail to appreciate.

H. GREY.

#### WOMEN'S GUILD

The Working Party will be holding their annual Jumble Sale on Friday 23rd. March next in the Children's Hall. If friends have any goods for this sale will they kindly get in contact with Mrs W. G. Hite as soon as possible.

The Working Party will also be holding an "AT HOME" in the Church Hall on Tuesday, 10th April and a cordial invitation is extended to all ladies and gentlemen of the Church to join with them for tea on that occasion.

M.H.

#### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Since the last edition of the Church "Chronicle" we have enjoyed some most interesting meetings, and have had the pleasure of welcoming some new members. Unfortunately the weather for our guest night was not all we could have desired. It was an exceptionally cold night, accompanied by Arctic winds, and we were delighted that eighteen of our friends braved the elements, and we hope they enjoyed the Social Evening, and felt repaid for giving up an evening by the fireside on such a very wintry night. We are still hoping for more new members and anyone who is able to join us on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 3 o'clock will receive a very warm welcome.

T.G.W.

#### CHURCH NOTES

NEW MEMBERS: Somce our last issue seven friends have been admitted to church membership and to the privileges and responsibilities which this entails. The Congregational system of church government, in which so much emphasis is placed on the autonomy of the local church, and in which the Church Meeting is central to all its activities, gives the individual member a greater share in the conduct of the affairs of the church than is seen in most other dencominations or branches of the Christian Church. It may not be out of place to refer to this fundamental conception of Congregationalism in giving a very warm welcome to the following new members. We trust that they will find help and encouragement in this closer fellowship and that for the Church their coming into membership may be an added source of strength. Mrs Wilkins of 45, Bolsover Road, who joins on Profession of Faith; Miss I. Devey of 34 Coniston Road, who comes by transfer from Yardley Congregational Church, Yardley, Birmingham; Mr and Mrs Deayton of "Sylvester", Aldsworth Avenue, Goring by transfer from Harrow Congregational Church; Mr A. Craig of 66 Nutley Crescent, Goring by transfer from St. George's Presbyterian Church of England, Palmers Green; Miss Frid of "Sunnybrae", Coniston Road by transfer from Bookham Baptist Church; Mrs Sceales by transfer from Letchworth Free Church.

CHURCH SOCIAL: On a number of occasions in previous years a social has been held early in the New Year to give old and new members an opportunity to get to know one another. This year the social is to be held on Wednesday, 14th March, and a warm invitation is extended to all friends of the Church to be present that evening. It is a little late for the New Year, but it is hoped that climatic conditions may by mid-March be more favourable than could reasonably be expected in January.



The date fixed will also fall at the time of Mr Franks' second anniversary with us and is therefore particularly suitable for such an occasion. At the social, which will commence at 7 p.m. a programme of musical items will be included in the evening's entertainment. Please make a note of the date.

THE CHURCH ACCOUNTS: Do you look at them or do you take them for granted? If the latter, shame on you! After all they are the responsibility of us all, and they should be studied and the opportunity taken at Church Meeting to ask questions if all is not quite clear to you. The accounts for 1955 are attached to this issue and represent many hours of work by our worthy Treasurer, Mr G. L. Nodes, to whom our sincere thanks are due.

93 NOT OUT! Mrs Handford celebrated her 93rd Birthday on 8th February and we are sure all our readers will wish to join in the many congratulations she has received on this memorable occasion. Until quite recently Mrs Handford was present at morning and evening services, and at Church Meeting and the mid-week service, all with a regularity which would have been exemplary in anyone several decades younger. It is a great privilege for our Church that it has as a member such a fine witness for her religious convictions as Mrs Handford has always been. We are indeed proud of her.

SNOW, ICE AND CHURCH ATTENDANCE: Attendances at Church services have suffered during the recent spell of bitter weather and we anticipate that the Sunday offerings will reflect the smaller congregations. This of course serves to emphasise the advantages to the Church of the Free Will Offering system of giving, whereby a regular sum per week is promised whether or not the member is able to be present at the Sunday services. May we commend this system to any who do not at present support the finances of the Church by this method. Mr Hughes will be pleased to give particulars to any enquirer and to supply the envelopes for the receipt of the weekly contributions.

AND INCIDENTALLY WHAT ABOUT ATTENDANCE AT CHURCH MEETING --- BUSINESS AND DEVOTIONAL?

At a recent Thursday evening Devotional Church Meeting Mr Franks spoke on the place of the Church Meeting in Congregationalism, and a discussion followed. Congregationalists make the tremendous claim that when the members gather in Church Meeting, seeking in humility and penitence the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that guidance will be given. Do we really believe this? If we did we venture to suggest that no Congregationalist would absent him or her self from Church Meeting unless unavoidably prevented from attending, or unless he or she is satisfied that it is in accordance with the will of God that they should be absent. The Church Meeting is what we make it; it is what YOU make it! What a responsibility we assume when we become Church members. And yet we believe that it is the experience of nearly every Congregational Church that attendance at Church Meeting is seldom as high as 30 per cent of the membership. Does this not constitute a challenge to the 70 per cent?

SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCE: WILL YOU HELP? The increase in the number of scholars attending both morning and afternoon school has of necessity been accompanied by a rise in expenditure, to the extent that at the moment the funds are practically exhausted. An appeal is made for donations from members of the Church and congregation for this important work, which in many churches is principally sustained by such donations. Any help you can give will be much appreciated, and sums, small or large, may be handed to the treasurer of the Sunday School, Mr A. E. Pearn, or to any of the Church officers.

"FOR ALL THE SAINTS -----" Tributes are paid in this issue by Mrs Doyle to the late Mr S. J. Knott and by Mr Cornwall to the late Mr E. T. Wiseman. It is with regret that we have also to record the death in January last of Mrs H. L. K. Howes, late of 12 Elgin Road. We offer on behalf of the Church fellowship



the sincere sympathy of us all to the relatives of these former members in the loss they have sustained. It is at times such as these that the great Christian hope of life beyond the grave and a re-uniting with departed loved ones brings light to the shadows which must, for a time at any rate, be present.

### EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

ACTION IN AFRICA: Events in South Africa must inevitably be a cause of concern to Christian people when governmental action along such (as it seems to us) un-Christian lines is being taken. That the situation is difficult in a land with a "white" minority is admitted, but the steps now being pursued by the South African Government would seem merely to be providing fuel for an eventual "flare-up". There is a feeling among some Christian people in this country that the World Council of Churches and the British Council of Churches have "soft-pedalled" on this matter with a view to avoiding the possible alienation of the Dutch Reformed Church, and the withdrawal of that church from the World Council if the latter body made a vigorous protest in the matter of Apartheid. Our sympathies are with those who feel that the World Council should not be deterred by any such considerations and that its actions should not be dictated by expediency.

A UNITED FREE CHURCH: Dr Leslie Weatherhead has made a plea for an examination by Baptists, Congregationalists and Methodists of the obstacles to the union of all three in a United Free Church. That there are obstacles in the way of such a joining together has been shown by the failure of the talks on the proposed Presbyterian-Congregational union. The Congregational and Baptist forms of church government are almost identical, but the Methodists' connexionalism is of course, quite different; can the two systems be integrated in a mutually acceptable manner? If they could the way to union would appear to be open. At any rate we trust the three denominations will explore the possibilities at an early date.

A RETROGRADE STEP: The Assembly Hall at Worthing now has a new bar and has been granted a full licence for the sale of intoxicants. This matter is one which must be deplored by Christian people, who see in any extension of the facilities for drinking the dangers which such a step may involve. It is good that on behalf of the Free Church Council objection was raised to the granting of the licence. Is it permissible to enquire what are the views on this matter of the members of the Worthing Corporation who are Free Churchmen?

### COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER 1955 AND JANUARY 1956

		<u>Envelopes.</u>		<u>Loose Offerings</u>				<u>Envelopes.</u>		<u>Loose Offerings</u>		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Dec.	4:	9	18	6	10	13	4	Jan	1:	7	6	6
	11:	7	7	3	6	8	0		8:	16	12	3
	18:	10	19	0	13	1	6		15:	11	8	0
	25:	9	15	0	14	8	3		22:	9	10	6
									29:	10	6	6
		<hr/>		<hr/>				<hr/>		<hr/>		
		37	19	9	44	11	1			55	3	9
		<hr/>		<hr/>				<hr/>		<hr/>		

TOTAL FOR TWO MONTHS: £181 17 3.  
 British and Foreign Bible Society: £ 7 15 6  
 L.M.S. Widows and Orphans Fund; £15 9 3  
 L.M.S.- Action for Africa £18 8 0

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1955

## RECEIPTS:

1954	CHURCH FUNDS:	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	OFFERTORIES -						
£400	LOOSE COLLECTIONS	441	3	0			
460	ENVELOPES	524	3	2	965	6	2
19	SUNDY DONATIONS		6	17	0		
19	SUNDY LETTINGS		41	3	0		
26	INTEREST ON LOAN TO SUSSEX UNION	24	8	0			
15	DONATIONS - CHRONICLE FUND		14	15	5		
15	ADVERTISEMENTS & DONATIONS - HANDBOOK		16	16	6		

1069 6 1

## CHURCH MANSE

	RAINBOW BAZAAR	100	0	0			
	AUTUMN TINTS BAZ.	168	0	6			
67	REFUND OF TAX ON DEEDS OF COVENANT	76	5	10	344	6	4
687	BALANCE IN HAND 1.1.55.		551	19	1		

1,965 11 6

MANSE MORTGAGES 31/12/55 - £1,150.

## COMMUNION FUND:

41	BALANCE 1/1/55	47	8	0			
52	OFFERTORIES	58	19	0			
-	DONATIONS	1	2	6			

107 9 6

## SPECIAL PURPOSES

88	LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY	106	19	4			
	SUSSEX UNION - PASTORS' & WIDOWS	8	13	0			
65	HOME MISSIONS	41	7	0	60	0	0
9	BRITISH & FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY	7	15	6			
3	COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY	3	3	0			
19	SUNDAY SCHOOL	19	19	7			
-	GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE	7	10	0			
20	NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME & ORPHANAGE	8	17	0			

214 4 5

## CHURCH GARDEN FUND:

	BALANCE 1/1/55	4	15	10			
	SUNDY DONATIONS	3	14	6			

8 10 4

## PAYMENTS:

1954		£	s.	d.
445	MINISTERIAL SALARY, SUPPLIES & EXPENSES	493	15	0
20	MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	20	0	0
69	MANSE EXPENSES	49	6	5
63	ORGANIST, ORGAN & PIANO EXP.	77	6	0
82	CARETAKER & INSURANCE	102	10	4
136	ELECTRICITY, GAS & WATER	133	4	3
18	MAINTENANCE OF PROPERTY	13	10	9
64	MORTGAGE INTEREST ON MANSE	63	7	6
11	SUBSCRIPTIONS	12	18	0
7	SUNDY INSURANCES	10	3	8
16	RATES - CHILDREN'S HALL	16	7	3
-	SCREENS - CHILDREN'S HALL	12	6	6
27	COST OF DUPLICATION - CHURCH CHRONICLE	29	13	3
16	COST OF CHURCH HANDBOOK	20	7	6
11	ADVERTISING, ETC.	8	6	3
54	SUNDRIES	38	1	6

1101 4 2

## CHURCH MANSE - REDEMPTION

	OF MORTGAGE SUSSEX CON- GREGATIONAL UNION	350	0	0
	BALANCE IN HAND 31.12.55	514	7	4

1,965 11 6

28	SUNDY GIFTS TO SICK & NEEDY	37	0	0
8	VARIOUS DONATIONS	9	9	0
10	SUNDRIES	7	19	4
47	BALANCE IN HAND 31/12/55	53	1	2

107 9 6

	LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY	106	19	4
	SUSSEX CONGREGATIONAL UNION	60	0	0
	BRITISH & FOREIGN BIBLE SOC.	7	15	6
	COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY	3	3	0
	SUNDAY SCHOOL	19	19	7
	5TH WORTHING COY. GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE	5	0	0
	GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE (INC.)	2	10	0
	NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME & ORPHANAGE	8	17	0

214 4 5

	COST OF MOWING LAWNS	4	7	0
	PURCHASE OF PLANTS	15	9	
	SUNDY DISBURSEMENTS	1	4	0
	BALANCE IN HAND 31/12/55	2	3	7

8 10 4

BAZAAR FUNDS:

	£	s.	d.
RAINBOW BAZAAR BALANCE 1/1/55	174	8	2
AUTUMN TINTS BAZAAR - PROCEEDS	660	0	0
	<u>834</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>

ORGAN FUND:

BALANCE 1/1/55	437	16	9
RAINBOW BAZAAR	73	10	11
INTEREST - SUSSEX CONGREGATIONAL UNION	3	12	4
	<u>515</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

CHILDREN'S HALL EXTENSION FUND:

BALANCE 1/1/55	795	1	4
SUNDRY DONATIONS	18	11	0
BOXES	53	13	5
CHURCH BOX	3	1	0
YOUNG ADULTS SOCIAL GROUP	9	12	0
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP	1	10	0
AUTUMN TINTS BAZAAR	492	16	9
	<u>1,374</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>

CHURCH BUILDING FUND:

BALANCE 1/1/55	988	4	2
INTEREST AT 4½ PER CENT YEAR TO 31/12/55	44	9	3
	<u>1,032</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>

EAST HAM CHILDREN'S OUTING:

DONATIONS (PER MR H. HORSFALL)	23	7	11
" (HANDLED TO CHURCH TREAS.)	6	5	1
	<u>29</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>

WOMEN'S GUILD WORKING PARTY:

BALANCE 1/1/55	46	9	7
SUBSCRIPTIONS DONATIONS ETC.	20	18	0
GOODS SOLD	47	3	9
JUMBLE SALE	48	8	11
P.O. BANK INTEREST		19	11
PENNY BOX COLLECTIONS	3	11	0
(DETAILS SUPPLIED BY MISS M. N. STEVENSON)	<u>167</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

BALANCE 1/1/55	30	15	7
SUNDAY COLLECTIONS	36	11	7
ANNIVERSARY "	17	7	7
SUNDRY RECEIPTS, DONATIONS ETC.	43	18	2
(DETAILS SUPPLIED BY MR A. E. PEARN)	<u>128</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>

	£	s.	d.
ORGAN FUND	73	10	11
REDEMPTION OF MANSE MORTGAGE	268	0	6
CHILDREN'S HALL EXTENSION FUND	492	16	9
	<u>834</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>

COST OF NEW ORGAN

515	0	0
<u>515</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

COST OF BUILDING & ARCHITECT

GAS INSTALLATION	34	12	1
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION	26	11	9
CONCRETE PATH - NORTH SIDE	14	5	0
FOLDING CHAIRS	18	9	4

1,374 5 6

BALANCE IN HANDS OF SUSSEX CONGREGATIONAL UNION - 31/12/55

1,032	13	5
<u>1,032</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>

EXPENSES (PER MR H. HORSFALL)  
" (PER MISS A.M. THOMAS)  
PAID TO SUNDAY SCHOOL FUNDS

14	19	6
8	8	5
6	5	1
<u>29</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>

MATERIALS

MATERIALS	73	9	0
WOOL	22	2	3
SUNDRIES	4	19	10
DONATIONS TO BRITISH SAILORS	2	2	0
HANDLED TO WORKING PARTY STALLS	21	1	0
BALANCE IN HAND 31/12/55	43	17	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	167	11	11

OUTING & PARTY EXPENSES

FURNISHING & DECORATIONS	17	7	7
DONATIONS & SUNDRY EXPENSES	53	11	5
BALANCE IN HAND 31/12/55	13	3	6
	<u>128</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>

WE HAVE EXAMINED THE VOUCHERS AND ACCOUNTS  
AND COMPARED THEM WITH THE SUMMARIES SUBMITTED  
AND FOUND THEM TO BE CORRECT.

(SIGNED) T. G. WILLOUGHBY  
S. F. GREW.

6/2/56.

No. 73  
Bi-Monthly.

THE CHRONICLE  
Goring Congregational Church  
Shaftesbury Avenue

May and  
June 1956

Minister: Rev. C. C. Franks,  
19 Brook Barn Way, West Worthing. (Tel: Goring 41319)

CHURCH SECRETARY:	:	CHURCH TREASURER:	:	EDITOR OF CHRONICLE:
Mr A. E. Harrison,	:	Mr G. L. Nodes,	:	Mr A. E. Pearn,
Haverstock,	:	5 Parklands Avenue,	:	Furzedown,
Parklands Avenue,	:	West Worthing.	:	Somerset Road,
West Worthing.	:	(Tel: Goring 42731)	:	Ferring.
(Tel: Goring 41034)	:		:	(Tel: Goring 43304)

#### THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Manse,  
April, 1956.

My Dear Friends,

We have called a special meeting of the Church and Congregation for April 26th. to consider the question of accommodation. It is not for me to anticipate what decision will be taken; that lies with you. Neither can I now attempt to advise or suggest what I think should be done. By the time this "Chronicle" is in your hands the meeting will have reached its decision. Whatever we decide that God is calling us to do we may be sure that He will never let us have any rest until we are, at least, attempting it.

That is true, of course, not only of our life in the Church but of every aspect of a Christian's being. Israel Zangwill, in "The Cockpit", makes the Queen scornfully comment on the New Testament phrase "the peace of God". "As I lie sleepless I think of the eternal insomnia of God." And when her attendant utters a shocked protest she goes on: "I only quote the Bible. God neither slumbers nor sleeps. Ah, it is the pain of God, not His peace, that passeth understanding".

At this Eastertide we have been thinking again of the "agony through which the children of men have caused their Father to pass age after age." May God keep us from forgetting that His heart is torn by every word, act, thought of ours which reveals that we are refusing the persistent challenge that He presents to our faith. We cannot have the peace without doing the will of God, and the sense of inner warring and disruption is the sign that whether we know it or not His will has not been made ours. Yet there is something to be glad about in this lack of peace. Mark Rutherford expresses it better than I can, "I think the sense of our wants, when withal we have a restlessness and a sort of spiritual impatience under them, and can make a din, because we want Him Whom our soul loveth, is that which maketh an open door to Christ: and when we think we are going backward, because we feel deadness, we are going forward; for the more sense the more life, and no sense argueth no life."

To go back to where I began; I have certain restlessness within me. I do really believe that God is saying, "Build My Church". I don't know how it is to be done -- that is not the first consideration. I wanted to let you know how I felt in this matter. God forbid that I should lay my restlessness at His door when it is of my own creation. But I cannot escape the belief that He is doing it.

Yours very sincerely,

C. C. FRANKS.



MISSIONARY STUDY GROUP

This group has been meeting since the beginning of the year to study Leonard Hurst's book, "Hungry Men", which is a study of Man's Need. Miss Ebbutt has submitted the following digest of the findings of the group:

ARE YOU AWARE ?

- a. That of the World's population of 2,500,000,000 two-thirds are living on conditions of acute hunger, squalor and misery.
- b. That more than half the population of the World lives in the Middle East, Asia, Africa and South America, and that 4/5ths of this number live in the condition of perpetual hunger.
- c. That the people referred to in "b" live on 9% of the World's income.
- d. That the 19 richest countries, including our own, and the U.S.A. enjoy over 60% of the World's income, and have only 16% of the World's population.
- e. That the average income per head per year in 1949 was:  
     In U.S.A. 1453 American Dollars      In U.K. 773 American dollars  
                     In India 57 American dollars (Approx £20.)
- f. That the poor countries not only get insufficient food, but the food supplies are nutritionally unbalanced.

All hungry human beings are the children of God, and so our brothers and sisters. It is part of the inescapable world mission of the Church to feed and befriend Christ's needy brothers.

"Come ye blessed of my Father ---  
 For I was an hungered and ye gave me meat.  
 Depart from me ye cursed ---  
 For I was an hungered and ye gave me no meat."

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MISSIONARY NOTES

The London Missionary Society are holding a number of conferences as usual this year and particulars of two of these are given below. Miss Stevenson will be pleased to supply any further information which may be required. It is hoped that some of our members will be able to avail themselves of this opportunity to attend these interesting gatherings.

WHITSUN. Three Counties (Kent, Surrey & Sussex) Conference at Lake House, Bexhill-on-Sea, May 18/21. Theme "Understanding India". Speakers - Rev. H.C. and Mrs Lefever. Cost £3 (including 7/6d Registration Fee).

SUMMER. Swanwick August 11/17. Theme "The Church under the Cross". Cost £5.

-----

DEEDS OF COVENANT

When perusing the "Chronicle" for March/April did you notice an item in the annual Church accounts "Refund of tax on Deeds of Covenant" £76.5.10. ?

This represents tax refunded to the Church on account of Deeds of Covenant taken out by members of the Church and Congregation.

If you pay Income Tax at the rate of 8/6d in the £. on any portion of your income it is possible for you to augment your gifts to the Church by taking out a Deed of Covenant promising to pay the Church a certain sum each year, however small, for the period of seven years. This enables the Church to make a claim from the Inland Revenue Authorities for the repayment of tax to the extent of approximately 14/9d for every £1 covenanted.

The amount covenanted may be paid weekly through the Free Will Offering envelopes spread over the year. Just by signing your name on the appropriate form, and without any further trouble, you can thus add to your gifts to the Church. Please

- 3 -

do not hesitate because you think the amount you covenant for may be small. Also please note that in the event of death the Covenant becomes void and there is no claim against an estate.

During the temporary absence in the summer of Mr H. Horsfall our Church Treasurer, Mr G.L. Nodes will be pleased to give you full details of the scheme. H. H.

#### CHURCH MEETING RECORDS ITS APPRECIATION OF MISS M. HANDFORD

At a recent Church Meeting members heard with very real regret of the resignation of Miss Handford from the Diaconate, this being due to heavy domestic responsibilities which she was carrying. Cordial appreciation of the great service she had rendered to the Church was expressed and this was recorded in the minutes in the following form:-

"Miss M. Handford, having retired from the Diaconate, the Church desires to place on record its most sincere and very grateful appreciation of her loyal and highly efficient co-operation in our Church life, especially in the early years. Corresponding Secretary from September 1944 she ably supported the late Mr A.J. Rule, and on his passing in February 1949 she immediately took over full control at a most critical time, just as the new Church Hall was about to be opened. Despite home claims Miss Handford never faltered, and gave valuable help and direction as regards procedure in the formation of a young Congregational Church, and planned all details concerning the opening ceremony, and the welcoming of special visitors. Although resigning as Church Secretary in July 1952 further excellent help followed as a member of the Diaconate. Our Church owes much to the outstanding services thus given so willingly."

With the above appreciation go to Miss Handford our very best wishes for a rapid restoration to health and strength following her recent trying illness. We look forward to seeing her back among us before long.

#### CHURCH NOTES

SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCE: Following the appeal made in the last issue of "The Chronicle" donations amounting to £13.3.0. have been received and grateful thanks are extended for this help to the work of the Sunday School. A generous grant has also been made from the General Church Funds so that altogether the position is much more healthy than was the case a month or two ago. This is not to say of course that further donations will not still be very welcome.

THE BUILDING FUND: The Church accounts, which no doubt all good Church members have studied carefully, show that at the end of 1955 there was a balance of some £1032 on this fund, the object of which is to provide the necessary finance needed to build the new Church on the vacant plot adjoining the present Church buildings. In our last issue we recorded the death of Mrs E.L.K. Howes, one of our members. A few weeks ago the solicitors dealing with the estate of our late member wrote to say that under Mrs Howes' will a sum of £200 was left to the Church "to assist in the building of a new Church in Barrington Road, Goring". We would like to record our appreciation of the kind thought of Mrs Howes; the £200 is to be added to the Building Fund, raising it to £1232.

New Church finance will be discussed at the Special Church Meeting fixed for 26th April, when the views of members will no doubt be freely expressed and the magnitude of the task facing the Church in raising the sum required to complete and furnish a new Church will have to be faced.

WOMEN'S GUILD: The Working Party would like to thank all who helped to make their Jumble Sale such a success. The sum of £48.7.6. realised was a record. The gentlemen were particularly helpful. Our annual "At Home" was held on Tuesday 10th April and we rejoiced to welcome over 100 members and friends on this occasion. An open invitation is extended to all ladies to join us at our Tuesday afternoon meetings.

M. H.

**AFTERNOON SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Miss Monica Wiseman writes: "Our numbers are growing steadily and another teacher is urgently need. For instance, Mr Franks has a class of 16 boys which makes class teaching very difficult. Our pianist Mrs Shannon, will be moving to Lancing in August; music plays an important part in the children's service, so even if you do not play the piano yourself perhaps you have a friend who does! We would be most grateful to anyone who could take on this essential work".

It is gratifying to hear of the increase in the number of scholars attending the afternoon school, and we hope the required help will quickly be forthcoming.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:** Mr Willoughby, the energetic secretary of the Fellowship, sends the following reminder: "I should like to remind members that the last meeting of the Men's Fellowship is on 8th May at 3 p.m. and this will take the form of a business meeting when we shall elect officers and committee for the coming year, which commences in October next. We trust that all members will make a special effort to be present at this meeting. Since last going to press we have had many more happy and enjoyable meetings, including an exceptionally interesting talk by the Padre of the Port of London Authority, to which the ladies kindly invited us. Thank you ladies.

We must also once again express our very sincere thanks to the Ladies' Working Party for their kindness in providing us with afternoon tea, which has become a very enjoyable feature of our Tuesday afternoon meetings."

**THE CHURCH GARDEN:** We all appreciate this garden and feel grateful to the men of our number who put in much time and expend much energy in order to keep it nice. There are however expenses attached to this, including a weekly charge throughout the Summer for the cutting of the grass. There is a "Garden Fund" to which donations can be given, and this fund is at the moment hovering on the brink of insolvency. Unlike to Government we do not feel disposed to run a lottery to raise funds but ask for just a few members to give small amounts to this fund. Mr Nodes will be pleased to receive any such gifts, and we think he is anticipating shillings and half crowns rather than £5 notes. We feel sure you will not disappoint him.

**MEMBERSHIP ITEMS:** At the Church Meeting held on 29th March last, Mr R. Parker of 20 Mill Road, Worthing was admitted to membership by transfer from South Woodford Congregational Church. We give a very warm welcome to Mr Parker and we understand that we shall soon also have the pleasure of welcoming Mrs Parker into the fellowship of the Church.

At the same meeting it was resolved with regret to transfer the membership of Mrs H. Gray and of her son Mr I. Gray to Wallington Congregational Church.

**VISITING MINISTERS:** During May and June there will be visiting ministers on four Sundays and we are sure that they will receive a warm welcome from all of us. We give details of these engagements: 13th May-Sunday School Anniversary, Rev. D. Avis of Sittingbourne; 27th-Rev. T. Perry of Hassocks Congregational Church; 10th June-Church Anniversary, Rev. J. Huxtable, M.A., Principal of New College; 24th June-Rev. A.B.C. Headlam of Worthing.

#### THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Church and Congregation was held on Thursday, 29th Mar. 1956. Reports were given by representatives of 26 Organisations & Societies connected with the life and work of the Church. The underlying theme of these reports was of steady progress in all the activities of the Church during 1955.

In his statement Mr G.L. Nodes, Church Treasurer, reported an increase of £105 in the weekly offertories compared with the previous year. In spite of heavy expenses the financial position of the Church was on a sound footing. The Secretary's report



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showed that membership stood at 179 on 31st December 1955. Allowing for deletions during the year this figure shows an increase of 13 over 1954 and 44 over 1953. Numerically Goring is now the 5th largest fellowship in the Sussex Congregational Union. There is cause for thankfulness to God that the 2nd youngest Church in the Union should have grown so rapidly during the past 8 years since the Church was founded. W.G.H.

As will be seen from the above report membership stood at 179 on 31st December 1955. The hope has been expressed that this figure will reach 200 by the end of this year. Many of our friends are regular and faithful worshippers but their names are not on the Church Roll. We extend to these friends the invitation to join us and so be privileged to share in the fuller life and work of the Church. W.G.H.

#### YOUNG ADULTS SOCIAL GROUP

On the 17th Feb. Mrs Corteen, chairman of the Worthing branch of the United Nations Association gave a talk to the Young Adults Group, and extended an invitation to members to attend a U.N.A. meeting in the Court Room on the 23rd Feb. Three representatives of the Group went to this meeting, at which the speaker was Miss Mary Trevelyan, Adviser to Overseas students at London University. She spoke on "Human Rights". Miss Trevelyan recounted many of her experiences, but the one which most impressed our members referred to one overseas student who had been helped by Miss Trevelyan and is now the Prime Minister of the Gold Coast. We were told of the work which U.N.A. is doing in different countries, including nursing, helping the homeless, encouraging trade and raising money in this country to provide help overseas.

U.N.A. has been doing excellent work for the past ten years, but the need is great and there is much to be done if the standard of life in the backward lands is to be raised to anything approximating that which we enjoy here.

As a result of Mrs Corteen's visit the Y.A.S.G. decided to participate in the UNESCO gift voucher scheme. Our members are selling UNESCO stamps at 6d each. When we have collected £3, we shall receive three gift tokens which we will send direct to a primary school in Korea. They will buy pencils, exercise books, etc., for a class of 60 children. Please help us all you can. Remember a little help is worth a heap of pity!

#### L.M.S. WEEK END

There was a small gathering of the L.M.S. Auxiliary at Littlehampton on Saturday 14th April to meet the two missionary deputations. A short introductory service was very suitably conducted by Rev. H.J. Rowse of Sompting. Miss Mummery, who had spent 30 yrs. in India, spoke of her experience there and of the help given to the people's physical and spiritual needs.

Miss Beare, who served in Bengal, spoke of the difficulties which were being encountered there, but also gave details of how when one door seemed shut to the missionaries another opened and the work went forward.

Miss Mummery conducted the morning service at Goring on Sunday, 15th April, and her visit was an inspiration. Both in the children's address and in the sermon she spoke from the fund of her long experience of conditions in India; she told of the successes and of the apparent failures, but throughout it was a record of progress in the face of many obstacles and difficulties, and of the amazing power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to change the lives and outlooks of those who are touched by it. As one Hindu man whose life was so changed said, "I did not know such wonderful things were in your Bible."

Conditions for our missionaries in India are not likely to get easier and they are in need of our prayers, our help and our sympathy. H.G.



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"No ray of sunlight is ever lost, but the green which it wakes into existence needs time to sprout, and it is not always granted to the sower to live to see the harvest. All work that is worth anything is done in faith." Albert Schweitzer.

#### CHRISTCHURCH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY

At morning service on Palm Sunday, 25th Mar. the story of how the new Congregational Fellowship at Pound Hill came to be formed was graphically told by Mrs Craig, one of the prime movers in this evangelistic effort. It was a thrilling story and all present must have felt that here was a cause which richly deserved our generous support. When we think of our own lovely Church Hall and the two additional smaller halls, and compare this with the only accommodation at present available to the Pound Hill folk - the use for a few hours a week of the small community hut - we can but feel how much greater is their need than ours.

Pound Hill is one of the self contained neighbourhoods into which Crawley New Town is divided and will have a population of 6/7000 before very long. Mrs Craig told us that 90% of the people settling there are under 40 yrs. of age, and that many of them have never had any church allegiance at all. The opportunities for the new Church are tremendous, but the pressing need is for a building of their own, and that quickly if these opportunities are to be grasped.

From the Sussex Congregational Union has gone out a call to all the Congregational Churches in Sussex to help Pound Hill so that building may if possible be commenced in June. Mr Gilmour has been appointed by our own Church as treasurer of our appeal fund and as we "go to press" we learn that so far he has received the sum of £112. He told us at Church Meeting that the target which he hoped would be reached was £300.

If you have not already given to this most deserving cause will you please give the appeal your earnest consideration?

#### THE NONCONFORMIST CONSCIENCE

In the course of the debate in the House of Commons on a bill which proposes alterations in the laws relating to gambling Mr J.J. Astor, Conservative member for the Sutton, Plymouth division, made a statement to the effect that most Nonconformists did the football pools. He also suggested that there was nowadays no need to worry about the possible loss of the votes of Free Church folk on such issues as gambling. He evidently took the view that the Nonconformist Conscience was no longer a power in the land. Was he correctly assessing the situation? It is to be feared that he was.

It is a sad thought and one which should shake us to the core, but we wonder at how many Congregational Church Meetings the matter will even be mentioned. Many Churches can now raise much more enthusiasm about say the arrangements for a Sale of Work, or the question as to whether the choir should be robed than about such a matter as this. Are we not lacking in the Free Churches today such men as John Clifford? Can we imagine him remaining silent in face of the present insidious growth of gambling in this country? What too would he have had to say about this new proposal to attempt to stimulate saving by means of a Government lottery - for such it is despite what the Chancellor of the Exchequer maintains. It seems a pretty poor outlook when the British Government has to stoop to such means to preserve its credit. Government lotteries were abolished in this country in 1824 because of the harm they were causing. Has the lesson of 1824 to be learned all over again after further damage has been caused. A.E.P.

#### COLLECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1956

	<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Offerings</u>		<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Offerings.</u>
Feb. 5:	£3.14. 0.	£8. 8. 1.	Mar. 4:	£12. 1. 4.	£11.10. 6.
12:	2.14. 0.	4. 2. 9.	11:	8.18. 0	8.11. 3.
19:	13. 1. 4.	9. 2. 9.	18:	10. 3. 9.	10.13. 8.
26:	9. 6. 6.	7.15. 3.	25:	13. 4. 7.	10. 4. 4.
	<u>33.15.10.</u>	<u>29. 8.10</u>		<u>44. 7. 8.</u>	<u>40.19. 9.</u>
Total for Two Months: £48.12. 1.			L.M.S. Medical Missions: £40.19. 4.		

No. 74  
Bi-Monthly.

THE CHRONICLE  
Goring Congregational Church  
Shaftesbury Avenue.

July and  
August 1956.

Minister: Rev. C. C. Franks,  
19 Brook Barn Way, West Worthing. (Tel: Goring 41319)

CHURCH SECRETARY:  
Mr B. C. Hoskins,  
40 Robson Road,  
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(Tel: Goring 43586)

CHURCH TREASURER:  
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(Tel: Goring 42731)

EDITOR OF CHRONICLE:  
Mr A. E. Pearn,  
Furzedown,  
Somerset Road,  
Ferring.  
(Tel: Goring 43304)

#### THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Manse,  
June, 1956.

My dear Friends,

#### WE GO OUT.

On a blustery evening early in June the visiting team was taken out by cars to its various starting points. Their objective was to visit the homes, there are about 350 of them, in the new area to the north-east of the bridge and to carry with them a message of welcome in the name of the Church and its Lord. An hour or so later they were coming back to the Church to report. This first excursion was intentionally a brief one to enable every member of the team to know something of what "visitation evangelism" means, and then to share experiences that would be helpful in later and longer sessions.

What did they find? Of course there were some rebuffs. It is remarkable how some folk feel able and justified in their criticism of the Church who have not been inside one for twenty years! But almost everywhere there was a willingness to hear what the visitors had to say, and appreciation expressed that they had come. "You do miss this when you come into a new district"; "Will your minister come and explain to me what Congregationalism means?" "Have you anything in the week that my boy could come to?" "My daughters have been very lonely here; can you help them?" "I have wanted to come but I felt too shy", "Will your Sunday School receive my little girl?" These are just a few of the comments and questions that were made.

Every one who has gone out is convinced that it is well worth while. No one expects that suddenly the congregation and Sunday School will undergo a great expansion; that is not the first consideration, but we do know that there are people on our doorstep who want the Church and the gifts of Christ which it is there to share.

There is still a great deal to be done. Return visits have to be made where people were out, "follow-ups" will be needed in many instances, help which was requested will have to be taken. A beginning has been made and the work will go on. It is planned that visitation should be a normal and regular activity of the Church so that every home in the district where our witness is needed will be fully aware that we are ready to make it and that the "Church by the Bridge" is for them.

If you cannot share in the actual visiting you can pray for those who knock at doors and for those that open them. Your prayers are being answered already. Keep praying.

Yours very sincerely,  
C. C. FRANKS.

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PREPARATION FOR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

In the last copy of "The Chronicle" our Assistant Secretary, Mr W.G.Hite, extended an invitation to those who worship with us, but are not full members of the Church, to consider taking this step. Commencing in September the minister will be leading a course of preparation for those who want to know more of the significance of membership of a Congregational Church. Those who wish to share in the course are invited to give their names either to the minister or to one of the deacons. It will not be assumed that if you give your name that you will inevitably decide that you desire to become a member. There may be others who feel that a "refresher" in Congregationalism would be helpful to them and they too will be welcome to join.

WOMEN'S GUILD FELLOWSHIP

The annual meeting of the Fellowship was held on Tuesday, May 1st., the President, Mrs C.C.Franks being in the chair.

Mrs Horsfall presented the report on the activities of the Fellowship during the session and Miss Thomas gave the financial report.

Mrs Horsfall resigned the position of Secretary and Miss A.E.Ebbutt was elected in her place.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

President: Mrs C.C.Franks, Vice President: Mrs J.R.Bridger,  
Treasurer: Miss A.M.Thomas, Pianist: Mrs P.S.West. Missionary Committee  
Representative: Mrs James. Refugee Committee Representative: Miss A.E.Ebbutt  
Committee: Mrs P.Atkinson, Miss Grey, Miss D.Parslow.

The Fellowship meetings will be suspended during the summer and will be resumed at a date to be announced later. E.H.

THE CHURCH SECRETARY

It was with very real regret that members heard a month or two ago that Mr A.E. Harrison felt compelled for health reasons to relinquish the office of Church Secretary, which he had held since early in 1954. We could not but feel that he had all the qualifications needed for the ideal secretary -- a balanced judgment, wide experience of Congregationalism in all its phases, a genial and kindly manner, the ability to be firm when firmness was required, but withal a readiness to appreciate other people's points of view. The post of Church Secretary is never an easy one but Mr Harrison by his many and varied gifts gave an added distinction to the position.

At the Church Meeting, held on 31st May, appreciation of him, regrets of his decision to resign and hopes for his improving health were expressed by Mr Cornwall, Mr Nodes and Mr Hite, and were warmly endorsed by all present.

At the same meeting Mr B.C.Hoskins was appointed secretary in Mr Harrison's place and he was cordially welcomed by minister and members.

We would like to extend to Mr Hoskins the sincere good wishes of us all as he assumes this office, with the hope that he may be richly blessed in this work. He may be assured of the support of the whole membership in all he is called upon to undertake in the days that lie ahead.

CHRISTCHURCH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY.

Mr Gilmour reports progress as follows:

The appeal made by Mrs Craig at our morning service on Palm Sunday has met with a very generous response. I have received the sum of £160. from some 70 subscribers and on behalf of our County Union and the young church at Pound Hill I should like to express our warm appreciation of this giving. I cannot reconfess to know any of your personal affairs but I feel certain that in many cases this represents sacrificial giving, and shows a real interest in what is being done in this new town which is springing up in our county.

Having said this dare I say that whilst your generosity has helped to give us funds to start building we have not enough to complete the building? For this full purpose



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we shall require gifts averaging about £2 per member from our churches. Some of our churches (a few) have actually reached and even surpassed this average, but the majority (including ourselves) have failed to come within sight of it, and the actual cash received from all of them so far totals little more than £2,500. There are some churches which have set themselves targets which they hope to fulfil in the autumn, but even with help from the Congregational Union of England and Wales in the way of gifts and loans, and with a generous anonymous gift, we can see our way only to some £6/7,000 towards a total estimated expenditure of £14,000. As I have said this will be enough to give us a start, but if it is all that we can envisage then we have to consider whether we shall be wise to commence the venture. As a county we have seriously and prayerfully considered this and we have been led to the conclusion that we must go on. But having reached that decision how are we to carry it out? As far as we are concerned I feel that I cannot ask you for any immediate gifts; immediate gifts are not required. What we have in hand will give us a good start and will carry us on probably until the end of the year. Can I however suggest that whilst many of us cannot give again in one sum, perhaps we can give even more by weekly or monthly contributions over (say) the next 12 months. This of course is only one suggestion as to how we can help. There are and will be other suggestions which will be put before you from time to time.

I need not repeat Mrs Craig's moving plea for these young families removed from familiar surroundings, friends and modes of entertainment, to entirely new conditions. This young church is striving, with very inadequate means and accommodation, to win them for Christ, and the opportunity is NOW. Their need is a challenge to the whole Church, and, in this special area, particularly to the Congregational Church in Sussex.

#### GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE

Our G.L.B. are very fortunate in having leaders who have such extensive experience of G.L.B. work. Our Captain, Major Brown, is Battalion Commandant, and the Lieutenant, Mrs Stratton, is Officer in Charge of Cadets in the Battalion. On Saturday, June 2nd., the Cadets' section came 1st in the Physical Training competition for the Brigade Cadets; congratulations to them. The Junior section are hoping to compete in their Battalion P.T. competition early in July and we trust they will have a similar success.

The Company will be very pleased to welcome any new girls in all sections - - -  
M.A.W.

#### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTING

On Saturday, April 28th., about 30 children and adults left Durrington Station on the 9.30 train for Victoria. We arrived at 11.15 and the first place we went to was Westminster Cathedral. It is a very beautiful building, and several of us went up in the lift to the top of the tower, 284 feet, where we had a fine view of the surrounding district.

From Westminster Cathedral a coach took us by a round about way to Westminster Abbey. On the way we passed Lambeth Palace, St Thomas' Hospital and the Golden Eagle. In the Abbey we saw the original painting of "The Light of the World" by Holman Hunt. There were also many beautiful tombs. From there we were taken past the Royal Mint to the Tower of London, where we had our dinner. We were lucky enough to see the Tower Bridge (which we had previously crossed) open for a large steamer. After dinner we went into the White Tower, and saw the Armoury, and a few of us nearly got lost!

St Paul's Cathedral was the next stop and we went up to the Whispering Gallery. After a tour of the Cathedral we were taken by the coach to St James' Park. We went through all the big streets of London, Bond St., Regent St., Oxford St., and all the rest. We saw Buckingham Palace and the Guard, but then we crossed to St James' Park where we had our tea, which Mr Franks had brought in a large hamper. We had an enjoyable time feeding the ducks and pigeons, and left the park in time to catch the 5.30 train home.

We would like to thank Mr Franks and Miss Ford, and all those who helped, for giving us such an enjoyable and happy day.

MARGARET MERCER.



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MISSIONARY STUDY GROUP

Another digest from Leonard Hurst's book "Hungry Men". Man needs education. The difference between literacy and illiteracy is the ability to read.

DO YOU KNOW: (a) That more than one thousand two hundred million men and women (1,200,000,000,) in the world cannot read, and by far the greater number of these are in Africa and Asia.

(b) That if all the people who cannot read were to march one by one past a given spot at a brisk pace, it would take seventy years before the procession was complete.

(c) That illiteracy is evil as well as pathetic. The illiterate is a mental defective, at the mercy of any propagandist. Politically he is a menace to the world.

(d) That illiteracy can be banished. Missions, governments, UNESCO, are all in on this fight.

(e) That teachers and educators are benefactors of the race.

(f) That our prayer should be that men's need for education may be met in such a way that he shall enter, released from the shackles of ignorance, into the Kingdom of Light.

A.M.T.

THE WAY : CHRISTIAN LIFE IN ACTION

The Christian Church is sometimes harshly criticised for failing to be up-to-date. But the little exhibition recently held in the Trinity Church Hall in Crescent Road was a striking illustration of the adaptation of modern publicity methods being employed to give a most impressive portrayal of the power of God, when working through consecrated human agency. To the accompaniment of quietly suitable organ music, and in an atmosphere of peace and reverence, one lingered before each beautifully arranged exhibit, and felt the wonder of consecrated living, and inspired human effort.

Here one gazed on George Washington Carver, a slave who became a scientist to the glory of God, the cultivation of the little pea-nut playing an important part. George Muller, shown in a cleverly contrived stage setting of alternating scenes in varied lighting, the original homes and those built later as the money miraculously poured in. Edward Wilson of the famous Captain Scott Expedition -- "reserved, retiring, gentle, yet strong and whole-hearted". ("No power on earth can do me any harm till God's day comes".) Helen Keller, blind, deaf and dumb, yet above her trustful and even beautiful face the words, "There are no shadows". ("In Him is no darkness at all"). Happy laughing John Lawrence, the Somerset County cricketer whose benefit match was washed out by rain, but who refused to make good the loss by Sunday play. George Dempster, in personal evangelism among the down and outs --- this a dimly lit Dickensian London scene, with street lamp complete. Gladys Aylward "from parlour maid to missionary". These and other beautiful panelled settings including one of Dr Schweitzer, were in each case most attractively arranged with enlarged personal photographs and suitable wording, making this small exhibition "great" and even thrilling.

For those weak and timid in the Christian faith here was something well worth pondering over. Listen to Helen Keller -- "For three things I thank God every day of my life; thanks that He has vouchsafed me knowledge of His works; thanks that He has set in my darkness the lamp of faith; deep, deepest thanks that I have another life to look forward to, a life joyous with light, and flowers, and heavenly song." C.H.C.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

I don't know if we all did, but certainly some of us woke on the 28th May with a feeling of pleasant anticipation. The feeling was enhanced by a warm, sunny morning as the teachers set out for their service of Communion and re-dedication, which was taken in our lovely new hall by Rev. David Avis, our visiting minister. As the teachers came out, renewed and full of hope, the children were arriving, bright and happy, each with a flower button hole.

The Church was beautifully decorated with delicate spring flowers, so that even the oldest amongst us must have felt younger. The service was begun by the children

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singing an introit, then the beginners sang their hymns and listened attentively while Mr Avis told them the story of the Good Shepherd. Then they, and their small chairs, were taken out, and the service continued, the children taking a prominent part in the singing, which included a descant which they had practised carefully. The lessons were read by Valerie Hancock.

The afternoon Sunday School had their own special service, to which Mr Avis kindly came and gave the children an address.

A good number of children came to the evening service, including some of the "afternoon" children, who sang a hymn on their own. The lessons were read by Amanda and Anthony Ashton, while Margaret Mercer played the piano during the offertory, as she had done in the morning.

A long happy day for children, teachers and, we are sure, congregation, came to a close with the children singing a vesper. B.J.F.

#### CHURCH NOTES

MEMBERSHIP ITEMS. We regret that the name of Miss D. Williams was omitted from our last issue in the list of new members. Miss Williams, who lives at 21A Rose Walk, has been a regular and faithful worshipper with us at the Sunday and Thursday services and we give to her a warm welcome as she comes into the closer fellowship which membership provides. We also welcome Mrs Parker of 20 Mill Road and Miss J. Ogilvie and Mrs Skelton of Field House, Honeysuckle Lane, who have been admitted to membership. We pray that for all these friends the step they have taken may bring them much blessing.

We extend to Mr and Mrs Coltart the sympathy of the fellowship at the passing of Mrs Coltart's mother, Mrs Powell, who died recently after a long and useful life of service to her Lord. Mrs Powell's late husband was a Congregational minister, who, after holding a number of charges at local churches became a moderator. Although Mrs Powell had for some time been confined to the house she continued to take a keen interest in the affairs of the Church and of Congregationalism generally.

Mr Cornwall writes as follows concerning the passing on 30th April of Mr E. Sydney Gilbert of 33 Rose Walk. "This means the breaking of yet another link with the earlier days at Elm Grove, as Mr Gilbert and his wife shared in the effort to establish a Church Fellowship there. After moving to Fareham, Mr & Mrs Gilbert returned to Worthing and were able to re-unite themselves with us and worship in our (then) new building. Our friend had a gracious personality that was essentially Christian in character, and it was always a pleasure to meet him and Mrs Gilbert, who had devotedly nursed him through a long period of failing health."

PULPIT NOTICES. Will the secretaries and leaders of the Church organisations please note that all pulpit notices and announcements should still be sent or given to Mr W.G. Hite, 44 Phroso Road, Worthing, Tel: Worthing 8959.

THE CHURCH ANNIVERSARY: The weather for this annual event has not been too favourable for the last year or two, but for 1956 we were treated rather better than usual. The visiting minister was Rev. John Huxtable, M.A., Principal of New College, London, and his preaching was of a challenging and stimulating character. The evening service was broadcast in the B.B.C. Home Service programme and the reception was excellent. The choir had a really gruelling time before the actual broadcast, being put through their paces by the B.B.C. representative, but acquitted themselves nobly.

THE MINISTER'S HOLIDAY. We all know that Mr Franks in his zeal is inclined to do too much and that he and Mrs Franks must be looking forward to a well earned holiday in August. We hope that for them and their children this will be a happy and restful time which will set them up for the tasks which lay ahead in the coming winter. (Sorry to mention winter when we don't seem to have had much summer yet. ED.) The preachers for the Sundays when Mr Franks will be absent are 12th. Aug, our old friend Rev. S.C. Morgan, B.A., B.D.; 19th. Aug. Rev. R.W.G. Talme; 26th. Aug. Rev. E.F. Sutton.

On 22nd July Mr Franks is exchanging pulpits with Rev. F. Brockis, minister of Pulborough Congregational Church and to Mr Brockis and the other visiting ministers we extend a very warm welcome.

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L.M.S. "THREE COUNTIES" CONFERENCE

Miss Monica Wiseman attended the third of these conferences and reports on her experiences at this gathering at Bexhill: "It proved a most stimulating weekend and it was encouraging to see the high proportion of young folk who were interested in missionary work. In talks and discussions Dr Lefever and his wife gave us firstly the geographical and historical background of their work in India, and then a picture of "Brave New India", with many problems still to be solved.

On Whitsunday we celebrated early Communion, using the Church of South India order of worship. This has grown from a welding of Church of England and Congregational forms of worship, while "Grace" is given according to Indian traditions.

The social side was not neglected and friends from the Bexhill Church joined in the frivolity too".

THE MAY MEETINGS

The annual assembly of the Congregational Union of England and Wales (usually referred to as "The May Meetings") was held in Westminster Chapel as has been the custom now for some years. History was made by this being the first occasion on which a woman has been the chairman, this position being held for 1956/57 by Rev. Elsie Chamberlain, B.D. Among the items considered was the matter of ministerial stipends; it was decided to raise the minimum stipend from £340 p.a. to £365 p.a., plus children's allowance of £25 p.a. for each child, and the provision of a manse free of expense. The meagreness of the minimum (which in many cases becomes the maximum) is something which should lie heavily on the consciences, not only of treasurers and deacons, but of every church member. Entering the Nonconformist ministry necessarily involves for the entrant much in the way of sacrifice, but it is, we contend, asking too much of a man to expect that his wife and children should be expected to exist on an income totally insufficient to afford them a reasonable standard of living. Does it not need to be stated plainly that no church has the right to call a minister unless it is prepared to face up to this position, even if it entails for the members going to the lengths of cutting down their cigarette smoking -- unless such a sacrifice is quite unthinkable. The miserable allowances paid to retired ministers and to the widows of ministers also call for a drastic increase. May we suggest that our own members give these matters their earnest consideration and that they come to Church Meeting prepared to suggest practical measures for dealing with a situation which is certainly not one of which Congregationalism can be proud?

Space does not permit going further into details of the other matters raised at the Assembly, but some of these will be brought before Church Meeting in due course. By the way, members, do you consider that absence from Church Meeting should occur only when circumstances render it quite impossible for you to be present? That actually is what is implied in the fact that you have accepted the privileges and the responsibilities of membership. (Next Church Meeting Thursday, 28th June - record attendance please!)

COLLECTIONS FOR APRIL AND MAY 1956

<u>Envelopes.</u>				<u>Loose Offertories</u>				<u>Envelopes.</u>				<u>Loose Offertories</u>			
April	1.	£ 8.	1. 3	£ 14.	8. 8	May	6:	£ 16.	5. 10	£ 8.	16. 3				
	8.	12.	18. 10	7.	19. 4		13:	13.	9. 11	-	-	-	-	-	-
	15.	11.	1. 2	-	-		20:	11.	0. 5	11.	0. 0				
	22.	9.	12. 9	9.	14. 3		27:	12.	6. 3	10.	10. 0				
	29.	11.	13. 0	9.	11. 6										
		53.	7. 0	41.	13. 9			53.	2. 5	30.	6. 3				

Total for two months: £ 178. 9. 5d.

London Missionary Society: £ 15. 17. 5d. Sunday School: £ 23. 11. 1d.

"Gambling is just dope" says J.B. Priestley, and he goes on to add, "It tends to create a world of trumpery or rotten values. It diminishes instead of enlarging personality. It makes spivs and not good citizens". Can Christian people have anything but condemnation for the Government's ill-conceived scheme to issue Premium Bonds? It seems deplorable that they should feel so little responsibility for the well-being of our people.



: No. 75.  
: Bi-Monthly.

THE CHRONICLE.  
Goring Congregational Church.  
Shaftesbury Avenue.

September and :  
October 1956. :

Minister: Rev. C. C. Franks,  
19 Brook Barn Way, West Worthing. (Tel: Goring 41319)

CHURCH SECRETARY:	:	CHURCH TREASURER:	:	EDITOR OF CHRONICLE
Mr B. C. Hoskins,	:	Mr G. L. Nodes,	:	Mr A. E. Pearn,
40 Robson Road,	:	5 Parklands Avenue,	:	Furzedown,
West Worthing.	:	West Worthing.	:	Somerset Road,
(Tel: Goring 43586.	:	(Tel: Goring 42731)	:	Ferring.
				(Tel: Goring 43304).

THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE.

The Manse,  
August, 1956.

My dear Friends

It is not easy for a layman to attempt to assess the seriousness of the international dispute over the Suez Canal. By the time that this letter is in your hands it is almost certain that some momentous decision will have been taken, meanwhile most of us feel that we are helpless to influence what may happen for good or ill.

In the British & Foreign Bible Society's report for 1955 these words appear "The issue (of war or peace) turns on whether mankind can rediscover its common humanity before it is too late...Over against this sombre and forbidding impression of the world is a picture of a multitude of Christian men and women, of all races, nations and languages, offering the world what it so desperately needs. For men can only recognise one another as brethren as love is reborn in them: and that miracle can only come from their discovery of the love and mercy of Almighty God. The diversity and mutual antagonisms in the world are real and dangerous; at best they may be held in check by some precarious balance of contending forces - unless there is, in very truth, a means by which man can be reborn. Thus the Christian Gospel, regarded by so many "hard-headed realists" as a sentimental superstition, is the most stark realism and the most urgent truth".

Is that all so much talk, or is there, in fact, a means for everyone of us to make some contribution to the lessening of tension and the establishment of a real and stable peace? (The cynic will no doubt say that the Church has a long record of failure in these matters and has even been guilty of creating dissension. We might well reply that the reason for this weakness has been in the non-cooperation of his cynical forefathers.) The immediate and unchanged call upon each of us, whoever we may be, is the opening of the many ways in which men and women can recognise that love and mercy of Almighty God. That has always been our task and we in the Church here are by no means outside the call. It does not mean heroic deeds in far off places, but often humdrum, seemingly ordinary work, just where we are. It involves this neighbourhood - these people who are at our doors. Pray for them, think about them, work for them that God may become real to them. There is no bigger contribution that you can make to universal peace than this.

Yours very sincerely,  
C. C. FRANKS.



### NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Our numbers have grown rapidly lately and we now have 142 children in the morning school; this has necessitated bigger classes. We now appeal for more teachers in the Junior Department and a pianist in the Primary Dept. Please do help in this great work for our Lord and Master. B.J.F.

### A VISIT TO FEN PLACE.

Forty one members and Friends of the Church, when making a coach tour of East & West Sussex, on Wed. 25th July last, took the opportunity of visiting Fen Place, the beautiful residence of a number of retired Congregational ministers and their wives. Fen Place is situated at Turner's Hill, half way between Crawley & East Grinstead, in one of the beauty spots of Sussex. It was one of the Cowdray houses before being acquired by the Congregational Union of England & Wales in 1952, for the purpose of providing a residence for retired Congregational ministers and their wives and the widows of deceased ministers.

On arriving at Fen Place we were welcomed by the Warden, Miss K.M. Keller, who introduced us to some of the residents. After seeing the principal rooms in the house, the spacious grounds, and talking with some of the residents, there was a general feeling that Fen Place provides something more than a residence. There is a spirit of goodwill and contentment and complete freedom from loneliness and boredom.

Residents contribute to the maintenance of the establishment according to their means and while many are able to pay the full cost, no one is excluded through inability to do so. There is in consequence a deficit of about £1500 per annum, and contributions towards meeting this amount would be welcomed by the Financial Secretary of the Congregational Union at Memorial Hall, Farringdon St., London, E.C.4. There could be no better way of showing appreciation of the faithful service rendered by our ministers, often on very meagre stipends, than by contributing towards the deficit incurred in the running of Fen Place. A.E.H.

-----ooOoo-----

### GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE.

Heartiest congratulations to our Captain, Major R. Brown, on her forthcoming marriage to Mr E. Smith. We wish her great happiness in the future.

Following their success in the Physical Training competitions our Cadets have further distinguished themselves by winning the Battalion Cadet Cup, obtaining the highest marks in total in the competitions for physical training, relating to stories of David & Goliath and the Three Bears, and scripture examination. Great credit and thanks are due to Mrs Stubbings for her excellent training, which has had such splendid results in the Physical Training. At the Battalion Cadet Display our cadets were presented with the cup and they performed a Flower Song and joined with other companies in two items and the finale.

The Junior section came first in their physical training competition, but unfortunately did not enter all the competitions necessary to obtain sufficient marks to compete for the Junior Cup. We hope that next year they will be as successful as the Cadets.

There are no meetings of the G.L.B. during August, but we recommence on September 18th. and once again we would like to say how pleased we should be to welcome any new members. We shall then be preparing for our own display to be held in November next, and hope that many of the congregation will support the girls by their presence at this, the third annual display. M.A.W.

-----ooOoo-----

### "MAN NEEDS HEALTH"

Such is the title of a chapter in Leonard Hurst's book "Hungry Men". Here are some points and statistics which reveal the close connection between hunger, poverty and disease, and present a vivid picture of man's health and healing. These statistics are from the Preliminary Report on the World Social Situation, 1952.

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Proportion of World Population.	Developed Areas One fifth	Under-developed Areas. Two thirds.
Annual per capita income in dollars	461	41
Food supply calories per day	3040	2150
Physicians per 100,000 population	106	17
Life expectancy at birth in years.	63	30

Great Britain has one doctor to 900 people. Papua has one doctor to 50,000 people. England has one trained nurse to every 400 people; India one to over 40,000. In all the auxiliary branches of medicine there is the same dearth of trained people in Asia & Africa. Mass disease such as malaria and tuberculosis ravage under-developed countries. Three million a year die from malaria and the tuberculosis death rate is even higher.

Yet in Papua the Gerno Hospital has saved many from tubercular trouble. Read "Where Two Tides Meet", the marvellous record of the work of Constance Fairhall. A mass campaign against yaws, a disease producing terrible ulcers, treated successfully 300,000 victims at a cost of 10 dollars a head.

Disease and hunger have had economic and social consequences; sick people cannot work and lack all interest in social development.

"But it is man as man, man as a human being, man as a child of God who needs health and has a right to it. Every act of the Christian in seeking a standard of living and adequate for the health and well being of a man and his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care is a declaration of the truth of man's nature as a child of God and of God's love for him". H. G.

-----ooOoo-----  
BEIRA AND TOC H.

Arrangements are being made through Worthing Toc H (men & women) for the British Empire Leprosy Relief Assoc., to hold an exhibition at the corner of Chapel Rd. and Teville Rd. from Saturday, 1st Sept. until Saturday, 8th Sept. (including Sunday).

The exhibition will show the great work which is being done and the progress that has been made in recent years with the introduction of Sulphone treatment, and also scenes of the Queen's visit. The exhibition will be open from 10.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. each day (opening day from 11 a.m.) & admission will be free.

-----ooOoo-----  
LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Do you pay your subscription to the Society under Deed of Covenant? The Society is faced with mounting costs and the sum received from the income tax recovered on these deeds is a valuable help to the work which is being done in the mission field. In recent years however the number of "covenanters" has decreased quite substantially, and now number less than 2000 out of an estimated 370,000 church members in the British Isles. The editor will be pleased to give any further information on this matter if you will be good enough to apply to him.

-----ooOoo-----  
CHURCH NOTES.

MEMBERSHIP ITEMS: It is our pleasure again to record the admittance into membership of a number of friends who have recently settled in this area. Their joining in the closer bonds of fellowship makes for a strengthening of the total witness of the Church and we trust that for them it will prove a step entailing for them not only the obligations of membership but added joys and blessings. If you do not know these friends as yet please try to make the opportunity of meeting them. They are Miss N. Attwell of 61 Elm Grove; Mr & Mrs N.A. Dobson of 32 Nelson Road; Miss Florence Lock, Miss Ethel Lock & Miss Ethel Gilby of 80 Melrose Ave; Miss I.G. Dymott of 29 Bolsover Rd., & Mrs John Cooper of "Cartref", Sea Lane Gardens, Ferring.

A GOLDEN WEDDING: On 14th July, Mr & Mrs A. Truss celebrated their Golden Wedding and though a little late, we would like to extend to them the good wishes of the whole Church Fellowship. It has been good to see them both back at the services and we rejoice at Mr Truss' restoration to health after his recent trying illness.

CHURCH FLOWERS: At a recent Church Meeting the resignation of Mr S. Grew as Secretary of the Flower Fund was accepted with regret, and he was thanked for his past services. Mrs L.M. Potter, who was appointed Secretary in his place, will be pleased to receive offers to provide flowers for the decoration of the Church. L.M.P.

THE PASSING OF MRS MUMFORD: Miss Mumford wishes to express her sincere thanks for all the many letters of sympathy received, and for the kindness shown, following the passing of her mother. The time of bereavement served to emphasise the great value of friends around.

And as a postscript to this may an old friend be allowed to add that it was always a pleasure to visit Mrs Mumford, who bore her age and lessening physical powers with a charm that had a beauty of its own. C.H.C.

WOMEN'S GUILD: The Autumn Session of the Guild meetings will begin with a Sewing Meeting at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 11th Sept. to be followed on 18th Sept. by a meeting of the Fellowship at 3 p.m. when Rev. C.C. Franks will be the speaker. All women of the Church will be welcome. Please make a note of the Guild Fellowship Anniversary which will be held on Oct. 16th.

The Guild are holding an Autumn Sale on Wednesday, Nov. 14th. The Working Party are having their usual needlework and knitting stalls, and the Fellowship section will be responsible for the cakes & sweets stall. The Men's Fellowship are being asked to organise a "Household" Stall.

Teas will be served during the Sale. Gifts will be welcome for any of these stalls. The proceeds of the Sale will go in reduction of the mortgage on the Manse, which at present amounts to £1150.

It is hoped that all members and friends will co-operate to make this effort a big success. M.H. A.E.E.

PRESENTATION TO MRS SHANNON: Mrs Shannon has given loyal and indeed sacrificial service to the afternoon Sunday School for the past seven years, during which period she has been the pianist. She has attended with unfailing regularity despite the fact that her acceptance of this task involved a considerable expenditure of time in travelling. Her impending removal to Lancing makes it impossible for her to continue as pianist and her resignation has been accepted with great regret. On Sunday, 29th July, Miss M. Wiseman, the leader of the afternoon school, expressed thanks to Mrs Shannon for her service and made a presentation to her.

MOUNTING COSTS: The cost of producing "The Chronicle" has recently been increased by 10% and any small additional contributions towards meeting this increase will be much appreciated. We do not of course expect this magazine to be self-supporting; last year the net cost to the General Church Funds was £14.17.10, and it would be good if this figure could be reduced for the current year.

PASS IT ON: What do you do with your copy of "The Chronicle" when you have read it? Not, we trust, drop it in the W.P.B., at the same time stifling a yawn. If you can find a friend or neighbour, preferably a non-church goer, long suffering enough to read it, please pass it on.

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#### HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMN BOOK?

We have been asked to repeat the little exercise we tried a few months ago, so give below lines from well known hymns, all in "Congregational Praise". Do you know from which hymns they come? If you get less than 5 right you ought to be ashamed of yourself; if you manage 8, 9 or 10 you are certainly to be commended.



If you get 11 right it means that you are unable to count correctly.

1. Upward we press, the air is clear. 7. He fills the sun with morning light.  
2. For knowledge is of things we see. 8. Where'er our changeful lot is cast.  
3. And Thy rich promises in me fulfil. 9. Nearer than ever, still our shield  
4. I would the precious time redeem. and sun.  
5. No word from Thee can fruitless fall. 10. In sickness, sorrow, want or care.  
6. There is a way for man to rise.

WELL DONE! We feel that a special word of congratulation is due to the Church contingent of the Girls' Life Brigade, an account of whose activities appears on page 2 of this issue, contributed by Miss West. It is certainly most gratifying that so recently formed a body should do so well and the officers must feel that they are in some measure rewarded for all the time and hard work which they have expended during these last 3 years. Miss West herself as pianist (and what an able one!) devotes a considerable amount of her time to helping the training of the girls, and the Church owes a debt of gratitude to her and her colleagues for all they do. And, finally, every good wish to Miss Brown on her approaching marriage.

If we think of the sum required in terms of an average of about \$100 for every member it gives some idea of the magnitude of the task which lies ahead.

The fellowship formed last autumn has gone from strength to strength with a rapidly growing membership, despite the fact that at present accommodation for services and for Sunday School is limited to a few hours a week in the Community Hut, which has already proved on a number of occasions inadequate to accommodate the congregation. The opportunities for expansion and evangelisation appear to be almost unlimited, and we wish every blessing on this venture, which is not only local in its interest, but is very much a concern of Sussex Congregationalism as a whole.

If you have not already advised Mr Hoskins of your intention to go to Crawley on 22nd Sept., please let him or Mr Gilmour know as soon as possible.

THE PROBLEM OF OLD AGE: The Worthing area has a higher average age for its residents than most places in this country. This inevitably creates problems which are at any rate not so acute in other areas. Medical and scientific knowledge has made such advances in the last decade or two that people are living longer, and the expectation of life is now many years more than was the case at the beginning of this century. One of the most pressing problems is that of the elderly man or woman, living alone and suffering from some incapacity, possibly



- 6 -

of a temporary character, but which precludes them from looking after themselves. They are not so ill that the hospital will take them in, when there is such urgent demand for beds for serious cases. What then are these people to do? Some place where they could go for a few weeks while they pick up strength again would be a real boon, and probably save them from a long illness. It is in an endeavour to deal with this problem in some small measure that it was decided last year to launch an appeal for funds to enable an extension to be built to "The Priory", an old people's home in South St., Tarring, one of five such homes run by the Field Lane Institution.

The estimated cost of the extension was £30,000 and up to date over £25,000 has been received, this sum including an anonymous gift of £10,000. It is hoped to begin building in the near future, and the new accommodation will make it possible to increase the number of residents, at present 19, to over 50.

The Field Lane Institution has a fine record of 115 years of voluntary Christian social service, and everything possible is done to create the atmosphere of a real Christian home for the old people under their charge; there are now over 130 men and women, many of whom were formerly worried about their future as advancing years made it difficult or even impossible for them to look after themselves, who now find rest and peace in one or other of these homes. Field Lane have always been pioneers in the work of social service from the days when the great Earl of Shaftesbury was their first president. Their 115 years of work for those in need is quite a thrilling story.

The home at "The Priory" is open for inspection at all reasonable hours, and the wardens, Mr & Mrs Ward, will be pleased to show anyone who is interested over the house.

Our friend Mr Truss has on a number of occasions arranged concerts at "The Priory" for the residents, and these have been very much appreciated by them. Mr S.W. Woolven is the chairman of the local advisory committee, on which Mr Franks will now be serving.

THE NONCONFORMIST CONSCIENCE: Since our last issue the Government's "squalid lottery", the Premium Bond Scheme, has become law. Protests were forthcoming from all sections of the Free Church, and also, though not so strongly, from the Anglican Church. The Roman Catholic Church seems to have seen little harm in the scheme. It is a humiliating position for us as Free Churchmen and women to realise that the present government feels that it can ignore free Church opinion, and it is a clear indication that the Nonconformist Conscience is no longer the power in the land which once it was. I imagine that John Clifford must be turning in his grave. The really depressing feature of the whole business is that apparently nothing further is being done about it by the Free Churches. Can one contemplate the possibility of John Clifford accepting such a situation? We are sadly lacking men of his calibre as leaders in our churches today. Formerly it was to Nonconformity that one looked for leadership in matters affecting the moral and social conscience of our land; that leadership was eventually assumed by the late Archbishop William Temple, and Nonconformity has never since held the influential position which was so apparent in the early years of this century. Oh for some leaders to shake the country, and us, to our very foundation!

#### COLLECTIONS FOR JUNE AND JULY 1956

	<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Offertories.</u>		<u>Envelopes.</u>	<u>Loose Offertories.</u>
June 3	£10.10. 3.	£12. 2. 9.	July 1	£ 9.12. 2.	£11.16. 0.
10	8. 2. 6.	14.11. 3.	8	10. 2. 8.	13. 0. 0.
17	10. 9. 0.	11. 5. 0.	15	9.19. 5.	10.19. 6.
24	11. 8. 4.	11.14. 9.	22	7.18. 9.	12. 5. 1.
			29	13. 0.10.	8. 4. 0.
	<u>40.10. 1.</u>	<u>49.13. 9.</u>		<u>50.13.10.</u>	<u>56. 4. 7.</u>
Total for Two Months:		£197.2.3.	Pastors' Widows' Fund:		£14.6.4.

As a result of the appeal in "The Chronicle" the Treasurer begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of contributions amounting to £4.0.9. towards the Church Garden Fund.

No. 76.  
Bi-Monthly

THE CHRONICLE  
Goring Congregational Church  
Shaftesbury Avenue.

November and  
December 1956.

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THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Manse,  
October, 1956.

My dear Friends,

The April edition of the Congregational Quarterly in its editorial calls attention to a writer in the "Manchester Guardian" who said that the ideal that now we must set before ourselves is that of a Welfare World. It is only wilful ignorance that blinds us to the fact that the needs of the "undeveloped areas" are crying out to be met. Politically it is desirable, economically it is possible and from the Christian standpoint it is our duty, to expend far more thought, money and active goodwill than has so far been devoted to the peoples of these areas.

From the political point of view it is only too obvious that it is dangerous to leave vast tracts of the world where men and women are living at starvation level and below. Here is the kind of situation that breeds discontent and war. Looked at economically is it not nonsensical that we should be spending scores of millions of pounds in the manufacture and testing of H bombs when that same money, diverted to the channels of needy lives, could bring health and happiness in an unprecedented manner? And for the Christian these are just the conditions where loving our neighbour is crying out to be realised. The March Council of the Free Church Federal Council were to debate what I would suggest was a particularly mild resolution on this matter. I quote its final sentence, "The Council is glad to note the Government's assurances that 'development of under-developed territories has become an accepted international policy', but urges that this policy will be pursued more vigorously and imaginatively so that Britain's contribution to the organisations working in this field and of the areas needing help may be more adequate". And when I read that this motion was actually on the agenda of the March Meeting of the Council "but it was then agreed, owing to shortness of time, that it should be discussed in September", then I, for one, feel deeply shamed.

This may seem to be a strange letter to address to you, but its relevance to our Christian witness can hardly be said to be in doubt. As we go to press only bi-monthly this is the last "Chronicle" letter before Christmas. Does the message of Christmas not speak to this situation? Are we to remain dumb and inactive? Leonard Hurst tells of a visitor to a leper hospital in South India who, in spite of his agony, was able to sing his joy in Jesus. "What had happened to him?" asks Leonard Hurst, and answers, "The servants of Christ had come to him. 'May we stand with you in your need?' they said, 'May we help a bit by cleaning those sores and easing the pain? And do you know, friend, God so loved you that He gave His Son to die that you might live'" To proclaim the message and withhold the help makes nonsense of our Christianity. Yours very sincerely, C. C. FRANKS.

OUR HARVEST SERVICES, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th., 1956

..... Harvest Services are usually much looked forward to, and we ourselves have almost invariably had good weather for this Festival. Anticipating this might again be the case the problem for Mr W. Hite and his helpers was one of accommodation, more especially for those attending the morning service. A relay to the Children's Hall was one suggestion, and as an alternative to this an earlier service mainly for children, followed by one at 11.15 a.m. for others. Eventually the following plans were made:- 1. The Children's contributions were to be left and arranged in their own building, and so the number of young folk

present in the Church would be reduced. Also their simple pictorial demonstration would be given in the evening. 2. No announcements were to be made in the local press. 3. It was also suggested that some deacons and others might be self-sacrificing enough to absent themselves from the morning service, thus leaving extra room for visitors. This was actually done, a few attending other places of worship!

Thus the problem of accommodation was temporarily solved, but with the present continued growth of the Church special occasions may well stress the need for expansion. Our Church Membership is now approaching 200. In January 1952 it was 120.

Our Church Hall has a seating capacity of about 200, and it is computed that about 400 were present at the two harvest services. The evening congregation, (possibly the largest we have ever had at that hour) included a large percentage of visitors. The Church looked beautiful, whether viewed from the entrance or the rostrum, and the two sermons appropriately dealt with thanksgiving, and spiritual sowing and reaping. Also the display in the Children's Hall was much admired.

The Choir most ably led the singing, and at the evening service rendered the anthem, "Thou Visitest the Earth", and again sang (by request) their morning contribution - Stainer's "Ye Shall Dwell in the Land", this including the lovely words and music of "Thrice blessed is that land of God, Where saints abide for ever." And although we sang "Come ye thankful people, come" at both services, no 'twice' was heard to object! The collections for the Home Churches fund amounted to £27.13. 9d., a record. (1955 being £25. 2. 0d.) And the children present during the evening gave their Harvest Banner contribution very well indeed.

C.H.C.

THE AUTUMN SALE OF WORK

An Autumn Sale will be held on Wednesday, 14th November, to be opened at 3 p.m. by our friend Neil Buchanan, Esq.

The Working Party are responsible for the Needlework and Knitting Stall. The Women's Fellowship will be in charge of the Cake and Sweet Stall. The Men's Fellowship are organising a Household Stall under the direction of Mr S. J. Potter and Mr J. Iveson.

Gifts for the stalls will be welcome, especially for the Household Stall. Tea will be served during the afternoon.

We are hoping for a successful Sale, as the proceeds are for the reduction of the mortgage on the Manse.

Please bring your friends.

M. H.

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CHURCH NOTES

MEMBERSHIP ITEMS: Since the last issue of "The Chronicle" the following friends have been admitted to membership and to them we extend a very warm welcome. They are Mr and Mrs R. Pepperdine of 25 Wadhurst Drive, Goring, and Mr and Mrs H. J. Harland of 67 George V. Avenue. All these friends have long records of loyal and active service within the Congregational fellowship, and their coming among us is already an added source of strength to our own fellowship.

The membership of Mr and Mrs C. Millen has been transferred to Radford Congregational Church, Coventry, following the removal of them and their four children from Goring to Coventry. We are glad to learn that they have so quickly identified themselves with the Radford Church, and trust they will find much happiness in the fellowship there.

THE CHURCH CARETAKER: It was with regret that the resignation from this office of Mr Porter was received recently. Mr Porter had been with us for nearly a year, and in that time had earned our thanks and respect for the willing and cheerful manner in which he undertook his duties. Unfortunately on doctor's orders he could not continue, but we trust that he may soon be in better health. To Mr Newman, who has been appointed in his stead, we offer a warm welcome, hoping that he will find his work congenial and satisfying.

CHURCH MEETING 1st NOVEMBER: This will be a special meeting of members both of the Church and Congregation called for the purpose of considering the sketch plan for a new church which has been on view in the New Hall during October, and also to consider any alternative plan which may be put forward.

The "Ways and Means" Committee formed to draft proposals for raising the sum required to build the church has met and its report was submitted to the Church Meeting, held on 4th October. Following a discussion on this report it was agreed that a Gift Day should be held on 13th. March 1957, that special envelopes are to be issued to those who wish for them, these to be for collecting and saving towards the Fund, and that collecting boxes should also be available.

FREE WILL OFFERINGS AND DEEDS OF COVENANT: The task of sustaining the work of the Church from the financial angle is never an easy one and we are fortunate in having a man of Mr Nodes' ability and vision to undertake the treasurership. He can be helped substantially by an addition to the number of members of Church and Congregation who join the F.W.O. scheme. If those who are paying Income Tax on a part of their incomes at the Standard Rate (at present 8/6 in £.) would also enter into simple Deeds of Covenant, this would, at no expense to them, provide a further 14/9d. for the Church for every £1 they contribute. Either Mr Horsfall or Mr Nodes will be pleased to explain the Covenant scheme; enquiries regarding the F.W.O. should be made to Mr Hughes, the secretary of this scheme.

Please do not be deterred from considering entering into a Deed of Covenant by its high sounding name!

A "KEEP AWAY FROM CHURCH" CAMPAIGN: We frequently hear of "Come to Church" campaigns, but we feel that Mr Hite, our Assistant Secretary and Stewards' Secretary, must have made history in organising a "Keep away from Church" campaign for the Harvest Festival morning service. Mr Cornwall, in his account of the services for that day explains the situation.

AN EXCHANGE OF PULPITS: On Sunday, 18th November, Mr Franks will be exchanging pulpits with Rev. J. R. Plowman, M.A., minister of Leves Congregational Church, for both morning and evening services. We give a warm welcome to Mr Plowman on this, his first, visit to Goring, and trust that both he and Mr Franks will enjoy the fellowship on that day.



MISSIONARY STUDY CIRCLE: This Circle will meet once a month through the winter on Thursdays, Oct. 18th., Nov. 22nd., Dec. 20th., Jan. 17th., Feb. 21st. and March 21st. from 6.15 to 7.15 p.m. The subject for this session will be the South Sea Islands, and the book chosen for our study is "Between Two Miracles" by Stuart Craig. (Independent Press, 6/-). We hope that many will join us this Winter. M.N.S.

GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE: The new session is now in full swing and we were very pleased to welcome at least five new girls to the company; we look forward to a busy month preparing for our display on November 24th. This takes place at 7 o'clock in the Church Hall, and we hope that many of the congregation of the Church will book this date and come along to support the girls, who are working very hard to give a really good evening's entertainment. M.A.W.

AFTERNOON SUNDAY SCHOOL: The Afternoon Sunday School held their service of Harvest Thanksgiving on 30th September. After our minister, Rev. C. C. Franks, had received the children's gifts of fruit and vegetables Mr Dobson conducted the service in the Church. Two scholars, Barbara Smith and Michael Micklam, also took part. Afterwards the harvest gifts were taken to sick folk in the district by the children.

The School has grown to such an extent that Junior and Primary children now meet in different rooms. We are glad that this is necessary, but more teachers are required, especially for the class of nine year old boys.

PLEASE HELP!

M. W.

#### THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY

The Worthing Auxiliary of the Society is being reconstituted and a general meeting is to be held at the Baptist Church, Christchurch Road, on Tuesday, 6th. November at 3 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. At the afternoon session new officers will be appointed, and at both sessions the speaker will be Rev. E. M. Evans, O.B.E., formerly a pioneer missionary in the Orissa Province of India.

It is hoped that our Church will be well represented at both sessions.

#### YOUNG ADULTS SOCIAL GROUP

In a previous issue of "The Chronicle" we told you something about the UNESCO Gift Coupon Scheme, a project in which the Y.A.S.G. was about to take some small part. We chose to sell £3 worth of UNESCO Gift Coupons in three months - a job which proved to be not nearly as easy as it sounds. However, at the appointed time our Gift Vouchers were sent to an address in Korea. Almost exactly three months later we received a reply from the United Nations Reconstruction Agency in Seoul. Our gift, which you helped us to send will be used "to buy a blackboard drawing set for the elementary class at the Sam Yook Disabled Children's Home in Seoul". This home was founded on 18th June, 1952 to help to solve the problem of the wandering, starving, homeless and disabled orphans of Seoul. At the moment it houses 104 orphans between the ages of three and eighteen. The only financial help this school gets comes from UNESCO gifts and the American Forces Aid to Korea.

We are glad to know that our small gift will be of some use to those children, and we want to say "thank you" to those of you who helped to make it possible. I.B.

#### WOMEN'S GUILD FELLOWSHIP

There will be no Fellowship Meeting on Tuesday, 13th. November, but all members are asked to support the Autumn Sale on Wednesday, 14th November, when we are to be responsible for the Cake and Sweet Stall.

Gifts of cakes, biscuits, etc. will be gratefully accepted by Miss Thomas and Miss Lock and gifts of sweets by Mrs P. S. West and Mrs Kenning.

On Tuesday, 27th November at 3 p.m. Mr J. Johnson will be our speaker, and his subject is "Women and the Law".

The last meeting this year will be our Christmas Service on 11th Dec. at 3 p.m.  
A.E.E.

#### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship meets on alternate Tuesdays at 2.45 p.m. for 3 o'clock and all men are welcome. We are sure that all who have attended the meetings since the formation of the Fellowship in 1954 are agreed that most enjoyable afternoons have been spent. At the conclusion of the meetings we have the opportunity of accepting the kind hospitality of the ladies of the Guild Working Party, when the lavish tea provided makes a most pleasant finish to the afternoon. Thank you, ladies!

The arrangements for the next few meetings are as follows:-

Nov. 6th: Mr Norman Cooke speaking on a subject of his choice.

" 20th: The Pestalozzi Children's Village

Dec. 4th: Dr Chapman has been invited to speak to us. (Those who were present when Dr Chapman addressed us last session will certainly not wish to miss hearing him again)

Gentlemen, if you are free on Tuesday afternoons, please come and join us.

#### EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMN BOOK? The numbers of the hymns in our little exercise given in the last issue were 230, 192, 416, 655, 632, 21, 9, 291, 306 and 549. This information is, of course, quite superfluous as we are sure all our readers had the correct answers.

ARITHMETIC IN 1800: We came across the following problem in an Arithmetic book published about 150 years ago. There is no prize for the correct solution, but we wonder if a Congregationalist re-wrote the book today, how he would allocate the times as among moderators, ministers and others!

The problem:- "If a cardinal can pray a soul out of purgatory, by himself, in 1 hour, a bishop in 3 hours, a priest in 5 and a friar in 7, in what time can they pray out 3 souls, all praying together."

At any rate this is a change from the kind of problem we had at school, when people apparently had an obsession for spending their time filling and emptying baths, the period taken in this process, which left us quite cold, undoubtedly giving them something of a thrill.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH? Rev. Howard Stanley, Secretary of the Congregational Union of England and Wales writes with his usual clarity and incisiveness when in the September issue of the "Congregational Monthly" he deals with this subject. The following is an extract:- "--- a church is more than a centre of happy fellowship. It is, or should be, a home of piety, a school of character, a house of prayer and so a gateway to heaven. A church does not become any of these things by chance or accident, or in any inevitable and automatic way. It does not necessarily continue to be these things because it once was. It becomes a church, and remains a church, and not just the happiest and most friendly and most wholesome society, when enough of its members pray and plan and work to make it so".

TEMPERANCE SUNDAY - 18th NOVEMBER: A few thoughts for this day: We are spending £900 millions a year on intoxicants in this country. (Enough to meet the present annual budget of the Congregational Union of England and Wales for about 5,000 years!)

There are about 500,000 men and women in this country who are either completely addicted to alcohol, or who are in the earlier stages of addiction.

Every drunkard was once a so called "moderate" drinker, and if there were no moderate drinkers there would be no drunkards.

The moderate drinker is the mainstay of the drink trade and must accept a share of the responsibility for keeping this iniquitous trade in existence.

Not so very long ago our Congregational Churches attached so much importance to instilling into the young people the advantages of total abstinence that almost as much time was devoted to the Band of Hope as to the Sunday School.

This is the considered opinion of one who is regarded by many of us as the greatest man of our age - Dr Albert Schweitzer - "Drink is commercially our greatest wastrel socially our greatest criminal and morally and religiously our greatest enemy". These are strong words indeed, but coming from such a man the Church and all professing Christians should surely heed them. It is difficult to appreciate the view put forward, even in Church circles, that the drink problem is a minor matter, not deserving of much in the way of time and attention. Such views can be held only through ignorance of the facts of a deliberate ignoring of them.

The magnitude of the problem is such that it should be a major concern of the whole Christian Church; the victims of drink are numbered not merely in hundreds or thousands, but in millions, and it is doubtful if there is any one single factor, including war even, which has been responsible for producing so much in the way of misery, suffering, degradation and death. France, so long held up by the advocates of moderate drinking as the land where everyone drinks with little apparent ill effects now has 1½ million alcoholics and 200,000 TEENAGERS in hospital undergoing treatment for alcoholism.

We submit that our forefathers were right when they took the stand for total abstinence as a Christian duty for the sake of others, as well as for their own better physical, mental and spiritual health.

OUR RETIRED MINISTERS AND OUR MINISTERS' WIDOWS: If there is one thing which should rest heavily on the conscience of all

Congregationalists it is the situation in which many of our retired ministers and the widows of ministers are placed today. The present pensions or allowances which are paid are grossly inadequate, and the Means Test which is also applied does little credit to us as a denomination. This is a matter which should be brought before every Church Meeting for consideration. In the first instance it is information which should be placed before the members, for we feel it is certain that many do not realise the position. It should be possible to introduce some system of contributory insurance to bring about an improvement, and we suggest that from Church Meetings should go a request for the appropriate committee at Memorial Hall to go into the whole matter of the cost involved. There are few churches which could not comfortably pay an annual amount by way of premium to ensure that these loyal servants of Jesus Christ are not condemned to spend their later years borne down by financial worries.

#### COLLECTIONS FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1956

<u>Envelopes.</u>					<u>Loose Offerings.</u>					<u>Envelopes.</u>					<u>Loose Offerings</u>				
Aug	5:	£	13	7	10	£	16	4	8	Sept.	2:	£	11	14	6	£	11	5	8
	12:	£	10	4	9	£	10	17	0		9:	£	8	4	6	£	8	5	10
	19:	£	10	5	0	£	10	13	6		16:	£	12	19	0	£	13	14	6
	26:	£	9	6	6	£	11	18	9		23:	£	9	16	6	£	13	4	9
											30:	£	10	2	3	-	-	-	
		£	41	18	1	£	49	13	11			£	52	16	9	£	46	10	9

Total for Two Months:- £ 191. 19. 6d. Home Churches Fund: £ 27. 13. 9d.

National Children's Home and Orphanage: £ 10. 11. 0d.

Refund of Tax under Deeds of Covenant: £ 87. 9. 8d.