

The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

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

No 89.
Bi-Monthly

THE CHRONICLE
Goring Congregational Church
Shaftesbury Avenue

JANUARY AND
FEBRUARY 1959

Minister: Rev. C.C. Franks,
140 George V. Avenue, West Worthing. (Tel: Worthing 5259)

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THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Manse.
December 1958.

My dear Friends,

1958 is drawing to its close. For us it has been a year of progress and change. It would be neither honest nor wise to pretend that there is nothing that has disappointed nor failed to be as effective as we hoped. Nevertheless I do believe that we shall look back on these twelve months as a time of real blessing by God. Please accept again my thanks for your loyalty and service, which have been given in such ample measure for so many of our activities in the witness to the living Christ.

Now we look to 1959. This verse sums up, better than I could express it, a true attitude to the unknown future.

At Thy feet, O Christ, we lay
Thine own gift of this new day; (year)
Doubt of what it holds in store
Makes us crave Thine aid the more;
Lest it prove a time of loss
Mark it, Saviour, with Thy Cross.

We have been celebrating the birth of Jesus - Immanuel - God with us: the most astounding, challenging and hopeful fact with which this world has ever been presented. It remains as fresh and as potent as ever it was. This fundamental truth we exist to acknowledge and to publish. We have a glorious God who has done wonderful things for us, and we cannot do other than share them. There is no doubt of the world's need - there is evidence that many are recognising it who not long ago would have despised the thought that God could mean anything to them. The revelation has come to us and we are entrusted with the task of presenting it to those who have not seen or understood. It is with this presentation that we shall often be concerned in 1959.

Katherine Mansfield defined the function of religion as "to make the commonplace virtues as attractive as the ordinary vices. To present the good as the witty, the adventurous, the romantic, the gay, the alluring, and the evil as the dull, the solemn, the conventional and the unattractive." It would be easy to criticise this definition as being too narrow, but there is the essence of the truth in it.

May you have much happiness in presenting Jesus in 1959. May you know this coming year the joy of the presence of Christ in every experience.

Yours very sincerely,
C.C. FRANKS.

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-2-

BABY SITTERS WANTED !

From Mrs. Dobson comes the following request: "Are there any members of the congregation who would be willing, just now and then, to volunteer for baby sitting? Parents of young children are often prevented from attending together evening activities within the Church. Any offers will be most gratefully received. Transport can be arranged if necessary."

OUR "WINTER FAIR"

The dictionaries define the word 'Bazaar' as "a group of shops where goods are exposed for sale." And that in effect briefly yet accurately describes the "Winter Fair" which was held on our premises on Saturday, 15th November last. Remembering that it was only a year ago that a highly successful similar effort was made, our latest attempt to diminish the debt on the newly purchased Manse was surprisingly successful, the total of £606 being reached.

Opened at 10.30 a.m. by Councillor Norman Cooke, accompanied by Mrs. Cooke, and with our own Church member and friend - Mr. R.O. Parker, F.I.A., as Chairman, the sale had a good send-off, enlivened by touches of humour, Mrs. Parker also being present on the platform; bouquets were presented to the two ladies.

The 'group of shops' represented by various stalls were under the management of the following Church Organisations: Working Party, Needlework and Knitted goods. Women's Fellowship, Cakes and Sweets. Men's Fellowship, Groceries. Children's Church and Sunday School, Gift Stall. Girls' Life Brigade, Handkerchiefs and Cosmetics. Fruit and Flowers, Mrs. Horsfall and helpers. Sideshows arranged by the Young Wives Fellowship, and Refreshments by the Catering Committee. The official list supplied makes no reference to the weeks and months of work preceding the 'Fair', neither does it give any idea of the expeditious manner in which the stalls were erected, and again dismantled. But by early evening the Church Hall was once again its dignified and peaceful self!

The respective merits of Sales of Work and Gift Days must always arise at such times, and maybe are talked over once again after the final result is known. But there is one happy aspect concerning the former which is not always realised. On the social side there is quite often the coming together once more of former friends and workers of other days, and it was so on this occasion. Mr. and Mrs. Graham Askew, now esteemed and valued members of the Steyne Gardens Methodist Church, were both present, and by coming showed that they still retain their kindly interest in our welfare. Only five years since Mr. Askew was for a brief period our own very able Church Secretary, and together with his wife gave most valuable service at a somewhat critical time. We were indeed pleased to have them with us, and sincerely hope that the somewhat protracted period of ill-health which has handicapped Mrs. Askew in movement, may soon be a thing of the past.

If in this report there is any omission to recognise helpful service rendered, please put it down to ignorance on the part of the reporter! One official did have a heavy load to carry to the Bank, but our good friend and Church Treasurer cheerfully undertook that journey!

C.H.C.

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GCRING CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH --- PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE!

<u>PAST</u>	January 1955. Membership 151; 9th largest Congregational Church in Sussex. New Building Fund £988.
<u>PRESENT</u>	January 1959. Membership 250; 4th largest Congregational Church in Sussex. New Building Fund £6000.
<u>FUTURE</u>	January 1963. Membership 390; 2nd largest Congregational Church in Sussex. New Building Fund £14000. The new Church will be completed early this year. It is expected that before the opening date the balance of £5000 outstanding will then have been greatly reduced.

The PAST and PRESENT are facts; the FUTURE only fantasy; but with the experience of 1955 to 1959 it could become a fact. Let a future slogan be, "The New Church built by '63'".

W.G.H.

CHURCH NOTES

NEW MEMBERS We give a warm welcome into the closer fellowship of the Church to Mr. and Mrs. N. Rippon of 49, Melrose Avenue, who were recently admitted to membership. We understand that Mr. & Mrs. Rippon will soon be moving from Worthing and we take this opportunity of wishing them well in their new sphere of activity. They joined on profession of faith. Mrs. Rippon has of course been long known to us, formerly as Miss Daphne Wiseman.

INFANT BAPTISM At a recent service of Infant Baptism Hilary Wrighton was presented, and we rejoice that the promises have been given that this child shall be brought up in the knowledge of the Christian faith. We claim no magical qualities in the form of baptismal service usual within the Congregational Church, the emphasis being on the obligations undertaken by the parents and the church fellowship.

WOMEN'S GUILD - WORKING PARTY Our meetings will commence again with the Annual Business Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 13th January, at 2.30 p.m. We shall be pleased to welcome new friends as well as old to this meeting.

M.H.

WOMEN'S GUILD - FELLOWSHIP We invite all ladies to attend our meetings on alternate Tuesdays at 3 p.m. and hope that many will join the Fellowship in 1959. Our programme for January and February is as follows:-

January 20th: Devotional Meeting. Rev. W.J. Ashford.

February 3rd: Short talks by three members. "The work of the National Council of Women" by Mrs. J.R. Bridger, M.A.

"Home Visiting of the Blind" by Miss Hilda Grey, B.A.

"Worthing Hospital Ladies' Association" by Miss A.M. Thomas.

" 17th: "Music in Worship," with illustrations from Walford Davies.

Mr. H.J. Harland.

A.E.E.

CHURCH BUILDING FUND COLLECTION BOXES A member of the Ways and Means Committee writes as follows. "We are sure that all members of the Church would wish to show their thanks and appreciation to all the folks who have helped to swell the Building Fund by their generous collections in the boxes; these amounted to £70. If there is anyone who would like to have a box and so contribute in this way, any member of the Ways and Means Committee will be glad to supply one. Thank you all very much indeed."

THE LIFEBOY TEAM Mr. R.E. Jones, the leader of the newly formed Lifeboy Team reports, "We continue to make good progress. We have now held six meetings as a Lifeboy Team, and the official forms have been forwarded to Boys' Brigade Headquarters. On Thursday, 11th December, two officers and twelve boys attended Broadwater Baptist Church to join with the other Worthing teams in a Carol Service, followed by games and refreshments. A good time was had by all.

Miss Christine Jones has consented to become an officer of the Team. We are grateful to Miss Thomas who has helped as pianist, but we do need someone to undertake this work regularly."

YOUNG WIVES' FELLOWSHIP We have been pleased to welcome many new friends these last few weeks, and we hope that during the coming year more will join us. We can assure them that not only will they be among friends, but that our Monday evenings are a wonderful relaxation after the washday chores - with or without a washing machine! The opening meetings in the New Year are, 12th January. "Palestine." Rev. C.C. Franks. 26th January. "Home Decorating." Mr. Gorton.

M.S.D.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP The new session opens on 13th January, 1959 with an address by Rev. C.C. Franks on "One Church, One Faith, One Lord." The remaining programme is as follows:

Jan 27th: Mr. H.J. Pressley. Subject: Facets.

Feb 10th: Dr. H.G. Chapman, M.A., Litt.D. " Nineveh.

" 24th: Councillor A. Norman Cooke. " The Amateur Sailor.

Mar 10th: Rev. W. Alex. Law. " Tyrolean Tourist. (With Slides)

-4-

Mar 24th: Mr. W. Annible.

Subject: Reminiscences,
Musical and Otherwise.
" Something about Gibraltar.
(With Slides)

Apl 7th: Rev. A.S. Hullah, M.C.

Our numbers have been depleted during the first half of the session by sickness and other causes, but we are looking forward to an increased attendance in the New Year. A good programme has been arranged, and new members will be welcomed into our friendly fellowship. Please come along and encourage our speakers by providing a bumper audience.
P.S.W.

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DAYS OF PRAYER: DEVOTIONAL CHURCH MEETINGS: BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The subjects and details of the above church activities are as follows:

Days of Prayer

Jan 28th: Unity among the Churches as seen by Baptist,
Anglican and Congregationalist.

Feb 25th: The Church needs ministers at Home and Overseas,
and Laymen.

Devotional Church Meetings

Jan 8th: It's my opinion.

" 15th: { Our Neighbours. What have we to give?
" 22nd: { How can we give it?

Feb 5th: { Commonwealth Missionary South Africa.

" 12th: { Society Australia & N. Zealand.

" 19th: { at work in -- Jamaica & British Guiana.

Bible Study Group Jan 6th: St. Mark. Ch.6, v.14/56. Herod's Conscience. 5000 fed. Calm
out of Storm.

" 20th: Ch.7, v. 1/37. Danger of tradition. Foreigner with
sense of humour. Speech and hearing
restored.

Feb 3rd: Ch.8, v. 1/Ch.9, v. 1. Crowd fed. Sign refused. Blind
healed. Peter's Belief. Disciples'
Qualifications.

" 17th: Ch.9, v. 2/50. The Transfiguration. An Epileptic
Boy healed. Provisions for enter-
ing the Kingdom of God.

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GIRLS LIFE BRIGADE (Inc.) 5th WORTHING COMPANY

On the 29th November, after Assembly, Reception of Colours, the National Anthem, a hymn and a prayer, a welcome was given to visitors by Mrs. E. Stratton. Miss M. Wingate, Commandant, W.J.A.C., presented awards, and the girls settled down to show how versatile they were, with P.T., Team Games, Charades, Miming, Nursery Rhymes and Songs. The evening raised £2 10 Od. for the Church Building Fund from proceeds of Tea and Biscuits sold during the interval. The music of course could not go wrong under the able direction of Miss Miriam West.

The Company gave an entertainment on 2nd December, to the folks at the Blind Home in Nursery Lane, and on the 10th a repeat at "Wraybury," Beccles Road, which was all very much enjoyed and appreciated. Well done G.L.B.!

G.Y.J.

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HALLOWE'EN SOCIAL

From moulies and ghosties
And long-leggedy beasties
And things that go bump in the night
Oh Lord deliver us!

-5-

Yes, Hallowe'en. A most amusing evening enjoyed by young and old. The Young Wives had certainly put themselves out in an endeavour to make things go with a bang! Most unusual games were played, the prize winners being rewarded with apples. Peeling the apple and then pinning the peel back into position required skill. There were the ever popular games of bob-apple and fork-spearing by mouth, etc., and the hall was decorated with black cut-outs and candles, but the highlight of the evening was reached when the witch (Mrs Franks) galloped in on a broomstick and stirred up fortunes in a cauldron, calling on the youngsters to come and listen to their fate. Of course the usual feast was provided, and all the merry little wives who helped to make this such a successful evening are to be congratulated.

G.Y.J.

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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

THIS IS ENGLAND Do you read "The Times?" If so no doubt you enjoy the weekly advertisements under the above heading of Kirkland Bridge Church Restorations Ltd; these deal in a very amusing manner with a variety of matters which are a concern to the Church. A recent subject of comment was the Parish Magazine, and we cannot refrain from quoting the opening paragraph. "The average Parish Magazine is as inspiring as a plate of cold porridge in a Manchester hotel on a wet Sunday morning; for it lacks Colour, Challenge, Inspiration, Action and a Sense of Things Happening; it is short of News, pictures and fun!"

Well! Well! What a warning to editors of church magazines!

THURSDAY EVENING DEVOTIONAL MEETINGS Our reason for being constituted as a Church is the belief in the value and efficacy of corporate worship, but despite the appeals which Mr. Franks has made from time to time attendances at the Thursday meetings are disappointingly low. It does seem odd that on the average but one in sixteen of our members attends these gatherings. Here at any rate is the opportunity to make (and keep) a New Year's resolution.

DO YOU DRINK MILK? The Milk Marketing Board seems to have conducted a successful campaign to secure an increase in the consumption of milk. If we consult our Bibles we shall certainly find many references to the beneficial properties of this beverage. But what about those metal tops on the bottles in which your milk is delivered? Do you throw them away? Please remember that the Sunday School want all they can get; they have already raised quite a handsome sum for the Church Building Fund by the sale of these tops. So do please bring yours along and help to swell the Building Fund.

DEATH ON THE ROADS Deaths on our roads in 1957 amounted to 5,550, with the injured numbering 268,308, of whom 63,706 were seriously injured! How long will the country continue to countenance this kind of thing? It is sad to reflect that while the popular Press can find ample space to deal with the sordid details of the love life of some minor film star, this great slaughter on the roads remains almost unmentioned. If, as is alleged, the public gets the kind of newspapers it desires and deserves, such views constitute a shocking commentary on our standard of values. These same newspapers depend for their income largely on advertisements, and it is reasonable to enquire if this is why there appears to be a conspiracy of silence in the Press regarding the part which drink plays in this slaughter.

It is estimated that at least 40% of casualties on the roads have drink as a major or a contributory cause. Thus it is probable that anything up to 2,500 of the deaths come under this heading. The long awaited Drew Report, sponsored by the Medical Research Council, is receiving a minimum of publicity in Government circles and in the Press, but such preliminary details as have been published make it abundantly clear that even the smallest amount of alcohol slows down a car driver's reaction, and makes him a danger on the roads. The time is surely ripe for making it an offence punishable with imprisonment, as is the case in Sweden, for any driver found to have more than a specified amount of alcohol in the system. And in Sweden they do not wait

-6-

for an accident to occur before they make the test; any driver is liable to be stopped and a specimen of his blood taken at any time he is in charge of a car. This has had a most salutary effect in that country and doubtless would in our own.

What havoc drink causes! In England and Wales alone there are 100,000 chronic alcoholics and 400,000 semi-alcoholics, in the earlier stages of addiction. It is probably an understatement to say that one and a half million men, women and children are in abject misery as a result of the failure of these addicts to remain so-called "moderate" drinkers. One and a half million for whom Christ died! Should not this be a major concern of the Church?

The "Christian World" has recently published the results of a valuable survey carried out by the Revd S.H. Mayor, M.A., B.D., a Congregational minister. Mr Mayor worked on the lines of a "Gallup Poll", taking at random from the Year Book the names of 125 Congregational ministers, and sending them a questionnaire covering a wide range of subjects. Among these questions were some dealing with the Temperance situation. The results are interesting, if depressing, to Temperance workers. Asked, "Are you a total abstainer?" 80 answered "Yes" and 43 "No". 2 did not reply. 83% of the men over 60 were abstainers, as against 53% only of those under that age. It appears that a graduate is nearly twice as likely to be a non-abstainer as a non-graduate. To the question "Do you observe Temperance Sunday?" 43 out of 125 answered, "Yes". If we are to judge by this survey it would seem that it will not be long before abstaining ministers are in a minority in Congregationalism. This does raise the point as to what lead is given to ministerial students in the Congregational Training Colleges on this subject. What advice does a non-abstaining minister give to the young people in his charge? If he tells them to abstain, but fails to do this himself, his advice can carry little weight; if he urges so-called "moderate" drinking he may well be setting some young person on the path that leads to destruction. For he cannot tell which among the youngsters in his congregation is the potential addict, who, once starting the drinking habit, must inevitably become an addict. What a responsibility to carry if the wrong advice is given!

COLLECTIONS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, 1958

		<u>Envelopes</u>			<u>Loose Collections</u>					<u>Envelopes</u>			<u>Loose Collections</u>				
		£	s	d.	£	s	d.			£	s	d.	£	s	d.		
Oct	5	11	7	0	11	0	9	Nov	2	6	16	6	8	13	6		
	12	11	2	6	10	12	3		9	20	15	0	13	17	0		
	19	11	3	0	12	1	7		16	12	0	0	10	2	7		
	26	14	7	3	11	12	1		23	18	16	0	12	3	6		
		<hr/>			<hr/>					<hr/>			<hr/>				
		£	47	19	9	£	45	6	8	£	67	10	6	£	55	12	7

TOTAL for Two Months £216 9 6d.

Retiring Collections:-

Girls' Life Brigade £6 11 0d.

British & Foreign Bible Society £10 12 10d.

As a result of the Winter Fair it has been possible to reduce the loan on the Church Manse from £2,000 to £1,400. still leaving an amount of £18 4 3d. in hand on the Manse Redemption Fund.

The present balance on the Church Building Fund is £5,732 2 3d; this includes a legacy of £100 from the estate of the late Mrs Ann Handford, and £69 6 od. from the Building Fund boxes. It is anticipated that over £250 will be added in respect of interest, so that the total at the end of the year will be in the region of £6,000.

The Church Treasurer acknowledges with thanks contributions amounting to 15/3d. which have been placed in the Garden Fund Box.

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THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Manse,
February, 1959

My dear Friends,

A short while after this copy of "The Chronicle" appears we shall have completed five years among you. We have received much kindness at your hands, and have been glad to have the privilege of sharing with you in the tasks of our growing church. It has been a time of considerable changes in many ways. Some of those who were with us in the early days have passed from our midst; others have felt that the time has come for them to lay down their responsibilities. Their experience and faith have been invaluable. A growing church needs the guidance of those who have known and loved the Church through the years. Then we have been able to welcome many who have settled in the district and found their spiritual home with us. We have been glad to see them so quickly at home among us and taking up the work.

I would like to take the freedom of this letter to express my thanks to the Deacons and Officers and Leaders of our many departments for their continued service and loyalty. I cannot remember an occasion when a promise given has not meant a task completed. And to you all we send our thanks for your personal help in so many ways.

During the last year several calls have come to me to serve in activities beyond the immediate limits of the Church at Goring. On each occasion I have tried to know the will of Christ, and I do appreciate your willingness to permit me to serve where I believe that Christ has wanted me. Almost the whole of a minister's life involves seeking to know which tasks must come first, and which can be left a little longer. There is no doubt that I have made mistakes in this matter (and in others too!) but I will continue to try to keep my priorities right. Herbert Hoover once said that "Wisdom consists not so much in knowing what to do in the ultimate, as in knowing what to do next."

And what of the future? It is certain that some aspects of our Church life need attention. The deacons have begun and will continue to review the whole scene. When they have arrived at conclusions they will lay them before a Church Meeting. Recently there has been some disappointment that help for the Building Fund that we hoped might be forthcoming from outside sources has not materialised. This is not to say that it should have done, but that there are valid reasons why it was impossible. I believe that these two matters are not unrelated and much prayerful thought will be needed before we can see our way through.

On the first Sunday of the year Methodists repeat this vow. "I am no longer my own, but Thine. Put me to what Thou wilt, rank me with whom Thou wilt. Let me be employed for Thee, or laid aside for Thee;....I freely and heartily yield all things to Thy pleasure and disposal." We might well adopt this for ourselves.

God bless you all.

Yours very sincerely,
C.C. FRANKS.

- 2 -

OVER 20,000 CHURCH CHRONICLES !

As this 90th issue of our Church Chronicle will in all probability be the last of the series as we have known it since May, 1944, it is appropriate that some reference should be made to its publication. Although issued as a bi-monthly only, it was seldom a record of stale news, but rather something entirely different. In the early years there was little to record, as the growth of activity was limited until we had a building of our own. Thus the earlier Chronicles more especially laid the greater emphasis on hopes and plans for the future, together with announcements of forth-coming events. Any reports however which were included were much appreciated by those unable to attend our services or Church Meetings, and yet took a loyal and consistent interest in the gradual growth of a young Church.

Thus the complete number of the 90 Chronicles which has been kept, is in effect a somewhat remarkable story of initial efforts. "This is the end," was the remark of a former member on being told of the passing of the Rev. F.J.H. Humphrey. This great loss followed very soon after our fellowship had become a fully fledged Congregational Church, and the friend mentioned feared a collapse of Church life might easily result. But it was not the end, but the beginning only, and the undeniable advance made since then has made editorial work a pleasant task.

Free distribution has proved an outstanding success, and borne fruit in many ways, and often very tangible forms. The original idea of a news sheet was "to arouse interest," (the words of our former minister,) and that is exactly what happened.

In view of the proposed changes as regards this publication, mention should be made of our indebtedness to Messrs Sankoy Ltd., Nelson, Lancashire, who for many years have done the duplicating work for us, and maintained a very high standard in so doing. Bi-monthly issues comprised 350 each time in recent years, and considering that no proof reading was ever possible errors were few, and often not very noticeable. Also deliveries were prompt, and lay-outs strictly adhered to.

The total cost of the 12 issues for the years 1957 and 1958 amounted to £66 10 11. To off set this contributions to the Chronicle Fund Box for those two years reached the surprising total of £43 7 3; a truly liberal response which greatly reduced the levy on Church funds.

Finally it is only right and fitting that some reference should be made to the change in editorship in 1952. In that year at our Easter Communion Mr and Mrs A. E. Pearn were transferred into our fellowship, coming to us from Sutton Congregational Church, Surrey. Only a few months later Mr Pearn was suddenly, and most unexpectedly asked to carry on duties as editor. Unknown to many, and handicapped by new surroundings, Mr Pearn very readily accepted this post, and has ever since not only efficiently, but sometimes courageously also, together with touches of pleasant humour, continued to carry out his duties in this respect, although actively engaged in other good works, lay preaching included. The Church realises its indebtedness, and very sincerely thanks him for all he has done in editing and distributing our Church Chronicles during the past five years.

C.H.C.

THE NEXT TEN YEARS.

At its meeting in November the Council of the Congregational Union of England and Wales was confronted with a seven-fold policy in the form of questions to which the General Purposes Committee thought our Churches should be giving their attention with a new sense of urgency. These questions had been based upon enquiries from many sources over a considerable period as to the "Why" and "Wherefore" of various Congregational tenets, and of our constitution and organisation. They do not represent plans or suggest courses of action for the next ten years; they are just questions, and the Council has appointed a number of groups or commissions to consider them and report back. Something of the progress of these commissions will, it is hoped, be laid before the Council when it meets again in March, and the Council will then be giving a report on the whole undertaking to the Assembly in May.

Space is not available to set forth the resolutions and terms of reference on each

- 3 -

subject, but here in briefest outline are some of the subjects, and some suggestions as to their significance.

One commission is called upon to prepare a Statement of Faith - not in any sense a creed, but a statement which will help Congregationalists to make clear to themselves, and thereby to others, the nature of that "general understanding of the Faith" on which our churches and our union rest. It would be difficult to exaggerate the need for, and the value of, such a statement as regards both ourselves and our friends in other denominations.

Another commission is enquiring into the nature of the Church, and the relationship of our Congregational Churches to one another and to the Union; it will also consider the nature of Christian unity and of Christian oversight (episcopate.) Amongst other important points arising will be the meaning of the "independency" of our separate churches, and the authority (if any) of our Union.

A third commission is considering the nature, life, and work of local Congregational Churches in the contemporary world. What service can the church render to the community in which it is established? How can it best carry out its evangelical mission? How relevant are our church activities to our real message and mission?

Then there is a commission considering the nature of the ministry and the meaning of ordination; the recruitment of the ministry and continuance in it. This raises the question of our colleges, their support, their number, and possible amalgamation, their adequacy for their task, etc.

Here pressure of space will permit no more than a mention of other questions such as the nature of the Church's missionary obligations, ways in which the Church can exercise moral influence in the life of the nation, administrative problems, etc. These questions are of no less importance than the others, and we shall all look forward as eagerly to reports on these subjects as to reports on the others. There may be here and there some overlapping in the references to the various commissions and there will have to be consultations between them.

As set down in this hasty and somewhat scrappy form these matters may not seem very exciting, and yet as the Council broke up we had a feeling of great uplift and a sense of having taken a step which may well mark a turning point in the life of our denomination. Whether that is so or not will depend very largely upon the reactions amongst our churches and church members when the reports are made available. They will certainly require our fullest attention and interest.

H. GILMOUR.

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THE LATE MR. W.G. SMITH.

The passing of Mr. W.G. Smith at his home, 41, George V. Avenue, on January 16th leaves yet another gap in friendship and past memories. Widely known in his capacity as builder in the Croydon area for many years, Mr Smith knew much about local life in that district, and besides building the Purley Congregational Church he twice enlarged it. Our friend had also given his support and services to extension work at Wallington Congregational Church, Surrey, and it was from that Church that he was transferred to our membership in November, 1952. In recent years ill health had much restricted his activities, and he suffered much from acute attacks of asthma. A full, and very useful, life ended quietly on the date mentioned, and our Church sincerely sympathises with Miss W. and Miss L. Smith in their time of trouble and loss.

C.H.C.

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A FAREWELL MESSAGE.

It was decided at a recent Church Meeting that our church magazine should in future be published monthly, instead of bi-monthly, but as I did not feel that I could, with my other commitments, give the time necessary for the extra work involved, I felt obliged to tender my resignation as editor. This then is my "farewell" issue, and I would like to express my cordial appreciation of the support I have received from contributors during the five years of my editorship. Also I feel that I would like to express my thanks for the generous financial support given by members and friends; this

- 4 -

has resulted in "The Chronicle" being little in the way of a drain on the resources of the Church, as evidenced by the figures which Mr Cornwall quotes in his very kind article. To him great credit is due for the pattern he set in the years of his editorship, and the way in which he made "The Chronicle" more than a mere news sheet, but a publication which had a much wider aim and appeal. I have endeavoured to the best of my ability to get away from the purely parochial outlook which seems to be a feature of so many church magazines, and I hope that this has been approved by our readers. It is so easy to look "inwards," and to be almost entirely concerned with our own local church affairs, at a time when there are so many of the larger issues crying out for our consideration and attention.

Mr N. Gregory has been appointed editor in my stead, and to him I wish success and happiness as he takes over this task.

A.E. PEARN.

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DAYS OF PRAYER - DEVOTIONAL CHURCH MEETINGS - BIBLE STUDY.

The details of the above Church activities for the months of March and April are as follows:-

Days of Prayer March 25th: The Cross the Summit, Instructor, Minister of our Faith.

April 29th: The Bible Overseas, in Hospitals, in Prisons.

Devotional Church Meetings:

March 5th: Sacrificing for Christ in Modern Days.

12th: What does Christ's sacrifice mean to me?

19th: A Film Strip Service.

26th: Service of Holy Communion.

April 2nd: Free Church Council Rally.

16th: The Madagascar-Scene. As it is today.

23rd: " "

Bible Study March 3rd: Mark Ch. 10 vv.1/52. Divorce. Danger of Riches. Disciples instructed. Blind Bartimaeus healed.

17th: Ch.11 v.1/Ch. 12 v.17. Entry into Jerusalem. Scenes in Temple. A pointed parable. A catch question.

April 7th: Ch. 12 vv.18/24. The first commandments. Scribes' teaching criticised.

21st: Ch. 13 vv.1/37. Misery foretold. Need for vigilance.

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CHURCH NOTES

MEMBERSHIP ITEMS. We give a warm welcome to the following friends who have been received into Church Membership on confession of faith. Mr and Mrs K. Silveston of 5, Strathmore Road, Mr and Mrs H.A. Dobson of 94, Bruce Avenue and Miss Crook of 31, Trent Road.

It is with regret that we record the death of Mr W.G. Smith of 41 George V. Ave. and of Mrs E.G. Sturton of "Stoneleigh", Palatine Road, and our sympathy goes out to the relatives of these our late members.

The membership of Mr and Mrs Frank Johnson has been re-transferred to West Worthing Baptist Church.

WOMEN'S GUILD - FELLOWSHIP. The following talks have been arranged for our March and April programme: Mar. 3rd: Holidays in France. Miss C. Cross, B.A.

17th: St Francis of Assisi. Miss Farnborough

Apl. 14th: Church of the Palatinate. Mrs R. A. Black

28th: Palestine. Miss Heathcot, B.D.

We give a very cordial welcome to all ladies of the Church to attend these meetings, which commence at 3 p.m. No meeting has been arranged for the Tuesday of Easter Week, March 31st. D. W.

WOMEN'S GUILD - WORKING PARTY. We shall be holding our annual Jumble Sale on Friday, Mar. 20th. Will all friends please look out their "odds and ends" of any kind.

We are also inviting ladies and gentlemen of the Church to our usual "At Home" on Tuesday, April 21st. Please keep this day free and join us. We also welcome any

- 5 -

lady to our meetings on alternate Tuesdays.

M.H.

YOUNG WIVES' FELLOWSHIP. A good number of our members braved the elements, and the bridge, to attend our January meetings. Our minister, Mr. Franks, set us off to a good start with his most interesting talk, illustrated with a film, on Jerusalem. So alive did he make it that we almost felt that we too had walked there. Thanks again to our minister; we look forward to a return visit.

Mr Gorton set us all thinking of paint and brushes when he gave us many helpful hints on how to do our decorating. It certainly won't be a repetition of "When father papered the parlour" as far as we are concerned.

February 23rd: Miss North will speak of her four years in a Japanese P.O.W. Camp.

March 9th: "The Critics."

M.S.D.

Mrs Dobson also writes. "May I say "Thank you" to those who so kindly offered their services as "Baby Sitters." I will get in touch with you as soon as the need arises."

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP. We meet at 2.45 for 3 p.m. on alternate Tuesdays, and most interesting speakers have favoured us again for this session. All men of the Church and congregation, and their friends, are welcome, and we look forward to growing numbers attending. The programme for the rest of the session is as follows:-

February 24th: Dr. H.G. Chapman, M.A. Litt. D. "Nineveh."

March 10th: Rev. W. Alex. Law. "Tyrolean Tourist." (With Slides.)

24th: Mr W. Annible. "Reminiscences - Musical and Otherwise."

April 7th: Rev. A.S. Hullah, M.C. "About Gibraltar." (With Slides.)

MEN'S EVENING FELLOWSHIP. This Fellowship meets on alternate Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. in the Church Hall. We helped to deliver parcels of food to the old folk at Christmas; we have visited a Plastics Factory at Shoreham and saw a film show about where to go on holiday. On March 4th there will be a Games Evening, and on March 18th a film on the subject of Oil will be shown. In the summer we are planning a visit to Southampton Docks, arranging to take some of the old folk on a picnic, and have in mind a host of other interesting activities. We even have a holiday outing fund!

There are only ten of us, but by next time I write I hope to report that Mr. Dobson, Senior, is pouring out 20 cups of tea each time, and that there are two platefuls of biscuits. It only costs 6d and we would love to have you!

K.S.

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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

PHILIP FOTHERGILL. The sudden death of Philip Fothergill at the early age of 52 is a sad loss to Congregationalism, to the Temperance Movement and to Liberalism, as well as to a host of friends who held him in great esteem and affection. The writer was privileged to know him well, and to have the pleasure of working with him in the Temperance cause through the United Kingdom Alliance, of which he was president. He was a lovable man, and the meetings he presided over were never dull; he had a lively sense of humour, sound judgment, and a keen and penetrating mind which enabled him to get to the heart of a problem very quickly. He was a ardent Congregationalist, and of course a keen Liberal, having held the highest office in that party. He represented the Nonconformist Conscience at its best, with his clear cut views and unshakable principles, which dominated all his thinking and his actions regarding any issue with which he was concerned. Today there are all too few men of his calibre and a gap is left left which it will be difficult to fill.

A RETROGRADE STEP. A tribute should be paid to the Worthing Free Church Federal Council for their protest to the Worthing Corporation about the decision to apply for a drink licence for the Pier Pavilion extension. The licence has unhappily been granted at the recent Brewster Sessions. It is sad to reflect that a body of responsible councillors favour such a step, at a time when all the evidence makes it clear that the evils directly attributable to drink are on the increase. The alarming rise in the rate of convictions for drunkenness among young people under the age of 18, and the many accidents on the roads due to the drinking driver are in themselves surely sufficient to bring home to thinking people the dangers attaching to any extension

- 6 -

whatsoever in the facilities for drinking intoxicants. There is quite a strong body of Free Church opinion on the Corporation, and it is regrettable to realise that either their objections were overruled or that the Free Church view was not stated with sufficient force. Can we know which it was? Congratulations to Rev. H. J. Rowse for so ably putting our case before the Licensing Magistrates. Keep at it Mr Rowse; the need for such a witness is both urgent and growing day by day.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? It was explained to us recently that the difference between a psychopath and a psychiatrist was that the psychopath thought that two and two made five, while the psychiatrist knew it made four, but the fact worried him. YOU MAY REST IN PEACE NOW CHARLES WESLEY! We quote without comment from the Church of England Newspaper for 16th January, 1959 which was reporting on a discussion with the Methodists on Intercommunion. "The Dean of Winchester, Dr. Norman Sykes, who seconded the resolution for commending the interim statement, said. 'In conversations between Dr. Gordon Rupp and ourselves we found that Methodist hymns contain a good deal of sound theology.'"

WHO WOULD BE AN INTELLECTUAL? "Crossbow" is described in a recent article in "The Times" as "the political quarterly journal that provides a sounding-board for the Bow Group of young Conservative intellectuals." Politics, morals, and society, says "The Times," make the theme of the current issue, and the article proceeds. "The proposals canvassed include the definition of two types of marriage, one of which would be sacramental and binding, and the other contractual and soluble; the examination 'with a view to their abolition,' of all laws restricting Sunday activities and drinking hours: the establishment of betting shops; and the setting up of a board of publishers authors and critics to advise the Director of Public Prosecutions on questions affecting obscene publications." One writer in this journal states "Let the contractualists have the sort of marriage they want; if they want it dissolved, let them go and register a divorce just as they register a marriage."

Are these young Conservative intellectuals our future rulers? If so it is a pretty poor outlook for the country if they can think in terms no higher than the nonsanctity of marriage, of unlimited opportunities for drinking, and of the establishment of betting shops.

In the light of the above many may be excused for feeling that perhaps a Liberal revival of the 1906 pattern, largely influenced by the Nonconformist Conscience, is much overdue.

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LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Members have been reminded from time to time of the L.M.S. box in the church vestibule. It was decided that the box should be opened periodically and the amount collected published in the "Chronicle." The most recent amount is £3. and we thank all who have contributed to this total.

At this time of crisis and urgency in the overseas fields all churches have been asked to invite every member to contribute regularly to the L.M.S. As we have already explained, the box is for those who do not subscribe annually to the L.M.S. and for subscribers who feel they can help a little more throughout the year.

Recently, at the close of a meeting at Littlehampton, of the W. Sussex Auxiliary, the chairman again spoke in grave terms of the financial position. He said that 95% of the people in the churches are not giving what they think they are giving. They have not considered their support of the work of the church here and overseas in relation to their own annual personal expenditure.

"It is not only finance we are considering," said the Rev. Idris Evans, "it is human lives." These are abandoned in their hour of need because of lack of resources to provide missionaries.

The missionary deputation will be with us at the week-end April 19/21. Further particulars will be given later.

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- 7 -

COMMONWEALTH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

A very few of our church members saw some quite delightful "transparencies" of South Africa at the Thursday evening service. The pictures of churches in native reserves, in isolated villages and in shanty towns on the outskirts of "white" settlements, were striking reminders of the valuable work of our denomination in this land, so sadly shadowed by the racial problem.

Cannot one fireside evening be sacrificed to learn something of the work of the Church further afield? Does this mean nothing to us?

Hilda Grey.

MEDICAL MISSIONS SUNDAY.

In his address to the children on 8th February, the Rev. C.C. Franks showed how nurses and doctors tried to understand the minds of their patients, and remove the fear that haunted them.

In the morning sermon the minister sought to emphasise that interest in medical missions is not enough. A deep and ever present care and compassion for all who suffer without adequate help is what is demanded of us. Despite what governments are doing the need for mission hospitals continues to be acute. The need is not only for money but for personnel also. Resources without recruits are of no value.

The evening service included the occasion of the enrolment of new recruits to the Girls' Life Brigade, the dedication of officers, and the enrolment of boys in the Life Boys at the inauguration ceremony. Mr. Franks stressed the parallel aims of these bodies and those of the medical missions and referred to the help given to mission work in South India by the Boys' Life Brigade and the Life Boys.

May it not be that later some of these young people will themselves join the company of needed recruits in hospitals and travelling dispensaries?

Hilda Grey.

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CHURCH UNION.

It would not appear that 1958 has seen much progress, in this country at any rate, towards an integration of the various sects and denominations. Episcopacy is still a major obstacle to any union between the Church of Scotland and the Anglican Church; judging from reports of the discussions it seems that the Presbyterian objection to bishops is as strong as the Anglican view of the necessity for an Episcopate. It is difficult to see how such fundamental differences can be resolved.

Despite the oft-repeated references by the Ecumenists to the "sin of our disunity" it has not yet been found possible to bring about an effective union of the Congregational Union and the London Missionary Society. In fact, the movement if anything is in the reverse direction, the Independent Press Ltd. now having ceased to act as agents for the L.M.S. in the matter of publications. After many years of talks and meetings we seem no nearer a union of Congregationalists and Presbyterians.

Does all this indicate that the Ecumenical movement has been a failure, or is it a case that the problem has been tackled in the wrong way? Is the apathy of the ordinary church member (when did YOU last raise this matter with a fellow member?) not due in considerable measure to the failure of church leaders and advocates of union to state quite clearly the precise terms on which they themselves would agree to union? Nearly all the articles one reads on this subject are singularly vague in this respect, and may convey the impression that the writers themselves are not too clear about the concessions they are prepared to make for the sake of union.

A.E.P.

COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER, 1958 and JANUARY, 1959.

		<u>Envelopes</u>			<u>Loose Collections</u>					<u>Envelopes</u>			<u>Loose Collections</u>		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dec	7	12	1	6	10	7	2	Jan	4	10	3	6	9	3	9
	14	18	3	0	10	5	5		11	17	3	0	10	3	6
	21	15	9	0	11	19	3		18	9	5	0	10	3	3
	28	13	13	6	11	7	3		25	15	10	3	9	19	0
		£ 59	7	0	£ 43	19	1			£ 52	11	9	£ 30	8	9

TOTAL for Two Months	£195	6	7d.
Fen Place Home (Christmas Day)	£19	3	0d.
L.M.S. Widows and Orphans (Communion)	£13	2	6d.

At the time of going to Press the Church Building Fund has reached a total of £6,152 12 7d. Among recent additions we have to record gifts of £100 from the Deacons of the London Road Church, Brighton, £10 10 0d. from the Deacons of the City Temple and £8 12 6d. in memory of Mr William Smith.

GORING CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

	<u>Receipts</u>						<u>Payments</u>						
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1957 Church Funds							1957						
550 Offertories - Loose Colls.	573	7	9				540 Ministerial Salary, Supplies						
598 Envelopes	638	1	6	1,211	9	3	and Expenses				612	1	0
53 Sundry Donations				36	4	11	20 Ministerial Expenses				22	0	0
22 Int. on Deposit-Sussex Union				24	15	10	77 Manse Expenses				100	18	1
24 Donations-Chronicle Fund				19	6	6	62 Organist Etc.				57	5	10
20 Advertisements, Donations-Handbook				21	4	0	12 Organ and Piano Expenses				18	2	10
146 Letting of Hall	162	9	0				146 Caretaker and Insurance				150	17	0
Less Refund by tenants							34 Cost of Church Chronicle				32	16	2
for heating	11	12	6	150	15	6	20 Cost of Handbook				21	0	0
							167 Electricity, Gas and Water	178	0	6			
							156 Less repaid by tenants	11	13	6	166	7	0
							27 Maintenance of Property				27	5	8
							36 Interest on Manse Loan				106	15	6
							14 Subscriptions				21	11	6
							17 Sundry Insurances				-	-	-
							" Premium - Retiring Pension				8	0	0
							9 Advertising				10	2	4
							29 Rates - Children's Hall				30	1	8
							" Removal Expenses				10	10	0
							" Cost of Folding Chairs				11	8	0
							57 Sundries				79	18	2
Bal. in Hand 1/1/58.	£ 1,463	16	0				602 Bal. in Hand 31/12/58.				£ 1,487	0	9
	602	13	6								579	8	9
	£ 2,066	9	6								£ 2,066	9	6
Bal. brought down	579	8	9				Gross Bal. 31/12/58 Deposit	500	0	0			
Amounts received for School Hut	70	0	0				Cash at Bank	149	8	9	649	8	9
	£ 649	8	9								£ 649	8	9

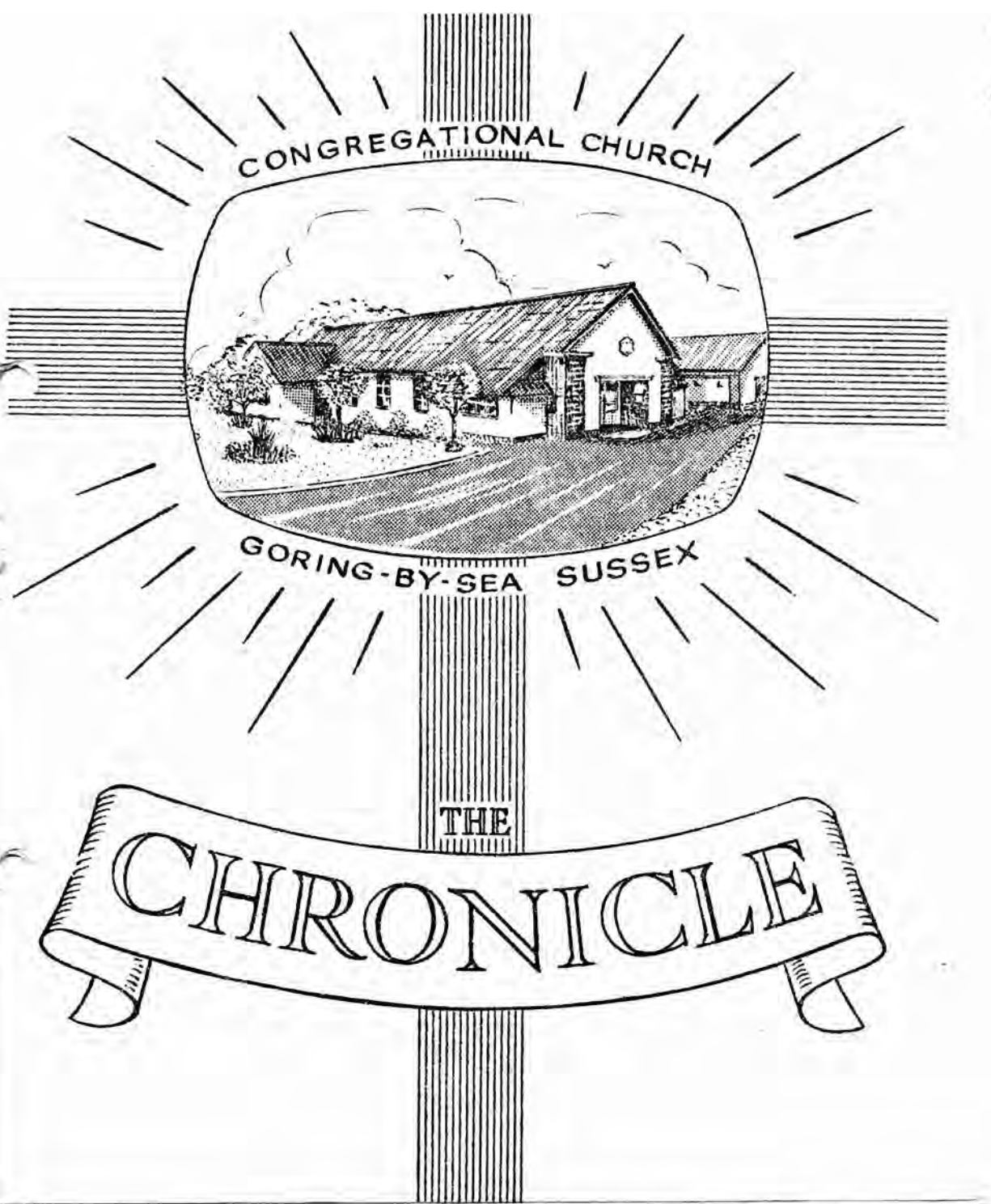
69 Balance 1/1/58	75	19	8	28 Gifts to Sick and Needy	30	0	0
66 Offertories	68	5	11	22 Various Donations	11	11	0
				9 Sundry Items	7	0	0
				76 Balance in Hand 31/12/58	95	14	7
	£	144	5 7		£	144	5 7

Balance 1/1/58	5	14	7	Cost of mowing lawns	6	16	0
Sundry Gifts	7	2	2	Sundry Item		16	8
Coach Outing-per Mr. S.F. Grew	1	3	0	Balance in Hand 31/1/58		6	7
	£	13	19	9		£	13
							19
							9

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MINISTER

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Mr.G.L.Nodes,
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Deacons

Miss G.Andrew	Mr.G.L.Nodes
Mr.C.H.Cornwall (Life)	Mr.R.O.Parker
Mr.N.A.Dobson	Miss W.Smith
Miss B.J.Ford	Miss A.M.Thomas
Mr.N.Gregory	Mr.E.Tilbury
Mr.S.F.Grew	Miss D.M.Walsh
Mr.B.C.Hoskins	Mr.H.A.Winterton
Mr.D.G.Hughes	

THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE.

My dear Friends,

The Business Church Meeting referred to in the June Chronicle gave its unanimous approval to the Deacons' recommendations that we should now proceed to come to agreement as to the form of a larger church at the earliest possible moment and then move at once to the actual building. The Building Committee which was appointed has met and discussed the points raised in the Church Meeting. Subsequently four members of that Committee visited the architect, who has promised to send us revised plans within a month. It should therefore be possible to bring these before the Business Church Meeting on July 30th. Please make a note of the date and do your utmost to be present at the Meeting.

You will see from the Treasurer's notes that the promised gift from the Congregational Union of England and Wales has been received and we are grateful for that help. There is the possibility that further assistance may be forthcoming from another source. A letter has been sent to the body concerned and will be considered at a meeting to be held early in July. I ask for your prayers that if I am given the opportunity to speak I may be able to use the right words so that God's will, whatever it may be, shall be done.

We are glad to have the new cover for the Chronicle, which has been designed by Mr. Peter Mercer, brother of Mr. Arthur Mercer.

A late report. Miss E. Gilbey has expressed her willingness to act as Editor of the magazine. We shall be happy to propose at the next Church Meeting that she should be appointed. I am sure that she is the right person for the task.

Yours very sincerely,

C.C. Franks

-2-

THE PASSING OF AN OLD FRIEND

Eighteen years can see many changes in Church life. And with a rapidly changing membership it is perhaps inevitable that many who have joined us during the past ten years or more only knew of Mrs. H.K. Handford by hearsay, and maybe never spoke to her. But this remarkable old lady who passed away to a fuller life on the lovely summer's morning of June 17th, at the age of 96, was most keenly interested in the growth of our Church from the very start, and even maintained an active part in Church life up to her mid-eighties. Most regular in her personal attendance at both morning and evening services, and ever loyal in her adherence, Mrs. Handford in one sense helped to build up our Church as it is to-day, for she was ever ready to free Miss Handford for vital and important Church work. And what our Church owes to Miss Handford is only really known to those who were members away back in earlier years, and during a time of great losses, and new beginnings.

Formerly members of the Harrogate Congregational Church, and later members of Shelley Road for a time, the Handford family have rendered valuable service in Church life, Mr. Handford being a man of unusual methodical efficiency, an attribute transmitted to his daughter in later years.

In 1952 just after the new hymn book "Congregational Praise" was published Mrs. Handford made a generous gift of £100 to enable our Church to purchase the new books. And despite advancing age and failing powers, she was a faithful supporter of the Ladies Working Party. And even up to the last four or five years of her life she was often present at our morning services, sitting (let those of us who so love the back seats take notice!) well up near the front.

At our Church Anniversary the Rev. Howard Stanley stressed the point that "one sows, another reaps". Our old friend who has now left us can indeed be classed among the sowers.

To Miss Handford and family connections we offer

-3-

our Christian sympathy, together with a genuine sense of appreciation for their share in consistent well-doing in Church life. No cause here for tears!

"For well we know, where'er they be,
Our dead are living unto Thee."

C.H.C.

THE CHURCH AND YOUTH

The writer of the original article comments on last month's reply:

Well done the gallant young defenders! A Church with such doughty champions has great possibilities. Long may they serve her.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Working Party The final meeting of this session will be held on Tuesday, 30th June. We shall be pleased to see as many ladies as possible. Perhaps some will be good enough to take a little work home to do in the holidays - ready for the Sale of Work to be held on November 18th 1959. The opening date of the new session will be announced later.

M.H.

YOUNG WIVES' FELLOWSHIP.

July 13th is our last meeting of the session, when we are holding our Annual Business Meeting. To all our members and their families a very happy holiday, and we shall look forward to seeing you again on September 14th.

M.S.D.

LIFE BOY TEAM

As mentioned in last month's Chronicle, the Team is in urgent need of another helper and also of a pianist.

-4-

CHURCH REGISTER

New members:

Mr. and Mrs. Mott, 29 The Strand, on profession
of faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, 97 Littlehampton Road, by
transfer from Harrow Congregational
Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Cozens-Walker, 32 Gerald Road, by
transfer from Harrow Congregational
Church.

Wedding - July 10th Mr. N.K. Rudd to Miss A.E.A.
Stephens.

Death - Mrs. H.K. Handford of 29 Marlborough Road, on
17th June.

MISSIONARY NEWS

On Sunday evening June 7th a visitor from Kampala, Uganda gave an address. He traced the history of the slave trade and its suppression in Uganda. He also spoke of the beginning there of the Christian Church and the martyrdom of thirty members in the early days.

Mr. Thorpe advises farmers in co-operative selling of their crops of cotton and coffee, and gave some interesting information on this matter.

He also spoke of the faith of the natives. Three new churches are contemplated and another is begun. A nurse employed in his own home was involved in recent nationalist disturbances. Rubber shoes she had bought in the shop of an Indian were confiscated.

In spite of racial troubles and difficulties incident to the climate, Mr. Thorpe looks forward to his return to Kampala this autumn.

London Missionary Society Rally at Shelley Road.

On June 10th the Rev. Stanley Wilton, B.A., B.F., Education Secretary of the L.M.S. at Livingstone House gave a most thoughtful and searching address on the reasons for Christian Missions in the redemptive power of the risen Christ. We hope later to publish a resumé of his address in greater detail,

-5-

as it is worthy of the careful study of all members of the Church. Hilda Grey

DEEDS OF COVENANT.

When perusing the Annual Church Accounts published in the March/April issue of 'The Chronicle' did you notice the amount the Church Treasurer received as refund of tax under Deeds of Covenant? The total was £220, and conforming to the wishes of the kind folk who have taken out Covenants, this amount was allocated as follows: To the reduction of the debt on the Manse £118; To the Church Building Fund £102.

Is there not just a little satisfaction in knowing that for every £1 covenanted the Church receives an additional 12/8d. as refund on tax? If you pay Income Tax at the standard rate on ANY PART of your income you may take out a Covenant for as little (or as much!) as you please and the Church Treasurer receives a nice annual sum in refund of tax.

You may apportion the amount covenanted to either the Manse Redemption Fund or the Church Building Fund, or if you so desire it may be divided between the two funds.

The Church Treasurer, Mr. G.L. Nodes, or Mr. H. Horsfall will be very glad to help you to help the Church.

DAY OF PRAYER

The next Day of Prayer is 29th July - 10.30 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

VISITING MINISTERS

June 28th - the Rev. N.E. Jones, Minister since 1954 at Billingshurst, Chairman of Western District of Sussex Congregational Union.

July 12th - the Rev. C.S. Davies, Minister at Bognor Regis.

-6-

LADY WANTED, able and willing to sing to the glory of God. Ability to read music preferred, but strong, true-to-pitch voice essential. Hours: Friday 7-8 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m. - 12.15 p.m., 6.30-7.45 p.m. Ample reward. APPLY to any Choir member, who will be delighted to introduce you.

Recently-joined Church Members in particular please note.

HYMN BOOKS.

We seem to be rather short of hymn books. If any member of the congregation has by chance got a church hymn book at home, we should be grateful if it were returned.

5TH WORTHING G.L.B.

Our Company has been showing up well in recent Battalion events. They excelled themselves at the Sports held on June 13th by winning the trophies in Cadet, Junior and Senior sections; the points gained were well in advance of the other companies taking part. Most of the company went to Horsham on Friday June 26th to take part in the annual Battalion Church Parade.

Some of our company have been to the Blind Home, Wraysbury, Beccles Road, to conduct a service.

JUNIOR CHURCH.

Anniversary We celebrated our anniversary on 31st May. The services, conducted by Mr. Franks, were well attended by children and parents, the whole Church being present at the morning service. We had a Family Service in the afternoon. Afterwards the teachers met for tea and a discussion led by the Rev. Harold Rowse. The young people took a prominent part in the evening service, and gave a moving choral reading of the 'Sermon on the Mount'.

Cradle Roll Service was held in the morning on the 21st June. Mrs. Latham introduced the parents, and five new names were added to the Roll. Mrs. Franks

-7-

kindly joined us and told a story to the children.

The Junior Outing to London Zoo took place on Saturday. At 8.30 a.m. Mr. Franks sped us on our way with a prayer and a blessing, and from that moment on until we put the last child down again at 8.30 p.m. everything went smoothly and happily. We are now looking forward to the Beginners and Primary Outing on the 4th July to High Salvington. The bus will leave the Church at 1.45 p.m. *

GARDEN PARTY.

A Garden Party will be held at 5 Parklands Avenue on Saturday, July 4th, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. There will be a Bring & Buy Stall and competitions. Teas and Ices will be served. Proceeds for Home Churches Fund.

TOYS, BOOKS, etc. We are grateful to those who have given toys and books to the Beginners Department. If there is anyone else with such things to spare we would be glad of some more.

during August

Would anyone be willing to lead in the Beginners or Primary when some teachers will be away? We do not want to close down if we can possibly avoid it.

HELP

That is just what the Inter-Church Aid & Refugee Service does. It helps relieve the plight of the world's millions of refugees; it helps in times of sudden emergencies; it helps to provide community services for the needy; it helps, by means of scholarships, the international exchange of students. What it does and what it cannot do is limited by the willingness or otherwise of people to give. From next Sunday for the next few weeks you will find a box in the Church vestibule so that you may share in this remarkable and vital task of carrying aid just where it is needed.

"The millions who have grown tired and prematurely old waiting for officialdom to reinstate them in society have one hope left: YOU, as an individual and

-8-

as a member of the world-wide family of Christians."

TEACH US HOW TO PRAY

Someone has said that the only way to learn how to pray is to do it. But lessons can be learned from those who have known the way for themselves. These books I have found especially helpful:-

'Rediscovering Prayer' by John L. Casteel. Published by Hodder & Stoughton.

'The Lower Levels of Prayer' by Geo. S. Stewart. Published by S.C. Press.

I shall be glad to lend either or both of these to anyone and to commend others which there is not room to mention.

C.C.F.

COLLECTIONS FOR MAY 1959.

	<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Collections</u>
May 3	£12.15. -	£13. 8. 2
10	10.15. 6	14. 5. 2
17	13.11. -	16. -. 7
24	10. 2. -	13.11. 8
31	10.14. -	- - -
	£57.17. 6	£57. 5. 7
	=====	=====

Total for the month £115. 3. 1.

Children's Church and Sunday School £22.2.1.

During the past month a cheque for £500 has been received from the Congregational Union of England & Wales, which with other gifts brings the total amount of our Church Building Fund up to £8,400.

Material for the August Chronicle should be handed in by the 19th July.

N.B. Miss Thomas is, of course, a Life Deacon.

We regret the omission on the cover. It will be rectified as soon as new covers are prepared.

SUNDAY SERVICES:

Public Worship - 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.
Holy Communion - 1st Sunday of the month
in the morning; 3rd Sunday of the month
in the evening.
Junior Church - 11 a.m.
Sunday School - 3 p.m.

Mondays:

Life Boy Team - 6.15 p.m.
Young Wives' Fellowship 8 p.m. on alternate
Mondays.

Tuesdays:

Bible Study 8 p.m. on alternate Tuesdays.
Women's Guild - Working Party, 2.30 p.m.;
Fellowship 3 p.m., on alternate Tuesdays
Men's Fellowship 3 p.m. on alternate Tuesdays
Girls' Life Brigade, Cadets 5.30 p.m.;
Juniors 6.15 p.m.; Seniors 7 p.m.

Wednesdays:

Men's Evening Fellowship alternate
Wednesdays.

Thursdays:

Devotional Church Meeting 7 p.m. (Business
Church Meeting Thursday before 1st
Sunday).

Fridays:

Young People's Fellowship 6 p.m.
Choir Practice 7 p.m.
Youth Group 8 p.m.

No. 94

The Manse,
August 1959.THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

My dear Friends,

These holiday months have meant a considerable amount of coming and going among our congregation. We have been pleased to be able to receive numerous visitors from other Churches, and to any who may read this magazine we extend our greetings. To those of our own folk who are able to spend a while away from the normal routine we say, "We hope that you have benefited from the change and return home renewed in body, mind and spirit."

The Manse family will be going away for about three weeks as from August 12th. Part of the time will be spent in Poole with some of the Youth Club and the remainder in Southampton. We are looking forward to the opportunity for preparing ourselves for the work which lies ahead of us in the Autumn-Spring period.

In that time we shall be occupied with thinking and praying and acting in the matter of the proposed new building. The promise of a considerable gift from the County Union has made the possibility of finishing the job nearer than would otherwise have been possible. We shall still have to exercise much patience and tolerance with each other. In such a project it is unlikely that we shall easily arrive at a unanimous conclusion over every feature, but we do want everyone to have the opportunity of expressing their opinions. Nothing final will be done without the approval of the Church Meeting and we shall seek to know God's will for it all.

But this material building, vital though it is, is not our biggest work. Rather we have to give ourselves to the deepening of our spiritual life together so that we may be effective witnesses of the Gospel which has been so graciously given to us. I must confess that sometimes I have anxieties in this field. I ask myself whether we are really being obedient to God's commands. We can only do it together if we are doing it as individuals. We must all have our personal devotion submitted to God's judgment. He alone can inform us, and He will if we

-2-

seek. Will you join me in this search?
Yours very sincerely,
C.C. FRANKS

GARDEN PARTY.

The Garden Party arranged by Mrs. G.L. Nodes at her home at 5 Parklands Avenue on July 4th was a great success. The sun shone and Church friends gathered in good numbers. Various competitions, a bring-and-buy stall, teas and ices helped to bring the financial result to £39.10. -.

Church funds will share this money, among them the Home Churches Fund (with its £100 target) and the Manse Fund. A.M.T.

MEN'S EVENING FELLOWSHIP.

Two things particularly pleased us when we organised an outing for old people in our neighbourhood on July 18th - a beautiful day and willing help from car owners and the 'Young Wives'.

Thirty old people were taken by fifteen cars to Amberley, where they enjoyed a tea previously prepared by the 'Young Wives' in the Congregational Church hall kindly lent for the occasion. The return journey to Worthing by a different route rounded off an afternoon which the old folk thoroughly enjoyed.

I would like to say a very sincere 'thank you' to the Committee of 'Young Wives' who worked so very hard to cater for the party, also to the car owners who kindly drove our old people and contributed so much to a successful venture.

The Fellowship recently enjoyed an evening at Brighton Power Station, where they were shown 'what makes things tick' by two patient members of the generating staff.

Friends may like to know that members of the Fellowship have installed a ventilating fan in the roof of our Church, which we hope adds to your comfort. My personal thanks goes to those who helped.

We shall not meet in the evenings during the summer holiday period but we shall start again in the autumn. Any gentlemen in our congregation who would like to join us will be very welcome. Mr. Franks or

-3-

I will gladly give any further information.
Kenneth Silveston (Sec.)

JUNIOR CHURCH.

Two pianists are urgently needed for the morning session.

At the end of September about fifteen children will move up from the Primary Department to the Junior, so we shall need two more teachers, as classes are already quite large. Please think about it, and if anyone is able and willing to help would they kindly contact the Superintendent between now and September.

Primary & Beginners had their outing on Saturday 4th July. They went to High Salvington by bus and spent a happy afternoon playing games and having a picnic tea.

Sports The Sunday School Union Sports were held on the 27th June. Perhaps spurred on by the G.L.B., our children and young people made a special effort and succeeded in winning the Rose Bowl. As far as we can make out this is the first time it has been won by a Congregational Church. By a happy coincidence the President of the local Branch, Mr. Norman Jones, was preaching in our Church on the 28th. So he was able to congratulate the young people personally.

Camp Beds! We are taking a group of young people to 'camp' in the Congregational Church Hall in Poole during the last week in August. This year we have to take beds. If anyone has a camp bed and would be willing to lend it in case of need would they kindly let us know.

WOMEN'S GUILD

All ladies of the Church and congregation are reminded that the autumn session of the Working Party Section of the Guild will commence on Tuesday, 1st September at 2.30 p.m. We shall be busy preparing for our Sale of Work which takes place on Wednesday, 18th November next.

M.H.

A stall is being arranged for the sale of any

-4-

kind of small article other than jumble. Will any friend who can offer a gift please contact Mrs. Nodes 5 Parklands Avenue.

Women's Fellowship Section Mrs. Winterton (Secretary wishes it to be known that she is now 'on the telephone'. Her number is Goring-by-Sea 45856.

CHOIR

The Choir have been very pleased to receive new members recently. Mrs. Wills and Mrs. Cozens-Walker have joined the ranks of the sopranos, while Mr. Will. is among the basses and Mr. Cozens-Walker is with the tenors.

We are glad to learn that Mr. R.O. Parker has accepted the position of Choir Secretary and will take up his duties as from 1st August.

CHURCH REGISTER.

New member:

On profession of faith - Mrs. D.M. Tunnell,
Tunrob, Windermere Crescent, Goring.

Mr. and Mrs. Mallett will probably be leaving Worthing within the next month to settle in Birmingham at the home of their daughter. It has been a joy to us to have had their fellowship over the past years, and we now wish them every blessing and happiness in their new home.

VISITING MINISTERS

August 16th - The Rev. J.R. Ackroyd, B.D., of West Wickham, Kent.
August 23rd - The Rev. Marley Jones pf Ferring.
August 30th - The Rev. Dr. Leslie F. Church, of Worthing.

REMINDER.

Monthly Day of Prayer - Wednesday next, 29th July.
Please come if you can to at least one session. The

-5-

times of meeting are 10.30 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

COLLECTIONS FOR JUNE, 1959

	<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Collections</u>
June 7	£12.13. -	£14. 5.10
14	13.16. -	18. 3. 9
21	10. 9. 6	12.11. 2
28	12. 1. -	13.18.10
	<u>£48.19. 6</u>	<u>£53.19. 7</u>
	=====	=====

Total for the month £107.19. 1.

Pastors' Widows' Fund of Congregational Union -
£11.13.10.

Since the last issue of the Chronicle the total amount of the Church Building Fund has been increased to £8,431. 7. 1.

MONTHLY CHURCH MEETING NOTES.

Following the decision to receive selected reports of the various activities of the Church at each monthly Church Meeting, instead of annually on one evening, the first of such reports were given at the June Meeting, when Mrs. Hite and Mrs. Winterton reported respectively on the Working Party and Women's Fellowship Sections of the Women's Guild and Miss Walsh on the afternoon Sunday School. All three reports were encouraging and showed steady progress in the work of these sections of the Church life.

These monthly reports will undoubtedly prove most valuable in keeping members informed about the various activities in which we are engaged the year round and should enable us to pray with greater knowledge for those who lead and those who are led in all the different groups.

CONCERT.

On Wednesday July 8th a very excellent concert was held in the Church Hall arranged by Mrs. Doble and

-6-

her friends. The varied programme was much enjoyed by an appreciative audience, which included three blind ladies and their guides. Refreshments were served in the interval.

The sum of £10.12. - was handed to the Treasurer for the Church Building Fund.

L.K.B.

CHRISTIANITY AND THE 'H' BOMB

Miss Mary van Kleeck, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, (at present in this country) who had a series of articles on this subject published in 'The Witness', the weekly magazine of the American Episcopal Church, made a strong plea for a Christian approach to this question.

In support of her plea Miss van Kleeck gave a moving account of the effects of her own country's nuclear tests in 1954 in the Marshall Islands and of an urgent petition sent by the Marshallese Islands to the United Nations urging the cessation of the tests. The terms of this petition reveal the extent of the danger to which these people had been exposed by the tests already made. In it they requested that -

- "(1) all the experiments with lethal weapons within this area be immediately ceased;
- (2) If the experiments with said weapons be judged absolutely necessary for the eventual well-being of all the people of this world and cannot be stopped or changed to other areas due to the unavailability of other locations, we then submit the following suggestions:-"

The following are only a few of the points made but they give an indication of the nature of the hazards endured. Among other things they asked for precautionary measures (apparently not hitherto taken) before explosions, e.g. removal to safe areas of "all human beings and their valuable possessions", instructions in safety measures for all living in the area, ("the people would have avoided much danger if they had known not to drink the water on their home

-7-

islands after the radio-active dust had settled on them"), and teaching courses for "Marshallese medical practitioners and health aides to help in detecting and circumventing preventable dangers".

The petition cited in some detail the physical effects of the 1954 experiments "which have already touched the inhabitants of two of the atolls in the Marshalls, "who are now suffering in varying degrees from lowering of blood count, burns, nausea and the falling-off of hair from the head, and whose complete recovery no one can promise with any certainty".

Miss van Kleeck urges that Christians should know the facts and quotes Bishop Sherrill, who said at the Presiding Bishops' General Convention - "Are we to leave the moral issues of nuclear warfare to groups of scientists? No, the Church, with a humble realization of the complexity of modern problems, nevertheless has a responsibility to state great ethical and spiritual principles".

Anyone wishing to read the articles referred to is invited to apply to Miss E. Brenda Voysey, 26, Rose Walk, Worthing, to whom we are indebted for drawing our attention to them.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

... what a God. To be willing to come down from the incredible heights of His wisdom and power and become one of us - just so that we might see what He is like and learn to know Him. Once you see that you feel that nothing is too much to do for Him.

J.B.Phillips.

Commenting on Luke 16, vv.19-31-

It is a terrible warning to remember that the sin of Dives was not that he did wrong things, but that he did nothing!

Wm. Barclay

-8-

.... the most fundamental need, duty and happiness of man is not petition, nor even contrition, nor again even thanksgiving, but adoration.

Von Hugel

A Prayer

We pray for the bi-focals of faith that see the despair and the need of the hour, but also see, further on, the patience of God working out His plan in the world He has made.

.....

The September Chronicle will be published on the first Sunday in that month, and material for inclusion should be handed in by Sunday, 30th August.

Note Miss Thomas is, of course, a Life Deacon. The omission on the cover is regretted and will be rectified as soon as new covers are prepared.

Editor:

Miss E. Gilby, 80 Melrose Avenue
'phone Goring 41235.

Chronicle issue missing

No.96

October, 1959.

THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

My dear Friends,

This issue of The Chronicle will appear on the day of our Harvest Thanksgiving. We look forward to a day in which we can remember and express our thankfulness to God for His goodness to us through another year. Of course not a day passes but there are a thousand and one things to give us cause for thankfulness. Whatever our circumstances the unchanging and indestructible love of God is certain. That love issues in numberless ways and we are encouraged when we take pains to recall to mind just what they have meant to us.

As a Church, too, we can thank God for what He has enabled us to do thus far and for His promises for what we shall yet be able to accomplish for His sake. Thankfulness, however, does not end when we have expressed it in words - it moves on into penitence and beyond into a repeated surrender and commitment.

At this time of the year we are called by our denominational leaders to make this act of dedication together. Whatever we may do in a communal way the essence of our self-giving to God will be found in our personal face-to-face meeting with Him. Will you in your own devotions take time for a specific and purposeful handing over of yourself to the will of God that He shall be able to make you His servant and friend. It is only in this way that we shall be equal to the tasks that lie before us, accepting the challenges and ever-increasing calls that will be made upon us to represent Him in this area.

It is my conviction that we stand on the verge of stronger evidence of God's mercy and power than we have ever seen before. He cannot fail us - may He grant us the joy of not failing Him.

A brief word in reply to Mr. Pearn's suggestion in the last Chronicle. Of course I should be willing for us to show our interest in and concern for the village churches. I support the idea that we should arrange for some of our people to visit them in their

-2-

Sunday Services.

To all those who cannot come to Church because of illness or because of duties that require them to be elsewhere we send our love, and we rest in the confidence that you are joined with us in continual prayer that God's purposes shall ripen fast among us.

Yours very sincerely,

C.C. FRANKS

CHURCH REGISTER - NEW MEMBERS.

Miss Margaret Cozens-Walker, 38a Aglaia Road, West Worthing (by transfer from Harrow Congregational Church)

Miss Evelyn M. Harland, 16 Farncombe Road, East Worthing (by transfer from Lewes Congregational Church)

Miss Mary Shaw, 30 Compton Avenue, Goring, on profession of faith.

Unhappily Miss Shaw had been seriously ill, and at the time of the Church Meeting at which her acceptance into membership was approved she passed away.

COLLECTIONS FOR AUGUST, 1959

	<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>Loose Collections</u>
2nd	£20. 1. 6	£16. 3. 1
9th	11. 17. -	15. 11. 9
16th	12. 5. -	12. 16. 11
23rd	10. 8. -	10. 5. 6
30th	15. 2. -	15. 5. 4
	<u>£69. 13. 6</u>	<u>£70. 2. 7</u>
	=====	=====

The total for the month, £139.16. 1d., is the highest ever recorded for any single month. G.L.N.

VISITING MINISTERS

Oct. 11th - Rev. Gordon K. Hawes, M.A., B.D., Minister of Nevill Avenue Congregational Church, Hove, and Chairman of the Sussex Congregational Union.

Oct. 25th - (Morning only) - Rev. T.E.R. Langridge, Minister of Clermont Preston Congregational

-3-

Church, Brighton.

THE AESTHETIC SENSE - AND THE LOVE OF GOD.

The columns of "The Christian World" recently described the destruction by a bulldozer of a lovely avenue of flowering Japanese cherry trees which, planted 25 years ago, had grown in beauty and splendour, making the grass verges of the roadway a spring-time fairy-land. Even the least sensitive were appalled at the massacre. But the argument was 'After all, it's progress isn't it, for it will enable cars to travel at still greater speed.'

Must 'progress' of this sort then always have priority? Or is there a spiritual value in things beautiful which we cannot afford to lose?

A writer of other days, Frank T. Bullen, was noted for his powers of description in things dealing with the sea, coupled together with deeply religious convictions. In his book "With Christ at Sea" the writer makes reference to his altered outlook following his conversion. He writes "What people call the aesthetic sense of beauty is, I believe, more strongly fostered by the love of God than anything else". With a word of pity for those who take a distorted, God-dishonouring view that the loveliness of this world is soul-destroying in its effect, he goes on to say - "I do not believe there is any education in a love of the beautiful so effective, and so thorough, as that gained by an acquaintance with Jesus Christ".

.....

We are hoping in the near future to be able to erect a new Church building. This will be for worship, the preaching of the Gospel Message, the cultivation of Christian fellowship, and for fostering that 'acquaintance' which Frank Bullen referred to.

Beauty has been described as the appearance of the spiritual through the external. Judging by the austerity of some Free Church buildings in earlier years our forefathers did not seem able to grasp the ideal! But it seems a good starting point for those about to build a new Church.

C.E.C.

-4-

THE BIBLE SAYS -

Elijah said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow Him; but if Baal follow him. And the people answered not a word.

1 Kings 18, v.21

Pilate saith, What is truth?

John 19, v.38

Jesus saith, I am the way, the truth and the life.

John 14, v.6

In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.

Isaiah 30, v.15.

OUR NEW CHURCH

Progress I have been asked by the Editor to write a Report few words each month if possible on the progress made, chiefly for the benefit of friends who, though unable to attend meetings of the Church, receive the Chronicle. Former members and many 'outside' friends are also very interested and will be kept informed by this means.

The Building Committee have reviewed one preliminary design for the new Church, including plan and sketch elevation. The plan adequately provided for our general requirement to seat 300 but the Committee felt the elevation design was too modernistic. The architects have prepared another design for consideration; this arrived on the 17th September and is receiving the Committee's consideration; they will report to the November Church Meeting, or earlier their findings and recommendations.

Having used the term 'modernistic', for your thoughts I give a brief summary from an article on church building. A Christian church is no ordinary building; it's erection is an act of worship; it is the House of God. Gothic style has been out-dated, partly on account of economy. New churches will of necessity have to be very simple and, in modern surroundings, must be built in a new way with new materials selected for their durability; a new church

-2-

may not look like the traditional church, but it must nevertheless possess a quality which proclaims its purpose and reflects the doctrine preached within.

F.L.W.

A Plea We read in the current issue of the "Worthing Herald" that the design of our new Church, whether conventional or revolutionary, "depends on the Building Committee". The eventual decision will be the most important one made by the Church since it was decided to form a Fellowship in 1940. In view of this very vital decision which will confront the Church is it not possible in some way for the whole of the membership to share this great responsibility, for all the members are 'share-holders' in this great venture.

It may well be that a recommendation made by the Committee will be accepted or rejected by a show of hands at a Church Meeting attended by some 70 or 80 members out of a total membership of 260. The ultimate decision when carried out will be down in bricks and mortar, and posterity will judge whether the Church has been faithful to its immediate task of erecting a building fit for the Glory of God.

W.G.H.

NEWS

WOMEN'S GUILD Fellowship Section The following meetings have been arranged for the coming month -

6th October - Anniversary Service, when the speaker will be Mrs. Joyce Hutchinson, President of the Sussex Branch of the Federation of Congregational Women.

20th October - Musical afternoon.

A very warm invitation is extended to all ladies of the Church and Congregation to attend these meetings which will commence at 3 o'clock. The Anniversary service will be held in the Church, after which tea will be served in the hall. V.W.

Working Party Section We have been delighted to welcome five new members to our meetings this session and would be pleased to see

-6-

others.

It will be of interest to know that we are proceeding, with the Women's and Men's Fellowships, with plans for our Sale of Work on 18th November. Mr. J.G. Arnold, of Ferring, has kindly consented to open the Sale, under the Chairmanship of Mr. A.E. Pearn, also of Ferring! Councillor Mrs. J.R. Peryer has agreed to judge the 'Apron' and 'Gift' Competitions. If there is anyone not in the Working Party who would like to enter either or both these competitions, please contact Mrs. W.G. Hite or any member of the Committee.

We hope the proceeds of the sale will be equally divided between the Building and the Manse Funds.

M.H.

.....

With regard to the stall for the sale of 'curiosities and small articles', it is suggested the following would be acceptable - china ornaments, brass and silver ware, stationery (including Christmas cards) and perfumery. Mrs. Hoskins, Mrs. Iveson or Mrs. Nodes will be pleased to receive any of these gifts.

YOUNG WIVES Meetings during this month are:-
 FELLOWSHIP October 12th - Speaker Miss Strange -
 Subject, Work among the refugees.
 October 26th - Discussion on 'Bus queue topics (White lies)'.
 Don't forget Saturday, October 31st,
 the date of our Hallowe'en Social, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
 Price of tickets (including refreshments) will be
 1s.6d.

M.S.D.

THE LIFE There are still several blank dates in our
 BOYS programme which we wish to fill. Will any
 friends who could entertain, instruct or speak to the
 boys for about three quarters of an hour on a Monday
 evening please contact the Leader in Charge, Mr. R.E.
 Jones. Our new pianist this session will be Mr.
 Robinson, not Mr. Willson as reported last month.

R.E.J.

GIRLS' LIFE Our Company spent a very happy week
 BRIGADE this summer in camp at Shanklin, Isle
 of Wight, where we joined with the 2nd

-7-

Nothing Company. We are now settling down to our regular weekly 'Company nights'. E.S.

HOLIDAY During school holidays five members of
ENTERPRISE Junior Church, Rosalind Blake, Lesley
 Collins, Lindsay Hoad, Janet White and
Linda Winstanley, decided to hold a 'fete' in one of
their gardens. They set to work and included a
play performed by themselves. At the end of it all
they were able to hand Mr. Franks £8 for the
Building Fund. Well done, and thank you Rosalind,
Lesley, Lindsay, Janet and Linda (and parents!).

POOLE On Saturday, 22nd August, we journeyed to
HOLIDAY Poole, a party of eager campers. There
 we proceeded to 'pitch camp' in the six
or seven large rooms which were to be our home.

Next day we all attended both morning and
evening services at our Church a few yards away.
Monday saw us at Rockley Sands for the day, Tuesday
at Bournemouth, Wednesday at Corfe Castle and later
at Swanage, Thursday afternoon at Poole Park and all
day Friday in the New Forest.

But with all these leisurely days work
went on and the rota, set in a prominent position,
made sure it was done. Thanks to those responsible
our food was wonderful and to crown the week we had
chicken for dinner.

Prayers and evening epilogue were times
welcomed by all, when we joined together in a
different kind of unity.

But from everyone who went grateful thanks
to Mr. and Mrs. Franks, Mr. and Mrs. Mercer, Miss
Walsh and Miss Ford for giving us a lovely holiday.
Without them the holiday would have failed in its
main purpose, to bring us nearer to each other and
to God. So, many thanks, and may all who go in
future years find the same happiness that we found
in our stay in Poole. Ananda Ashton

MISSIONARY NEWS AND VIEWS

LONDON This information regarding our contribu-
MISSIONARY tions has been passed on to me and I
SOCIETY think it is worthy of consideration.
 £193 was contributed to the Society last
year by our Church. We have 262 members; 6d. per

-8-

week per member would total £340. Our present giving averages less than 3½d. per week per member.

I again ask members to consider giving under Deed of Covenant. Such an arrangement adds 12s.8d. to the Society for every £1 subscribed - on 6d. a week (which is £1.6s. a year) a further 16s.5d. is obtained in tax rebate. This method is open to anyone paying Income Tax on part of their income at the standard rate of 7s.9d. in the £. Without increasing their contributions, therefore, some members could, by adopting this course, considerably increase the Church's contribution to the Society.

H.G.

DISCUSSION GROUPS It is proposed to form a Home Study Group during the autumn. The intention is that a number of friends should meet together in the home of one of our members to discuss the Church Overseas. The meetings might be held fortnightly or perhaps monthly, and preferably in the afternoon.

If you would like to join a Missionary Group please give your name to Miss Thomas. A.M.T.

CHURCH HANDBOOK - CORRECTION

Miss B. Juson, 29 Burnham Road, asks friends to note that her telephone number is Swandean 1058, and not as shown in the Handbook.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Oct. 3 Sussex Congregational Union Rally, at the Dome Brighton, 6.30 p.m. Speaker - Dr. John Marsh, Principal, Mansfield College.
- " 15 Coffee Morning, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, at the Church.
- " 22 Day of Prayer - 10.30 a.m., 3 p.m. & 7.30 p.m.
- " 27 United Nations Association - Service at Town Hall, 3 p.m.
- " 29 Monthly Church Meeting, 7.30 p.m.
- " 29 Concert in aid of World Refugee Effort, 7.30 pm in Richmond Room. Programmes 1s.
- " 31 Hallowe'en Social arranged by Young Wives Fellowship
- Nov. 18 Working Party Sale of Work.

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Material for November Chronicle should be handed in by October 18th.

STOP PRESS!

We thank W.G.H., on page 5, for raising a point which needs an immediate reply.

Every member will have the opportunity to share in discussions and decisions on the form of the new Church building. The Committee will be responsible for recommendations only - the Church Meeting will be able to express its approval or disapproval of the Committee's opinions and make the final judgement.

The sentence in the 'Herald' does not truly represent the procedure to be adopted.

Due notice of all meetings will be given. C.C.F.

No.98

November, 1959.

THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

My dear Friends,

I have been reading a book called 'The Face of War' by Martha Gellhorn, a war correspondent. It does not make pleasant reading, covering, as it does, her experiences through eight years of conflict beginning with the Spanish civil war and ending with her arrival in Dachau where she heard news of the end of the war in Europe.

Here are some extracts from her final chapter ...

"Before any city was cleaned of its rubble and made whole, before the remnants of a tortured people found their home in Israel, before the last already forgotten burned pilot had suffered the last stitching skin graft, the human race was busy hating and fearing again, and growing new cancers. The second World war was an evil that men could stop; the unknown nuclear war will have no end. The war of the universe would be carried on by the wind. War is a crime against the living and always has been; no one can begin to imagine the size and shape of the crime of nuclear war." And in a single sentence from her introduction - "I believe that memory and imagination, not nuclear weapons, are the great deterrents."

In three weeks time the nation will again be called to a time of remembrance. For many of us that time will be particularly bitter. Many of us will be remembering those who died in the two great holocausts of this century. No one will be glad to recall the suffering and bloodshed of those years. None of us will want to let loose our imagination. If Martha Gellhorn is right we have a duty to admit and encourage these activities of our minds. I know that all will not agree that these are adequate deterrents and I have no wish now to enter upon a discussion of this aspect of the matter. Nevertheless as Christians we cannot avoid thinking and seeking God's will.

Our faith is in a power existing in the world which comes from beyond the world - a power which creates. Is it enough that we should centre our thoughts around the question of deterrents? Rather should we not be concerned to engage in discovering ways in which we can release that power to create peace and love? Is it too facile to believe that

-2-

the world is at a stage when it is beginning to be ready to respond to a call, not to stop war, but to create peace and to listen to the voice of those who will speak in the name of Christ, who summoned us to love our neighbours?

Whether the world is ready or not, we are called to that proclamation. God grant us wisdom and strength to be bold in that ministry, that the day may soon dawn when 'war shall be no more'.

My good wishes and affection to you all,

Yours very sincerely,

C.C. FRANKS.

CHURCH REGISTER

New Member - Miss Barbara Stephens, Larksmead, Arlington Avenue, Goring, - by transfer from Union Church, Mill Hill.

Marriage - On 16th October 1959, Miss Moira Laird to Mr. David Baker. Our congratulations and best wishes go to our friends in their new life together.

New Address - Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Richards - 'Eadgerscroft', Mill Lane, High Salvington, Swandean 1425.

VISITING MINISTERS

8th November - The Rev. Harold Pinchback, until recently Minister of Cuckfield Congregational Church.

(Mr. Franks will be conducting the services on this date at Robertson Street Congregational Church, Hastings).

THE BIBLE SAYS -

O that men would praise the Lord for His goodness and declare the wonders that He doeth for the children of men. Psalm 107 vv.8, 15, 21 & 23

The path of the just is as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. Prov.4, v.18

He shall deliver thee in six troubles; yea in seven there shall no evil touch thee. Job.5, v.19

-3-

CHURCH BUILDING COMMITTEE - PROGRESS REPORT

A revised plan and elevation was reviewed by the Committee on October 2nd and a sub-committee met the architects on October 6th to discuss some suggested modifications. A final sketch-plan and elevation is now expected and the Committee then hope to be in a position to report back to the Church and make their recommendations.

Meantime the Committee recommend the following action when the next Church Meeting is called to consider the proposed building scheme -

- (i) The Church Secretary to call a Special Church Meeting, giving the appropriate notice.
 - (ii) This notice to be sent by letter to all Church members informing them that the plans and sketch-drawings, with a scaled model, will be on display at the week-end prior to the Meeting.
- Members are asked to keep an open mind until they have heard the report and the recommendations.

Mr. Parker has prepared an excellent scaled model which will give members unaccustomed to reading plans a better idea of the appearance of the church and be able to judge its proportions in relation to the present church buildings and surrounding property.

F.L.W.

CHURCH FINANCESCOLLECTIONS FOR
SEPTEMBEREnvelopesLoose Collections

6th	£21. 4. 6	£15.15. 6
13th	15. 5. 6	13. 4.10
20th	14.12. -	16.15. -
27th	11.19. 6	- . - . *
	<u>£63. 1. 6</u>	<u>£45.15. 3</u>

Total for the month - £108.16. 9.

*Harvest Services - for Home Churches Fund
£25. -. 6.

Building Fund The total sum credited to this Fund to date is £9,546.14. 3. Recent additions include a very generous gift of £500 in fulfilment of a written wish expressed by the late Mrs. H.K. Handford who

-4-

always displayed a very keen interest in the work of the Church from the earliest days. G.L.N.

N E W S

SUSSEX C.U. AUTUMN ASSEMBLY The Assembly, held at Hove on 13th October, was addressed by the Moderator, the Rev. W. Andrew James, M.A., who gave an inspiring survey of the Union's Work, stressing the part played by Churches in the Homes Churches Fund and the importance of the Pensions Scheme for Ministers.

Among present-day problems were the scarcity of ministers (362 pastorless Churches), the siting of churches in new towns and the need for training men for specific areas.

The Rev. H.A. Hamilton, B.A., took for his theme "The Church and the Community". The first task of the Church, he said, was to worship God and to train others to do so. Modern methods, e.g. visual aids, could be used to train and attract young people. The challenge of our day was to show Christ to a world composed of two generations of disbelief and disillusionment. Greater witness by Christians was needed in the workshop and in the street. He recommended the House Meeting, to which non-members might be invited, and asked Churches to consider this suggestion.

D.E.B.

SUSSEX CONGREGATIONAL RALLY Over forty of our members were at the Dome, Brighton, on 3rd October, for the Biennial Rally of Sussex Congregationalists. These are great occasions, when it is possible to realise that we form part of a much larger company than our own local Churches. For many the most heartening part was perhaps when the County Secretary, the Rev. S.A. Sheppard, made a roll-call of the Churches. As each Church was called and ministers and members stood, it was most gratifying to see contingents from nearly every Church in the Union, large and small, near and far. The Chairman of the Union, the Rev. G.K. Hawes, M.A., B.D., spoke of this feeling of belonging to a larger fellowship and reminded us that this is God's

-5-

world - men's work might be destroyed but God's creation would live.

Dr. John Marsh of Mansfield College, Oxford, took as his theme "GOD REIGNS". However much man may thwart His designs by disobedience to His will God reigns here and now and eternally, sometimes in judgment and defeat of our plans when they conflict with His, in the personal sphere, the Church, or in national and international affairs.

We were then led to an act of dedication. H.A.W.

HARVEST The gentlemen of the Church are to be congratulated on the excellent harvest supper they provided on September 26th. About 150 sat down and it was apparent that everyone was enjoying the friendly atmosphere.

A very enjoyable concert was afterwards given by the Worthing Girls' Choir. It was a joy to watch the faces of the members as they kept their eyes on the conductor, singing as though they were enjoying themselves. We should like to hear them again.

The financial result was a gain to the Church Building Fund of over £21. E.W.L.

HARVEST On 27th September, a sunny morning, the Church was artistically decorated with **THANKS-** harvest gifts to greet a full congregation. **GIVING** Mr. Franks' morning sermon was based on Jer. 17:7/8, "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord ... neither shall cease from yielding fruit", and the evening message on Gal.6:7, "whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap".

The anthems by the Choir were "Ye shall dwell in the Land" (Stainer) and "O Lord how manifold" (Barnby). It was a great joy to see so many young people among us for this thanksgiving. After evening service gifts were made ready for distribution to the sick and needy. G.Y.J.

DISCUSSION Reference was made last month to the **GROUPS** proposed formation of Home Study Groups. The subject then suggested was the Church overseas, and the response has been disappointing. A further group to consider the position of the Church and Medicine will be formed if enough

-6-

friends are interested. If the subject is one which you would like to study please give your name to Mr. R.O. Parker.

WOMEN'S Working Party Section Our Sale of Work on GUILD wednesday 18th November will be opened at 3 p.m. by Mr. J.G. Arnold, with Mr. A.E. Pearn in the Chair. Please invite your friends to come and buy their Christmas gifts. Teas will be served, 1s.6d. each. There is still time to enter for the two competitions. Please bring your entries to the Church by Tuesday morning, November 17th - further details from Mrs. Hite or Committee members.

Proceeds will be divided equally between the 'Building' and 'Manse' Funds. M.H.

Will friends who have articles, suitable as Christmas gifts, for the 'Curiosity and Gift' Stall kindly hand them to Mrs. Hoskins, Mrs. Iveson or Mrs. Nodes by November 17th.

Fellowship Section The recent Coffee Morning to raise funds to help equip this Section's stall at the forthcoming Sale realised a net sum of £12.10.--. We wish to thank the many friends who supported this effort.

The Meetings arranged for November are -
3rd - Mrs. A. Slader - 'My work as House Mistress at Eltham College'.

17th - Mrs. J.R. Bridger, M.A. - Illustrated Talk on 'Travel in Canada'.

All ladies of the Church and their friends are warmly invited to these meetings, which commence at 3 o'clock V.W.

YOUNG WIVES These are the arrangements for the month
FELLOWSHIP of November -

9th - Theatre Night
23rd - Make-up demonstration.

Help Wanted! The winter months can be dark and dreary and, for many who are unable to go out, very lonely. Could you spare an hour or two once a week to 'drop in' for a chat with some of these folk? Please get in touch with us if you can help.

Perhaps you have some books you are thinking of turning out? We have started a book service and

-7-

should be glad to have them. M.S.D.

AFTERNOON The new session opened successfully on 13th
MEN'S October with a talk by the Rev. Martin
FELLOWSHIP Preston, M.A., of Brighton, who delighted
his audience of twenty with an informative
and amusing talk on the subject of Opera. A judicious
use of a tape recorder illustrated his explanation of
some of the mysteries of this form of music.

The programme for the period to the end of
November is -

Oct. 27th - Mr. A.E. Pearr on 'The Life & Witness of
Albert Schweitzer (with film strip)

Nov. 10th - Any Questions

" 24th - Dr. H.G. Chapman, M.A. - St. Augustine
and 'The City of God'.

Programme cards can be obtained from Mr. Pepperdine.
Any gentleman who has not yet joined us will be very
welcome. An attractive series of speakers has been
arranged, and we look forward to audiences big enough
to reward the energy and enterprise of our acting
Secretary. C.C.F.

The gentlemen are having a grocery stall at the
Sale on November 18th and would be glad to receive
gifts of a POUND or BOTTLE of anything in this line
(please price), or, of course, donations. M.H.

JUNIOR We have been sorry to lose Mr. Winterton, who
CHURCH has had to give up teaching in the Junior Room
owing to the pressure of other commitments. We warmly
welcome Mr. Gillam, who has joined our teaching staff.
Mrs. West finds herself unable to continue as
pianist for the Beginners. Her devoted service for
the little ones will be greatly missed. Miss Thomson
has kindly offered to play for us and we hope she will
be very happy with us.

At our Family Service on Harvest Sunday there
was a good attendance of parents and children, some
of whom took a share in leading our worship. The
children's gifts were later distributed to individual
old folk.

GIRLS' The retiring collection on October 11th
LIFE amounted to £6 which, with £14 collected by
BRIGADE the girls themselves, made a total of £20,

-8-

one-third of which is sent to G.L.B. Headquarters for work overseas. We thank all our friends for their help. Twentyeight girls, under the instruction of Mr. Pearn, are taking the subject of Temperance for the Battalion competition.

Please don't forget our Annual Display on Saturday, 28th November. E.S.

NOTICES.

Building Fund Collection Boxes All boxes should be handed in on the morning of the day of the Sale of Work. If you cannot bring yours Miss W. Smith will call at your home if notified a few days before 18th November. Will all holders please make a special effort between now and then to save all their small (or big!) change and so help to swell the final total. W.S.

'The Chronicle' (L.M.S. Monthly, 6s. p.a.)

'Congregational Monthly' (4s. p.a.)

'Prayer Fellowship Handbook', (1s.6d.)

I must order 1960 issues quite soon and shall be grateful to receive the names of new subscribers, or cancellations (I hope there will be none!) at an early date. M.L.E.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Oct. 29th Monthly Church Meeting at 7.30 p.m.
- " 31st Hallowe'en Social
- Nov. 7th United Nations Assn. Youth Conference at the Youth Centre South Farm Road
- " 12th Films about the United Nations - 7.30 p.m. in the Court Room, Town Hall
- " 18th Women's Guild Working Party Sale of work, opening at 3 p.m.
- " 26th Monthly Day of Prayer, 10.30 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- " 28th Girls' Life Brigade Annual Display.
- Dec. 3rd Monthly Church Meeting, 7.30 p.m.

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Material for December Chronicle should be handed in by November 22nd. (Curtilment and absence of articles for this month is regretted. Ed.)

Chronicle issue missing