

The Bookhams Bulletin

(Organ of The Bookhams Social Service Bureau).

No. 10

FEBRUARY, 1936

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Editorial.

The Social Service Bureau extend to all readers of "The Bookhams Bulletin" best wishes for Health and Prosperity for the New Year.

The second issue of the "Bulletin" under a new Editor shows that consolidation and further preparation are the characteristics of 1935 in Social Service, but there is still much to do for the needs of our community, and with an enlarged Committee representing nearly all the Bodies engaged upon some branch of Social Work, Service will continue to be the key-word for 1936.

Very many thanks to those Traders who have so kindly inserted their advertisements in this Journal, and it is pleasing to know that one Tradesman inform us "that his business has increased through the medium of this Journal."

Although a month has passed since the coming in of the New Year, it is hoped that it is not too late for Resolutions—however, just make one! Don't forget that collecting box at Jackson's Stores. Make this your Resolution by dropping a trifle in.

The Social Service Bureau

The Year's Work. Of the Committee of twelve members elected at the Annual Meeting in June, 1934, Dr. Price, Mrs. Taylor, and Mr. Hanchard left the District before the end of the year. The Rector, the Rev. W. Merson, and Mr. W. Muggeridge were co-opted, also Mr. G. Cook and Rev. A. Drinkwater. Mr. R. Andrews was elected Chairman, and seven Meetings were held during the year.

The Bureau was committed at the last Annual Meeting to two main activities only, the publication of the "Bookhams Bulletin" and work in connection with cases of distress. Since the departure of Mr. C. Hanchard, the Committee is indebted to Mr. W. W. Leavis for undertaking one issue of the Bulletin, and to Mr. Elton for two issues. The Editorship has now been undertaken by Mr. W. A. Muggeridge. It should be mentioned that the Bulletin besides being a useful local publication, provides one source of income to the case fund.

As regards the case work, the Committee wish to record their deep indebtedness to Miss Gilham for her work in connection with visiting, etc. By her constant work and service she has obtained a real knowledge of the people of the district, and we feel sure that when assistance has been given in money or kind, it has met a pressing need. As has been emphasised in the Bulletin, the Bureau's aim is to put those needing help in touch with the appropriate organisations where possible; amounts disbursed by the Bureau whether in money or kind are usually small and required to meet some urgent special need.

We record our thanks to all who by their donations have enabled us to meet these cases. We also wish to express our great appreciation for the many parcels of clothing received, which have already been acknowledged individually. These gifts are always welcome, there is constant and pressing need of clothes and other articles for distribution.

Another feature which fills a real need is the school milk fund, which supplies milk free to about twelve children daily, whose parents are unable to afford the small cost involved.

Special mention should be made of the kind gifts which were received for distribution last Christmas. One good friend repeated her gift of a ton of coal, various Tradesmen were very generous with gifts, a sum of £3 was raised by the kindness of Mrs. Olive in organising a Whist Drive, and the Choir Boys most kindly collected and handed over 30/- from carol singing. R.T.

JUBILEE COMMEMORATION FUND

As mentioned in the issue of the Bulletin for November, a fund had been opened for the electrification and lighting of the Parish Church Clock to commemorate their Majesties' Silver Jubilee, and the first list of Subscribers is given below:—

A.A., E.A., J.A., H. Absalom, Junr., H. Absalom, Senr., Mrs. Amy, Mr. & Mrs. Andrews, Anon., G.B., Mrs. B. C. Buchan, G. A. Cook, Mrs. Cordingly, Miss Edwards, P. G. Everitt, Mrs. Goff, A.H., A.H., W.G.J., Mrs. Jackson, E. J. Jones, M.K., S.L., John Madge, J.C.P., E.M.R., Mrs. Ranger, Miss Routh, Mr. & Mrs. Scott, D. Shoosmith, Dr. N. Waterfield, Mrs. L. C. Weedon. (continued)

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Mr. H. Bostock, "Fife Lodge, Church Road, Great Bookham.

Mr. R. Andrews, "Five Beeches, Dorking Road, Great Bookham.

Mr. A. E. Murrells, "Torbay," Eastwick Drive, Great Bookham.

Thank You !

The Bureau takes this opportunity of thanking the various donors for money and clothing during 1935, which has permitted many necessitous cases being assisted temporarily.

During the month of December special mention should be made of the following gifts:—

Mr. H. Allen, £3 3s., and an order for 6 cwt. of coal, Mrs. H. Allen, an order for 1 ton of coal, the Ratepayers' Association Entertainments Committee, £3 3s., "The Crown" Tontine collection at share-out, £3 1s. 9d., Mr. Van de Swan, £1.

Through this generosity 32 two-cwt. sacks of coal were distributed, which were highly appreciated, more particularly on account of the cold spell.

Furthermore, 15 parcels of Christmas provisions and other necessities suitable for the respective recipients were sent out. Letters since received all testify to the gratitude of these people who were benefited.

Miss Gilham still needs your support in the matter of clothing, boots and shoes, and would you be so kind to take or send it along to the "Corner House," Church Road.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS

Early History. The interesting old Church in the Parish of Bookham known as St. Nicolas, dates back to before the Norman Conquest, but of the early structure little is known, except part of the foundations.

The Domesday Book of 1086 A.D., describes the narrow aisle-less Church with a square chancel, which stood on this site, and which was the possession of Chertsey Abbey.

From about 1140 A.D., alterations and enlargements were carried out in each succeeding century, aisles being added, then the nave and tower; but the old building is very much askew, and apparently the foundations of the tower

sunk whilst it was being built, as it is much out of the true, and is not as high as the ground plan would indicate proportionately. It is believed that the external walls of the original church were pulled down and the large pillars on square bases, with their connecting arches, built on this line of wall. When the south aisle and arcade were built in 1140 A.D., the nave was of the length we see it now, and the north aisle was added about 1190 A.D. Much of the work is Norman, (the present north aisle is modern having been built in 1848) as the plinth and lower part of the walls bears "axed tooling," which is proof of this.

The next building that can actually be dated is the chancel, this was re-built in 1341 A.D., by the Abbot of Chertsey, John de Rutherwyk, and the dedication is stone and is well preserved, and is still to be seen in the east wall of the chancel, and is one of the best examples in existence of 14th century stone lettering in the country. During the next hundred years the porch was built, with a room above, and this was used until late 1800 A.D., for a Sunday School. It was demolished and the entrance bricked up when the Church was restored and modernised in 1848, and the narrow Norman aisle was widened at the same time. This apparently refers to the north aisle re-built in 1848. The narrow south aisle still remains one of the great features of the Church.

The Slyfield Chapel and aisle were built about 1440 A.D., making a continuation of the south aisle. This was divided by a finely carved low oak screen, the organ now occupying this place. The oak shingled spire was built somewhere about 1550 A.D., and for some three hundred years after this, except for the open timber roof being plastered over, the Church remained practically unaltered, looking much as it does at the present day.—(*to be continued*).

Wild Flowers Found in the Bookhams.

The Common Kidney Vetch. This handsome flower is common on dry pastures and is very general on chalky ground. It is very abundant as early as May with its yellow blossoms, and blooms on to August and September. On the hills of Surrey it is very luxuriant and always yellow; but the late Rev. C. A. Johns, finds that it has on the Cornish coast, a stunted habit of growth, and it bears there, as well as in some other places, flowers of a crimson, purple, cream coloured, or white hue. Linnaeus remarked

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that in Oeland, where the soil is a red calcareous clay, the flowers are red; but in Gothland, where the soil is white, the flowers are white. It is a common flower on almost all parts of the Continent, and in Portugal is usually of a rich red hue.

The blossoms of the Kidney Vetch are crowded into heads, which grow two together at the end of each stalk, and the plant is rendered very peculiar by its clear white swollen flower-cups, which are thickly covered with a short soft wool. It is in country places called Lamb's Foot, Lady's Fingers, and Wound Wort.

Gesner first described to this plant its vulnerary properties, but saying that it is downy and soft as lint, these are not very apparent. Baxter quotes Threlkeld, who says that it was regularly sold in his time, 1726, in the markets of Ireland, by the name of Staunch, because of its astringent properties.

The plant has been recommended on high authority as affording good pasturage for sheep, and a good yellow dye may be obtained from its petals. It is the only British species, but some garden kinds obtained from the South of Europe have a much greater quantity of down on the flower-cups.

A.P.

British Legion Effingham & The Bookhams Branch

To the general public, it is perhaps not generally known that the British Legion and United Services Fund have up to last September, maintained Broadheath Home at Wimbledon, for the cases of children of ex-service men.

This Home has been used in the past principally for small children, whose parents for some reason, either because they were undergoing Institutional treatment, or for some other good cause, were unable to take care of them for a time. There has been a decline in the number of cases admitted during the past year, only 123 children having been accepted as against 201 the previous year, mainly owing to the decision to utilise the Home for a different purpose in the future, which made it necessary to empty it by the end of last September.

The decision of the Fund not to accept children born after 31st August, 1921, in future, under any of its schemes has rendered this Home unnecessary for the reception of young children. It was decided to convert it into a Training Home for girls between 14 and 16 years of age, primarily for those who are already being maintained by the fund under the boarding-out scheme. A certain number of girls not included in this scheme, can also be admitted from time to time, if considered suitable for the training which will be available. This training includes all branches of domestic work, cooking, housework, laundry work, and needlework. Arrangements have also been made for girls to receive special instruction in dressmaking, millinery, hairdressing, elementary gardening and secretarial work, according to their individual suitability. When their training is completed every effort will be made to start them in good situations at fair wages under the best possible conditions.

It must be mentioned that this Fund is not in any way connected with the Earl Haig Fund which devotes the whole of the collection on Armistice Day to the relief of distressed ex-service men.

A profound debt of gratitude is extended to the Poppy Day Organisers, Poppy Sellers and to all those who so kindly bought Poppies, and through your generous response nearly £85 was collected in the Bookhams. This shows an increase of £10 upon last year.

W.A.M.

The County Library.

May we draw the attention of all those who avail themselves by borrowing books from the County Library, that it is essential for the return of the books to the Hon. Librarian, and furthermore, it would greatly facilitate the smooth running of the Library, if all borrowers receive books from the hands of the Librarian instead of walking away with them without notifying him.

If these conditions are observed, the Librarian would be very grateful, but if on the other hand his request is not fulfilled, he will be reluctant to issue further books.

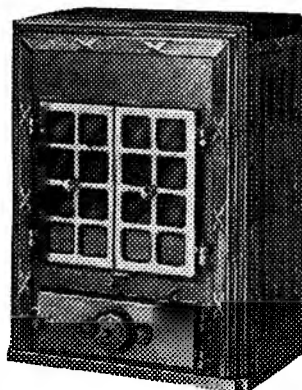
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REGULAR WEEKLY FIXTURES.

Sundays—

Brotherhood, 3 p.m. (Congregational Hall).

Mondays—

Women's Thrift Club.
Coal and Clothing Club, 12 p.m. (School).
Women's Fellowship, 2.30 p.m. (Church House)
Women's Meeting, 3 p.m. (Congregational Church Parlour).
Women's Own, 3 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Girls' Life Brigade Cadets, 5.30 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Junior Club, 7 p.m. (Church House).
Boys' Brigade, 7.15 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Girls' Friendly Society & Girls' Club, 7.30 p.m. (Church House).
Bookham Choral Society, 8 p.m. (Congregational Church).
Rovers, 8.15 p.m. (Scout Hut).

Tuesdays—

Life Boys, 6 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Blue Birds, 6.30 p.m. (Congregational Hall).
Camp Fire Girls, 7.30 p.m. (Congregational Hall).
Young Men's Club, 7.30 p.m. (Church House)

Wednesdays—

The White Ribbon Band of Hope. Last Wednesday in each month at Congregational Church, from 6.30 till 8 p.m.

Thursdays—

Cubs, 5.30 p.m. (Scout Hut).
Girls' Life Brigade, 6 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Scouts, 8 p.m. (Scout Hut).
Young Men's Club, 7.30 p.m. (Church House)
Bookham Women's Constitutional Association
Monthly Meetings at the Barn Hall.
First Thursdays in the month at 3 p.m.

Fridays—

Brownies, 4.30 p.m. (Scout Hut).
Girl Guides, 6.30 p.m. (Scout Hut).
Rangers, 7.45 p.m. (Scout Hut).
Good Companions Club, 8 p.m. (Barn Hall)

OTHER EVENTS.

Literary Society—

12th February. Lantern Lecture, "The Planets," by Rev. T. Phillips, M.A., F.R.A.S
4th March. Lantern Lecture. "England in the Old Days," Dr. Pain.
18th March. Lantern Lecture, "Ur of the Chaldees," Miss Warner.
1st April. A Debate.

Bookham Ratepayers' Association—

25th February. Whist Drive.
24th March. Whist Drive.
The Annual General Meeting of this Assocn. will be held on Thursday 13th February.

Bookham Congregational Church—

See Weekly Fixtures.
Wednesdays, Children's Guild at 7 p.m., and Choir Practice at 7.45.
Thursdays, Devotional Service at 8 p.m.
Fridays, Boys' Club at 7 p.m.
Special Lantern Services will be announced later.

British Legion, Effingham & The Bookhams Branch.

The Club is open every day to all ex-service men.

8th February. South-Eastern Area Conference at Central Hall, Westminster, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

April. Surrey County Conference at St. Heliers.

Leatherhead Cottage Hospital Linen Guild

All particulars of Membership to this Guild can be obtained from Mrs. Stanley Russell or the Hon. Gen. Sec., Mrs. West, Effingham.

Will Secretaries please notify any additions or alterations for inclusion in the next issue. Remember the Tradesmen who give their advertisements to keep this Journal going.

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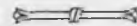
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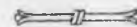
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