

THE BOOKHAM'S BULLETIN

(Organ of The Bookhams Social Service Bureau)

No. 6

JANUARY 1935

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The Social Service Bureau.

SINCE the last issue of *The Bulletin* the Bureau has lost another of its most active members. Following so soon after the departure of Dr. Price, Mrs. Richardson and Miss Hickson, three of the founders of the Bureau, the resignation of Mr. Hanchard owing to his departure to Gloucester, where he is now to work under the Unemployment Assistance Board, is a serious loss. Workers of Mr. Hanchard's calibre are not easy to find. He has been the editor of *The Bulletin* since its inception, and on him fell most of the work. And even the production of a small journal like this in one's spare time is a task which few will undertake. But Mr. Hanchard is gifted with enthusiasm, initiative and energy, which he used with sincerity, as those who have worked with him can testify. What is Bookham's loss is Gloucester's gain. We wish him every happiness in his new sphere.

There has been a heavy draft on our stocks of clothing, boots, etc. It really seems that we can not have too great a supply of these. We are grateful to those who have responded to our appeal, and we would ask all who have clothing, etc., which they can do without, to send it to Miss Gilham at Mrs. Cordingley's, Church Road, Great Bookham. Remember—Boots, Baby Clothes, Bed Clothes, Children's Clothes of all sizes for the Bureau, please!!

We are glad that an old supporter of the Bureau has again given us a ton of coal for distribution this Christmastide. The weeks following Christmas are the most difficult in the year for many. Outside employment is precarious, sickness is prevalent, the weather is usually at its coldest, and purse strings are tightest. Judging by our experience in past years, we shall need all we can get in money and clothing during January and February.

We thank all those who responded to the appeal in the last issue of *The Bulletin*; also Mrs. Olive for kindly organising a Bridge Drive which increased our Christmas Fund for distribution to the extent of £3. We must not forget those who have put their contributions into the box at Mrs. Jackson's in the High Street. Have you noticed that box?

Card Drives.

THE Committee had been discussing the fact that the Society's funds had run low, and one member suggested a Whist Drive as a means of raising some money. The help of a member of the Society, well known as a good organiser of these affairs, is sought, given, and the result usually is a welcome addition to the Society's balance. Some associations regard these drives not so much as profit makers, but as social gatherings, and arrange for periodical meetings throughout the winter. The driver is usually a man well experienced, and with the aid of some efficient lieutenants the affair is carried through without a hitch.

It is very interesting to watch the players. Some on entering the playing-room will make a dive for the prizes in order to see what they may possibly win, whilst others, without a glance towards the "pots", will take a seat and prepare for the fray.

At these shows one meets all sorts and conditions—the robust and the weak, the simple and the shrewd. Another point of interest is the manner in which players take up their cards after the deal. Some will grab them in an excited fashion, whilst others will leisurely take great care and pains to arrange their bits of pasteboard in correct order.

Various players have their particular fancy in trumps—spades, hearts, as the case may be—and when the driver calls "no trumps", the groan that goes up from many is enough to break the heart of any driver, even the stoniest-hearted. When the drive is over, the winners go forward to receive their respective prizes, and are greeted each in turn with loud applause given by their less fortunate friends.

Generally speaking, the play is simple ace, king, queen, in turn, on each trick, with trumps bottled up to the last, but since bridge has become more popular one notices efforts to bring the play of this latter game into force. This, however, is misleading to partners who have only played whist previously, and leads to unfortunate results sometimes.

It has been recognised for some time past that these drives are a means, not only of bringing neighbours together, but of helping charitable institutions; so, long may they thrive!

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JAN 1935.

Some Local History.

Little Bookham in the days of Merrie England.

THE Manor of Little Bookham passed from the family of De Braose, Earls of Surrey, and was vested in the Eppingham branch of that noble race until 1636. It then passed to the Madoc family, but about 1710 was purchased by Edward Pollen Esq., and so on to other representatives of that family, who still hold it. Madoc Farm and Madoc Lane were part of the old Manorial rights, and are named after the Madoc family.

Its delightful little Church, with its delicate shingled spire, contains several fine examples of Norman work, the font being an outstanding specimen of that period. The register dates from the year 1700. There are many memorials to the Boileau and Pollen families, while in Mickleham Church may be seen a Longobardie tombstone in memory of a John De Newington, rector of Little Bookham, who died in 1371.

Almost touching the Church is a splendid yew tree, planted long before the Domesday Book was written. In the days of Agincourt it provided its quota of yew staves for the Surrey bowmen. Close by the Church is a splendid example of an early XVIIth century house in fine preservation, known as "The Old Rectory."

Little Bookham must always be a place of interest, at all events for those who read and write newspapers, for the Manor House was the home of one of the doyens of English Journalism, Mr. Meredith Townsend, for forty-four years joint Editor of *The Spectator*. Mr. Chas. Graves addressed him thirty years ago as

"Master and friend, whose ardent soul
Burns brighter as it nears the goal;
Whose indefatigable pen
Stirs envy in us younger men . . ."

Little Bookham is still a typical example of an old-English village, with its quaint gabled roofs and old black and white cottages. Outside its charming old-world XVIIth century inn, known as "The Windsor Castle", can be seen a yew which legend says was planted by a Surrey bowman. Close by its main street you will find Manor Farm, built in the early XVIth century. It has a beautiful specimen of an early-English tithe barn—a building that would make a poet shout for joy—chopped out of the oak by the old craftsmen, its spiralled, orielled and angled roof being like an old cathedral nave.

Years ago in the autumn afternoon you might see a flock of sheep resting round the old inn, and inside you would find a couple of jolly drovers, their faces tanned by wind and sun—men that were akin to Nature. They knew the lore of the weather and the songs of birds; they could tell you the names of the forest trees or the downland flowers; and if you stood your footing with a pot of foaming ale, they would tell you tales of wayside farms and spicy yarns of village squires and their lady-loves. Later on the villagers would drop in, and then you would hear the songs of old England, "The Farmer's Boy", or "When Mary went a-roaming." One of the drovers would give "The Drover's Song", and sing to you:

"How he drove his sheep to market,
And at fairs upon the green
Bought fairings for the maid he loved,
The sweetest ever seen;
Then stayed awhile at wayside inns,
And drank good ale and strong
With rollicking souls who sang with him
The Drover's Tramping Song."

G. W. RUMGARY.

We feel sure all our readers have read with great interest these very instructive notes by friend Rumgary on the past story of our village. Please don't forget that at the Ratepayers' Social at the Barn Hall on January 23rd he is going to tell us some more interesting things about Great and Little Bookham in the days of long ago.

The Story of Bookham Brotherhood.

" 'VICTORIA' CYCLISTS' REST.—A preliminary meeting called by Mrs. Swan was held at 'Balliemeny' on Sunday, October 17th, 1909, for the purpose of forming a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Society for the men of Great Bookham and District."

The above extract from the minute book records the starting of a P.S.A. in Bookham, Sunday October 31st being the first meeting.

Mr. Prentice, of the London City Mission, gave advice on the formation of the Society, and it is recorded that "Mrs. Chrystie consented to the use of the 'Victoria' Hall for the Services"; also that Bookham Silver Band would parade at the "Victoria."

In October 1910 Mr. Archibald gave an address on "Brotherhood"—the first reference to the name Brotherhood.

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On May 8th 1912 it was decided to present Mrs. Swan with a silver trowel on the occasion of the Memorial Hall Stone-Laying. About this time the word "Brotherhood" begins to appear frequently in the minutes. The Brotherhood took an active part in the opening of the Village Hall. Messrs. Bishop, Cook and Perry acted as stewards, and Mr. Booth represented the Brotherhood.

From this time the name "Memorial Hall" appears in place of "The 'Victoria' Cyclists' Rest."

This would appear to be the early history of the Society still existent in the village. It seems appropriate, therefore, that the work should be reviewed at this time—the 25th anniversary.

The Brotherhood meets every Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Congregational Church, with Mr. E. C. Hall as President and Chairman. The membership is around 60, with an average attendance of 40 for the past session. The meetings are undenominational and non-political, the Brotherhood motto, "One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren", forming the basis of the addresses.

Each week a different speaker addresses the meeting, and Mr. Cohen, the Secretary, has succeeded in arranging "an entire change of programme" for next quarter. Ladies and gentlemen interested in religious, public, and philanthropic work are invited. Our aim is: The extension of World Brotherhood, with Jesus Christ as the Head.

Help is given to local activities, and contributions made to hospital and other funds.

As far back as October 1912 the question of forming a Sisterhood was discussed, but postponed. This matter has never been settled, but ladies are now welcomed and enrolled as members of the Brotherhood. Many ladies attend each week and take an active part in the social work.

A hearty invitation is extended to readers of this article to join our fellowship.

E. C. H.

[N.B.—For Programme of Speakers, etc., for the Quarter, see page 10.]

Bravo! Choir Boys. What a splendid service you have rendered. Many have been made happier by gifts of food, etc., which the thirty shillings you raised by carol singing enabled us to give them.

The "Good Companion" Club.

AS the Club is now half-way through its second season under the leadership of Miss Gilham, and has maintained an average attendance of from 25 to 30, it can safely be said to be fulfilling a need of the younger people of the Bookhams. With all the social activities which tempt or appeal, it may be thought that a Club meeting one night in each week could not fulfil any useful purpose. But the steadiness of the attendance is sufficient evidence to the contrary. Why? What is the reason why 25 young men and girls come every week, fair weather or foul, to the Barn Hall? The answer is: "Companionship." The growth of the club movement throughout the country has revealed the need of places to which young people can go for pleasure, or to indulge in some hobby free from the restrictions necessarily imposed in their homes. The Club is intended to supplement the home. Here one can dance, or play darts or table tennis, or learn leather-work or how to make or decorate some article of use or adornment, or can just talk with friends—in fact, do what you will, provided you don't spoil another fellow's evening.

Of course, the ideal is to have a permanent Club with rooms reserved for special purposes. Perhaps we will have one in Bookham some day, but at present it seems far off. But the Barn Hall is very convenient for our present needs, and when funds permit we hope to make fuller use of it. As it is, we have already applied for a second night which, if obtained, will be reserved for specific objects—such as Gymnasium, Play Rehearsals and Band Practises—which normally would interfere with the enjoyment of the Club on Thursday evenings.

In conclusion, we must congratulate the band on its progress under Mr. Griffiths' tuition. We were glad that they were asked to play at the Women's Institute Christmas Party. It should encourage them to study music in the way Mr. Griffiths wishes them to do. The Committee hopes to give them an opportunity to shew their proficiency to the general public at the Concert and Play to be presented in March next, which will be open to all. The band owes its thanks to Mr. Merson and the Congregational Church for allowing it to practise in its Hall.

If any reader would like to assist in any manner in the Club's work, he or she is asked to communicate with the Chairman, Mrs. Stanley Russell, Elmcroft, Great Bookham. New members will be welcomed any Thursday night at the Barn Hall by Miss Gilham, the Club Leader.

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Brotherhood, 3 p.m. (Congregational Hall).
[For Quarter's Programme see overleaf.]

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 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Boys' Club, 7 p.m. (Congregational Church).
Girls' Friendly Society and Girls' Club, 7-30 p.m. (Church House).
Bookham Choral Society, 8 p.m. (Congregational Church).
Rovers, 8-15 p.m. (Scouts' Hut).

TUESDAYS—

Life Boys, 6 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Blue Birds, 6 p.m. (Congregational Hall).
Camp Fire Girls, 7-15 p.m. (Congregational Hall).
Young Men's Club, 7-30 p.m. (Church House).

WEDNESDAYS—

Children's Guild, 7 p.m. (Congregational Church Parlour).
Choir Practice, 7-45 p.m. (Congregational Church).
Orchestra Practice, 8-30 p.m. (Baptist Hall).

THURSDAYS—

Cubs, 5-30 p.m. (Scouts' Headquarters).
Choir Practice, 8 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Girls' Life Brigade, 6 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Scouts, 8 p.m. (Scouts' Headquarters).
Young Men's Club, 7-30 p.m. (Church House).

FRIDAYS—

Brownies, 4-30 p.m. (Barn Hall).
Girl Guides, 6-30 p.m. (Scouts' Headquarters).
Christian Endeavour, 7 p.m. (Baptist Hall).
Rangers, 7-45 p.m. (Barn Hall).
Mixed Club, 7-30 p.m. (Church House).

Will Secretaries please notify any additions or alterations for inclusion in the next issue.

OTHER EVENTS.**JANUARY.**

Friday 11th, at 7 p.m. Christian Endeavour (Baptist Hall).
Wednesday 16th, at 8-15 p.m. St. Nicolas Literary and Social Society: Tabard Players, "David Copperfield" (Church House).
Wednesday 16th, at 7-30 p.m. Seventh Anniversary Baptist Church; Speakers: Rev. A. H. Levet, Pastor Harris; Chairman: W. A. Pike, Esq.
Wednesday 23rd, at 8 p.m. Ratepayers' Social (Barn Hall).
Thursday 24th. Women's Institute (Church House).
Tuesday 29th. Whist Drive, Ratepayers' Association (Barn Hall).
Wednesday 30th, at 7 p.m. White Ribbon Band of Hope (Congregational Church).
Wednesday 30th, at 8-15 p.m. St. Nicolas Literary and Social Society: "Lure of England", S. P. B. Mais (Church House).

FEBRUARY.

Thursday 7th, at 3 p.m. Epsom Division Constitutional Association, Women's Branch (Barn Hall).
Wednesday 13th, at 8-15 p.m. St. Nicolas Literary & Social Society: "Oliver Cromwell", W. W. Leavis (Church House).
Friday 15th. Choir Concert (Congregational Church).
Tuesday 26th. Whist Drive, Ratepayers' Association (Barn Hall).
Wednesday 27th, at 7 p.m. White Ribbon Band of Hope (Congregational Church).
Wednesday 27th, at 8 p.m. Camp Fire Girls (Congregational Church).
Wednesday 27th, at 8-15 p.m. St. Nicolas Literary & Social Society: "Comets and Shooting Stars", Rev. T. R. Phillips (Church House).
Thursday 28th. Women's Institute (Church House).

MARCH.

Wednesday 6th. Social (Congregational Church).
Thursday 7th, at 3 p.m. Epsom Division Constitutional Association, Women's Branch (Barn Hall).
Wednesday 13th, at 8-15 p.m. St. Nicolas Literary and Social Society: Lantern Lecture on "Czechoslovakia", Dr. Krause (Church House).
Tuesday 26th. Whist Drive, Ratepayers' Association (Barn Hall).
Thursday 28th. Women's Institute (Church House).

The Secretary of the Bureau, whose address is "Two Oaks", The Park, will be pleased to furnish information regarding any of the Organisations mentioned in this Calendar.

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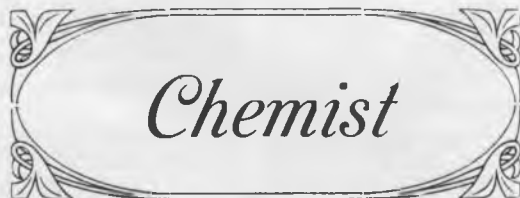
Ladies invited

Speakers, &c., for the Quarter

- | | | |
|------|----|---------------------------------|
| Jan. | 6 | Rev. W. L. T. Merson |
| | 13 | Mr. T. C. Archer |
| | 20 | Mr. E. C. Hall |
| | 27 | Mr. W. W. Leavis, J.P. |
| Feb. | 3 | Deputation Epsom Brotherhood |
| | 10 | Mr. O. T. Dyer |
| | 17 | Ashlea Male Voice Quartette |
| | 24 | Mr. E. Barden, J.P. |
| Mch. | 3 | Mr. W. Pike |
| | 10 | Leatherhead Blind School Choir |
| | 17 | Rev. W. Freeman |
| | 24 | Dr. Harold A. Moody, M.D., B.S. |
| | 31 | Mr. F. J. Robinson |

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