

GRASMERE
PARISH MAGAZINE

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Wardens — Messrs. JOHN W. SMITH and ALBERT SMITH.

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A. E. CARRADUS, JACK WILSON,

JULY, 1942.

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WHAT DOES GOD WANT OF ME?

Last month there was an article in this Magazine "Why do I live in Grasmere?" which ended by suggesting that we must see that the question which now heads this article is a real question and needs an answer. What does God want of me? It was suggested last month that we must start training ourselves for the job that is to come to us who live here in comparative safety. How are we to train?

Before we answer that question let us think what sort of persons God is likely to use or what sort can be of most use to God. First they must be in touch with God, or clearly He cannot use them: a body of troops that have got cut off from all communications with the O.C. cannot be used by him: he may hope that they do the right thing but he cannot depend on them. So we must be in touch with God and that means prayer, for that is our method of communication. Secondly the Fifth Columnist is not of much use to us so secondly we want loyalty. Obviously the slacker is no use, so we want a readiness for self-sacrifice. Also we must be able to work in co-operation with others.

Now therefore we can start with the question of prayer and here is a long quotation from "The Weapons of a Christian." by Bernard Clements. It was a Broadcast talk and is now published:—

"One thing would be a tremendous help if you could do it. It is that once every twenty-four you should get somewhere and somehow five minutes quiet with God. I don't mind what you do during the time, whether you talk to Him, read about Him, or just rest quietly before Him. It is rather like the captain of a ship at any rate once in twenty-four hours getting his sights, and seeing his exact position with regard to his course. Quietly in that five minutes you will get your bearings with regard to God and to what He would have you do, and you will see if you have left your course. Some days it may be impossible, as there are days at sea when no sights are possible, but do it when you can.

"And don't get caught in the very common delusion that you must needs *feel* good in order to pray properly. It's not our feelings that matter, it is the effort of our will, often against all our inclinations, as when in war a position may just be won by the efforts of men struggling with an overwhelming desire and need of sleep or food. So you and I are not hypocrites if we pray when we don't want to, or when it is impossible to feel much.

"If we feel good, so much the happier and easier for us, but it is

For further parochial news see third page of cover.

not essential: it is what we decide to do, and what we decide to say to God that matters. If we say to a man going out of a room, 'Shut the door, will you?' he probably shuts it, whether we were consciously able to concentrate on the idea or not. We formed an idea, and got it into words, and the idea reached its mark and achieved something. Say your prayers like that."

IN MEMORIAM.

On the 3rd of March there was buried in Grasmere John Dixon, aged 83. By some mischance his notice was not put in the April magazine, for which an apology is due. He was a Cumberland man who came to farm at Townhead and then moved to the Bungalow. He lived a quiet life was well versed in the Bible and had a very keen sense of humour. May his soul rest in peace.

BAPTISMS.

May 3. John Dixon.
 ,, 31. Elizabeth Ann Dalzell.
 June 19. Mary Ellen Jaffray.

MARRIAGES.

May 5. John Frederick Dalston and Marjorie Baylis.
 ,, 23. Mountford Royle and Annie Hanks.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
April 26.	6	1	10	May 17.	7	3	4
May 3.	6	5	1	„ 24.	18	3	10
„ 10.	5	17	3				Whitsunday
„ 14.	1	2	1				for Diocesan Quota
			Ascension Day	„ 31.	8	2	11
			for U.M.C.A.	June 7.	8	21	11

S.P.C.K.

The preacher both morning and evening on Sunday, July 5th, will be the Rev. W. Purdon, Organising Secretary of the Society in this Diocese. There will be a meeting in the Rectory Room, on Monday, July 6th, at 3-0 p.m., to which all interested are invited. Mr. Purdon will again speak.

RAINFALL.

Rainfall in May, 7.65 inches. Rain fell on 18 days.
 G. M. Simpson.

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