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GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

Rector — The REV. D. P. KING, M.A.

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

Sidesmen: GEN. SIR JAMES O'DOWDA, H. SMITH, P. PEEL,
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W. E. SHARP, J. ECCLES, E. WILSON, E. TYSON,
A. E. CARRADUS, JACK WILSON,

JANUARY, 1944.

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APOLOGY.

The Rector apologises for the extreme lateness in the publication of this Magazine. But circumstances were too much for him!

1944.

Last year in this Magazine there was written "although we are not likely to see peace in the coming year, yet we may hope to see that first beginning of greyness which marks the near approach of dawn." Perhaps we can now see the dawn: and we may all hope at least that by the end of this year perhaps Germany will have surrendered. Even then, of course, the war will not be over: for Japan will still remain unconquered. And also the terrible war against disease and starvation in Europe will have to be faced.

Perhaps it is too optimistic even to hope for the war against Germany to end this year. And we Christians must never be guilty of wishful thinking: we can leave that to those materialists who think that a better world can be brought about by nothing but blue prints and fresh organisation.

But the clear signs of hesitation among the satellite countries like Bulgaria and Hungary are omens. And such a spirit not only spreads very rapidly but inevitably damps the ardour of those who consciously resist the suggestion and when morale is low defeat is very near.

So we look forward with hope and confidence that this year will at least bring us within sight of peace in Europe.

But what a Europe it will be with most of the towns destroyed, communications broken and starvation everywhere. It is an appalling picture. So that each one of us must realise that the end of the war will make tremendous demands upon our courage and faith — more demands in one sense even than war-time since the immediate claim of our own safety will not be urging us.

There will be immediate cries from the irresponsible for relaxation of this or that: some of these demands will be reasonable, some not: bureaucracy will take the line of refusing everything

For further parochial news see third page of cover.

and we shall all get annoyed. All this is inevitable or nearly so. But you and I who are Christians must see to it that we deal first with the situation of those who can do little to help themselves. The children of starving Europe must after the war be the first consideration: as in the Far East must the children who are suffering there.

It is early days to be saying this but we must get it firmly fixed in our minds before the end of the war is upon us so that we are ready.

So let us end this by wishing each other "Peace in Europe in 1944."

GREAT DAYS JANUARY.

- Jan. 6. The Feast of the Epiphany when we remember the coming of the Wise Men and their symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
- Jan. 25. The Conversion of St. Paul: the event that brought into the Christian Church the greatest missionary she has ever had.

CONFIRMATION.

It is announced in the Diocesan Gazette that the Lord Bishop of Barrow will hold a Confirmation Service in our Church at 2-30 p.m. on Wednesday, 22nd March.

DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, 10th January, in the Rectory Room, at 3 p.m.

MOTHERS' UNION.

The next meeting of the Mothers' Union will be on Wednesday, 19th January, at 2-30 p.m., when Miss Loughborough, who has been to us once before, will be the speaker.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Nov. 28.	4	8	0
Dec. 5.	4	0	10
„ 12.	4	10	10
„ 19.	3	7	6
„ 25.	12	8	0
„ 26.	5	3	1

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