

Wray

GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

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OCTOBER, 1944.

F. Middleton, Printer, Ambleside.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

Is that the right title? or are we further advanced? The answer to that is probably not merely a military question but has to do with the morale of the German people. How much faith have they in Hitler? The worship of a false God can produce fanatics and fanatics do not easily lose their faith. We must not be too optimistic or think that all is over except the shouting. But the end might come sooner than we expect.

Then will come the worst problems that we have ever faced perhaps. The need for real wisdom is shown in the problem of Poland at the present time. Many of us feel aggrieved that her army in Warsaw has not been helped more from the Russian side: yet we must remember that on a long view agreement with Russia is essential for the peace of Europe. I read a letter this week in a newspaper which filled me with horror because of its animosity against Russia. That is playing into the German hands: it is what they are hoping for—a break between the two countries is their only hope of a stalemate.

All this leads to an urgent plea for prayer on the part of all of us for wisdom for the Allied leaders—that they may do that which is right and just and that they may learn to live in peace and harmony. It is not going to be easy. We by our prayers can provide the right atmosphere, the atmosphere of hope and trust and confidence. Without that atmosphere there will be no true peace but only an interval between the second and third world wars. And prayer provides atmosphere for through prayer God acts.

NEEDS OF TODAY.

This is not an article on those needs: but there is a series of books published under that title: most of them are good and written by competent authors. The particular one which I wish to mention is "The Growth of the Spiritual Life," by Phyllis Dent. This is very simple and yet is very deep. There are few people who would not get great help from it. Here is a quotation from the Introduction:—

"Religion in these days is discussed more than any other subject and yet people complain loudly that it seems to be divorced from life. Why is this? The answer is obvious, although it is the reverse of what the questioner expects. He is thinking to himself: 'These religious people are concerned with God but remain uncon-

For further parochial news see third page of cover.

cerned about their fellow-men.' But the real truth about our generation is that we have reversed the order of the two great commandments. In the Divine order it is: 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God' and 'Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.' Until our love for our neighbour grows out of our love for God, it has no roots and is threatened by every wind that blows. And unless our love for God issues in love for our neighbour it is a root which fails to flower, and so risks the danger of Divine action — for 'it cumbereth the ground.'

Here is another quotation about Christian love. "An unseemly bit of behaviour which betrays want of love is the delight we take in capping another person's stories. It is amazing how often we tend to turn the course of a conversation back to ourselves: the account of someone else's doings leads to a longing to detail our own."

That is a subtle hit for many of us and the book abounds in such. The price is 3/6.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING..

The Harvest Thanksgiving will be on Sunday, October 8th.

Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7, 8 and 9-15 a.m.

Mattins at 10-30 a.m. Evensong at 6 p.m.

The collections will be for the local hospitals.

IN MEMORIAM.

Thomas William Thompson was born in Grasmere: he saw service in the last war. He was much respected in the village: he was a regular worshipper at the Wesleyan Chapel and Mr. Judge conducted the Burial Service. We all sympathise with his wife and children. May his soul rest in peace.

BAPTISM.

Sept. 17. Leonard Philip Webster.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS.

Aug. 27.	£12	8	10	
Sept. 3.	£24	12	5	Border Regiment Benevolent Fund.
„ 10.	£9	1	11	
„ 17.	£12	10	1	Diocesan Quota.

RAINFALL.—Rainfall in August, 6.22 inches. Rain fell on 15 days.
G. M. Simpson.

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