



GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

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Vergers : MR. J. M. THOMPSON.

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CHURCH RESTORATION.

THE ROOF—It is good to be able to record that, after fourteen years the restoration of the Church Roof is complete, and that the scaffolding was removed during the last days of 1948. The first reference in the Parish Magazine, a rather vague danger signal, appeared in November, 1933, when it was announced with regret that "the ancient rafters which support the roof are showing signs of decay. It is surmised that the trouble is due to the activity of some kind of beetle." By January, 1934 the Diocesan Surveyor had inspected the beams and Mr Hicks, of the firm of Hicks and Charleword, Architects, had been called in. His report, sent to Captain Henniker, then Hon. Secretary to the Church Council, appeared in full in the May Magazine, with a provisional forecast that "the work could be done in four months if sufficient men were available." In June an Appeal was issued, and the Death Watch Beetle is mentioned by name for the first time. Work had already started at the west end of the Nave. By August it was realised that things were a good deal worse than had first been anticipated, and it was announced that "it had been decided to remove the largest beam altogether" and replace it with new timber. In November 1934: "the work is going on slowly, the second bay is being repaired and should be completed about the middle of November."

So the long process began—and continued until the war and the consequent difficulties and shortages held up progress altogether. Our thanks are due to donors, architects, builders and all concerned for the happy completion, after so many years, of a task which was lightheartedly thought would take "a few months." It is hoped, when the last bills are paid, to publish a balance sheet which will show that the original estimate of £2,000—£3,000 was very much short of the mark.

The architect, Mr Charleword, now has in hand the various smaller jobs that remain—the overhauling of the electric wiring and the redecoration of the walls.

THE WINDOWS—The Hon. Treasurer announces that the appeal which was issued in September last for £300 has realised the sum of £301 19 6 and has now been closed. The work involved was completed in November.

BAPTISMS.

- Jan. 16th. Joyce Lesley Thompson.
,, 30th. Mary Margaret Clarkson,

THE BISHOP ON "RESOLUTION 37."

As Lent approaches, the Bishop desires the attention of Church people to be drawn to Resolution 37 of the Lambeth Conference which runs as follows :

"The Conference urges all Church people to look upon their membership of Christ in the Church as the central fact in their lives. They should regard themselves as individually sharing responsibility for the corporate life and witness of the Church in the places where they live. They should discharge this responsibility and give a distinctive witness.

(a) by the regularity of their attendance at public worship and especially at the Holy Communion ;

(b) by the practise of private prayer, Bible reading and self-discipline ;

(c) by bringing the teaching and example of Christ into their everyday lives ;

(d) by the boldness of their spoken witness to their faith in Christ ;

(e) by personal service to Church and community ;

(f) by the offering of money according to their means, for the support of the work of the Church, at home and overseas.

Thus there will be in every locality a living centre of Christian faith, witness and fellowship."

The Bishop comments in the Diocesan Gazette, "Many are the reforms which are suggested for the more effective working of the Church, but they are quite unimportant in comparison with the simple straightforward activities indicated in this resolution, which should characterise the normal Christian man and woman." In accordance with the Bishop's wish, the Rector hopes to make Resolution 37 the basis of Sunday morning sermons during Lent, beginning on March 6th.

On Sunday evenings, beginning on February 27th, a series of talks will be given on the lives of some of our English Saints.

On Ash-Wednesday (March 2nd) there will be Holy Communion at 8-0 a.m., and Evensong with Intercessions at 6-0 p.m.

MOTHERS' UNION.

The Mothers' Union will meet on Wednesday, February 16th at 2-30 p.m. in the Rectory Room : Speaker, the Hon. Mrs. Buckley.

BELLRINGERS.

Are there any more parishioners who would like to learn the art of bellringing? Mr Jas. Wilson would be pleased to hear of a few more volunteers so that the responsibility of ringing for services does not invariably fall on the same team, and he will be glad to teach any who offer their services.

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