BERE REGIS & WINTERBORNE KINGSTON

DECEMBER, 1913.

Sunday Services.

BERE.

Holy Communion	8.0
First Sunday	12.0
Mattins	11.30
Children's Service or Sunday School	2.30
Evensong	6.0

KINGSTON.

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)	8.0
Holy Communion (last Sunday)	10.15
Mattins—(except 3rd Sunday) ...	10.15
Children's Service	3.0
Evensong	6.0

Saints' Days.

Holy Communion	7.30

Week Days.

Mattins	8.50

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PARISH MAGAZINE.

COOKERY CLASS.

For many years complaint has been made that the Government has forced town education on country children, to the waste both of the children's time and the taxpayers' money. Not long ago a leading educationalist stated that the nation had reaped no apparent advantage from the millions of money spent on education since 1870. It is not that any sensible person objects to education. The more of it the better. Nor ought any taxpayer to grudge paying for it, provided that the education given is of the type that will be really useful to the children receiving it. But the government has carried to absurd extremes the maxim "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." It cannot be expected that officials, who spend their time in a government office, should know what education country children need, so instead of grumbling it would be wiser if parents and employers made up their minds what they wanted the children taught and insisted on having it. Surely boys ought to learn gardening in preference to crayon drawing. The Cookery Classes at the Girls' School are a step in the right direction, and we hope that they will go on permanently. The girls are fortunate in having a Head Mistress so willing and competent as Mrs. Hallam, for it must be recognized that it gives her a vast amount of work for no extra pay. The only danger ahead is the possible interference of the army of officials that will have their say about the instruction. Three Government Inspectors, one Inspectress from Whitehall, one County Organizer, besides the Secretaries of the Education Committee seem to form a powerful array of interested officials. Take them one by one they are all very nice people, but you can have too much of a good thing.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

Tues., Dec. 23—Communicants' Devotional Meeting, 7-30.

Thurs. Dec. 25 Holy Communion, 7.0, 8.
Morning Prayer, 10-30.
Holy Communion, 11-30, (Choral with Sermon).
Evensong (Carols), 7.0.

CENTRAL CHURCH FINANCE SCHEME.

The Meeting held after Evensong on Sunday, Nov. 2nd, was of considerable interest, and was fairly well attended. The chair was taken by Mr. Forsyth, who opened proceedings with a brief and clear statement of the purposes of the meeting, including a statement of the amount that this parish was asked to raise, and a calculation of the average contribution necessary from each Church household. Major Balfour followed with a speech which was remarkable for its earnest religious feeling and for the depth of conviction with which he advocated the carrying out of the scheme. He began by reminding his hearers of the great Sacrifice which is the foundation stone of the Christian Faith, and by asking them what they were doing to shew forth their gratitude. He then went into details about the method of raising the £8,000 which the Bishop is asking for, and about the purposes on which the money will be expended. When Major Balfour had concluded, Mr. Bedford spoke of the added interest in Church-work which he believed that this sheme would promote, and formally thanked the Chairman and Major Balfour for their help.

After the Meeting the next thing to do was to find collectors, who would undertake between them the duty of calling on every house in the parish which is inhabited by a Church family. Mr. Bedford, Mr. Bullen, and the Vicar, had divided out the parish into twenty districts, and up to the time of writing collectors have volunteered for sixteen of these districts. The Collectors will meet early in this month, and the comparison of their experiences will be interesting. On the whole we believe that they are being very well received. One collector reported the following answer to a request for a subscription—"I am very glad to give my trifle—I am old and cannot get to church, but I am a thorough church person. I have never been asked to support my Church before and I am glad to have the chance." If there is much of that sort of spirit about among us, all the difficulties of the Archbishop's scheme as far as the raising of the money is concerned are over.

In a previous number of this Magazine the uses have been stated to which the money will be put. It remains here to add something about the organization.

Each parish according to its size chooses a certain number of representatives on the Ruri-decanal Conference, and this elects six laymen to represent the Deanery at the Diocesan Synod.

Our Parochial representatives are—
Messrs. Bedford, Hatton, Gregory.

The Deanery representatives are—
Major Balfour, Messrs. H. Kindersley, G. Carter, A. C. de Lafontaine, R. T. Bennett, W. Gover.

This is the Lay-side of the organisation. The Clerical element is kept separate, and has no voice in the election of the Lay representatives.

The Clergy of the Deanery meet in chapter and elect four of their number to represent them at the Diocesan Synod.

The Clerical representatives are Rev. A. L. Helps, H. R. Long, W. G. Newman, M. A. Bere.

The Diocesan Synod appoints a Central Board of Diocesan Finance with which the management of the Funds rests. The weak part of the scheme at the present moment appears to be that the spending body is not sufficiently in touch with the various parishes. We think that it would be a great improvement if every application had to be passed by a Deanery Finance Committee before it was considered at Head-quarters, but this will perhaps come in time. It is true that the Board, which makes grants from the Central Funds, is an elected Board, but it cannot know local circumstances as well as those who live in the neighbourhood in which the needs arise. In fact just now the arrangements for collecting the money are more complete than the arrangements for spending it. This is natural enough in the initial stage of the scheme, for we all find it easier to spend money than get it. For the purposes of the scheme Mr. Bedford represents the parish, and Major Balfour the Deanery, Mr. Crane being local treasurer, and we should like these gentlemen consulted over every expenditure in the Deanery, as well as over methods for raising the Funds.

It is a long time since the Archbishop's Committee made its report, and it ought to have been taken up and acted on before this. But "slow and sure" do sometimes go together, and we trust they will over this matter. There is real need for a revolution in the Finances of the Church, it is common knowledge that the Church has lost ground in growing towns and country hamlets merely because she has no financial organization worth the name. Let us hope that this generation of Churchmen will do something to bring orderliness out of the present muddle, and thereby earn the gratitude of posterity.

COLLECTIONS.

	Oct. 26th.	Nov. 2nd.	9th.	16th.	23rd.
8.0	—	4/11	4/-	6/8	4/3
11.30	3/6	13/1	—	1/2/11	—
6.0	—	13/8	—	6/11	—

Nov. 16th was for Parochial Curate Fund.

Dec. 14th, Collection will be for Foreign Missions (S.P.G.)

GARDENING LECTURES.

These will be continued until Dec. 15, on Monday evenings at 7-30. They are illustrated by the Magic Lantern, and are of an entirely practical nature. A great many of Mr. Parslow's Lantern Slides were photographs from School gardens in the County. When will he come to Bere Regis to photograph the School garden?

WINTERBORNE KINGSTON.

During Advent there will be Special Services in the Church, with an Address on Thursday evenings, at 7 p.m., commencing on December 4th. I trust that every one who possibly can, will make a special effort to be present at these Services.

Our Mothers' Meetings were inaugurated on Nov. 12th, Mrs. Stacey most kindly undertaking this branch of Parochial work.

This last month has seen the commencement of our Winter activities, our first social which was largely attended being held on Oct. 29. Since then I am very glad to say that we have been enabled to re-open the Reading Room, which is such a boon to our young men. In connection with this we have formed a Football Club, of which Mr. J. Burgess is the captain, and we trust that the Club will have a prosperous future before it. I am at present acting as Secretary and Treasurer.

The room for the Choir Boys at the Parsonage seems to be very much appreciated, the boys being occupied in fretwork and netting, with intervals for games. Though I hope personally to wish each one of you a very Happy Christmas when it comes, I take this opportunity of expressing my earnest hope that this my first Christmas among you may be full of joy and blessing to us all.

BAPTISM.

Oct. 10—Louis, son of Louis and Eliza Vincent.

OFFERTORIES.

		s.	d.
October 26	M.	3	0
	E.	3	1
November 2	M.	5	3
	E.	3	0
November 9	M.	8	7
	E.	3	2
November 16	8 a.m.	1	0
	M.	7	9
	E.	3	11
November 23	M.	8	4
	E.	3	6

DENIS MOORE CANN.