

September 1959



THE holiday season is now more or less over and we can all look back on a summer almost without precedent as far as weather is concerned. The harvest has been bountiful and safely gathered in and for this we have to thank God and all those who work on the land. It has also been a time when more people have visited our Parish Church. For the last year or two the number has decreased, but this year shows a definite increase. The new Guide to the Parish Church which made its first issue in April, gives us some idea of the number of visitors. Nearly 4,000 have been sold and of course this is only a fraction of the number of actual visitors. In previous issues of the Magazine we have referred to the indefinable influence of our Parish Churches on the life of the nation and of the vast numbers from overseas. A Parish Church such as our own is visited almost daily by people of all countries as is indicated by the entries in our Visitors' Book and we have frequent messages of appreciation of its care and beauty. Our ancient Parish Churches are steeped in the history and tradition of the past and in these days of rapid change they hold an inestimable place in the life of our country. In a church such as our own do we ever think of the care, skill and devotion of the men who in successive generations have added to its beauty and maintenance—the masons, carvers and designers. We cannot date this work because it started in the days of the Saxons—they in turn were followed by the Normans—men who could not speak the English language but who brought their skill as stonemasons from the Continent. Of this particular work we have the ancient Font as well as other parts of the church. Do we ever think of the men who actually carved our famous roof nearly 500 years ago? All of their carving and other work was done long before machinery supplanted human skill and was done by men whose only Union was the Guild to which they belonged and for which they worked for love of their work without thought of wages and hours.

Of course it is unreasonable to compare conditions of life today with those of generations past and gone but what we have inherited from the past makes the responsibility for maintaining our inheritance all the greater.

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THE departure of Miss Crook and Miss Cocket will be a very great loss to S. Nicholas Church to which they have always been so loyal and helpful in every way. Their leaving will be felt by the whole village and they leave a host of friends who wish them every happiness in their new home at Milton Abbas.

Register

Holy Baptism.

September 6th. David Michael, son of Michael Vernon John
and Sheila Rose Hazel.

Holy Matrimony.

September 12th. Frank Henry Mileham and Margaret Patricia
Mooney.