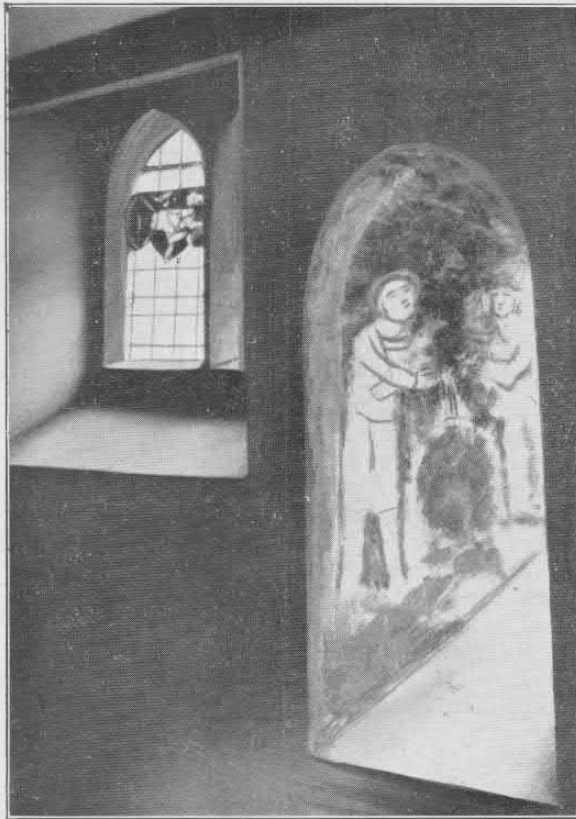


ALL SAINTS', HARTLEY,
Parish Magazine.

(Published Quarterly.)

EDITED BY J. WELLS THATCHER.



“CAIN AND ABEL”—KINGSDOWN CHURCH.

THE RECTOR'S LETTER.

My Dear Parishioners,

Mr. H. Mandeville Roe who, from time to time pays a visit to our village, when last here, took photographs of the mural decorations in some of the neighbouring Churches.

He has kindly sent copies which include those in Dartford, Fawkham and Kingsdown, together with a dissertation on the Religious

Art of our Forefathers, which he thought would be interesting to the readers of our magazine.

The portion referring to Dartford Parish Church appears in this issue—the remainder, with a picture of the fresco in Fawkham Church, will follow in due course.

Yours very truly,

GERARD W. BANCKS.

THE ART OF OUR FOREFATHERS. THE RELIGION BEAUTIFUL.

By E. G. MANDEVILLE ROE.

Those of us who have been out of England will readily recollect how extremely well many Continental churches have been beautified by the paintings lavishly adorning their walls and ceilings. Not merely is this true of great cathedrals and the lofty Gothic piles which grace the towns, but in country districts one is able to realise what a large part artistic decoration plays in the religion of the people. This applies both to modern and to mediæval churches as regards internal painting.

Few of us, however, remember that England in her own way was once like that, with churches resplendent in pictorial representations of Biblical incidents gleaming upon the walls. Our subsequent history has, unfortunately, been such as to efface many of the brighter features of remoter periods. Puritanism struck much more deeply into our hearts than is at first sight apparent. Before that time the paintings which had refined the thoughts and delighted the eyes of simple worshippers still decorated church walls, although no doubt in some cases the remorseless hand of Time had left its trace upon them; still, judging by what little is now left, the lapse of centuries must then chiefly have been noted by a gentle mellowing of tones.

At the time of the civil War many of these ancient paintings in churches still survived with much of their original brilliance. The fanaticism of covenanting zealots, who drew so much of their inspiration from the teaching of the Old Testament rather than from that of the New, caused sacrilegious hands to be laid upon many objects of beauty which had delighted church goers for centuries, and how great was the amount of damage wrought by the orders of Puritan iconoclasts it is impossible to say. From time to time fragments are uncovered which give us some idea of what we have lost through the bigotry of our relatively recent ancestors. When such treasures are once again exposed, we are enabled to see back to the faith which inspired Englishmen, not in the seventeenth century, when they were expressing themselves in floods of theological tracts, but in the eleventh, when they could, as a general rule, neither read nor write, and the road to education lay through a clerkship in Holy Orders.

The paintings which have during the last few years been uncovered in certain churches show us how the great lessons of Christianity

were kept before the minds of the people in the days when, to those who could not read Latin, the Bible was a closed book, and to those who could it was not always available.

It has, of course, been known for a long time that there was the possibility of finding such paintings during renovations, and it is greatly to be regretted that in earlier years steps were not taken to preserve those which had survived. For example, we are told that the church of St. Mary, Lewisham, which had to be almost completely rebuilt in the reign of George III, was adorned in this way, the description published by J. C. Barrow in 1790 stating that the East end of the ceiling was "rudely painted to represent clouds, stars, etc." It is vain now to speculate upon the nature of the "etcetera," because nothing was done to retain the painting in the new edifice, which may perhaps have been architecturally impossible, since the old building was on the verge of collapse through the subsidence of the central pillar, and no engraving appears to exist.

Fortunately the fine painting of St. George and the Dragon, which is regarded as fourteenth century work, still adorns the walls of Dartford Church, in Kent, and, far from suffering at the hands of the builder, has been very carefully restored, although its position is such that it does not show off to good advantage. The version of the legend of St. George which is depicted is very similar to the Greek story of the rescue of Andromeda by Perseus; indeed, one is reminded of an analogy in the drama, where there have been attempts at producing "Shakespeare in modern dress." Here upon the walls of Dartford Church we have a reproduction of this ancient myth in what was no doubt for the artist modern dress! There is the King's daughter exposed as a sacrifice to the hideous monster which has been ravaging the land, but she is respectably attired in the ermine and rather heavy-looking cloth which the painter would see upon royal personages of his day, and not the pair of manacles only which are commonly represented as Andromeda's sole covering on a similar occasion. For Perseus in the Hat of Darkness we have St. George, a ponderously mailed mediæval knight, upon whose spear the Dragon is well and truly spitted. In the middle distance and to the left are seen the King and Queen anxiously peering over the battlements of their capital while the fate of their daughter hangs in the balance.

(To be continued.)

EDITOR'S NOTES.

I was much impressed by the fine literary tone of Mr. E. G. Mandeville Roe's article which begins in this number. I am sure it will be read with much pleasure by all lovers of our ancient churches.

* * *

There has been much sickness amongst us since I last wrote to you and there are new mounds in our ancient churchyard where dear friends and neighbours have been laid to rest.

* * *

It was most inspiring to see the Hartley band sitting in the Chancel at our Carol Service. How well they played! How smart they looked! How the people sang! I was proud to be amongst them.

* * *

I must again congratulate Mr. Gomer Davies on his brilliant and witty report of the Debating Society. Taking one thing with another we are go-head folk in Hartley. The clubs and societies amongst us cater for and represent every human interest.

* * *

Mr. F. F. Tate contributes two useful paragraphs, the one about the Band, the other about the cricket club. It is such a comfort to old chaps like I am to see the youngsters coming along and doing their bit for the church and for the varied interests of the parish.

Our esteemed Rector has not been very well lately, but he has a strong will and has done his clerical duty when he ought to have stayed at home.

* * *

I am very sad that so few people come to our Evening Service. It is a bright and helpful Church Service. On wet and dark nights, or when winds are bitter, there may be some excuse for staying away. I wonder why so many of our neighbours are doing without a public recognition of God? I challenge them to give me a frank and adequate reason and I will print it with their permission.

BAPTISMS.

Feb. 7.—[redacted] of William and Lavinia Ball.

Mar. 6.—[redacted] of Frederick and Lois Emily Robinson.

MARRIAGE.

Mar. 5.—Horace Smith and Nellie Kathleen Crouch.

BURIALS.

Dec. 16, 1931.—Irene Wood.

Jan. 2, 1932.—Emma Applegate, aged 79.

„ 28.—Tom Fleetwood Tate, aged 56.

Feb. 5.—Henry John Saunders, aged 75.

„ 10.—John Alfred William Wansbury, aged 49.

„ 20.—Walter Hooper, aged 68.

April.	May.	June.
3rd—1st Sunday after Easter.	1st—S.S. Philip and James. Ap	5th—2nd Sunday after Trinity.
5th—Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.	„ —5th Sunday after Easter.	11th—S. Barnabas, Apostle.
10th—2nd Sunday after Easter.	5th—Ascension Day.	12th—3rd Sunday after Trinity.
17th—3rd Sunday after Easter.	8th—Sunday after Ascension.	19th—4th Sunday after Trinity.
24th—4th Sunday after Easter	15th—Whit Sunday.	24th—Nativity of St. John the Baptist.
25th—St. Mark, Evan.	22nd—Trinity Sunday.	26th—5th Sunday after Trinity.
	29th—1st Sunday after Trinity.	29th—St. Peter, Ap. & M.

Church Information.

The Lord Bishop—THE RIGHT REV. MARTIN LINTON SMITH, D.D., D.S.O. Archdeacons—THE VEN. DONALD TAIT, M.A., Archdeacon of Rochester; THE VEN. LEONARD SAVILL, M.A., Archdeacon of Ton-

bridge. Dean of the Cathedral—THE VERY REV. REGINALD THOMAS TALBOT, D.D. Rector—REV. CHARLES GERARD WINSTANLEY BANCKS, M.A., appointed 1902. Churchwardens—Mr. F. W. Tate and Mr. J. Wells Thatcher.

CHURCH SERVICES.

Matins, 11 a.m. Evensong, 6.30 p.m.

Holy Communion, 8 a.m., on the 2nd Sunday in each month; at 12 noon on other Sundays.

Parochial Church Council (elected under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure, 1921).—Council for 1930-31: The Rector (who is Chairman by virtue of his office), Mrs. Eric Green, Mrs. F. W. Tate, Mrs. Adams, Miss Sale, Mr. R. Adams, Miss Green (Honorary Secretary), Miss Rodwell, Mrs. Alexander, Mr. F. W. Tate, Mr. W. H. Chisholm, Mrs. Balchin, Mrs. Keen, Mr. Eric Green (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. B. Alexander, Mrs. Chisholm, Mr. and Mrs. Ball, Mr. Marrington, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Day, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Harris, with the Churchwardens by virtue of their offices. *Representatives on the Ruri-Decanal Conference*—Mrs. Balchin and Mrs. Keen. *Representatives at the Annual Diocesan Conference*—Miss Green and Mrs. F. Tate. *Committees*—Standing Committee: The Chairman and the Churchwardens. Finance Committee: The Churchwardens, the Treasurer and Miss Green. *Sidesmen*—Mr. A. Blackwell, Mr. J. Green, Mr. B. Alexander, Mr. R. Adams, Mr. L. Harris. *Organist and Choirmaster*—Mr. W. H. Chisholm. *Members of the Choir*—Mrs. Balchin, Mrs. Eric Green, Mrs. Chisholm, Mrs. T. J. Clark, Miss E. Green, Mrs. Keen, Miss Chisholm, Mrs. Symons, Miss V. W. Emmott, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Tate, Mr. F. F. Tate, Mr. G. G. Marrington. *Diocesan Lay Reader (Retired)*—Mr. J. Wells Thatcher.

Sunday School at the Church Parochial School—Superintendent: Miss Vera W. Emmott. Time: 3 to 3.45 p.m. *Church Parochial School*—Miss Fiddis, Headmistress; Miss Emmott, Assistant Teacher; Mrs. Nickalls, Assistant Teacher. *School Managers*—The Rector, Mr. J. Green, Mrs. Balchin, Miss Rodwell, Miss Harry and Mrs. Reilly.

Bell Ringer and Organ Blower—Mr. A. Rogers. *Churchyard Keeper*—Mr. A. Rogers. *Church Cleaner*—Mrs. Hoadley. *Sexton and Grave Digger*—Mr. J. Crouch.

Magazine Secretary—Mr. F. F. Tate, "Amphion," Ash Road, Hartley.

WORK OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL.

"It shall be the primary duty of the Council of every parish to co-operate with the Incumbent in the initiation, conduct and development of Church work both within the parish and outside."—(Section 2 of the Measure.)

Altar Flowers.

January—Mrs. P. Harris.

February—Mrs. Walker.

March—Miss Bonsall.

April—Mrs. Hemming.

May—Mrs. T. J. Clark.

June—Miss Green.

July—Mrs. Elliott.

August—Mrs. Andrus.

September—Mrs. Chisholm.

October—Miss Robertson.

November—Mrs. Ralph Day.

December—Mrs. Eric Green.

THOMAS FLEETWOOD TATE.

I write the following lines with much sadness. Our dear friend has been taken from us at a comparatively early age. Our regret at the loss we have all sustained is balanced in some measure when we think of the man himself as a citizen, as a neighbour, and in the intimate relations of domestic life.

I was always impressed by the sagacity of our deceased friend. He was a man of few words and they were always wise and to the point. His outlook on life was tolerant; he was always ready to serve his neighbours and the parish in which he spent such happy, useful days. He loved music and was at one time choirmaster and organist of our ancient church of All Saints. He formed the local Musical Society and started the Hartley Band—a most successful effort.

The regard in which Thomas Fleetwood Tate was held was manifest by the great body of mourners who came to All Saints on the day of his funeral.

Everyone who reads this humble tribute to an honest, upright, modest man will desire to

join with me in offering deep and sincere words of sympathy to his widow and to his relations.

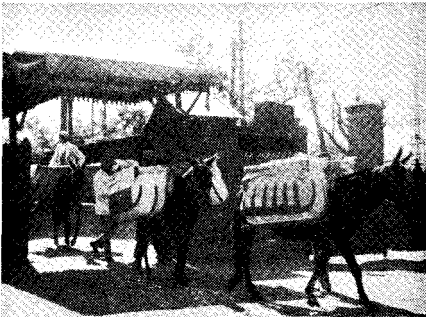
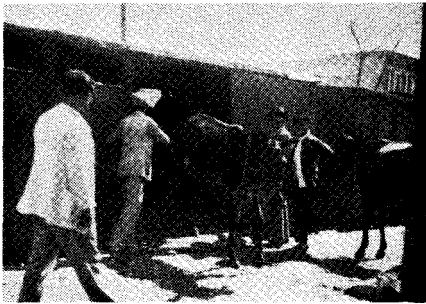
Many beautiful flowers adorned the resting place of our departed brother, and I am moved to quote the apt and beautiful words uttered by Anchises at the end of the 6th book of the *Æneid*.

" . . . Manibus date lilia plenis, Purpureos spargam flores, animamque illius His saltem adcumulem donis."

[Give me lilies in handfuls; let me strew the blooming flowers; these offerings at least let me heap upon his shade.]

THE BREAD CARRIERS OF SEVILLE.

I am indebted to the Editor of the *Illinois Central Magazine*, Chicago, for the accompanying pictures, photographs for which were taken by his agent in Seville, Spain.



They illustrate an interesting feature in Seville's domestic life. The donkeys are bread carriers. The bread is made at Alcala de Guadaira, about 10 miles from Seville. Every morning the donkeys with their panniers loaded up are sent into Seville by train. On arrival they are met by their individual masters or drivers, who each then proceed on their own delivery round. The donkeys themselves immediately find their own driver, and in one of the pictures a donkey is rather amusingly shown coming out of the railway car in search of his driver.

H. T. PARRETT

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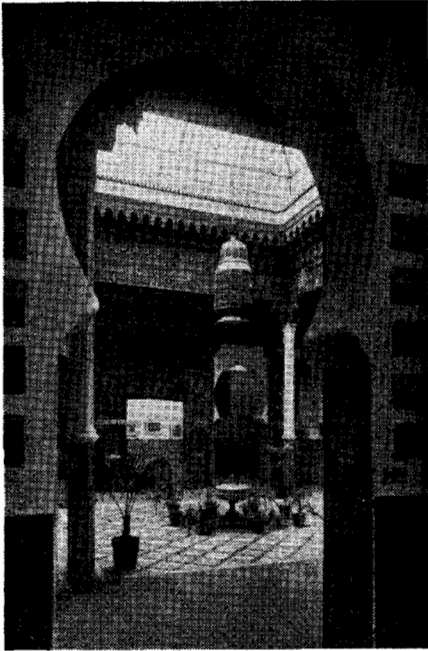
of

ALL LOCAL NEWS

read

**"The Gravesend and
Dartford Reporter."**

A SPANISH INTERIOR.



The picture here reproduced shows the interior of an old Moorish house in Seville. My friend—our friend—Mr. W. H. Chisholm, who travels all over Europe, kindly lent me the three interesting pictures here shown.

DECEMBER 27th.

At Evensong on Sunday, December 27th, we had our usual Carol Service, when all the old favourites were sung. Accompaniment was furnished by members of the Hartley Band who sat in the chancel, and it is long since our ancient rafters echoed to such a volume of vocal and instrumental harmony.

We are all very much indebted to Mr. Bones, their enthusiastic conductor, who came over with friends from a distance at considerable inconvenience, as well as local members, all of whom we were so glad to welcome.

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THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

The membership of the Hartley Literary and Debating Society has increased to sixty-four, and the meetings held at the Women's Institute Hall continue to be well attended.

The first half of the session finished on December 11th, with a very interesting Lantern Talk on "Cities of Southern Spain" by Mr. C. J. Gadd, during which our preconceived ideas about the Spanish climate were shivered, and we wondered why Spaniards live in Spain until we heard about their delightful art collections and buildings in which, presumably, they find happy shelter from the inclemencies of their weather.

The second half of the session was opened on January 8th, by Mr. J. A. O'Brien, with a Talk "A Trip to Japan." A Word Picture would be a better description than a Talk, and this time we should have been wondering why anybody lives anywhere else but in Japan had not Mr. O'Brien prefaced his picture by stating the cost of getting there, which resigned us to dragging out our miserable existences in Hartley.

The next scheduled meeting for February 5th was cancelled in consequence of the death of Mr. T. F. Tate, and at the meeting on February 19th, the chairman, Miss Chisholm, opened by inviting those present to express

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HARTLEY.

the Society's sympathy with the bereaved and the sense of our own loss by standing in silence for a few moments. She said it was typical of the man that Mr. Tate was one of the first to help in the formation of this Society.

Mr. S. H. Ellerby then opened a discussion on "Modern Views of Survival," with an erudite résumé of his subject.

On February 19th, Mr. W. Wright, in a very spirited and encyclopædic paper opened a discussion on "Man's Lost Freedom." Some of his remarks caused the ladies to once again enter the discussion in force but they did not appear favourably inclined to any restoration being made.

There are two more meetings before the session closes, which will bring the total to eleven meetings—and all for a subscription of One Shilling!

HARTLEY CONGREGATION CHURCH NOTES.

The Centenary Campaign of the Congregational Union of England and Wales is to be continued. Last year was one of preparation. This year it is hoped that new power will arise in all the churches, "turning coldness into warmth, changing weakness into strength." The aim of the campaign is "to rediscover the great truths for which our churches stand, and to act more resolutely in obedience to the dictates of these truths."

* * *

Sunday, December 13th, 1931, marked the 5th Birthday of the Church. Dr. A. Salter, U.P., explored the "Foundations of Belief." The principle of the material and spiritual life was the same—Faith in externals. The assumptions of the sense life found a ready response from environment. The material life was only a part. There was something deeper in all men which assumed God. Reasoning led to experience, and experience culminated

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in walking and talking with God. The Spiritual environment was as real as the natural.

* * *

The New Year's message on January 3rd, was given by Mr. H. E. Andrews, of Sittingbourne. Men must be fighters, but the great victories were gained without material weapons. Magnanimity—greatness of heart—was needed this year to overcome evils in Church and State. That meant the greatest fight of all—the conquest of self.

* * *

On November 23rd, 1931, the Sunday School arranged a social evening on its own. Fifty scholars and parents attended, and a most enjoyable time was passed.

* * *

The usual New Year's Party on January 4th, was under the leadership of Captain Ratcliff, R.N. Seventy guests engaged in a kind of perpetual motion until everyone was "whacked," in the Captain's illuminating phrase. We thank Messrs, Delf and McDonald, and Miss Hodson, for arranging the coming of Father Christmas down the chimney to distribute 40 odd gifts from an electrically lighted Xmas tree.

* * *

On Saturday, December 5th, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, with musical friends from Dulwich, for the sixth time provided a delightful concert to a responsive audience. A profit of £3 4s. 6d. was added to the Building Fund.

* * *

We gladly welcome Mrs. A. Day as a teacher in the Sunday School. Our grateful thanks to Mr. E. Day for voluntarily re-painting and lettering the Church Notice Board. Miss V. Hodson has started a branch of the International Bible Reading Association. Sixteen members have joined within a month. Mrs. A. Shambrook, in the capacity of the

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Hartley, Longfield, Kent,**

Or to the Hon. Secretary,

**Mr. F. F. Tate,
"Amphion," Ash Road,
Hartley, Longfield, Kent.**

*Advertisers will also send the copy for their
Advertisements to either of the above, together with
payment for same when bayment is made.*

Church's Missionary representative, has opened a subscription list on behalf of the L.U.S. Small weekly or monthly amounts can be paid. In a few weeks £2 has been received.

* * *

Some of our most enthusiastic helpers have for months past been working in the interests of a Trading Fund, instituted by Miss F. Kirke, for the Church Building. The very handsome amount of £15 1s. 3d. has been raised. The unnamed workers may well rest content in the fact that their effort will be consolidated into good brick and mortar for generations to come.

* * *

On January 19th, our friend Mr. T. F. Tate, passed from the Church militant to the Church triumphant. Some of us were with him in the pioneer days of modern Hartley—nearly 20 years ago. Then, we were a happy company of some 30 smallholders, with great ideas of a land life, and the possibilities of co-operation. The dreams may have faded, but the influence and work of Mr. T. F. Tate as one of the leaders in those early days remain, and Hartley is in a better place because of his devotion to its interests. The path of public

service is not an easy way, but he never faltered in his ideal, or complained when his efforts may have been misunderstood and unappreciated. We shall remember his work with gratitude, and deeply regret the loss both Village and Church have sustained.

* * *

We regret that another of our foundation members, Mrs. Gladys Butler, has moved away from Hartley. [REDACTED] will be much missed in the School.

* * *

Sincerely we hope that our Editor will gain in health as the weather improves. His genial friendliness and kindly personality is a tonic in these times.

S. H. ELLERBY,
Hon. Sec., H.C.C.

HARTLEY AND DISTRICT BAND.

It is with a very deep feeling of personal loss that the death of Mr. T. F. Tate is felt by all members of the Band. Without him and his continual efforts during the long period he had been conductor and secretary the Band could never have existed.

Only as recently as December 10th, 1931, a concert was given by the Band in the

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Constitutional Hall and one of the principal events of the evening was the presentation, by Brig.-Gen. T. A. Andrus, C.M.G., President of the Band, on behalf of the members, to Mr. T. F. Tate, of a battery eliminator, as a small mark of appreciation of his services.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Women's Institute Hall on 17th December, 1931, Brig. Gen. T. A. Andrus, C.M.G., being in the chair. At this meeting, at the conclusion of the usual business, it was decided that the bonus system instituted in January 1931, by which a percentage of his subscription is returned to each member in accordance with the number of practices attended, should be discontinued. In future, therefore, the subscription will be 3d. per week payable by all active members.

Carols were played in the village on 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th December, 1931, and music was provided by the Band at a Carol Service held in the church on the evening of Sunday, 27th December, 1931.

An invitation social evening in the place of the Annual Supper was again given this year and a large number of members and friends were at the Women's Institute Hall on Tuesday, 16th February, 1932. The early part of the evening was filled by a short concert followed by refreshments, and the later part was devoted to dancing, Mr. Sonny Stone and his band kindly supplying the necessary music.

HARTLEY CRICKET CLUB.

Preparations have been made for the coming season and the ground should be in a better condition than in previous seasons.

Fixtures have been arranged for every Saturday afternoon from 30th April to 10th September, and both the Bank Holiday matches are at home.

Most of the old members will again be available, but there is room for a few more players in the club and persons interested are wanted to communicate with the Secretary, Mr. H. W. Balchin.

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A whist drive held in February has helped to augment the funds which are needed to meet the expenses which must inevitably be incurred. The club wishes to express its thanks to all those who helped to make this function a success.

It is hoped that the subscribers, to whom a debt of gratitude is owed, will continue to maintain their generous support.

THE HARTLEY PLAYERS USHER IN THE NEW YEAR.

The Hartley Players gave their New Year Cabaret Show on January 16th. The Hall was prettily decorated and set out with chairs and tables which gave it a social air. There was opportunity for conversation and movement before the first play on the programme. Refreshments were served and there was some dancing at the end, but everyone's interest was, of course, directed to the dramatic programme. It comprised three short plays; the last was pure farce, the first nearly so, but "The Mobswoman," given second was tragic in tone. The title role was in the very capable hands of Estelle Bradley, whom everyone was glad to see among the Hartley Players

again. She succeeded in moving the audience to tense silence by her pitiful story and suicidal resolution at the end, and one wanted to know how her life would go on afterwards. Ernest Harry had the other important part and played it with dignity, though his manner had also a suggestion of parental pomposity. The young lovers (Douglas Ross and Kathleen Northeen) the latter new to the Company, were controlled and pleasing in their minor parts.

Estelle Bradley produced "The Mobswoman" as well as acting in it, and Maureen Boston also did both in "That Brute Simmons." As Mrs. Simmons she was vigorous and overwhelming enough to account for the cringing humility of her second husband, Thomas Simmons, and the running away of the first, Bob Ford, whose return ends in their both escaping from the virago. Her volubility was, however, shouted more than was altogether necessary, and she looked too fresh and blooming for an East-ender, especially of the nagging "work-me-finger-to-the-bone" type. Edwin Gain was intensely propitiatory and in voice very good, for his quiet tones carried very well, but he might

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have deserted the cowed and cringing attitude occasionally. Cyril Boston, another recruit appearing for the first time, did well as Bob Ford, save for a habit of fidgeting from one foot to another.

Of "Leap Year in the Kitchen," the chief part, Thomas, was taken by Eric Green, who seemed to find himself happily at home in it, and got hearty laughter at his cake-making. Rosalie Oldrey was his mistress, perhaps rather too dignified in the beginning, to fall naturally in love with her cook-houseman. The two young admirers of Thomas (Winifred Day and Eleanor Green) proved themselves creditable new members in the small parts allotted them.

AVE ATQUE VALE!

I should also have liked to write special tribute in memory of my good friend Tom Tate. I miss him more than I can express. I never knew a man who was so willing at

all times to put himself definitely at the service of his friends, and of their interests. He did not consider himself, and from the time we joined the Hartley community nearly nine years ago he has never failed us in anything. I cannot say anything better than that, can I?

And, of course, *you* know what he has done for the Church for years past, and I know, and appreciate, his recent help when he came to play the organ although obviously unfit.

You probably have other communications more eloquently worded including your own tribute as editor, but in any case I would like to be sure reference is made to his cheerful acceptance of deputy work at our old organ which I personally appreciate so much.

[The above extract is from a letter written by Mr. Chisholm whilst on one of his widely extended European journeys.—ED.]

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