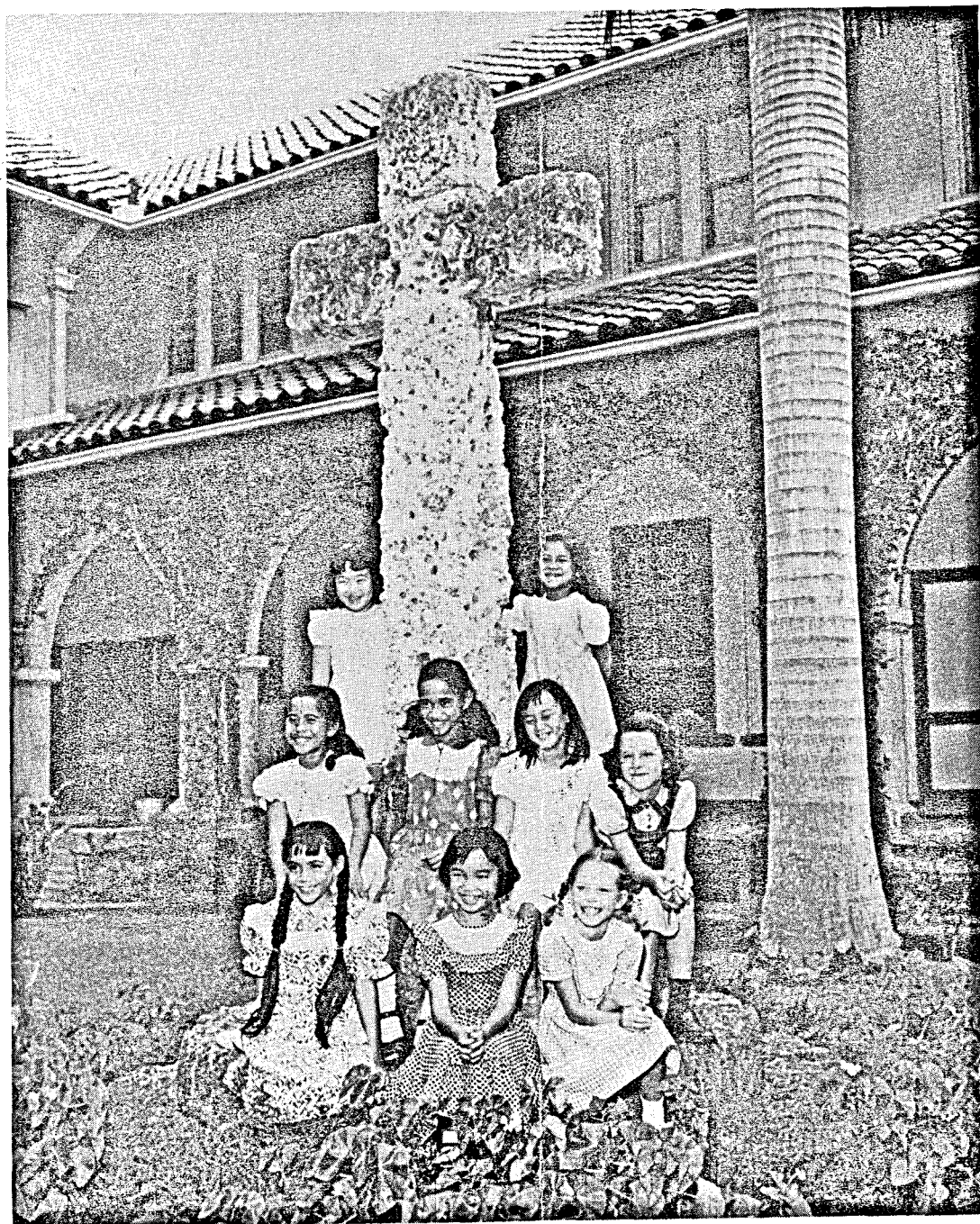


HAWAIIAN CHURCH CHRONICLE

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THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN HAWAII

APRIL, 1952



Happy pupils of St. Andrew's Priory gather around the coral cross in the patio of the Priory.



St. Elizabeth's Church, Honolulu, taken on the day it was dedicated.

St. Elizabeth's Church Dedicated

Palm Sunday, April 6th, St. Elizabeth's Church was dedicated by the Bishop. He was assisted by the Rector, the Rev. Wai On Shim, the Curate, the Rev. Theodore T. Y. Yeh, the Rev. C. Fletcher Howe and the Rev. Richard M. Trelease, Jr., who preached for the occasion. The clergy on Oahu were in attendance and in the procession. It was a very wonderful occasion for this congregation and for the entire Diocese.

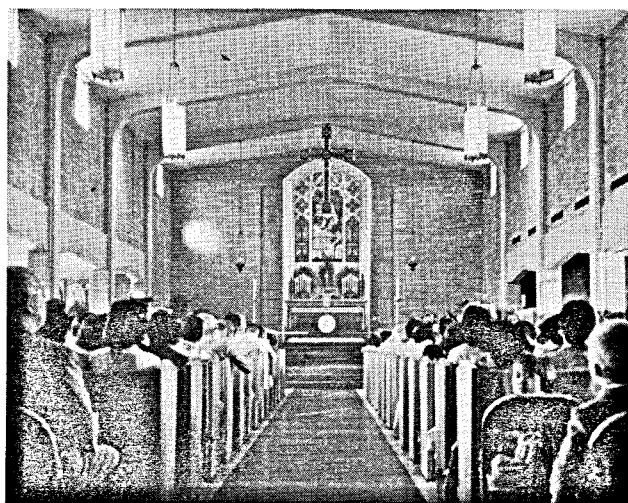
Architect for the new church was Edwin L. Bauer. Much of the beauty of the interior was planned by the Rev. C. Fletcher Howe, who embodied many of the windows and fixtures of the former little church, which had to be replaced because it was termite eaten and inadequate for the growing congregation. Many of the bricks in the church were made by men in the congregation, who mixed the cement and placed them in forms.

The church is one of the loveliest of our new church buildings and is a fine addition to our diocese. We congratulate the rector and congregation in the accomplishment of building the new church.

Members of the congregation are now busy planning the landscaping of their property.

Woman's Auxiliary Day

Saturday, May 17th, will be the Annual Diocesan Woman's Auxiliary meeting, and will be held at St. Mark's Church. Mrs. William Lin, President, will preside at the meeting. The Very Rev. Paul Roberts, Dean of St. John's Cathedral, Denver, Colorado, will be the guest speaker. We are sure this will be an occasion all our women will wish to remember.



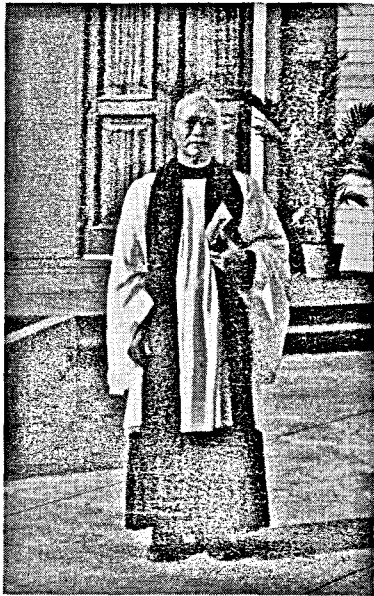
Interior of St. Elizabeth's Church, showing the beautiful memorial window given to the first little St. Elizabeth's Church by William Alexander Procter in memory of his wife, Charlotte Elizabeth Procter. The main figure, St. Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, has the face of Mrs. Procter embodied in the window. The window has been beautifully installed in the new church.

To Attend Laymen's Training Course

Mr. Thomas Major, Diocesan Key Layman, will be one of the laymen to represent the Eighth Province at the Laymen's Training Program, to be held at El Rancho del Obispo, Healdsburg, California, June 6-8. This is sponsored by the Presiding Bishop's Committee on Laymen's Work, and will be headed by Mr. Robert Jordan, Director of the Department of Promotion of National Council, and the Reverend Clarence Haden, Jr., Executive Director for the Presiding Bishop's Committee for Laymen. We feel privileged, indeed, to have Mr. Major represent us at this important training course. These men are trained so that they may go into the various dioceses and train laymen on the work of the Church, so that they may help particularly at the time of the Every Member Canvass. They are holding the courses early this year because General Convention plans make it impossible to hold the courses in the fall.

Dates Changed

Mr. Carl Fleishman, of FORTH MAGAZINE, writes that the dates for the tour of our Church people to Hawaii have been changed. They will make a twelve day visit to the Islands, from October 26th to November 6th, inclusive. The Lurline will do the unusual on October 26th. This is a Sunday, and it will dock in time for the members of the tour to attend services at St. Andrew's Cathedral, at 11:00 o'clock. We are looking forward with great anticipation to having our friends from the mainland visit the Islands to see something of our work and the beauty of Hawaii.



The Rev. Wai On Shim,
Rector of St. Elizabeth Parish.



Participants of St. Elizabeth's Dedication Service
The Rev. Wai On Shim, Rector, the Rev. Canon Richard M. Trelease, Jr., Rector of St. Andrew's Cathedral, The Rev. C. Fletcher Howe, Associate Rector; the Very Rev. D. Arthur W. Davies, retired Dean of Worcester Cathedral, the Bishop, the Rev. Theodore T. Y. Yeh, Curate.

Associates Of Transfiguration

The Associates of the Transfiguration will have a benefit Fellowship Tea on Friday, May 9th, at the home of Mrs. Harry S. Kennedy, 3019 Nuuanu Avenue, at which Mrs. Chester E. Frowe will give a talk on "Oahu." A free-will offering will be taken to start a scholarship fund for some worthy student at St. Andrew's Priory.

Help Paint

Some of the young men in the Armed Forces Center have helped the hostess, Mrs. Frank Ronayne, with some interior improvements by wielding a paint brush. Their spirit of cooperation is very much appreciated, as it helps materially in the expense of making improvements.

The young men are coming to the Center in such numbers it looks as though we may have to put them to work as carpenters and add some additions to the house! It is most gratifying to see how much they enjoy their "home away from home." The Bishop and Mrs. Ronayne have had many letters of appreciation from parents of the boys who frequent the house, expressing their joy in having the interest of the Church so in evidence for those in the service of their country.

Graduation Dates Set

Iolani graduation services will be held at St. Andrew's Cathedral May 30th, St. Andrew's Priory will hold their service on June 6th, and the Hawaii Episcopal Academy will have their first graduation exercises on June 1st.

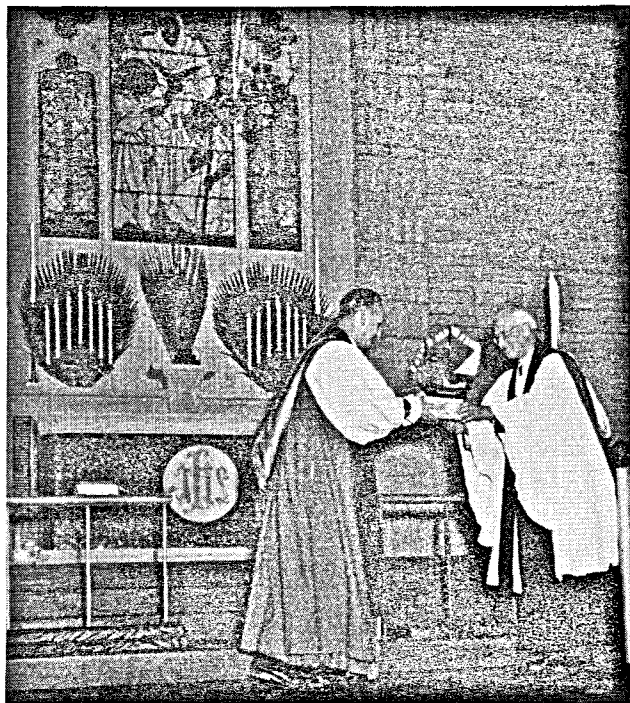
Dedication Service

The altar and dossal at St. Stephen's Church, Wahiawa, Oahu, was dedicated on Sunday, April 20th, at a most impressive service, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Claude F. Du Teil. The altar has been given by Mr. and Mrs. George McEldowney, now of Kula, Maui, in memory of their son, Robert Armstead. It is a beautiful and loving tribute to their son, who was killed in battle in World War II.

The altar is of kamani wood, especially chosen by George Armstead McEldowney, father of Robert. The altar was designed by Architect Edwin Bauer and Associates, executed by Fujii and Company, with the wood carving by Fritz Abplanalp. The "IHS" in the center panel is the Greek letter abbreviation for Jesus, IHSUS. The carvings on the re-table are the intertwined rose of sacrifice and pomegranate of fruitfulness.

Camp Registrations

Camp registrations are coming in rapidly to the Diocesan Office. It looks as though we will have all four sessions full, with a waiting list. We know this is a wonderful opportunity for our young people to enjoy an outing that is unusual and fun. The Rev. Richard M. Trelease, Jr. is in charge of all arrangements for the camp, assisted by some of our clergy and laymen.



The Very Rev. D. Arthur Davies presents the Bishop with a replica of His Majesty's Ship Centurion, at the time of the dedication of St. Elizabeth's Church.

Brings Greetings From The Society For The Propagation Of The Gospel

The Very Reverend D. Arthur W. Davies, retired Dean of Worcester Cathedral, presented the Diocese with a replica of the "Centurion" and the Charter of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel at the dedication service of St. Elizabeth's Church. He came as their representative, but was particularly welcome for he was born in Honolulu and spent his early boyhood here as the son of the late Theo. H. Davies.

After graduating at Oxford University he spent some years in the service of the British Student Christian Movement, which he represented in 1907 in Tokyo, at the Conference of the World's Student Christian Foundation. Until 1929 he served as a missionary in India, where he was Principal of Saint John's College at Agra and finally Vice Chancellor of the Agra University. Returning to England he was for five years Secretary to the Missionary Council of the Church of England. During that period he revisited India as a delegate to the International Conference at Tamaaram, near Madras. In 1934 Dean Davies was appointed Dean of Worcester Cathedral, an office which he held until his resignation in 1949. He has for many years been one of the Vice Presidents of the SPG. Dr. and Mrs. Davies are now living in retirement in Gloucestershire.

Dr. Davies' story of the "Centurion" is as follows:

His Majesty's Ship Centurion

George Keith, a Scotsman who had for fifteen years preached as a Quaker in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, returned from America, joined the Church of England, and was ordained priest in 1700.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, which was constituted by Royal Charter on June 16th, 1701, invited him to become its first missionary and to tour the colonies and report how the work should be carried out.

Keith sailed from Cowes in the Isle of Wight on April 28, 1702, in His Majesty's Ship "Centurion." With him went Patrick Gordon, enthusiastic for the conversion of the American Indians, but destined to die almost at once. Before the end of the voyage the Chaplain of the ship volunteered to join Keith in his mission. Their tour lasted more than two years, and their daily journal became the guide book of the Society, which chose as the emblem to be inscribed on the seal a ship under sail.

The historic voyage of the Centurion was not un-naturally recalled when the Society for the Propagation made its plans for the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of its foundation. It chose two ways of commemorating that voyage. First, it fitted out a ship, half the size of the original Centurion, and rigged as that ship was rigged. During last summer the ship visited the principal British ports, carrying a team of clergymen of various races who explained the significance of the ship and its famous voyage to thousands of sight seers, many of whom had never before come in contact with the Church's overseas work.

The effect of the voyage of this second Centurion far exceeded the expectations and hopes of the Society. That was one way in which the Society's Emblem of a ship under sail was used in the commemoration of this notable anniversary. The second way was even more significant. The Society decided to send to the various Provinces or Dioceses of the Anglican Communion, which it has served in this period of 250 years, accredited messengers to carry their Presiding Bishops or Archbishops a message conveying the greeting of the Society, its thanksgiving for what God has accomplished in the past and its prayers and hopes for the future. These messengers are delivering, in addition to the formal greeting, a facsimile copy of the Society's Charter and a model of the ship Centurion.

Bishop's Staley's mission to Honolulu in 1862 was supported by the Society from the first. Its grants were continued until responsibility for the Church's work in Hawaii was transferred from the Church of England to the Episcopal Church in the United States.

Where God is not, peace cannot come;
Where peace is not, God cannot come.

—Erasmus

Word From Okinawa

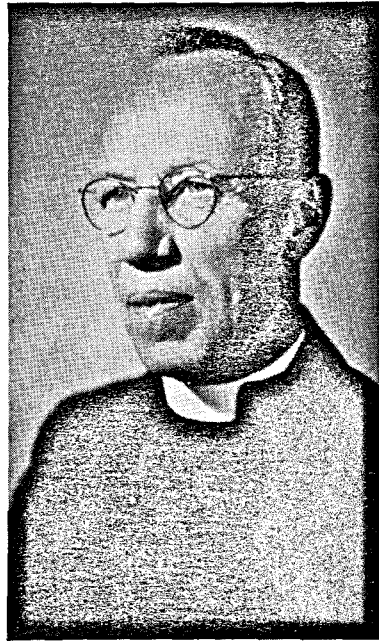
The Rev. Canon Norman Godfrey writes that they have a large following of inquirers not yet catechumens. Their weekday classes have an enrollment of 400, with their Sunday School settling down to a healthy 650—which they are forced to hold in four sections. They use all the facilities in the neighborhood, but now that their church buildings are under construction, they hope to provide facilities for their work. He writes: "A carpenter's shop at the roadside of our property has miraculously come our way. Now it is 'The Carpenter's Shop, or Nazareth.' The text is, 'Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?' Our shop actually fitted yokes. Now it is THE YOKE to be fashioned therein. What a joy it is to convert the things of the world into the things of God."

"Back of the shop which is in the foreground is the school house that we are rushing to completion for the Bishop's visitation. It will accommodate our congregation nicely. If the weather is good we will have an outdoor service when the Bishop comes, on the site of the Church. We can do only one job at a time because we just don't have the room on the hilltop. The rectory is almost ready and we hope the Bishop will stay in it. It—our whole place—dominates the area, set as it is on a well enclosed hill. We think it is both beautiful and thrilling."

"I think all three of us have truly experienced the finest Holy Week of our lives. Palm Sunday, with real palms from Kadena, gave Bill a real start. At Mawashi we had to improvise with "boughs and branches" as indicated by the Gospel. Someone brought lettuce that oversprouted itself and it looked particularly good on the altar. In the afternoon Bill (The Rev. William Heffner) and G.G. (The Rev. Gordon Nakayama) went off evangelizing in a new station I have yet to visit. Every day in Holy Week we had a daily celebration in the Carpenter's Shop, expecting we missionaries would be alone. But we had better congregations at 6:45 a.m. than perhaps—it would be wrong to boast!

"We kept Easter Eve in Mawashi in the traditional fashion with Holy Baptism, when 59 well-prepared people were added to the Fold, and one was received who had been baptized elsewhere. These newly baptized people have been with us for nearly a year. We have been with them at least three nights a week during that period. So they are dear to us, but how much more so in the sight of God!

"Ruth Toguchi went last week to Kyoto and is happy ensconced with our people there. The Japanese National Council and House of Bishops are not only giving us help to our work in Okinawa, but have paid a half million yen towards the support thereof. Bishop Yashiro has been wonderful in lending us a friendly hand."



The Very Rev. Paul Roberts

Dean Roberts To Have Busy Schedule

The Very Rev. Paul Roberts, Dean of St. John's Cathedral, Denver, Colorado, will be the leader of the Laymen's Conference, to be held at our Youth Center, Mokuleia, Saturday and Sunday, May 10th and 11th. The theme of the conference is "The Church in Our Every Day Life." The conference is open to all laymen in the diocese up to the capacity of the Center. Mr. Thomas Shields, St. Andrew's Cathedral, and Mr. Norman C. Ault, of St. Christopher's Church, Kailua, are the co-chairmen.

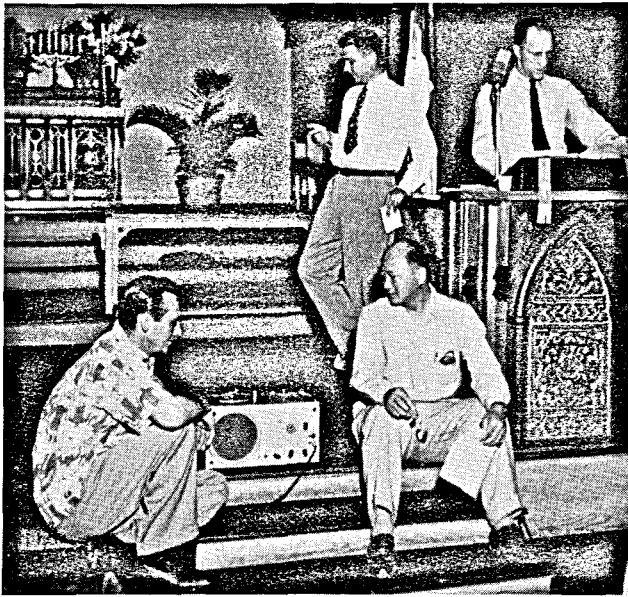
The Clergy Conference will be held at Mokuleia, starting with dinner on Monday night, May 12th, and extending until the afternoon of May 14th.

On Monday night, May 5th, the Men of St. Andrew's are planning a parish dinner so that members of the parish will have an opportunity to hear Dean Roberts.

The Dean will preach at St. Clement's Church on Sunday, May 18th, and Thursday, May 16th he will address the annual meeting of the Honolulu Council of Churches.

Plan New School Building

The Waipuilani School, Christ Church, Kealahou, Hawaii, plans to build a new three classroom building for the opening of school in September. Plans are well under way and work will soon start on it. This will be a fine addition to the Church property and will serve this community in a much needed improvement.



Laymen at work making broadcasts for Holy Week. Left on the steps is Mr. John Harding; right is Mr. Peter Chang. At the pulpit is Mr. Rowland Shepherdson. Timing him is Mr. Thomas Major, Diocesan Key Layman.

Have Been Ill

The Reverend John Miller Horton, Vicar of Holy Innocent's Mission, Lahaina, Maui, has been very ill recently. We are happy to report that he is improving.

Mrs. Edmund L. Souder, wife of the Vicar of St. Mark's Mission, Honolulu, underwent a major operation on April 17th, at St. Francis' Hospital. We are happy to report that she is getting along as well as can be expected.

May we have both the Rev. Mr. Horton and Mrs. Souder in our prayers for a very speedy and complete recovery.

Sympathy Extended

The entire Diocese extends sympathy to Mrs. John Moulton, wife of the Reverend John Moulton, of Kamuela, Hawaii, who was called to Salt Lake City, Utah on April 1st, because of the sudden death of her mother. Mrs. Moulton will be in our prayers at this time.

Attends District Scout Meeting

The Reverend Kenneth Cosby, St. John's Mission, Eleele, was in Honolulu March 24th for a meeting of the Honolulu Council of Boy Scouts, having been sent from Kauai as Boy Scout Commissioner of the Island of Kauai. The Rev. Mr. Cosby is doing a very active work with the Scouts on Kauai.

In Memoriam

Mr. Robert L. Forbes, a member of Holy Nativity Church, Aina Haina, and a member of two of the Standing Committees of the Diocese, died very suddenly from a stroke on March 25th. He was a very devout member of our church, and he will be greatly missed. He was one of the men who worked very diligently for the establishment of the church at Aina Haina, and helped greatly in the furthering of the work there. Funeral services were held at the Church of the Holy Nativity with the Rev. John J. Morrett conducting them. The entire Diocese joins in extending sympathy to his wife, daughter, mother and sister. He was associated with the law firm Robertson, Castle and Anthony.

Notes From The Laymen's League

Mr. Harry F. Cooper, St. Christopher's Church, Kailua, was appointed publicity chairman of the Laymen's League. He has chosen Mr. Walter Wilson, St. Clement's Church, Mr. Raymond Tan, St. Andrew's Cathedral, and Mr. Raymond Hirokawa, St. Mary's Church to assist him with this work.

It has been decided that meetings, held on the fourth Monday of each month, will meet at the different churches on Oahu, at the Church's invitation. The April meeting will be held at St. Clement's Church on Tuesday, April 29th, as the fourth Monday conflicted with other activities. Dinner will be served before the meeting with a nominal charge of 75c.

Youth Urged To Prepare For UMCY Communion, May 4

United to God, in God, by God: this is the heart of the Corporate Communion for the United Movement of the Church's Youth. When, on Sunday, May 4, young people across the land kneel at the altar rail, they will be meeting God together in holy fellowship.

The young people of Hawaii will join in this act of fellowship, many of the churches having an early service of Holy Communion, followed by breakfast.

Iolani Entrance Examinations

Attention is called to the entrance examinations for Iolani School, which will be held April 26th for grades 7-11 and on May 3rd for grades 1-6. Vacancies are available in the kindergarten and in grades one, seven, eight, and nine. While there are no vacancies in any other grade, it is possible that a few might develop.

Applications may be obtained from the school office, 2103 Nuuanu Avenue, and should be completed before the examination dates. All desiring their boys to attend Iolani next year are advised to be early in submitting applications.

Anonymous Donor

Each Christmas and Easter one of our clergy is the happy recipient of the thoughtfulness of one of our laymen. He very graciously gives a suit of clothes to one of the clergy, letting him go to one of our leading merchants and order a suit of his selection. It is an unusual and thoughtful way to assist our missionary clergy.

The Brotherhood Of Man

The brotherhood of man is certainly manifested in the generous and gracious giving of the people of Japan, when they contributed toward the work of brothers and sisters in Okinawa. Bishop Yashiro recently wrote how some of his people had sent an offering toward the work in Okinawa. Our missionaries there rejoiced in this act of interest and kindness.

Chapel For Leper Colony

Through the kindness of friends, \$1000 has been deposited with the Military Government toward a chapel for the leper colony at Airaku-en. We know that this will mean a great deal to our members there, and rejoice that plans are going forward to build a place of worship for them. The Rev. Mr. Godfrey wrote that the people in the Colony burst out in cries of appreciation, when they heard they were to have their own chapel.

Welcome New Baby

A third daughter was born to the Rev. and Mrs. Hugh L. S. Thompson, St. John's Mission, Kula, Maui, on March 28th. The child has been named Charlotte Patricia Lennox. We extend congratulations of the Diocese to the Thompson family.

Altar Service Book Donated

The Business Women's Unit of the Woman's Auxiliary of Calvary Church, Louisville, Kentucky, has sent the Bishop a very beautiful altar service book, to be used in our work in the Islands. We are grateful indeed for this interest and useful gift.

To Sponsor Dinner And Variety Show

The Oahu YPF will sponsor a dinner and variety show on the night of April 26th, starting at 6:00 o'clock in Davies Hall. Tickets will be \$1.00. The Variety Show will be held in Tenney Memorial Hall. Proceeds from the evening's entertainment will go toward the Hale Pupule III Caravan going to Boston in August for the General Convention. Your support is urged.



Mr. T. Clive Davies of London arrived with his brother and sister-in-law, the Very Reverend D. Arthur W. Davies and Mrs. Davies, on the Lurline, for a five weeks visit. Mr. Davies, chairman of the board of Theo. H. Davies & Co. came to Honolulu to attend to business matters pertaining to the company. It was through his great interest that the corner of our Cathedral property was purchased recently, most of the purchase price coming from Theo. H. Davies Company, commemorating their one hundred years in Hawaii. He is the father of Geoffrey Davies, British Consul. It has been a real joy to the many friends of Mr. Davies and Dr. and Mrs. Davies to have them here for a visit.

Confirmations To Date 1952

OAHU

St. Clement's Church.....	18
St. Christopher's	26
Calvary Mission	5
St. Andrew's Priory.....	23
St. Peter's	13
Epiphany	7
St. Mark's	9
Good Samaritan	4
Holy Trinity	20
Service Personnel	13
St. Andrew's Cathedral Parish.....	37
St. John's-by-the-Sea	6
St. Mary's	5
Holy Nativity	10

KAUAI

Christ Church, Kilauea.....	7
St. Thomas' Mission, Hanalei.....	2
All Saints, Kapaa.....	5
To date	209



Young women living at Cluett House, Honolulu. These young women are either attending the University of Hawaii, business colleges, or working in Honolulu. They are residents of our outside islands. In the center row, fifth from the left, is Mrs. Kahiwa Lee, Matron of Cluett House. Next to her is Mrs. Ruth Gaza, housekeeper, and a member of Holy Trinity Mission, who is an important member of this family of young women.

What Can I Do For My Church?

"What can I do for my church?" exclaimed a young man to his minister.

"Well, you can manage to mention it in your conservation once each day, and in your silent prayers at night.

"You can attend its services, loyally support at least one of its organizations, pay some amount willingly into its treasury weekly, be a reader of one of its representative periodicals, qualify yourself to explain its leading doctrines, be 'out and out' in your loyalty to it, invite the unchurched and unsaved to its services and exhibit a hearty cordiality at its services.

"The busiest Christian in the world can find time to do the above without at all neglecting anything on earth, happier, wiser and more satisfied for the effort he had put forth." "Test it."

English Bishop Praises American Laymen

Exeter, England.—"American laymen show tremendous keenness, vigor, and initiative," the Rt. Rev. Robert Mortimer, Bishop of Exeter, reports. He says that in the Church, the layman "has grasped the idea that he is there to help the parson, or if necessary to drive the parson. This may be partly due to the fact that in America the laity have great power and influence in the Church." He said also that laymen in England have inadequate voice.

Through this Whitsuntide, June 1-7, the World Council of Churches is asking special prayers for Church unity, and suggests the following:

"Eternal and merciful God, who are the God of peace and not of discord: Have mercy upon thy Church, divided in thy service; and grant that we, seeking unity in Christ, and in the truth of thy holy word, with one mind and one mouth may glorify thee, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

In a message for Whitsunday the seven presidents of the World Council say, in part: "We celebrate today the creation of the Church of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit. We are reminded that the one distinctive thing about the Church of Christ is that it is not founded and maintained by men but by the Spirit which God poured out on His people on the day of Pentecost . . . The Church which lives under the guidance of the Spirit is in the midst of human weakness a center of spiritual power; in the midst of conflict and strife a force of reconciliation; in the midst of confusion a creator of harmony and justice. Let us pray that the Spirit may once again renew the life of God's people."

Have in thy special care, we beseech thee, O Lord, Those who are called to positions of great power, that they may not be tempted to use that power wrongly.

St. Paul Got The Defeat Of His Life . . .

Not at Lystra—

he built a church there.

Not at Thessalonica where he was mobbed—

he built a church there.

Not at Philippi where he was beaten—

he built a church there.

Not at Corinth where he was persecuted—

he built a church there.

Not at Jerusalem where he was torn by the mob—

he built a church there.

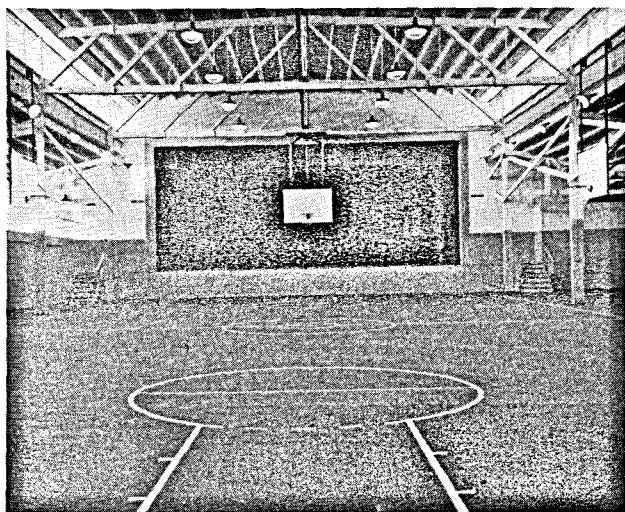
But at Athens Where He Met Only Indifference—

He Built No Church There.

There are still people today who are indifferent to the call of the Church—to her work, her worship and her support. You can help reduce this difference by your devotion and participation and support in the full fellowship of the Church's life and work in 1952.

HOKKAIDO DIOCESE:—Once again a Japanese Bishop has confirmed some of the American servicemen in Japan. This time the Bishop was Paul K. Ueda of Hokkaido (the big northern island), and the men were a private from Thomaston, Conn., a master sergeant from Columbus, Ohio, and a first lieutenant from Gadsden, Ala., presented by Chaplain Thomas B. Smythe from the diocese of Bethlehem. The Lieutenant's baptism took place ten days before his confirmation.

Through weekly offerings at the Holy Communion in three camps on Hokkaido, Churchmen are contributing to the support of the seventeen missions in Hokkaido diocese. Grace Church, Alexandria, Va., with Chaplain Smythe as go-between, has sent relief clothing, distributed by an Australian lay worker, Brother Lawrence, of the mission staff.



Interior of the new Iolani School Gymnasium and Auditorium.

New York—Three of the nine United States clergymen who will fill preaching appointments in the British Isles this year under sponsorship of the British Council of Churches are the Rev. Shelton H. Bishop, rector of St. Philip's Episcopal Church, New York; the Rev. George Paul T. Sargent, rector emeritus, and the Rev. Anson Phelps Stokes, Jr., rector of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, New York City.

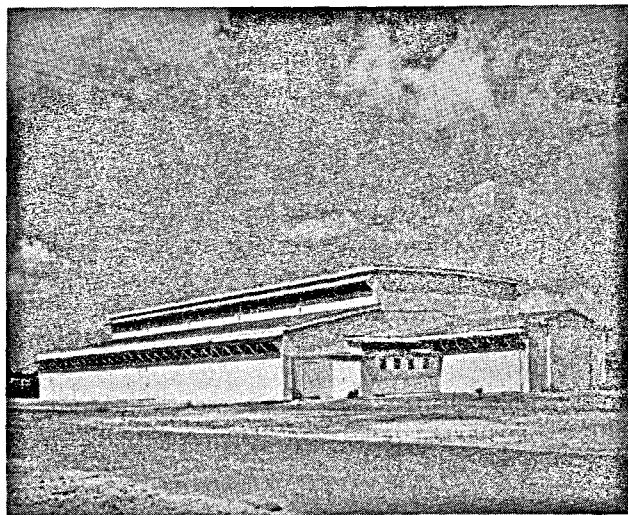
Of the group of fourteen distinguished British clergymen who will preach in the United States during 1952 as part of the regular exchange of preachers between the two countries are the Ven. Oswin Harvard Gibbs-Smith, Archdeacon of London, and the Rev. C. B. Mortlock, rector of the Church of St. Vedast, London.

General Convention Speaker

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Francis Fisher, D.D., Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan, will deliver two addresses at the 57th General Convention which will meet in Boston September 8 to 19. With Mrs. Fisher, the Archbishop will leave England August 11, spend a short vacation with the Presiding Bishop and Mrs. Sherrill, at Boxford, Mass., and return to England September 19. The Archbishop attended the 55th General Convention which met in Philadelphia in 1946.

Sweet Bread Sale

The Diocesan Laymen's League will sponsor a Sweet Bread Sale on June 1, 1952 to raise money to assist with improvements at the Youth Center at Mokuleia, and to help with the expense of sending a delegate to General Convention. You may receive your order at your Church on the day of the sale.



The new Iolani Gymnasium and Auditorium on the Ala Wai property site.



Junior Choir members of St. Andrew's Cathedral Parish getting ready for the Easter service for the Church School.

“Kibitzing” Churchmen

. . . Yes, there are such persons, but we are thankful that there are not so many of them.

“Kibitzing” Churchmen are Churchmen with no parish affiliations. They “float” around, participating in the privileges of the Church, but avoiding the responsibilities.

You are not a “Kibitzing” Churchman, we know. But if you are an indifferent Churchman, seldom attending Church services, failing to help the Church financially, and are uncertain whether your name is still retained on your Parish Register as an Active Communicant—then you are in danger.

THE CURE IS EASY. If you still reside in the city where you have your Church membership, be in Church next Sunday. Check with the Rector to be sure your name is still on the Active Communicant list. Make up for lost time. You don't have forever.

If you have moved to another city, and intend to reside there, and you are unable to attend your old Parish's services regularly, then ask your rector to transfer your membership to the Parish in your new home.

At the recent annual meeting of the Presiding Bishop's Committee on Laymen's Work, Mr. Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., Chairman, urged a strong Christianity as the effective opponent of Communism. He suggested that for the coming triennium, the objectives of the laymen should be: First year, study of the Implications of the Christian Faith; Second year, a specific Program for Reaching the Unchurched; Third year, the Integration of men into the life of the Church.

Children and Confirmation

How old should Jack-Mary be before h-she is confirmed?

When this question is asked, it is usually with the thought that a young person must be old enough to “understand what they are doing.”

When you ask further what this means, it is usually in terms that they must understand what the Christian faith is, and it is presumed that they cannot understand this until they have been to the first “formal.” Not that the party has much to do with the Christian faith, but somehow it is associated with the fact that, as the Prayer Book puts it, the “children are come to a competent age.”

In the first place, the thought that the boy or girl of any given age understands or can understand all the mysteries of the Christian faith does not bear examination. It is based on a popular misunderstanding of what the Christian faith is. Year by year the boy or girl who earnestly seeks to know God and His way, will grow in understanding, as long as he or she lives.

God makes Himself known to us at the age of fifty in somewhat different terms than at the age of fifteen. Surely, He is the same; but our understanding of the mystery of pain and suffering has deepened, as also our understanding of the Cross. So also of the meaning of death; and of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit as giving to the life of the surrendered person a sense of significance in the daily task.

There is much to learn if we are to understand the Christian faith: the Scriptures, the foundation of the faith; the formulated doctrines that have arisen out of the experience therein narrated; the story of the fellowship of Christian people through the centuries of Christian living; what the Christian faith means to men of today; the why and the how of worship.

It is hardly within the bounds of reason that within any reasonable period a person will gain an adequate grasp of all this. Such understanding will come only gradually, as a result of daily Bible reading and meditation upon God's Word, as a result of attending many services of worship, and much concentrated thought upon life's problems.

Further, to wait until a boy or girl has entered the “stormy teens” and then suggest confirmation in terms of an important decision, is only to add unnecessarily to the difficulty of those years of adjustment to adult life. There is a growing awareness of the fact that the decision to take upon oneself the responsibility of Christian living should precede the period of adolescence, so that during the “stormy teens” the boy or girl should have the strengthening contact with God that is given in the Holy Communion; should enter this period of strain with the decision made to live life as the Maker appointed.

Of course, there will be many boys and girls who will

not awaken to the instant claims of God upon the issue of the moment until they are well in their teens, or even in adult years. But, our planning must be made upon the fact that the majority of our boys and girls come to us from a childhood during which they have had some training in Church School or home.

This means that the son or daughter of a Church family should be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed before twelve years of age. With this there is a growing practice of asking men and women, confirmed at such a tender age, to take refresher courses, to attend an adult confirmation class at least once in each decade of their lives.

The Rt. Rev. Russell S. Hubbard, D. D.

The Missionary District of New Mexico and Southwest Texas will ask for diocesan status at the next General Convention in Boston, according to a statement by the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. James M. Stoney. In 1941 the district had 212 confirmations, in 1951 it had 560, a statistic indicative of the continuous growth of the district.

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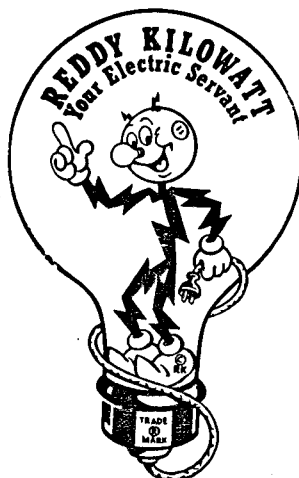
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