

2nd. February, 1980

SEPTUAGESIMA

Price 3p.

FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES

Next Tuesday, February 5th. a new session of eight classes will start. The time will be 1.45 - 3.45 p.m. the place, the Scout Hut, Sedlescombe. New members will be very welcome. For more information, please ring Hastings 751220.

SEDLESCOMBE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday, 9th. February. The coach for those not wishing to drive will leave East View Terrace at 7 p.m. and from the Queen's Head at 7.10 p.m. to take you to and return you from the De La Warr Pavillion at Bexhill.

SEDLESCOMBE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We extend a warm welcome to all members and friends and new-comers to the Village, to come to our first meeting on Feb. 13th. in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Hunt will illustrate his talk on Apples and Cider Making, with slides. This will be the first round of the Banks Trophy, so bring along your exhibit, one exhibit per person, of any pot plant, flowers/arrangement, or vegetables, we look forward to a lovely display which provides a focal point of interest. Marks will be awarded for presentation and cultural skills out of a maximum of 10 to each one. There

will be a raffle, the usual cup of tea, and chat among friends. Committee look forward to seeing you all on that night. Peat available £1. $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Kent St. Nurseries.

P.C.

CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

There will be a Coffee Morning and Market in Sedlescombe Village Hall, 10.30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, 16th. February

SEDLESCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

CASUAL VACANCY. At the Council meeting held on 22nd. January, Mrs. P. Fisher was co-opted to the Council to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. M. Drury.

INVITATION TO TENDER.

Sedlescombe P.C. is inviting tenders for various jobs in the Parish of Sedlescombe. These include tree work, painting of playground equipment, repair to surroundings of the Pumphouse and redecoration of seats and litter bins. Further details have been posted on the Notice-board outside the Post Office. Tenders for tree work to reach The Clerk, Woodland Cottage, Chapel Hill, Sedlescombe, by 9th. February and for the remaining work by 8th. March.

From the Rector -

Some old Bibles, with marginal cross-references, have a date alongside the first verse of the Book of Genesis - 4004 B.C. This date was calculated by James Ussher, an Irish bishop of Elizabethan and Stuart times, and today we know how very wrong his calculation was.

A question more interesting than when the world came into existence, is that of how it came into existence. Men have always pondered this. They could not know for certain; and we still do not know though we have very much more information.

One of the earliest explanations comes from ancient Babylonia. It says that all things emerged from an original chaos known as Tiamat. She was a dragon-like creature, and the mother of gods. Her offspring, however, turned against her, and she brought forth monsters to oppose them. Thereupon the gods called on Marduk to come from the sun as their champion. He vanquished Tiamat, and with half her body set up the sky.

Another very ancient explanation is to be found in the first chapter of the Book of Genesis. 'The earth was without form and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep... And God said Let there be light; and there was light. And God saw the light that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night.' It is possible that the author of Genesis knew of the Babylonian explanation and was influenced by it. One thing is clear however, - if he was familiar with it, he was not satisfied with it. Marduk and Tiamat, and gods and monsters may have satisfied the Babylonians; They did not satisfy him. Something simpler, something purer, something nobler, was needed by him to explain how the world came into being.

What really matters is not when the world came into existence, or even how it was made, but who brought it about. And here human knowledge has not advanced one little bit since the far-off days when the author of Genesis wrote, 'In the beginning God created the heaven and earth.' Bishop Ussher with his date of 4004 B.C. is hopelessly outmoded; the author of Genesis Chapter 1 with his details of darkness and light, may be very unscientific; but the truth of what happened, and whenever it happened, is the work of God, remains unshaken. This is God's world, and we forget it, at our peril.

With every good wish,

Dennis Prince.

NEWS CORRESPONDENT. I have taken on the voluntary task of Sedlescombe village news correspondent to the Sussex Express. Any club, organisation or individuals who have news items they would like to be submitted for publication please let me have your reports not later than Wednesday evenings each week. Mrs. S.Carn, 14, Gorselands, Sedlescombe 434.

SEDLSCOMBE GREEN W.I. Mrs.Chapman presided over a well-attended January meeting on Wednesday, 23rd. It was Mrs.Chapman who was presented with a Silver Spoon, having attained most points for the monthly competition in 1979 - and she also won the 'Holiday Snapshot' competition that evening - a very talented lady President! After the business meeting was completed Mrs. Hart^{was} welcomed as a new member. We were then entertained by a reading from Mrs.Munden of a poem she composed after her week's tuition at Denman College on Tailoring - she then modelled the marvellous suit which was the end-product of her "week's hard labour". Miss Cox was our speaker - and she gave us an hour's delight - her subject was "Let's Choose a Craft" and it was a real joy to listen to such enthusiasm, and then be allowed to look at and handle the wealth of examples of her work - too many to enumerate but all very beautifully made. It was felt by all to be a very happy evening and the winners of the raffle were Mrs.Rowe, Mrs.Hudson and Mrs.Miller.

N.S.P.C.C. Thanks to the untiring efforts of supporters throughout the U.K. and the wise administration of available funds, the National Society for the PREVENTION of Cruelty to Children, no longer carries a crippling deficit. The International Year of the Child helped to focus attention on the Society's work and the Mike Yarwood appeal raised £34,000. During 1979, Hastings and District raised £17,937^a a magnificent achievement of which ^{the} Sedlescombe and Whatlington contribution was £121.43. Unfortunately the need is an ongoing one, as we know from heartbreaking reports of cruelty to children in the press; but it is encouraging to read in the Society's report of success stories, where the intervention and caring support of the Inspectors has led to stable family life for parents and children. Please give us your generous support in our efforts during 1980.

IN LIGHTER VEIN. A Sussex schoolteacher asked a 12-year-old girl to explain, in French, the difference between Madame and Mademoiselle. The girl's reply was immediate and brief: "Monsieur." - 'Peterborough' in the Daily Telegraph

This week's praying Point: That we may come to know God as Creator and Redeemer.

This week's reading points: Proverbs 3: 1-8. 1 Corinthians 2: 1-10. St.Luke 8: 4-15.

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SERVICES and NOTICES

SEDLESCOMBE

WHATLINGTON

Sunday, 3rd. February
SEPTUAGESIMA

8 a.m. Holy Communion
9.30 a.m. Matins and Parish
Communion
11.15 a.m. Sunday School - Scout
Hut.

6.30 p.m. Evensong and Holy
Communion

Wednesday, 6th. February

7.30 p.m. F.C.C. Rectory

Friday, 8th. February

8 a.m. Holy Communion.

Next Sunday, 10th. February
SEXAGESIMA

9.30 a.m. Matins and Parish
Communion
11.15 a.m. Sunday School - Scout
Hut

Next Sunday, 10th. February
SEXAGESIMA

8 a.m. Holy Communion
11 a.m. Family Service
6.30 p.m. Evensong

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SEDLESCOMBE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH . Holy Communion will be celebrated by the Rev.Dudley Noel following the eleven o'clock service.

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SEDLESCOMBE CHURCHYARD FUND. The Treasurer acknowledges with thanks a donation from Mrs. Sternberg.
The Mower Fund now stands at £50, still £100 to go. All donations will be gratefully received and a subscribers list will be published later.

E.F.

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