

KINGSBROMPTON

STIMULANT FOR THE DECORATIONS

The comparative stranger coming upon Kingsbrompton in his tour over the Brendon Hills was forced to ponder how nobly and brightly, using every available opportunity, flag, and yard of bunting, the residents had bedecked their homes. It was indeed a highly creditable display, in which, though there were prizewinners, the whole village shares. The promise of rewards undoubtedly acted as a stimulant, and the judges of the best decorated houses, Dr. Campbell Thomson, Duverton, and Mrs. Ernest Hancock, Rhyll, were highly pleased, albeit they were puzzled on occasions when endeavouring to discriminate. Those who won the prizes generously contributed by Mrs. B. S. Bullivant, of Baronsdown, were:—1. Mrs. Baker; 2. Mrs. Arnold; 3. Mrs. W. Steer; consolation, Mrs. Rudd.

The general arrangements for the day were in the hands of a committee which comprised Mr. B. S. Bullivant (chairman), Mrs. Bullivant, Mr. F. H. Steer and Mr. C. J. Hensley (joint hon. secretaries), Miss Smith, Miss Rudd, Miss Westcott, Mrs. Hobbs, Mrs. W. Perry, Mrs. Comer, and Messrs. J. Jenkins, John Hayes (Nicholls), W. Perry, G. Williams, S. Heywood, and G. Davis. Some of their duties were delegated with confidence which was fully justified, as subsequent events proved, for the Women's Institute, under Mrs. W. Perry (president), were deputed to arrange the food supplies and service, and the Cricket Club were asked to arrange for the sporting side.

The initial event was the united service in the parish church, when the building was crowded, among those present being the local detachment of the Girl Guides, under their leader, Miss Heywood. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. J. Inman, and Mr. William Hayes (Redcross) read the lessons. The field in which the sports were subsequently contested was kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. J. Hayes (Nicholls), and the judges were Mr. Bullivant and Mr. Anthony Comer.

SOCIAL AND BONFIRE

The house-to-house collection brought in about £25, and thanks to the generous response, it was found possible to give all the children in the parish a free tea at the Reading-room after the sports, where they were also given Jubilee mugs (out of the funds). Mrs. Perry handed these round, and Mrs. Bullivant, who kindly met the cost, also presented each child with a Jubilee medal. The young people were otherwise looked after by the ladies of the Women's Institute, who saw to it that none went short. Incidentally, the ladies had considerably brightened the interior of the room, and the tables looked a picture under the colourful decorations. Then came a parish social in the same building, where Miss Doris Takle presided at the piano for a varied programme, which included community singing, games, folk dancing, a song by Miss B. Thomas, and "The Gipsies' Song," rendered by five little girls in costume, the Misses Betty Davey, Phyllis Steer, Hazel Evett, Betty Hircock, and Lorna Heywood. Afterwards a large number of the parishioners, about 150 at least, went to Mr. W. May's field, Oatway, at Lyddon's Hill, where Mr. Jack Steer applied the torch to a fine pile which, packed with dry wood and other inflammable material, burnt readily and fiercely. Thanks bonfire, which could be seen for many miles around. During the burning the National Anthem was sung, and at the proposal of Mr. George Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Bullivant were honoured in hearty cheers in token of their generous contribution to the day's pleasures. Mr. and Mrs. Bullivant had earlier been thanked for their interest and help in the field by Mr. W. Perry, whose remarks of appreciation were cordially endorsed by the company.

Finally, there was a firework display, arranged by Mr. Steer, in the gardens just above the school playground, which was also offered to the farmers in the countryside who willingly gave supplies for the watched by numerous residents, who thoroughly enjoyed it.