

## ESTATE OR TOWN?

The Ermine Estate will be twice as big as Horncastle and nearly the size of Louth.

Latest figures show that 1,353 dwellings have been built and occupied, giving a present population of about 5,000.

The footings for several hundred more houses and flats have already been put in, and the Council have put a spurt on with this in order to beat the end of the housing subsidy.

600 dwellings are either under construction or planned for the next stage, and many of these will soon be occupied.

Further plans are not known in detail, but they include more houses to be erected on both sides of the Estate. The final population will be over 8,000. At this rate the Ermine Estate will soon be Ermine Town.

The responsible authorities are to be congratulated on building a very fine estate, BUT THERE IS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT.

A comfortable house, a garden and plenty of open space aren't enough in themselves. The greatest danger is loneliness; and therefore the greatest need is for people to get to know one another, and to feel "at home" in their new surroundings. The Church and the Pub are the only two centres of meeting at the moment, but in addition there should be the street meeting of the corner shop. Such shops dotted here and there may not fit in with the town planner's textbook, but for giving a homely atmosphere, and building up a sense of neighbourhood and belonging, they are well nigh indispensable.

*What do you think? The Editor will try to publish your letters on this or any other subject concerned with life on the Estate.*



### Dean Takes Confirmation Service

The Right Reverend Colin Dunlop, Dean of Lincoln, confirmed eleven adults and seventeen boys and girls at a service held at St. John's on Saturday, December 22nd. The newly confirmed made their first communion at the Family Communion on Sunday, December 23rd. John Cook, Peter Davison, Peter Binns, John Foster, Judith Stimpson, Denise Towers, Jane Halstead, Margaret Harris, Cynthia Bendall, Margaret Bailey, Janet Rawlinson, Pamela Saul, Brenda Stacey, Christine Shaw, Valerie Lewis, Judith Priestley, Celia Cloughton, Michael Biggs, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Rousseau, Mrs. Jarvil, Mrs. Longmate, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Luckraft, Mrs. Skipworth, Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Waby.

This is the second Confirmation Service taken by the Dean of Lincoln at St. John's within the last six months, and 26 adults and 23 boys and girls have been brought into the fulness of the Church's worship.

### Imp throws a good dart!

The Lincoln Imp Monday Night Darts Team is top of the City of Lincoln Darts League, D Section. They have been top of the league since they started playing last October, and have only lost one match. Congratulations to team captain, Tim Eastmead, and the other members of the team.

The Tuesday Night Team is also doing well, waiting to jump up from second place in their league. The darts aren't flying quite so accurately for the ladies' team, but even so, they win as many matches as they lose.

### Young Wives Open Night

On Tuesday, 11th December, St. John's Young Wives' Group entertained all the Young Wives' Groups in Lincoln, and the members of St. Nicholas' Mothers' Union.

The evening began with an acted play-reading of the one act comedy, "Orange Blossom". The cast was as follows: Mrs. L. Smith, Mrs. Priestley, Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Luckraft, Mrs. Rudd and Mrs. Temporal.

Dancing followed, and after refreshments had been served, a series of Nativity Talbeaux were presented on the stage.

During these scenes, the Young Wives' choir sang some lesser known carols by candlelight.

## M.P. TO VISIT ESTATE

Geoffrey de Freitas has been invited to address an open meeting at St. John's Hall on "The Christian and Politics."

The meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 9th, at 7-30 p.m. A charge of 6d. will be made to cover the cost of refreshments. There will be a time set aside for answering questions.

### Dedication Festival

The first anniversary of the opening and dedication of St. John's will be celebrated on Sunday, January 20th.

Family Communion. Address: Rev. W. T. Armstrong.

Children's Service, 2-30 p.m.

Evensong Address: Rev. V. I. Dalby.

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# Disunity wounds the Body of Christ —

*says the Bishop of Lincoln in his Letter to you*

Bishop's House,  
Eastgate, Lincoln.

13th December, 1956.

My dear People,

We do well as we stand at the beginning of a New Year to remember that for us both happiness and prosperity may make demands upon us which call for new effort, and a deepened understanding of true happiness.

The world in which we live, not least our own Nation, requires technicians and workers, planners and inventors, but it also requires men of universal spirits who are able to assess and judge both the policies of governments as well as the hopes of the people by their own inward obedience to the laws of God's Kingdom. As never before we need increasing numbers of men and women whose ideas, plans and ambitions are constantly subjected to the judgment of God's righteousness and open to the guiding of His Spirit. We must begin where we are and as we are, each trying to submit family, work and society to the standard of God's Kingdom. I can see no other way in which this can come about than by a general return to the regular practice of public worship. There could

be no better New Year resolution than to re-establish this practice as a normal part of the life of every family.

I wish to commend to all the Churches of the diocese the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**. We know only too well that the world needs unity. It would often seem that as Christians we are very complacent about the need of the Church for unity.

**Whilst the Body of Christ is wounded and divided our life as well as our witness is impaired and impoverished. I hope that in every Church there will be prayer for Christian Unity and that we may seek for a new spirit of understanding and co-operation with those Christians from whom we are divided. Such prayer and action must always be in obedience to Christ and we must learn to speak the truth in love one to another. Our desire must be to share in the prayer of Christ himself that they may all be one.**

Yours affectionately,

KENNETH LINCOLN:

(Reprint from Lincoln Diocesan Leaflet—January, 1957)

ERMINE ESTATE  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

## Church nearing completion

After meeting for a long time in the Infants' School, the Congregational Church will soon be moving into their fine new church on Sudbrooke Drive. The actual date isn't known at the time of going to press, but the church will certainly be completed by the end of January.

The Rev. David Woodroffe has accepted the call to be the minister of the Church, and his address is 43 Yarborough Road, and telephone number, Lincoln 45.

Until the church is opened the Sunday evening Service at 6 p.m. and the Sunday School at 2 p.m. will continue to be held at the Ermine Estate Infants' School.

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★ paper is written for YOU. ★  
★ If you've a grouse or a suggestion ★  
★ to make, . . . if there's anything you ★  
★ want to know . . . if you're starting a ★  
★ club whether its football, fishing or knit- ★  
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# Having The Baby Done!



Dad quickened his pace as the family party made their way home to the Christening tea. "Well, that's the lot," said Mother, "we've registered the birth, had him vaccinated, I've collected his orange juice coupons from the clinic, and now we've had him baptised. You go on ahead Jim and put the kettle on. I'm dying for a cuppa."

This family may not have understood much about God's gift in baptism, but at least they knew that it was somehow connected up with their child's welfare. As Mrs. Bloggs next door always says, "They come along much better after they've been done."

Well, baby John had been done, and yet Dad was a bit puzzled. The priest had said the important thing about baptism was God's action in making men and infants members of His Family. "I reckon he's talking through his hat" said Dad, "Surely, we're all members of God's family as soon as we're born."

Mother said that she wasn't so sure, but that looking at the world in general with all its hatred and squabbling, Dad had better have another think.

The fact remains of course, that we are born into the human family which has by and large rejected God, as members of that family we shall always tend to do the wrong or selfish thing, and that means unhappiness, and finally, death.

But through faith in Jesus Christ, God adopts us as members of His Family. There, the tendency is to do the right or unselfish thing, and that means happiness and finally, eternal life.

When a little child is adopted into a human family, he loses his old surname and takes on the name of his new parents in whose family he will grow up. As the years go by, he will become

more and more like the other members of the family, sharing in the spirit of his new home. He is, as it were, "Born again" into the new family.

## Having the baby done properly.

Before admitting a new member by baptism the Church must, as far as possible, make sure that he really believes in Jesus Christ and honestly intends, with His help, to lead a Christian life. In the case of a baby, who cannot speak for himself, his parents and other members of the Church called godparents, must show that they are able to bring up the child as a faithful Christian.

So when anyone is baptised the Church asks him (or his parents and godparents in his name) to make these three promises:

- (1) To renounce sin.
- (2) To believe the Christian Faith.
- (3) To obey God's Will.

Parents and godparents must also undertake to—

- (1) Teach their child the Christian Faith.
- (2) Teach him to pray.
- (3) Bring him up in the Christian life.
- (4) See that he is prepared for Confirmation and Holy Communion.

When his baptism is completed in confirmation, the candidate, in the presence of the bishop and congregation, renews or accepts for himself the three promises made at his baptism. He then enters into the full life of the Church, sharing Sunday by Sunday in the Holy Communion.



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## School Notes . .

J. HARROD, B.A., D.Th.P.T.

September 19th was a red letter day for the Junior School. A lovely afternoon and a distinguished gathering, including the Mayor and Mayoress, the Sheriff and his lady, the Dean and the City Member, marked the Official Opening of the School. The ceremony was performed and the address given by Mr. E. L. Britten, this year's President of the National Union of Teachers. Nearly eighty of our children and some thirty parents were present and will long remember the occasion.

The term has been one of steady progress. The 145 children transferred in September from the Infant School are now well settled and the whole of the building is now in use. The attendance has been remarkably good, the average for the term being 94.78%.

Unfortunately, since half-term, we have been without the services of Miss M. M. Dixon, who has undergone an operation for a severed Achilles tendon. She has been much missed, especially by her own little flock, whom she serves in a special way. At the end of the term we shall say a reluctant farewell to Mrs. P. Hitchin, who is leaving Lincoln. Her services,

both here and at the Infant School, have been very valuable and much appreciated.

One of our pupils, Jane Dixon, of 17 Welbourn Gardens, had a memorable experience on November 5th. She went to London to present to the Queen Mother, at the Royal Albert Hall, a purse of money which her grandmother had collected on the Estate for the Church of England Children's Society.

At the time of writing we are in the throes of Christmas celebrations. Two Classes have presented Nativity Plays, which have been much enjoyed by the other children. The School Party was held on December 19th. Classroom feasts and fun and games were followed by a Film Show in the Hall. Only two were sick, and everybody went home happy—teachers especially, because it was over!

Nearly 200 parents have accepted our invitation to join in a carol service on December 20th. During the evening the School Choir will sing some lesser known carols and Arnold Bax's "Fantasy on Five Polish Carols." Afterwards we hope to serve Hot Dogs!

### What's on this month

#### January

- 1 Tue. **Circumcision of Our Lord.** H.C. 7 a.m. Young Wives' Party 7-45 p.m.
- 2 Wed. Parish Meeting—talk, "Is there life after death?" Rev. J. Hodgkinson.
- 4 Fri. Infants' Conf. School Party, 3 p.m.
- 5 Sat. Junior Conf. School Party, 4 p.m.
- 6 Sun. **Epiphany of our Lord.**
- 7 Mon. Open meeting to arrange *Ermine Estate Sports and Gala*, 7-30 p.m.
- 9 Wed. Geoffrey de Freitas, M.P. (See page 1).
- 13 Sun. **1st Sunday after Epiphany.**
- 15 Tue. Young Wives—Rev. J. Yates, Lincoln Theological College.
- 16 Wed. Parish Meeting. Preparation for the October Mission, 7-30 p.m.
- 20 Sun. **Dedication Festival.** Children's Service, 2-30 p.m.
- 23 Wed. Acted Play—reading "The White Sheep of the Family." 7-30 p.m.
- 25 Fri. Conversion of St. Paul. H.C. 6-30.
- 27 Sun. **3rd Sunday after Epiphany.**
- 29 Tue. Young Wives—"Any Questions?"
- 30 Wed. British Railways Male Voice Choir. Admission 6d.

#### Weekly Meetings

- Monday King's Messengers, 6-30 p.m.
- Wednesday **Clinic**, 2 p.m.

- Thursday Evergreen Club, 3 p.m.
- Junior Fellowship, 7 p.m.
- Co-op. Women's Guild, 7-30 p.m.
- Friday Dance. Admission 1/6. 7-30 p.m.
- Sunday Youth Fellowship, 7-30 p.m.

### Baptisms

- Dec. 2 Stephen John Trigg, Linda Margrette Trigg, Anthony Peter Crosby, Keith Alan Redman, Paul Anthony James Andrews.
- " 9 Linda Hodds.

## CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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### SUNDAY SERVICES

**The Family Communion, 9-15 a.m.**  
(Young children may be left at St. John's House)  
**Evensong, 6-30 p.m.**

HOLY BAPTISM, 1st Sunday in the month, 3-30 p.m. (Please give a fortnight's notice).

### Sunday Schools

Senior Confirmation School (11+), 10-30 a.m.  
Junior " " (7+), 2-45 p.m.  
Infants " " (4+), 2-0 p.m.

### Mid-Week Services

Holy Communion, Wednesday, 9-15 a.m. Friday, 6-30 a.m.  
Morning Prayer, Daily, 7-15 a.m.  
Evensong, Daily, 6 p.m. except Saturday, 6-30 p.m.

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