

Blackfriars

It is practically certain that in such cases child-bearing is the only way to preserve the union. In the new and absorbing interest of a child to love and cherish the maternal instinct will obliterate all save itself. Thus the future happiness of a home typical of a thousand others will be assured. For the beginning and the end of marriage is, and always will ~~be~~ child-birth.

JOSCELYNE LECHMERE.

THE FRIENDS OF BLACKFRIARS

PROBABLY very few of our readers need telling that THE FRIENDS OF BLACKFRIARS indicated by this title are not simply those courageous folk who take a friendly interest in this review, who even sometimes read it, and occasionally subscribe to it. THE FRIENDS OF BLACKFRIARS to whom we refer—a very considerably smaller band than our little group of readers—are those persons who have formed themselves into an association of helpers towards the maintenance and endowment of the Dominican Priory of the Holy Ghost, Blackfriars, Oxford.

On Trinity Sunday, the 24th of June, the FRIENDS held their annual general meeting in the small lecture room at the Blackfriars Priory, Oxford. The bulk of the party came from London; there was a group from Oxford itself; and Cambridge and other parts of the country were represented. After a preliminary committee meeting the room was thrown open to all the Friends and to members of the Dominican Community. Mr. Edward Bullough presided, assisted by the Honorary Secretary, Miss M. M. C. Calthrop, and the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. George Bellord.

The Friends of Blackfriars

The Chairman opened the meeting by explaining the aims of the Association since its formation in 1928, and he went on to review the results of the work. Just after the opening of the Priory at Whitsuntide in 1929 THE FRIENDS had been able to hand to Father Bede Jarrett, the Provincial, the sum of £1,233 19s. 7d. They had intended continuing their work until the sum of £2,000 should be raised; but after discussion and consultation, they decided, with Father Provincial's approval, to continue to exist for the purpose of collecting a regular annual sum. They had aimed at securing fifty annual subscribers; had actually reached this objective and, indeed, gone beyond it; and their success had heartened them to go on in the hope that each year would see their numbers increasing still more. Besides the annual subscribers, there were others who had helped with their contributions.

Mr. Bullough read a letter from Father Provincial thanking the FRIENDS OF BLACKFRIARS for their loyalty and help. Two new members, Mr. Sire and Mr. F. F. Urquhart, were elected to the Committee, and the resignation of one member was announced.

Mr. Bellord, the Honorary Treasurer, in presenting his accounts, said that over sixty annual subscribers had been secured, and he paid a glowing tribute to the zeal and energy of the Honorary Secretary, Miss Calthrop, who had worked so hard to secure new FRIENDS, and had been so successful in inducing them to express their friendship by prompt subscriptions.

Votes of thanks were passed to Father Wulstan McCuskern, the Prior of St. Dominic's, London, for his valuable help and encouragement since the FRIENDS first came into being—the Association held its first meeting in his Priory and with his support; to Father Antoninus Maguire, the Prior of St. Sebas-

Blackfriars

tian's, Manchester; and to Father Edward O'Dea, the Prior of St. Dominic's, Newcastle, who had both given great assistance personally and helped to get the work of the FRIENDS known in their respective parishes. A vote of thanks was passed to the Prior of Blackfriars.

In reply, the Prior asked leave to reverse the ordinary procedure, and, instead of receiving thanks, to propose a vote of thanks on behalf of the Oxford Dominican community to all the FRIENDS OF BLACK-FRIARS who had proved Friends indeed. He hoped that those who encouraged the work could take comfort in the thought that they were befriending a good thing. They were helping to restore a Dominican House of Studies and to revive the public recitation of the liturgy, which had been banished from Oxford in the sixteenth century. The Prior read a letter which the late Holy Father Pope Benedict XV sent to the Father Provincial nine years ago. The letter admirably summed up the ideals for which the Priory of the Holy Ghost hoped ever to stand. The Prior especially thanked the President, Mr. Edward Bullough, who had given so much of his valuable time to the work, Mr. George Bellord, who had so generously given his services as Treasurer, and Miss Calthrop, who had originated the work, by her courage kept it going and by her untiring perseverance made it increasingly successful.

All enquiries regarding the FRIENDS OF BLACK-FRIARS should be addressed to Miss M. M. C. Calthrop, 26 Maitland Park Road, London, N.W.3.