



# *Parish Church News Oaksey*

## Valuable Window in Oaksey Church

The quaint old Parish Church of Oaksey, near Malmesbury, has been found to contain a number of distinctive features, not least among them being the window on the north side of the Church, near the pulpit, which has been proved to be both old and valuable. Gratification is felt that experts have made an examination and have confirmed local opinion. In fact, the worth of the window is much more than local people thought.

While the window does not contain a complete design the glass is very old, but unfortunately, with the passage of the years, pieces have broken away and have been replaced by modern glass.

## Grant Secured

The church has been inspected recently. First, the Bristol Diocesan Committee paid a visit and inspected the window. It considered further advice would be an advantage and Miss Caroline Townsend, of the firm at whose hands the window is now undergoing renovation, was called in. Subsequently Mr Eeles, secretary of the Central Advisory Committee of the Church of England, also made an inspection, and it was he who was instrumental in obtaining a grant, which is expected to cover the cost of the work.

While at the church Mr Eeles drew attention to the old glass contained in the clerestory windows (the top windows in the nave), and recommended its transfer to the lower windows.

## Mural Paintings

Last week Pro. Tristram, the well-known expert on mural paintings, visited the church and was greatly impressed by the mural paintings which the church contains. He suggested that they should be cleaned and preserved on account of their great value.

The Professor also suggested that the church walls should be scraped with the idea of ascertaining whether any other paintings are hidden beneath several layers of plaster.

There are traces of other paintings on the walls, but whether they can be brought to light in their entirety is a difficult question in view of the scant attention which has been paid to them by covering them with plaster.

While the work on the window goes forward, the other suggestions, the Rector (the Rev T J V Williams) told an "Evening Advertiser" reporter, are being held over on the ground of expense.

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