

P.W.A.

Many of our activities follow the pattern of a Life cycle. They are conceived, developed, achieve a great deal, fulfil a valued purpose and then regrettably fade away. This has happened to the P.W.A. What did those three initials stand for? Whilst Pleasant Womens' Association would have been appropriate, the true full title was Pleasant Wednesday Afternoons.

P.W.A. was formed in 1934 by the Rev. Ernest Slater, then the Minister at Turvey Congregational Church. Meetings were held on alternate Wednesdays in the upper school room in the Chapel and were open to all the ladies of the village. The fortnightly programme included a special speaker and musical items. The afternoon was rounded off with tea, cakes and biscuits.

The end of each annual session was marked by a Sisterhood Sunday at the end of June with a distinguished preacher to give the sermon and reputable soloists to sing appropriate hymns.

Attendance at P.W.A. reached it's peak of 55 during the war years when Turvey housed evacuees. In more recent times, attendance dropped and the meetings ceased in June 1978, for lack of a Congregational Minister and as no one could be found to take charge of the organisation. The late Miss M. Walker had been leader of the P.W.A. for many years.

We are indebted to Mrs. Gladys Cockings for this brief account of the history of Turvey's P.W.A. Mrs. Cockings played the organ at these meetings for 41 of the 44 years of its existence, as well as being organist at the Chapel for the past 43 years.

At the final winding up meeting of the P.W.A. it was decided that the funds remaining in hand should be shared between the Mothers' Union and Turvey News. Both these organisations are very grateful for this consideration and will ensure that the funds are put to good use.