

CHANGES IN OUR VILLAGE.

Yes! there have been some changes in our village. As I write this essay, my mind goes back to the stories my grandparents have told me.

In the old days, before the motor cars came along, the Doctor used to come on horseback to visit the sick. Sometimes the Rector, the Rev. F. Hingston Randolph, would make up some medicine for the villagers, he being a very learned man. He also used to send coal and dinners to the poor of the village.

The Rectory then was well and truly occupied, with a big family, eight servants and two gardeners, plus a handyman. Today the Rectory is part of the farm and used for storage. Who would believe that garden parties were held on the Rectory lawn where well to do people met and enjoyed themselves. Fetes were also held there, where the high light of the afternoon was the Folk Dancing. The Modbury Orchestra came and played and there were several side shows. There was another musical group too - the celebrated Ringmore band. A man called Sam Ryder was the conductor. He used to start them off by saying "One - Two & Three GO" and off they went. In the Church Institute, Socials and Dances were held and very enjoyable evenings were spent. The top part of the room was known as the billiard room where the men of the village used to go when they wished. Several different games were played and the men took it in turns to be in charge.

Journeys End was nearly always full. It was known then as the New Inn. The local shop was there too. Before that the Pub was at the top of the village in a house now known as Challaborough Cottage. The Post Office was also there. In fact, about five different houses have had the Post Office.

The cottages have been altered too. Barnford, where our President now lives, was two cottages. The village Midwife lived there in part of it. She was my great grandmother - a person in great demand as there were large families.

In 1929 a great celebration took place. The Women's Institute was