



GOLDEN COUPLE RECALL 'CHURCH ROMANCE'

Now living in retirement in a house almost within the shadow of Cuddesdon College to which he has devoted the greater part of his life, Mr. Daniel Dayie — "David" to everyone — and his wife Florence, today celebrate their golden wedding.

When Mr. Davie retired in 1959 he had been for many years butler of the col-

lege, to which he went as a houseboy in 1911.

Theirs was an "ecclesiastical romance" for when they first met Miss Florence Anstey was on the staff of the Bishop's Palace, then the home of Bishop Charles Gore, opposite the college.

They first met at a meeting of Rural Deans.

Today they are to be guests at a party given in their honour, with bishops and clerics among the hosts.



YESTERDAY was the golden wedding day of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Davie, seen here arms linked and wearing roses, and so they went again to the parish church of All Saints at Cuddesdon to attend a thanksgiving service. But this time there was not a war on, and they sat surrounded by a hundred or so friends, many of them former students from the theological college just up the road where Mr. Davie worked for nearly 50 years, and the others, village folk who have known them for most of their married lives, while a bishop officiated. The scene had not changed very much from those days towards the end of the First World War. The old church, surrounded by its trim graveyard, where the grass has been specially cut for the service, is as beautiful as ever, a few new buildings have appeared, but just over the wall is the home of the Bishop of Oxford, although the old Palace where Mrs. Davie was working when she first met her bridegroom-to-be has been pulled down. Yesterday, the couple, each wearing golden roses, stood to greet their guests and as the hands of the clock crept up to three, the sun suddenly shone through the clouds.

A golden thanksgiving day for the butler among the bishops

Story by JOHN OWEN

Picture by JOHN MARSHALL

Four of the five Principals of Cuddesdon College under whom Mr. Davie served became bishops, and one them, Dr. Kenneth Riches, Bishop of Lincoln, came back to conduct the service. In the congregation were two other bishops, the Bishop of Reading, the Rt. Rev. E. H. Knell, and the Bishop of Buckingham, the Rt. Rev. Christopher Pepys, with the Archdeacon of Oxford, the Ven. C. Witton-Davies.

Others who had been Cuddesdon students were not able to attend, but they sent congratulations and greetings, among them the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Michael Ramsey, one of their oldest friends. After the service, a grand tea party was given at the college, with Mr. and Mrs. Davie as guests of honour.

"David," a Londoner, was a young man in private service when he first visited Cuddesdon on holiday. He was staying at the post office and was asked to deliver a telegram to the college.

As a result, he was persuaded to throw up his job and join the college staff as a footman, which he did in 1911. Miss Florence Anstey, whose home was in Northamptonshire, was on the staff of Bishop Charles Gore

and they met when "David" arrived, as he always did, to help at a meeting the Bishop had with his rural deans. The young footman was serving with the A.S.C. in Italy during the war—earlier he had frequently driven the Prince of Wales in France—when out of the blue he was given seven days' leave to go home and get married. "Someone pulled some strings somewhere," he muses "for I got a first-class

ticket as well, though I came back third-class, and when I got to Cuddesdon I found everything had been arranged." After the war he came back to the college which he was to serve for more than another 40 years. In 1927, "David" took over as butler, with his wife also taking a prominent part in college management, helping to cope with a variety of jobs whenever the need arose which was often.

In 1959, Mr. Davie decided to retire as butler to the general regret of everyone, but he has not severed all ties with the college for he still runs the village shop and is called in to deal with emergencies. His latest activity is sitting for his portrait which the college is having painted, and which will hang among those of other college worthies—most of them bishops.



Fred, 93, gets a call-up

Mr Fred Sellar, of Castle Farm, Denton, Cuddesdon and his wife Florence (pictured together, left) celebrated their diamond wedding today.

And Fred, at 93 years of age, was surprised to be called up for jury service in Oxford recently.

When he wrote explaining how old he is he received a letter saying he would be excused jury service "on this occasion." He is now wondering when the next occasion might be.

During many years at the 80-acre Castle Farm he has milked more cows more times than he can remember.

Now their son, Mr Cyril Sellar, does all the physical work, but Mr Sellar senior likes to have a daily report on the cows and their progress.

*My Congratulations ...
... On your Wedding Day.*



*A happy life of sweet ...
... content ...
Be yours, dear Wedded Pair;
Sunshine above, and in your hearts,
And blessings sweet to share.*