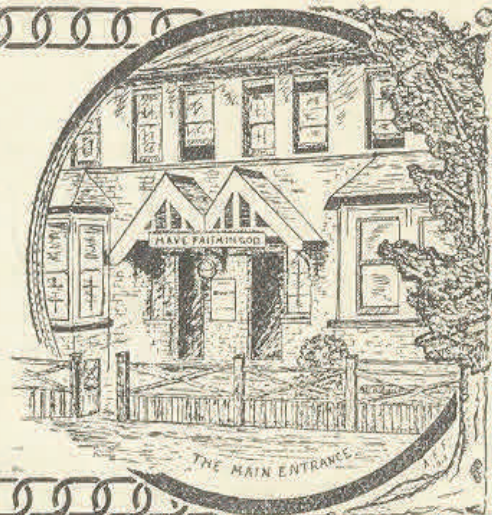


# CHILDREN'S HOME LINKS



Crescent Road, South Woodford.

Founded 1899.

AUGUST, 1922.

## THE HOME CALL

As most of our friends know, Miss F. C. Hutchin, (Auntie), our old friend and worker answered "The Home Call," on December 23rd last. She had been ailing for just over twelve months, and passed peacefully away in the early afternoon. The Memorial Service was held in the Baptist Church, George Lane, attended by a large number of friends, including Dr. F. A. Martin Flegg, the Hon. Medical Officer of the Home. All the orphans were present, and four of the Old Boys carried the coffin. Mr. Herbert White led the meeting. The Rev. John Haydon read the service, and the Rev. John Jermyn gave an address. Mr. W. A. Hutchin (nephew), led in prayer. Reference was made by the speakers to the nineteen years of useful service rendered to this portion of the Lord's work by our dear friend—service which commenced at the age of 63 (when most people are thinking of retiring), and ended at the age of 82, when the call to Higher Service above was received. Auntie will be missed, not only by Miss R. A. Hutchin, the mother of the Homes, and other relatives, but certainly very greatly by the work in which she laboured during the closing years of her life. She was loved by all, her advice was sought after and always good, and it will be difficult to fill her place.

Our loss will be her gain, for we "sorrow not even as others which have no hope, for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him."



THE LATE MISS FANNY CHARITY HUTCHIN.

The interment took place at the West Ham Cemetery, the service at the graveside being conducted by the Rev. John Haydon. Many floral tributes were sent, including some from old children whom Auntie used to tend. 1 Thess. IV. 15-18.

# “OUR DAY.”



Our 22nd Annual Gatherings were held on Thursday, May the 25th, at 4 and 7 p.m., in the Woodford Baptist Church, (kindly lent for the occasion) and were very blessed times. A good company gathered in the afternoon, which was again presided over by Mr. V. G. Levett, supported by Miss Phyllis Lett, Miss Maud Burdett, Rev. W. Leonard B. Caley, M.A., Vicar of St. Paul's, Stratford. After the opening hymn, prayer was offered by Mr. F. C. Sackett, followed by a few items in song by the children, and Miss R. A. Hutchin, (Mother) gave a few brief incidents as to how the Lord had been blessing the work during the past 12 months. Miss Phyllis Lett then sang with great profit "There is a green Hill," after which the Rev. Leonard Caley said:—

The verse I want to centre our thoughts upon for a few moments this afternoon is found in *Philippians the 2nd Chapter, 9th and 10th verses* 'Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow.' I have felt with our opening hymn, and with one or two other things that have happened during the time we have been together—I have felt more certain than ever that it is the verse that we want to think about this afternoon. God hath highly exalted Him.' I suppose first of all I was led to that text this afternoon because it happens to be the day when we are thinking of our Lord ascending up again to His Father's right hand, and there sitting and interceding for us, until that great and glorious day when He will come again in the clouds for His own. As I read it, and thought it over, what struck

me was this about it: Oh, how definite it is! Isn't there something marvellously definite about this Word of God? 'God hath highly exalted Him.' And not only is this a definite statement, but it contains a very definite lesson for God's people, and for the world at the present time, and it is a lesson which I think God has been teaching us this afternoon. In these days we might sometimes get the idea that the greatest thing in the whole universe, the thing upon which we have got to centre our thoughts more than anything else is the well-being and the happiness of the human race. God forbid that I should say a word against helping forward the happiness of mankind, but it is not the chief thing upon which we have got to centre our mind. And yet all the talk of the present day, whether we are thinking of the future relation of nation with nation, or whatever it is, it is more or less viewed from this standpoint of the happiness and the well-being of man. But our text shows us God's eternal purpose: 'He has given Him a name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.' Now this afternoon I have been so glad to be here, not only because I am glad for my own sake to be here and hear of God's dealings in this portion of His work, but also because I owe Mr. White a little debt of gratitude which I ought to repay. He came to a Mission in my Parish which was much blessed of God.

This afternoon, as we have been here together, the main thought I wanted to put before you was the thought of God's plan, and God's purpose, and the place that you and I are taking in that plan and purpose.

Now, this afternoon, as our brother here has been giving us an account of last year's work, what has struck me is this:—when we listened to the account of those two blankets coming in the nick of time, we might have been inclined to say, 'How wonderful!' It is not wonderful. It is not wonderful, because our brother has got his place in God's plan, that the name of the Lord Jesus Christ might be exalted. If you and I know we are in the place where God meant us to be, and doing His work, then it isn't wonderful that God should send us two blankets or whatever it is we need. This afternoon I just want us to get that thought into our minds.

You know, in the Old Testament, there comes in the 2nd Kings, 10-15, a picture, and in that picture there comes a man, the king Jehu, going on a mission to slay the enemies of Jehovah; and as he goes on that mission he meets a man, Jehonadab the son of Rechab, and he says a wonderful thing to him; 'Is thy heart right as my heart is with thy heart?' And this man says, 'It is.' And, you know, if we just this afternoon think of the Lord Jesus Christ going forth in the great battle in order that the plan of God shall come to pass all the sooner; going on in that great warfare in order that in the name of Jesus every knee shall bow; and He comes to you and to me this afternoon as He is going to battle, and He says, 'Is thy heart right, as My heart is with thy heart?' What is the answer? Can we look up, and say, 'It is, it is!' Oh, our dear brother can give that wonderful list of the blessings of God in his Annual Report, because he knows that He knows his heart is set in time and in tune with the heart of his Lord and King; as his Lord leads him in the great battle that in the name of Jesus every knee shall bow; and I want us this afternoon to hear the Lord asking that question, 'Is thy heart right, as My heart is with thy heart?'

What the Lord wants first of all is obedience, and oh, how little we know obedience! I sometimes think we don't half fully realise all that that means, when we read, 'By one man's disobedience, many were made sinners.' God leads us along the path of life, and there He has His great purpose, that in the name of Jesus every knee shall bow; and He has called you and me into His service, and we are going along one day, and the Holy Spirit

says to us, 'Go and do such and such a thing,' and we feel 'Oh, dear me, what a very extraordinary thing to have to do!' Oh, if we could only know more and more that we are right in the line of God's will, that we are in the place where He has put us, because of the great eternal plan! Then we shall know that 'God hath highly exalted Him,' and when the Lord says 'Is thy heart right?' we shall be able to say 'It is!'

Then there is another thought, and it is this: that on this glorious day, when we think of the Lord finishing His work, and passing back to His Father's right hand, it is a glorious thought of victory, and, brothers and sisters, when we know that we are where God wants us to be in life's battle, when we know that we are just carrying out the work that He has given us to do, we shall be perfectly certain of victory.

That is what we want in the Christian Church to-day; we apologise for our Church, we apologise for our Bible, we apologise for the glorious things of the Gospel, but there is no apology when you know this:—'God hath highly exalted Him, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.' Yes, some day, whether they want to or not! Oh, the certainty of victory! And, brothers and sisters, if we are certain of victory, as you and I go along life's journey, and the Master comes along and says, 'Is thy heart right?' we can say, 'It is!' 'Give me thy hand.' Oh, isn't that lovely? The Lord wants us to come up in the Chariot with Him. He wants to take our hand, and He wants us to know this, that when we are in that Chariot, victory is sure, victory is certain. I once heard it said by a great man of God, that if, when the Lord comes along in His Chariot, you don't get in, you can't stop it, it will go over you!

The Lord is leading His Church. He is leading them on. Great days of revival, of new life! As He comes along to-day, He says to you and me, 'This is the great purpose, God hath highly exalted Him!' 'Is thy heart right?' Can we look up this afternoon, and say, 'It is!' and get up into the Chariot, and go to life's battle with the certainty of great and glorious victory? There will be an end to apologising if we know that!"

Miss Phyllis Lett then sang "Alleluia," and the meeting was brought to a close by prayer, led by Mr. S. O. Levett.

# ANNUAL REPORT.

MR. HERBERT WHITE, in giving his report said,—We are very glad we have once again come to our Annual Day, and our first note must be one of praise to our gracious God in permitting us to carry on this work for Him, and in bringing us safely through to this 22nd Annual. We are most encouraged too, by these great gatherings, and by the friends who have come from near and far to show fellowship with us in this portion of the Lord's work, to the chairman and speakers of to-day, and also to Miss Phyllis Lett we say, God bless you for the blessing and help you are to us, and we pray that your messages in speech and song, and the influence of these gatherings, may go further afield, and may result in Glory to the Name of Jesus, which is His due.

We have received letters from Mr. George Goodman, Mr. Richard Cadbury, Rev. W. J. Cunningham Pike, Pastor Clatworthy, and others, regretting their absence to-day. We are also sorry to report that Dr. F. A. Martin Flegg is unable through illness to be with us, and our prayers go out for him and his, as well as for ourselves, that he may make a speedy recovery. We also greatly miss our dear and much loved worker, Miss F. C. Hutchin, (Auntie), who was called to her Rest and Reward on Dec. 23rd last, and Mrs. Florence Barclay, who always took such a keen interest in this work, and who for many years brought to these gatherings messages which those who attended will not easily forget, and, although not with us, we have a message from her which was found among her papers after the Home Call, which surely is a message for us to-day:—

"The blessings which you receive must all be translated into blessings which you render.

If the Glory of God has touched your life, gilding it with eternal splendour, that life must be lived for His glory.

If His Peace has filled your soul, taking away all guilty fears, all dread of death, all terror of the Judgment Day, if He has made

peace for you by the blood of His cross, then, so far as in you lies, you must live peaceably with all men—pass on your peace.

If His Good-will towards you has smoothed life's rough places, leading you into green pastures and beside the waters of comfort, then you, by an attitude of unfailing good-will to others, must smooth their daily path and help to make life easy.

FLORENCE L. BARCLAY."

Last year we had 64 children in the Home, since which time 10 have left us for service and work, 18 have been added, 11 of whom have been introduced to us by the N.S.P.C.C., leaving a total now in the Home of 72, making a grand total since the start of 300 boys and girls. The health of the children remains very good. Our Medical Officer's report will be given in our next Links.

We have been greatly cheered too by spiritual blessing among the children, and have been much encouraged by the conversion of several, and it is helpful to know that a number of our old children are waiting for baptism at their own request. News has also just come through that the Baptist Hall in Latchett Road, where our children attend for afternoon Sunday School, has this year taken the banner for the Sunday School Union Examination, and it is gratifying to know that out of the 33 who passed, 28 are ours.

As you will see in "Extracts from Diary," God has "repeated His former mercies," in supplying our needs again this year. There are 6 working parties who are making garments for our children, and greatly help us in clothing them, two boot clubs, whose assistance we greatly appreciate. Many times during the year the very things we have been needing have been sent by the Lord, through His servants, such as cloth, jam, dripping, fruit, sweets, eggs, soap, blankets, etc., and we are daily reminded that "He is, and is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

From the audited accounts you will see that our income in cash, including the balance

brought forward, was £1,366, leaving a balance on the 1st of May of £62, our income being £7 more than last year, which was our previous best. Hallelujah!

Our thanks are due to Mr. Fisher for his continued help in training the children in singing, and Miss Le Vierge and Miss Fitter for drilling the girls, and to our new friend Mr. Sutton, who has undertaken to drill the boys, also to our new Hon. Dentist, Mr. Hallum.

With regard to our Forward Move, mentioned in our last Links, we are still praying for guidance. The estate mentioned is still up for sale, but although we are reminded daily by the applications we receive to take in more children that we need more room, we must continue to pray until He opens the way.

Quite a number of our old boys and girls are at the meetings to-day, and one has delighted us by handing me a cheque for £7. 8s. which he has, on his own initiative, collected from old girls and boys towards any Forward Movement which may be made.

#### EVENING MEETING

In the evening the church was crowded with a very enthusiastic congregation. Miss Maud Burdett presided, and was supported on the platform by Mr. Herbert White, Superintendent of the Home, Rev. John Wilmot, of the Baptist Tabernacle, Redhill, Mr. Charles Lidington, Mr. James Stokes, Mr. Bruce Flegg, Miss Phyllis Lett, and others.

Miss Burdett, who was warmly welcomed, thanked those present very much for the kind welcome they had given her. It was a great pleasure to see so many friends present, and it was not only a pleasure but a real honour to be asked as Mrs. Barclay's friend to take the chair at the annual gathering of a Home in which she took such a great interest, and to stand on the same platform she had so often stood on to speak for that Home. Again, it was an honour for them to have Mrs. Barclay's best friend, Miss Lett, with her great gift of song, to carry on Mrs. Barclay's work on behalf of that Home, of which she was so radiant and golden a link: one that, whatsoever she did, she did with a pure heart and all to the glory of God. In a manuscript found after her death, Mrs. Barclay wrote, "If the Glory of God has touched your life, gilding it with eternal splendour, that life

must be lived to His glory." They knew that in connection with that Home, Mr. and Mrs. White and Miss Hutchin really lived for that reason, and tried to carry on in that spirit one of the greatest works, not only of caring for and tending so many of God's little children, but above all in training them to become faithful ambassadors for their Lord, so that wherever they went they might hold high their Lord's banner.

That evening they had had proof that none was too small or too weak to do that, if not by word, at all events by deed, and to do it now. Most of those present would remember one of Mrs. Barclay's favourite clarion calls, "Remember now thy Redeemer," to *do* now, and to *be ready* now. It was an added joy that that gathering was fixed for Ascension Day, one of the special days. We wanted to render now special praise to our Lord and Master, for having died for us, for having risen for us, and for having ascended into Heaven to prepare a place for us, that where He is, thither we might also ascend. But till each was called, let us ascend now in spirit, so that whatsoever we do we may do now, all to the glory of God. (Loud cheers.)

Miss Phyllis Lett then sang with much feeling and sweetness, "Abide with me," after which

The Rev. John Wilmot addressed the meeting. He said he felt that no thanks need be given to anyone for attending such a meeting as that. Rather, the compensation was in having participated in such a gathering. Proceeding, Mr. Wilmot said he knew where the Home stood with regard to the Holy Scriptures. He knew that they viewed them in their entirety as inspired by God. He also knew that, were that not the case, they would not be holding their meeting that night, and that work would not be in existence. That work was founded on the living Christ, Who had revealed Himself unmistakably in the Book they called the Bible. There was a phrase which had been repeated that night; it was suggested in the prayer; it had been indicated in the remarks of the chairman; it had been mentioned definitely by Mr. White in his report; it was a phrase which in itself supplied the foundation on which the work was built; and that phrase was, "Looking to God." It might be helpful to them if they thought of that word "Looking." First, it was essential, if they were going to engage

in Christian service, that they should constantly have what he might call the Inward look. He was an evangelistic minister of the Gospel, and he believed in preaching the Gospel, and that people would be saved by it. He believed in all work of an evangelistic character. They were constantly meeting with people who were looking within, but he told them to look elsewhere. For one reason at least they ought to look within. The secret of success in the Lord's work was the humility of His servant. When he took a look within at himself, it made him very humble; man seemed to be exalted and God dethroned. God had diagnosed our case, and written our record in His Book, and we may know how we ourselves are within by reading His report. If we looked within and saw aright our testimony would confirm His report. They knew the story of the boy who was supposed to be reading his Bible; he could not read, but he pretended to be reading, and said, "God says I am a good little boy." His mother, who knew that that was not in the Bible, noticed that he had got the Bible upside down, and that he was supposed to be reading from the 3rd chapter of Romans, where it says, "There is none that doeth good, no, not one." If we looked within and saw how defiled we were, we should agree with the writer of the Epistle to the Romans, when he says, "Within our flesh there dwelleth no good thing." We could get very despondent and depressed if we continued to look within, therefore the next look we should take was the Upward look, "Looking to God." We were told to do this frequently in the New Testament, and indeed in the whole of the Bible; "Look unto Me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is none else." We were told to look to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith, Who for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross and the shame; and is now set down at the right hand of God. What an encouragement to us as lookers that He Himself saw the joy that was set before Him, and that He endured the cross and the shame, and that He is now at the right hand of God. The grave is empty; the throne is occupied. It was that which gave confidence in a work like that. The Lord Jesus Christ was supreme. The test of reality in Christian service was whether or not we recognised the sovereignty of the Lord Jesus Christ. Hudson Taylor used to say that until

you crowned Him Lord of all, you didn't crown Him at all. He would not live in a flat; He wanted the run of the whole house. In the great race of Christian service, it was not the person who went in first that won, but the person who was faithful.

Another look was the Outward look, and their friend Mr. White had taken it, God bless him! The woman at the well first had the inward look, and then she had the outward look. So had all true people of God; they had a passion for the souls of others, whether they were children or adults. They had to confess that often in their church life they lessened that perspective. The man who gives, gets. It was a principle with God. "There is that which withholdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty. There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth."

Mr. Wilmot told the story of a visiting preacher, who went to preach in a village chapel one week-evening, when there was a very small attendance. Noticing the offertory box, he put in half-a-crown. After the service, as the preacher was leaving, the caretaker apologetically offered the preacher the money from the offertory box, remarking that it was their custom to give the money from the offertory box to the visiting preacher. As he walked home, his little boy, who was with him, when he heard that his father had been given the half-crown he himself had put in the box, remarked, "Why didn't you put in more, you would have got more out!" (Laughter.) It was true, the more you put in, the more you got out. The more time they put into the work of the Lord for others, the more they would get for themselves. Martin Luther said he must spend more time in prayer, because he had more work to do. There was a good deal of talk to-day about personal evangelism. If half the time was put into the doing of it that was spent in speaking about it, there would be something done. Moody used to say that the best way to know how to do a thing was to do it. They became more perfect in the work of God by practice.

Then there was the Forward look. There were those who believed the world was going to be converted by looking without. No man was a pessimist who believed that Jesus Christ was coming again to reign on this earth. That was the hope of the world, the hope of the individual Christian the hope of

the worldly man, if he only knew it. Some people were frightened at the thought of Christ coming again. Why should they be? They were told to comfort one another with these words. To those who were looking to Him now, what a glorious thing it would be to see Him at His second coming, for it was a great inclusive promise that we should be like Him.

Mr. Charles Lidington said that the Children's Home had a very warm corner in his heart, because he thought a mother was the only indispensable person in the whole world. Because their friend Mr. White was looking after these children in the way he was, was the reason he was helping him as much as he could in his little way. It was Addison who said, "It is not in mortals to command success; we will do more, we will deserve it." They wished Mr. White every success and every prosperity in his work. Might he go on from strength to strength, and might the future years be fuller of prosperity than those of the past. Jesus said to His disciples, "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter the Kingdom of Heaven." The only human example that Jesus Christ pointed to and asked us to copy was a little child. He didn't point to St. John, or any of His disciples, but took a little child and set him in the midst of them, because the more we copied a child in simple faith the more we should become like Him. Mr. Lidington said he would like to recite Alfred H. Miles's "Story of a little boy," instead of giving an address. This he did with splendid effect, his fine elocution bringing out the lesson of the story in a way that appealed powerfully to all present, and he was loudly cheered at the close.

Miss Lett then sang "Alleluia," which was so much enjoyed that she was prevailed upon to sing another beautiful selection as an encore.

Mr. James Stokes then addressed the gathering. He said these anniversary occasions in connection with the Home had been to him a most tremendous encouragement ever since he first had the privilege of meeting Mr. White on Tower Hill many years ago. The work of that Home reminded him of the words found in Ezekiel, "I sought for a man who should make up the hedge and stand in the gap." As in the history of that land there was a tremendous gap that needed filling, so

to-day there were tremendous gaps that needed filling. They had only to look at their daily papers to see that on every hand there were tremendous and serious gaps in our social, religious, and national life. The conference at Genoa was held with the object of filling up the international gap. As in the days of which their text spoke, so to-day God was still seeking for men and women who would stand in the gap for Him. Twenty-two years ago God was seeking for a man to stand in the gap of destitution in home life—that awful gap of home without a mother. And He did not seek in vain. A young bank clerk and his friends heard and answered the call, and during 22 years he had been standing in that gap. To-day they were able to commemorate the anniversary of the day they first stood in the gap for God and humanity. God was still seeking. There were gaps that were not yet filled in our home life, in our social life, and in the church of Christ. The world was beckoning to those who called themselves Christians. It was demanding reality. The war brought men face to face with the great realities of life. People were tired of camouflage and sham. They were not going to church on Sunday to hear expression given to pious thoughts and words, unless those thoughts and words were emphasised by pious acts. As Christian men and women, it was their business to fill these gaps for the Lord. One quality demanded of those who would be gap-fillers was that they should be hard workers. There was no room in the Christian faith for slackers; God had no use for them. If they were afraid of hard work, do not let them take upon them the name of Christ. Christ raised all work to the loftiest point, and we should follow Him. Moody said the reward of work was more work. Were we prepared for that? If they were going to be gap-fillers for the Lord Jesus Christ, they must be prepared to stand alone; they must be prepared for ostracism, for the sneers of their best friends so-called. Gap-fillers in the forefront of the fray had the searchlight upon them. Therefore they needed strength of character—the strength of that great white Figure of history, the noblest Being the world had ever seen, coming into their lives, so that they might stand alone. It was not for Himself that He stood alone and made that immense sacrifice. And there was no reason to suppose that we

should have a bed of roses in the King's service, or that the lot of the servant would be easier than that of the servant's Master. It was a great crusade to be a Christian. In heroic service they could take their stand with the great Gap-Filler of all time. Sometimes people would say they wanted to see a bit of life before they gave themselves up to Jesus Christ. But there was no life apart from Jesus Christ and His service. Apart from the Lord Jesus Christ life was one tremendous gap, which people were by various means trying to fill. "Are there any here to-night," said Mr. Stokes, "who will come to the Lord of Life and Glory, and in sincere and earnest words say, 'Thou art my Lord and my God.'" Jesus Christ filled all gaps in their life. Let them take their stand by Him and by their brothers and sisters working in that noble cause. Let them *do* something in life, and not be content to merely *be*. Rise and become something! Dare to be something for Jesus Christ! Their friend needed help

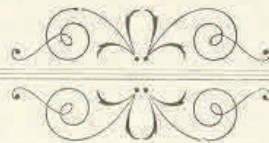
in that work, although he would not beg for it. There was a challenge for them! Did they listen to that challenge? Did they hear the call? "I sought for a man who should make up the hedge and stand in the gap." But he was not there, and the sad picture was that the land was destroyed.

Were we going to let this cause suffer because we were not willing to sacrifice ourselves?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were an offering far too small:  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Shall have my soul, my life, my all!

This memorable meeting was then brought to a close with the singing of "All hail, the power of Jesus' name," and the Benediction.

(Special prayer was offered during the meetings by the Rev. John Jermyn and Mr. James Goodchild on behalf of Dr. F. A. Martin Flegg, and we are now happy to report that our Doctor is much better, for which we praise God.)



## Extracts From Diary.

### NOVEMBER

1st. Stratford, 3 cwt. Jolliwasher soap. Finsbury Park, 12 pairs of mended stockings. Chingford, 10s., Leytonstone 1s. 4½d. (at the request of a tiny tot, a collection taken at her party).

2nd. Walthamstow, 8 pairs of new boots from two friends. Brussels, 10s., with "I have not forgotten you and your work for the Lord. It is still a joy to remember you before the Throne of Grace. Those days at Rhyll still live brightly in my memory. I finished at the B.T.I., Glasgow, in June, and am here taking a special course in Tropical Medicine prior to sailing for the Congo. Over twenty students are now taking the course, and they are full of love, zeal, and earnestness for our Lord. For us it is a great treat to attend these lectures and Gospel meetings. "Christ Crucified" is preached, and the

atmosphere is warm. One does not freeze there. Oh, how we need to-day the preaching of the Cross; apart from the Cross there is no Christianity, and preaching which leaves that out of account must fail."

4th. An old girl, 10s.

5th. Woodford, parcel of clothes. Muswell, £1., Highgate, £1., Woodford, 10s., "In memory of Mother."

11th. The L.B.R. Sewing Meeting members came to-day with 30 flannel vests; also providing workers and children with a good tea and an evening's entertainment with conjurer, etc. Leytonstone, £23. 5s., being proceeds of a drawing-room sale held by a friend specially for us. Richmond, 10s., Leytonstone, 10s., Walthamstow, 3s., Leyton, 5s.

15th. Bristol, 5s.

18th. An old worker, £1., Ealing 1 guinea, an old girl, 10s.