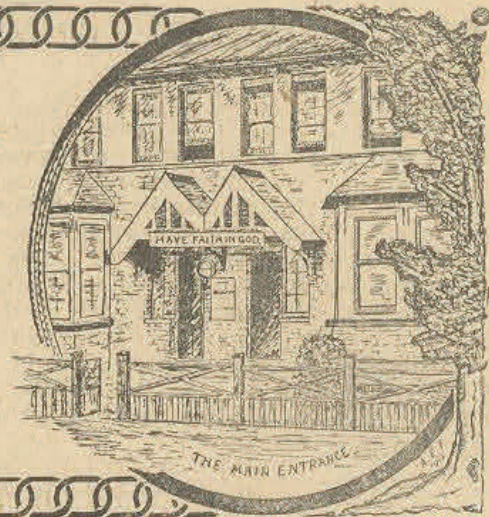


CHILDREN'S HOME LINKS



CRESCENT ROAD, SOUTH WOODFORD.

Founded 1899.

SEPTEMBER, 1923

“OUR DAY”

OUR Twenty-third Annual Gatherings were held in the Woodford Baptist Church (kindly lent) on Friday, May 25th, at 3.30 and 7. Tea was served in between. All the arrangements being undertaken by the officers' wives and friends, and quite a good company gathered for tea. The church in the afternoon was well filled, and at night the place was overcrowded, some even failing to obtain admission. We shall not easily forget the power and inspiration of these gatherings. We have much cause to praise and thank God for the great encouragement these meetings were to all present. Our children formed the choir, conducted by Mr. W. G. Fisher, and gave several sweet pieces, both together and in solos. Miss Phylis Lett again very kindly offered to come and sing at both gatherings, and one and all felt that her messages in song were messages from Him who prompted her to come.

Miss MAUD BURDETT

The chair was taken in the afternoon by Miss Burdett, who said: I think that after such a report that we must all feel what an inspiration to everyone outside the Home this work is. It proves that it has been founded entirely on the three great lines of Faith, Hope and Charity, because in twenty-three years it has grown from only one to 310 children. Well, I think that is too wonderful, because we know that when they first started there was no sum of money put at their command, but they went forth strong in the strength that God supplies and in the faith of His love; but we see the results, not only in the children who are here to-day, but in those who are out in the big world. And here, I suppose, it is as everywhere, there are a great many "ups and downs, many rough places to make smooth; but when I come here I always rejoice to know I am coming to those who knew and

who loved Mrs. Barclay—she who knew and loved the Home so much—and I am sure we have to thank Miss Lett for coming. Therefore, I am bringing you a message of inspiration from Mrs. Barclay. It was written to the women of America when she came back in 1910. I will quote the inscription engraved on the pulpit she gave to the church at Overstrand: "She ever liveth in the hearts of those who love her." "Don't dim your ideals. Always seek the best and be content with nothing less, whether in life, or love, in strenuous work, or gaiety and laughter. Aim for the highest and best. Obey the inspired command, 'Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report—think on these things.'" Then from out the radiance of our own clear mental depths there shall shine forth a helpful brightness to all around, and the world shall be the better because you were in it, and after all, is not this the best?

Miss HUTCHIN

Miss Hutchin said: My dear friends,—It gives us great joy to see such a large gathering who have come to hear what great things the Lord hath done for us in our corner of His vineyard. We meet year by year to testify how God answers our prayers—that He never fails. It is us who fail! It is us who might have more if our faith was greater, but we do thank Him for the measure of faith and grace He does bestow upon us to carry on a portion of His work amongst the children, and our one object and aim is that they shall grow up, not only to be good citizens, but to be real missionaries all over the world for the Lord Jesus, to proclaim the glorious Gospel of our dying and risen Saviour, and that they, in turn, shall be the means of winning many for the Lord. In reviewing our work for twenty-three years it gives us great joy to see in how many ways the Lord has helped us over so many difficulties. We never thought in the early days of the work to have a meeting like this. I could go on telling you many ways in which the Lord

has answered prayers, but we do thank all you dear friends who have helped to bear the burden, for you have, indeed you are fellow-workers in supplying the material in so many different ways for us to do the work. The kind friends who sew, and those of you who send clothes and money, we do thank you from the depths of our heart, and when you look at the children you must feel you have some return for what you have given. God bless you. My mind has been on a text from Matthew, where Jesus called a little child unto Him and set him in the midst of them and said, "Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven."

Rev. J. HOLYOAK, B.A.

Rev. J. Holyoak, B.A., said: It seems an intrusion to speak when there is such wonderful music to listen to, and I am sure that nothing that I can say can be half the inspiration that such songs as Miss Lett sung can be to you. I have been trying just lately in many ways to think out how more and more we Christian people could make our mode of life square with our Lord's teaching on the Mount. Christian folk will have to make their living square with that teaching more than they have done in days gone by. The ordinary man says at once that this is an impossibility. Jesus lived in a different age to this. Well, you have only got to read one of the Gospels—take St. Luke. Read St. Luke. You will find there were men who had so much of this world's goods—obviously there were very wealthy people in our Lord's day, and obviously there were very poor people, like Lazarus. And there were obviously people who were doing themselves very well in business, because you remember our Lord spoke in one of the Parables of the man who had £10 given him to trade with and he made £10 more. And the more one reads the Gospels and thinks about them one is drawn to the conclusion that the days when our Lord was on earth were not so vastly different to the days we are living in now. I have been thinking of what I thought was a difficult text: "Give to everyone that asketh thee." And Mr. White, you are one of the people who don't ask, so that you would get nothing. However, I don't think it is so difficult as it appears to be. First of all, one of the things I have been thinking of in that connection was this: I was thinking the text out in terms of £ s. d. And why should you think a text out in terms of pounds, shillings and pence, and you say, dear me, if I gave to everyone that asks me I would be bankrupt within a week, and so you would if you did it in the terms of pounds, shillings and pence. The people who really ask most of all are not the people who utter their request by word of lips. I don't think any speaker who may speak to you will make a stronger appeal to you will ask you more than will the faces of the children, and yet they are not asking in ordinary terms, they are not saying anything to you; but there is an instance where there is an asking going on all the time, and if you will go through the world with your eyes open you will see that the whole world, whether you are a poor or a rich person, the whole world is asking you for something you have got and which you can give away to other people. You may be miserably poor of this world's goods, so poor that not a beggar in the street

would think of asking from you, yet you have got something, and a good deal, too, that other people are continually asking you for. There is one thing the whole world is asking for more than anything to-day—Love and good-fellowship. There are so many hearts who are poor of fellowship. There are so many hearts that are scanty of love that they need. There is that insistent cry, and the word of Jesus comes quietly into one's ears and says, "Give, give to everyone that asketh." And everyone who is trying to give of their best, everybody would bear witness to the fact that they always get back double what they give. You look at Mr. White. He is continually giving, and yet getting so much back in return. That is the sort of thing that will come to all of us if we do what our Lord bade us, to "Give to everyone that asketh." Generous in your prayers, generous in your love, generous in your fellowship and your sympathy. That is the religion of God likeness. We sometimes call it Godliness. The only way we can achieve God likeness is to strive to be what God would have us to be. Jesus was God likeness in perfection. There is one word which got out of the Gospel story. The Acts of the Apostles (with all its history) pushed it in. There is recorded there for us an otherwise lost word of Jesus, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." I hope that one result of this meeting will be that all of you who are interested, and those of you who haven't been, will in every way that lies in your power, by self-sacrifice, by acts of love, by acts of fellowship, do as Jesus bids you do, "Give to everyone who asketh."

Rev. E. W. GIBBONS OF ABBEY ROAD

Rev. E. W. Gibbons said: I think this meeting is a great tonic. They tell me sometimes that Christianity is played out. Well, we have heard this afternoon that when Christianity has a chance given to it, it plays itself in most miraculously and marvellously. I go back to the early Book of Genesis—"Abraham went out not knowing whither he went." In obedience to God's commands, twenty-three years ago our friends went out not knowing whither they went, and as Abraham's obedience brought blessing and prosperity, so our friends' obedience to the bidding of God has brought prosperity and joy to many homes and lives. Some of you could do with a tonic. You look as if you were sitting in the dentist's chair. Why, love gives. Love is a great and noble giver, because there are hearts that need you, because there are tears to wipe away, because there are the wounded to give medicine and joy and help to. Men and women, we are here this afternoon, not simply that we may say God-speed and God be with you, not simply to pray that these dear boys and girls may grow up to serve, but that we may get up out of our armchairs and go out to do battle for Him. There are far too many armchair Christians to-day. Why don't you come in and lend a hand? Why don't you do your bit to make the world purer and sweeter and better than what it is? There are more gifts than merely money. The world is wanting the gift of love, and the gift of sympathy, and the gift of true brotherhood, and the gift of sisterhood. We little know what a smile may do. "Oh, the good we all can do while the days are going

by." There is a remarkable word in the Gospels which says "As ye go preach." One hundred and twelve pounds of fish comes to this Home every week, and the man who sends that fish is as literally preaching the Gospel as the previous speaker and myself are when we stand in our respective pulpits. We need more of the Gospel in action, not so much of the Gospel in slumber. You just go down in your pocket. If there is only the widow's mite, God will accept it, but if you can afford ten shillings and only put one shilling in, you owe God nine shillings. Remember the Gospel in action. "As ye go, preach," and when you go out of that door, will you remember that He who sat over against the Treasury will be there, and if He, the Man with the five wounds, with all His ascended and exalted glory, stood there, and you could see Him—He will be there; but if you could see Him, and He held the plate with that pierced Hand with the nail print right in the centre, and He said, "I suffered all for thee, what wilt thou give Me?" I wonder would your answer be—would you say with Frances Ridby Havergal,

"Take my all, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store,
Take myself, and I will be
Ever only, all for Thee."

Shall we be conscious then this afternoon that in this church, vibrant with the spirits of just men and women made perfect, there stands Him whom we all love, whom dear Mrs. Barclay served with such devotion and such consecration. The centre of her life, the centre of her message, the central theme in her books, whether spoken or not was, "That in all things Christ may be magnified." We are here this afternoon to magnify Christ. I wish we would show our love to one another a little more. I don't think we ought to wait until people are dead before we put roses on them. I believe in putting the roses now. God bless you, Brother White. We honour you and we admire you, and we are not going to wait until your dead body is carried into some church. We are going to let you see that we honour your Master, and in honouring the Master we honour His servant. If the young man thinks—as he ought to think—that the girl he has just won is worth the very best that he can give, how much ought the Lover of our souls to receive at our hands? He has given us Himself, and as our soloist rang out this afternoon it thrilled my very soul, "The King of love my shepherd is." I don't wonder that the little girl when asked to read Psalm xxiii., 1. made a mistake when she said, "The Lord is my Shepherd; He's all I want." And if we have got Him, and if you have got Him, Brother White, He will never fail—His power and grace are such—none can ever ask too much.

ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. HERBERT WHITE

Mr. Herbert White, in giving the 23rd Annual Report, said: I suppose my first duty, dear friends, is to thank those who have come to assist us to-day. It is a great pleasure for me to stand here year by year and to thank

the chairman and speakers for coming to help us, also our friend Miss Phylis Lett for so kindly offering to come and sing at these meetings. We take this to be an answer to prayer. Since our dear friend, Mrs. Barclay, was called Home Miss Lett offered her services for the Annual Gatherings, and when we hear of Miss Lett singing all over the country we pray that God may bless that singing to multitudes of people.

Mr. Victor Levett is unable to be with us to-day, and we shall miss him greatly. The Rev. John Wilmot sends greetings and says he is sorry he will not be able to be present. We are not only thinking of those who are here and those who might be here, but we are also thinking of many who could not be here. First of all we want to mention Mrs. Florence Barclay, who gave us, I think, the final address for sixteen years. It is nice for us to remember our dear friend, who is now having the desire of her heart in being with Christ, which is far better. Then there is Auntie, and if they can think in Heaven and look down I am sure Auntie is doing that to-day. Mrs. J. R. Cox, Alderman Luther Jupp, Mr. Bench, and Mr. Dunlop, of Leytonstone, have all been called to higher service during the past year.

Now I take it that these annual gatherings are not merely to interest people, but the main object of the work and to-day's gatherings are for the purpose that we may think of Him, the Lord Jesus Christ, and praise Him for what He has done. We are not here to applaud each other. It is God's work we are doing, and we know that if He withdrew His help it would soon crumble to pieces. We desire to thank Him in the presence of this large audience for every answer to prayer, for every gulf that has been bridge, and for every tunnel that has been passed. As we look back over the past we are more than ever convinced that God is running the work, and it is to Him we are looking to provide for it in the future.

In Dueteronomy xxxii. we read, "Because I will publish the Name of the Lord ascribe ye greatness unto our God, He is the Rock, His work is perfect," and I think the first note of our meeting, the whole note of our meeting must be that. We are here to praise Him for what He has done for each one of us, for all of us here would be of very little use were He to withdraw His power from us. He is in the midst of our gathering here as a people. We

know that His work, His life, His death, His resurrection, His Ascension, His coming again is a completed work, and He will bring it to a wonderful consummation, we feel sure, when He comes again to receive those whom He has redeemed. We do indeed give Him grateful and hearty thanks for permitting us in any small way to have any part in any work which shall be for His glory and for the extension of His Kingdom. During the past year we have received ten new children and fifteen have left us, making a total of sixty-seven. Making also a grand total altogether of 310 children who have passed through the Home. It has been sometimes said, "Is it worth it?" and our answer is to look at the children. Then our great desire is to lead these girls and boys to love the Lord Jesus Christ, and I am thankful to report that during the year there has been a great sign of spiritual blessing in many of those still with us and letters have been received from old girls and boys proving this. One writes, "Sorry neither my wife nor I can be with you at this Annual. It is a great disappointment to us both. I sincerely hope it will be a time of great blessing and inspiration to you and all the workers, as I realise more than most how greatly you need all the grace and encouragement possible to carry on such a work year in and year out without any apparent reward for all your great efforts and sacrifice, but as an old boy, whom you cared for for eight years, I know that your influence and the influence and associations of the Home is something real, which lives and works in the lives of all the boys and girls who have been with you. It starts us in life with an outlook and faith in spiritual things and human nature and kindness that few of us would have had had we not been under your care. I well remember the terrible mental shock I experienced when I first left you to work in London, the blasphemy, the fearful language and lack of spiritual outlook, and the mode of life led by the majority of the lads and men I met. I sought guidance in reading books from all the public libraries on religion, both for and against, but the more I read the more my faith was anchored to the Home and the Gospel of Christ as taught me there. Now I never fail to mention the Home as an existing fact and instance of rewarded faith in Christ and prayer, whenever the subject of Christianity and prayer are mentioned in my presence. May

you all be spared to see another twenty-three annual meetings, and God grant that you may soon see your hope of extended premises and greater scope for your life's work fully realised. With you in the faith,—One of your old boys." Another writes: "Am looking forward to being with you on our great day. It will be a great treat. God abundantly bless and help you. We always think of you all in our prayers. It does not seem fifteen years ago since I first left the Home to earn my own living, and now I have a nice little home of my own, a good Christian husband and two little ones whom we want, with God's help, to train to be followers of Him who their mother learnt to love and when she was a girl of twelve in that dear old home at Woodford. . . . I am sure I shall never forget all you did for me. I wish I had plenty of money so that I could send some to the dear Home to help care for little ones who have no one to love and shelter them and teach them the love of Jesus."

Another writes: "I am disappointed at not being able to be with you at your Annual Gatherings this year, but things have been difficult and it has been a hard struggle to keep things going, but by faith and looking to Him we shall win through. Sorry I cannot enclose a little to help, although I feel it a duty, but I hope the time will come when things will be much better. I trust this Annual will break all records both financially and spiritually so that you can face 'another mile' in the good work for our Lord and Master."

We again entered for the Annual Scripture Examination for the district. Fifty sat, eight passed with first class certificates, thirty-three second class, and nine failed.

During the past year there have been many kind gifts sent us apart from finance—I have not time to talk about each item—but you will find the list in our "Links." Our financial statement shows that we have received during the year in cash £1,251, including a balance of £62 brought from the previous year. Our expenses have been £1,193, carrying forward £58. With regard to the Forward Movement, we should like you to join us in prayer that God will allow the clouds to clear so that we soon might be able to have our dining and drill hall. We have got about £120 towards this, £100 of which was given either for this or any other purpose to be used at our discretion, so that the balance of £58 shown above is really an

adverse balance of £62, as we had to make inroads into the gift of £100 towards this last year's current expenses.

Several friends have promised small donations towards this object as soon as the building commences, which we trust will be before the end of the year, as several cases are waiting to come in. "Pray ye therefore."

Dr. F. A. MARTIN FLEGG

Dr. F. A. Martin Flegg said: I must first of all thank Mr. White for his too kind remarks about me. Then as to the health of the children, certainly I have got a good report to give you. There has been very little illness. A few cases of influenza during the year, and we had the usual children's ailments, but no serious disease and no infectious disease at all. Some of these children have to rough it before they come to the Home, and one might have thought there would be a lot of serious illness, but it isn't so. So you see, so far as the health goes, and in every other way, God has richly blest this Home and all this good work in and for it.

Mr. A. M. MATHEWS, E.C.C.

Mr. A. M. Mathews, E.C.C., who occupied the chair at the evening meeting, said that as he stood there a flood of memories came over him. His dear father, who had now gone to glory, was one of those who helped to build that church. He thought of the times they spent in the Sunday School at the back when he and Mr. White were boys together, and he thanked God for the memory of those days. He rejoiced to be there that night to render what little service he could to this great cause which was being carried on in the name of God. This Home had been to him and many others an inspiration, a source of continual wonder and of faith. He had told the story of that Home again and again. He told it only the other day, and he would tell them the circumstances under which he told it. A man he knew came to his house and they were chatting together at the close of a meal. This man was a great smoker and always had his pipe in his mouth. I said to him, "You cannot give up that pipe." He said, "I think I can." I said, "Will you give it up for a month for £5 to be given to some charity?" and he said he would. On the previous Tuesday he and his friend met in London. The month being up, and his friend had kept the promise and said, "You are giving the money, so name the charity." And to-night I have the pleasure of handing that cheque for £5, together with a note from another friend who cannot be here, to my old friend, Mr. White. The Home stood out truly as a lighthouse. He had told the story of that Home to men who were unbelievers and scoffers, and they would hardly credit that it was true. He was speaking to a bank manager the other day, and he said, "I see you are taking the chair at the Annual Meeting of Herbert White's Home on Friday." We worked together in a bank in days gone by, and we used to call him Young Dr. Barnardo. (Laughter.) I remember one story of those days. White came in one day and said the Lord had sent him a pair of trousers. He said, "I suppose they came

by rail." Mr. White said, "I think so, because they have got stripes down them." (Laughter.) Little incidents like that were not forgotten. They sank into the hearts of men and were recalled probably on many occasions, and who knew what power for good these incidents were in the lives of men? There was one thing more he would like to say, and he thought he could say it better by telling them an old story. Some of them might have heard it before, but perhaps they would like to be reminded of it that evening. The scene of the story was in Wales. There was a rock there, and in the rock, carved by the hand of God, was a man's face. The children had asked their parents and teachers, "What face is that carved in the rock?" They were told that the legend was this: One day a man would come to that village whose face would be like that portrait in the rock, and he would do that village good. There was one boy who thought about this a great deal, and he used to ponder over that story and go and sit on the mountain side and look at that face and wonder and marvel. One day a boy who left that old village came back. He had become a great man—a great general—and this boy waited to see him come to the village, wondering whether the face of the general was the face of the man in the rock. Eagerly he waited, but when the man came his face was entirely different from that in the rock—it was a cruel face. The lad went away disappointed. Years passed by and the lad was growing up, in the meantime taking his place in the Sunday School and teaching in the class and doing what he could. Presently a great politician came to the village. He, too, had lived there as a boy, and eagerly did the lad come to see the politician and hear him speak. But the politician's face was not the face that was carved in the rock. Time rolled on. One day it was rumoured that a big house was to be built there, and a boy of the village was to come back and live there. The lad was now a man of older years, and he wondered whether this was to be the man who was to come and do the village good. He sought him out, but the face of this man was not the face of the man in the rock—it was a hard face. One summer's night this lad—now a man—was out there preaching to the people, telling them of the story of the love of Christ, and then turning round he pointed to the face of the man carved in the rock and repeated the old legend, and as he told them of the love of Christ and pointed to the face in the rock, the people with one accord said, "Look, look, his face is the face of the man carved in the rock!" Need he say more? The application was before them. Their brother, by the grace of God, was leading the way. Were they prepared to follow?

Mr. JAMES AYLOTT

Mr. James Aylott, who described himself as a very old friend of the Home, gave a very happy address based on the following words from Paul's Epistle to the Thessalonians: "We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, remembering without ceasing your work of faith and labour of love and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." Mr. Aylott drew a distinction between labour and work. A farmer who got up early and drove round to the different parts of his farm to see how things were going worked, but the man who toiled from early

morning till late at night ploughing or hoeing laboured. He was sure that to the dear friends connected with that Home their work was a labour of love, and one day they would hear the Master's "Well done." He was sure God would magnify His name and would honour the faith of all who put their trust in Him.

Rev. BEN WILLIAMS, A.T.S.

Rev. Ben Williams, A.T.S., said he presumed there were some outstanding days in the life of every one of us—some day that had left an indelible impression on our memory. He had been thinking of one such day since he was asked to speak at the anniversary in connection with those Homes. He remembered on one occasion when he was a lad a day that stood out very prominently. There was an excursion from the valley in which he was brought up in South Wales to Bristol, and his only friend on that occasion was his dear father. They took a boat across the Channel and sailed up the river. How thrilling and exciting it all was! How they admired the great suspension bridge at Clifton! When they reached the landing stage his father's first enquiry was for Ashley Downs, because in his estimation the first and foremost place to be visited was the Downs, where stood the greatest monument that had been erected in the City of the West. Here was an abiding monument to the faithfulness and goodness of God, a God who answered prayer, and so his father, a believer in prayer, went to Muller's Homes. They felt as they drew near like bearing their heads. It left an indelible impression on his mind. When he came to this district he heard of these Homes, and here he was rejoicing with them in their twenty-third anniversary. People who were looking after little children were the greatest asset of any nation, and truly those who were looking after the homeless and destitute children who had no one to love them and care for them, what greater or grander work could there be than this? A certain public man, speaking at a meeting in connection with a reformatory institution, said that if only one boy from that institution were rescued, then all the labour and money expended would not have been in vain. Someone asked if he did think that was rather a strong statement to make, and the man replied, "Not if it had been my boy." He wanted to say to Mr. White and those who were working with him, "God speed to you and your work." This was his first visit there, and it was an inspiration to come, and those of them who came to speak would receive more benefit than they would give. And what should he say of Miss Lett's singing? He didn't think he had heard any singer who had put her soul into her song as she did. Proceeding, Mr. Williams spoke of the great sacrifice the workers for the Homes were putting forth, and asked whether others were doing their part. They were not all called to do this kind of work. There was a work for everyone to do, and we should do our best in the world to-day. One thing that troubled him was this: that the sacrificial element was lacking in our religion to-day. And because that element was lacking we had not that joy we should have. All blessing had come to us through the great sacrifice on the part of Christ, and yet we failed to realise the necessity of sacrifice in our Christian life. The great danger to-day was in having a soft, easy religion without any sacrifice in it, a re-

ligion without a cross. There was a group of Socialist Sunday schools, and in their hymn book they had that glorious hymn of George Mathieson, "O love that will not let me go," but they had left out the last verse. They sang of light, love and joy, but of the Cross they said nothing, and they wanted to have nothing to do with it. And that was a fatal mistake. He felt that what was essential to-day in their Christian living and in their Christian serving was more of the Cross, and when they put that into it, depend upon it they would have greater blessing. That was the teaching of the whole of the Bible. God told the people to bring tithes into the storehouse and that they would have great blessing. When there was sacrificial giving then the blessing came to the church; and so it was in the individual life. They had heard the story of Thomas Carlyle who put into a box all his spare pennies. One day a beggar came into the school, and the boy ran and fetched all the money he had got in the box and gave it to him. He wrote afterwards, "I never knew until then what the joy of heaven was like." In our praying we needed the sacrificial element. The great thing that impressed him was Luke's description of our Lord's praying—"And being in an agony he prayed very earnestly." He was afraid our prayers were very mechanical because we were not urged on by a great necessity. If we became really conscious of our own needs and the needs of our fellow men and the world at large, that need would become our own need and would press us down with a great weight. When we became conscious of our own weakness and inability and realised God's great strength and resources, it was then we agonised in prayer. It was the agonising prayer, the prayer of the righteous man, that availed at the Throne of Grace. He hoped that what they had heard that evening would lead them all to greater consecration. "He that saveth his life shall lose it; and he that loseth his life for My sake shall save it." The humiliation of the Cross was the pathway to the crown.

Rev. E. W. GIBBONS

The Rev. E. W. Gibbons first of all referred to the origin of the Home and went on to show how in various little ways people could help on the work. He was in the habit of buying a new book each month, but in order to help the Home he would refrain from buying one this month and handed ten shillings to Mr. White. He would give them something worth more than several million pounds. It was this: "My God shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." He was sure God answered prayer, for he had proved it. How many of them could say "Amen" to that? He urged them to bring their tithes into the storehouse and to prove God when they had done their part. God's promises were conditional. They must first bring in their tithes and then God had promised to pour out such a blessing that "there shall not be room to contain it." He wanted to give them Paul's great word which he spoke on the deck of the sinking ship when he was on his way to Jerusalem: "I believe God." "When I find myself beset with great difficulties," said Mr. Gibbons, "I say, 'Nothing is impossible to God.'" He urged them to take as a tonic Isaiah xl. There were plenty of people who said that Christianity was out of date. Those young people they saw before them were the finest apologetics of

Christianity. Where was there an agnostic hospital or home for orphans? There was no such thing. These were Christian institutions. They gloried in the Cross; it was a great uplift for the world. "God gave His only Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life." When they trusted in God help would come from unexpected quarters, and again and again when they had come to "Wits' End Corner" they would find that God was there with hands outstretched to heal and save.

Those who trust Him wholly
Find Him wholly true.

I have known Him for many years, from my early days, and never once has God failed me; never once has he been behind His time in rendering help and sympathy. I have trod the *via Dolorosa*, but never once has God failed this weak and erring man, and he will never fail you. If you put your trust in Him you will find in Him an unfailing refuge. He is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. What God has done, God can do. I say for the encouragement of my friend and his able helpers here, God is able to do ex-

ceeding abundantly above all that we can either ask or think. His supply will only stop when our capacity to receive stops. It was only when all the pots of the widow and her neighbours were filled with oil that the oil stayed; the oil never stays while there is a receptacle to receive it, which means, according to your faith be it unto you. If we believed God wants Mr. White to have that extra hall, he could have it before this meeting closes, because if we believe a thing we say, "What can I do to help it?" This is a great hour, an hour for consecration, an hour for renewal. Have you all seen the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour? You young people, have you put your hand in His pierced hand? If not, will you do it to-night? What a grand thing it would be if this meeting meant souls won for Jesus! Apart from all money it would be a grand thing to feel that you and I had got a glimpse of God, and that we could say with Miss Havergal:

"In full and glad surrender,
I give myself to Thee,
Thine utterly and only
And evermore to be."

EXTRACTS FROM DIARY

NOVEMBER

1st.—Muswell Hill, two parcels of clothes. Walton-on-Thames, 10s., with "The Lord has laid it on our hearts to send a little to help to feed your big family. Trusting all is going well."

2nd.—Wanstead, 10s.

4th.—Wanstead, two parcels of clothes.

6th.—Brighton, sack of clothes.

7th.—Woodford, "I am enclosing 5s. as a little help from a Girls' Sunday School Class." Cheltenham, "I am enclosing 10s. for the Home, which would be my railway fare if I came to see you, as I cannot now come." Redhill, "I am sending you a parcel in a few days. Some oddments that I thought might be useful. Also a P.O. for 5s. I was pleased to hear Mr. White's address when at the Tabernacle here. It made me think of my mother, who was always interested in the Home. It also made me think of the time when mother was ill and used to sit at the bedroom window and listen to Mr. White speaking in the open air and the children sing 'Jesu, lover of my soul.'"

8th.—Members of the L.B.R. Sewing Meeting brought 14 shirts and provided their annual tea and pleasant evening for the workers and children, which was greatly appreciated. Loughton, £1 10s. 0d. handed to me at the close of a ten-days' mission. Brighton, "You may remember holding a few days' mission at Portslade a few years ago. Ever since that I have felt I should like to send a little help to your Home, but have not been able. However, now our dear Heavenly Father has made it possible, and with joy I ask you to accept the enclosed £5, praying that God may send showers of blessing on your valuable work among His little lambs."

11th.—Ealing, £1 1s. 0d.

13th.—Few sacks of potatoes, London.

15th.—Newick, £1.

16th.—London, two sacks of greens.

20th.—Leytonstone, 10s. 6d. Ealing, 5s. from an old girl. Stratford, £2 0s. 7d. handed to me as a result of a retiring collection at close of mission meetings, also 15s. from Mothers' Meeting.

21st.—Misterton, "The enclosed 10s. 6d. represents a prize I have won in the 'Sunday Circle' for November 18, and I have pleasure in sending the same to you with compliments and all good wishes."

22nd.—Leytonstone, two parcels of clothes.

24th.—Walthamstow, a large parcel of new useful garments, containing many articles we were in need of.

26th.—Shoebury, "I have been asked to forward the enclosed £3 from the children of our Sunday School. They were unanimous that this should be sent. We often think of you, and yet not only think but pray for you in your wonderful work."

27th.—Walthamstow, parcel of clothes. Woodford Green, £1 with "I gratefully enclose this as a small thankoffering for a great lift up by your word last Monday. I so greatly miss the fellowship of my beloved husband in daily united prayer, my life is very lonely in this respect, but God used you in your message to me, and prayer has been stimulated, and God in His tender compassion has wonderfully encouraged me by two most definite answers. I have remembered the mission and believe souls have been saved." Harrow Green, 10s.

DECEMBER

2nd.—Leytonstone, parcel of clothes. Hove, "I was very pleased in reading your last report to see how our Loving Father was prospering the work which He

has called you to undertake in His name. What numbers there are who gladly bear witness that it was through coming under your care that they came to know Jesus as their Saviour and the Friend who will never fail them or forsake them. What blessed opportunities you have of testifying to His love and faithfulness. What a constant, unfailling Friend He is. How sad it is in looking round to see so much utter neglect of God and also such numbers with the 'form,' but knowing nothing of the power. It is good to hear of such open doors amongst the heathen and how the knowledge of the salvation of God is being received by them. Our little bit is to be faithful in what we have and then we shall have the Master's 'Well done.' I have pleasure in sending £1 to help as most needed."

4th.—Winchester, £5. Westcliff, 10s. from an old girl.

5th.—Bayswater, "It is with great pleasure I enclose £8 as a gift from the L.B.R. How it would have pleased our dear Mrs. Barclay to know of this gift to the Homes, whose interest she had so much at heart. With kindest wishes for a truly happy Christmas for all." Wanstead, "My wife and I have pleasure in sending the enclosed £1. We should like it to be divided so that 15s. goes to the orphanage and 5s. to the Home Cot. It is some time since we have sent; now and again we come across your name as being at this or that service or series of meetings, and wish this department of the work for Him a true God-speed. May the Christmas and the coming year be happy and bright for all your large family of little ones on either side of the road." Stoke Newington, 6s.

6th.—Few sacks of potatoes, London.

7th.—Woodford, large basket of cakes. Chingford, 10s.

8th.—Gidea Park, £1, with "How is the work progressing, and are you all keeping well? The days are dark and full of import, and we know they will wax worse and worse till the end, which we feel is not far off. Our faith may be sorely tried and tested, but we shall be more than conquerors through Him who loved us. His word to us in these days of apostacy and declension is 'Hold fast till I come.' May you all be enabled by His grace to do so."

9th.—£1 2s. 6d. left by a Sunday School Class from Canning Town. Woodford, £3 13s. 6d., being result of collection taken at Men's Meeting.

11th.—Leytonstone, large parcel of toys.

12th.—Snaresbrook, £5. Seven Kings, "At our Sewing Meeting this afternoon it was decided to send a Christmas donation of £5 to the Home. We send this with all our prayers and best wishes that this Christmas will be a very happy one indeed for the Home. I am sending a parcel of garments off this week, too, which we hope you will receive in due course." Lordship Park, 5s. Leytonstone, "I have very much pleasure in sending you herewith as a contribution to your Homes a cheque for £3 15s. 0d. made up as follows: £2 10s. 0d. from the funds of the above Mission and £1 5s. 0d. contributed by individual friends as a thankoffering for the services conducted at the Hall last month. You know I think that we are quite unable to express adequately our appreciation of your earnest and whole-hearted service in our midst, offered in the name of our Lord, but we want that this con-

tribution to your work shall express in some small measure our gratitude for your services and our interest in your work among the children. We pray that God may bless and use you mightily in the coming days, both in connection with the Homes and your evangelistic work."

13th.—Lansdowne Sewing Circle, Seven Kings, 33 knitted vests, nine shirts, nine dresses, four pillow cases, one pinafore, and one parcel collars.

14th.—Buckhurst Hill, B.W., £1 5s. 0d. Boro' Market, 1 guinea. Chingford, £1. Sidcup, with "Miss J. has asked me to remit enclosed note 10s. and also to tell you that she is sending a small consignment for your Christmas festivities in the way of a few goods for your children." Forest Gate, "I enclose 3s., being my farthing collection for the present year towards your Home. Hoping you will accept this small amount."

15th.—Seven Kings Sewing Meeting, two child's coats, one dark dress, two ties, five print dresses with knickers, 23 pinafors, 13 chemises, 13 pairs bloomers, and parcel of S.H. garments.

16th.—Leytonstone, one large doll's house with furniture and books. Doncaster, £7 10s. 0d., with "Christmas is near again, so we think of you and all your dear charges and all the expense in connection with your work. Enclosed you will please find a little token of love from each of us with all good wishes for both Christmas and your labour of love. May God bless you all."

16th.—Forest Gate, £1. Chelmsford, £1. Leytonstone, 7 lbs. and two bags of flour, 3 lbs. tea, 2 lbs. jam, 7 lbs. currants, 6 lbs. raisins, 6 lbs. sugar, 1 lb. peel, ½ lb. almonds, 3 lbs. apples, 6 doz. bars milk chocolate, 6 doz. bars fruit tablets, 8 lbs. fruit drops, 10 lbs. sultanas, 3 lbs. soap, one tin biscuits, two pkts. oats, 3 lbs. rice, 1 lb. cornflour, 1½ lbs. cocoa, 2 lbs. golden syrup, one tin Nestle's milk and cash £1 11s. 6d. The above is the result of a Pound Day which our friend has organised for many years to help us for Christmas.

18th.—London, £10, "With all best wishes for the Home. I enclose my Christmas offering to it and much hope great prosperity may be its future in the coming year." Ilford, "I am enclosing 30s. for your good work. I have been thinking about you lately, and I want you please to excuse me when I say that I have wondered how your personal needs are met, whether from a common or a special fund; if the latter, I should like to be allowed (like the ravens) to bring the Lord's Elijah some little token of His kindness. I therefore put this amount at your disposal as you may think best either for the children's fund entirely or divide it in half for yourself. I hope you will pardon the liberty I have taken and accept this little amount with the best of wishes." Wanstead, 5s. Muswell Hill, seven knitted jerseys with "The Lord before whom I walk will send His angel with thee and prosper thy way." Redhill Ladies' Dorcas Society, one frock, two night-dresses, four chemises, 14 pairs knickers, four petticoats, two shirts, one apron, two pinafors, two singlets, two coats, one pair sleeping socks, one belt, piece material.

19th.—A Woodford Sunday School, toys, Christmas pudding, jam, flour, butter, etc. A neighbouring