

1899

76

LINKS

SPRING 1956

CHILDREN'S
HOME AND
MISSION

1956

"OUR DAY"

56th Annual Gatherings

Saturday, 9th June

at 3 and 6.30 p.m.

to be held in

South Woodford Baptist Church,
George Lane, E.18

3.00 p.m.

Chairman : Pastor H. G. GODDARD
(Trustee of C.H. & M.)

Speaker : Revd. ERNEST F. KEVAN, M.Th.
(Principal of the London Bible College)

TEA AT 5.00 P.M.

6.30 p.m.

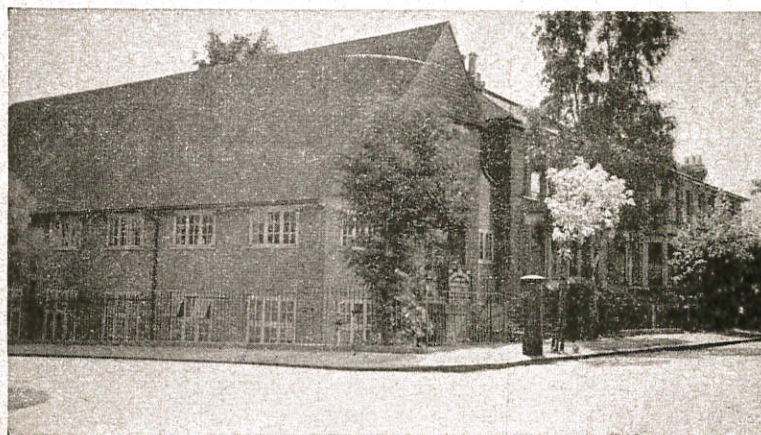
Chairman : Revd. R. C. DALTON
(Chiswick Baptist Church)

Speaker : Mr. R. W. RAVEN, O.B.E., T.D., F.R.C.S.
(Trustee of C.H. & M.)

**Reports of the year's work—special items by the Family
at both Gatherings**

A day of THANKSGIVING—let us PRAISE Him together!

The Children's Home Links



WOODFORD

"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned, and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned **them**;

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

2 Timothy 3, vv. 14 and 15.

THE CHILDREN'S

FOUNDED

Headquarters :

8-26 Crescent Road,
South Woodford, E.18
Phone : BUCKhurst 2702

HONORARY STAFF :

Mrs. EDITH H. WHITE

Mr. VICTOR J. WHITE, Director and Superintendent

Mrs. V. J. WHITE

Mrs. O. J. GILBERT

Miss P. LONG

Mr. and Mrs. D. OLNEY

Mrs. E. WEBB

Miss AUDREY MUMFORD

Miss BERYL PARKES

Miss BARBARA REVELL

} Junior

Medical Officers :

Dr. DAVID SMITH, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

Dr. CAREY BAKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dental Surgeon :

Mr. STEPHEN SMITH, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Consulting Optician :

Mr. HENRY W. HOLE, F.B.O.A.

Banker :

Midland Bank Ltd.

HOME AND MISSION

1899

The Abridge Evangelical Free Church,
London Road, Abridge,
Nr. Romford, Essex.

TRUSTEES :

A. E. Evans, Esq.

Pastor H. G. Goddard.

D. J. Hutton, Esq.

Miss E. K. Marsh.

Rev. K. C. Parkinson, M.A.

F. J. Pollard, Esq.

Mrs. E. C. L. Roberts.

Dr. David Smith, M.R.C.P.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

J. R. Stark, Esq.

James Stokes, Esq.

Pastor W. A. Warwick.

Mrs. Edith White.

Victor J. White, Esq.

Mr. R. W. Raven, O.B.E., T.D., F.R.C.S.

VOLUNTARY WORKING PARTIES :

Alexander Hall, Westcliff.

Ashley Hall, St. Albans.

Bedfont Tabernacle.

Bishopstoke E. F. C.

Cranford Baptist

Elmsleigh Gospel Hall, Leigh.

Old Independent Church, Haverhill.

Shoeburyness Gospel Hall.

Westminster Chapel

SHOEBURYNESS SHOE FUND :

Secretary : Miss B. Terry, 94, High Street, Shoeburyness.

BOX SECRETARY :

Mr. W. Parker, 143, Honey Lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

AUDITORS :

Messrs. White, Salomon & Co.

EDITORIAL

APRIL, 1956.

Dear Friends,

Remember!

This is a thought which comes to us from the 24th Chapter of St. Luke. How necessary it is indeed to **remember**, for so easily do we forget—of most of us it may truly be said, that we have good 'forgettories.' 'Remember how He spake unto you when He was yet in Galilee' said the angel, to the perplexed and puzzled women-folk who visited the tomb.

Making their way to the Sepulchre, they were very worried about the stone which was rolled in front of it—'Who can roll this away? It's too big and difficult for us—whatever shall we do?' Isn't this rather a picture of the Christian Church today—whatever can we do to awaken the folk to their need of Jesus Christ, to the realisation that they are sinners in need of Salvation—that Christ came to seek and to save that which was lost? There is so much internationally, nationally and locally to upset and disappoint, that we even become frustrated in the work that we are doing for Him. Our thoughts, centred upon the problems, become clouded and we **FORGET GOD!**

When they arrived at the tomb, the stone was rolled away! To them, of course, the stone was a real problem—how could they possibly do anything about this massive obstacle? In their minds the stone was there, but in reality, God had gone before and removed it. This part of the greatest story of all time has always caught my imagination. Often with the pressing changing problems of life one almost forgets God; not intentionally, often unwittingly, but we do! We find ourselves endeavouring to battle alone, whereas the great secret of victory is in HIM. There was no problem in the mind of God concerning the stone!

A second thought from this absorbing story—the solved problem—brought about an even greater anxiety—the empty Tomb! They came expecting to find the body of Jesus, their loved one and true friend . . . He was not there. New perplexities and fears, new doubts. However, it was whilst in this frame of mind that they were confronted by the angels with a very forthright question—'Why seek ye here the living amongst the dead? **Remember?**—He is not here, He is risen!—**and then they remembered.** So much worry and concern had been theirs because they forgot what He, Jesus, had said to them.

May I now emphasise this great fact—**God is still on the Throne!** The message, the complete message of Easter, is the only message for this hour of need! We are weak and helpless. He is strong and able. He being alive can make us live, if only we will allow Him a lodging place in our hearts and lives and homes.

Firstly, to any who are as yet outside the Family of God, often frustrated, in need of the ever increasing 'boosting' which seems

to be the theme of this present modern world civilisation, to you comes this great message—**Remember!** Jesus said that He would rise from the dead—He did—He conquered sin, Satan and Self and to you He longs to give real victory over those things which challenged Him. He promises New Life—He is able to keep you in the hour of temptation—He guides along the pathway of life from day to day.

Secondly, to many who, although acknowledging Christ as Saviour, allow the burdens of life to crush and overpower you. Who can roll away the stone? To you also comes afresh the wonderful message—He is **RISEN**. Alive, at hand to help, if only you will stop trying and **TRUST**.

You see, both the problems which confronted the womenfolk of this story were really unfounded—God had all things well in hand.

Glancing back over the past six months, we here do realise too, that quite often we have found ourselves contemplating, what shall we do? So often the 'stone' has been rolled away and the full realisation of His Presence has burst upon us with fresh force. At all times we have again proved His graciousness, love and patience. As we have drawn near to Him in Prayer and Bible Study, we have been thrilled to grasp anew the 'up-to-dateness' of the Gospel story. Truly, 'Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and for ever.' No change here—no new whim or fancy—no modern theory to confound the past—as in 1899, so now.

Some little while back one of our old lads, now with wife and children, visited the Family. We went for a 'tour round' at his request, and it wasn't long before he challenged in this way. 'Now I know that when Pop was here years ago, he used to ask God for everything—but of course you wouldn't do that now—it wouldn't work, would it? I suppose the Government see to it all!' This is the idea that folk today have—a God of the past—miracles, answers to prayer, things of bygone days. What a joy it was to tell this man of His love and power **now**—to relate numerous answers to prayer, to point out that He still did meet all needs, as we turned to Him alone for everything. Do **you** really believe this?

You see, we have to **REMEMBER** that not only did Jesus die upon the Cross, not only did He break through the tomb, but He ascended into Heaven and is now seated at the right hand of the Father interceding for us. Still, this is not the completion of the Great Story, the story which began at Creation. Whilst Christ is in Heaven with the Father, The Holy Spirit, the Third Person of Trinity, came down on that first Whitsuntide to make possible to us, for us and through us, all that Christ had accomplished in His Life, Death and Resurrection.

We, who love Him, worship a **LIVING LORD**, one who is able to help, guide and provide from day to day. Death and Hell have been conquered by Him and as we trust Him fully, then the Holy Spirit can and does give that dynamic which enables us to live the Life which is honouring to Christ, no matter what the Problems ('stones') we may find in the way.

What a great comfort it has been to us here in this Family to REMEMBER, He is RISEN, He is ALIVE, He is HERE! May the full richness of this great theme burn its way into all of our hearts, lift us out of the doldrums of our Christian experience and give us that true sense of alertness and responsibility to God and for our fellow men! All around us are those far, far away from the Kingdom and Family of God—there is a great deal for us all to do. If we ourselves are so cluttered up with the difficulties, that we fret and strain continually, we shall be in no fit state to enter into the problems of those around us. God grant us the indwelling of His Holy Spirit that in all things we may be like Him, seek to please Him, thus as He did, be ready always to help in the hour of need.

In a few weeks from now I am hoping to meet many of you as we join together on the occasion of our 56th Annual Gatherings. This time we set especially aside to REMEMBER His great goodness to us here as a Family—for all the way He has led us—for the bountiful daily provision—for answered prayers—yes, for life itself with the many lovely experiences which are ours. May this next, 'Our Day,' be one which shall live in all our hearts for years to come.

Thank you ever so much for your PRAYERS, your GIFTS, your **encouraging letters**—for the many **happy meetings** many of us from the Family here have shared with you. Truly this is His Work and we are workers together with Him.

Mother, my Wife, Staff and Children too, all wish you joy as you REMEMBER Him from day to day.

Sincerely yours,

VICTOR J. WHITE.



Singing Interlude



A charming recent photo of Mary who left our family in 1944. She has kept in touch with us and we look forward to her visits.

EXTRACTS FROM OUR DIARY—October 1955 to March 1956

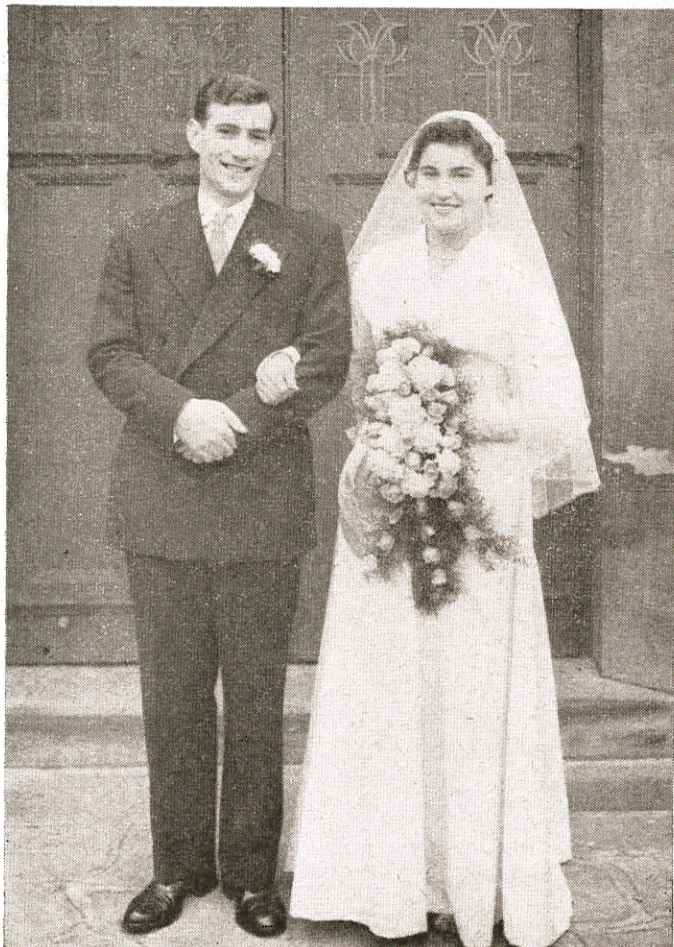
October

- 3rd Bethesda S.S., Singapore, 7. 'I am enclosing a gift of £6 from the boys and girls of our Sunday School. We are grateful for this another opportunity of fellowship and we pray that the gift may be of some use to you.'
- Muswell Hill, 15s.; Ebenezer Baptist Church, Ilford, £4 6s. 8d.; Fladbury Road S.S., £2 10s. 0d.
- Our traditional visit to the Kentish Town Mission Harvest Service. Children scurried home from school, washed and changed quickly and hurried into the coach which was waiting to take them. As usual they did justice to the well-prepared tea, and staff again wondered as to their capabilities afterwards of being able to sing! Once again a lovely time of fellowship and rejoicing in the goodness of our loving God. Harvest goods beautifully displayed—were brought home with us in the coach.
- 4th Highgate. 'My wife and I consider the question of the refrigerator should not draw on any longer. The Lord could not have meant you to have a second-hand machine! So we enclose cheque for £65 in order that there may be purchased for the Homes a new refrigerator.' (N.B.—This has now been installed.) Romford, 4 prs. socks (hand-knitted); Stockwell Baptist Church, £10; Fladbury Road Hall, £3; London Medical Mission, 7s. 7d.; Church Hill Road Hall, £1; Guildford Park Hall, £10. We as staff are making a special matter for prayer the spiritual growth of the children. So often they accept the Lord Jesus Christ and then the devil seems to creep in to try to spoil the witness. We decided to arrange that each morning one member of the staff should call any children who indicate their desire for a quiet 20 minutes before reveille. An electric fire would be popped on in the staff room and those desiring to have a quiet time could do so undisturbed.
- 5th There was a special 'follow-up' Crusade meeting at the local Baptist Church and a number of the Seniors attended.
- 6th Thursday evenings some of staff and Seniors go down in our vehicles to Abridge to take part in the Bible Study and Prayer Meeting. The younger ones at home have games in the hall with Mr. Crowhurst.
- 7th Woodford Green, parcels of chocolate biscuits.
- 8th Harrow, 6 prs. hand-knitted socks. Some of the boys went to support Woodford Town as they played their first cup match of the season. Chailey Undenominational Mission, £6 4s. 0d.
- 9th Mr. White conducted services at Forest Gate.
- 10th Anon., Forest Gate, £1; East Ham, £5. Special prayer

that if there are any children needing help they may be directed here, there being one or two empty beds at the present time. Mr. White conducted harvest service at a Notting Hill Gate Bible Study Meeting in a private home.

- 11th Hope Baptist Chapel, £2 2s. 0d.; Notting Hill Gate, £1 12s. 6d.; Anstey Union Chapel, £4 18s. 10d. Mr. Olney is very busy at this time of the year collecting harvests from churches which are unable to transport the goods to us. He arrived home in the van to-day minus the battery—at least, it had fallen through the engine, but in an ingenious way he had managed to put it on the car seat and made necessary connections! The Badminton Club this evening presented a wedding gift to Percy (one of our old lads) and Doris, who are the leaders of the club and who are getting married on Saturday.
- 12th Brook St. Chapel, Tottenham S.S., £3; Great Munden Chapel, £2 12s. 0d.; Lambourne Mission, 5s.; Brook Street, Anon., 5s. 6d. Dr. Mathie addressed our monthly Prayer Meeting this afternoon. He is always very reticent to come to talk to us—he says he feels we know more about prayer than he does! However, we persuaded him this time because he is shortly to leave for Scotland and he couldn't disappoint us on this last opportunity! He spoke on Psalm 90, vv. 16 and 17: 'Let thy work appear unto thy servants and thy glory unto their children and let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish THOU the work of our hands upon us: yea, the work of our hands establish THOU it.' A very helpful message.
- 13th From a well-wisher, parcel vests. Margaret and Karl arrived here from Stortfold in readiness to welcome Irene and Wendel home from South Africa. At Abridge there was a Fellowship Meeting when members enthusiastically discussed the affairs of the Church and willingly offered to undertake the various duties required in order to keep the inside and outside of the Church up to the standard we feel God requires. Mrs. White addressed the Young Mother's Fellowship at Grove Road Evangelical Free Church.
- 14th Irene and Wendel were expected this morning, but the weather forecast proclaimed thick fog in the Channel so there was considerable delay and many phone calls to the Union Castle Line to ascertain their expected time of arrival at Waterloo. Peggy here, too, to meet them. A friend showed the children some films this evening, so it was a late night for all. Special prayer concerning Mr. White's health, in light of Psalm 138—claiming His Promise.
- 15th Guildford, £5. Percy and Doris were married to-day at High Road Baptist Church, Ilford, and some of us went to witness the ceremony. We remember Percy as

- 15th a very tiny lad when he first joined our family: we remember when he joined the Paratroops; we remember when he returned home from Normandy only a few days after D Day. He was very badly wounded and Mr. Herbert White had many long journeys to his bedside when the chances of his life being spared were, humanly speaking, very slender. But in answer to prayer and because of a strong desire to live, Percy recovered and following a very happy courtship we rejoiced with him to-day.



Percy and Doris

Whilst having special prayers again today for the health of Mr. White, the text from Acts Chs. 10 v 31—"Thy prayer is heard," fell from Bible on to office desk.—Praise the Lord!

- 16th Mr. White conducted services at Redcliffe Baptist Church. Mrs. White, Sen., went with him and they were entertained for tea by one of our 'old' girls in her lovely home.
- 17th Ilford, 10s.; Leigh, £2 12s. 6d.; Westcliff, £3. Our optician began a routine check of the children wearing glasses. Three went to-day to see him straight from school.
- 18th One of our little lads rushed off to Wanstead Hospital for appendix operation.
- 19th East London Tabernacle Women's Meeting, £1 10s. 0d.; Woodford Bridge Townswomen's Guild, £1 12s. 6d. The Young People at Abridge commenced a Recreational Fellowship to be held every Wednesday and to provide an opportunity for games in a happy Christian atmosphere and as a means to encourage others to associate themselves in the activities of the Church. There was a Parents' Evening at the St. Barnabas Boys School. It is evident that shortage of teachers is causing great difficulty. It is not possible to give the children homework because the school staff haven't time to mark it. We are concerned because the classes are much too big—obviously not enough individual attention can be given—and they are deprived of doing the little extra at home.
- 20th Prize-giving at St. Barnabas Girls School. Dawn and Mary both received prizes. Four of our girls sang in the choir and two in a quartette.
- 21st Woodberry Down Women's Bible Class, £1.
- 23rd Sunday School Anniversary at Abridge. Mr. Ernest Plant was our speaker all day—he taught us some new choruses and gave us some very lively and heart-searching messages. He left us all wondering from whence he received his supply of unbounding energy!
- 24th Bridgenorth, £5. "... what a treasure are happy memories. I often think of the times of rich fellowship together, with others, I had with your father." Eastney Gospel Mission, £6 3s. 6d.; Hornchurch, £5.
- 25th Staff busy fitting the children with winter clothes. The co-operation of the working parties has meant that this year we have been able to fit most of the girls with school uniform. Green cardigans for those going to Oakdale Schools and brown for those going to St. Barnabas. The schools ask for our co-operation in getting the children into school uniform and we are endeavouring to do this where possible. Had an interview with a parent seeking our help for his son.

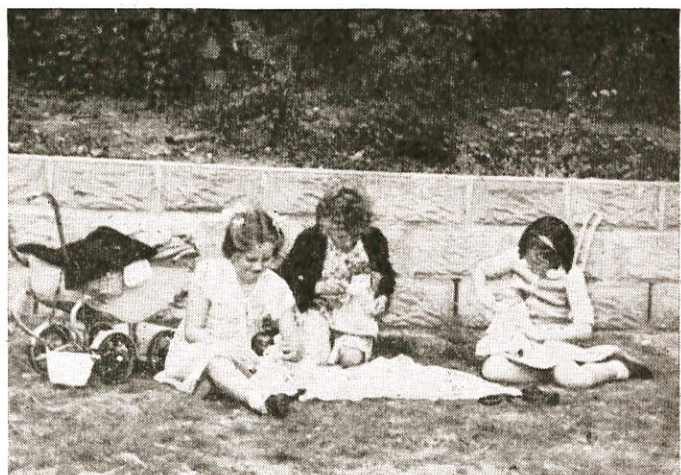
- 26th Manford Way S.S., £5; Barnet Brotherhood and Sisterhood, £5 5s. 0d.; Kentish Town Mission, £12.
- 27th Children commence half-term holiday.
- 28th Welcome Mission, Hanworth, 5s.
- 29th Janet, Bernard and their two little daughters came to spend the week-end. The Y.S.L. held their birthday meeting at Abridge. It was entirely conducted by the Young People and the speaker was Mrs. Gilders. The Young People are to be congratulated on their efforts during the year in Bible Study and in practical help for the missionaries and in the way they organised this meeting. It was a very great pity that it was not better supported by the adults—it was worthy of a much larger audience.
Chingford, Covenant gift of £3 3s. 0d.
- 30th Scripture Examination preparation commenced in earnest.

November

- 1st Norfolk—3 x 56lbs. bath soap, 3 x 50lbs. scrubbing soap. Someone who obviously knows our needs!
- 2nd Rainham, parcel second-hand clothes; 'E.L.', 4 prs. socks and berêt.
- 3rd Enfield, £2 10s. 0d.; East Dulwich, 10s.; the legacy of the late father of one of our 'old' boys, £44 4s. 2d. A social evening at Abridge—most enjoyable. A very foggy evening but we managed to travel safely.
- 4th Mr. Olney and the boys began to build the bonfire. Beckingham C.C., £1.
- 5th Some friends came to help us celebrate in the traditional way—the Guy was duly burned and many fireworks set off—we wished there weren't so many noisy ones, but the boys loved them. While the fire was still burning, we all sat round and ate our supper, sausage and sandwiches!
- 6th Remembrance Sunday. The Abridge Fellowship joined with the Church of England in a special morning service, after which appropriate tributes were placed on the War Memorial by relatives and representatives of the British Legion. We held our Remembrance Service at 6.30 p.m. One of the staff addressed a Sunday School at Hainault.
- 7th Some of the Seniors went to the Baptist Church to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Davey and to hear details of their work in Congo. Mr. White addressed the Coleman Street Women's Meeting, Southend.
Hornchurch, £1; Hainault Baptist Church S.S., £5 6s. 3d.
- 8th Yelling Baptist Chapel, £10.
- 9th Leigh (from the son of a former Trustee)—"I return Covenant Forms completed and also cheque value £25.

- Father knew your father and the C.H.&M. from the start of the work and I believe this fact stimulated his interest in the work and he derived tremendous pleasure in watching it grow and develop.' Monthly Prayer Meeting. Barnet, 2 jumpers, 3 prs. socks. Dr. Mathie called to say 'Good-bye.'
- 10th Bible Study at Abridge—we were all ready to go in the van but she wouldn't budge, so we had to use the bus.
Woodford Green, £1; Chingford, £2; Anon., £2; East Ham, £2.
- 11th Southend, £5 16s. 6d.; Stockwell Baptist S.S., £4 4s. 0d.
- 12th We said 'Good-bye' to a little family which had been in our care for several months. The problem had been a housing one and at last accommodation had been obtained in the Canterbury area.
- 14th Box Secretary, £39; Rayleigh, £2; Young Wives League, Buckhurst Hill, 10s.
- 15th Worthing, 10s.; Woodford Green, £1. The 'Aunties' came over for a chat. Auntie Nellie doesn't look too well. Another builder came for a chat about the alterations.
- 16th Hounslow, black suit, gloves, jacket, 2 berets. Mr. White conducted the funeral service of a relative and, later, a Men's Meeting in connection with Shrubland Congregational Church.
- 17th Upper Holloway, £3; Abbots Langley, £2; Broughton Chapel, £1; N.L., 2s. 6d.
- 18th Westcliff, £1; Southbury, £25; a Reader of 'The Christian,' £6. From Norfolk, a sack of greens and a sack of carrots. Sacks have been arriving weekly from this source and they are most welcome. We do appreciate this very practical help. The children love to have the carrots raw!
- 19th The 'Aunties' took some of the girls Christmas shopping. It was the prize-giving at the Woodford Baptist Sunday School.
- 20th A Special Sunday—Foundation Day, Mr. White's Birthday and the day for a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Davey, on furlough from Congo. Mr. and Mrs. Davey conducted our services at Abridge all day—we do admire the great work they are doing for God—our love and prayers are always with them and we were grateful for this, another opportunity of hearing first-hand up-to-date news of their part of Congo.
- 21st Southampton, £10; Meeting at Woodford Green conducted by Mrs. White. Irene assisted.
- 22nd Clacton, parcel second-hand clothes; Bristol, 2s. 6d. A last careful revision of the Scripture Examination syllabus for those entering.

- 23rd Leytonstone, 7s.; Thorpe Bay, £5 5s. 0d.; Stock Exchange Christian Assn., £2 2s. 0d.; Esher, £4. Mr. White addressed a lunch-hour meeting of the Stock Exchange Christian Assn. Holy Trinity badminton team came here for a match. It was a very happy evening, but we lost!
- 24th Crossways Tabernacle, Bristol, £1; Walthamstow, £1.
- 25th Fairchildes New Addington Youth Service, £2; Radnor Street Mission, Finsbury, £1. Scripture Examination. Hillman car taken to garage for check-over.
- 26th Highams Park, quantity of brushes and combs.
- 28th Plaistow, 10s.; Westcliff, £1; Heathfield, 1 pr. trousers.
- 29th Wood Lane Baptist Y.P.F., £1 10s. 0d.; Harpenden, £1. Some of the staff attended a lecture at Oakdale Infants School, 'How to help your children to read.' This was most helpful.
- 30th Anon., 10s.; Buntingford, £1; Pontypridd, £3; Leyton, 10s.



At Play

December

- 1st Shirley Hall S.S., £3; Walsall, £2; Ruislip, £3. The Women's Meeting at Abridge held their Annual Party. The travelling in the two vehicles from Woodford was somewhat difficult owing to thick fog, but we arrived safely without any mishaps.
- 3rd Frankey left the family circle. His mother had remarried and, now having housing accommodation, it was possible for this family to be reunited. Dawn and Valerie sang in a Schools Choir at the Festival Hall. Margaret, Karl and Peggy stayed the week-end with us.
- 4th Mr. White conducted services at Woodbridge all day. Karl and Wendel filled the gap in taking the evening service at Abridge.
- 5th Carlisle, £1; Clapton, 5s.; Wadhurst, 10s.; Seven Kings, 10s.; Grove Road Evangelical Church Women's Fellowship, £1. Woodford, 'My husband and I felt we would like to send a little gift (£1) as Christmas is drawing near and you doubtless have many expenses coming along. With the gift comes the assurance of our prayers for your work. May the Lord continue to bless you in all that you seek to do for Him. We trust you will have the joy of leading many of these little ones to know the Lord as their Saviour.'
- Woodbridge, £10; Anon., £2; Wickham Market Gospel Hall, £2; Hounslow, 17s. 6d. Clothes from Ashurst Drive Women's Meeting and South Woodford. A boy of 10 years came to live with us—he joined the 'Orion' dorm. Coming from the most northerly point of England, his accent was somewhat difficult to understand.
- 6th Westcliff, £1; Barnet, £1 10s. 0d.; N.13, £2 10s. 0d. St. Columb, £1; Ashurst Drive Women's Meeting, £1; Kings Road Baptist Church, Chingford, £1 10s. 0d. Douglas (the new arrival) started school—he was very keen. A group went to the dentist (Mr. Stephen Smith). Every Tuesday he sees some of our children so that in the course of a year all are inspected at least once.
- 7th Kings Langley, £2; Manor Park, 10s.; High Cross, 2s. 6d.; Canfield Hall, £2 10s. 0d.; Woking, 10s.; Thorpe Bay, £20; Clacton, £1; Elstead, £2; Enfield, £1 1s. 0d.; Battersea, £2 2s. 0d.; Peterborough, 10s.

Our little coloured girl, Harriet's, birthday. Typical of all children, she hasn't let us forget it! The celebration of a birthday means being bumped the appropriate number of times—the rest of the family singing "Happy Birthday" at breakfast time, and all of us having ice cream for tea. Plus birthday gifts, of course!

- 8th Boscombe, £10; Wedmore, £1; Higham Hill Baptist Women's Meeting, £1; Woodford, £1; Wanstead, £2; Woodford, £3.
- 9th Yelling, Covenant gift of £5; St. Albans, 10s.; Anon., 10s.; Enfield, £1 5s. 0d.; Faversham Gospel Mission, 10s.; Horam, £5 and 7 prs. hand-knitted socks and some second-hand clothes; Anon., £2; Minsterworth, £1; Westcliff, £10 10s. 0d.; Woodford Green, £1 (to be divided up into three-penny pieces for the children); Gidea Park, £1.
- The Autumn 'Links' arrived from the printers. A little later than had been hoped, but with the envelopes already addressed and all hands on deck, they were soon delivered to the Post Office for their journeys, in some cases, to other parts of the world.
- 10th Some of the girls went Christmas shopping with the 'Aunties' and afterwards to hear the Emmanuel Choir give a Carol Programme. The children remaining home were also busy making and wrapping presents, etc.
- 11th Dr. Carey Baker conducted the evening service at Abridge. His ministry was very helpful to all who listened and much appreciated.
- 12th Sudbury, 2s. 6d.; Plaistow, 10s.; Woodford Green, 6s. Some of the girls popped round to the hairdresser after school. We started decorating the Dining Room—a hasty tackling of this seasonable task because we thought it would be nice to have the room decorated for the 21st Birthday celebration of Charles (our Senior boy) on Wednesday.
- 13th Mr. Olney, with the help of the boys, tackled the decorating of the large hall. Members of the Badminton Club lent a hand.
- Cricklewood, 10s.; Rickmansworth, 'I am enclosing £2 to help with your work at Christmas. This year I want to make a request to you—I have been a life-long sufferer from nerves and I have asked several Christian friends if they will pray to God to give me my health. Would you please make a special request for me?' Cumberland Road Gospel Hall S.S., £2; Wormit, £2; People's Hall, Bridgnorth, £2; Southampton, £2; Wendover, Covenant gift of £30; Northwood, £2 2s. 0d.; Biggin Hill, 10s.; Westcliff, £1; Peterborough, 5s.; Anon., 2s. 6d.; Peterborough, 2 hand-knitted scarves and 2 prs. mittens; Anon., box Aero chocolate for the children, box of chocolates for the Staff; Elmsleigh Hall Sewing Class, hat, dress, skirt and 5 prs. socks; Highbury, parcel second-hand clothes and some new toys.
- 14th Tottenham (from a lady over 80), £1 and 2 hand-knitted cardigans; Abridge, 10s.; Thornton Heath, £1; East Ham,

£1; Latimer Hall S.S., £2; 'E,' £5; West Mersea, £1 10s. 0d.; Abinger S.S., £6; Abinger Common, £3; Elmsleigh Hall S.S., £5 5s. 0d.; Colchester, ham for Christmas.

There was Carol Service at the Oakdale Infants School to which some of the staff went to listen to our little ones taking part in the choir and Nativity Play. At our Monthly Prayer Meeting we expected the Rev. Goodwin Hudson to be our speaker, but a discrepancy somewhere caused him to arrive just as we were separating to go our different ways! He promised us a visit another time.

Several of the girls popped along to the hairdressers after school.

A very special celebration this evening—the 21st Birthday of Charles. Among the guests were his two brothers and an uncle and auntie and cousin from Harrow. The dining room decorations had been completed and in the centre was a table displaying a variety of gifts, including a clock from the Family. A large key with the signatures of all the guests was presented, after which there were one or two speeches, one of which concluded with the words—'we pray that you will be as happy in the years to come as you obviously have been in the past.' This we know is because Charles is a Christian, and although there have been many stormy pathways, his life is anchored in the Lord Jesus Christ.

- 15th Haverhill Working Party, 6 shoe polishers, 6 floor polishers, 2 prs. girls' pyjamas, 4 nightdresses, 6 prs. boys' pyjamas, 4 pinafores, 9 prs. gloves, dress, cardigan, 2 prs. socks, second-hand costume and skirt.

The children at the Infants School had their Christmas Party and they tell us Father Christmas found time to pop in to see them. The girls at St. Barnabas School (first year) had a Parents' Evening.

Stanway, £5; St. Stephen's Missionary Society, £2 2s. 0d.; Enfield, 10s.; Barling Gospel Mission, £4 4s. 0d.; Enfield Town, £1; Hornsey Rise, 10s.; Golders Green, £2; Holland-on-Sea Baptist Women's Fellowship, 15s.; Loughton, 10s.; Ascot, £1 10s. 0d.; Chadwell Heath, £1; Anon., 10s.; Paignton, £5; Ilford, £1; Sidmouth, £1; Woodford Green, £3; Kensington, £5 5s. 0d.; Ealing, £5; Holloway, £1; Cambridge, £1.

- 16th Winsor Mission S.S., £1; Ilford, £1; Barking, 7s. 6d.; Osterley, £1 5s. 0d.; Romford, £3 3s. 0d.; Theodore Road Baptist Church, 10s.; Woodford Green, £3 3s. 0d.; Leyton, £1; Manor Park Baptist Church, £1; Ilfracombe S.S., £1 10s. 0d.; Anon., £1; Bedford, £2; Bexhill, £2 2s. 0d.; Woodford, £5 and £2; Anon., 10s.; Woodford, £1; Totteridge, £1 1s. 0d.; Hove, 10s.; Cranford, £2; Frinton, 10s.

- 17th Cranford Baptist Working Party, 2 vests, 6 cardigans, 16 colouring books and 10 pencils; Heston, £3; Waltham Abbey, £5; Crawley, £1; Aberavon, 10s.; Eastwood, £5; Manor Park, £5; East Sheen, 10s.; Edmonton, £1; Raglan Secondary School, £6 13s. 6d.; Finsbury Park, £1 10s. 0d.; Hadleigh Elim Y.P.F., £1.
Six children went to a party given by the Wanstead C.Ch. Morning Church. The Abridge Church was prettily decorated in readiness for the Special Christmas Services to-morrow.
- 18th Staff addressed services at Chingford, West Kilburn and Wanstead Park to-day. The Special Services at Abridge were well attended.
This year the special gifts put on the Tree were given towards the cost of providing heating in the Hall, and they totalled £23 18s. 3d.
- 19th 'All hands on deck' or 'Many hands make light work' were the mottoes for all who helped with the scrubbing of the Hall floor. It really did look nice when finished.
Guildford, £5; Ipswich, 10s.; Completion of Legacy, £392 8s. 8d. Stanmore, from an 'old' boy, 'My wife, my daughters and I join in wishing you all at the C.H.&M. a very happy New Year. I enclose a cheque for £6 5s. 0d. towards the Christmas fare.' Fetcham, £1 10s. 0d.; Doncaster, £1; Woodford Green, £1 1s. 0d.; Leigh, 10s.; Parkstone, £2; Holloway, £1; Norwich, 2s. 6d.; Barkingside, £2; Kings Head Hill Hall, £1 19s. 8d.; Woodford Green, £3; Edmonton, £1; Hornchurch 10s.
- 20th More scrubbing—this time it was the boys' turn!
Ilford, 10s.; Epping, £1; 'E.L.', Tottenham, £1; S. Woodford, 10s. By post today Mr. White received a very beautifully bound Schofield Bible. At a meeting he took recently, one of the listeners noticed how very worn his was and kindly offered to replace it!
- 21st Children broke up from school. More energetic decorating with the help of 'old' girls who popped in to see us.
New Town Mission Girls' Class, £7; Ilford, 10s.; Pinner, £1 10s. 0d.; East Ham, £5; Dalston, £1; Romford, 2s. 6d. The staff this week have been busy sorting gifts for the children and this evening went up into the hall to get presents ready for the Christmas Trees. Once again Smith's Factory of Cricklewood had sent along a lovely selection and with much care they were allocated. Whilst in the midst of this task there was a caller who popped in, handed Mrs. White two five pound notes with instructions to use them as needed for Christmas. The donor wished to remain anonymous. This gift exactly covered the cost of one turkey, and presents of Bibles and hot water bottles which the children had asked for, and which had not to date arrived.

- 22nd Brixham, £1; Billericay Sisterhood, £2 2s. 0d.; Weymouth, £5; Hornchurch, £2; from an 'old' girl in memory of her sister, £5; Eastern Avenue Baptist Church, £2 10s. 0d.; East Rudham, 10s.; Christchurch, £1; Ilford, 5s.; Enfield, 5s.; Canning Town Girl Covenanters, £2 2s. 0d.; Woodford, £1; Ilford, £1; Meldrum C.E., £1 15s. 0d.; Anon., 2s. 6d.; Woodford, 10s.; Anon., 2s. 6d.; Salisbury, 5s.; Scotland, £5; Clapham, £1 10s. 0d.; Upminster, 10s. 6d.; Woodford Green, £2.
- 23rd Vienna, £3 3s. 0d.; Cranleigh Baptist S.S., £6 6s. 0d.; Anon., £3 10s. 0d.; N.W.11, 10s.; Anon., 10s.; Seaford, £3; Woodford, £2 2s. 0d.; Pinner, £1 1s. 0d.; Trinity Chapel S.S., Tooting, £12; Chelmsford, £5; Bromley, 10s.; Epping, £1; Woodford, £1 and £1; Brentford, (old lady, 80), 2s. 6d.; Boscombe, £1 1s. 0d.; Southend, £2.
- 24th E.C.3, £1; Grantham, 8s.; Woodford, 10s. Doncaster, 'I am enclosing 10s. for the children. It is a very small amount, but I divide my tithes to the Lord's work amongst many things, such as the Church, Missionaries, Home Missions, British and Foreign Bible Society, Mission to Jews. We are both nearly 73 years and my husband has been ailing and unable to follow his employment for 20 years. We thank God for His wonderful goodness to us. Many years ago, we had the pleasure of Mr. Herbert White staying with us when he visited Doncaster with the Open-Air Mission at Race week. We wish the Home a very happy Christmas.' Newport (from the husband of one of our 'old' girls who passed away last year), £1; Leytonstone, £3; Woodford Green, £1; Michael's Christmas Gift, £5; Anon., £5; Woodford Green, £10; St. Albans, £5; Mablethorpe, £1; Halstead, £1 1s. 0d. Arrivals of 'old' girls and boys intending to stay over the Christmas.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

(by the husband of one of our 'old' girls)

Soon Christmas will become only a date on the calendar to those who do not trust in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Possibly they may look back to December, 1955, and muse over the various things they did during the festive season. But to us who spend Christmas at the C. H. & M. every Christmas is a memorable occasion and our recollections of the time are indeed pleasant ones.

For us, Christmas, 1955, will stand out as another time of grand fellowship one with another. During the three days we spent together we could sense the presence of God in our midst in a very tangible way. Amid the excitement of undoing presents, toiling in the kitchen, or labouring over our well-filled Christmas plates, we were constantly reminded in one way or another of God's presence with us.

Remembering that Christmas Day this year was in actual fact the Sabbath, we chose to reserve all the excitement and gaiety for the following day and so we followed, as far as possible, our normal Sunday routine. The staff were thrilled with the way the children gladly went to God's house for worship. Some went to Abridge in the faithful 'wagons,' while others went to George Lane Baptist Church, taking with them 'old' boys and girls and visitors, who had arrived in bulk the previous night and morning. Lots of Christmas presents were proudly worn, hats, gloves, ties and some excellent new Bibles were also very noticeable.

Father Christmas had, in his unfailing way, visited the children the night before and left them with an appetiser for the following day. Stockings had been carefully placed where he could not possibly miss seeing them, and sure enough the following morning they were well filled with a wide variety of gifts. The boys were thrilled to find that they each had a cuddly toy—teddy bear, panda, rubber dog, cat, mouse, elephant or gollywog; the girls, of course, had a slightly finer selection of dolls. There were eatables, jigsaw puzzles, games and a wide variety of articles which Father Christmas had somehow managed to bring along in his sack.

During the Sunday services we were reminded how greatly God must have loved us to send His only Son to earth for us; how greatly He loved us that Christ should become flesh and be born into the human family in order that he might identify himself with us, and then die for us—that we might have eternal life. At all meetings we thought of our Lord's humble birth and we brought the day to a close by carolling in our immediate neighbourhood. The neighbours requested that we should do this and we do not think the babies were unduly disturbed!

Many folk had burnt the midnight oil for weeks before Christmas. Parcels had to be made of the various gifts received from Sunday Schools, food had to be ordered and stored, plum puddings made, but because of a wonderful team spirit we found ourselves ready in good time without any undue strain.

The happenings of the two days following Christmas Day are so numerous that were they all to be recorded, this would take up most of 'Links,' so we must be satisfied with having only a small say this time. Certain highlights, however, must be related and so we jotted down just those which cannot go unmentioned.

Devotional

Christians are not 'kill-joys' and we try to balance our worship with other activities. For this reason we felt it only right that we remember that this celebration was only possible because our Lord had come to earth for us. The times we did set aside were short, but very challenging. Monday morning was the first. After breakfast we held a short carol service when Mr. White spoke to the children of the significance of our Lord's birth and how it affected our Salvation. I gave greetings on behalf of visitors and Beverley on behalf

of 'old' members of the family. Charles, the senior young man in the Home, led us in prayer and thanksgiving. Quite a number of relatives of the children were present and some neighbours too. Family prayers (the family increased somewhat) were held each evening and on the Tuesday the tiny tots very sweetly portrayed portions of scripture in tableau—nativity scenes. One of our 'old' girls, Pat, led in prayer and we joined together in the singing of the Home Anthem:

'How good is the God we adore,
Our faithful unchangeable friend,
Who's love is as great as His power,
And knows neither measure nor end.
'Tis Jesus the first and the last,
Whose Spirit will guide us safe Home,
We'll praise Him for all that is past,
And trust Him for all that's to come.'

Catering

Breakfast, dinner, tea, for an augmented family three days! Christmas Dinner is always the most looked forward to, and the turkeys were delicious. No one needed to complain of shortage for God had wonderfully supplied the need for which we give Him all the glory. Many a family member chatted away over the meal and 'old' boys and girls related the pranks they had got up to when they were here.

At tea time the Christmas cakes, some of which had been made by the girls at school—some at home—were on display. They proved scrumptious!

The Staff Room was transformed over night from a living room to a Canteen where at almost any time during the day a cup of tea could be found.

Gifts

We must include in this the delight which the children experienced as, for weeks beforehand, they were making and buying presents and Christmas cards for relatives, staff and friends.

The distribution of gifts was so arranged that something could be received each day from Sunday morning until Tuesday evening. Father Christmas delivered the first instalment during the cold Saturday night. After the Monday morning Carol Services, gifts from relatives and friends were given out after the traditional 'one, two, three, open' by Mrs. White, Snr., and the usual excitement resulted as the numerous parcels were opened. In the evening, when folk wished to enjoy a visitor-free evening, a pounding noise from the front door brought none other than Father Christmas into our very company. With him he brought a bag twice his own size. His boots, incidentally, were white with snow, which he had encountered just outside Norway. Tuesday evening was again a time for the receiving of gifts, and on this occasion they came from two beautifully decorated Christmas trees supplied by Messrs. Smiths of Cricklewood.

Games

The success of these was perhaps best revealed in the remark of one of the visitors: 'I came just after 11 a.m. and stayed until after 11 p.m.—we played games all the time and we didn't play the same one twice!' Despite the fact that there was a wide age group to deal with, games were so organised that both the youngsters and the grown-ups had a fair share of amusement. Some of the games which went down with a bang are given below, and we can heartily recommend them for lively parties:

Eating without hands:—Hands tied behind the back. Competitors must eat a few biscuits and an orange which are tied up in a paper bag. The bag is placed on a chair and a rousing cheer went up as a Sailor 'old' boy swallowed the last of his meal.

Fanning Fish:—Try fanning a paper fish across the room with a table tennis bat. Some of our party tried and many became thoroughly disillusioned.

'Where art thou, Brother?':—Two gentlemen lie blindfolded on the floor—facing one another. They grip each other's left hand and in the right hand, each holds a 'hitting instrument.' One will shout 'Where art thou, Brother?' and the other will reply 'here' and then try to move into a position away from the sound of his voice in an attempt to deceive his opponent, who strikes out, as if to kill the other man. We saw some skulls **nearly** fractured by both men and women competitors!

Miser:—This game requires silence and how glorious it was to be able to hear the ticking of the clock. The miser sits on a chair in the centre of a circle. Under his chair is a tin containing money. One person will get up from seat and slowly walk toward the miser's tin. Immediately the miser hears any sound he points in the direction he thinks it originates from. Anyone succeeding in getting to the tin and extracting money without being heard retains the cash.

Talking Out:—Most contrary to common belief, the menfolk won this game. A team of men and women sit opposite each other in a line. Two must talk at the same time on a subject given them and change the subject when ordered to do so. Those who fail to continue, or laugh, are the losers. Subjects ranged from Shampoos to shoes and from politicians to road-sweepers to mention a few examples.

Skittles:—Teams from the oldest to the youngest could exercise skill. Staff versus present children, tiny girls versus tiny boys. Skittles of various size are placed towards the centre. A team is at each end of the hall and a ball is thrown from end to end, points being scored according to the value of each skittle knocked down.

Eating Jelly Blindfolded:—Two people sit facing each other blindfolded and protected by large serviettes, two ends of which are tied round the neck of one competitor and two ends round the other. Each holds a plate of jelly and spoon and has to feed the

other. The winner is the one who successfully spoons his jelly into the mouth of the opponent!

Demonstration

This was acted by four of the family and lasted for half an hour and it was evident that a lot of hard work went into it, by the excellent way the young folk took part. The stage effects perhaps brought the greatest laugh—a flower growing (pulled up on a piece of cotton); sound effects of a cuckoo behind the stage; and when the sun literally moved across the stage (pulled by a thin thread)!

Yarning and Greetings

At all times there was much chattering about 'old' times and the many escapades which remain in the memory of the older members of the family. A classic example was one of an old boy who bent the tip of one of the family's best tea trays and seated thereon slid down the stairs only to be greeted at the bottom by the late Mr. White.

The End

And thus to the tune of Auld Lang Syne, Christmas was over for another year. God had indeed been gracious to us and so in a word of prayer we all thanked Him for His goodness, placed our faith in Him for the New Year approaching—and parted our several ways.



Bed-time

CHRISTMAS FUN—27th December

(by a Visitor)

This was a day of joyous fellowship. The Florence Barclay Hall, beautifully decorated, and with the words 'JESUS OUR EMMANUEL' in gold lettering in a prominent position, was filled to capacity with happy laughing children (from two years old to eighty, so they tell me!).

The games, under the able direction of Messrs. Victor White, Colin McDermid and Wendel Stander, were in full swing when we arrived, and all the surrounding part of Woodford must have known there was a Party on!

At 3.30 p.m. sharp, a very amusing play, 'Skopperlops' or 'He That Hops,' was presented to a very enthusiastic audience by Mr. and Mrs. Wendel Stander (Irene Beresford to us!), and they are to be congratulated on their hard work and ingenuity. The four children taking part were all excellent and we were especially amused at the matter-of-fact way in which the King calmly discussed chopping off his Queen's head! The moral **always**, to be truthful, was well brought out. Needless to say, the Queen's head remained firmly on her shoulders, thanks to the assistance of a gnome-like figure named Skopperlops.

The next highlight was the unexpected arrival of a splendid Space-ship, floating down from the Stratosphere (Mr. David Olney and helpers up in the balcony!). The Space-ship was found to be full of bags of sweets and the children weren't backward in coming forward!

After a few more games we all proceeded downstairs for a sumptuous tea, complete with bon-bons and Christmas cakes, the children in the recently-decorated dining room and the visiting folk in the newly-arranged recreation rooms. Washing-up for over a **hundred** presents no problems providing there are about **fourteen** willing helpers and within no time we were back in the Hall ready for a Nativity Play by the smallest children. This was very sweetly performed. We all joined in singing the well-known carols and the lovely Christmas story came home to us in a very real way.

More games followed (some lively, some **very** lively, some **uproarious!**), until the time eagerly awaited by every child, the receiving of the really wonderful presents from the two illuminated Christmas trees. What a thrill this was! And how ingenious Mr. and Mrs. Victor White had to be! Every present was marked with a number instead of a name, so no-one knew what they would get! And NO-ONE was forgotten!

Gradually the younger children disappeared off to bed, whilst the older family and friends played some hectic games, such as Musical Chairs (incorporating **everyone** in the room!). 'Brother, Where Art Thou?' and so forth. Our sides ached with laughter!

All this helped us to work up an appetite for a splendid supper, beautifully prepared by the staff and helpers. About fifty of us sat

down and we were all filled with admiration for the new crockery as well as for the food and drinks!

After supper, Mr. Victor White on behalf of his wife and Mrs. White, Snr., thanked the old boys and girls, visitors and friends for sharing with the family in the Christmas rejoicing. Mr. Cowling, as the 'old boy' of longest standing, replied for the family of past days, and made us smile with many references to the tricks he and others used to play on 'Pa' White! Miss Rosa Percival then spoke for the Abridge Fellowship, where splendid progress is being made amongst the young people, and Mrs. Purves replied on behalf of the visitors and friends.

We came away with gladness and thankfulness in our hearts and with a new awareness that 'GOD IS FAITHFUL THAT PROMISED.'

CHRISTMAS SUPPLIES

We praise God for the wide variety of gifts which once again were received in order that we might give the children a really happy Christmas.

Toys from:—

Kings Road Baptist Church, Chingford; Diss; Anon; Broadmead S.S.; Welwyn Garden City Baptist Church; Strood Gospel Hall; Hele Baptist S.S.; Torquay; Hatch End S.S.; Elmsleigh Hall S.S.; Bedfont Tabernacle; Goodmayes Baptist S.S.; Torquay Union Congregational Church; S.E.1; Victoria Baptist Church, Deal; Spruce Hill Baptist Church; Guildford Park Hall; Roding Lane Church G.L.B.; Hadleigh Elim; Ilford Guides and Brownies; Haywards Heath Evangelical Free Church; Brentford Congregational Church; Christ Church, Leyton; Mount Zion S.S., Barnet; Chelmsford Elim Church; Aldersbrook Baptist Church; 1st Walthamstow Guide Coy.; A Scout Troop; Smith's, Cricklewood (with Christmas Trees); Muir Beddall & Co.; Woodford Green's Matthews Memorial Church; Gresham Drive S.S., Chadwell Heath; Shrubland Congregational Church S.S.; Leytonstone; Moorcroft Hall, Thundersley; All Saints Church, Woodford Green; Boscombe Baptist Church, Prittlewell; Cranleigh Baptist S.S.; Southend; Ventnor Baptist S.S.; Harringay; William Olivers Rubber Co. (and Tree); Guardian Newspaper; Boreham Wood Women's Meeting; Messrs. Certon Ltd., S. Woodford; Central Hall, Corfe Mullen; Cricklade Congregational Church; Out and Out Mission, Bow.

Other Gifts:—

Rise Park Hall, Romford, handkerchiefs and sweets; Hadleigh Elim S.S., sack milk tops (sold for £1 3s. 1d.); Anon., parcel of books; Southend, books; Leigh, books; Seven Kings, books; 36th St. Pancras Wolf Cub Pack, socks and handkerchiefs; Anon., 1 dozen boxes crackers; Romford, sweets; An 'Old' Boy, sweets; Woodford, large box selected fruit; Waltham Cross, turkey, brussel sprouts and fruit; Woodford Bridge, box sweets; Anon., 1 dozen boxes crackers; Anon (delivered Christmas Eve), a lovely selection of Christmas cakes and mince pies; Two Anonymous gifts handed in at the door

were used to buy two more turkeys; An 'Old' Boy, Christmas cake; Ilford, Christmas cake, mince pies and grocery provisions; Palmers Green, parcel of pens, Christmas paper and decorations; Stapleford Abbots, turkey.

N.B.

May we just put over a little thought here concerning the Toys which so many folk kindly send along to us from year to year. At Christmas-time we only use New Toys for the kiddies' presents, etc., and now that our Toy Store is limited, due to our needing the former Store for living accommodation we find that we only have room to store the surplus New Toys for Birthdays and special seasons throughout the year. We do appreciate on the other hand that so many children bring along their treasured toys as their Gifts to God and we would not hinder them, but feel we ought to point out to adults the new problem confronting us!

Summing up — a few new toys are of so much more value to us here now than many second-hand toys which we cannot store even for the 'Rainy-Day.' We feel sure that you will fully appreciate this thought and would like to know of the position. Of course, second-hand toys which **look** new are usable.

28th An 'old' girl and her husband, £3; Finsbury Park, £1 10s. 0d.; Moreton C.C. S.S., £4 10s. 0d.; Barking, £2; West Mersea, 10s.; Woodford, 10s.; Southfields (an 'old' girl), 'Thank you so much for the "Links." I should have written before but my husband has been ill these last three weeks. I hope you are keeping well and that you will have a very happy Christmas. I expect the children are getting excited. I remember what fun we had on Christmas Day. I am enclosing a Postal Order. I am looking forward to seeing my grandchildren on Boxing Day. I hope I shall be able to get down to "Our Day" next year. I was sorry to have to miss last time.' Theydon Bois, £1.

29th West Kilburn Baptist Church, £3 10s. 0d.; Peckham, £25. 'I regret being so late in the year, but the main reason is I am nearly blind and can only see to write with a good light over my head. We have not yet found anywhere to move to but the L.C.C. want the house so we must give it up before long. Our house has never been unoccupied since early 1846 when our grandfather moved in with his family. Now when I am over 90 and my sister nearly 88, we are requested to move out. It is a break but we know that God works all things together for good to those that love Him.' So we are seeking for guidance that we may find a place where God would have us go.'

Chigwell, £1 10s. 0d.; Blackmore, 10s.; Southend, 10s.; Kenton Evangelical Free Church Y.P.F., £1 10s. 0d.

Tony left our Family today to start work in the area where his father lives.

30th Rayleigh, 5s.; Ardleigh Union Chapel, £1 16s. 0d.; Worthing, £2; Twickenham, 5s.

31st Woodford Green, £5; Harpenden, £2 10s. 0d.; Kenton Evangelical Free Church, £11 5s. 9d. (£1 from the Girls' Bible Class); Westminster Chapel, £70; Thundersley Gospel Hall, 12s. 6d.; Loughton Missionary Meeting, £1 1s. 0d. And so we arrived at the end of another year. Some of the Staff and Seniors went to a Watch Night Service to welcome the New Year.



"This is how it should be done"

January, 1956

1st New Year's Day (Sunday). Many resolutions made today.

2nd Walthamstow, £1: 'Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year with God our Father's abundant blessing.' Islington, £2; East Ham, £1. Two of the children went out to tea with school friends and the rest happily amused themselves with the assistance of their many lovely Christmas presents.

3rd Chigwell, 10s.; Chingford, £2; United Mission Muswell Hill Mothers' Meeting, £1 6s. 3d.; Colchester, 2s. 6d.; King's Head Hall S.S., £5. We had to say goodbye to one of our lads, although being aware that he would be happier if he could stay here. We pray that the influence of the twelve months in the family circle will remain with him and that he will trust God to give him strength to face the difficult future days.

Badminton re-commenced after the Christmas break.

4th Kenton Evangelical Church, 5s.; Lancing, £1; Barking, £1: 'I always like reading about your big family which shows the marvellous way the Lord provides.'

5th Cricklade Congregational Church, 12s.; Levtonstone, £1 1s. 0d.; Shoeburyness, £10; Winchester, 3s.; Barclay Mission, Leyton, £1 1s. 0d.; Balham, £1: 'Thank you for your kind hospitality to me on Boxing Day. May I wish you a very happy New Year.'

Six children went with a lady, who had formerly been their school teacher, to Harringay Circus and the rest of us went by arrangement of Lloyds Social Club which kindly provided tickets and coach for the journey. It was a very foggy afternoon and we saw flares in use to guide the traffic at major cross roads. The children spent the evening experimenting with all the various acrobatic acts which they had seen!

6th Kings Lynn, £5. The fog had lifted today so the boys were able to organise a game of football.

7th Today was full of interesting activity. At Abridge the Sunday School Parties were held and the children who attend there went to join in; another group enjoyed a party given by the 'Inner Wheel' at All Saints Hall, Woodford Green. One of the lads serving in H.M. Forces in Germany arrived home for three weeks leave.

8th It was Irene and Wendel's last Sunday with us before their departure to South Africa. Wendel conducted the service at our Abridge Church in the evening and on arrival home afterwards we had a 'sing-song' of favourite hymns and prayers especially for them, and members of the family who have left us.

9th Clerkenwell & Islington Mission S.S., £1 1s. 0d.; Stratford, 10s.; Elim Sisterhood, Leigh, £1; Watford, £3 3s. 0d.; Hendon, £1; Bethesda Sunday School, Singapore: 'I am sending you a gift of £1 from the children of our Sunday School and with it our greetings and good wishes for 1956. Did you all have a good Christmas? Our Christmas treats for the scholars went off very well and everybody had a happy time. On the 2nd January, we are having a Teachers' Retreat where the Sunday School Teachers get together for a quiet time and problems in connection with the School are discussed. Our theme for this year is "Consecration" and your prayers will be much valued.'

For some time it has been laid upon our hearts to arrange a meeting for men folk in the village of Abridge. Whilst we want to do all we can to encourage family worship, yet often with young children it is not possible for both parents to be out together and so we felt that a Men's Meeting during the

week might be helpful. Mr. White, supported by his Senior Boys (those out at work), went off to hold the first meeting, backed by the prayers of the rest of the staff. There were six present.

10th Forest Road Hall Sunday School, £6: 'Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of.'

The children returned to school today.

11th Walthamstow, £1: 'My sister and I hope your holiday arrangements will be made without any difficulty this year so that workers and children will have the benefit of a seaside holiday.'

Today Mr. Crowhurst celebrates his 80th birthday—he doesn't like to be reminded of his age, but we often think he has mis-counted for he has so much vitality and spends so many busy hours here sorting toys and vegetables, gardening, etc., that we often cannot keep up with him. We are indebted to him for his love and loyalty to the family circle and we pray that God will spare him for many years in good health.

Our Monthly Prayer Meeting. Wendel gave a wee word. At tea time Wendel and Rene popped over to see the children and to say 'good-bye.' They have been a real part of our family whilst here and we are going to miss them, but we do pray that their experiences here in England may be the foundation for a period of useful service in South Africa.

Clacton: 'Once again I am sending my dear mother's small gift of £1. She has been spared yet another year and she rejoices to know that the Lord is blessing your work amongst the children. She can no longer read the "Links" but I can tell her a little of its contents. I am also enclosing £1 from myself to help with the cost of the "Links".'

Forest Road Hall, £1: 'Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of.' Woodford Green, 10s.

12th Ealing, £20. We took Irene and Wendel by car to catch the boat train at Waterloo. Just as the car pulled up a taxi came along behind and out jumped Peggy (Irene's sister) who had also come to wave good-bye. It was a bleak, dismal morning in contrast to the warm sunny weather which they expect on arrival in South Africa. Wendel hasn't a very good opinion of our English weather, but, of course, he was not here last summer when the sun really did shine for weeks and weeks.

Our youthful friend Mr. Crowhurst came to organise table tennis, etc., for the children, as he does every Thursday evening.

13th Honiton, £1 1s. 0d.; Streatham, £2; Woodford, £1.

14th Bishops Stortford, £250 (Covenant); St. Andrews Sunday School, Woodford Green, £4; Camberley, £1.

The Woodford 'Round Table' arranged a party for staff and children at a local restaurant. We had a scrumptious tea, watched a very clever conjurer, played games and arrived home with a present and balloon each.

15th One of our lads who has lived and grown up in our Abridge Sunday School took the Morning Service. He has helped in this way several times since the passing of Mr. Gilbert and we are encouraged by the way that he and many of the young people are sharing in the responsibility of the work of the Church.

16th S. Woodford, £2 15s. 1d., collected by a carol singing group; Anon., £1; Wickford, £1 1s. 0d.; Stanway Women's Meeting, £2; Highams Park, 3 good second-hand coats; Guildford, parcel toys and books.

17th Mr. White took a meeting at a Forest Gate factory. It was an encouragement to hear of a firm where the directors are Christians and seek by their example to point their staff to The Lord Jesus Christ.

18th Forest Gate, £1; Walthamstow: 'Very many thanks for "Links." I note you have lost valuable help during the year in the call "Home" of Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Stark and Mr. Thompson, but trust the miss of them will help others to take on their duties so that the Home does not suffer. We must pray for the right people to replace them. We pray for the loved ones that they may be comforted at all times. This is the week my sister and I pray for the Homes and orphaned children so I thought it fitting to write just now . . . I am rather shaky as I am slowly, but surely, recovering from an operation. I enclose postal order for £1, my sister has given me 5s. towards it; the rest has been made up of odd money which would have been spent on papers when the paper strike was on, and when I was in Hospital I put my newspaper money aside for your Home. I shall look forward to seeing you on the 9th June. I hope it will be a fine day or else I will not be able to come.' Eastney Gospel Mission, £7 6s. 1d.; Ramsey, £1; Peterborough, 8 prs. gloves, 1 scarf. We entertained a Home Office inspector from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m.

19th Golders Green, £1 (for chocolate biscuits). Received the very fine gift of a billiard table for our Hall at Abridge. The donor also paid half the cost of removal and re-fixing.

21st Some of the children went out with parents or friends or to parties. Mr. Stephen Smith, our dentist, showed the children two films—all about 'teeth.' Very interesting and having seen how the little germs attack and eat into teeth to destroy them, there was much enthusiasm tonight to make sure teeth were really clean!

One of the older girls popped round with her boy friend

from New Zealand for a chat. Another came to stay the weekend.

22nd More visits of 'old' members of the family: Sheila from Guildford, Rowland from Germany, Dinah from Canning Town.

23rd Eastbourne, £1; Wallington: 'We have been married 34 years this week and I enclose a little thank offering, £25, for many mercies, which please put to any special need at the Home.' Wormit, £2. The Hillman estate car went to garage for check.

The Men's Meeting had two new members. One of the lady members of our Abridge Church returned from hospital after a very serious and complicated operation. We praise God for her recovery and pray that she will soon be fully restored to health.

24th S. Woodford, £1; Christchurch, 10s.; Highbury, £2 2s. 0d. Phone call from the husband of one of our twins (Margaret) to announce the safe arrival of a baby son, Jürgen Clive.

25th Van taken to garage for electrical check.

26th Lev Street Hall S.S., £4; Our Postman, £1; Guildford, parcel of second-hand clothes.

27th Entrance Examination Day. Some went to Wanstead High School, some to Woodford High School and some to St. Barnabas Secondary School to sit for the examination. Lighthouse Mission, £5.

28th One of the staff away for the weekend. Two 'old' girls came to stay.

29th Abridge 30th Church Anniversary—Pastor Goddard, one of our Trustees, conducted the evening service. Although the van was still away at the garage as many as possible from here supported the services and so did the Abridge folk too.

30th Eastleigh, £1.

31st Praise for answers to prayer:—

1. Men's Fellowship slowly increasing.
2. Speakers all fixed for the Annual Meetings.
3. Four new children to be admitted. (We do not pray for children to be in need, but if they are in need that they may be directed to us.)
4. Great difficulty overcome in the life of a Senior boy.

The weather turned suddenly cold today with an East wind blowing at gale force. Mr. White went to meeting at New Town Mission, Waltham Abbey, and in spite of precautions the radiator of the car froze. The car had to be abandoned en route homeward bound.

February

- 1st We learned this morning of the 'Home Call' of the dearly loved wife of one of our Trustees. We have been with them both in prayer fellowship during the past weeks and whilst we rejoice that the loved one is 'with Christ, which is far better' we pray that the one remaining behind may know the sustaining grace and power and comfort of God in the coming days.
- Binfield: 'I enclose £1 from the "Missionary Garden." I do pray it will help in your very wonderful work. May God richly bless you in all you seek to do for Him through these little ones.'
- Two members of the staff addressed meetings at Chingford Hatch and at Woodford Green.
- Broxbourne, £1: 'Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power, for thou hast created all things and for thy pleasure they are and were created.' Rev. 4. 11 also Philipians 2. 9 - 11.
- 2nd Boscombe, Keswick Hall S.S., £2; Maidstone, £3: 'I am always delighted to get the "Links" and to hear what wonderful things the Lord is doing for you. I always remember the work before the Lord twice daily, for the responsibility laid upon you by the Lord is very great. It is also a great inspiration to me to hear how the great Lover of our souls is caring for His great family. I trust by the blessing of the Lord that your bow may abide in strength for many years and that at that Day a great army of one time boys and girls may with you, stand before the everlasting throne, giving thanks and praise to Him who liveth for ever and ever.'
- Robert, Suzanne, John and Irene joined our family circle today. A lovely little family—we shall be delighted to take care of them for His Name's sake.
- The Women's Fellowship had a Party at Abridge but folk travelling from here, apart from the severe difficulties of the cold weather started off in the van only to break down round the corner!
- 3rd The staff found water trickling down the Hall stairs first thing this morning—a burst pipe! Many precautions had been taken but the severe and strong East wind beat us!
- Highgate Road Church, £2, S.S., £3; Falkland Hall S.S., £2.
- The newly admitted little family popped round with one of the staff to see Dr. Smith. In accordance with Home Office requirements they were duly examined and found to be in good order.
- 4th Canada, from one who used to be on the staff, £1: 'I'm sorry that I haven't written sooner. As always my prayers

are with the work as are my thoughts. I visit Rose Booth (one of our 'old' girls) quite often. I was present most evenings at the Dr. Billy Graham Meetings here which helped to make me realise more and more that the Lord hasn't time for armchair Christians. At present I have a Sunday School class of nine year olds. There are many daily opportunities to witness for Christ.'

Realising that the Hollow Ponds must be well and safely frozen some of the staff and children decided to walk over to them and although only one was equipped with ice skates the rest of us had much fun on the beautiful slides we made. Having been putting on more and more clothes during the week, we found ourselves in contrast now gradually shedding them and feeling delightfully warm for the first time for many days!

- 6th The Funeral Service of Mrs. Hutton was held this afternoon at Chingford Mount Cemetery and Mr. and Mrs. White were able to represent the C. H. & M. there. To date gifts totalling £33 8s. 0d. have been received in lieu of flowers, this being at the request of Mrs. Hutton. We are grateful to all the friends and relatives who, as an expression of their love and sympathy and thanks to God for a life lived for Him, sent along to us their gifts.
- 7th Colchester, £5; Walthamstow High School, £25.
- A team from the Congregational Church, Woodford, came this evening to play badminton and table tennis. Victory for us! Credit due to Percy who runs the badminton club and to Mr. Crowhurst who coaches us in table tennis.
- 8th We were privileged to have Mr. Stephen Smith to address our Prayer Meeting group this afternoon. We do value his professional help as dentist, but more still his spiritual influence and encouragement.
- Mr. White addressed a large meeting of women folk at Manor Hall, Boreham Wood.
- 9th Boreham Wood, £2; Bethany Hall S.S., £8.
- Tonight we commenced a new Bible Study at Abridge: 'The Person, and work of the Holy Spirit.'
- 10th Axminster, £1; received from Glasgow £1 3s. 1d. for sale of milk tops sent by the Hadleigh Elim S.S.; Box, £2; United Mission, Muswell Hill, £5 17s. 6d.
- Janet said 'good-bye' to us today. She has just left school and secured a job at Messrs. Williams Bros. where her older brother is working and doing well. Her father has just been given a council flat and at last there is an opportunity for

the commencement of a little home and for the older members of the family to be together again.

11th The Senior Girls attending the Woodford Baptist Sunday School had their party today. Mr. White addressed a Young People's Squash at Shrubland Congregational Church. Peggy spent the weekend with us once again (she is often here).

13th N.W.2, £1; King's Lynn, £10.

14th Shrove Tuesday and Valentines Day. Pancakes for tea and much teasing over 'Valentines' received by Staff and Seniors. Little Irene decides to play hide and seek from school and cannot be found for 2½ hours and eventually turns up in time for dinner quite unconcerned!

Mr. and Mrs. White together visited quite a number of sick folk in the village of Abridge.

Woodford Green, Covenant Gift, £2; Northwood, £1; Bridgenorth, £1.

15th Beechcroft Road S.S., £2; Winchester, £1; Lansdowne Baptist S.S., £5; All Saints Youth Club, Woodford Wells, £13.

Auntie 'Nellie' a great friend of ours returned home from a nursing home at Hampstead where she had been having special treatment following a serious illness. She has been remembered often in our prayers and also the Sunday School at Dagenham which has missed her so much. We admire those who have gallantly carried on in her absence.

All, except the tiny tots, went over with staff to Epping to be entertained by the Epping Congregational Church C.E.

16th There was a Parents' afternoon at St. Barnabas School for parents of girls who are taking the General Certificate of Education.

A box of toys arrived from a nearby factory.

17th The 'Youth for Christ' organisation used our Hall for a Social. The children commenced their half-term holiday. J. L. Plant Memorial, £5; Gravesend, £1.

18th One of the lads who had recently left paid us a visit.

Manchester, £2 (Covenant gift); Woodford Green, £1: 'towards the children's summer holiday.' (N.B.—We have been praying since the beginning of the year that God will open up the way for us to take the children away similarly to the Devon holiday previously. This gift is the first indication of God answering our prayers. Mrs. White, Snr., reminded us of an occasion many years ago when the staff and children were praying for the wherewithal for a day's outing.

The first gift was 6d. One little Christian girl in the family was tackled by some others as to whether she thought God really would supply the need—back came the reply: 'Of course, He will, He wouldn't have sent 6d. if He wasn't going to send the rest'.)

Union Congregational Church, Tower Bridge, £3.

19th Today it was so cold that on the way to Abridge when the radiator decided to boil over the water splashed back on the windscreen and froze before we could make any effort to wipe it off! Mr. Bullen, our evening speaker, who was following thought we had stopped to provide cup of tea en route!

20th S. Woodford, £1; Stratford Railway Mission, £4 14s. 0d.; Stratford, £2; Windsor Mission S.S., £1; Esher, £10: 'My wife and I have felt that with this bitterly cold weather you will have extra demands and needs arise and we would like to help a little. May our Lord continue to guide and bless you all in this work for Him.'

21st Mr. Crowhurst and Miss Mumford took some of the boys to the Hollow Ponds for sliding. Miss Long took some of the girls to London where they all enjoyed a good dinner at a 'help-yourself cafe' and they visited a News Theatre.

23rd Southborough, £2, from a dear lady over 80 who says: 'God is still the same. You proved Him in the past and you still prove Him.' Torquay, 10s.; Hornchurch, £1; Navestock, £2 2s. 0d.; Puckeridge, 5s.; Limassol, Cyprus, £15: 'We have had some rough times here, but we have proved that the Lord is indeed a Rock and Fortress through it all. In spite of difficulties, He has enabled us to continue to give out the Gospel and we have had the joy of seeing some turn to the Lord. We continue to pray that the Lord will bless you and your fellow workers as you are led by Him to continue this precious work of caring for the children and of proving our God is faithful and He will!' Loughton, £1; S. Woodford Residents Association, £2 2s. 0d.; Woodford Green, £2.

24th Another Heating Engineer came to give his advice on the proposed alteration to the basement floor of Nos. 18—24.

We went over to Stotfold to fetch Margaret and Karl and their wee baby Jürgen who were coming here to spend their last weekend with us before setting off to the Shetlands where God has called them to the Ministry. It was snowing when the journey commenced and the snow was freezing on the windscreen. We all arrived back safely and it was lovely to have them in our midst once again.

26th Today was one of those special days when we realised afresh that God does hear and answer our prayers. We pray

that God will bless the children who come into our care—we teach them of His love, and today Margaret was with us, having found the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour in her early days with us, and although there have been many difficulties in her life, yet she has continued to trust God and God has blessed her with a fine Christian husband and as they have sought His will He has wonderfully undertaken for them. This morning their little baby boy was dedicated at Abridge and in the evening Karl was baptised, together with one of the girls, Iris Reeves, who has passed through our Abridge Sunday School.

27th Anon., Woodford Green, £10 10s. 0d.; Shoebury Shoe Fund, £14; Willesden Hall S.S., 10s.

One of the staff addressed meeting at Ley Street Women's Meeting. Toys were received from Waltham Abbey. A personal gift of an electric blanket was received today from Scotland. A lovely surprise and most welcome.

28th Walthamstow, £2, for the holidays; West Mersea, £5; Epping, £1.

Received the news that one of our Abridge members was very seriously ill. Mr. White has been visiting very regularly and will continue to do so. Also heard that another member had had a serious operation and come safely through.

29th Wickham Market Young People's Fellowship, £7 10s. 0d.; Frinton, £1.

Mr. White took Margaret and Karl to Kings Cross to catch the Aberdonian on the first stage of their journey to the Shetlands. They will not be arriving until more than 48 hours later.

Mr. and Mrs. White went to choose the new refrigerator.

March

1st Had the last of our harvest apples for dinner today.

2nd Leigh, £5; Esher, £2 2s. 0d.

5th Birmingham, £1.

6th Yelling, Covenant Gift, £15; King's Lynn, £5; Highgate, £1.

Peggy went for an interview at Chigwell. For nearly two years she has been in training as a 'nanny' with a family in Kensington. Due to the very thorough grounding she has had she has now been able to obtain a post with very good pay.

Our combined Abridge and Woodford team was successful in the first round of the 'Youth for Christ' quiz.

7th Some of the children and staff saw the film 'Souls in Conflict' which is being shown locally three evenings by the Evangelistic Committee. From a gentleman in Woodford we received a large selection of toys and toilet requisites. Miss Higginson, who used to be on the staff, spent the day with us. Pamela returned to school after several weeks in bed.

8th Frinton, 10s.; Singapore, £50; Ley Street Women's Meeting, £1 10s. 0d.

During staff prayers a telegram arrived announcing the arrival of a baby daughter to Wendel and Irene out in South Africa. We had been waiting for this news! Peterborough, 7 prs. gloves and 1 scarf.

10th Pat's 21st birthday. For the last two years she has been living in 'digs,' but she came home to celebrate this occasion and we had a very happy evening together with a number of Pat's Christian friends she has linked up with at Latchett Hall.

Pat came to us at the age of 12 in January, 1947, when the children of a Home in Sevenoaks were transferred to our care. She then knew the Lord Jesus Christ as her Saviour and we have watched her grow up and are delighted to see her enthusiasm to witness for Christ.



Pat cutting her 21st birthday cake with the help of Mrs. Edith White

12th 'E. L.,' Tottenham, 10s.; Ilford: 'Enclosed please find £1 which has been awaiting being sent ever since Christmas. If we had gone to a Pantomime at Christmas, we should have spent this, and we felt so happy to be with you and we all want to thank you for a very inspiring time. You can't know what a blessing it is to see God's work in action.'

13th Spring Cleaning started in earnest.

- 14th Woodford, £1; Out and Out Mission, Bow, £1 1s. 0d.; Woodford, £1 and £1; Seven Kings, £3, for holidays.

Monthly Prayer Meeting, this time Rev. Goodwin Hudson arrived safely and in time. He gave a very helpful word emphasising our need to attach more importance to the sayings of Christ Himself: these words are life indeed.

Three of the children had music lessons.

- 15th Meeting taken at Ley Street: Young Women's Fellowship.

Bible Study as usual at Abridge. Two full vehicles always go down from here.

- 17th A beautiful, warm, sunny spring morning with the prospects of a happy, uneventful day with the children. Soon after breakfast we received news we had been expecting that a dear member of our Abridge Fellowship has passed away. We had been visiting him each day in hospital for nearly three weeks and had been very thrilled at his witness there. Mr. White was able to pop down to Abridge to see the family.

Soon after arrival back and intending to make an onslaught with the boys at tidying the garden, there was a sudden explosion which reminded the older folk of V.2s. A petrol tank on the nearby factory site had exploded killing a little boy who resides in Crescent Road. It was a nasty incident and might indeed have been much more disastrous. We were in close touch with the parents for whom the tragedy caused great grief in their home.

It was the Meldrum S.S. Anniversary over at Dagenham and some of the staff and children went over in the vehicles to the meetings and to have tea with pen friends.

Somerset, 2 hand-knitted school scarves.

Leyton, 6 boxes Elastoplast, 1 box paraffin gauze dressing, 1 bottle gargle, 1 tube acriflavine, lint.

Alan Scott, on leave, came to spend the weekend. We also had the privilege of entertaining Rev. Bruce Henry, a Missionary on leave from India, for the weekend.

- 18th Mr. White conducted the evening service at the Kentish Town Mission.

- 19th Chailey Undenominational Mission, £3; Wormit, £2.

- 20th Buckhurst Hill, £1; Anstey Union Chapel, £1 5s. 0d.

Mr. White had to attend the inquest of the little boy, Kenneth.

At 1 o'clock in our little Abridge Chapel there was a service in memory of our beloved friend, Mr. Pond, after which he was laid to rest in the pretty Lamborne Church Yard. Here at least is a beautiful part of unspoiled Essex. It was so quiet and peaceful there.

Mr. and Mrs. White were able to go down to the Abridge Recreational Fellowship to see the Members beat the C. of E. Boys' Club in a table tennis contest and take part in the closing epilogue.

- 22nd The funeral service of Kenneth was held in our Hall. Flowers had been sent from Cornwall for decoration and many friends and neighbours were present. We all had a very deep sympathy in this tragic bereavement. The Rev. Burling, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Rev. H. J. L. Hunter, Minister of the Baptist Church and Mr. Stephen Smith, Latchett Hall took part in the service which was conducted by Mr. White.

We received today 10s. from the 2nd Hornchurch Brownie Pack; Brandon Mission Primary, £1; Kentish Town, 10s. for holidays.

One of the staff addressed the Ley St. Young Women's Fellowship.

- 23rd Ilford, 10s.; St. Albans, £1.

Our combined Abridge and Woodford Team won the second round of the 'Youth for Christ' quiz.

- 24th Boat race today. It's surprising how much dark blue and pale blue ribbon emerged from the unknown!

We invited our Waverley Road neighbours to have a look round our building this evening, after which they joined in lots of lively games in the hall. It was rather amusing to watch musical lap. The men folk have to run round the chairs until the music stops—when it stops they must grab a lady and make her sit on his lap on the chair. Many of the older folk who were quietly sitting round the outside of the hall watching, suddenly found themselves whisked across the floor most unceremoniously! Family prayers around the supper tables—was a happy, informal time.

- 25th Mr. Stephen Smith conducted our Evening Service at Abridge.

- 26th Kentish Town Mission S.S., £6; Waverley Road (towards Saturday's expenses), £2 17s. 0d.

- 27th 17th West Essex B.B. Coy., 10s.; Horam, £3; Thundersley Gospel Hall, £2.

- 28th Children broke up for Easter Holidays.

- 29th Covenant Rebate from Government, £325 10s. 2d.

Instead of the usual Bible Study at Abridge, after a short prayer meeting, invitations were distributed to every house in Abridge giving details of the Easter Services.

- 30th Good Friday. Hot Cross Buns for breakfast. We all attended the united service at the Grove Road Evangelical Church. After tea, the little ones were to have had a film service but unfortunately the bulb of the projector didn't

function so this had to be postponed for a future date. The Seniors attended a film service at the Baptist Church. At Abridge our Church united with the C. of E. for witness march through the village followed by a united service in the Chapel of Ease.

31st Interviewed a parent who was concerned about her two children. A very large Easter Egg arrived from a local baker. An unknown lady had placed the order for this.



GREETINGS

to 'old' Members of the Family in Canada, U.S.A., Australia, Jordan, Germany, South Africa, Shetlands, England and on the High Seas! Thank you for the interesting letters received during the year. Write again soon please. Come to the Annual Meetings on the 9th June if you are within travelling distance! Above all—remember us in prayer always.