

1899

74

# LINKS

SPRING 1955

CHILDREN'S  
HOME AND  
MISSION

1955

We are greatly looking forward to and preparing for

## "OUR DAY"

**SATURDAY, 21st MAY, 1955**

at the

### **SOUTH WOODFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

(Kindly lent).

\*—\*—\*

3 p.m. Chairman: Mr. Stephen Smith, L.D.S., R.C.S.  
Speaker: Revd. Ronald W. Francis,  
(Christ Church, St. Albans).

TEA BETWEEN

6.30 p.m. Chairman: Lt. Comdr. S. E. Sharpe, D.S.C.  
Speaker: Revd. W. G. Channon,  
(Purley Baptist Church)

\*—\*—\*

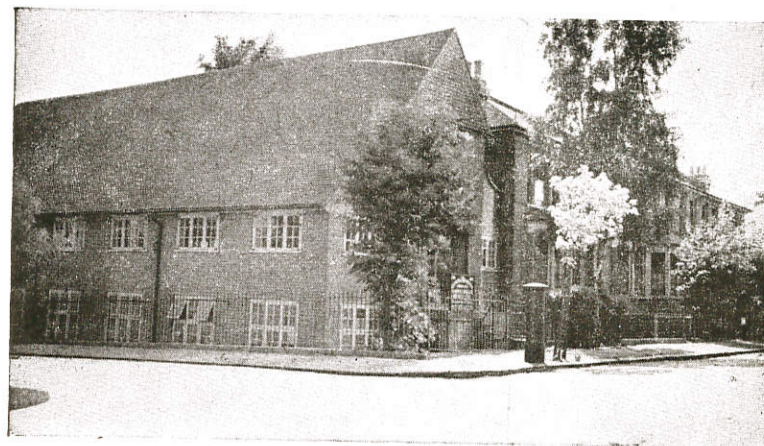
Full Reports of the Year's experiences will be given at both Meetings and Staff and Children will be taking part in song and recitation.

\*—\*—\*

**Kindly pray for blessing—come and join  
us on this happy occasion of thanksgiving**

## The Children's Home Links

---



WOODFORD

---

" . . . there hath not failed one word of all  
His good promise . . . "

1 Kings 8 v. 56.



# 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. A. M. GILBERT (Non-residential)

Miss P. LONG

Mr. and Mrs. D. OLNEY

Mrs. E. WEBB

Miss MAUREEN HAYNES }  
Miss BERYL PARKES } Junior  
Miss BARBARA REVELL }

## Medical Officers:

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

Dr. W. ERIC MATHIE, M.B., Ch.B.

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

## Dental Surgeon:

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

## Chiropodist:

Mr. A. C. THOMPSON, M.S.S.Ch.

## Bankers:

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.

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

Mrs. E. C. L. Roberts.

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

F. C. Stark, Esq.

J. R. Stark, Esq.

James Stokes, Esq.

Pastor W. A. Warwick.

Mrs. Edith White.

Victor J. White, Esq

## VOLUNTARY WORKING PARTIES:

Alexander Hall, Westcliff.

Ashley Hall, St. Albans.

Bedfont Tabernacle.

Bishopstoke E. F. C.

Elmsleigh Gospel Hall, Leigh.

Fulbridge Hall, Maldon.

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

MARCH, 1955

Dear Prayer Partners and Friends,

With the bitter cold days of snow and ice behind us and the sun doing its utmost to remind us of the great possibilities of the lighter days ahead, I pause and look back on the year of 1954.

We who have been actively engaged in looking after the kiddies here, have hearts full of praise and thanksgiving for His guidance, blessing and provision of Spiritual and Material needs.

We are grateful for the numerous experiences which have once again thrown us back, as it were, entirely upon Him. How strange we humans are—no sooner do we 'feel' that all goes well, than we start immediately to 'relax' in our Spiritual lives and straightway the Devil finds the 'open crack' and subtly forces his way in. At least, this has been our experience.

As we look forward, we do so in the sure knowledge that as we abide in Him and He in us, then come what may, all will be well. Within our Family Circle there is clearly a very happy homely spirit—we praise God—for this is essential to the blessing of His Work, within and without! I do feel somehow that we are now emerging, how shall I put it, from a period of transition (father was called Home in the Spring of 1952) and we must now in Faith, press forward, with the tremendous fact of His overruling in the days behind us, to strengthen our forward thrust. I do not feel that it would be appropriate here, even if there was space so to do, to give details of these many experiences, suffice to say that He has graciously upheld, and we feel so much richer spiritually because of the many lessons learnt.

At Staff prayers of recent weeks we have been studying together the Epistle to the Romans—what a real uplift this letter is. Here, we are exhorted by God's servant (we who love and serve Him) not only to reckon ourselves dead to sin and alive unto Christ, but to have **daily victory** over sin and self as we allow the Holy Spirit Himself to have full sway in our lives, for men indeed need to see our **GOOD WORKS** to glorify our Father in Heaven!

Following Christmas, we had an outbreak of influenza, amongst Staff and Kiddies, but all recovered fully. As I write now we are all in good health—what a great asset this is to a Family of our size!

On 16th April we shall be coming to another Milestone within the history of the Work. Two, who were once with us as children, then Junior staff members, are entering into marriage, Irene and Margaret. We wish them both God's speed, His

blessing upon their future lives with their respective husbands and look forward with great pleasure to following their branching out! More details of this Happy Day will be written separately. Many of the 'Old Family' are continually getting into touch of late and we are so glad. If there are any reading this who have not written or been to see the 'Old Home' for sometime, we should be delighted to hear from or see you again. God bless you!

May 21st next—have you booked this date? I do most sincerely trust so. Our Annual Day, is always such a Happy Occasion, a time of real encouragement for us here I can readily assure you, and once again we feel the Lord is going 'before' to give us His blessing. Many have pointed out that the date clashes with the final meeting at Wembley—after making enquiries as to the possible date for the Wembley meetings, we booked early! Later we heard that these crusade meetings had been pushed back a week, but as all our arrangements were made we felt we should "go ahead." We trust that this clash does not mean that our Friends and Prayer Partners will not be with us. May God bless both the great Wembley Rally and our Annual Day to His Glory.

We are looking forward to seeing you all again—in the meantime let us pray earnestly, work fervently for Him—He Who has so truly manifested Himself again to this His Work, as One Who never faileth! Thank you all so much,

Sincerely yours in Him,

VICTOR J. WHITE.



One of our "old" girls—her daughter and grandson  
(we met them on holiday last year).

Please pray for her—she is in hospital just now.



## HERBERT WILLIAM WHITE

### Memorial

It was an interesting company that gathered on 13th November, 1954, at the Abridge Evangelical Free Church to unveil a memorial tablet to the late Herbert William White.

There were present: one who was a fellow Sunday School scholar with him; one who had been Mr. White's friend and prayer partner for over forty years; old girls and boys of the Home (some from the earliest days and others of more recent years); many of the Abridge friends, many of whom had helped with the caravan work in the pre-1926 days; staff and older members of the present family at Woodford.

The account showed that there had been a splendid response to the simple letter of intimation that had been sent out by the Fellowship of the Abridge Church, that the erection of a memorial to Herbert White was contemplated. The proposal to rebuild the Baptistry and provide direct water supply and necessary outlet and to erect a suitable memorial tablet in the Church had been carried out. The actual work of rebuilding the baptistry had been undertaken by Mr. William Cowling who was in the Home at Woodford about 50 years ago. The original baptistry had been installed during the last war and the reconstruction is in every way a vast improvement which would, without a doubt, have delighted Mr. White. At the side of the baptistry, on the East wall of the church is the tablet bearing the following inscription:—

To the Glory of our faithful God  
who honours faith and answers prayer  
the baptistry of this Church was rebuilt  
as a memorial to

HERBERT WILLIAM WHITE

Founder and for 52 year Hon. Director of  
The Children's Home and Mission,  
South Woodford.

The first and for 26 years Pastor of this Church.  
Nov. 13th, 1954. "Whose faith follow"  
Heb. 13, 7.

After tea, provided by the Abridge Church Fellowship for those who had come long distances, we gathered for the unveiling ceremony. The church was full and there was a spirit of expectancy which could be felt.

The Rev. Kenneth Parkinson, M.A., a Trustee of the Home, and long-standing friend, led in prayer and read the scripture.

Miss Rosa Percival, Hon. Secretary to the Memorial Fund, outlined the purpose, progress and completion of the project, and after giving financial details added her thanks to the many friends

who had helped in numerous ways to give effect to the proposed memorial and to all who had contributed and expressed kindly words of remembrance.

The unveiling ceremony was performed by Mrs. Edith White. She drew the covering aside and read the inscription on the tablet and added: 'It gives me great joy to be asked to unveil this memorial to my late husband. I am sure that the form it has taken would have given him great pleasure. I do sincerely trust that many who find the Lord to be their personal Saviour in this church will make their witness in passing through the waters of Baptism according to the Scriptures.' It was fitting that this part of the meeting should have been taken by Mrs. White who carried her part through with simplicity and grace.

It was then the privilege of the congregation to hear one of the family's treasured recordings of Mr. White re-counting, not long before his home-call, his experiences as a younger man. }

The Chairman, Mr. James Stokes, because of his intimate friendship with Mr. White was able to introduce many stories reminding us of the outstanding faith and character of our friend. He himself, as a young fellow, mingling in the crowd at a Tower Hill open air meeting, was singled out by Mr. White, who was on the platform, to give his testimony. The experience was a tense one for Mr. Stokes, but from that moment began a life-long friendship which has proved a great blessing to the Woodford and Abridge work.

Mr. Stanley Kirkness, who had travelled from Surrey to be present recalled his boyhood days with Mr. White in Sunday School at the Woodford Baptist Church with James Hawkey, later Sir James Hawkey, Arthur Matthews, later Alderman Matthews, J.P., and others. Mr. Kirkness said that he had been present at almost every annual Meeting of the Children's Home and Mission and he had watched God's hand blessing the labours of his servant.

Dr. David Smith, one of the Medical Officers of the Home, and also a Trustee spoke of how Mr. White and his family had always been an inspiration to him and of the pleasure he felt in being associated with the work. He thought the memorial very suitable and would have been in tune with Mr. White's own wishes.

The 'old' girls and boys were represented by Mrs. Winnie Oakley of Westcliff and Mr. Percy Kearns of Ilford. Mrs. Oakley, whose two sisters were also present, recalled how she and her sisters were three of the most mischievous girls in the home; of how she remembered going with Mr. White for expeditions to London. Mr. White would say: 'We haven't much money but we will just trust God.'

Winnie said: 'Mr. White's prayers always were answered, so we knew we should have dinner and enough money for the fare



home! It was not surprising that Winnie should have been thinking in her mind of the great re-union day of loved ones—only the previous week her own husband had been called home—she pictured Mr. White waiting 'at the Door' to receive all his children on that great day.

Percy spoke of his arrival in the Home in 1934—his days at Tiptree in the early part of the last war and then, how as senior boy, he got to know Mr. White much more intimately and personally. The chat they had prior to his call-up and advice given then, to 'Begin as you mean to go on' was taken to heart and never forgotten.

The serious wounds received in France only five days after 'D' Day—the London and Manchester Hospitals—Mr. White's visits and prayer offered at the bedside for his recovery—his return to Tiptree on crutches shepherded through London by Mr. White himself. These experiences of love and kindness shown meant much to him—he could never be thankful enough.

Two amusing incidents—attending a Convention in Colchester with Mr. White. Arriving late—marching up to the front seat on crutches feeling rather embarrassed and then sitting down to hear a loud cough—Mr. White's hat was fairly squashed flat!

Off to a Sunday Morning Service—with Mr. White as pillion passenger—the first and only time! Hat clasped firmly in one hand, attache case in the other, and whenever the needle of the speedometer flicked above 30 m.p.h., a voice from the back: 'Aren't we going a little fast, Percy?' On suggestion that Percy should call for him after the meeting—'No, I think I can manage by 'bus'.

Mr. Ewart White spoke on behalf of Mr. White's own family, expressing for each member of that intimate circle, their great admiration for his stirring faith.

Mr. A. M. Gilbert, Co-Pastor of the Church, on behalf of the Church Fellowship, referred to his long friendship with Mr. White and the varied fields of service in which he had seen Mr. White at work, viz., the witness on Tower Hill with the Open Air Mission; amongst those serving in H.M. Forces; as Director and father in the Home, as well as the minister at Abridge. Mr. White had a great appeal to men in every walk of life and there were many who had found Christ through his witness.

It was with a loving and sympathetic ear that the congregation listened to Mr. Victor White who is now Hon. Director of the C. H. and M. and Pastor of the church. His experiences of God's faithfulness during the period since the passing of his Father indicated that his father's mantle has indeed fallen on him.

The last speaker was Pastor H. G. Goddard, another Trustee of the Home and Past President of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Free Churches, with which the Abridge Church is associated. He referred to Mr. White's contact with the Kentish

Town Mission where up to the time of his home-call, he was Chairman of the Trustees. Mr. Goddard's message was a word of appeal to those now responsible to devote themselves in prayer for God's blessing on the work. He also gave many intimate pictures of Mr. White's work among the boys and girls, gathered from many years of fellowship in the work. On one occasion Mr. Goddard had offered to fit a certain boy with clothes when he left school and started work. Several months later Mr. Goddard met Mr. White and said: 'What about that boy's clothes, does he need them yet.' 'Oh,' said Mr. White, 'He's been out at work several weeks, and he's got his clothes. I've never asked anybody for anything and I'm not asking you!' This simple impression, recalled how rigidly Mr. White kept the principles of the work, in appealing only to God to supply all the needs of the large family circle. He felt that anybody wanting to help should receive the prompting of the Holy Spirit and not of himself.

So the meeting came to an end with the hymn 'Guide me O Thou great Jehovah'. This, like all the hymns, was a favourite of Mr. White. The Home at South Woodford and the Church at Abridge will always be a memorial to the life of our late dear friend, but it is fitting that in the little church in Abridge there will remain, to the Glory of God, this reminder of his long and varied services for the Master he loved and the God in Whom he trusted with such simplicity.

## H. W. WHITE

### Memorial Fund—Abridge

Receipts			Payments			
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
117	18	6	To W. Cowling for materials and labour ...	59	0	0
			„ Rope and hooks, etc. ...	4	0	7
			„ Carpet and shades ...	9	6	0
			„ Oak plaque ...	18	18	0
			„ Printing and postage ...	—	—	—
				91	4	7
			„ Balance ...	26	13	11
£117	18	6		£117	18	6

N.B.—The balance of £26 13s. 11d. will be used as a 'further extension' of the memorial.





Christmas Tree and Toys sent from a  
Cricklewood Factory.



Soldier and Sailor.  
Two of our old boys come to see us.

## HOW WE SPENT CHRISTMAS IN CRESCENT ROAD

by a visitor

### Pre-Christmas Days.

Before we could say 'Jack Robinson' this year, what do you think we had discovered? Yes, Christmas was barely two weeks off and lots had still to be done. Mr. White was recovering from an operation he had undergone and already the postman's calls were producing more correspondence than usual. Well, what were we to do? BUCKLE DOWN TO IT, and this we did.

Presents were sorted out and labelled, provisions were ordered, hundreds upon hundreds of gifts were acknowledged and every evening, after 'burning the midnight oil,' we slept soundly, yet knowing that there was 'Still much more land to be possessed.'

Among the many interesting happenings of the weeks preceeding Christmas, were the following:—Gifts of money and beautifully decorated garments arrived by post; overloaded motor cars pulled up outside with toys given by Sunday School or Day School Scholars: three delightful Turkeys found their way here (dead of course!). Tasty fruit was sent along and on the Friday evening a large supply of bread was offered from a local bakery and promptly collected. To have seen some of the kiddies and mind you, staff too, tucking into bread and butter in bulk that evening, one would have thought that there was no limit to personal capacity.

The days of preparation quickly passed and on Christmas Eve we found ourselves loading Father Christmas' Wares on a trolley and taking same along to the Hall. On our arrival here we found several of the senior lads and a friend puffing furiously at balloons which with monotonous regularity, burst in their faces. Those that failed to pop whilst being inflated, politely exploded when allowed to lay harmlessly on the floor! Whilst these young vandals started Christmas some hours before time, the womenfolk put the finishing touches to the arrangements for the following day. They were delighted by the arrival of Christmas cakes, mince pies, etc., sent anonymously, as on previous years.

### Christmas Day.

With shouts and shrieks of childish delight very early next morning, Christmas made its debut. For a moment it was possible to imagine that one had gone to sleep and awakened to find oneself at a fun fair. Not only did the increased volume of early morning activity tell us that Christmas Day had just begun, but the unusual contraptions which were thrust in front of one to view, more than convinced us that it actually WAS Christmas Day! Resigning ourselves to this fact we invited the children to the bathrooms to wash and get ready for breakfast. Many 'Old members of the Family' were staying over for the period and they too helped in many ways. Santa's Wares were to be seen everywhere in plenty, already, even at the breakfast table.



After the meal we went along to the Top Hall for our Carol Service. Here Mr. White made his first appearance to the children since his illness in November and there was a great burst of cheering as he arrived. Our little choir gave such carols as 'The Holly and the Ivy,' 'Oh Come All Ye Faithful' and 'As with gladness Men of Old.' Mr. Gilbert was called upon to give the Seasonal Greetings and a young friend from South Africa voiced his greetings from his Land.

Mr. White spoke briefly. We listened to how our Lord (The Word of Life) was made flesh and came down for our sakes to a world that disowned Him. How in humility He came—how for 30 years He prepared for a short three year's ministry and how one day He stood before Pilate to hear the crowds cry 'Crucify Him.' Yes, how comparatively short a time after the birth of the Babe—Whose Birthday we were at this time celebrating—how soon after His birth, He hung upon the Cross. Despite the gaiety of the celebrations, all was silent and reverent as the speaker told of how great God's love was for us. Looking up at the decorations, Mr. White told of how his late father connected the holly with our Lord's sacrifice. The leaves, he said, reminded him of the Crown of Thorns placed in mockery on our Lord's Head and the berries of His blood shed for us. This was indeed God's great gift to us at Christmas-time—the Gift of His only Son. Seldom, if ever, he continued, had he seen anyone refuse a Gift, yet there were in our day, thousands upon thousands who were saying NO to God's Gift. Until we take a gift it is not ours and in a similar sense, until we take Jesus as our Saviour, He is not ours! We must TAKE God's gift. He expressed the hope and said how lovely it would be, if not only one, but many of the boys and girls gave themselves to Jesus on His Birthday.

We then listened to a recording entitled 'Each Step of the Way' by Red Harper, one of the Dr. Billy Graham team. At the close of our Carol Service we stood together and sang heartily, with thankful hearts, 'Hark the Herald Angels sing.' We rejoiced to know that God had become flesh and taken on Himself the form of man and that through His death, eternal life was ours, upon our acceptance!

After prayer, the children arranged themselves in family groups to receive further gifts. Mrs. Edith White presented these. Behind her stood two magnificently decorated Christmas Trees sent us by the staff of a London Firm. No one must open their parcels until the Signal was given—this soon came, 'One, Two, Three, Open! What a noise of excitement resulted and from the packages came, manicure sets, trains, trumpets, dolls, pens, sweets and almost every imaginable Christmas gift that could be given. There was anything from Walt Disney's cartoon character 'Pluto' wheeling a milk cart, to dolls which walked,

smiled, winked and did everything but eat (which was a blessing in disguise!).

Seated at a table was none other than Postmaster, Mr. Gilbert, whose duty it was to mind Postal Orders, etc., received in the various parcels as gifts.

I, for many a moment thought I was back in Texas. Cowboys and Indians whizzed by on every side and gun shots and cap fumes filled the air like a thick mist. Once having received these gifts the investigation of the workings of these newly acquired belongings was very important. So whilst the little folk busied themselves with their toys, the seniors and visitors listened to a selection of sacred recordings, which proved of real blessing.

Away in the background—the kitchen—Staff had been working hard and at long last the bell was rung announcing dinner. Now we would be able to devour the turkeys we had almost dreamed about; we would frantically search the pudding for fabulous cash awards—our appetites had been toyed with long enough! Whilst just waiting to move into the dining room, the teasing aroma of the turkeys caused us to feel weak in the knees and we literally flopped into our chairs when the 'O.K.' was given. Grace was said together and soon nine pairs of hands at each table were busy tucking into their mouths the delicious seasonal delicacies that had been provided.

Second helpings of this, that and the next thing were asked for, so the meal progressed. By the time we had reached halfway through our pudding we found to our dismay that the toffee eating spree we had allowed ourselves to engage in, somewhat crippled our intake abilities. Among the specialities we consumed were: Turkey, sausages, stuffing, baked potatoes and sprouts, Christmas pudding and custard. It was with heaves and sighs that we wrenched ourselves from our chairs to await Her Majesty's broadcast relayed in the Top Hall.

At 3 p.m. one and all were sitting quietly waiting to hear what the Queen had to say at such a significant time of the year. We all stood still and erect for the National Anthem. In her speech Her Majesty referred to the happiness of the family circle and said how that she and her husband, spending Christmas with their children, were strangely led to think of those to whom Christmas was a lonely time. She also spoke of the community at large which depended so much on the 'Family Life.' It was a time when we thought of a Baby and a family the story of which had its origin two thousand years ago. She made reference at length to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and it did our hearts good to hear our Sovereign speak so majestically about our Saviour as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Tea was at 4.30 p.m. Jelly, fruit, etc., many pretty Christmas cakes, made by staff and senior girls, filled the tables. From the dining room we were each given a brightly coloured lantern



and to the music of Carols, led by the choir we walked round the Hall, darkened for the occasion.

The candles burning brightly, provided necessary light and the scene was indeed very impressive, the two Christmas Trees fully lit, giving a most attractive background to the whole event. As this very delightful little episode came to a close who should come on the scene, but our great friend, Father Christmas. Behind him he dragged a well-filled bag—high hopes indeed for all eagerly anticipating yet another present. Speaking of a sense of humour, Father Christmas lacked nothing in this line; he had a funny remark to make to everyone, twisting and turning most names until the people to whom he was wanting to give gifts, could hardly recognise their own names. Margaret Burns, was Margaret Schorcher and others were also teased to a point of frenzy. On the 'Open Up' signal, papers flew in all directions and soon articles of all descriptions were on full display. Santa's visit really was a good one from the looks of things. On his departure a shower of balloons came down from a concealed place in the roof and below stood more than enough willing owners of them! The children played with their toys until Family Prayers and the little ones toddled off to bed.

For we older ones, games of all descriptions were arranged. What a raucous evening we spent. After the active day behind us it was absolutely remarkable to see where the reserve energy could be found for games we played. Many bruises and bumps were sustained and it was almost with relief that we went down to a lovely supper, consisting of ham, beetroot salad, bread and butter, blancmange and jelly and trifle.

Christmas Day was drawing to a close—a few more games and then at 11.30, in view of the fact that the next day would be His Day, we gathered round the piano for a sing of the favourite carols and hymn tunes. Finally, at midnight, after prayer, we dispersed to our beds—never have they felt so comfy and inviting—it was indeed, soon to sleep!

Sunday 26th.—Was a little different from the ordinary Sabbath days, as the spirit of Christmas was still very much alive in the veins of the children. However, we went along to Church and Sunday School as usual and in between the children had further time to examine their newly acquired presents. They also received some which had been kept back to make an extra bright spot for Christmas Sunday.

The children, being very tired after the exertions of the day previous, settled early to bed and this gave the Staff an opportunity of a quiet supper together (a rare privilege) and further, a time for fellowship and prayer.

Boxing Day. With the Day of Rest between, all were fully re-cuperated for the fun and games of this new day. There was indeed a most happy atmosphere, children and grown ups too,

fully enjoying the opportunity of 'getting together' to celebrate this joyous time and really wholeheartedly entering into the activities which were changing continuously throughout the day.

One of the big items was the production of the 'Old Woman who lived in the Shoe.' Mr. John Styman and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert were mostly responsible for this and we greatly appreciated the most attractive get up of the kiddies, the actual little play itself and the obvious time and energy spent previously. All who were privileged to watch, readily agreed that it was a truly lovely effort.

Following tea, we settled down to a very thrilling and enter-tang film show given by a friend, the main item being, 'Life in the Indian Country in the early years of the United States of America.' The children thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it.

Now for the Christmas Trees—another present for all! Here Mrs. Edith White was called upon to distribute these lovely gifts to all the Family and visiting children too. I only wish that those who had been instrumental in providing these grand gifts had been present too—everyone was thrilled and I did feel that it was a lovely ending to a grand time. Not actually the complete end, for although the little ones were off to bed we again remained for games, supper, further games and after the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' and prayer, at last vacated the scene of such merriment and fun for the quiet of our bedrooms and the luxury of BED.

During the whole time of these three days, several of the 'Old Family' joined with us, some bringing their children, but it was mostly on Boxing Day that we had the joy of meeting so many—this truly was a great privilege and one felt how thrilled must have been those who for years had laboured in the work of the Home, to realise that here before them were the products of their labours—a tremendous encouragement!

What were our reactions to these active celebrations: Roll on Christmas 1955!

### THE MOON

A great round ball of silvery light,

The Traveller's guide on a stormy night.

Guiding the owlet back to its home,

Lamp of those who are bound to roam.

The Moon was there when the world began,

Was there to see the fall of man,

And all earth's deeds of crime and grace,

Have passed before his glorious face.

And oft, when I am safe in bed,

I think of what he might have said,

If through every age and year

He could have lived and spoken here.

(Written by Pamela for her School Magazine)



### THIS IS OUR STORY . . . TOLD VERY BRIEFLY

Autumn, 1921. A Police Court; two girls, one aged 10 and the elder 13, brought in to identify their father, a prisoner in the dock, convicted of embezzlement (as far as we can remember).

How had this come about?

Until the previous year we had enjoyed (though not sufficiently appreciated) the security of a good home; a Christian invalid mother, and as far as we had experienced a good father.

Mother died, but before this we had suspicions that father was selling her precious possessions, few by few, and as he thought, unnoticed. Due to doctor's bills the financial embarrassment became great and things went from bad to worse. We lost our home—our clothes (many made by mother's own hands) were left in lieu of rent at mediocre, questionable lodging houses. At last the law caught up with father. Although at the time we loved him dearly, we were relieved greatly.

Just how the very kind Court Missionary brought us to Woodford instead of putting us in a Poor Law Institution, we cannot rightly remember, but surely God knew and was answering the prayers of Mother, uttered years before.

We were both old enough to be thoroughly ashamed of our appearance on arrival, the sordid details of which we will leave unwritten.

It was not long before the consistent lives of the late Miss Hutchin and Mr. White, and Mrs. White, began to speak to us of Christ's love in laying down His Life and shedding His Blood for us, unworthy though we were. We soon responded and were saved, not only from the past nightmare of a year, but also from a lost eternity. The happiest times for us during our stay at Woodford, both as children and then later as Junior Helpers, were the periods spent each morning in the old 'Meeting Room,' where we learned God's Word by heart, were taught to pray and heard many anecdotes of Mr. White's adventures in Hyde Park and Tower Hill. Quite clearly can we remember being asked to pray for a heckler, Mr. Martin—often do we wonder what happened to him. Did he go to a lost eternity? This session usually ended with cod liver oil and two sweets. If we could get out of the former we did!!

As the years went by we were baptised, became nurses and hospital sisters. Although we have failed our great Deliverer many times never once has He failed us. Looking back, there are not one of those harrowing experiences we would forgo. At Woodford we found Christ and Christian love and friends when we needed them most. God is so good!

In recent years we have been reunited with our mother's family, from whom we had become estranged due to the shortcomings of our parent. All of them are keen Christians.

'To God be the Glory great things He hath done.'



Pamela, Dinah and Janet ready to go to Sunday School



Another Janet—with her husband and wee daughter



## THE DAY AT THE ZOO

On Tuesday, the 2nd November, we had a day which we are never likely to forget! A Christian friend and his wife, having had a wonderful holiday themselves, felt that, as a thank-offering, they should share the good things of life. Out of the generosity of their hearts they offered to give the children and their helpers a 'real day out', and it was obvious that the choice of the Zoo could not be bettered.

Half-term time—always a welcome respite from lessons—provided the perfect opportunity for accepting this wonderful offer, and so at 10 a.m. sharp, we were all gathered in the Large Hall to hear Mr. White's words of instruction and advice. Not only were we to have 'super' coaches—real Continental ones, in fact!—but the promise of a tea in the Coventry Street Corner House! And, to top the lot, every single child was to receive half-a-crown to spend! It was very thrilling to see the children's eyes growing wider and wider as they heard what was in store for them!

Then followed a prayer, committing ourselves and our day's outing to God's care, and asking Him to bring us back safely and to help us to enjoy the holiday to the full.

When we saw the coaches, our eyes nearly popped out of our heads! Of course, we had **seen** marvellous coaches like this going by on the Southend Road, but we had never had the chance of riding in one before. As we said, "They've got everything except the red carpet!"

So, off we went, and the journey to the Zoo passed **much** too quickly. We were in two coaches, and there was so **much** too see!

'My mum used to work in that road!' or 'My auntie lives near here!' were comments from some of the children, proving how dear are the ties of their loved ones.

When we arrived at the Zoo, however, everything was forgotten in looking for the first animal! We were all in high spirits. We teased each other about having got in easily enough—but would the keepers ever let us out? Once safely inside, we dispersed into groups—one helper to three or four children—with an arrangement to meet at a certain spot at 12.30, for lunch. But at that moment, eleven o'clock, no one took much interest in the subject of lunch! We wanted to see **everything**, to do **everything**, straight away, without any delay!

We saw the lions, roaring angrily over their raw meat, and stalking majestically round their cages. We visited the Parrot House, and had a job to make ourselves heard above the shrill screeches of these magnificently coloured birds. We said 'Hallo' and 'How Do You Do' to every single parrot, and some of them answered back, too! We saw the two elephants one from India, one from Africa, eagerly stretching forth their trunks, and asking as plainly as they could for something to eat. And they got plenty! We remembered what Mr. White had said, that we must

not spend **all** our money on ourselves, but must remember the animals, and nuts and animal foods were much in evidence! The elephants ate everything, even the paper-bag containing the last of our potato-crisps, salt and all! We hope he did not get indigestion!

And talking of indigestion, we saw a rhinoceros swallow an ice-cream carton, but we plead 'Not Guilty' to this! It was not us!

Next we visited the Reptile House, and saw many beautiful and strange creatures. Beautiful, yes! Perhaps not always attractive, but certainly beautiful in colour and in the wonderful markings on their bodies. Of course, we were glad there was thick glass between us and them!

Later, as we rounded a corner, a panther leapt across his cage and half-way up the bars! My goodness, we nearly jumped out of our skins! We can only think he mistook us for the cook and waitress! We admired him from a distance, after that! All the panthers and leopards reminded us very much of our pussycat, back home, but as domestic pets, we prefer pussycats! There was a tiger, asleep against the bars, and his coat, all brown and yellow stripes, looked soft enough to stroke, but we decided—better not!

And then—how **did** that happen—it was 12.25 p.m., and we suddenly remembered lunch! Of course, we **all** remembered the **exact** way to get back to the appointed meeting place, and after some trial and error, we **did** actually get back, and only two minutes late! And didn't we enjoy our packed lunch! Oh, my! Funny how all of a sudden you are hungry when you see food being unpacked, in spite of various tit-bits like ice-cream, popcorn and chocolate, out of the half-a-crown! We finished up with an apple and a drink of lemonade.

Then off to see all that we had not had time for, before lunch. We visited the insect-house and the giraffes, but what we were all waiting for was Feeding Time for the sea-lions! Oh, how we laughed and clapped as the sea-lions plunged under the water and rose again in their efforts to catch the tasty fish that their keeper was throwing to them! Some of them climbed up on the rocks, and when the keeper threw the fish just a foot or two out of reach, over they plopped with a delicious splash; and we all roared with delight! The sea-lions barked and weaved in and out of the water, sometimes dodging each other, sometimes almost crashing head on!

'I do hope they all get the **same** number of fish!' whispered one little girl anxiously.

The next thrill was a ride on an animal. It was a choice between an elephant, a camel, a donkey or a pony-and-cart. This was a very serious decision to make, for the half-a-crown was beginning to diminish!



One little cherub pressed a sixpence into my hand, saying confidentially:

'I want to keep this for the Children's Zoo! **Don't** give it to me—even if I ask for it!—until we get to the Children's Zoo!'

When at last we got to the Children's Zoo, it was worth keeping the sixpence for! The very moment we got in, two huge llamas nuzzled into our coat-pockets and our holdalls, to see if they could find anything to eat! They rubbed round our shoulders in a most friendly way, but the goats took the biscuit—in more senses than one! One lady was unwise enough to attempt to unwrap a parcel of sandwiches on a seat! In a twinkling, one of the goats had snatched the serviette from her hand, and sandwiches and cakes flew in all directions, all over the ground! The goats and llamas were delighted, but the lady looked utterly taken back!

The rabbits and sheep were very attractive, but what really took our eye was the Mouse Village. The mice had real little houses, with garden-paths, and windows, doors and chimney-stacks, but I noticed at least three mice asleep on top of their houses, in the chimney-stacks—and very cosy they looked, too!

Before we knew it, the time had gone, and it was 3.15 p.m.—time to re-assemble and join our coach and be taken in style to Lyons Coventry Street Corner House.

What a thrill! Immediately, on entering its shining portals and noticing the tall commissionaires, we became 'ladies and gentlemen'! We spruced ourselves up! We washed, we found the partings in our hair, we straightened our ties. And we behaved just **perfectly**! We were shepherded to our tables, and sat enthralled by the softly-changing lights and the sweet strains of the band. Yes, **band**! And, when later, the band struck up 'Happy Birthday to You,' with bow in our direction, we don't know who felt the most pleased and honoured—the helpers, the children, or little Janet, whose birthday it actually was!

We said Grace quietly at each table before we started eating, for we always wish to remember the One 'Who Givest All.' Then we—still politely and nicely—tucked in! And what a spread! A plateful of fish and chips (more than some of the younger ones could manage!), three slices of bread and butter, a large pot of tea, jelly and ice-cream, followed by French pastries! Ooh!

One little boy said in hushed tones, 'You know, this is a real privilege!'

We were so enthralled we didn't know what entranced us most! The gleaming silverware (white metal to the grown-ups!) on the table; the way the waiter lifted three slices of bread-and-butter with a spoon and fork in one movement! (we must practice this at home!); the slow-moving conveyor-belt contraption which took away full trays, and sent back empty clean ones; the two pieces of fried fish (not one!); the fancifulness of the cakes; the hundreds of lights in the ceiling; the smart uniform the bandsmen

wore; the sound of the triangles in the music they played; and so on and so forth! I think that tea is going to be a talking point for a long while!

And so, after another spruce-up, we re-joined our coach, and made our way slowly (repeat, slowly!) through London's rush-hour traffic-jam. All the lights were ablaze, and we saw the sights of London. Festival Hall, Big Ben, the Treasury, the River Thames (with the lights all twinkling in the water, or so it seemed), the B.B.C., the Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square, St. Martins-in-the-Field, Nelson's Column, Piccadilly Circus, the City Boundary, and all the well-known sights we have read about, but do not often get the chance of seeing!

As we approached our home-ground, the children themselves took a hand, and began to sing, 'For He's A Jolly Good Driver!' So back again, to gather together just for a few moments to give praise and thanks to God for His great goodness. After we had sung—"How Good is the God we Adore,"—Mr. Gilbert lifted us all up to the Throne of Grace, which was, we all felt, a fitting end to a wonderful day.



Irene and Margaret



## WEDDING — SPECIAL!

APRIL 16TH, 1955

**Irene Beresford**      **Wendel Stander** (of Johannesburg)  
**Margaret Beresford**   **Karl-Heinz Heller** (formerly of Hamburg)

Surely the dining-room at the Florence Barclay Memorial Hall has never seen a happier occasion than that which took place there on Friday afternoon, prior to the Saturday wedding of the twins, Irene and Margaret to the young men of their choice!

Friday was the children's special Wedding-Tea. The look of eager expectancy on the faces of the family was only equalled by the happy radiance of the four principals! And what a wonderfully joyous occasion this was! Never was the family-spirit better illustrated!

The top table was set with the two magnificent tiered wedding-cakes, raised on silver stands, and topped with white carnations in silver vases. These wedding-cakes were for the children to see—only!—but on an equally beautiful silver stand stood the iced cake which probably interested the children most!—the one made specially for them to eat! This was a lovely iced sponge-cake, square and satisfying-looking, beautifully finished with swirls, piping, and an iced rose in the centre. What a thrill!

All three cakes had been made by Mrs. Webb, and she is to be congratulated on her achievement, for not only did they all look magnificent, but they tasted wonderful, as we proved later on!

Before the meal, Mr. Victor White told us what a happy, though serious occasion this was, when two of our dearly loved family were entering into Christian marriage. Irene and Margaret came to Tiptree when they were eight years old, and to everyone's joy, gave their heart to their Saviour when they were nine. As they grew to young womanhood, they both joined the Staff for a time, and gave valuable service to the children whom they knew and loved so well.

After grace, which was said by all present, the family tucked in—and I mean tucked in!—to jelly and blancmange, bread and butter and jam and tea—but, time and again, eyes were turned towards the children's own wedding-cake! Then came the moment the children were waiting for! Irene and Margaret, holding the knife between them, cut the cake, and as the pieces were tasted, it proved to be as good as it looked!

The speeches were next, and Karl was the first. He amused the children with a pretence of being very nervous, and then went on to tell a delightful story of a Greek legend, concerning a King who had many precious jewels. These all became split into two halves and scattered all over the world. Then the King gathered all the pieces together, but he alone could find the right halves to fit together, and so make each jewel perfect and complete. So can God, and God alone, choose the right partner for each one

of us, and make us into a perfect whole. Karl thanked Mrs. White, senior (who was seated between the two bridal couples), Mr. and Mrs. Victor White, and all the family, for their loving welcome to him.

Wendel also, when his turn came, thanked everyone for the love and help they had given him. He referred to a favourite game, 'This is a happy yet solemn occasion,' which he and his friends used to play as youngsters, and said he was reminded of it as Mr. Victor White spoke. He spoke of the fact that he and Irene would be leaving for Cape Town a week or so after the wedding, to live for a time with his brother and family, and then to set up home for themselves. But, as he said, in very sincere tones, every choice would be left with God, and he finished by quoting the hymn, 'Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.'

Both Irene and Margaret gave thanks to Mrs. White, senior, and to Mr. and Mrs. Victor White, for all the love and care lavished on them over the years, and expressed the thought that this Family Wedding-Tea was just as they would have wished it. They both asked for the children's prayers, as they go forth to the new life of service with their husbands. Margaret and Karl already have their little home prepared in Hertfordshire, so we may hope that it will not be too long before we see them again.

Then came another highlight—the presentation of the children's wedding-gifts. These took the form of framed pictures, prints from the beautiful paintings of bird-life by Mr. D. M. Henry, a friend of the family. With each gift was a lovely card, hand-printed in silver by Mr. Olney, and all those who had contributed had signed their names inside. On one card was printed the text, 'Commit thy way unto the Lord,' and on the other the text, 'In all thy ways, acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths'.

Both Irene and Wendel, and Margaret and Karl, expressed their joy at these gifts, and the loving thought behind them.

Mrs. Victor White then closed with prayer, dedicating these four lives to God, and praying that He would always come first in their lives.

Saturday, the Wedding-Day, proved to be a beautifully warm, sunny Spring day, and there was great excitement as the children, scrubbed and polished, put on their prettiest dresses, and their 'poshest' ties!

George Lane Baptist Church was crowded with the children, and Staff of the Homes, with Abridge friends, and well-wishers. Then, to the music of the organ, the two bridal processions came up the two aisles—Irene on the arm of Mr. Victor White, and Margaret with Mr. Gilbert, co-pastor of the Abridge Evangelical Free Church. Both brides looked radiantly lovely. Irene's dress was of flowing white lace, and Margaret's of white figured satin. Irene carried a bouquet of red and pink carnations, whilst Margaret's bouquet was of red roses.

The four bridesmaids made a charming picture. The two older



ones, Peggy Beresford (sister of the brides), and Barbara Revell, were dressed in long, floral, blue gowns, with pretty head-dresses to match, and carried bouquets of multi-coloured anemones. The two small bridesmaids were grand-daughters of Mrs. White, senior—Anita White and Eunice McDermid. Their dresses were ground-length, and were of palest lilac, and each had a little poke-bonnet of the same material, and carried a posy of anemones, complete with silver frill. These two little five-year-olds behaved with sweet seriousness throughout the ceremony, and they looked good enough to eat!

The best men—Percy Kearns (an old boy of the Home) for Wendel, and Benjamin Dossack for Karl—performed their tasks nobly and well, producing the rings at the right second, and being on hand if anything was needed.

The marriage-service was conducted by the minister of the Church, Rev. H. J. L. Hunter, and the address was given by the Rev. Reginald C. Dalton. He spoke movingly of the marriage-feast at Cana, where Christ performed the first miracle, and he laid special emphasis on the fact that we need to call down the power of Christ into our lives. The children's choir then sang very sweetly, a favourite hymn, 'The Lord's My Shepherd,' to the Tune Crimond, with Mrs. Victor White accompanying them on the piano. Two boys of the family then gave texts from memory—the same texts as were printed on the children's wedding-gift cards.

The two hymns of the service were 'My God, I thank Thee Who hast made the earth so bright,' and 'For the beauty of the earth'—both sung with reverence and feeling.

After the service was over, the bridal party gathered outside the Church, and there the photographs were taken. There must have been dozens of them—some professional, some not—but throughout it all, the brides and the bridesmaids presented a beautiful picture, and the bridegrooms could now smile happily, the tension over! The sun continued to shine, giving perfect conditions for the photographers!

One very humorous note was struck immediately the party came out of the Church—and that was that a Fire Engine, passing on its way down George Lane, stopped for a moment, and the Firemen joined in the greetings! Then we proceeded to the Florence Barclay Memorial Hall for the Reception, where seventy guests sat down to a beautifully-prepared Wedding-Breakfast.

A table-plan guided us to our seats, and then Mr. Gilbert asked God's blessing. We proceeded to enjoy a lovely repast of ham and tongue and salad, with rolls and butter, trifle and jelly, and biscuits and cheese, accompanied by lemonade and/or tea! Folk had been very, very busy during the morning!

Mr. Percy Kearns, Wendel's best man, read out a number of congratulatory telegrams for the two happy young couples, some from people with unpronounceable names—but Karl and Wendel soon helped to translate! Among these telegrams were





ones from Wendel's folks, assuring Irene of a loving welcome to South Africa, and Karl's folks had telegraphed a beautiful gift of flowers, which graced the twin tables holding all the wedding-gifts. These were displayed in the Hall above, and we promised ourselves a good look at all the lovely gifts when the repast was over!

Irene and Wendel, and Margaret and Karl, then, at the same moment, cut the two double-tiered wedding-cakes, amid much applause! Then came several short speeches. Mrs. White, senior, spoke of the old days, when Irene and Margaret first came to the Homes, and said how happy she was to know that they had both given their hearts to the Lord when quite young, and that their husbands were both Christian young men.

Mr. Gilbert, speaking for Margaret, commented on the League of Nations here present, and congratulated the Rev. Hunter on not getting the couples mixed up, as the girls were so alike!

The Rev. Hunter was the next speaker, and he referred to the fact that he had known Wendel and his people previously, and he rejoiced in the fact that these four young people would be ambassadors for God, wherever they went.

Then Mr. Victor White rose, and gave thanks to everyone who had contributed in any way whatsoever in making this day such a happy and successful one. He gave thanks to Rev. Hunter for the able way he conducted the ceremonies and gave a special welcome to the Rev. Reginald Dalton, as a friend of long standing, and he thanked Irene and Margaret for all they had done, both as children and as members of the Staff, during their eleven years in the Homes. He mentioned that the girls had made a special request that their bouquets should be given to Mrs. White, senior, to place on the grave of the Founder and Director of the Homes, the late Mr. Herbert White. He also said that he thought the English boys were slow, not to have snapped up two such charming young ladies as Irene and Margaret! He ended by exhorting the two young couples to rely on God at all times, and to pray unceasingly.

Margaret then gave thanks to everyone, present and absent, who had helped to make this day such a memorable one, and asked for our prayers as she and Karl take up their married life together.

Karl spoke of his conversion, and gave thanks to God for Margaret. He said, with great feeling, that in their home Christ would be the Head, and that he and Margaret would work, all their lives, for the extension of God's Kingdom.

Irene next gave heartfelt thanks for all the love and care she had received, and requested our prayers as she and Wendel began a new life in South Africa.

Wendel, also, gave thanks to everyone, and stated that he was very proud of his catch! He assured everyone that Irene would

receive a warm, loving welcome from his folks in South Africa, and that they would devote their lives to God.

Then came the turn of the two best men. Percy Kearns, an old boy of the Homes, said how surprised and glad he was when Wendel asked him to be his best man, and he wished both couples God-speed in their new life. Benjamin Dossack, Karl's best man, said that they had known each other for many years, and he was sure that these two marriages were of God's choosing, and would therefore be greatly blessed by Him.

While the brides changed into their going-away outfits, the guests were able to inspect the arrays of wedding-presents—and what a lovely show there was! Irene and Wendel, and Margaret and Karl, as they use these lovely presents, will have some wonderful reminders of all their old friends!

Then came the last goodbyes, and God's benediction, and the two couples were hustled—yes, hustled—into one car! Not until the car was in motion did they know why! The front of the car was beautifully decorated with roses and carnations, but on the back two large cardboard placards announced 'JUST MARRIED', and a string of jangling tin-cans trailed along in the rear! The whole of Woodford must have shared in the rejoicing!

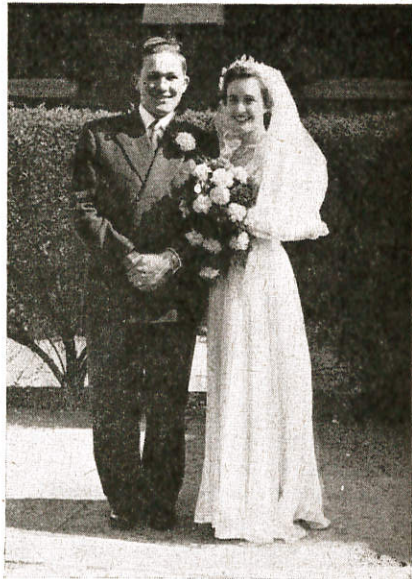
Irene's travelling outfit was a grey suit, and white accessories, whilst Margaret wore a red suit with white accessories. Irene and Wendel were spending their honeymoon in the Isle of Wight, and Margaret and Karl were travelling to Scotland.

It was a happy thought to put the whole day's events on record, and Mr. Olney was a very efficient operator of the recorder, so that, in later days, relatives in other parts will be able to enter into the spirit of this joyful day.

So one chapter ends, and another begins, and we pray God's richest blessing on these four dedicated young lives.



Irene  
and  
Wendel



Margaret  
and  
Karl-Heinz

**EXTRACTS FROM OUR DIARY — Sept. 1954 to Feb. 1955.**  
(Space prevents us from mentioning every gift received, every blessing, every happening, but the following is written to give you a flashing glimpse into the everyday home life.)

**September, 1954.**

1st Having arrived back from Devon yesterday there was much unpacking to be done—old haunts to visit—clothes to wash and general sorting out. It was good to be home and we revelled in our new dining room. One or two children arrived back from other holidays and there was a general exchange of experiences. All had a good time, but all seemed so glad to be home again.

Received £3 from Kentish Town; £5 from a reader of "The Christian" and 14s. from Leytonstone.

2nd More children arrived home. Staff busy sorting clothes and mending, in readiness for school next week. From Leytonstone, £1 14s. 1d.; New Barnet (in memory of a loved prayer partner) 15s. and from an 'old' girl and her husband, 10s.

3rd Holiday time staff and children have morning prayers together. We do believe family worship to be the basis of a happy home life and we know from older members of our family that they remember the teaching from God's word—it continues with them right through life. Anonymous gift of £2 10s. from St. Albans.

4th Two parcels received today—10 pairs gloves from Newport and three pairs of socks from Eastleigh. How delighted we always are to receive hand-knitted garments—we continually thank God for the many friends—some known to us, and some unknown to us but known to God—who in love to Him give of their money, time and talents in this way.

5th Sunday once more—the day set apart for worship. Not easy with a family of 50 children. In the morning some of us worshipped at the Woodford Baptist Church and our two vehicles were packed to capacity with the rest of the staff and children who joined in worship at our little Abridge Church. Afternoon—little ones went to Abridge Sunday School and older ones to Baptist Sunday School. In the evening the 11's and unders stayed at home with two of the staff, having their own time of prayer, and as many of the rest as possible supported the Abridge Gospel Service.

Was privileged to speak at the Blackmore Junior C.E. Anniversary service.

Received phone call from a friend after evening service —"My wife and I have had a lovely holiday and to show our appreciation in a practical way to God, we would like you to arrange a day out for your family" (You will read



about the sequel to this phone call separately).

- 6th Received Covenant gift of £50. (N.B. A gift under this scheme is nearly doubled because the Government gives us rebate of Income Tax). Visited Harrow Green Baptist Women's Meeting—request for a talk about our Work.  
Anon—parcel secondhand clothes.
- 7th Children returned to school. Even after six weeks some would still rather stay at home! The staff resume "term-time" routine—prayers together again, when we can unitedly bring before God all the needs of the work, including the special needs of the individual children. Went to Ashurst Drive Women's Meeting—brought back two meat dishes, pullover and other clothes! Gifts today—10s. and 10s. anon; and £2 from Leytonstone.
- 8th The day of our monthly prayer meeting. It was a great joy to welcome the Rev. and Mrs. Ridout from Brixham. We went to the their church whilst on holiday in Devon and enjoyed fellowship with them here in our home, they had tea with the children and staff—and shared in our 'Family Prayers.' [On the second Wednesday in each month (except August) all friends who are interested in our family, are invited to join in praise and prayer with us.] Legacy of £683 11s. 5d. received—left by a very old friend who each Christmas used to bring his little gift and always appeared to have very little of this world's goods. Other Christian folk also received benefit from this godly man's estate.  
From Tollesbury—six pairs hand-knitted socks. We obtained angle iron at cost price from a firm of engineers. (The menfolk will appreciate the value of this gift no doubt.)
- 10th Tebworth Road Mission, £2.
- 11th Saturday—children home from school. Some go out to see relatives or friends. We have a thorough check of shoes, school clothes, etc., and all Sunday clothes are put round in the dormitories ready for next day. Miss Patricia Long joined our staff. Having been at Saffron Walden Teachers' Training College and Redcliff Missionary Training College she comes well armed for helping in children's work. God has very wonderfully and clearly shown her His will and we look forward to great blessing as she joins our ranks. Gifts:—Doncaster, 10s.
- 12th Conducted services at Mountnessing C.C. Received first of many harvests from this Church, and £2 11s. 3d.; Ingatestone C.C. and Broadmead S.S.—harvests.
- 13th [Perhaps it is not fully realised how greatly the harvest goods help us. At time of writing we are still eating harvest apples and we have only just used up the supply of flour

and porridge oats which came in. There is still a large supply of jam (much of it homemade) and tinned fruit awaiting consumption.]

Harvest from Lifeboat Mission, Leytonstone. £3 3s. from 1st South Essex B.B. Coy. £1 from Southend—"should you feel it right to mention any particular prayer request or need when you send receipt we should be very pleased." (Some suggestions for prayer now—for those of our family who are Christians that they may grow and be a blessing within our family circle; for the teenagers who come from "smashed" homes that as they face life surrounded by tremendous problems they may be given added grace and wisdom.) East Ham, £2.

- 15th Harvest from Avenue Hall. Gifts of £1 in memory of dear friend. Walkern Mission, £4.
- 16th Tiptree, £1. Harvest from Little Ilford Junior C.C. Missionary Film at Abridge shown by a friend in connection with some missionaries who were taking the Wycliff Language Course at Chigwell. It was interesting to understand a little of how God's Word is being translated into many languages—sometimes, when until now a dialect has never before been written down. We all felt inspired to pray more than ever for this great work of translation of the Bible, realising how in this way the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ can reach the "uttermost parts of the earth."  
One of the girls went to see our chiropodist—came back minus a corn and able to walk in a more sprightly way. (Our thanks to Mr. Thompson who looks after all our feet!)
- 17th From East Rudham—Sack carrots.  
Ted, a lad who had been in the Home for several years, and for a period served on the maintenance side of the staff, launched out from here. There is always a little pang of sadness as we say 'goodbye' to any of our children, but there is a satisfaction too when they know the Lord Jesus as personal Saviour and Friend and go out from here to take their place as His witnesses. (Latest news is that Ted has found a live evangelical church and is witnessing at work, which isn't easy—pray for him.)
- 18th One of our 'old' girls was married today in Sussex. Unfortunately we could not accept invitation to be with her, but nevertheless thought of her. (Later we received photos and taste of wedding cake—we look forward now to meeting the fortunate husband.)  
Friends from Elmsleigh Gospel Hall came to look round. Full of interest, with many questions concerning the day-to-day routine, our friends were soon at home and we did feel that this was a very profitable time.
- 19th Visited Meldrum Sunday School and Wood Lane Baptist



Church.

20th Gifts:—Westcliffe, £2; Carlisle, £1; Anon, 10s.; Brixham, £2 2s.; Eden Baptist Chapel, £2 10s.; Hornchurch, £1; Ilford, 5s.; Southend, £2 and Woodford £1. Harvests from:—Waltham Abbey Baptist (and 16s. 6d.), Upshire Free Church; Matthews Memorial Church; Alma Road Mission; Meldrum S.S. (and 11s. 11d.), Tottenham Baptist S.S. (and 15s. 6d.); Leytonstone Methodist Church; Keswick Hall; Salem Baptist Church.

21st A special day—Miss Beryl Parkes joined our staff. This was the outcome of an interview a week or two ago. She is young, but has realised the claims of God upon her life and is willing to "forsake all and follow." She will be helping to look after some of the little boys. (She found it more lively than she expected!)

Harvest from Clayhall Baptist Church.

22nd Denmark Hill 'A month or two back my wife and I had the pleasure of meeting your family at the Open Day . . . it is a great work for God and it gives me much pleasure to send a small contribution to the work—£2 10s.' Had a chat with one of the leaders of a knitting group. She wanted to find out exactly what the children needed and their favourite colours so that the garments made will bring maximum delight to the recipients.

Harvest from Shern Hall Methodist Church.

24th Harvest from Muir Beddall & Co. Christian Fellowship.

25th Maidstone, £1; South Woodford B.B., £2.

26th Harvest services at Abridge and at East London Tabernacle—in both places we had a share in the services. The harvest gifts eventually were delivered to us.

27th Harvests from: Brook St. Chapel (and £2); Out and Out Mission, Bow; Woodford Bridge Mission; Barnet Brotherhood and Sisterhood; Stratford Railway Mission; West Ham Baptist Tabernacle and Keswick Hall, Epping.

After school we went by coach to Stockwell Baptist to be the "choir" at a harvest service. We had a very happy time and brought back the gifts—some inside us!

From Buckhurst Hill, 10s.; Woodford Green, £1; East London Tabernacle, 4s. 6d.; Napier Road Baptist S.S., £2 and Anonymous, £1.

28th Our Austin Shooting Break (body made by one of the old boys) worked overtime. Mr. Olney, with available help, went out directly after staff prayers and came back with van F.T.B. (as the boys would say). Incidentally, we never want for willing hands to help with harvest sorting! When unloaded—off again for next load. Our 'telephonist' was busy too, taking calls, jotting down details, and arranging programme for collection. We are extremely grateful to the friends who bring the harvests over themselves when possible—this saves our time for

we still have to feed and clothe our family during this rush period.

Harvests from: Willesden Hall; Paddington Chapel; Ebenezer Baptist (and £2 10s.); Ingrave Hall, Romford; Harold Park; Chase Cross Road (and £1 10s.); Wood Lane Baptist and Shrubland Road Congregation Church.

From Dalston, a billiard table.

Gifts: Enfield ' . . . as it is Mr. Muller's birthday tomorrow (27th), I must not forget one who has the like faith as he, God richly bless you and use you for His Glory. In love I send £1.'; West Ham, 10s.; Stockwell, £2 12s. 6d.; Epping, 12s. 6d. and 12s. 6d.

29th Visited Ashley Hall Sewing Meeting—folk who have made garments for many years—had a happy time of fellowship; returned home with:—4 nightdresses; 12 jumpers; 3 cardigans; 1 vest; 2 pairs gloves; 5 slipovers and 3 hats. These were put in the clothing store—but not to be there for long—with winter approaching they will soon be in use.

Harvests from:—Hoe Lane Hall, Abridge; King's Road Baptist Church, Chingford; Woodford Baptist; Tyttenhanger Mission; Blackhorse Road.

30th Harvest from Chingford Methodist; £1 from St. Albans; £2 anonymously; Village Work Box, 9s. 4d.; Late 'M.B.', 5s.; Woodford Green U.F.C. Women's Meeting (via Hedleys), 7s. 5d. The funeral service took place today of one of our old girls—Georgina Gray (nee Phillips). Georgina with her sister spent some of her childhood years in our family and as she grew older she delighted to show her appreciation of all that was done for her. We shall miss Georgina's visits and letters and we do pray that her husband and sister may be comforted in their grievous loss. Our thoughts will be with them. Georgina was not old and in her illness suffered greatly. Her sister wrote latterly telling us of the seriousness of the illness and we know that Georgina received our last letter and a smile crossed her face as it was read to her.

## October

1st Hertfordshire, two sacks delicious peas (unexpected at this time of the year).

One of the 'old' boys, serving in H.M. Forces, popped in to see us and stayed the night.

A Ceylonese gentleman visited us—a christian who is desirous of starting an orphanage in Ceylon run on similar lines to our own. We had an interesting chat. According to latest news he has gone back to Ceylon, the venture has commenced and is being blessed.)

2nd From an 'old' girl, large tin of toffees (obviously she remembers the enjoyments of childhood days!)

Stockwell Baptist, 12s. 6d. Woodford Green, 2gns.

A team of our Seniors went with Mr. White to a Muswell



Hill Young People's Fellowship. Such opportunities help to strengthen our young folk. £3 12s. from here.

3rd Harvests from:—Manford Way; Salway Hall (and £3 13s. 6d.); London Medical Mission (and £2 2s.); Wangey Road Chapel. Went to Beechcroft Road Youth Meeting.

4th [Can you imagine what it is like to receive a "harvest" at your front door? Potatoes—greens—cauliflower—beet-root — carrots — turnips — tomatoes — apples — oranges —grapefruit—bananas—and of course we must not forget the marrows and all manner of groceries. The sorting of all these goods is quite a technical job.]

Some of us this evening went over to Kentish Town Mission to take part in a harvest service. The children sang—some recited. This visit to K.T.M. is a traditional yearly event and much looked forward to by the children—we think because we have a scrumptious tea!! We wonder how we are expected to sing after the fill! We do share in thought and prayer in the witness of K.T.M.

Today harvests were either collected or arrived from:—Chapman Road Mission; Hope Baptist Chapel; Forest Road S.S. From 'J.W.' £1 and 5s. from Welcome Mission.

6th Harvests from:—Higham Hill Infants School; Ridley Hall; Fladbury Road; Barnet Brotherhood and Sisterhood, £3 3s. 9d.; Ilford, 5s.

It is quite easy to design a varied menu at the present time with such a variety of fruit and vegetables. Our harvest fresh fruit salad is delicious—and so are the harvest stews—what is more, the supply is 'ad-lib.'

7th Harvests from:—Epping Green Union Chapel; Mark Hall Evangelical Church; Harlow; also from Manor Park C.E. where we were asked to give a little talk.

8th "Mum and Dad" as they are known travelled with Margaret over to Arlesey Hospital to see her safely installed in the Nurses Home, to start training as a student nurse. We dined together in the Nurses Dining Room. Margaret's fiancé is working in the male section of the hospital so we know she will be well looked after in her spare time. (Margaret who has made good progress, witnessed boldly for the Lord Jesus Christ under difficult circumstances.)

Received harvest from Salisbury Road School Romford. For several years this school has thought of us and made a special effort to collect tinned and bottled fruit and jam and other groceries. From one who used to be on the staff, £3. Eastney Gospel Mission, £5 18s.

9th Stockwell Baptist, 3gns. Chailey Undenominational Mission, £4 16s.

10th Went over to Anstey Union Church to conduct Harvest Services. Brought back harvest goods. Also received goods from St. Edmunds Church, Chingford.

11th Anonymous, four hand-knitted cardigans. Went to a harvest service at Notting Hill Gate.

In the post:—From an old friend in Fife, £1, 'I often remember your dear father. I heard him at Latimer Hall, East Ham—also I used to go to Woodford to your Meetings.' Woodberry Down Women's Bible Class, £1.

12th Went over to Dagenham Baptist Women's Meeting. There are four non-conformist churches over in that area without a Minister—the deacons of these churches are meeting together for prayer.

Received harvest from Waltham Cross Baptist Church and £7 9s. from Anstey Union Chapel with letter from aged friend, 'We do thank you for the message from God's Word. . . . It really was a joy to me to be able to attend both services. During my illness and throughout other circumstances over which I have no control, I have thought with the Apostle Paul—having a desire to depart and be with Christ which is far better, but as our Lord said in His agony in the garden, 'Not my will but Thine be done.' **(This, dear friend, is now with her Lord, passing into His presence just before Christmas. We feel she must have earned His 'Well done' and praise God for her consistent help to us as a loyal prayer partner.)** Notting Hill Gate, £3 13s. 2d.; United Mission, Muswell Hill, £2; Blackmore Baptist Church, 2gns.; Fullers Road S.S., £1 7s. 6d.; Upshire, 5s.

13th From Boscombe, £2; Southport, £5; Peckham, £25 (from a very aged friend and old friend of the Home), 'I feel certain that the goodness of God has followed you as it did your beloved father in supplying all your needs. I frequently pray for all connected with the Homes and for all who may become members of the Family.' Thunder-sley Gospel Hall S.S., £1.

We held our monthly P.M. Mr. J. Stokes came along and gave a brief word. (We do appreciate all the advice and help given by Mr. Stokes as counsellor and advisor and as Secretary for the Trustees.)

14th One of our staff went to Millfields Junior Mixed School on request to give a little talk about our Family and brought back harvest. In the post—Clacton, parcel second-hand clothes; 'A', £1; Woodford, £1; Dagenham, £1 10s.

15th From Beckingham C. Ch., £1; St. Albans, £1; Fife, £2. Important arrival from South Africa—no, not a case of oranges, but the suitor of one of our senior girls. He was in England earlier in the year and apparently since has thought he would like one of our lassies to be his wife—a long journey to find a wife!

A friend came to take P.T. with the girls. (She endeavours to come as often as possible on Friday evenings.)

16th Some children went out with friends; some as a reward



in connection with Sunday School went to see the lights at Southend, and another group went with a S.S. Teacher to see a sleeping coach on a night train.

- 18th Two little boys aged five and eight admitted this morning. Very lively and a little perplexed to find themselves here. We have prayed about this case and it is evident the lads are in need of care.

Had a chat with a friend who desires to help us in a practical way and is going to take an interest in two of our teenagers who have no friends to visit them. (Many letters and parcels have since arrived for these two children—they have been taken out several times and they appreciate this motherly interest from outside.)

K.T.M., £12; Bridgnorth, 'It is both my joy and blessing to forward the enclosed cheque. Being a S.S. Teacher and the father of five children—grown up now—I have some little idea what it means to deal with children. However, it often crosses my mind—how filled with problems some of your days must be. We do praise God that He can be sufficient in all our needs and in all our situations. How precious is the Throne of Grace. Our continued prayers are with you all.'

- 19th Ley St. Hall, £1 12s. Badminton this evening. Our club is run by one of our 'old' boys and sometimes it is quite a 'reunion' evening as a number of old girls and boys from time to time pop in. Only those who are 'club standard' are able to play on a Tuesday evening—others must practise and get up to standard on Wednesday evenings.

- 20th From Woodford and Walthamstow, parcels of second-hand clothes. London, N.1, £3. (Our Y.S.L. Group now holds its meetings on Thursdays at Abridge—tonight we had a work party.)

Routine on a normal school morning:

- 6.15 a.m. Staff reveille.  
6.40 „ Meet for cup of tea and Word of Prayer.  
6.45 „ Children's reveille. Usually by the time the Staff reach the dormitories the children appear to be more securely fixed under the bedclothes.  
7.15 „ By this time all should be downstairs, beds made, washed and hair done. Jobs for some, tidying dormitories and bathrooms, helping with breakfast, laying tables, and so on.  
7.40 „ First breakfast bell.  
7.45 „ All sit down ready for Grace.  
8.20 „ Children collect things required for school: Domestic Science ingredients, pocket money,

a letter to explain previous day's absence from school, homework, etc. A general fly around for hats, gloves, belts!

- 8.30 „ Assemble in Hall for Word of Prayer before leaving.

9.15 „ Staff Prayers, and then on with the work! One of staff visited Maryland Point Women's Meeting.

- 22nd Welling Gospel Hall S.S., £5, 'It may encourage you to know that the children under your care are remembered in our prayers week by week.' Legacy, £127 14s. 2d.

- 24th S.S. Anniversary at Abridge. Had a time of blessing with Mr. Fred Crisp. Two girls gave their hearts to the Lord Jesus Christ.

One of our 'old' boys, now married and with a family, was baptised this evening at Aldersbrook Baptist Church. The S.S. Anniversary prevented us being at the service, but nevertheless our thoughts and prayers were with him. We praise God for this encouragement.

- 25th —attended London Hospital to see specialist regarding skin trouble affecting his hands. From Stratford Central Baptist Women's Meeting, £1. Visited Grantham Mission.

- 26th Anonymous, 10s. Went to Avenue Hall and Woodford Baptist Young Mother's Fellowship. From Cranford Baptist Women's Meeting:—three hand knitted cardigans, pullover, matinee coat, two pairs socks and some second-hand clothes.

- 28th Half term holidays commenced (for one week). Some of the staff and seniors, as usual attended Bible Study at Abridge.

## November

- 2nd Day at Zoo (details separately).

- 3rd Chase Cross S.S. £1. Romford, £2 10s. 'as promised—towards the three weeks holiday given to —.' Yelling, £9; Gidea Park, £1. Shoebury, £5 10s.; W. & W. Rotary Club, £13 6s. 8d.—'as promised, part cost of transport for summer holiday to Devon.'

- 4th Anonymous parcel, second-hand boys' and girls' clothes. Went to Grange Park Women's League Meeting.

- 5th Westcliff:—six pairs socks and two pullovers (hand-knitted). Grange Park, £1.

'Remember, remember the 5th November.' We are not allowed to forget it! After tea we all assembled in Hall well wrapped up—mufflers, gloves, etc., to hear Pamela remind us of the tradition attached to Guy Fawkes day and after listening, our 'Guy' was ceremoniously brought into the Hall complete with procession, to be 'tried.' Being guilty he was taken into the playground where there was a huge bonfire prepared and plenty of fireworks in his honour (given by friends) to serenade his doom.

- 6th Some of the menfolk went down to Abridge to clean and



paint exterior of church.

The 'Aunties' took nine of the girls to do their Christmas shopping.

7th Sunday routine as usual. Took services at Redcliff Baptist Church, Leigh. Present at the morning service was one of our 'old' girls—married with two sons aged 12 and 16—her husband had died the previous day. What a testimony to be in God's house that morning—and she was there to thank God for all His goodness to her during her married life. It was some time after leaving our family circle that she was converted and soon after, her husband too. We do pray that God will continue to uphold her during the lonely days ahead.

8th Went to Eldon Road Children's Meeting. Received from Leigh, £2 12s. 6d.; Rise Park Hall, £6.

9th One of staff spoke at Wood Lane Baptist Women's Meeting. The boys at St. Barnabas School had their Prize Giving and some of our Family were successful in gaining awards. We were very worried because none of the staff could attend, but eventually ascertained that parents and friends were not invited!

From Hornchurch:—'It gives me joy to read about the great things our Lord and Saviour does for your big family. He is a wonderful Saviour to all that trust. May all your needs be supplied in abundance. Enclosed 10s. to help feed your big family—it's not much—I'm only an old aged pensioner. Please pray for my health that I may be able to go for sometime yet to the Meetings I love so well.' London, £51 2s. 3d.; Epping, £6 '... so pleased to be able to have practical fellowship. Wishing you and your staff much joy in your work.' West Wickham, 4gns. 'at the instigation of — in respect of reproduction fees for photographs used in my clients' advertising.'

10th Prayer Meeting—Mr. Arnold Gilert gave us a message.

11th From Box Secretary, £39 14s.; Waltham Abbey, £4.

12th Visited Claybury Park Y.P. C.E. From Woodford Green (box), £1 14s. and £1.

13th Opening of re-tiled baptistry at Abridge (see separate report).

14th Went to Welcome Mission.

15th Guildford, £5; Prittlewell, 5s.; Patcham, £2; Willesden Green, 1gn.; Dagenham 8s. 5d.

16th From Woodford Green £1; Southborough, £1; Enfield, £2 10s.; Great Munden, £1 18s. 4d. Several children went to see our dentist. (Most Tuesdays directly after school one or two pop along—all quite anxious for their turn to come round!)

20th The 55th anniversary of the commencement of the Home. This was especially remembered during our family

prayers, praise being given to God for all He has accomplished through the faith of our loved late Founder. It was also 'Dad's' (Mr. V. White) birthday so we celebrated with a large birthday cake. Wise policy saw to it that there were no candles, but this did not satisfy curiosity!

21st Mr. White went into hospital. Today this seemed to be one of the experiences difficult to understand, but as a friend reminded us—we as Christians are under no special dispensation to be free from pain—difficulty—problems, etc., but rather the manner in which we surmount these happenings proves our depth as Christians.

(It was a big task for the staff to look after the Family for what became nearly two months without 'Dad,' but our faith was strengthened as in unexpected ways God Himself sent His servants to help and when the Christmas rush descended on us 'willing hands made light work.')

22nd Harvest from Gt. Munden and £5 from Highbury. Estate car went to garage for repair.

23rd Mr. White had operation—more difficult and lengthy than expected but he was privileged to have our own Christian doctors in attendance.

From Box Secretary, £28 16s.; Highgate, £10; Peterborough, 10s.; Islington, £2. One of staff sent to St. Edward's Women's Meeting, Leytonstone. From Wanstead, parcel second-hand clothes by means of a contact through an 'old' boy.

24th Peterborough, parcel of Christmas presents suitable for older children; Norfolk—two sacks greens (a weekly supply has been sent by rail since the harvest supplies finished).

25th Anonymous, six pairs gloves. Over 2,000 'Links' were sent off today to our Prayer Partners.

26th — went to London Hospital to see eye specialist.

A friend who formerly lived at Tiptree and took a keen interest in the Family whilst we were down there, called to see us.

Two Christmas trees, each with present for every child, promised by folk at Cricklewood. Harpenden, £1.

27th Muswell Hill, £5; Norfolk, £100; Stockwell, 5s.

Two coach loads of folk from Stockwell Baptist Church came to see us. Being interested in our work they were desirous to see round and we were able to entertain them to tea, some of the older children pouring out the tea at the heads of the tables proved very able hostesses. We had a few games together followed by family prayers.

29th — had school medical examination. Another routine feature which now and again demands the time of one of the staff. Gidea Park, £1; Northfleet, £1; Keston, £3; Woodford Green, £1; Anonymous, 5s.

30th Northampton, £1; Biggin Hill, 10s. 6d.; Hornchurch, £5;



Abbots Langley, 10s.; Fairchilds S.S., £5.

# December

1st Gifts: Stockwell, £3 14s.; Abridge E.F.C., £2 9s. 10d.

Visited Cranford Baptist Women's Meeting. The folk there are very interested in our work and have prepared a Christmas present for each of our children.

Other gifts: Plaistow, 10s.; Woodford, £1; Cranford, 2gns.; Woking, 10s.; Woodbridge, £2; Ruislip, £3.

2nd Mr. Gilbert substituting for Mr. White went to a before-breakfast meeting of a Christian Fellowship at a London firm. Gifts today totalled £6 10s.

All the children were seen off to school this morning when two or three came running back with the news that — had been knocked down by a car. On arrival at the scene (just round the corner) there was a dazed but quite whole boy. The police had been informed so there had to be a routine hospital check over, but the only damage apart from shock was abrasions to one knee. We daily pray that God will watch over our kiddies and we are grateful to Him that there was no disastrous sequel to this incident — rather, that it was a vivid lesson to those who saw it. Six children were home today—not too well (sometimes we do not have to call the Doctor but a day or two in bed puts things right). In one of today's letters: "There hath not failed one word of all his good promise"—surely our experience.

3rd In the post: Leytonstone, 10s.; Ascot, £1; Manchester, £2; Enfield, 1gn.; Westcliff, 10s.; Woodford: "A few days ago I was reading 'Links' and thoroughly enjoying it. I happened to mention to my wife what a fine report this was and what a privilege we natives of Woodford and surrounds had in the fact of the Children's Home and Mission in our midst. My wife said—'How about writing and telling them.' But for this suggestion and coming from my wife, I doubt if I should have had the temerity to write. But having now settled down with the, mightier than sword in my fist, I think I can rightly start by thanking you for this great report. In reading it not one item jars—many uplift, and cause heartfelt prayer and thankfulness to our Heavenly Father. . . . The Lord Bless you and your helpers."

4th Holloway: 'It seemed a little strange that your 'Links' should arrive just when your large family was in my mind. Yet not strange really because I had a little money saved for God's work so the Lord sealed the gift. Enclose £3—may it help to bring joy (that real Christmas spirit) to some of your family.'

5th Gifts totalled £7 2s. 6d.

One of the 'old' boys called in to see us for a chat.

6th Three 'phone calls and knock on front door during staff prayers—'SCREW-TAPE!' In the post: Letter from young couple desirous of giving their lives to full time Christian service; from Woodford: "I am writing to you as I thought it might cheer you a little to know what a great inspiration you have been to me these last 10 months. I went with you to Harringay and since then I have felt like one of you. The lovely happy spirit of you all seemed to wind round me. I really cannot put into words—and then that lovely meeting of you all on 'Our Day.' To me that meant so much, I felt God's goodness everywhere. Now for your inspiration, in November, 1953, we took our two Grandson's into our home as their mother had deserted them and their stepfather also and I felt a heavy burden had been placed upon me. My Doctor said I would never be able to cope with them and yet last winter was the first for seven years that I had not had a bad illness, so I realised God was with me. Young Ted (one of our family) had told how you always pray hard when in difficulties so I tried to follow you and when ever I think things are too much I remember your family and I cannot tell you the help I get from that and how my husband and I and other members of our family enjoyed your Open Day. We all say we have a different outlook on life after joining your happy family. What a wonderful faith you have all got and how happy and well cared for are the children. I always had a horror of children having to be put into Homes, now I realise what a fool I have been. So now I thank you so very much for all the help and comfort you have given to me in helping me to find my Saviour again. I think you would like to know that my eldest grandson went to Herne Bay Court and whilst there he was converted. I really consider this all due to Ted's influence as he first took him to Church and now he attends most meetings'; from Hampshire, a letter telling of tragedy in the home of a dear godly couple who have been so kind to others and seeming not to deserve the sorrow now enfolding them, but praise God, to the Christian these seeming dark clouds have a silver lining and are the means of Him working out His purposes.

Gifts totalled £5 12s 6d.

7th Two of our staff went over to Haverhill O.I.C. for a meeting, particularly to pass on up to date news of our family. For the past few months these folk have been busy making garments and sent along: three pairs of socks, 15 pairs of gloves, cot cover, winter dress, seven pairs of pyjamas, one nightdress, and handkerchiefs. From Norfolk, eight sacks of potatoes. Had a chat with one of the parents of a family with us—



we endeavour to be as helpful as possible regarding **all** the problems affecting those under our care.

Total of gifts, £38.

- 8th Prayer Meeting—Dr. David Smith was with us today. £16 17s. gifts.
- 9th Mr. White returned home from hospital. Toys from Chadwell Heath Baptist; two boxes crackers from Woodford; Gifts—£13 5s.
- 10th Margaret and Karl (one of our 'old' girls and her fiance) came to stay the night. Group of Seniors went to London to see Billy Graham films with Sunday School Teacher. £12 14s. 8d. received.
- 11th Irene and Wendel engaged but not before we have had many chats together. We do praise God when our children grow up and find Christian partners. The 'Aunties' took a group of the children Christmas shopping. (They left here a Christmas present for each girl and staff member also some toys and clothes.) From Colchester, ham; Haringay, parcel of books; from a lad at Chingford, toys. N.Y.L.C. (Woodford Branch) borrowed our hall for Christmas Squash. Our Seniors were invited to share in the fun.
- 12th Quite a number of Sunday Schools today held toy services and we were represented at Ramsay Road C. S.S. and Goodmayes Baptist Church. (We have had to cancel quite a lot of preaching engagements during Mr. White's illness.)
- 13th Gifts: Anonymous, four scarves; Hertford, eight scarves; East Ham, secondhand clothes; Guildford Park Hall, toys and 10s.; £23 17s. 6d. from 12 different places. Discovered a few spots on Marilyn, one of our tiny tots. Measles?—(It was.)
- 14th As expected Malcolm, Marilyn's twin brother showed symptoms of measles. Doctor said all children under seven who have not had measles must stay at home from school—we had visions of quite a number being at home but on checking records found that there were only four children out of the whole family who have not had it. Toys from: Leytonstone Methodist Church; 25th Walthamstow Girl Guides; Welwyn Garden City Baptist Church. Chingford, oak bedstead. Gifts from N.W.11, £1 6s.; anonymous, £1; Boreham C.C.S.S., £1 10s.; Newark Baptist S.S., 2gns.; Watford 5s.
- 15th In post, £15 13s. from various places. A friend came to help with typing. There was a Carol Service at Oakdale Infants School to which some of the staff went—it gave them the opportunity of taking an interest in school affairs and of seeing the teachers. Romford, three dolls and chocolates; Westward Ho Cru-

saders, sweets and handkerchiefs; Ealing, books and handkerchiefs; Bedfont Tabernacle, toys (brought over by young folk in thick fog); Whitstable, secondhand clothes, Peterborough, scrap book.

- 16th Westcliff: 'Again it is time for me to send you my subscription and I enclose cheque for £10 10s. I hope you and your family, staff and children have a real happy time this Christmas. I do remember your father so well—he was in the Midland Bank at Forest Gate when he spoke to my mother about taking up work for children. I know she helped him a little from the start and although I have not seen the Homes I somehow feel a personal interest in them. I have out lived your father and see him as he looked when now and then I met him.'

From Loughton, four dozen hand-hemmed handkerchiefs and 10s.; Stapleford, six boxes of crackers; Sudbury, one box crackers; Tottenham (lady 84 years of age), hand-knitted, two pullovers, one cardigan, four pairs socks; Tower Bridge Union S.S. Toys. Other money gifts totalling £14 19s. 4d.

A local friend comes every Thursday to help with the ironing. We do appreciate what she does—having her own family we wonder how this is managed. We are encouraged by the spirit in which she renders this service to God—not expecting any reward and even when the family is all down with 'flu that does not stop her coming but she leaves them all tucked up warmly and snugly in bed and pops down as usual.

- 17th Janet (one of our 'old' girls) with her little eight-month-old daughter came to see us for the day whilst her husband was in London on business. Toys from: Corringham S.S., Upshire Free Church, Christchurch, Leyton; Horam, two pairs socks, jumper and £5; Golders Green, tin chocolate biscuits; Bournemouth, two packets serviettes and doyles. £12 from several places, the furthest being Cornwall.

- 18th Whitstable: 'A very happy Christmas to you and your large family. It is many years since your dear father came to us for dinner and tea when preaching at Sidcup Baptist Church, but my mother always remembered his work both in her prayers and by any little gift she could send. You are on my prayer list on Monday mornings and while we cannot now send much practical help I can assure you my sister and I will always remember the lovely work you are doing. May God bless you.'

Two kiddies went over to a party at a Chingford Brownie Pack.

From Henfield C.S.S., toys; Alexander Girls Fellowship, one pair pyjamas, two nightdresses, one pair gloves, one



pair socks, handkerchiefs, cot cover, 10 face flannels, one buster suit, one cardigan, one jumper, four pullovers, three pinafores, three lengths of material and handkerchiefs to embroider.

Some of the Seniors went to the Youth for Christ Meeting. Gifts received, £9 17s. The following is typical of many letters received from all over the country at this time of the year—"It is my happy privilege once again this Christmas-time to pass on to you the enclosed sum of money from the Teachers and Scholars of our Sunday School as a token of practical fellowship with you in the great work and labour of love amongst the children in your home. We realise that every little helps to make Christmas what it should be for boys and girls. It is our sincere desire that you may be blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus our Lord and that you may experience much joy in leading many of the young lives under your care to a simple child like faith and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ."

19th We held special Christmas Services at our Abridge Church. How lovely our little church looked as we entered with the children—folk had been there the day before to make His House in keeping with this happy Christmas time. It was with the **real** Christmas spirit that we sang the Christmas hymns and once again our thoughts turned to the time when God sent his greatest gift to this poor troubled, sinful, world.

One of the staff popped over to a Sunday School at Bow to receive some toys.

Large 'sacks' of sweets and handkerchiefs arrived from Chase Cross Mission. Latchett Hall Covenanters sent along their Christmas Gift of £2 4s. 3d.

20th Gifts in the post today totalled £35 16s. 7d.; toys from: West Kilburn Baptist S.S.; Out and Out Mission, Bow; Roydon C.C. S.S.; Broadley Common C. S.S. (and 10s.), Moorcroft Hall, Thundersley; Elim S.S., Chelmsford; Nazeing S.S.; Tollington Park Baptist S.S.; Bishopstoke E.F.C.; Eastney Gospel Mission; Hele Baptist S.S., Torquay; Matthews Memorial S.S., Walthamstow; Brentford C.C. S.S.; Edmonton Baptist S.S.

Spent a little while chatting with a young man whose wife had left him and who desired us to help him with regard to his little girl.

21st Gifts: Guildford Park Hall, £1 7s. 6d.; Vienna, 3gns.; Woodford, £6, £1 and 10s.; Bournemouth, £2; Toronto, 1gn.; anonymous, 10s.; Epping, £1; Harlow, £1; 'D', £3. Toys from: Diss, Sutton Coldfield, Clerkenwell and Islington Medical Mission, High Road Baptist Ilford, Highams Park Methodist, Waltham Abbey Baptist, Mount Zion S.S. From Ilford: parcel clothes, chair and Christmas cake,

America (via friends in London), seven skirts; East London, two boxes sweets; Cricklewood, two Christmas trees complete with toys and decorations.

Children broke up for their Christmas Holidays—there is a fever of excitement in the air—many willing hands to put up decorations—many requests for brown paper and string—must not be too inquisitive—many friends calling to see us—postman quite loaded when he comes to us—British Railways Van often at front door delivering anything from sacks of greens or soap powder to sausages or toys. One of our girls left us this evening. She has gone back to her mother—she will be leaving school shortly. [Most Sundays since, she has come to Bible Class and stayed to tea with us.]

22nd With the family home all day we have 'family prayers' each morning instead of evening. For the next three mornings we shall be turning our thoughts to the Christmas story.

Gifts totalled £20 15s. From Elmsleigh Gospel Hall, £5 15s. and toys. **Our** Postman, £1. (He came to Harringay with us and has always been very interested in our family—hence we call him 'our' postman.)

From a Woodford firm—box beautifully selected fruit; Waltham Abbey, large turkey, fruit, brussels and cauliflour; Ilford (an old boy), large turkey; Waltham Abbey, box suits, etc. Toys from: Little Ilford baptist Junior C.E., Haywards Heath E.F.C., Ventnor Baptist Church.

23rd Doncaster: 'Thank you for 'Links'. It is a joy to hear of so many of the children under your care who have given their lives into the keeping of our Lord and it must be a great happiness to you all who have cared for them to know when they leave you to go into the world they are safe in His Hands. Please accept enclosed £1 3s. as a small gift towards the work." Other gifts totalled £19 7s. 6d.

An 'old' girl arrived from Norfolk to spend Christmas with us. Toys from Underhill Church, Barnet; Central Hall, Corfe Mullen and Shrubland Road C.C.; doll from Edmonton.

24th Two 'old' girls arrived from Devon to spend Christmas here—another from Kent and one with her husband and baby girl from Cambridge. Received from one who used to be on our staff and married one of our 'old' boys, two boxes chocolates; local branch Woolworths, stockings of toys and some fruit; Elmsleigh Hall Sewing Class: four pairs socks, two cardigans, one pair gloves, box book marks, four pairs knickers, two pairs girls' pyjamas, one blouse, six summer dresses, one skirt, one winter dress and skirt, one vest; Theydon, three sacks sprouts; Victoria Baptist S.S. Deal, toys; Stapleford, turkey; an 'old' boy and



his wife. large ham; Crouch End, 100 loaves; Anonymous, delivery of Christmas cakes, pastries and mince pies straight to the kitchen. A thrill to those responsible for catering. From an 'old' girl and her husband, 10s.; an 'old' girl, 10s.; Covenant Gift, £30; other gifts totalled over £25. (See separate account of Christmas.)

27th Gifts, £43 1s. From an 'old' boy, large tin sweets; Waltham Abbey, oranges.

Each day at morning prayers we selected one of the miracles of Jesus to consider—the children were keenly interested and the lessons drawn from them were most helpful.

28th Welcomed a little girl of five into our family circle.

29th Waltham Abbey, 30 tumblers.

30th Gifts, £9 6s.

31st £15 0s. 5d.

### January

1st Twenty-four children and two staff went to Harringay Circus with the 'Inner Wheel' of Barkingside

3rd From Ilford, 10s.; Chelmsford Elim Church, £2; Huntingdon, £1; Barclay Mission, 2gns.; Walthamstow, 10s.

Gift of £1 from Loughton.

4th Thick snow today. Children itching to get outside—manage to restrain them until after dinner when we sorted out the Wellington boots and then went out 'en block' for some fun. Staff agreed they were well warmed up at last! Incidentally it was a somewhat tedious job collecting wet gloves, scarves, raincoats, etc., to dry them—but it was worth it.

Collected a large load of tinned goods from Willesden—the van got 'stuck in the snow' coming back but with the help of the A.A. eventually got home.

5th S. Woodford Residents' Association, 2gns.; Leytonstone, 1gn.; Wood End Mission Hall, Nash, £4 10s.; Elim Sisterhood, £1; Camberley: 'I have been much interested in the current issue of 'Links' and would say 'thank you' for it and for telling us so much of the work and of the holiday which must have been a big undertaking. How wonderfully you have proved the keeping care of our Heavenly Father and may 1955 be another year of much blessing.'

6th 'B', £1; Hanwell: 'I am very interested in work amongst small children, and having now commenced work, I would like to contribute something towards the expense of the Home. I herewith enclose a postal order for one guinea. For several years my father has received from you a copy of 'Links' and I have always enjoyed reading it. Last month he was called home to be for ever with the Lord, for him so 'very far better'. Although he no longer requires the 'Links' magazine, I should be very pleased if you would

continue to send it to me.' East London Tabernacle, £6 11s.; N.W.2, £1; Hamilton Road Baptist, 1gn.

Twenty-four children and three staff went to Harringay circus at the expense of a department of Lloyds.

7th Middleton: 'I have pleasure to send the enclosed cheque, £2 on behalf of my City Friend who desires to be anonymous. We send with the gift our prayers and good wishes.'

Waltham Cross, £1; Box Secretary, £6 16s.

Abridge S.S. Teachers' Meeting held here at 8 p.m.

8th Woodford, £2 15s.; Stratford, 10s.; Doncaster Pentecostal Assembly: 'On behalf of a keen supporter of your very excellent work among children I am enclosing 10s. The giver, a lady member of our Assembly has at various times donated small sums to your good labours and to missionary causes the world over out of her old-age pension.'

Eastney Gospel Mission, £5 4s. 2d.; Hampstead, 10s.

The children of the Senior Department of the S.S. had their party today and the rest of our family were entertained by the 52nd Epping Forest South Boy Scouts. The party was well organised and transport in private cars was provided both ways.

From St. Pancras Cubs—large tin toffees.

9th Several 'old' members of the family popped in to see us today and came to the services with us. One 'girl' announced that her son was now engaged—her husband was preaching locally so she took the opportunity of being in the district to see us at tea time.

10th Bishops Stortford (covenant), £250; Lighthouse Mission, £5; Honiton, 1gn.; Lancing, £1; Stockwell (anonymous), parcel secondhand clothes

11th Happy day—children return to school! From S.W.9, 10s.; 'an old friend', 2s. 6d.

12th Our monthly Prayer Meeting. It was good to look back over the past four weeks to recall how bountifully God had supplied our needs specially for Christmas.

'Flu' epidemic in full swing. Janet rushed off to hospital with appendicitis. Anonymous, secondhand clothes; Leyton, pair shoes. From Colchester, supply of envelopes, books, etc. and two dozen new-laid eggs.

Had a chat with one of the older girls of our family and her fiancé regarding their marriage. (The sequel to this talk is to be read in a separate article.)

Lansdowne Baptist Church S.S., £3 12s. 6d.; Dersingham, £2; Northwood, £2.

13th Norfolk, £20; St. Andrews S.S., Woodford Green, £4.

14th Entertained for lunch a young couple who are desirous of responding to the call of God to full time service. There is a bond fellowship and unity when Christians meet to-



gether and we had a very happy time. (They and we are praying that God will reveal His Will.)

Two of our tiny tots went to see our Doctor. They have both been "under-the-weather" so we felt we needed expert advice.

Woodford, £1; Norwich, 10s.

- 15th A party at Edmonton had been arranged, but on account of sickness this end, and difficulty of travelling (snow still thick and slippery) on the suggestion from the other end, it was cancelled.

Edinburgh, £2; Wickford, £1 1s.; Boscombe Baptist S.S., £1 6s.; Forest Road Hall, £10.

- 17th 'K', £1; 17th West Essex B.B., 10s.

- 19th Navestock, 2gns.; Dagenham Baptist Women's Meeting, 10s.; Hornchurch, £1; Nazeing S.S., £2 2s. 6d.

Two friends called to have a chat regarding a young girl in need of guidance and help.

- 20th Went to the funeral of our beloved friend, Mr. Jabez Smith. He passed away last Friday only having phoned us the previous Wednesday to say he was not well enough to be at our Monthly Prayer Meeting. We all loved to listen to his prayers—he was so practical in understanding the needs of the work and the patience in dealing with children. As he was ageing he was looking forward to being 'with Christ' and meeting his loved ones who had gone before. One prayer particularly stands out in our minds soon after the tragic 'home-call' of one of his sons: 'Dear loving heavenly Father we thank Thee not only for our being but for our **well-being!**'

- 21st Cyprus: "Please accept the enclosed cheque for £10 in the Name of the Lord, to be used as needful for your good work for the children. I look back with happy memories to times of fellowship with you when you used to come to speak to the Youth Fellowship at Chingford and I pray that the Lord is continuing to enable you to witness to the fact that he is a prayer-answering God. We have found happy fellowship with a few of the Lord's people here in Cyprus and we are making contact with Army lads stationed out here and also with some Greeks who seem to have a concern for the truth, not the lies which their own church offers them. One young soldier gave his heart to Christ last week. Please pray for us here even as we remember you before the Throne of Grace." Chingford, £15; Toronto: "The report is such a pleasure to read and we rejoice with you in all the kindness and faithfulness of the Lord. When I can I will give you the history of the Abridge work from the days which we know and of how the Lord used a couple of green lads to keep the place open, and so to assure that which was to come about

later through you. It goes back to 1899. Enclosed with this please find ten dollars in bills, from ourselves with good wishes and Christian love. Let us keep on closely to the Lord and 'die fighting'; which we do not intend to do yet anyway.'

Stanway P.P., £2.

- 22nd Junior S.S. Party went to their Party, and a group of younger children went to Shoreditch to share in a party arranged by a firm at Smithfield.

- 24th Brandon Road Primary S.S. Chingford, £4 10s.; Eastbourne, £1; anonymous, 2s. 6d.; Birmingham, 10s.

- 25th Anonymous, handknitted jumper; Romford, two pairs socks; Edmonton, large box of sweets. Admitted lad to the family circle. Endway Mission, 15s.; Cranfield S.S., £2 10s.

- 26th Visited a Women's Branch of the British Legion, Palmers Green, £1.

- 27th One of our staff spoke at the Abridge Women's Meeting. Received socks from Harrow; £4 17s. 6d. from Muswell Hill United Mission. Rainham: 'Please accept the enclosed £1 towards your work which was very dear to the heart of my late dear wife. Remembering you all in my prayers.'

Two lads popped along to see Mr. Thompson, our honorary chiropodist after school.

- 28th An amusing incident this morning. The children all went into the dining hall at the appointed time for breakfast including the youngest little boy. On glancing round before taking grace there was a vacant seat. On enquiring whose it was, the member of staff next to the empty seat said that it was this youngest lad and there were blank expressions of perplexity on all faces as all had seen him come into the dining hall. Suddenly a boy from the other side of the room said—'Look, there he is, under the table'—sure enough he was and as quiet as a mouse. (To appreciate this we must mention that the lad in question is usually like a jumping cracker and just as noisy.)

Had an interview with the Headmaster at S.W. Essex Technical College regarding admittance of our new lad to that College because of his having passed a scholarship. From West Mersea, £5; Westminster Chapel, £70.

- 29th A looked-forward-to-day, when a Young People's Fellowship from Chingford organised parties here for all the children. The little ones had their fun and games during the afternoon—there was a conjurer for all to see—then little ones tucked up in bed whilst older ones had their turn of fun and games. These visiting young folk have a happy knack of arranging games and our family of joining in the fun.

We finished very quietly with a short epilogue taken by one of the visitors.



- 30th Went to Manford Way Fellowship.  
 31st Welcomed a girl to the family circle (outcome of previous interview).

## February

- 2nd Rainham, secondhand small girl's mackintosh and book.  
 1st S.E. Christian Association, 2gns.; Sidmouth, £2; South-end, £1; St. Allas, 10s.  
 3rd W.5, £20 (covenant); N.W.2, £1.  
 Went to Buckhurst Hill Methodist Women's Meeting.  
 Two children attended local orthopaedic clinic.  
 4th Readers of 'The Christian,' £25; Walthamstow, second-hand clothes  
 Worthing: 'I have from time to time heard of your work amongst the children at Woodford from — now at Worthing and have felt that the enclosed small gift, £5, might be acceptable. I had a little money given to me to distribute to needy ones. Your work constantly came up before me so I am sure it is of the Lord.'  
 5th Sunday School parties at Abridge.  
 6th Visited Salway Hall Boys' Bible Class.  
 7th Went to John Knight's Christian Circle meeting—held just after office hours.  
 8th Badminton matches here with a local club. We have improved since we last met.  
 9th P.O.C.A.: 'The enclosed P.O. is towards the work of God amongst the children and is sent in memory of the late —. The members of the family asked that money should not be spent on flowers, so the friends of her daughter have subscribed this money and wish it sent to you. We greatly appreciated the opportunity of coming to visit the Homes during the summer and look forward to the possibility of inviting friends to whom the testimony may mean a revelation of the power of a living Saviour.'  
 Ley St. Hall S.S., £4; John Knight's Christian Fellowship, £1.  
 Took our tiniest little girl to the Jubilee Hospital for removal of tonsils. She settled in very well (and was most happy right through her week's stay there).  
 Our Monthly Prayer Meeting.  
 N.W.6, parcel secondhand clothes; Woodford, coat and £1; anonymous, six pairs socks; Westcliff, 12 pairs socks from a lady who for many years has knitted 25 pairs per year for us; Colchester, shirts and collars.  
 10th Held Trustees Meeting here.  
 Maidstone: 'Please find enclosed £3 toward the general work of the Mission. It is always a thrill to me to read in the 'Links' of all the Lord is doing for you all. A wonderful Heavenly Father we have—able and willing to supply

all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. I do feel that the children are greatly privileged to be where they are taught of the Lord Jesus. I feel very thankful that the Lord gave me Christian parents, so I learned to love Him early in life. May God continue to bless the work mightily so that all your little family may come to know Him 'ere they go forth into the world with all its temptations. I pray for the work daily and trust that God will ever continue to send you the right workers.'

Enfield, £1.

- 11th Horam, four hand-knitted jumpers and two pairs socks.  
 12th Bible Class young people went to their Christmas Social—we understand part of the time they entertained some older folk.

Some menfolk and lads from Waltham Abbey came to see for themselves our home.

Visited Roding Lane Y.P.F.

Potters Bar, five pairs hand-knitted socks, jumper and trousers; knickers, bootees and jumper.

- 13th Spent a very happy day with one of our 'old' girls and her husband. We were booked to take the service at the local Congregational Church.

- 14th Colchester, 40 vests (all sizes); Ilford, £2 10s.; New Town Mission, £4 17s. 5d.; Highgate Road Chapel, £5; Falkland Hall S.S. £2.

- 15th From Harrow: three pinafores, two pairs mittens, pixie hat, scarf and pullover; Wickham Bishops Mission Hall, £3; Falkland Hall (farthings), £1.

Visited Salway Hall Youth Fellowship for table tennis and draughts matches. Our teams had been trained by Mr. Crowhurst so we give him much of the credit—we won!

- 16th Keswick Baptist S.S., £1 10s.

Started out to visit a Youth Meeting at Sawbridgeworth. Got as far as Epping but roads too icy to travel at speed enough to get to meeting before long after it had ended. Do not like letting people down, but it could not be helped.

- 19th Sawbridgeworth, £1; Esher, £2 3s.

- 20th Went to Stratford Railway Mission.

- 21st Stratford, £5. Wanstead: 'Please accept enclosed £1 in memory of my dear brother so long associated with you. Had he lived it would have been his birthday present.' Readers of 'Life of Faith', £3 2s. 6d.

Spoke at Ley St. Women's Meeting and at Ilford Salvation Army.

Received five sacks carrots from Norfolk.

- 22nd Anonymous, £1; Ilford, 15s. and £1 7s. 2d.; Shenfield, secondhand curtains.



23rd Most of children went over to Epping for a Junior C.E. party. An unusual outing during term time. Very much enjoyed—coach was provided both way.

Highgate, £1; Manchester (covenant), £2.

24th Two boys taken to see specialist regarding their hearing. Half-term holiday commenced.

25th 'W', 10s.

28th Football and netball matches took place, encouraged by brilliant sunshine, although temperature still in the chilly region.

Woodford, £1.

\* \* \*

A personal note if we might please. My wife and I do say a big thank you to ALL who so kindly sent along Greetings at Christmas time. Due to illness and the work to cover, we did not manage to send out our usual good wishes at that time and so we send them now to all our friends.

\* \* \*

Remember in prayer all 'old' members of the Family Circle. We are trying to keep in touch with more and more as the years go by—we feel the urge to do this, for His sake.



Our Food Store at Harvest Time.