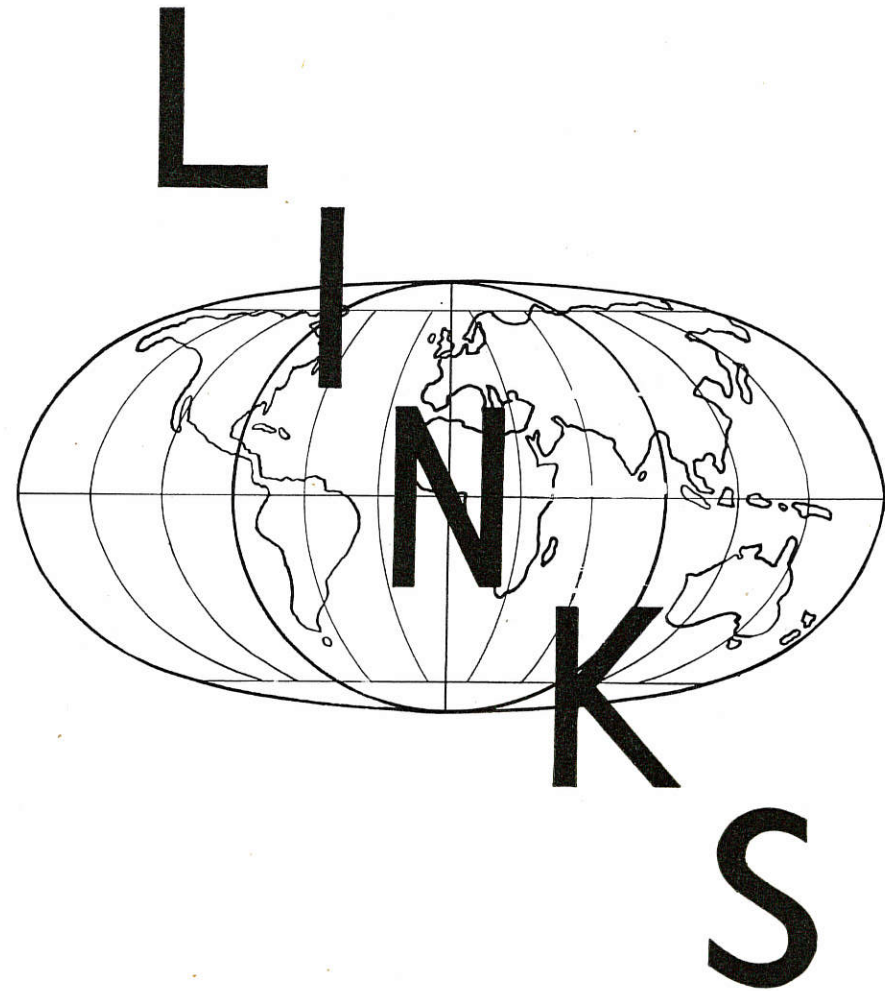


87



SPRING 1965



CHILDREN'S HOME
& MISSION



SATURDAY!

THE CHILDREN'S

FOUNDED

8-26, CRESCENT ROAD, SOUTH WOODFORD,
LONDON, E.18

Telephone: BUCKhurst 2702

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Mr. VICTOR J. WHITE, Director and Superintendent
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Mr. STEPHEN SMITH, L.D.S., R.C.S.

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HOME AND MISSION

1899

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Ashley Hall, St. Albans
Cranford Baptist
Elmsleigh Gospel Hall, Leigh
Forest Hall, Loughton
Hoddesdon Congregational Church
Ingaway Chapel, Basildon
Lanes End Evangelical Free Church, Gravesend
Old Independent Church, Haverhill
Shoeburyness Gospel Hall (and Shoe Fund)
Westminster Chapel

HON. BOX SECRETARIES:

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Cook, 9, Beaconsfield Road, South Woodford, E.18

HON. AUDITORS:

Messrs. White, Salomon & Co.

ABRIDGE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH,

London Road, Abridge, Near Romford, Essex

Pastor and Mrs. CYRIL DAVEY

EDITORIAL

Spring 1965

Dear Friends,

How very happy I am to be writing to you again on behalf of my Family.

Early last year it was a joy to welcome, as new Trustees, Mr. Philip Butterworth, Mr. Dennis Kearns, Rev. Paul Tucker and Rev. W. J. C. White. We pray that God will bless them as they share in this His Work.

What a thrilling occasion "Our Day" proved to be last May. The new "experiment" to be at home during the afternoon, with an evening meeting at All Saints' Church, proved most successful. Record crowds joined us from 2 p.m. onwards, and at 10.30 p.m. we were at home still chatting with the older members of the Family, some having travelled a great distance to be "together" on Our Day. There was a delightfully happy atmosphere—the Lord was with us!

One prayer partner, 85 years old, came from Weston-super-Mare. He caught the last train home and then cycled from the station at 4 a.m.!!

The summer holiday, spent at Lowestoft again, was a beneficial time. The weather was good and we had tremendous fun by the sea. One of the highlights was a Cricket Test Match against Christian folk staying at the Marlborough Hotel. We played with a tennis ball on the sand and on occasions up to the ankles in water! The "Ashes" were duly presented to us by the opposing team.

Family prayers throughout the holiday were conducted by one of our "old" boys, Mr. Savage, and his wife. They have joined the Family now. Mr. Savage is in training at South Wales Bible College. Barry, and his wife helps here with the girls. Pray for them and their baby Philip and also for Miss Janice Pope, who has joined us as a Junior Helper. We praise God for his provision, for during the year we said "good-bye" to Mrs. Litchfield after five years of service. We wish her God's blessing in her new work at Groom's Crippleage. Miss Elsie Cook was married in August and it was a joy, as a Family, to attend the wedding at Thaxted.

At harvest time we recorded gifts from 86 different places and we praise God from full hearts for this adequate provision.

Christmas—how excited we all were. All the rooms were beautifully decorated and there were hundreds of greeting cards from near and far. We had the largest Christmas Tree ever! Stockings were filled with toys—"just what I asked Father Christmas for!" On Boxing Day we numbered 140 for tea, many of whom were once children in the Family. Some brought their own little ones with them, Mr. Cowling, approaching three score years and ten, with his wife, travelled from Earls Colne to be with us and stayed over the week-end. At supper-time greetings were brought by several folk, who spoke of their joy at being home again and of God's blessing upon their lives. At midnight on 26th December we

all joined in prayer, praising the Lord for the joy of Christmas and the one-ness of our Family through the blessed gift of salvation in Christ.

We stepped into the New Year with confidence, for as we look back we can trace His Loving Hand. In the words of our "Family Anthem" "We praise Him for all that is past and trust Him for all that's to come". The year past for us has underlined the truth that there is no such thing as an impossibility with God. He is able to operate positively in every circumstance.

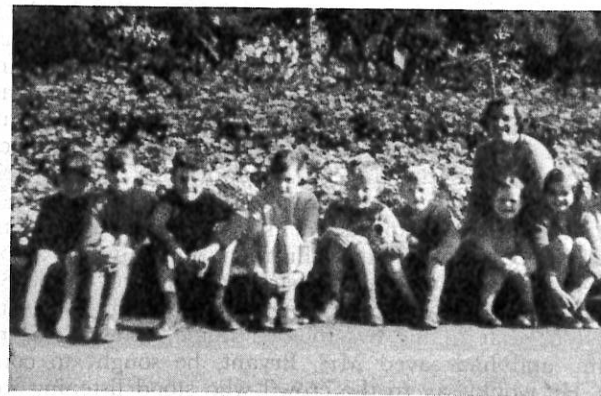
Please *PRAY* with us—daily—for the steady, happy growth of the kiddies and for every contact made with the parents. Some have joined us at Church and attended the very popular monthly after Church "sing-songs" at home here. Pray, too, that our witness in the neighbourhood, at school and elsewhere, may be clear. How thrilled we are to have many opportunities of preaching the gospel and of declaring what God has done for us.

Please remember in prayer "OUR DAY", 15th May, 1965. We shall be at home from 2 p.m. and hold our special gathering at All Saints' Church from 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

Thank you for your prayerful and practical support.

Yours in Him,

VICTOR J. WHITE



Holidays

"OUR DAY"—9th May, 1964

Chairman : Mr. E. W. JEALOUS (General Secretary, Open Air Mission).

Following our "At Home" during the afternoon we were welcomed by the Vicar, Rev Melville Scutt, to All Saints' Church, Woodford Green, where, for the first time, we held our Annual Gathering. In commending the meeting to the hands of God, the Vicar prayed: "We meet as a company of those who rejoice at what Thou, O Lord, hast done for us. May the remembrance of Thy goodness lead us all to a re-dedication of our service to a faithful God. May all in this Church to-night be conscious of the presence and power of God."

THE CHAIRMAN:—

As Secretary of the Open Air Mission it has been my great joy to know, and to be interested in, the work of the Children's Home and Mission for over thirty years. I often had the privilege of standing on Tower Hill with Mr. Herbert White, the Founder of this Family. I was frequently with him in Hyde Park also, and even on the racecourse at Epsom on Derby Day. I listened to that man of God telling out of the abundance of his heart and rich experience of the faithfulness of God and relating to those listening crowds what he knew by personal experience of God as his Father, the One Who hears and answers prayer. You can imagine what an enriching experience it was to a very young Christian to be in the company of such a man of God, and of others like him, with whom I used to stand at these open-air gatherings. I remember among them Sam Causley and our beloved Jim Bryant, the evangelist, or "Happy Jim", as we used to call him. We revelled in the stories he told, for he had been a drunkard before he came to Christ. It was when we heard such men telling of the grace of God in their own lives, and of what they knew of the grace of God in the lives of others, that these testimonies provided more powerful arguments for the truth of Christianity than all the books of evidence that were ever written on the subject. "Happy Jim" used to tell how he had been born into a drunkard's home, and that at the age of sixteen he was himself a drunkard like his father before him. In a wonderful way God laid hold of this man: he truly was among the unlovable of this world, but his heart was opened to the Saviour and to the word of God, and he became a radiant Christian. He would tell us that in his two-roomed home, after the Lord had saved him, and had saved Mrs. Bryant, he sought to count his blessings. He would say to the crowd who stood listening to him: "You may depend upon it, there is music in the heart, and there is music in the home where Jesus dwells."

How true that is of Mr. White's home! Many of us gathered here to-night in this beautiful Church know the truth of that, and

thank God for it. There was Mr. Bryant in his little two-roomed home seeking to count his blessings. "My wife going about her household duties was singing; the children gathered around the table were singing; the cat lying on the hearthrug was singing; the kettle on the fire was singing, and when I looked across to the dresser there was my wife's sewing machine, and even that was a 'Singer'!". And so "Happy Jim" would share with us that music in the heart, and that music in the home where Jesus dwelt. My mind often goes back to those days of service, and to those great men of God. How I thank God for what they did for me through my association with them.

It is indeed a joy to know that Mr. Victor White is following so wonderfully in the footsteps of his beloved father, whose memory we all honour. And what a joy to see Mrs. Herbert White with us to-night. What a partner she was to our beloved Founder all through the years! Mr. Victor White, like his father, is having many wonderful answers to prayer in connection with the Family.



A family helped in 1963—now happily re-settled

REPORT given by Mr. VICTOR WHITE

THE STORY OF 1963 cannot be adequately told in twenty minutes, but I have divided it into briefly-summarised chapters:—

Chapter 1—The Immediate Family

Well—here we are, at home now—from Tarune (two years old) to my Mother (over 80), we number just on 50. Yes—a real family! Folks are often surprised at our wide age range. It is unusual, but we know it is a great help in creating the family atmosphere. As the tiny tots progress, it is easy to detect the uninhibited pleasure of older ones—the live interest shown when Tarune expresses a new phrase—and shows his independence or displays his joy at being able at last to extricate his prune stone—or PIP—as he calls it!

Health. We haven't had to worry Dr. David Smith or Dr. Carey Baker very much, but have appreciated their help or advice when called upon. Mrs. Gilbert, my sister, who is on the staff, was unwell for five weeks recently, but is in good fettle now. The two weeks' convalescence ordered by Dr. Smith were spent with Mr. and Mrs. Will Cowling (an "old" boy and his wife) at Earls Colne.

Week-by-week regular visits are made to Mr. Stephen Smith, our dental surgeon. Visits to the optician, Mr. Hole, are necessary for some of us and on occasions others have been to see Mr. Roy Roberts, our chiropodist. Mr. Barrett, naturopath, has given valuable help to some of the staff. All these gentlemen love the Lord and see in their service to us, a way to please HIM.

Doctors, dentist, optician, chiropodist, naturopath—my, we ought to be fit, oughtn't we?

Summer holiday—Perhaps the good health has been partly due to the lovely two weeks we had at Lowestoft again. We had good weather on the whole: tremendous fun on the beaches and in the rough seas; ample pocket money and without the routine chores, the staff could enjoy every moment with the younger folk. We have booked to go this year, and look to the Lord to bless us and to use us, whilst away. Join with us in *prayer* for this seaside holiday.

Schooling—the children's favourite pastime!! At about 8.30 a.m., following breakfast and prayer, they leave for school. Everyone, apart from Doreen, who slips off to work, and the two tiny tots who remain at home to break the silence, and remind the staff of their Calling!

We have made several visits to each school during the year and invariably come away encouraged.

- Jackie is now form captain.
- David, further R.S.A. successes.
- Glenn won a painting competition.

- Anita and Jackie have earned swimming certificates.
- Congratulations to Keith on his G.C.E. successes and in attaining school colours for three different sports.
- Michael has represented Essex Juniors at chess and he, with Barry, Paul and Keith have played for their respective schools. Michael is also Covenanter Chess Champion for Essex.
- Karen is learning the 'cello and is form leader.
- Jackie and the two Keiths have piano lessons.
- Keith, Junior, took part in the Stratford Speech Festival—did very well.

In chatting about the Family, I think it is in the correct category to ask you if you spotted our Zoo as you wandered around this afternoon. Noddy, the dog; the cats, rabbits, hamsters, budgerigar. (The tadpoles, by the way, didn't come off this year—sigh of relief! Someone remarked: "It may be something to do with leap year!!")

Sport—Table tennis and badminton have been played at home regularly throughout the winter months and have now given way to cricket and tennis. We are fortunate to have cricket nets and a tennis court.

A special word here concerning the train room. Mr. George Hirst, a member of the United Free Church across the Green, introduced other friends to help in carrying on with the electric train layout. We are most grateful to these friends, and particularly to Mr. Alan Dalton (who spent some days of his annual holiday) for all the time, energy and equipment they have given to this project. This is beginning to take shape—the trains are "running" and the lads will be able to use their talents in building the layout with sidings, tunnels, goods yards, etc. (Incidentally, whilst chatting with Mr. Alan Dalton this week I found that his grandfather, the Rev. Robins, officiated at the wedding of my parents!)

Keeping the scooters, prams, tricycles, etc., repaired is quite a job and we are grateful to Mr. Gordon Billet for his help here, and to our David, too!

Spiritual Development

How we do praise God for the thrill of witnessing the activity of the Holy Spirit within the Family Circle. Physical and mental growth give rise to thankfulness, but are these the only essentials? Surely development of character is most important? My father was well known for saying: "In the last analysis, it's character that counts!" On more than one occasion of late, I have heard this expressed by school-teachers with whom I have been chatting. You see, if we do everything possible to ensure the physical and mental well-being of our children, and yet neglect their soul; neglect to tell of the love of Jesus and their need of Him as Saviour; neglect to open God's Word, the Bible; neglect to pray—then, I say, we are failing!

Oh, how clearly we see the result of this neglect to-day! The stupidity of parents to fail in this.

Sundays for us at home are days set apart—bringing change and spiritual refreshment. God, in his wisdom, set aside one day in seven for particular worship of Him, giving mental and physical rest, too. Together we have been blessed in our attendance at the Grove Road Evangelical Church. Our kiddies attend local Sunday Schools and some have sat for Scripture examinations. In the last "Links" you will see an article about the occasional Sunday evening sing-songs we have at home. Really blessed times! Anita was baptised on Easter Sunday—we do praise God for this step in her Christian life. Not only on Sunday, but every day, we read God's Word and pray together, remembering all our older "brothers and sisters" throughout the world. One evening a week we have a Young Sowers' League Meeting for those in the Family nine years old and over. Friends of the Family can come, too. The Y.S.L. is connected with the Scripture Gift Mission and is designed:

Firstly—to encourage the personal study of the word of God. Several awards have been received by our members for answering questions set to every chapter in the New Testament, and selected chapters of the Old Testament. Jackie won her Bible. Lynda and Anita New Testaments.

Secondly—to help in the spreading of the gospel message world-wide, by sending "seeds" of the Word of God for distribution by missionaries known personally to us. We collected £17 15s. 0d. last year—some "seeds" were in the Lingala language and were sent to the Congo; the rest were in Marathi and were sent to India.

Our missionary interest can be summed up—study, prayer, service and giving. We keep ourselves well informed about the mission field; we pray specifically for the work; we make things that are needed and we give our money to meet the needs of those serving on the mission field in the "front line". We often wonder who has the greater thrill—the missionaries receiving our gifts, or ourselves as we work and send our gifts!

David and Michael will be leaving the immediate Family Circle in July—we wish you God's richest blessing all the way ahead. Both have professed to know the Lord, and *Michael* is now going to give his brief testimony:—

"Before coming to the Family I lived at Harold Wood and went, when it suited me, to the Parish Church. When I did go it was of little use, for I mucked about and took no notice of my Sunday School teacher. So, obviously, I knew little about God. In summer 1959 I came to the Family here at Woodford. I learned about God and his Word, the Bible. I carried on learning until 3rd March, 1963, when, in the evening service, Rev. W. J. C. White at Grove Road Church spoke on 1 Corinthians 1, verses 27 and 28. After the service I came home on my bike. Somehow I just couldn't go indoors, but walked up and down thinking over the message. One of the staff heard me and after a long chat together, I gave my heart to the Lord. From that day to this I have never regretted

it. I thought I was too weak for Jesus, but I was proved wrong. Perhaps someone here thinks they are too weak for Jesus, but if I am not, then you're not."

Please pray—earnestly—constantly for the spiritual welfare of the Family.

Meetings—Throughout the year I have visited very many churches, missions, schools and other places to share our experience of *God's Faithfulness*. This is a wonderful privilege and has been the means of much blessing. Other members of the staff pop out from time to time, and we do find these opportunities of witness very stimulating to our faith.

There are many calls for us to visit and to share in all sorts of problems and here again we are humbled to realise that God has blessed this Ministry.

Chapter 2—The Meeting of the Needs

"How do you manage financially? Are there government grants? Do you make appeals for money?" Such questions are frequently asked.

In imagination come back with me to the beginning—1899. Herbert White and Miss Hutchin were challenged by God, to commence this Family. Right then they had three aims—or principles—and the third was this: "To prove the reality of God by appealing to Him alone to meet all needs." As far as they were concerned, God was Father and they His children. They stepped out in Faith and depended upon God to supply everything needful to do the work to which they believed *HE had called them*.

The same principle is in operation to-day. Approximately 20 per cent. of the year's income is by way of parents' payments, but the other 80 per cent. comes out of the abundance of God's full storehouse, through the medium of His servants.

During 1963 the expenses totalled £10,985—we had consumed approximately £245 worth of meat; 10,000 pints of milk costing £277; 4,500 eggs—£85; over 3,000 loaves—£230. We used £80 worth of soap and detergents to get ourselves and our clothes clean (*must be a grubby lot!*). Rates went up. Heating and lighting went up. Provisions went up. Travelling expenses went up . . . and *YET*, praise God, our income for 1963 reached the record figure of £11,269—leaving us a balance of £284.

This week I received the following letter from the president of the Canadian Railway Mission, Mr. William Fuller:—

"I see that your 'day' will be May 9th, just a week after our General Convention here in Toronto. Mrs. Fuller and I both wish to have a little share in the rejoicing and celebrations of the 9th, with you. I therefore write this in good time (I hope) for it to be in your hands by the date mentioned, perhaps in time for you to give our greetings to the Mission and your workers. If you feel like doing that, please be assured of our warm interest, and of heartfelt thanks to God for the history (His Story) of the Family since the

far-off years of 1900—the days when the Founder had to endure hard thoughts and words on his 'throwing away' his promising business position in the Midland Bank. We all learned much then and from his steps of faith."

Away back—the Midland Bank director and some of Herbert White's closest friends considered him a fool. "This just won't work!" "God can't provide material things!" "Teach the children what you like, but don't go too far." Bound to fail!

God provided then—He still provides to-day. I'm very proud to stand here in His Name to-night and to state that all commitments have been met, leaving us with a little to spare.

The certainty, the power, the compassion of our Father, stirs us to respond to His challenge—the Bible says "seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and ALL these things SHALL be added unto you." Also "My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Our hearts are touched—aren't yours?—at this wonderful demonstration of God's love and power.

We do thank all our prayer partners who have yielded to the promptings of the Lord in this magnificent way. 1963, a year of abundant provision—not only financially, but in other ways, too. There have been the numerous and varied gifts in kind—gifts from our working parties mentioned in the "Links". At Christmas gifts came from 150 different places (including turkeys and ducks), and harvest goods came from 92 sources—and much, much more besides. It has been a very real joy to share some of these things with others.

Christmas was such a happy time—in the opinion of many, the best ever! One of the highlights was the great performance of "Cinderella" by the "Merry Club", a small group of our girls and one or two friends. We numbered over 130 for tea Boxing Day.

Many of you this afternoon expressed appreciation of the premises and facilities we have at Crescent Road. We are cheered—why? Because this is honouring to the Lord and is in itself praise to Him. The last visit of the Home Office Inspector was most interesting. Fascinated with improvements, he said: "This is excellent. You must have many benefactors." The reply: "No—only One." A pause and then "Yes, I understand!" Do YOU understand?

What about staff?—I have asked my wife to speak here!

MRS. WHITE :—

How many people have you on your staff?

Do you advertise for staff?

Where do the staff come from?

Let me answer these three questions.

First—How many are there on your staff?

Residential—Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. Litchfield and Miss Baker have been with us throughout the year and were joined by Miss Edwards in January. There are two juniors in training—Miss Elsie Cook and Miss Jennifer Taylor.

Also residential—Mr. Peter Hobbs is spending some time with us before going to Oxford University in the Autumn. We are most grateful for all the help he is giving, and my husband's brother, too.

Non-Residential—Five days a week Miss Brown works in the office and Miss Lee helps with domestic work. Mrs. Reeves and Miss Percival come two days a week to help with domestic work. Every Wednesday Mrs. Wombwell comes voluntarily, and quickly adjusts herself from cooking for a family of three, to cooking for between forty and fifty of us.

All these folk remind me of the pieces of a jig-saw puzzle—different shapes and sizes—but they fit together to accomplish all the work necessary in the running of a Family such as ours!

Now for the second question—Do you advertise for staff?

No, we don't. But *if* we did, advertisements would read something like this :—

Housemother required to live in.

Qualifications :

1. G.C.E. standard of education an advantage.
2. Ability to love and control children from 18 months old, through childhood years up to and including the unpredictable teenage years—essential.
3. Knowledge of first-aid and home nursing advisable.
4. A temperament enabling happy co-operation with other staff living with them seven days a week!

Duties include :—

Sweeping, polishing and dusting.

Washing, ironing and mending.

Cooking and kitchen chores.

OR—Handyman required to :—

1. Keep garden and playground tidy.
2. Mend broken toys.
3. Stoke two furnaces.

OR—Office staff required.

Qualifications :

Knowledge of shorthand, typing and book-keeping essential.

Ability to operate telephone switchboard an advantage.

Personality to deal with people in every section of society.

In the light of the foregoing I think it is just as well we do *not* depend on advertisements, as we could hardly compete with the attractions of the five-day week, no qualifications necessary, etc.,

Question 3—If you don't advertise—where do the staff come from? How do they come to you?

Right from the commencement of the C. H. & M. in 1899 the need of staff, like all other needs, has been presented to the Lord and it's just wonderful how HE places HIS HAND on the people of His choice and they are led to get into touch with us—sometimes in amazing ways—and they just couldn't be happy elsewhere. This, for them, is the place of HIS WILL.

On a human level I cannot find words to express the thanks of my husband and myself to those who have been so loyal throughout another year. It has been a very happy year and in spite of disappointments, difficulties and problems we have often laughed merrily together and our fellowship in prayer has been very precious. In the words of scripture—I Thessalonians 1, verses 3 and 4 (New English Bible Translation) :

“We always thank God for you all, and mention you in our prayers continually. We call to mind, before our God and Father, how your faith has shown itself in action, your love in labour, and your hope of our Lord Jesus Christ in fortitude.”

Chapter 3—The Wider Family

Quite a number are with us here to-day—how happy we are to see you—but, of course, the majority of the 890 are unable to share this day with us.

We keep in touch by letter and visiting. I have asked Mr. BEVERLEY SAVAGE to speak to you now :

“If there is one thing that I have learned through my Christian experience it is this, that God has a plan for each individual life: that each experience of life has a purpose behind it. We are all no doubt familiar with the illustration of this point of the weaver who, in his work, weaves together the light and dark threads in such a way as to bring about a pattern; each thread playing its part in the whole picture. So each experience of life which the ‘Master Weaver’ weaves together is designed to bring about a pattern.

“But is this so for everyone? The Bible quite clearly says ‘No’. We read in Psalm I v. 6, for example, ‘For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous; but the way of the ungodly shall perish’. There is no point or pattern to life apart from Jesus Christ. Those who live without Christ of necessity live their lives outside of the plan which God has laid down for them. But for a Christian ‘All things work together for good’.

“What is the object of God's plan for His people? It is to bring us to Christ-likeness. So that for each Christian there should be a gradual growth towards this end day by day.

“How far can I trace God's pattern in my own personal life? I lived in a home which was by no means Christian. God's name

was not mentioned except in swearing. I was fast becoming uncontrollable and eventually it was decided that I would have to be ‘sent away’. This, I learned later, was to have been done by police intervention. But God had another plan. For five years of my childhood I had lived with another family, the mother of which was a Christian, and it was through her influence that I eventually arrived at the C. H. & M., not the Council Home or the Corrective School, but here at South Woodford C. H. & M., where Jesus Christ is loved and honoured; where God pours out His blessing. I spent five years in the ‘Family’ and it was during my stay, and after a particularly bad spell in my behaviour, I remember, that I came to know and to love the Lord Jesus Christ for myself. So you see the first part of God's plan was accomplished in my life. I was now His child. I suggest that this must ever be the starting point to any life worth living.

“The time had come to leave school. My guardian had died. What was to happen to my life now? Once again God's guidance was very much in evidence, for ‘Auntie’ and ‘Uncle’, with whom I had previously lived, made me very welcome back ‘home’. So for the second time in my life I became their ‘son’, only this time it was officially. How I acknowledge the mercy of God in this. Here was a Christian family (for by now all three members of the family were Christians) with whom to grow up and mature; from whom to learn. At the local Church I first met my wife at the age of fifteen. After six years we were married. My doctor remarked recently: ‘If a girl will wait for you that long, you know you have got a good’un’. I am glad to say that I have since proved his words to be true. This year our son Philip was born, and we praise God for His blessing.

“My wife and I were married with this in mind that the Lord might well call us to some more definite work for Him. So together we prayed about it, we laboured in prayer over the matter. We wanted to be quite sure that the call was from God, and not of our own making. I wrote to several Theological Colleges. I filled in one entry form as far as I was able, but still the clear direction from God did not come. How wonderfully we were led to examine and re-examine our motives, and our fitness for any work for God! God spoke to us through His Word. Do you doubt that is possible? See me afterwards and I'll show you the account which we have been carefully keeping. There you will read how the Lord spoke to us through whole passages of scripture, not just through single verses. How dangerous, I have learned, to divorce a single verse from its context! He spoke to us concerning such matters as faith, persistence in prayer, counting the cost, and so on. It is so evident how wonderfully God has been leading us and, praise God, He has His plan. This year I was accepted by the South Wales Bible College to train for three years for the Christian Ministry. This is God's plan for us: and we are resting in Him; we would rest nowhere else. What of your life?”



Terry, an "old" boy, and Pat are active in Christian service. They have commenced a Y.S.L. group at Pitsea.

Now for some extracts from letters received during the year :

From ALDERSHOT :

"I hope you are all well. Thank you for the Christmas present you sent me. At my school last term I came third in my class. I hope all the children are well and had a nice Christmas. I haven't much to write about. I must close for now. Love."

(We have heard from all three of this family in turn.)

From BRENTWOOD :

"How are you and your Family keeping? I hope you all had a happy Christmas. I've been meaning to write to you for a long time but never get around to it. Can you tell me how everyone is keeping—Violet, Pat, Irene, Margaret, Dawn, Mary and her sister, Bette and her brother? I'd like to know how they all are. How big is the Family now? When is your 'Open Day' this year? Sincerely yours."

From BIRMINGHAM :

"Well, we are home again and back to the old routine. Thank you for letting us share with you the enjoyment of Christmas. The children are still full of all they have done and had. We do trust everyone is none the worse for wear after the late nights. Car news! The fan belt broke just after leaving the M.1 so we cruised after that and managed to get home without changing it for the spare which we were carrying. Well, I hope you have a peaceful New Year and may God bless you both in His Work, and thank you for the love you have shown to us as a family."

From NEW ZEALAND :

"Received your parcel this afternoon and was so thrilled with the woolies for the children. Being a Mum now, I appreciate clothes for them rather than toys, more especially as our two do not seem to play with toys. A hammer and nails is more in Kevin's line, and little Annette seems to like playing with old tins, etc. Toys seem a waste to me. They have quite a few, but don't appreciate them. We've had quite an exciting time over here as Her Majesty The Queen is touring our lovely country. I felt really proud of her and proud to be English, too."

"Annette is talking nineteen to the dozen. You should hear her singing 'Jesus loves me'. It will be the Sunday School Anniversary soon and I'm in the middle of teaching Kevin the verses he has to sing and say. I'm longing to see him on the day. Lots of love."

From RUGBY :

"... Did you have a nice Christmas? But of course you did. How well I remember my Christmases with you and the wonderful times we had. If we could put the clocks back, those would be the days I would return to. Not necessarily my school days, but my last year or two with you all. Free of the care and responsibilities of adulthood, but with the thrill and fun of growing up and discovering what life holds for us. I daresay; in fact, I am sure, I used to moan sometimes, but looking back on it now, it seems as if it was pleasure all the way. I must be getting old to be writing like this! ... I wish you all a very very happy New Year. My love to everyone."

From IPSWICH :

"Thank you for your letter and 'Links'. I enjoyed reading the 'Links' and seeing all the familiar faces. It makes me wish I could get the next bus and come to see you all. We are now settled in our new house and we hope that when you are down this way you will pop in to see us ... I would like to see you after Easter—my love to the staff and all the children. God bless you all."

From CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA :

"Thanks very much for the 'Links' which I read right through—including MY letter! ... Anyway, it brought back, for a time, the 'old home' and was better than a letter (although, of course, I expect an answer to THIS). I often think back to the

days when I was there—and quite often use some of the more—pungent, shall we say?—of Mr. Herbert White's sayings! I even translate them into Afrikaans! He will never die in the minds of hundreds of folk like myself. Bless him—and you're carrying on in the tradition! By the way, I went to church on Easter Sunday—thought you'd like to know. There's still hope, eh? Well, this'll be all for now. Affectionate regards . . .”

From BARNSTAPLE :

“It was really lovely to see you all on Saturday. We do hope you had as lovely a time as we had. I'm just beginning to realize that I am married and that it's not just a dream, for surely I would have woken up by now! We are very happy in our little cottage—you know Gordon was born here! We would like to have seen more of you, really, but I expect you were very tired after your long journey. Anyway, we were very thrilled that you came down here for the wedding. The Lord has been very wonderful to us. Thank you very much for all you have done for us and for the beautiful dinner service. We shall always remember you all and think of you when we use it. God bless you. All our love;”

From CYPRUS :

“Thank you very much for the ‘Links’. They always seem to bring you nearer home when you are abroad. I have been out in Cyprus about ten days now and shall stay for about six months. I am sorry that I will not be able to visit you in May for ‘Our Day’. I was looking forward to it very much, but that's the Army! We have been doing patrols up in the hills and I find that it is very much like the Bible Times. Nearly all the transport is by donkeys. I must close now as I must get ready for guard. All the best.”

From LONGFIELD

“Firstly, I am very sorry to have kept you so long before dropping you a line. You have all been in my daily prayers and in my thoughts. I am very sorry that I will not be able to get over to the Annual this year, but I do hope very much to be over to see you all on the Wednesday before . . . Thank you for the ‘Links’ which I enjoyed very much indeed. It is always so good to read the progress of the work and the children and makes me say Thank-you to God for placing me in the care of the C. H. & M. because I am sure that if I hadn't I would never have known Him as my personal Saviour and Friend. I have felt Him very near me both at work and at home . . . God bless you all. With love.”

Some weeks back three past members of the staff and a friend came to lunch and of course we chatted nineteen to the dozen.

Well, two of the four friends are with us to-day. Both were members of the family as children and later as staff. I have asked Miss LOUISE COLEMAN, night sister in a Bournemouth Hospital, to speak :

“I am a member of the older Family. It is forty-three years since I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour in the home at Woodford, through the love shown to us and the testimony borne by people to whom we were strangers. From what I learned there, I have been enabled by His grace to live for Him. I have let Him down many times, but He has never let me go. One thing that impressed me at the home, where I was taken at the age of thirteen, was the fact that God answers prayer, not only with regard to spiritual issues, but in regard to temporal things also.

“Now, many of you have heard my testimony before, so perhaps to-night I might be permitted to say something, as the Lord leads, of what He has done in more recent days. I think of that chapter in Numbers where the spies were sent to view the land of Canaan and found it flowing with milk and honey, and when they returned they only brought with them pomegranates, figs and grapes. Since we have gone on with the Lord we have learned more about the milk and honey. This Canaan is a land we enjoy when we accept the Saviour into our lives. It also says in Numbers, chapter 13: ‘There were giants in the land.’ May I tell you of one or two giants I have met and the way in His strength they have been overcome? Our mother was a Christian and used to pray with us; but she was taken to be with the Lord when my sister was ten and I was thirteen. Neither of us had come to the Lord; we had to lose all that at that time we held dear, to find Him. Our father was anything but a Christian and as a result of his misdoings we had to be taken into care. The Lord had a plan for us, and brought us to the home at Woodford, where we found Him.

“I had always wanted to be a nurse. I once broke a wax doll and thought that I should be able to put it together again by means of a bandage, which, of course, failed. I left high school at the age of thirteen, hence I had no school-leaving certificate (the equivalent of the modern G.C.E.) and knew that apart from the Lord I should not be accepted in a voluntary hospital. We got down to prayer; the outcome—I filled in the necessary application forms and wrote a covering letter to the Matron of a well-known hospital and was accepted for training; and through God's goodness, was successful in all exams. In those days the trainee nurse had to pay for first uniform, all textbooks, etc., the authorities did not supply a thing. So here was another giant. The money I had hoped for at the age of twenty-one, my father attempted to get possession of, but again, after months of prayer, his efforts were frustrated, and there was the money I needed. This experience led us to lean harder and harder upon God. How glad we are that we gave our lives to Him when we were young! He has never let us down. I would say to any young person here to-night; if the Lord has put into your mind some service He wants you to do for Him, remember that He is a prayer-answering God, and when you are faced with some seemingly impossible task, remember He will see you through, and He will never let you go.”



*Anita, an "old" girl, and Gordon
(see page 18 — Barnstaple.)*



*Anita arriving at the Church on the arm of her brother
David, an "old" boy.*

Chapter 4—Abridge

My father's great passion was to win men and women, boys and girls, for the Lord Jesus Christ. In the 1920's, following special prayer meetings, a Gospel Wagon set forth from Crescent Road. *First stop Abridge.* This became the main base in this adventure to reach the Essex villages with the Gospel. The story is told in our Booklet—"These 60 Years." In January, 1926, the A.E.F. Church was opened.

Pastor Cyril Davey will now give us a brief report to date :—

"In commencing this brief report of the work and witness at Abridge during the past year, I would like to thank the many friends who have so faithfully remembered us at the Throne of Grace. I would also like to express our gratitude to the Children's Home and Mission, who have provided our accommodation, placed their Bedford Utilibrake at our disposal, kindly meeting running costs, and have given financial gifts for the upkeep of the church premises.

Throughout the year the usual daily activities have been maintained, in addition to the visitation, personal contacts, and literature work. For those who may not be aware of our programme, I will briefly indicate our varied branches of witness.

On Sunday our work commences at 9.45, when the Bible Class and Sunday School assemble. Numbers have been encouraging, but

we are still in need of more helpers, particularly for the class of older girls. Following Sunday School, we hold our morning worship at 11 a.m. As our afternoon is occupied in service elsewhere, there is no further gathering until 6 p.m., when we meet for a brief prayer meeting. Chorus singing from 6.15 helps to prepare our hearts and minds for the evening service, which commences at half-past six. After the evening service, sundry activities take place. During the summer months there are Open Air Meetings in various parts of the village. When the weather does not permit such witness, sing-songs are arranged in the homes of friends.

On Tuesday evenings we visit the Hostel for evicted women and their children, and are able to take toys for the amusement of the young ones, and to make and maintain personal contact with the women. We trust that the Lord is blessing this intimate witness. After our hostel visit the Women's Fellowship meets at eight o'clock.

Wednesday afternoon and evening are devoted to the work of our 1st Abridge Company of the Girls' Life Brigade.

Thursday sees the Young Sowers' League at work by 7 p.m., while eight o'clock marks the commencement of our weekly Bible Study and Prayer Meeting, the second Thursday of each month being devoted to prayer for Missionary activity.

Friday evening is given to the Friday Club; a club for the senior scholars of Bible Class and Sunday School.

Although it has been our intention to reserve Monday evening for family reasons, and to keep Saturday free for preparation, more often than not we are called upon during those times as well.

Now a few matters for your prayers. I am greatly burdened for the souls at Abridge. We long to see a spirit of witness and of concern among the folks who regularly attend our services. We long to see unsaved brought into our Gospel meetings, and are hungry for conversions.

Pray also for the parents of the Sunday School scholars, so few of whom attend our meetings. A further concern is the youth of the village. Please pray that we might be shown of the Lord what He would have us to do in this field.

Thank you for listening to me and for your continued prayers."

Day by day we pray for this work and each Thursday Mr. and Mrs. Davey join us at Staff prayers when we particularly remember Abridge. We recently helped a family there in need. We thank God for enabling us to support this work—as we do.

Chapter 5

One of the many encouragements during the past year has been the development of closer ties with the parents. We've had many happy and valuable times with one and another. Side by side with this has been the joy to have some of them worshipping with us on Sunday mornings at Grove Road Church.

When Jesus Christ becomes Saviour and God's Spirit enters the heart, there is a *new* threefold vision—

1. Of God
2. Of oneself
3. Of others

He *can* and he *does* take up the broken vessel and with His loving nail-pierced hands, remoulds to His pattern, then to fill with His Power. We become useable in His Service.

God grant *you* may hear His voice this night, and be obedient to His claim upon your life.

CHALLENGE. *Christians here*—let us be more alert to the constant struggle in the lives and homes of many folk. But for the grace of God, our lives could be so different. For so many of us, perhaps unconsciously, there's a satisfied feeling as we wend our way to church and perform the rites of our belief. No—don't misunderstand me, please—but the Christian life is much more. Jesus went about doing good. Are we? So easily to-day we write off as impossible situations which loom upon our horizon in such complicated fashion. As God looks down upon this sad world-wide scene to-day, surely His heart is broken—not only because of the chaos, but because of the ineffectiveness of His Church—and inability of His People to grapple with the problems.

The late Stuart Holden, commenting on *Matthew 2, verse 2* : "Where is He that is born King?" says:

" 'Where is He that is born King?' is a question which we may profitably put to ourselves. For, too often, alas, even by those who profess to believe and serve Him, He is denied the throne. Men are not unwilling to accept His grace, if that can be done without yielding to His government. They are glad to have Him near to the precincts of life in case they should come to need Him : but they will not allow Him its presidency, in case He should come to *need them!* Indeed, the common cause of the powerlessness and ineffectiveness of so much avowed Christian life to-day, is to be sought in the failure to recognise Christ as King, and to realise His unquestioned control. For when 'His Kingdom ruleth over all,' life is invested with the sanctifying power, which increasingly delivers it from all that is sordid and unworthy in motive and aim : and at the same time, inspires to self-forgetting service. But when He is not so enthroned, life's course runs on to increasing weakness and worthlessness, and its true end is lost. The gold, frankincense, and myrrh, lovingly bestowed upon Him, are strangely multiplied to the enrichment of the worshipper, as well as to the service of the Saviour. But selfishly withheld from Him, they become a positive impoverishment."

It is time, surely, that we got to our knees, seeking cleansing from every hindrance within and slothful reactions to the needs of others. Look—the fields are white and ready to harvest. Where are the labourers? Lord—use me.

CONCLUSION. Another report draws to a close—my thirteenth since Father died. Reflecting for a moment; it may appear to you that there have been no problems, no disappointments, no trials, no testings. There have been, indeed! But HE has been there to comfort and sustain—to impart wisdom and give guidance. In such times HE has been most real. As we look ahead we do so with confidence—for HE is faithful that promised and, aware as we are of the devil's abilities, "We know in whom we have believed and are persuaded that He is able to keep that which we have committed unto Him against that day."

"HE TOOK THEM UP IN HIS ARMS AND BLESSED THEM"

Shyly she lifted her delicate white hand, paused a moment, while slowly adjusting her gaze, and then, in one movement, placed her hand in mine. Her eyes, her mouth and her hands all spoke to me of trust and love—gone was the fear, the bewilderment and the bitterness of a broken family background. Slowly mistrust and doubt had flown away through the open window of love.

I stroked her light brown curls, while she leaned her head against my side—gently she said, in a faltering voice: "I love you." A statement, seemingly so plain, so simple and so misplaced. I thought for a few moments—perhaps a deeper meaning was hidden in these three syllables. I managed to reply: "The feeling's mutual"—the typical reply of a sixth-former, steeped in the world of supposed impartiality and precision. She didn't understand, but agreed.

Eventually she turned round and walked away, lost in thought her little curly head drooping slightly. Why was she so sad? Could it be? . . . Yes, I think so. Once more she turned round, her red frock describing a small circle around her slender legs, and blew me a kiss. Tears filled her eyes, and her whole expression seemed to mouth words which cut to the heart of my being. "If only you were Mummy". She sighed, and I stood motionless, watching the last streak of red as she disappeared behind the door.

My mind, as if driven by some unseen power, suddenly switched back two millennia. I saw a little child nestling under the chin of the Man wearing the soft, white robe, whose blue eyes looked so kindly at her. "Jesus, I love you," she said. Yes, Jesus had considered children, and their place in life, to be a vital part of His Mission to earth.

How can anyone not love a child? . . . I thought once more of her dark brown eyes . . . Can anyone forget this gift of God? . . . her curly hair still seemed to fill my hand . . . the answer, almost unbelievably, is "Yes".

Yet Jesus loved them and was heard to say, "Let the little ones come to me." In His Name we, too, shall love this little lass and seek with His help to set her upon a pathway of happiness.

KEITH WHITE



HOLIDAYS





Noddy—envious of the special attention given to the bunnies and guinea-pigs!

**ADDRESS given on "OUR DAY" by
The Rev. Dr. J. CHARLES STERN
(Movement for Worldwide Evangelisation)**

It is, indeed, a heart-warming experience to be here to-night, and to enter into the joy, and fellowship, and thanksgiving of this hour. I was born almost within a stone's throw of the Children's Home and Mission, but I spent most of my life away from home; I went away when I was seven. This has been a wonderful home-coming for me, and it has been a great joy to renew fellowship with my beloved friends, Mr. and Mrs. White.

I want to talk to you for a little while to-night about the Home Roof. First of all, on this occasion, as our hearts are lifted in thanksgiving for the great work that God has done here through the years, I have been specially thinking of the home-coming of Martha in Heaven. When she arrived I believe that the first words that the Lord Jesus spoke to her concerned her earthly home, and had specially to do with her home at Bethany. To Martha, so busy during her life here upon earth, the words of the Lord Jesus in Matthew: "Come unto Me, and I will give you rest" would have very little meaning. I think now of all the ministry that goes on through the years in this Family. And there comes to Martha this word of Jesus: "Martha, now you can come and sit at My feet for all eternity; there's no more washing up to do, no more dusting, no more meals to prepare. I have prepared a place, a home, for you." And that is what our friends here are going to hear one day. I was recently in Greece, and stayed at a Children's Home there; I stayed for three weeks, and in that Home there was a dear Greek woman: she had given her heart to the Lord Jesus, and was seeking to serve Him as she ministered to the boys and girls in the Home. She would never have a husband, or a home of her own, but the Lord had committed this work into her hands, and there was a great outflow of His love through her devoted life of service. I have been thinking of her this evening as I have listened to the testimonies, and have seen something of the work of this Family.

My mind has been turning back to the Book of Deuteronomy, and the thought that God is concerned with the need of every living soul was brought home to me in Chapter 22, verse 8: "When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence." Or as it is in the Standard (Revised) Version: "When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house if anyone falls from it." Last May I was in Bethany, outside Jerusalem, and the houses there to-day are, I imagine, built in exactly the same way as they were in the time of our Lord. I can well understand this injunction of God to His people, for the roofs of the houses are quite flat; the people there to-day must have forgotten this instruction in Deuteronomy, for I saw no parapet built on these houses.

I want to say three things, briefly, concerning God's wonderful love in contemplating the homes of His people, and making provision for them: "When you build a new house, ye shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house, if anyone falls from it." It would be dangerous moving about on the roof-top of the house unless there was a parapet. It would be so easy to fall down and be injured. Let us look at the meaning of this provision made by God.

First, it was a provision for helplessness. How helpless is a small infant! He can do nothing for himself. And in the Children's Home, and in that which has brought us together, there is the remembrance that God Himself cares for the little ones. During the reign of Queen Victoria there was a luncheon one day at Buckingham Palace; it was a luncheon for the learned men of the day. And John Bright, an outstanding character, was seated at the Queen's right hand, and she found it difficult to make conversation with him. And in an endeavour to make conversation, Her Majesty said to John Bright: "I wonder where all these learned men come from. 'From babies, Madam,'" was his immediate reply. I remember that the babes were brought to Jesus when He was here upon earth. Forgive me, if I turn aside. Are there those present here to-day who have babes in the home? Have you brought them to Jesus? For I remember in Mark 10. 14 it was concerning these helpless little ones that Jesus said: "Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." That is why this home was brought into being. There was a farmer who had been very successful in cattle rearing. One day he was showing a man from the city over his farm, and this man, who knew something about sheep, was struck with the fine herd of sheep on the farm. And he said to the farmer: "How have you managed to rear such fine sheep?" The farmer replied: "*I always take care of the lambs.*" We think of those nearly 900 children who have gone forth from this Family to different parts of the world, and who are a testimony to the work of this home, a home which "took care of the lambs." That is the first thing that I want to lay upon your hearts. See that you take care of the lambs. "When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof."

Secondly, this was a provision for carelessness. You recall the word of the wise man in Proverbs: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Carelessness—I have seen that in so many places. I think of the boys and girls of to-day, so many of them living in good homes, with every material comfort, but they are not being steered through life; there are no safeguards. They are like ships without a rudder. "Train up a child in the way it should go." That is what this Family is doing. Just towards the close of the War I was commissioned to take up a teaching appointment as a lecturer in a Theological College in America. I had to go across via South America and we journeyed across on a little Argentine vessel. It

was a very rough passage and we took the trip at the worst time of the year. It took twenty-six days, this journey which in the ordinary way took only thirteen days. One morning I went up on deck; It was daybreak and the sun was rising in the *west!* I said to the captain: "What's happened? Have we turned round?" And then I noticed that the engines had stopped. I could not speak Spanish, and the captain could speak English, and I asked him what was the matter. He said: "Our steering gear is broken, but it will soon be put right." It was a queer feeling to be drifting about in the ocean, with the steering gear out of order. And there are boys and girls, thousands of them, in this land of ours—are there any of them in your home who have no steering gear? "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Thirdly, there is another thing: *This was a protection from thoughtlessness.* I think of youth—and we are all thinking of youth to-day—and in Essex things are happening to-day. I am reminded of that word in Psalm 119. 9: "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word." *A protection from thoughtlessness.* These lads and lasses, they do not know what they are doing. They are not thinking aright. My old friend Mr. Lindsay Glegg once spoke of a machine in a factory: and all of a sudden there was an explosion, and there was nothing left but bricks and dust. What had happened? The trouble was with the boiler. The steam that was to have produced good had got out of hand, and had resulted in an explosion. "When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house if anyone falls from it."

Some time ago some work had to be done in the house where we were staying: and a young lad came to do this work for the firm which hired him. My wife took a great interest in that boy; and gave him coffee and tea and let him eat his sandwiches with us at lunchtime. And she talked to him about the Lord Jesus. He was a rough type of lad, and showed no interest at first in what she said. He was there for some time, and though he made no profession, he listened quietly to what she had to say. About a year afterwards there was a knock at the door one night. And on opening the door we found it was this lad who had done this work for us. He said: "I learned the other day that you were still here, and I thought that you would like to know that I have given my heart to the Lord Jesus, and I have joined the Church." He said that he was engaged to a Christian girl. What had touched him was that he told my wife that he had a motor cycle and that he had been thrown off his motor cycle twenty-eight times. And she had said to him: "Do you know why God has saved you from death these twenty-eight times, and has preserved your life? It is because He wants that life of yours for Himself."

I am speaking to those who have children in their homes; and some of you young people who have heard the truth in your home,

and perhaps have not yet accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour. You must exercise a personal faith in Christ; no one else can do it for you. You remember the word of Paul to the Philippian jailer when he asked: "What must I do to be saved?" "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," said the apostle. My own personal testimony is in 2. Tim. 1. 12: "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." There must be an active, personal faith. Only the other day I saw in a visitors' book the signature of one long passed away, the late Dr. Len. G. Broughton, a great American preacher.

Some years ago he came across a simple grave, with a little shrubbery around it; the headstone particularly attracted him. On it was a hand pointing upwards towards the word "Mother". He said afterwards that that was sufficient to tell him of the influence in that home of a life that had pointed those in the home circle, by her prayers, her life, and her love, to the Saviour. I am speaking now of the need of a personal faith. What kind of a house are you living in? Have you a safeguard? Have you a parapet? What is your personal attitude to the Word of God? In that same Epistle, 2. Tim. 2. 15. Paul says: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." There are many homes in which there is no safeguard at all, no parapet.

When I was in Johannesburg a child there was sent to Sunday School and at night her mother would go along to her room to hear her say her prayers. One night the child said to her mother: "Do I do all the praying for this house?" That is just about what it is in the case of many homes. There are those who still say the simple, childish prayer: "Gentle Jesus, Meek and Mild." Does your child do all the praying for your home? It is so sometimes. I remember a man who was brought to Christ by a child, and he gave this testimony. He said: "We had our little niece staying with us. On the Sunday morning, she said to me: 'Uncle, tell me something about Jesus'.

"Well," he said, "I just put it off, I had other things to do. But that child was persistent. She said: 'Won't you tell me something about Jesus? Mummie always does on a Sunday. Won't you do it, too?' She waited for an answer, and then, looking at me with her little blue eyes, she said: 'Uncle, don't you know about Jesus?' I had put it off. I could not sleep that night. I realised that I did not know the Lord Jesus, and it was not long before I did come to know him."

What about your personal witness? Are you manifesting in your life something of His winsomeness? You remember what was said about the early disciples by those who heard them speak after the Day of Pentecost in Acts 4. 13: "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus."

Let me speak from my heart to you, for I am a father, to you who really know Him; what do others see in your life? I remember the late Archibald Brown, and his ministry. What a grand soul he was! When he used to talk to God the tears would run down his cheeks. His son Douglas, whose great work in Lowestoft is still remembered, used to say that the most wonderful memory of his life was to stand outside the door of his father's study and listen to him praying to God. "All down the years that memory has been with me," he would say, "the memory of hearing my father in prayer." I was reminded of that when I was signing that visitors' book. Is that what happens when people hear you praying to God? Is yours a winsome witness?

"When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house if anyone falls from it." My last word must be to those who are caring for the young, as you, dear friends, are caring for them in the home. What is my message to you? I would remind you of the words in Exodus 2. 9, the story of Moses. You remember that Pharaoh's daughter said this striking word concerning the babe: "Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages." When I was a young student—I had finished my theological training in America—I was in Chicago. One day there was a call for someone to go to one of the large hospitals to see a woman who had asked to see a minister. So I was sent. I did not know anything about her, but when I reached the hospital I found that she was very ill, and was passing away. I soon realised that she had a living faith in God, and was one who really loved the Lord Jesus. She said: "I would like you to pray with me, but there is just one other thing I would like you to do for me: for life for me will soon be over. I have two sons and two daughters; three of them are married, and none of them belong to the Lord Jesus Christ—none of them have ever given their hearts to Him. I want in that day when I shall see my Lord to be able to say: 'Here am I, and the children Thou hast given me. I want you to conduct the funeral service, and I want you to speak to my dear children, and tell them that I have prayed that they may come to know Christ as their Saviour.'"

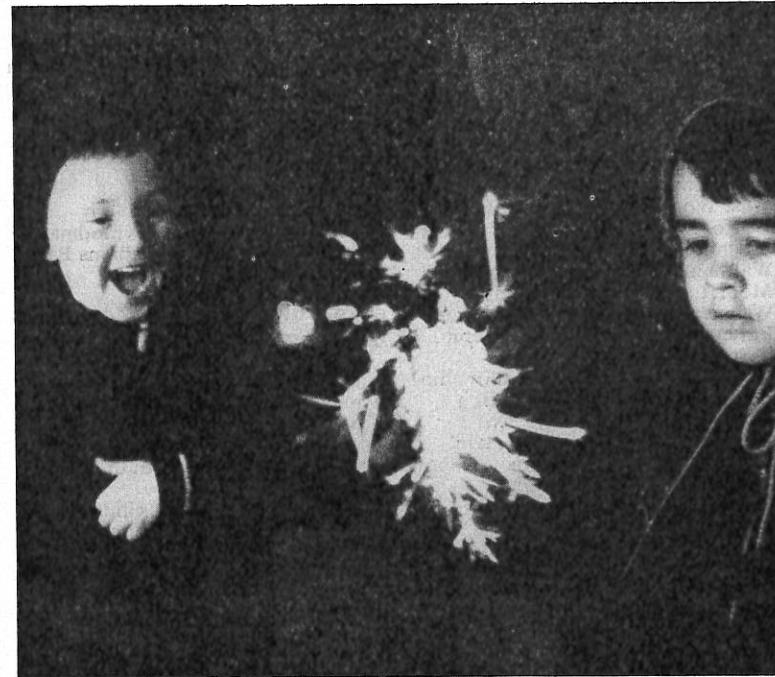
I promised that I would do as she asked if it was possible. This lady passed away within three days. I prayed very earnestly as I went to conduct that funeral service. The four children received the Lord Jesus as their Saviour by faith in Him. What was the text? The very words that the mother had herself quoted from the Word of God: "Here am I, and the children Thou hast given me." There is a similar word in Acts 16. 31: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Is not that also your relationship concerning these little children who are growing up in the Family, and these teenagers also?

I love Scotland. There was an old Scottish saint, ninety-seven years of age. She was going Home, and her mind was wandering

a bit. Her husband was bending over her. "It's getting dark" she said, "I shall soon be Home." "Yes, you will soon be Home," he replied. "You will be coming Home, too," she said. "Yes, I will be coming Home, too," he replied. "Are the boys all in?" she asked. Yes, the boys were all in; they had gone Home before her. To those who to-night come within the sound of my voice, and as yet have no personal experience of Christ as Saviour, and whose lives are not yielded to Him, let me say this to you. Remember His gracious invitation to you: "Come unto Me all ye who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." You may be getting on in the world, but what about the world which is to come? Are you related personally to the Lord Jesus Christ? If you have wandered away from Him will you not come back home to-night? There was a little girl who loved being told stories: and she even used to make some wonderful stories up herself and they always ended in the same way: "Him went home to him's mother." Are there some who need to come Home to-night? The Lord Jesus is waiting to receive you. May God bless this Family, and all His servants here.



Preparations for . . .



5th November!



HARVEST THANKSGIVING, 1964

We are most grateful to the following for sharing harvest gifts with us:—

Ley Street Gospel Hall, Ilford
 Chingford Hatch Methodist Church
 Newcomen Evangelical Church,
 Leytonstone
 West Worthing Evangelical Church
 Watford Baptist Tabernacle Sunday
 School
 Waltham Cross Baptist Church
 Moor Lane Chapel, Cranham
 Wanstead Congregational Church
 Fullers Road Hall Junior Church,
 South Woodford
 North Enfield Christian Fellowship
 Leytonstone Methodist Church
 Brondesbury Baptist Church
 Latimer Hall Chapel, East Ham
 Full Gospel Church Sunday School,
 Chadwell Heath
 Hook Evangelical Church
 Ashurst Drive Baptist Church,
 Ilford
 Oxlow Lane Baptist Church,
 Dagenham
 Gosbury Hill Sunday School,
 Chessington
 Roe Green Hall Sunday School
 Kingsbury
 Abridge Evangelical Free Church
 Muir Beddall Christian Fellowship
 Salway Hall Sunday School,
 Woodford Green
 Woodford Green United Free
 Church
 Great Munden Mission Hall
 Woodford Baptist Church
 Higham Hill Baptist Church,
 Walthamstow
 Rise Park Chapel, Romford
 Stratford Railway Mission
 Little Hallingbury Free Church
 Mission Hall
 Cranham Baptist Church
 St. Laurence's Church, Barkingside
 Lillechurch Gospel Hall, Dagenham
 Shern Hall Methodist Church,
 Walthamstow
 Waltham Abbey Baptist Church
 Upshire Evangelical Free Church
 Folkestone Road Hall, Walthamstow
 Tottenham Baptist Church
 Springfield Hall, Tottenham
 Lanes End Evangelical Free Church
 Little Ilford Baptist Tabernacle
 Ashley Hall, St. Albans
 Canvey Island Baptist Church
 Chessington Evangelical Church
 Stockwell Baptist Church
 Manor Hall, Boreham Wood
 Romford Baptist Church
 Squirrels Heath Co. Infants' School,
 Romford
 Upney Baptist Church
 Claybury Park Baptist Church
 Meldrum Sunday School, Goodmayes
 Selwyn Boys' School, Highams Park
 Christ Church, Leyton
 Anstey Union Chapel
 Kentish Town Evangelical Church
 Fellowship House, Welwyn Garden
 City
 Chalk Full Gospel Hall, Gravesend
 Wangey Road Chapel, Chadwell
 Heath
 Rush Green Hall Sunday School
 Holy Trinity Church, South
 Woodford
 Sewardstone Methodist Church
 Canfield Road Chapel, Woodford
 Bridge
 Varley Memorial Chapel, Harold
 Hill
 Mill Lane Mission, High Ongar
 Deptford Park Infants' School
 Yelling Baptist Church
 Squirrels Heath Co. Junior School,
 Romford
 Cambridge Hall, Edmonton
 Broadmead Baptist Church, Woodford
 Green
 All Saints Church, Woodford Green
 Ebenezer Chapel, Ash
 Oakwood Chapel, Little Parndon
 Hope Baptist Chapel, E.7
 Lambourne Parish Church
 Fryerns Baptist Church, Basildon
 Harefield Hall, Harlow
 East London Tabernacle Sunday
 School
 St. Mary Magdalene Primary
 School, N.7
 Barclay Co. Infants' School, Leyton
 Cann Hall Co. Infants' School,
 Leytonstone
 Chase Cross Baptist Church, Romford
 Ingrave Gospel Hall, Romford
 Grafton Infants' School, Dagenham
 St. John's Church, Havering-atte-
 Bower
 Lambourne Co. Primary School
 Greenleaf Road Baptist Church,
 Walthamstow
 Higham Hill Infants' School,
 Walthamstow
 Battersea Young People's Club



Our own amusements



CHRISTMAS, 1964

Gifts, which we were delighted to receive, included:—

Bibles, books, electric engines, toys and games.

Christmas decorations, trees, crackers, stockings, cakes, Christmas pudding and mince pies.

Turkeys, ham, chocolates, sweets, tea, biscuits and cordial.

Fruit, nuts, vegetables and groceries.

Hand-made garments, cot covers and blankets, and soft toys.

Teenage gifts and toilet requisites. Flowers.

Plastic macs and towels, handkerchiefs.

Record player. Serviettes and doyleys.

They came from:—

Waltham Cross	Earls Colne
Folkestone Road Hall Young	Highams Park Methodist Junior
Wives' Meeting, Walthamstow	Guild
Whitstable	Harold Hill Girls' Guildry
South Woodford	Rush Green Hall Sunday School
The Staff, Tate & Lyle Refineries,	The combined Unions of The
Ltd., E.C.3	Britannia Folding Box Co.,
Stapleford	Ltd., E.3
Irac Date Trading Co., W.1	East Ham
Bishopstoke	Ingaway Chapel Working Party,
Brighton	Basildon
Sudbury	Epping Baptist Sunday School
Ramsgate	Hoddesdon Congregational Church
Bedfont Evangelical Church and	and Sewing Class
Sunday School	Fryerns Baptist Women's Fellow-
Little Waltham Congregational	ship and Sunday School,
Church	Basildon
Emmanuel Church, Wimbledon	Woodford Green
Maulden Baptist Sunday School	The Staff of the Telephone
Woodford District Guides and	Manager's Office, Eastern Area,
Brownies	E.7
Newman Trading Ltd., Tottenham	Woodford Green Women's
Bebington	Institute
Leyton	Westcliff Crusaders
Seven Kings	Barclay Infants' School, Leyton
Spruce Hill Baptist Church,	The Guardian, Walthamstow
Walthamstow	Brondesbury Baptist Sunday School
Goodman Memorial Hall,	Tottenham
Leytonstone	Fullers Road Junior Church
Wanstead	Manor Park
Ardleigh Green Baptist Sunday	Colne Engaine
School	Welwyn Garden City
Tintagel House Christian	The North-Western Polytechnic,
Fellowship, S.E.1	N.W.5
Leytonstone	Buntingford
Canvey Island Baptist Sunday	1st Welwyn Garden City G.L.B.
School	Liverpool
Ashurst Drive Baptist Christian	Marchwood Gospel Church
Endeavour, Ilford	Women's Fellowship
Edmonton	Romford
Bury St. Edmunds	All Saints' Church, Woodford Green
Clarence Road Baptist Sunday	Grove Road Evangelical Church,
School, Southend	South Woodford
Old Independent Church Sister-	Stratford
hood, Haverhill	

CHRISTMAS GIFTS—continued

Dr. Barnardo's Christian Fellow-	Stapleford Abbots
ship, Barkingside	Hendon Baptist Sunday School
Manor Hall Sunday School,	Birmingham
Boreham Wood	Waverley Road Neighbours
The Staff of Willing's Poster	Hornchurch
Advertising Co. Ltd., W.C.1	Ilford
Stowmarket Baptist Sunday School	Dunstable
Epping Congregational Christian	Thomas Mack & Co. Ltd., E.18
Endeavour	W.C.1
High Street Methodist Sunday	The Staff of Barclays Bank Ltd.,
School, Walthamstow	E.C.4
Mathews Memorial Sunday	Epping Methodist Church
School, Walthamstow	Chadwell Heath
The Staff of William Olivers	Christ Church, Leyton
(Rubber) Ltd.	Bishops Stortford
Gorleston Technical High School	Oegstgeest, Holland

ANONYMOUS

Often gifts are sent to us anonymously, and we record below a list so that donors may be assured their money has been safely received. We thank these givers and commend them to the Lord for His blessing.

1964	Amount		Receipt No.
	£	s. d.	
January 1st—"A Wellwisher"	1	0 0	3329
January 3rd—Leyton	1	0 0	3354
January 3rd—Bow, E.3	30	0 0	3355
January 21st	1	0 0	3414
January 22nd—Woodford Green	2	0 0	3418
February 11th—Earls Colne	20	0 0	3479
February 12th—Little Waltham	1	0 0	3487
February 25th—Kingston-upon-Thames	1	0 0	3533
February 27th—Worthing	10	0	3541
March 9th—Guildford	1	0 0	3592
March 9th—F. G. B., Enfield	1	0 0	3593
March 12th	10	0	3601
March 12th	1	0 0	3605
March 16th	1	0 0	3614
March 23rd—Hook	1	0 0	3642
March 26th	5	0 0	3655
March 26th—Colchester	5	0 0	3658
April 2nd—Greenwich	10	0	3687
April 9th—Dursley	5	0 0	3716
April 17th—"A Wellwisher"	1	0 0	3738
May 8th	2	0 0	3822
May 11th	5	0 0	12
May 20th—Grange Park	1	0 0	44
May 22nd—Hatfield	1	0 0	55
May 27th	40	0 0	74
May 29th—Hainault	1	0 0	81
June 23rd—Walthamstow	5	0 0	149
June 29th	1	0 0	163
June 30th—Redbridge	2	5 0	171
July 6th—Chessington	1	0 0	188

ANONYMOUS GIFTS—continued

August 6th—Earls Colne	20	0	0	259
September 25th	10	0	0	381
September 25th—E.C.3	2	0	0	382
September 25th—E.C.3	1	0	0	383
September 25th—E.C.3	10	0	0	384
September 28th	10	0	0	392
October 1st	1	0	0	402
October 12th—Romford	1	0	0	441
October 13th	5	0	0	444
October 19th—Leytonstone	4	0	0	468
October 21st—London, W.C.	20	0	0	473
October 22nd—Romford	1	0	0	483
October 29th—Chingford	2	0	0	503
November 11th—Leytonstone	5	0	0	539
November 16th—Stonebridge Park	2	0	0	547
November 18th—"For Christmas"	2	0	0	551
November 30th—Enfield	10	0	0	607
December 3rd—Gravesend	10	0	0	634
December 8th	1	0	0	667
December 8th—Whitstable	25	0	0	670
December 9th—"A Wellwisher—For the Children at Christmas"	10	0	0	676
December 11th	1	0	0	704
December 11th—Sudbury	5	0	0	721
December 14th—Cranbrook	2	0	0	750
December 21st—O.A.P.	1	0	0	828
December 21st—"A Wellwisher"	1	0	0	833
December 21st—London, E.C.	1	5	0	851
December 29th—"For the Children's needs at Christmas"	2	10	0	965
December 31st—Stratford	3	0	0	973

CHILDREN'S HOME AND MISSION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1963

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1962	To Rates, Taxes and Insurances	380	9	2	333	13	2
308	" Heat and Light	976	6	10	4,498	14	3
930	" Postage, Printing, Stationery and Telephone	481	1	7	371	4	2
272	" Provisions	2,185	17	2	21	12	0
1,795	" Furniture, Linen, Clothes and Shoes	1,153	0	2	4,009	2	0
623	" Household Expenses	616	10	6	1,829	12	4
533	" Staff Allowances and National Insurances	2,168	5	2	20	19	0
1,527	" Gifts to Staff (Holidays), Donations and Pocket Money Schemes	647	8	7	184	10	0
436	" Medical Supplies	40	8	0			
43	" Travelling and Excursion Expenses	534	12	0			
288	" Repairs to Property	1,262	7	9			
496	" General Repairs and Renewals	288	7	1			
897	" Incidental Expenses	36	5	3			
31	" Holidays	214	10	0			
207	" Transfers to Accumulated Fund	£10,985	9	3			
8,386		283	17	8			
29		£11,269	6	11			
		£8,415					
					By Covenants		
					" Subscriptions and Donations		
					" Box Holders		
					" Shoe Fund and Pound Day		
					" Legacies		
					" Payments Received on Account of Children		
					" Interest on Deposit Account		
					" Gifts for Holidays		
					" Transfer to Accumulated Fund, being Excess of Expenditure over Income for the Year		
					1962		
					246		
					3,846		
					384		
					22		
					1,977		
					1,625		
					29		
					147		
					139		
					£8,415		
					£11,269	6	11

**CHILDREN'S HOME AND MISSION
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1963**

	1962	1962	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
INVESTED FUNDS								
The Florence Barclay Memorial Hall ...			2,250	0	0	2,250	0	0
The Dr. F. E. Marsh Gift ...			1,700	0	0	1,700	0	0
The Mr. and Mrs. William Stark Gift ...			1,150	0	0	1,150	0	0
	5,100		5,100	0	0			
ACCUMULATED FUND								
Balance at 1st January, 1963	2,481		2,481	15	11			
Add Transfer from Income and Expenditure Account		283	17	8				
	2,481	2,765	13	7				
	<u>£7,581</u>		<u>£7,865</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>			
						1,436		
						1,750	17	11
						51	10	0
						<u>1,699</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>
						<u>£7,865</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
						5,100	0	0
						1,066	5	8

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and the foregoing Income and Expenditure Account with the books and vouchers of the Mission and certify that they are correct and in accordance therewith.

Dated this 14th day of April, 1964.
Barclays Bank Building,
73, Cheapside, London, E.C.2.

WHITE, SALOMON & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,
Auditors.