

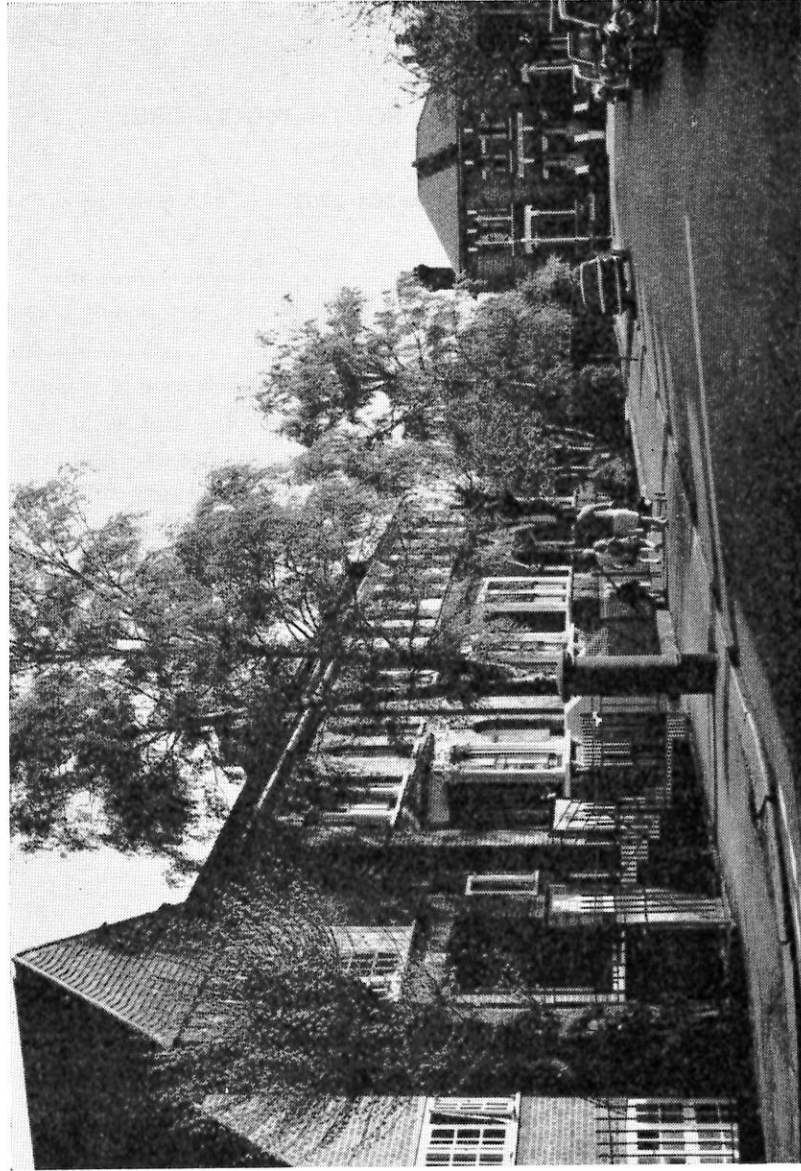
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SPRING 1970



CHILDREN'S HOME
& MISSION



8-26 Crescent Road

THE CHILDREN'S

FOUNDED

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

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HOME & MISSION

1899

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ABRIDGE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
London Road, Abridge, Near Romford, Essex
Pastor and Mrs. CYRIL DAVEY

EDITORIAL

Dear Prayer Partners,

Greetings to you from all the family here! Yet another issue of Links is on its way, continuing the record of God's faithfulness.

I mentioned, albeit briefly, in my report last May of the introduction of the Children and Young Persons Bill 1969. In October it received the Royal Assent and has become law. It will of course take three years or more to implement the decisions made and mean a tremendous amount of hard work for the Home Office (Children's Dept.) and Local Authorities.

We had made the decision to remain independent, the third option given in the Bill, before we realised that, in any case, we could not link up in the scheme on an 'Assisted basis' due to a clause which states that, 'the Secretary of State will normally be prepared to accord assisted status only to homes which have the support of an organisation larger than their own managing body. The underlying point of principle being, that the Secretary of State wishes to avoid situations where the managing body is self perpetuating.'

We have prayed much and discussed at great length every known aspect of the situation arising from this new Act and believe that God would have us go forward with the original principles laid down in 1899:—

1. To help children in need.
2. To be the means in God's hands of bringing the children to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.
3. To prove that God is able to answer prayer by appealing to Him alone for the meeting of all needs.

In every way possible we desire to help children and parents who find themselves in the sad circumstances of needing care and assistance. We believe that to attempt to do this in a full measure we must minister to their spiritual as well as physical need, by putting them in touch with the Saviour of mankind Who can cleanse, renew and re-direct upon a pathway divinely appointed.

We have advised our Local Authority that we are ready and willing to help wherever possible. We feel that in a Democratic Society every parent or responsible person should have the right to say where they would like their child to go, and there are those who desire a christian upbringing for their children. Where christian workers are going to the assistance of 'broken families' they can seek to put such children and parents in touch with a christian home.

We do not believe for one moment that the changing social conditions force us to apply for financial help from any quarter — the God of Herbert White is ours today and whatever the essential standards of the time, God will honour His own Name.

Continue therefore in PRAYER — more news on 'Our Day', 2nd May next. We are expecting a time of blessing as we unite in Thanksgiving to God for His faithfulness throughout 70 years!

God bless you,

Yours sincerely,

VICTOR WHITE.



One of our 'daughters' and her family who live close to us. We see a lot of each other and are grateful for practical help always readily given.

"OUR DAY"

3rd May, 1969

The Revd. Paul Tucker. It is always a very real honour to take part on the outstanding day of the year in this remarkable Work. Preparing for this evening my thoughts were directed to a very familiar portion of scripture in the Old Testament, the 2nd Book of Kings Chapter 2, verses 13 to 15.

"He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD GOD of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over. And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him."

A very interesting comparison can be drawn between the translation to Glory of Elijah the prophet, and the ascension to Heaven of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. You remember before Elijah departed he invited his successor Elisha to ask for large and spacious things. Verse 9 Elijah said unto Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee" — "Whatever you would like me to do ask me, and I will do it before I am taken from you." Before the Lord Jesus returned to Heaven He made rich promises to His disciples, in John chapter 14 and verse 13, "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son . . . If ye shall ask anything in my name I will do it." So the Lord promised that consequent on His enthronement at the Right Hand of God, whatever the disciples asked in His name, truly in character with His mind, **that** He would give.

Elijah on his return to God, promised Elisha a double portion of his spirit, as he had requested, "grant that a double portion of thy spirit be upon me." Elisha was asking for more than the personal dynamism and character of the prophet to be reproduced in his own life; he was asking rather that the spirit of God, who had energised and equipped the prophet of fire, might similarly endow him. There were certain sons of the prophets who had studied under the great Elijah who knew that he was a man of the spirit. They were theological students, but they could not believe that Elijah had been translated to Glory. You may find that not all theological students are renowned for their faith, they would rather reason things out any day. After he had gone they made a suggestion to Elisha. It was not a very enlightened suggestion, verses 16 and 17.

"And they said unto him. Behold now, there be with thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master: lest peradventure the spirit of the Lord hath taken him up, and cast him upon some mountain, or into some valley. And he said, Ye shall not send. And when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, Send. They sent therefore fifty men; and they sought three days, but found him not."

They made a profitless expedition. But the point I think is this, that they recognised Elijah as a man who had direct dealings with the Spirit of the Lord, and through his death, they had a new knowledge and experience of the Holy Spirit.

When our Lord told His disciples that He was going away from them, sorrow filled their hearts. But He gave them comfort in the following way, "because I have said these things unto you, sorrow has filled your hearts, nevertheless I tell you the truth, it is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away the Comforter will not come unto you, but if I depart I will send Him unto you." On the day of Pentecost the enthroned Lord Jesus bestowed upon the waiting disciples the promise of the Father, "Suddenly there was a sound as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole place where they were sitting, and there appeared unto them cloven tongues, like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit." Peter, taken up by the Lord, preached a magnificent sermon to the wondering crowd of people who gathered explaining to them what had happened in the following way, "This Jesus hath God raised up whereof we all are witnesses, therefore, being by the right hand of God exalted and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he hath sent forth this which ye now see and hear."

There is again another analogy to be drawn between the ascent of Elijah and the ascension of the Lord Jesus. It is this, Elisha requested a double portion of his master's spirit, in so doing he was not being greedy but was really saying, "Treat me as your first born son." In Deuteronomy you will find that according to the law, within the Israelitish family the first born received a double portion of the father's estate, because his position carried with it certain responsibilities and privileges, therefore, he had a double inheritance. Elisha was saying in effect to Elijah — regard me as your first born, "I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit rest upon me." And so it was. It is true to say that not only did Elisha continue the ministry begun by Elijah, but he expanded and increased it. The records show that Elisha wrought under God twice the number of miracles performed by Elijah. Truly he was a man upon whom rested a double portion of his master's spirit. Our Lord Jesus said something very striking to His

disciples before He returned to Glory, in John chapter 14 and in verse 12. "Truly, truly, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also, and **greater works** than these shall he do, because I go to my Father." In other words, "Not only have I laid the **foundation** of the Church, through my life, death and resurrection, but I am going to **build** that Church, using men and women for the propagation of the Gospel and the greater extension of the Kingdom of God." This began on the day of Pentecost, when through one sermon at least 3,000 people were swept into the Kingdom of God. Someone has said, rather challengingly, that Peter preached one sermon and 3,000 were saved, whereas today we listen to 3,000 sermons and hardly one person appears to be saved. This was the great promise of the Lord Jesus to His Church that all authority is given to Him, both in Heaven and in Earth. We are therefore to go and in going we go not in our own strength, but in the power of the Holy Spirit, and Jesus says, "**GREATER WORKS THAN THESE SHALL YE DO**, because I go to the Father."

With that in mind let us consider the ministry of Elisha, as it is suggested to us in this passage. The thought uppermost in my mind, is that Elisha was a man with a **Mantle Ministry**. There was something rather exceptional about this servant of the Lord. Notice the reference to the word mantle in our text. It comes twice, "He took up also the **mantle of Elijah** that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan. And he took the **mantle of Elijah** that fell from him, and smote the waters." The mantle speaks to us pictorially of the ministry of the Holy Spirit, the unction and authority of God resting upon Elisha. It speaks of God's favour, His benediction, His enveloping and supporting of His servant, as He sent him forth on his great ministry. It was not Elisha's first experience of the mantle. Back in chapter 19 of 1 Kings verse 19, you will find that when Elisha was called to follow Elijah, Elijah came to him while he was ploughing with twelve yoke of oxen. Strangely enough Elisha did not go to college, he was a farmer, a man of the field, a rugged character and possibly wealthy. Elijah passed by him while he was ploughing and cast his mantle around him. Right at the beginning of his call he knew the enveloping of the mantle; and then much later when Elijah was translated to Glory the mantle disengaged itself, no longer required by Elijah it fluttered down to the ground. Elisha rent his own clothes in two pieces, and taking up the mantle that fell from Elijah he went back to Jordan. He smote its waters saying "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" The waters separated and he went over dry shod. The sons of the prophets on the other side saw what had happened and exclaimed "The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha." Then they bowed themselves and came to

meet him and acknowledge him as their superior. He had begun his **Mantle Ministry**.

I cannot help contrasting the sons of the prophets, mentioned in this narrative, with Elisha. Unlike Elisha they did have a good training. Elijah was a great teacher, and these sons of the prophets had come from families where the prophetic office was honoured and exercised. They were young men in training for service in the Kingdom of God. Through Elijah they were being equipped to preach and teach to a nation back-sliding and decadent. They proclaimed to that nation the ethical requirements of God's law. They would speak to the people of the holiness of God, of the requirements of the ten commandments, of God's abhorance of all forms of idolatry, and, in that they were in a line of prophets, they would be looking forward to the coming of the Messiah, so there would be an evangelical element in their ministry. Yet with all this, it seems to me that they were men who were devoid of the mantle. They were theologically accurate, yet they knew nothing of the mantle. This mirrors two kinds of christians. There are those who know the Lord, they are converted and are being taught, and yet somehow there is nothing very expansive about their christian experience or growth in the Lord. There are others who are not only believers, but they experience a living Presence and Power in their lives. There is unction upon them, their very bearing marks them out as people who know something of the mantle. I wonder how you and I can know something of a mantle ministry, of God's unction and authority resting upon us. I think we have here one or two suggestions as to how we can know — those who would know the **mantle ministry** are people who cultivate fellowship with their Lord and Saviour. Elisha was tested by Elijah and Elijah said to him when he was moving from Gilgal, "Tarry here for the Lord hath sent me to Bethel." In other words, "Don't come any further." Elisha replied, "As the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth I will not leave thee," so they went down to Bethel. At Bethel Elijah said, "Elisha tarry here I pray thee for the Lord hath sent me to Jericho" and he replied again, "As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee." So they came to Jericho. Elisha said to him "Tarry I pray thee here for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan," and he replied, "As the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth I will not leave thee." These sons of the prophets knew that Elijah was on the way out. They had received information, I don't know where from, and I don't suppose they knew all the details, but they knew the fact and they came to Elisha to report to him a lot of things that he already knew. The sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came to Elisha and said, "Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head today?" and he said, "Yea I know it, hold ye your peace." The sons of the prophets

that were in Jericho came to Elisha and said, "Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head today?" and he answered, "Yea I know it, hold you peace." The going of Elijah did not have the same effect upon the sons of the prophets as it had upon Elisha. The old man has to go, they said to themselves, we shall miss him, he has been a very good principal in our college, but after all he is getting on a bit, and the time has come for a change. But to Elisha it was a near disaster that Elijah was going, and when Elijah said to him, "You need not come any further," Elisha said, "I will stay with you until the last moment of opportunity," "As the Lord liveth and as my soul liveth I will not leave thee." There is a very interesting refrain that comes in this chapter, at the end of verse 6, "**They two went on**"; at the end of verse 8, "They two went over"; at the beginning of verse 11, "They still went on and talked." What amazing fellowship they were having! Elisha was extracting every ounce of fellowship from Elijah on this his last day on earth. It was rather like the road to Emmaus when the two disconsolate disciples were joined by a stranger, who at first they did not recognise, but soon their hearts began to burn within them as they listened to him talk and as he opened the scriptures to them.

And those who would know the mantle ministry are those who cultivate fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ, who read His Word and seek to obey it, who know the ministry of prayer and have found the secret place of the Most High, who enter into fellowship with other believers in the Things of God.

Again those who would know the mantle ministry must be aware of their own weakness and of their utter dependence upon God. Very often the Lord brings us into situations where we are reminded of our frailty and helplessness, and utter need of His grace, wisdom, and strength. So it was with Elisha, conscious of his weakness he kept close to his master, until in that barren wilderness country the chariot and the horsemen of fire appeared and parted them. Elijah was taken up by a whirlwind into heaven, and there was one awful moment when Elisha felt himself alone, almost without resource, and he cried out "MY FATHER, MY FATHER, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof." There he was, thinking of the cavalry of Israel, their military defences, and saying in effect that it would be better for Israel to lose all her military force than to be deprived of this one solitary majestic prophet. Surely a nation's defences are not ultimately in its stock pile of armaments, but rather in the quality of that nation's citizens. "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." Here was a man who would have gladly exchanged all the cavalry of Israel to keep the company of one man of God. In his anguish he tore his clothes, symbolizing the inner rending of his spirit. But

then, in that weakness he took up the mantle that fell from Elijah and went back to face his first great obstacle, the waters of Jordan. How would he get across? He used the mantle as his predecessor had done earlier, he smote the waters. In so doing notice he said not "Where is Elijah?" but, "Where is the **Lord God of Elijah?**" As he smote the waters, they parted and he went over in triumph. The secret of this Work that we represent to day, the secret of the maintenance of our own christian life, and of development in our christian service is a paradoxical one. It is this, that when we are brought to the end of our own resources, when we are cast entirely upon the Lord we prove His grace and power in every situation. It is when I am weak, that I am strong. The mantle of Elijah fluttered down, because Elijah was assembled. The mantle of the Spirit fluttered down on the day of Pentecost to abide with us for ever. There are resources available to the child of God in a Godless world that can lead us triumphantly through every situation. As Elisha took up the mantle, so you and I can take up the promises of God and turn them into reality in our experience. **THE GOD OF ELIJAH IS OUR GOD FOR EVER AND EVER, HE WILL BE OUR GUIDE EVEN UNTO DEATH.**

Pastor H. G. Goddard chairing the meeting said: "Let me express our sincere thanks to the young people, this they deserve, as we do those who have trained and helped them. Their ministry of song has given us great pleasure.

The testimony of this Family and its ministry over the 40 years I have known it, means much to me spiritually. It has not only been a stimulous and challenge to the christian work with which I have been connected, but has acted as an anchor to one's Faith. Since I first saw Herbert White standing under the text "**Have Faith in God**" in the front of the House there in Crescent Road, it is as if his voice still cries out this testimony, "We have in our generation had faith in God." Truly the family testifies to that. Now Victor and Margaret with their helpers stand where he stood and from them too we hear the challenge "WE HAVE FAITH IN GOD," and see how by Faith the witness and ministry of this Family continues.

Before I call on Victor to give his report, let me relate that, just before the meeting began, he took me aside and said "Isn't it wonderful that the folks still come!"

In the forty years I have known the C. H. & M. there have been crowded congregations on every "Our Day," I have attended. It would be sad if God's people did not come to praise Him for His faithfulness and lamentable, if this generation of christians failed to see the evidence of God's faithfulness, His goodness and His care to the young people in this Family. Surely the stones would cry out against them if they did not come to Praise.

Yes, the age is depressing. It is bad, morals are bad, habits and ways of many people are bad; it is so depressing spiritually that we get to a situation to which Mr. Tucker referred when he said, that you can hear 3,000 Sermons before observing one convert.

A question asked time and time again is, "where is the God of Elisha?" **Well He is here;** this Family testifies to the fact of God's presence; this witness tells you and me to rise up and throw off our lethagy, to take hold of the powers which have sustained and maintained the C. H. & M. throughout the generations. What are these powers? Why, the power of the Gospel; the power of God; the power of the Word of God; the power of the Holy Ghost. These powers will maintain God's people and this Family even in a depressing age, for the evidence of the C. H. & M. is, that God **lives**, cares and **answers** prayer."



Margaret and Victor White.

OUR DAY — (Cont.)

Victor White. "What a joy it is to be together again on the occasion of "Our Day."

We have received greetings from our Member of Parliament, Mr. Patrick Jenkin, M.A., and a host of good wishes, with promises of prayer for God's Blessing upon "Our Day." I quote from a letter received from Canada — "I have been praying all through this month for your Special Day. We wish you a very blessed time. Every day we pray for your Family. My dear husband and your father were friends from boyhood and are now in the Glory together. We thank God for every remembrance of them."

How very humbled and yet how uplifted one feels, to share in such a meeting as this. "Great is our God and greatly to be praised!"

Throughout the year, in times of testing and trial, we have felt His sustaining Hand. The God who comforts and strengthens, guides and provides, is our God. Each "Our Day" is set apart to enable us to link up with prayer partners that together we may worship and acknowledge Him.

On behalf of my family, all 45 of us, from Nicola aged 3, to Grandma, I do thank you for coming today and in this way showing your love for us. Thank you for your constant prayer support. We are most grateful too for all the help given in preparation for this Day. Teas here and at home, stewarding, recording of service, free use of church and adjoining premises. All kinds of help by many — the Lord bless you all.

It is good to have Pastor H. G. Goddard as our chairman. He comes as a friend and trustee. The work of Datchet Fellowship under his leadership moves forward rapidly. Pray for this valuable work. Revd. Paul Tucker, who is also a trustee, has given us a message to think over — may God bless this to us in a very personal way. Our last Trustees Meeting in March was a very happy and beneficial one and I thank God for the support of these godly folk who 'stand' with us.

We are indebted to Mr. Dennis Carney and Keith for the musical recital prior to this meeting and for their help throughout the service. It is Mr. Thompson's first visit to us and we thank him for his message in song. Time does not permit me to mention in detail all that I could concerning the numerous family exploits, but I feel I must say how pleased we are that Martin, who recently went to live with a relative, will be going to Hertford College Oxford in October — congratulations! It is opportune to welcome some of the Oxford lads again this year — we are encouraged to see you and to hear that the Lord is enabling you to witness for Him. God bless you.

Back to the family again. Our health has been good apart from some of the tiny tots, who recently had measles, just in time to be well for today. We are grateful to Dr. Carey Baker and his new partner Dr. Jeremy Franklin, to Mr. Henry Hole, optician and Mr. Roberts, chiropodist for taking care of our health. How pleased we are to see Mr. Stephen Smith our dental surgeon who moved to Dorset recently. His son James, has taken his place and we are most grateful to him.

Apart from Nicola who attends nursery school we go each day to the local schools or to our places of work. Our two eldest young ladies took part in the Covenanter team which reached the All-England Netball finals last month and one has been awarded the Golden Arrow badge. Several are interested in music — piano, recorder, violin and cello. A number in junior schools have won merit badges. We have also won numerous swimming certificates — nearly enough to paper a room.

On the occasion of the Y.S.L. Golden Jubilee we were asked to produce a pageant, "Through the 50 years," at the City Temple, London. This was quite a success. During the year our Y.S.L. members have given £30 to Mission Work and over £20 to a local Old People's Home.

Family prayers has its prominent place and of recent weeks we have been reading through the 1st Epistle to John. Without doubt, the young folk find it tough going to stand for Right — to stand for God and we trust that our lives and our teaching will be a help to them. A code for life is vital and necessary. To my family I would say here and now — God has a plan for each life, your life and when His son, Jesus Christ becomes your own personal Saviour then the Holy Spirit Himself will guide you along His path. Some of you are His and are seeking to follow Him. God Bless you.

As each year passes, our wider family grows. I've lost count of the grand-children! To receive letters and have visits from old members of the family and to visit their homes is quite thrilling and oftentimes a much needed encouragement. How glad we are to see some of you here today.

Whilst many have gone on so well — setting up good homes — loving and serving the Lord — others have found the way too hard and have been bowled over by a situation, perhaps because of hereditary weakness. Here we seek to help — where possible in practical ways or through advice — certainly by prayer.

I will read extracts from just two of the many letters received:

The first a sad one:— 'Inadvisable for you to come and see me. Complete waste of time. I am a coward and would refuse to see you or anyone. Cannot understand why I have

done what I have. Why have I lied so deeply to you. I have used christian people in most terrible ways to my own end. Would never be able to settle down. I've taken drugs for temporary comfort. Best that you forget my name and everything concerned about me as I always cause harm and sorrow to those who help me.' —

I did visit him. Help in various ways was given. We talked at length about the Lord. An intellectual assent was given and gratitude expressed, but apparently no real heart and life surrender to God was made, for this life is still tossed about in the sea of life, without anchor, without hope. Does it need me to emphasise just how upset and deeply hurt one feels. May I make this quite clear. We are a family and when one of the family "comes up against it," whether here or further afield, this is a personal thing. Perhaps it is the emotional involvement which is the greatest strain we bear. Pray with us then for this young person and for others too, who find life so problematical.

The second letter, from abroad:—

"I was so pleased to get your newsy letter, to hear about "Our Day." I bet tongues wagged! It would be lovely to share in an Annual Meeting again and I am making this a matter for prayer. My heavenly father knows the desires of my heart and understands the way we feel at times. In His good time I shall be able to see you all once more. My brothers are married now — I really feel that they need the Lord so much and long to help them spiritually. I hear quite often from them and every letter I drop in the box I ask the Lord to use it to make them think upon spiritual things and accept Him into their lives."

It is at this point that I am calling upon the Revd. Beverley Savage, "Bev." to bring us a word and represent the family:—

"I have not been to "Our Day" meetings recently . . . I don't know if this is a new arrangement this year that you save people like me to the end, but I don't think it is a good arrangement, not as far as I am concerned. I would have preferred to have been able to enjoy the ministry without the adrenalin rushing round my body as it has been.

I suppose most preachers find it easier to preach than to say a few words. It reminds me of the Irishman who once said "Now before I speak I want to say one or two words!" When I was preparing to speak today, I asked myself the question: What is "Our Day" all about? What are we doing here? What is the intention of those who have called us together? Now this is an important question, and the answer has been spelt out most clearly for us already, and I am glad it has. About three years ago I brought a friend with me to the Annual Meeting. We, ourselves, were living in Woodford at the time.

My friend was a sceptic. He could sum up very easily what he thought "Our Day" was all about. "Oh!", he said, "Our Day?" "Very nice! Of course, it is really nothing more than a publicity campaign for White's Homes, just to make sure that nobody forgets that they are still about and to remind subscribers that the Home is still functioning." Well, I think his summing up of the day indicated more of his cynicism than the true intention of those who have called us together. If this were true, I suppose there would be a certain attraction about "Our Day." Some of us owe a great deal to this family and some of us would come to wave the flag for "White's Homes" to give it some publicity. But I am quite sure that is not the point of the day.

My friend went on; he was even more far-reaching in his cynicism. He said: "Of course, Our Day is really a show case for the successful from the Home." I am glad Mr. White has said what he has said this evening, for that bit of cynicism can be killed right at the outset. You know the sort of picture he had in mind — the 'before' and 'after' adverts that you see. 'This little wretch came into our care looking like . . . , now look at him! He has left us like this!' If you like, according to my friend, it is to show the 'before' and 'after' effects of a washing in White's whitest wash! !

Well, that suggestion does not indicate at all the true intention of "Our Day." It is an unworthy suggestion. I say it with no false humility, but with all seriousness that if today is for the successful, I ought not to be here. It is true that having left the Home, I became one of those theological students. (I acknowledge, by the way, the truth of what has been said this afternoon). I am now a Pastor of a Church in North-West London. I praise God for that. I am not a Pastor of a Church because I am a success. I am not a Pastor of a Church because this Home is a success, ultimately. I say with the Apostle Paul, "By the grace of God, I am what I am." Again I praise God that His grace was first made known to me some fifteen years ago in this Family. But Mr. and Mrs. White, I am quite sure would be the last ones to claim that it was by their efforts alone that I came to know the Lord Jesus Christ. God be thanked for His faithful servants! God be thanked for His ABUNDANT MERCY!

Well, others will have their opinion about this day. For many of you who are here today it is a day of glorious reunion; a wonderful day when the old family gets together with the present family. If I had to be very honest, I should say that I am not particularly attracted by that view of this day. When we get together and start talking about old times, I don't come out particularly well. I feel quite uncomfortable among those who knew me so well. My sentiments are rather

those of the Psalmist when he said: "Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions." WHAT THEN IS THE POINT OF "OUR DAY?" The point of "Our Day" is to declare the Covenant mercy of our God; to tell of His faithfulness, His loving kindness, His long-suffering and His tender mercies. This is the point. I am glad to have a share in this day because of the testimony that has been borne to the Grace of God. It is heartily endorsed in my experience. I know the God of Herbert White, I know the God of C. H. and M. He is MY GOD, and I rejoice at such a concourse of people who sit and listen to the doings of My God. TO GOD BE THE GLORY, GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE!"

Mr. White continued — "Have you any specific answers to prayer? Yes of course, but then, every day is. Isn't prayer a wonderful thing. It's really based upon relationship — yours and mine with God, through Jesus Christ. Walking, talking and co-operating with Him each day. I once heard about a sergeant who was taking his chaplain round the trenches. All too frequently for the sergeant's peace of mind, the chaplain exposed himself to enemy fire. 'Don't worry' said the chaplain, 'the Lord will take care of me.' 'I know' said the sergeant, 'He takes care of me, but I like Him to know I'm co-operating!'

Concerning finance. Full details of the year's accounts are to be seen in the Spring copy of Links. Our Income for the year was £10,282 — our expenditure £11,805. To meet the excess expenditure we were able to draw from our deposit account. How we do thank God for this provision — a balance in hand to meet the need. The Harvests gifts in the Autumn came from 97 different places — a new record. These provided a wonderful variety of fruit and groceries. At Christmastime too, gifts from various sources provided all the extra needed.

Last summer holiday at Jaywick was a very happy and beneficial affair and the cost of accommodation was covered by specific gifts.

Staff. We have welcomed Miss Burgess and have said goodbye to Miss Pignot, with our thanks for service given. On behalf of all the Family I must express, and do so with a full heart — our very deep gratitude for all that our staff, have covered throughout the year gone by. It has been a very full year — challenging — tiring, and exacting in many ways. Mrs. Gilbert has officially reached retiring age — but chooses to 'soldier on.' We are indebted to her. How much longer she can continue with such a full life is a question mark. I personally find it difficult to visualize the family without her.

Miss Baker has had to shoulder a lot of added responsibility during the year — thank you for undertaking so much. Miss Rifkin too. God bless you each one. Mother is still with

us though very frail now — is unable to be here this evening. I am grateful to my brother Herbert for his help in many ways.

Concerning the future. You may or may not be aware of a Bill before Parliament — The Children and Young Persons Bill 1969. This covers all children in care for corrective purposes or because home life has disintegrated. It aims at doing away with approved schools and remand homes and setting up Community Homes in joint planning areas. Voluntary Societies will be offered controlled or assisted status, or may remain independent. Our Trustees feel that we should remain independent. Discussions continue at every level and we are seeking the Lord's guidance in this all important matter. Pray with us.

Literature — The little "Know your Bible" Booklets are being reprinted. We are pleased to realise that there is an increasing desire by many folk to read and study the Bible.

Of "These 60 years" — giving a very brief outline of the Family — only a few remain.

Keith would like to have a brief word with you at this point.

INFORMATION PLEASE!

Within the next year or two we hope to have a book published, telling of what has happened during the seventy years over which the work has spanned. The task is well under way, but we still need any stories you remember, or impressions you have about the Home, Herbert White, the staff, the food, games you played and so on. No incident is too trivial. If we are to give a true picture of what happened, your information is vital.

Some were never in the home, but have been encouraged by its continuing witness. Several have already told how they have been blessed as they have come into contact with the work. Would you do the same?

We are aiming for a lively, true picture, not simply a rosy, sentimentalised one. Please help us to get exactly the right colours.

Well now is the time for me to sit down, although much more could be said. Looking back to 1899 — how completely God has fulfilled His promises. The initial aims laid down then — 1. To help young folk, 2. To teach them of the love of Christ, that they might have a foundation upon which to build their young lives and 3. To prove God by asking Him alone to meet all needs; these three aims are the same today.

Looking ahead — we do this in the certain hope that **He goes before**. With the psalmist, in all truth I would say — "I had fainted, unless I had **believed to see** the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." To my own small family — my wife, Keith and Anita and to our bigger family — thank you so much for the part you have played in another fascinating year. My sincere prayer is that every one may come to know Christ as Saviour and that our witness as a family — His family may continue to show forth God's faithfulness and love.

See you all next year. Mr. Goddard has told you why you should be here **Saturday, 2nd May**. God bless you — let us unite in gratitude to our Faithful God, by singing together our Family Anthem —

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



"If only we could start the engine!"

IN MEMORIAM

MRS. MARGARET SMITH



On 22nd October, 1904, three little ones entered our family, one of whom was a nine year old, named Margaret, better known as Maggie. The fourth member of this little family joined us in 1906.

On 30th December, 1969, Maggie was taken to be with her Lord. She had known Jesus Christ as a personal Saviour for many years, in fact since she was a kiddie. The occasion of her conversion is noted by her husband, in a letter to me recently. Miss Hutchin, co-founder and mother to the children, asked Maggie to go on an urgent errand for her. Our little friend went as fast as she could and whilst running 'heard' a voice, His voice saying, 'Maggie, you are doing this for me.' Then and there she gave her life to the Lord Jesus and never looked back. The relevance of the challenge of that unique occasion, 'Unto Him,' became a guiding principle all her life. Anything she did, no matter how mundane or repetitive the task, was 'Unto Him.' The loss of a daughter suddenly at the age of eleven was a time of deep sorrow, but during all her married life she was always reaching out to others. A church existing in Ipswich today originated when Maggie and Harry's home was opened for children to hear the gospel and neighbouring womenfolk for a women's meeting.

Her letters were always a challenge. I quote from one written during her last illness — 'Thank you so much for your prayers, I do value them very much. God has been so very good to me here in hospital and I have known His Presence and upholding, all the time. How I recall with joy Will and Edie's Golden Wedding — how happy I was to be there. **(Will was also in our family during Maggie's stay)**. So pleased to hear that you had such a blessed time on Our Day, and shall look forward to the next Links with the Report of the meetings, etc. I shall continue to pray for you all. May your neighbours have a real desire to know the Lord Jesus in a personal way. This is a service I can do for Him, PRAY!'

We had the joy of visiting her not long before her home-call. Although so ill the smile came through and the desire to witness remained. She spoke radiantly of her Master's love.

We thank God for every remembrance of dear Maggie and commend her husband, Myrtle and family to Him at this time.

MR. CHARLES CROWHURST

On 17th January at 94 years of age a very dear friend of the Family died. Mr. Crowhurst must have been over 50 when he became associated with us and because of his personal interest in the kiddies we looked on him as "part of the Family."

He was a very active man and found time to take the boys early morning swimming and this habit carried on long after retiring age! One of our teenagers was so very ill in 1934 that he was taken to a hospital in Margate for special surgical treatment. Mr. Crowhurst visited Leonard regularly, counting it a privilege! He formed a table tennis team which sprang from the special games evening he organised each week and came on holiday with us several times. He thoroughly enjoyed himself as he entered into every aspect of the Family activities. He was always bubbling over with energy and many younger folk found it difficult to keep up with him. He would tackle almost any job that needed to be done — gardening, moving furniture, sorting and storing Christmas and Harvest gifts, etc. He believed that the christian life was a very practical one and his full life emphasised this point. We do miss him. It was an honour to be asked to have a share in his funeral service which was a time of praise and thanksgiving.

We recall that he always left our premises not later than 9.45 p.m. This was because he had an "appointment with the Lord" to pray and mustn't be too tired.

Many of our Family thank God for his influence upon their lives. I quote from one letter:—

'In loving memory of Mr. Crowhurst who did so much for me as a lad in the Family and subsequently. Looking back over my life I will always remember his wise advice to me as a young christian which proved such a great help to me in later days. I do thank God for Mr. Crowhurst.'



"WESTWARD HO!"

Everyone has heard of Ifracombe and Clovelly, those two beautiful and unique resorts on the North Devon coast. Not so many people are aware of the little coastal town of Westward Ho! which is situated somewhere between them. It's surprising really, because this place has everything to recommend it as a holiday centre. That's why we invaded it for our holidays this year.

We stayed on a caravan site about three stones' throw from the sea — at high tide that is — or at low tide the sea retreats for over a quarter of a mile, uncovering miles of firm, clean sand. It took eight caravans to accommodate us all, and even then it was a bit of a squeeze. But no one minded, for it was a beautiful spot, commanding a view of the whole bay, with green, wooded cliffs rising immediately behind. Compared with other, larger sites, ours was more secluded. It had a friendly, family atmosphere, with proprietors only too willing to make us at home.

Each of our caravans lived a separate existence if so desired, except for family prayers in the mornings. Over the two weeks, Keith talked about his tour of the Holy Land, concentrating on one town or village each day, relating different Bible stories to their own particular backgrounds. After prayers a whole range of activities presented themselves. The splendid weather helped to lengthen the catalogue.

Most groups delegated daily duties widely. Unlikely people were found shopping, washing up, laying tables, making sandwiches, and cooking. Rumours did circulate at one stage suggesting that "someone" had delegated so much that he was unemployed himself in his caravan!

The chores done, some groups made for the beach. On the first few days, the high winds made surfing the main attraction. Certainly few felt inclined to sit around and risk being blown inland, while swimming, was virtually impossible. But as the holiday wore on, the wind dropped, and



many ventured into the chilly waters claiming to have swum, floated, sunk, or been splashed by Derek. The remainder sunbathed, read the papers and women's magazines, or amused themselves on the sand. Sandcastles were built in abundance, so were tunnels, sea-walls and traps for the unwary.

Then there were the more active games. Surprisingly enough, cricket was the most popular, followed by Jokari, Rounders, French Cricket, 'Round-the-line-He', Pass-ball (a cross between Netball, Basketball, Politics and Rugby), and other ball games that defy description.

Some would go off to the rocks and hunt for hours before returning with a motley collection of fish, crabs, shrimps and prawns, seaweed, shells, and other mystifying objects. Others however preferred to examine these objects, rather than search for them.

Often we sat down to a picnic lunch on the beach at midday, and were usually joined by wasps and sea-gulls before the meal was through. The reactions to these uninvited guests were an entertainment in themselves. Some fed the sea-gulls royally — probably because their sandwiches contained something they didn't like. Others never considered the sparing of a single crumb. No one fed the wasps intentionally. With them it was the remarks that were so interesting. 'Don't be silly: there's nothing to be scared of,' a little girl would be told, as a wasp buzzed angrily around her Lemon Curd sandwich. A few seconds later the speaker was running round in hectic circles, chased by the same wasp, and apparently scared of nothing! But it all added to the fun of the holiday.

In the evenings, after a cooked meal there was plenty to do too. Some groups went to Clovelly, Hartland Quay, Biddecombe, Greencliff on different nights. Others climbed the rather challenging cliffs to the West of our site, or walked along to numerous interlacing cliff-paths. Nearly always the evening would be rounded off with a handful of chips. The amounts varied, not according to the size of the eater so much as to his or her ability to woo the shopkeepers into increasing their portion! It may be significant to notice that this ability was often in inverse proportion to size.

There were four events that were not common to every day. The first was a Scavenger Hunt when the whole of the peaceful little town was infested with shouting, questioning, prodding, picking, running, walking, puzzled or amused staff and children. Two groups eventually tied for first place, although all were awarded prizes for their gallant efforts.

Then there was the pony riding. It started when a woman at the church where we had been on Sunday told us her daughter kept a number of ponies. She kindly offered to give us all rides, free of charge. Everyone enjoyed the evening,

HOLIDAY — (Cont.)

none fell off, and some were so pleased with their performance that they paid for more adventurous rides another day. Again, none fell off, though Stephen was scraped off as his horse entered through a low gateway!

On our last afternoon there was a flurry of activity on the sand — **our** sand, of course. Mrs. White and others began to build a "monster" in one place — quite a friendly monster in fact, with a text on his side: Mr. Webb built an impressive lighthouse, while another group attempted a scaled relief map of Israel. The whole display was quite attractive, and even the sea refused to encroach upon this area for a day or two, as people looked at the exhibits and took photos.

But most unusual of all was the Barbeque we had below the cliffs. We cooked hot dogs and beefburgers, and sang with a guitar around an open fire of driftwood. It was a clear night, and so the stars formed a majestic canopy overhead. As we sang about the King of Love, 'whose goodness faileth never,' we felt it was very true that night, especially when applied to the whole holiday.



Enjoying a holiday at Mr. and Mrs. Patterson's "annexe" — Worthing

STAFF

Last summer we welcomed Miss F. Wagland (from Hainault Road Baptist Church, Leyton) and Miss F. Hooper (from The People's Hall, Plumstead) and have appreciated the help they have given. Pray for them as they settle in, and for the rest of the staff who lovingly give their "all" in the Lord's service here.



When Mr. and Mrs. McNeil retired to Langport, Somerset, they wondered when they would see us again. Here we are at their cottage, on our way to Westward Ho!

ANONYMOUS

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

| 1969 | Amount | | | Receipt No. |
|---|--------|----|----|-------------|
| | £ | s. | d. | |
| January 1st | - | - | - | 7180 |
| January 1st—"One of God's Family" | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7181 |
| January 2nd—Waltham Cross | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7190 |
| January 13th—Ilford | - | 10 | 0 | 7238 |
| January 20th—N.1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7262 |
| January 20th—East Ham | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7272 |
| January 29th—Leytonstone | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7292 |
| February 5th—Ilford | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7310 |
| February 17th—Barking | 20 | 0 | 0 | 7344 |
| February 17th—Gravesend | 25 | 0 | 0 | 7345 |
| February 21st—"A Well-wisher," Brixton | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7357 |
| March 3rd—E.18 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7384 |
| March 4th—"The Cubs" | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7386 |
| March 12th—"E.E.T.", E.6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7406 |
| March 24th—Fittleworth | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7437 |
| March 24th—Woodford Green | - | 10 | 0 | 7439 |
| March 31st—Frinton | - | 10 | 0 | 7460 |
| April 2nd—Waltham Abbey | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7486 |
| April 18th | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7549 |
| April 29th | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7584 |
| April 30th—Hornsey Rise | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7590 |
| May 5th—N.19 | 12 | 6 | - | 7627 |
| May 6th | 10 | 0 | 0 | 7637 |
| May 13th—Kentish Town | 10 | 0 | 0 | 7662 |
| May 16th—"A Well-wisher," Brixton | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7667 |
| May 20th | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7685 |
| June 6th—"For the Lord's Work" | 5 | 0 | 0 | 7726 |
| June 9th | 10 | 0 | 0 | 7733 |
| June 12th | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7743 |
| June 27th—"For the children" | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7772 |
| July 18th—N.1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 7837 |
| July 21st—Romford and Dagenham | 1 | 10 | 0 | 7846 |
| July 31st | 5 | 0 | 0 | 7883 |
| August 6th | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7897 |
| August 22nd—Woodford Green | 10 | 0 | 0 | 7933 |
| September 2nd—"A Well-wisher," Waltham Cross | 1 | 10 | 0 | 7944 |
| September 5th | 10 | 0 | 0 | 7951 |
| September 12th—"A Well-wisher," Brixton | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7964 |
| September 12th—Forest Gate | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7965 |
| September 16th—Ilford | 1 | 10 | 0 | 7976 |
| September 24th—Buckhurst Hill | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7995 |
| September 26th—E.C.3 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 8000 |
| October 2nd—E.3 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 8029 |
| October 8th | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8059 |
| October 13th | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8071 |
| October 13th | 2 | 10 | 0 | 8072 |
| October 13th | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8073 |
| October 14th—N.1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8082 |
| October 15th | 50 | 0 | 0 | 8089 |
| October 21st—"J. & R.S." | 5 | 0 | 0 | 8206 |
| October 21st—Ilford | 3 | 3 | 0 | 8207 |
| October 27th—"A Well-wisher" | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8219 |

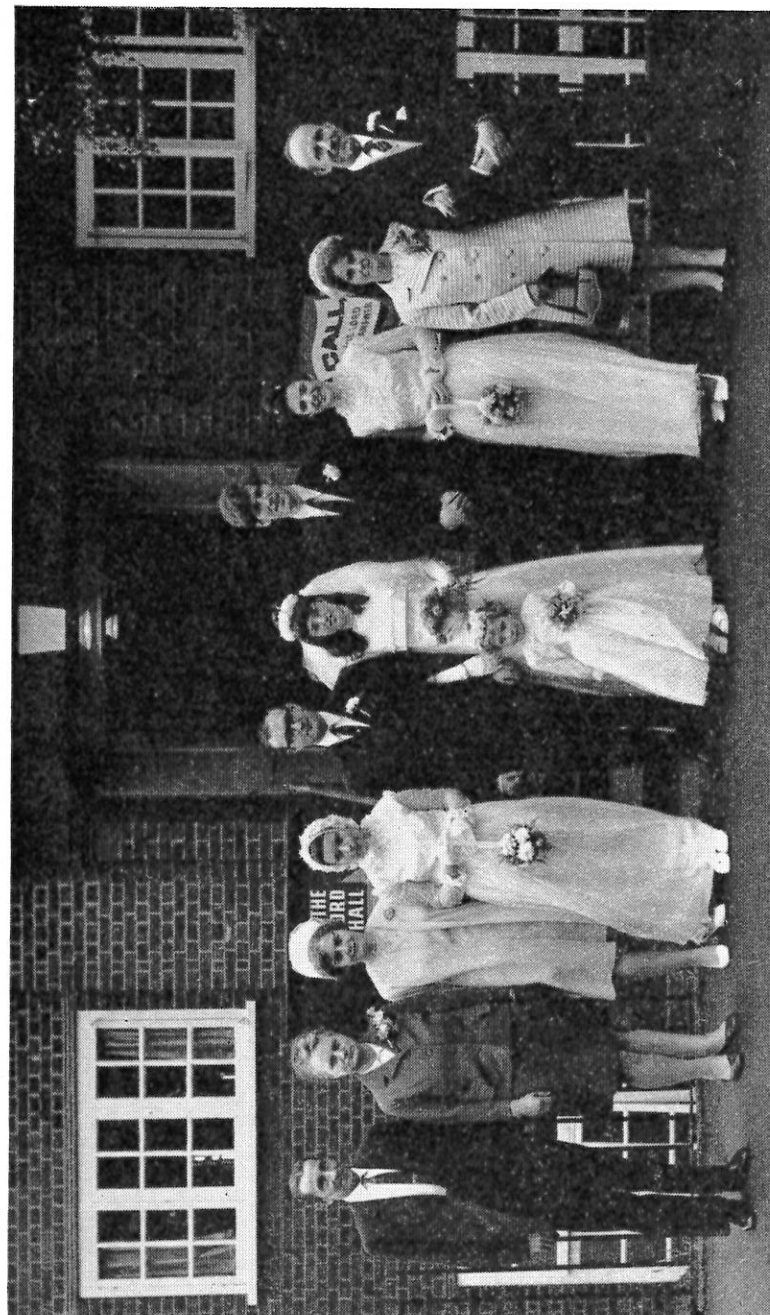
| | | | | |
|---|----|----|---|------|
| November 10th - - - - - | 1 | 10 | 0 | 8250 |
| November 19th—Leytonstone - - - - - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8271 |
| November 26th—Ilford - - - - - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8289 |
| November 27th - - - - - | 5 | 0 | 0 | 8303 |
| December 8th - - - - - | 2 | 0 | 0 | 8361 |
| December 9th—Ilford - - - - - | 5 | 0 | 0 | 8376 |
| December 11th—"A Well-wisher" - - - - - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8392 |
| December 15th - - - - - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8425 |
| December 16th - - - - - | | 10 | 0 | 8446 |
| December 18th—Epping - - - - - | 10 | 0 | 0 | 8468 |
| December 23rd - - - - - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8569 |
| December 29th—Bedford - - - - - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8598 |
| December 31st—"A Well-wisher," Waltham Cross | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8613 |

HARVEST AND CHRISTMAS

Our very sincere THANKS to the many friends who sent lovely Harvest and Christmas gifts for the Family.



On the beach.



The wedding of one of our 'grandchildren' to the brother of a present member of the staff on Saturday, 10th May, 1969. We wish Terry and Christine joy as they journey through life together.

**CHILDREN'S HOME AND MISSION
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969**

| | Expenditure | | Income | |
|---------|-------------|-------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. |
| 1968 | | | 1968 | |
| 444 | 504 | 16 7 | Covenants - - - - - | 355 11 9 |
| 1,218 | 1,282 | 19 9 | Subscriptions and Donations - - - - - | 11,381 18 10 |
| | | | Box Holders - - - - - | 391 19 3 |
| 564 | 650 | 7 9 | Shoe Fund and Pound Day - - - - - | 21 0 0 |
| 2,584 | 2,182 | 16 2 | Legacies - - - - - | 964 12 5 |
| 555 | 1,027 | 7 11 | Payments Received on Account of | |
| 576 | 507 | 1 1 | Children - - - - - | 2,976 7 11 |
| 2,580 | 2,499 | 3 11 | Gifts for Holidays - - - - - | 413 5 0 |
| | | | Interest on Deposit Account - - - - - | 152 5 0 |
| 617 | 699 | 14 2 | | |
| 40 | 54 | 10 11 | | |
| 463 | 500 | 10 7 | | |
| 1,281 | 1,303 | 11 6 | | |
| 177 | 182 | 19 3 | | |
| 130 | 62 | 15 4 | | |
| 426 | 442 | 1 10 | | |
| 150 | 112 | 0 0 | | |
| (1,523) | 4,644 | 3 5 | | |
| | £16,657 | 0 2 | | £16,657 0 2 |
| £10,282 | | | | |

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 18th Day of February, 1970.

12a/13 Well Court,

WHITE SALOMON & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

**CHILDREN'S HOME AND MISSION
REGISTERED UNDER CHARITIES ACT
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1969**

| | Liabilities | | Assets | |
|-------|-------------|-------|--|-------------|
| | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. |
| 1968 | | | 1968 | |
| | | | Invested Funds:- | |
| 5,100 | 5,100 | 0 0 | The Florence Barclay Memorial Hall - - - - - | 2,250 0 0 |
| | | | The Doctor F. B. Marsh Gift - - - - - | 1,700 0 0 |
| | | | The Mr. & Mrs. William Stark Gift - - - - - | 1,150 0 0 |
| | | | | 1,150 0 0 |
| | | | Accumulated Fund:- | |
| | | | Balance at 1st January, 1969 - - - - - | 598 10 6 |
| | | | Add: Excess of Income per Annexed Accounts | 261 10 6 |
| | 8,040 | 3 8 | Bank Deposit Account - - - - - | 337 0 0 |
| | | | | 3,607 11 8 |
| | | | | 9,044 11 8 |
| | | | Home Accounts:- | |
| | | | Garage and Shed, at Cost - - - - - | 98 3 0 |
| | | | Household Furniture, at Cost - - - - - | 500 0 0 |
| | | | Prepayments - - - - - | 237 5 3 |
| | | | Cash at Bank - - - - - | 3,511 3 9 |
| | | | | 4,346 12 0 |
| | | | Less: | |
| | | | Sundry Creditors - - - - - | 251 0 0 |
| | | | | 4,095 12 0 |
| | £13,140 | 3 8 | | £13,140 3 8 |

Note: Being a Charitable Organization no provision has been made for Taxation.

*“Every good gift and every perfect
gift is from above and comes down
from the Father of Lights in Whom
there is no variability neither
shadow of turning.”*

James 1 v. 17