

78

**CHILDREN'S
HOME AND
MISSION**

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**SPRING
1957**



Read . . . Praise . . . Pray . . .



“For we are labourers together with God”

1 Corinthians 3 v. 9

THE CHILDREN'S

FOUNDED

HOME AND MISSION

1899

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

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

HON. AUDITORS:

Messrs. White, Salomon & Co.

EDITORIAL

Dear Prayer Partners,

"Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now, therefore, our God, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious name."

I Chronicles, chap. 29, v. 11/13.

We of the Family here, would re-echo this great Thanksgiving Prayer of David. You will, no doubt, recall that in September last we commenced the building improvements, feeling assured that it was "God's Time" to begin. We had £4,000 in hand for the project and needed a further £1,000 to complete. Daily, at our Staff morning Prayer Meeting, we brought the matter before Him. In the actual work itself, there appeared to be delay in different ways—the first completion date was Christmas, then 15th March, but although to us these delays did prove irksome, yet we reminded ourselves that God knew all about it and in His time the work would be finished and the necessary money to hand.

Gathering for prayer, as usual, on Monday morning, 11th March, we were deeply moved and touched by a letter informing us that we had been left a Legacy for £1,000 by an old friend of the Family Circle, this money to be available within two months! The timing of the gift and all the various incidents which led up to this experience confirm yet again the wonderful interest God has in His Family and suggests to us anew the great privilege we have in being one of His.

Knowing how many Prayer Partners are joining with us at the Throne of Grace concerning this matter, I felt sure you would wish to know of the blessed experience which has been ours.

It is now over 5 years since the Home-Call of my father and as we look back we marvel at God's understanding, guiding and providing. How he would revel in this yet another Answer to Prayer.

We are tremendously encouraged to realise that so many folk do PRAY for the Family here—do GO ON PRAYING. With all the increasing present-day problems which crowd in upon young folk we, the Staff, are constantly aware of our need of God's presence in our lives that we may be thus fitted to help those in our

care. Within the last two months seven youngsters have joined us—pray for them, that early in life they may "Find" Him. At the other end there are those nearing the school leaving age. What is going to happen? Where will they live? What work shall they take up? Here, too, we desire to be guided by Him.

I would draw your attention to the 57th Annual Gatherings this year to be held on 25th May. DO PLEASE NOTE—the afternoon Meeting will be held here, AT HOME, at 3 p.m., when we shall officially open the new laundry, etc. There will be TEA at 5 p.m. provided at Latchett Hall nearby and George Lane Baptist Church. The evening Meeting at 6.30 p.m. will be held in the Baptist Church. Naturally, we are looking forward to this happy day and give to you a very sincere invitation to come—we feel it to be right that WE, workers together with Him in this Corner of His Vineyard, should meet to give thanks. GOD IS FAITHFUL. We shall have a lot to tell you!

Very best wishes from the Family to you all—God grant that we may experience the daily Spiritual Growth which is the essential factor to usefulness in the Family of God. May the remainder of this year find us all attempting great things for God and expecting great things from Him.

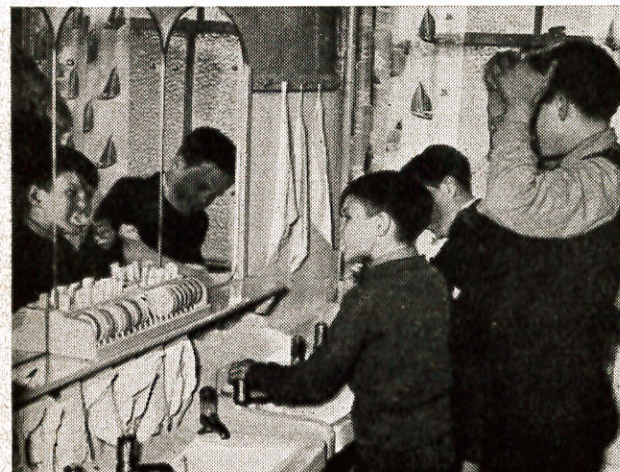
One last thought before closing—we shall value your prayers now for the Summer Holidays.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours in Him,

VICTOR J. WHITE.

April, 1957.



The Boys' New Bathroom

OCTOBER, 1956—MARCH, 1957

N.B. Places from which we have received harvests were listed in the last edition of 'Links', with the exception of Higham Hill Baptist Church, which was inadvertently omitted.

October

MONDAY, 1ST. Today, Phyllis, Marilyn and Malcolm celebrated their birthdays. Most of us went over to Stockwell Baptist Church to share a harvest service and had the privilege of meeting the new minister and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Kenyon, from Canada. A very happy evening! East London Tabernacle, £1/15/-. Legacy, £92/10/1. "B," 2/6. Walthamstow, £2. Strood Women's Meeting, £4/10/0. Peckham, £25. St. Albans, £2.

TUESDAY, 2ND. Each day, after the children have gone to school, the staff meet for a short time of Bible Study and Prayer. We also read together letters received; all sorts—some enclosing gifts—others from "old" girls and boys. We bring all the details of the work, here and at Abridge, to God in prayer, and day-by-day we are so encouraged as we meditate on the answers to prayer.

From Chase Cross Baptist Mission, £3/10/-. Stockwell Baptist Church, £6/6/-. Stratford Railway Mission, £1. Guildford, £5. Mountnessing, £1.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD. Brook Street Chapel Sunday School, £3. Anon, 10/-. The farewell service of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Davey before they set out for a new field of service on the Congo. They are warmly loved by a wide circle of Christian friends, and their zeal for the Lord and likeness to Him, stirs all our hearts. Past experiences have been very difficult for them, but undaunted they go forth—not understanding the way, but trusting. We feel the burden of prayer for their two girls who face months of separation from their parents—many face this situation in the work of the Lord, but in **His Will**, all is well.

THURSDAY, 4TH. Kelvedon, parcel second-hand shoes. Esher, parcel second-hand clothes. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at Abridge. Still a good number of young people attending, as well as older folk.

FRIDAY, 5TH. Anon, £1. Eden Baptist Chapel, £2/6/-. One of the staff gave short talks at two sections of an Infants' School.

SATURDAY, 6TH. The "Aunties" took some of the Senior Girls to Southend for the day. They went to a C.E. Rally, and stayed on to see the "lights."

SUNDAY, 7TH. Mr. White conducted services at Gidea Park.

MONDAY, 8TH. Barnet P.S.A., £5/5/-. Holloway, 2/6. "B.G.J.," £11. Ardleigh Green Baptist Church, £5/5/-. St. Albans, £2. Walsall, £2. Salway Hall Sunday School, £11/5/-. Meeting at Nottingham Gate.

TUESDAY, 9TH. We bade farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Chopard who have been over here from Switzerland learning English and helping in the Family. They had tea in London and expected to have supper at home! Alma Road Mission, £2/9/3. Ebenezer Church Ilford, £4. Ebenezer Sunday School, £1. Nottingham Gate, £4/0/1. Clerkenwell and Islington Medical Mission, £2/5/-.

WEDNESDAY, 10TH. Prayer Meeting. Leigh, 10/-. Beckingham C.C., £1. The mother of four children we are looking after has had a serious relapse in hospital, and her condition is critical. Her husband called in today and was very worried. We resorted to prayer and learned afterwards that at that time she had felt conscious of the power of prayer. Gradually she recovered, and went away for convalescence.

THURSDAY, 11TH. A talk to children in School at Higham Hill. Mill Lane Sunday School, 7/6.

FRIDAY, 12TH. Heathfield, second-hand clothes. Miss Parkes returned from holiday and Miss Revell commenced hers.

SATURDAY, 13TH. Pen-friends from Dagenham came over to tea. We played netball and after tea games in the hall. These visitors were amazed at the happiness of the home here—especially with the luxury of harvest time. It was nice to have them and we hope they will come again.

Mr. White addressed the Loughton Fellowship.

SUNDAY, 14TH. The special day of the week. We lie in bed a little longer than usual, but breakfast is at nine o'clock and for the half-hour before we listen to "Chapel in the Valley." The chores are cut down to a minimum on Sunday, as much as possible being done the day before. By 10.30 a.m. we all hope to be ready for Church, and as many as possible go to Abridge. The Free Church Sunday School is preparing for the Anniversary services next week.

MONDAY, 15TH. Loughton, £2. Walsall, £10. From a young girl at Harlow—"Five of us have been saving up, and we are pleased to send you this P.O. for 12/- for your work amongst the children. I hope to be able to come over to see the Home some day because I was interested to see a copy of *Links* which you gave Mummy when you came over to speak at the Women's Meeting."

Visited the London Electric Wire Company Christian Fellowship at Leyton.

TUESDAY, 16TH. Bridgnorth—"You will, no doubt, rejoice to hear of the following incident. Yesterday week, at our evening service, my son, ———, gave his testimony. He told us that through the instrumentality of your Father he was led to accept Christ as his Saviour, at the age of nine. I was unaware of this until he informed us of the occasion. It was a great joy both to my wife and myself to know of your Father being used in this way. The Lord continue to bless you in all your worth-while labours. I am happy to have the privilege of again being able to send you a cheque."

Highams Park, £1. "G," 10/-. Two of the staff went to see the "mother of the four kiddies" who is seriously ill in a London hospital. She appeared to have turned the corner, but it is evident a long time will elapse before she is well enough and strong enough to cope with the manifold duties in caring for four young children. She testified to the power of prayer in her recovery.

A friend came to help with typing. Two staff went to the local infants' school to hear the headmistress lecture on "Number," viz., how arithmetic is taught in the school. It was interesting to follow the methods enabling us to help the children here at home.

One of the "old" boys who has been sailing "round the world" popped in for a short while.

WEDNESDAY, 17TH. Readers of the *Christian*, £5. Hornchurch, £5. Eastney Gospel Mission, £7/1/9. Shoeburyness Shoe Fund, £4/4/0. Took the Hillman to garage for a check-over.

Mrs. Webb went to Buckhurst Hill Young Wives' Fellowship.

THURSDAY, 18TH. Received news of the arrival of Janet's third daughter. Planted bulbs in small bowls for the dining room. After the abundance of flowers during the summer and at harvest-time, and when the Christmas decorations are taken down, the place seems bare, so we are looking forward to success in our bulb-planting.

Meeting at local Junior School—the first ever for parents (we think) on the subject of the Selection Examination.

Mr. White spoke at Hainault Baptist Women's Meeting. Buckhurst Hill, 10/-.

FRIDAY, 19TH. Two girls went to Mr. Hole for attention to their eyes.

SATURDAY, 20TH. Pat went to choose her wedding dress. Some of the children went out with parents or friends. Others watched local football match.

SUNDAY, 21ST. Sunday School Anniversary Day at Abridge. Our speaker all day was Mr. Harold Ling. A very happy time for the children; happy and encouraging for the teachers. The children had tea in the hall. Some decisions were recorded.

MONDAY, 22ND. Seven Kings, £10. Hastings, £10. Anstey Union Chapel, £4/10/-. Mill Hill, 10/-. Chichester, £1. Roe Green Hall Sunday School, £2/10/-. Colchester, £2/10/-. Poplar, £50.

One of the staff of the secondary modern school attended by our boys came to tea. He apologised that his religious teaching did not always support ours!

TUESDAY, 23RD. Woking, 10/-. Meeting at Avenue Hall. Badminton in the evening.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH. Meeting at Ashley Hall, St. Albans. From their working party: 25 pairs girls' socks, 8 pairs boys' socks, 1 pinafore dress, 1 twin-set, 1 pair trousers, 13 pairs pyjamas, jumpers and pullovers, 6 nightdresses, 3 vests.

The children started half-term holiday, and Mr. and Mrs. White set out for a holiday in Scotland travelling all night by road.

THURSDAY, 25TH. Ashurst Drive Baptist Women's Meeting, second-hand clothes.

FRIDAY, 26TH. Miss Revell took three of her lads to the Tower of London. Hare Street, £1.

MONDAY, 29TH. Mr. Olney took some of the boys to London Airport, and then on to see the Martin Luther film.

TUESDAY, 30TH. East Rudham, soap and apples. Ashley Hall, £1/5/6. St. Albans, £1. Ashley Hall Women's Meeting, £1. No music lessons today.



Practising

November.

THURSDAY, 1ST. Kentish Town Mission, £14. Lewcos Christian Fellowship, £1—"We do pray that the Lord will bless you in your work, and we should appreciate your prayers for us, too, in the far more limited work we are seeking to do in our factory."

Manor Hall Girl Covenanters, 7/6. Yelling Baptist Chapel Harvest Thanksgiving Offering, £7/7/6. St. Neots, £2. Legacy, £84 against arrears of maintenance money for a family here. Woodberry Down Women's Bible Class, £1. Dersingham, £5. Hainault Baptist Church Sisterhood, £1. Brandon Mission Primary, £1. Parcels second-hand clothes from Buckhurst Hill and Theydon Bois.

Mr. and Mrs. Olney commenced a short holiday. Veronica, who attends a school in Ilford, started her half-term holiday today. Margaret and Karl arrived from the Shetlands *en route* for Canada, with their little baby Jurgen.

FRIDAY, 2ND. "Mutti" arrived from Germany. She is Karl's foster mother, and it was arranged that she should come to Woodford in order to spend as much time as possible with Margaret

and Karl and Jurgen before they set off for Canada. A neighbour kindly helped out with sleeping arrangements and it was great fun trying to make ourselves understood, she not knowing any English and we very little German.

Enfield—"With the advent of winter round the corner I feel your needs, like mine, are heavier and more urgent, so I am sending you the enclosed cheque for £2/10/-, with my very good wishes, and assuring you of my continued prayer interest. I trust the rebuilding is going according to plan, and that your needs in this direction are being met."

Rainham Gospel Hall Sunday School, £5—"The children collect their pennies week by week and at the last committee meeting it was decided that this amount be sent to assist you with the spreading of the Gospel in the Homes under your care."

SUNDAY, 4TH. A week of tragic news internationally. Our kiddies have felt deeply concerned for Hungary, especially as they heard over the wireless the appeals from Budapest asking for help in the cause of freedom. One of our staff herself being Hungarian also brings this episode more to the forefront for us. The Suez Canal crisis, too, has made the children very "internationally conscious." We have pinned a map in the dining-room so that we can follow events.

Margaret spoke to the Sunday School at Abridge this afternoon and referred in her talk to the Shetland Ponies and the use of peat in the islands there.

Karl spoke at the evening service and his text was "What is thy life in relation to God?" From Karl we have sometimes had glimpses of the way the consequences of World War Two affected youth in Germany. He referred this evening to the time when children literally scraped crumbs from the tables and were crying with hunger and their cities were rased to the ground.

MONDAY, 5TH. S.W.8.—"I am sending you 10/- for the work. It represents the money I might have spent on a spray of flowers for my brother's funeral last week." Bishopstoke, £9/17/11. South Woodford Residents' Association, £2/2/0. Binfield, £1/10/0—"from our missionary garden." Muswell Hill, 10/-. Abbots Langley, £2.

Guy Fawkes Night. We had our usual bonfire and a few fireworks. Staff rallied round to make the evening "go," but we had little heart, realising the distress and suffering of young people in Hungary at this time.

TUESDAY, 6TH. Quite a lot of visiting at Abridge necessary this week. There is a scheme of systematic visitation covering the whole of the village and this has been undertaken by volunteers. Their records are handed to Mr. White. A number of folk are sick just now; one family has a wee baby to be dedicated; another wants a chat about something else, and so on.

Deganwy, £1. Walkern Mission, £4/12/6.

WEDNESDAY, 7TH. East Rudham, sack of fresh greens. We receive some every week and also carrots, which help tremendously

in providing food for the daily needs. The children love raw carrots!

THURSDAY, 8TH. Mr. White had a chat with the Rector of Lambourne concerning the Remembrance Service and the arrangements for the Good Friday service, which in 1957 is due to be held in our chapel.

Gillingham—"I feel rather ashamed of the fact that it has taken the death of an uncle of mine to cause me to write to you after all this time. My only apology is that my first year as a teacher has been very hectic, and. . . . To revert to the purpose of the letter—my Uncle Jack, who used to live adjacent to your Homes several years ago, passed away recently. I feel led to send this cheque to you in lieu of the flowers which one normally buys, as a token of remembrance."

"Mutti" left London for the return journey to Hamburg. We had polished up enough German to wish her "Guten Reise."

FRIDAY, 9TH. Mr. and Mrs. Olney's holiday finished and Mrs. Gilbert's commenced.

Broughton Chapel, £1. Brandon Hall Sunday School, Gravesend, £4/4/0.

Margaret and Karl joined the boat train at Waterloo, only on nearing Southampton to find that the boat was not sailing until the next day. They were provided with hotel accommodation at the Shipping Company's expense!

SUNDAY, 11TH. We joined with the Church of England at Lambourne for the Service of Remembrance. In the evening the Abridge British Legion and Girl Guide Company paraded at our Chapel and the service was conducted by Mr. White.

MONDAY, 12TH. Bethesda Sunday School, Singapore, £5/14/5. Box Secretary, £30. Had a chat with representatives of a neighbouring road who are desirous of helping our family in a "neighbourly way."

TUESDAY, 13TH. Waltham Abbey, £2 and £1. East Ham, £2. Westcliff via Bangor Convention, N. Ireland, £10. Hounslow—"My dear father was called 'home' in May in tragic circumstances, leaving a request for no flowers, so we decided, as he was very interested in your work, a gift should be sent for same. I herewith enclose £3/10/0, in loving memory of a very dear father, rejoicing that our loss is his gain, being with our dear Lord, whom he loved and served faithfully."

Lois had an interview with the Youth Employment Officer relative to her leaving school at the end of the year.

King's Lynn, parcel second-hand children's clothes.

Badminton this evening—epilogue taken by Peter, which revealed just how our prayers for him have been answered!

WEDNESDAY, 14TH. Monthly Prayer Meeting. Mr. White gave a brief summary of happenings since last P.M., and Mr. Olney gave a word from the scriptures.

THURSDAY, 15TH. "G," 10/-. Latchett Hall Covenanters, £5. Woodford Green, £1. Chingford, £3. Box Secretary, £40.

Church Social at Abridge. Quite a number went from Woodford and together we had good fun, food and fellowship.

FRIDAY, 16TH. Southampton, £2/4/-. "P," £2. Carlisle, £1. Mrs. Gilbert returned from a very happy holiday.

SATURDAY, 17TH. The boys played football against the Manor Park Baptist Sunday School (2-2). Snaresbrook Crusaders borrowed our Hall for Christmas Parties—made themselves quite at home. It was very interesting to see the menfolk coping with the catering efficiently! Woodford Green, second-hand clothes.

SUNDAY, 18TH. Missionary Sunday at Abridge and also the Young Sowers' League second birthday. Mr. Eric Cook, Secretary to the Y.S.L., took the services all day. This was his first public engagement since the disastrous fire at S.G.M. Headquarters at which he sustained injuries to his arm. Quite spontaneously he gave us an account of the happenings the week-end before the fire, during which God wonderfully prepared all the staff for the event, the dominant message from all speakers being "Fear not." (At time of writing this, we have heard that Mr. Cook's arm hasn't mended satisfactorily and he is in need of our earnest prayers).

Received cakes from Woodford Green.

MONDAY, 19TH. 15 pairs hand-knitted socks from Westcliff. We had thought this lady was now unable to knit for us, so it was an extra surprise this time to receive her parcel.

Woodford Green, £1. "E.G.L.," £1. Woodford, £1.

TUESDAY, 20TH. A very special day today. Foundation Day: Mr. White's birthday, and a "wedding tea" for Pat and Neil with the family. Three celebrations all in one. Pat and Neil got home from work early, and Mrs. Webb iced a special wedding cake—the kind children like best. Another important happening—Roger joined our family circle.

Chigwell, £1/19/-.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST. Wormit, £3. Walthamstow, £1. Hornchurch, 10/-.

THURSDAY, 22ND. Grocery traveller called. Woodford, 6 pairs of hand-knitted socks, given as a "Christmas Box." Mrs. Webb gave a word at our Abridge Women's Meeting, and she was able to enlighten us as to how she found the Lord as her Saviour away in Hungary. She sung a hymn in Hungarian.

From Abridge, 12 pots home-made jam.

FRIDAY, 23RD. Doncaster—"I am enclosing £1. It is just a little to help 'oil the wheels'."

Every Friday evening Mr. Crowhurst comes down to "super-vise" (or is it really to play?) games in the hall. The little ones pop up soon after tea. Sometimes they tackle a bat with shuttlecock; sometimes make use of the see-saw. Later, the next age-group arrive to try their ability at table-tennis, draughts, chess, etc. Staff join in, too.

Very busy preparations this week for Pat and Neil's wedding. The co-operation of folks at Latchett Hall has been one of the most happy features of this wedding. Pat and Neil have worshipped

regularly at Latchett, and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Smith, in their well-known and well-loved practical way, have taken on the role of "mum and dad" to Neil, whose parents are far away in New Zealand. The women folk of Latchett have provided the beautiful two-tier wedding-cake—home-made and iced. A cake truly to warm the heart of any bride, and more so because of the spontaneous love of many folk.

SATURDAY, 24TH. The wedding day dawned—very cold indeed! Pat had her breakfast in bed with a bright fire burning in the fireplace, and soon afterwards her bridesmaid arrived to fulfil her role for the day. When the family arrived at Latchett Hall for the ceremony, beautiful flowers adorned the hall, and Mr. Stephen Smith was there to conduct the ceremony. Although cold outside, the hall was delightfully warm and soon Pat arrived looking very charming and supremely happy.

The ceremony was performed and Mr. Smith gave a very helpful little word to the couple. If the happenings of the day meant that perhaps they did not digest all, at a later date they can sit back and ponder the message again, as every bit was recorded on a tape recorder and the reel will be taken across to New Zealand for Neil's relatives and friends to hear, too.

Afterwards, the usual photographs were taken (whilst we all shivered), and then as quickly as possible drove, walked or ran back to Crescent Road for the Wedding Breakfast.





This was just like the twins' reception eighteen months previously, but, of course, a little less complicated because there was only one couple to cope with! Telegrams were read and messages of goodwill given and soon Pat and Neil disappeared to change before travelling to — (we didn't know until later in the week!) for the honeymoon. They were sent off in traditional style so that everyone in Woodford knew that there was a newly-married couple setting forth.

6.30 p.m. Telegram from Waterloo. "Our warmest love and thanks for such a happy day. Pat and Neil."

SUNDAY, 25TH. Mr. Bullen conducted the Evening Service at Abridge. He is the superintendent of the Woodford Baptist Sunday School and therefore well-known to the family.

MONDAY, 26TH.

"Dear 'Mum and Dad',

Another member of your large family, just trying to express on paper how thankful we are both to you for a great day yesterday and for everything you have done.

You know I just didn't believe such loving and kind people were around, but we know that this is just another instance of the Lord providing for His own through His servants.

We feel we owe so much to you both and not forgetting the staff and children for your love and interest in us. We had a safe but long journey here to Sidmouth and are staying in a small, quiet house not far from the sea-front.

It's not half as cold here as London but, of course, it's rained this morning because we are here. Well, we must get this in the post so as you get it before we get back. We are just going down to look at the sea now to see what it looks like in the rain.

Much love,

from Pat and Neil."

Box Secretary, £15. Princes Hall, Buckhurst Hill, £2/10/-. The wedding now over, and all the preparation and excitement that goes with it, we rather belatedly turn our thoughts towards Christmas. Already the children have done most of their Christmas shopping and decorations are appearing in odd places.

TUESDAY, 27TH. Mrs. White went over to a Women's Meeting at Stapleford Abbots and Mrs. Webb went to Canfield Hall. We had realised that Hungarian refugees had been stationed not very far away at Chigwell and we had been anxious that Mrs. Webb should be available to help as interpreter if needed. We offered her help through all the usual channels, only to be told that they were overwhelmed with help. Mrs. Webb, undaunted, and surging with desire to help her fellow countrymen, went unofficially to the Camp, only to find that there had not been interpreters there for several days and the refugees welcomed her with open arms, just to explain their whereabouts, how long they would stay there, when could they have work, etc., etc.

The freedom which we enjoy had been unknown to them. They would not open their doors to a knock after dark, fearing lest Russian soldiers would take a member of the family away—never to be seen again, the supposed reason being that perhaps that person had unwittingly expressed a point of view in the grocer's shop which was interpreted to be against the Russian regime.

On this particular evening, Mrs. Webb brought home a man of fifty-eight who had lost his wife on the border of Hungary; a young lad of nineteen who had seen his brother killed in the riots of Budapest, and a lad of fourteen who, with other young teenagers, boys and girls, had been in the street fighting. They were so happy to be with us; to have someone to interpret for them and to see the freedom and happiness of our children. We only wished we had contacted them earlier so that they could have enjoyed more evenings with the family, but they are soon to move on to another camp.

WEDNESDAY, 28TH. Harpenden, £1. Beaconsfield, 5/-. Romford, £1 1/4/6. Anon, 6 boxes crackers.

Pat and Neil returned from their honeymoon.

THURSDAY, 29TH. Covenant Gift, £25. Walthamstow, 3 scrap books. Abbots Langley, 2 Cherub vests, 2 pairs knickers, 1 pair socks. Halley Memorial Baptist Primary, sweets for the sick children. Heathfield, second-hand clothes. Peterborough, parcel of Christmas presents.

FRIDAY, 30TH. Epping, 2/6. Clapton, 5/-.

December

SATURDAY, 1ST. Some of the children went to their Primary Party.

We were sitting in the office this morning, planning details for Christmas when the 'phone bell rang and we received the news from one of our "old" girls that her husband had just been killed. She herself had only come home from convalescence on Thursday, and since July we have been looking after her four children. This was, indeed, a blow, and we hastened over to see her. She came back here to stay and to be near her kiddies.

SUNDAY, 2ND. Toy Service at the King's Road Baptist Church, Chingford, and also at Clerkenwell Medical Mission. Two staff were asked to go to these services.

MONDAY, 3RD. The children at the Infants' School had a day off for Christmas shopping!

Royston, 5 pairs hand-knitted gloves and 1 scarf. King's Road Bible Class, 10/-; and Sunday School, £1/11/6. A Prayer Partner's friend, £5. Hornchurch, £1. Yelling, Covenant Gift of £5. Barnet, £1. Thorpe Bay, £5/5/0. Minsterworth, £1—"As I read my Bible things are being fulfilled as the good book says, but we must all put our trust in God and He will take care of us. May the Lord bless you all in your work for Him."

Clerkenwell and Islington Medical Mission, £2/2/0. Six girls popped round to a local hairdresser.

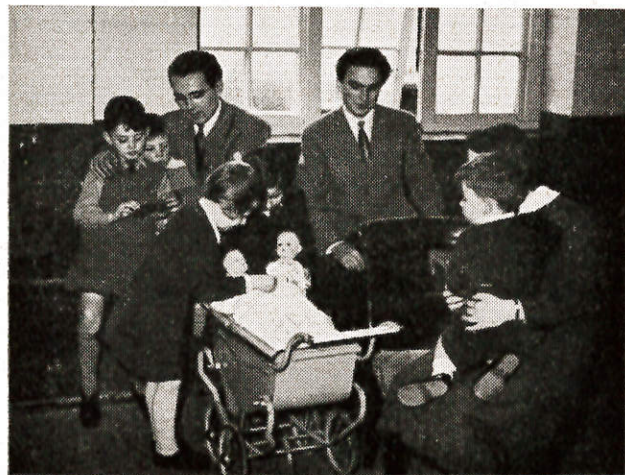
TUESDAY, 4TH. Chimney sweep arrived at 7 a.m. Enfield, £1/1/0—"We pray that our Heavenly Father, Who cares for the sparrows, will still supply all your need, and enable you to glorify Him by leading many of these little ones to know Him and Jesus Christ Whom He hath sent."

Abridge, 10/-. Brondesbury, £2/2/0. Horam, £5 and 8 pairs socks, 1 Bible and second-hand clothes.

WEDNESDAY, 5TH. Woodford Green, £1/10/-. Leytonstone, 7/6.

Susan, Roy, Billy and Christine had an "Open Evening" at their school and whilst they stayed at home we went to have a look inside their desks, examine their books and find out from their teachers what they are really like at school!

Mrs. Webb went to Colchester to help as interpreter amongst newly-arrived Hungarian refugees.



Christian Hungarian Refugees make themselves at home

THURSDAY, 6TH. There have been many minor problems and difficulties in the progress of our alterations. One has been because the Metropolitan Water Board informed the architect that we must

have 1,500 gallons cold water storage. Where are we to put it? Folks insisted that one can never alter these "powers that be"! Well, we prayed about it. Up until now we have only had 300 gallons, and before the War, with more children on the premises, only 100. Working the whole matter out logically and bearing in mind the larger hot-water boiler being installed, an additional 800 would be reasonable. Various representatives of the Board kept coming down—looking round—going away—but still work in some quarters was at a standstill. Eventually, we ourselves approached the Board, and today received a letter to the effect that they did recommend 1,500, they wouldn't grumble at 1,000, but they did not insist on that! Why have we been kept waiting? Powers that normally won't shift their ideas for men—in answer to prayer, DO!

St. Columb, £1. Mablethorpe, £1. Wadhurst, £1. Worthing, £2. Plaistow, 10/-. Chadwell Heath Baptist Women's Meeting, £1/10/-. King's Langley, £2.

One of the staff addressed a meeting at Cobham and another was invited to a Parents' Meeting at a Chingford Infants' School which has for several years sent harvest gifts to us.



Harvest

FRIDAY, 7TH. Anon, 10/-. Christchurch, £1. Abinger Common Gospel Mission Sunday School, £3. Leigh, 10/-. Cobham, £1/5/7 and £5. "Open Evening" at school this time for Raymond, Malcolm, Margaret and Marilyn.

Mrs. Webb went to Colchester again in response to an urgent request from Headquarters of Hungarian Relief.

SATURDAY, 8TH. Several of the children went Christmas shopping. Our badminton team played at home against Fillebrook Baptist team. An Abridge team went with Mr. White to Rise Park Chapel to conduct a young people's meeting. The boys played football against Manor Park Sunday School. The Boys' Brigade had a Parents' Evening at the Baptist Church.

SUNDAY, 9TH. One of the staff went to Goodmayes Baptist Sunday School Toy Service. Mr. White took the services at Abridge, morning and evening.

MONDAY, 10TH. Rise Park Chapel, £2. Wanstead, £1. Stoke Newington, £2. Hounslow, £1. Winsor Mission Sunday School, £1. Battersea—"Once again, the time has come round to remember those we have had fellowship with for so long and it is with thankful hearts that we enclose our small gift of £2/2/0, praying that God will abundantly bless the work of the Homes, especially at this Christmas time."

Enfield—"May the beloved Lord continue to bless you and use you for His Glory. I am hoping to find a Christian Eventide Home shortly. I am in my 80th year now and find the house too much for me since my dear husband passed away last month. The dear Lord sends you £50 for your grand work with the children."

TUESDAY, 11TH. 9 a.m. Ashford—"Enclosed please find my usual cheque, value £30. I trust you will have the usual happy time at Christmas, despite all the depressing news from the world as a whole. Truly, the Almighty seems to be 'Shaking all nations,' whether they are (so-called) 'united' or 'dis-united'! How glorious to be in possession of 'The things which CANNOT be SHAKEN'!"

Northwood, £1—"I feel led, as Christmas is very near, to send a gift to help with the many expenses you have at this time." Walsall, £3. Walthamstow, £3/2/6. Manor Park, 10/-. South Woodford—"My father, having heard from me the excellent work you are doing for the home, and in particular for the ——— family, has asked me to forward you this small donation, £5, in order that it may help you to provide them a little extra during this very trying period."

F.J.S., £1. Tottenham, £1 and embroidered handkerchiefs, 2 slipovers, 2 pairs socks, 2 cardigans. Billericay, 10/-.

10 a.m. Mr. White addressed "Rely-a-bell Christian Union" at Forest Gate.

4 p.m. Funeral Service at Enfield. The bereaved widow, when asked afterwards by the Minister what plans she had for the future, replied, "The future is in God's hands. He knows. I am just praying for Him to guide."

Also 4 p.m. Mr. White was invited to the Mayfield School Christian Fellowship.

After the meeting, two boys indicated their desire to be "in the Family of God."

7.30 p.m. Women's Social at Abridge—great fun. Whilst many outside activities are recorded from day to day there are the routine jobs being undertaken by the staff continually—food prepared—children got ready for school—little ones taken to school—endless washing and cleaning and mending, and still they find time to help the kiddies with letter-writing, games, hobbies, etc. Outside

activities can only be undertaken when a loyal staff remains behind to look after the Family.

WEDNESDAY, 12TH. Just to add to the general upheaval of the present time the gas men arrived to "blow" the pipes and were extremely noisy in the proceedings!

It was Victor's birthday—two today. I'm afraid as the baby of the Family we make a lot of fuss of him, but nevertheless he is not spoilt. His general behaviour is an example to all. He knows when it is time for grace and prayers and puts his hands over his face and is always quiet. He is full of mischief, but even at two is understanding and obedient.

Monthly Prayer Meeting—Speaker this time, our friend and trustee, Pastor H. G. Goddard.

Ilford, 12/-. Swindon, £1/1/-. Coleman St. Women's Meeting, £2/10/1. Kilburn, 10/-. Elmsleigh Gospel Hall, £5. Anon, 10/-. Chadwell Heath Baptist Sunday School, £1/1/-. Goodmayes Baptist Sunday School, £1/5/-. Waltham Abbey, £5.

THURSDAY, 13TH. Woodford Green, £1. Ealing, £5. Bedford Tabernacle, 5/-. Woodford, £1/10/0. "W.P.," £5. High Cross, £5. Woodford Green, £3. King's Lynn, £10. "M.P.," £1. Westcliffe, £2. Cullompton, £2/2/- "in His Dear Name, Who never fails us." People's Hall, Bridgnorth, £2. Pontypridd, £3. Rayleigh, £2. Seven Kings, 5/-. Westcliff, £1/10/-. Barling Gospel Mission, £4/7/6.

Miss Parkes went over to a Staff Toy Service at Dr. Barnardo's Homes, Barking, to receive gifts for our Family. With a view to singing carols in the Abridge village during Christmas week, we had a short practice this evening.

FRIDAY, 14TH. S. Woodford, £1. Hove, £1. Paignton, £5/5/-. Hornsey Rise, 10/-. St. Albans, 10/-. Loughton, 10/-. Epping, £1.

Overhanging trees have disrupted the telephone connection between office and the other buildings, so the workmen came to put matters right.

Charles' birthday today—the oldest and youngest this week!

SATURDAY, 15TH. Woodford, £1. Chelmsford, 10/-. Harlow, £1. Parkstone, 10/-. Ashford, £1. Peterborough, 5/-. Sudbury, 2/6. Cumberland Road Gospel Hall Sunday School, £2. Willesden Hall Sunday School, 10/-.

Football match against Grantham Mission lads. Y.P.F. Social at Abridge. Prize-giving at the Woodford Baptist Church. We were very interested to see there Rev. and Mrs. Bruce Henry with their two children, and delighted with the coloured pictures showing something of their missionary work in the Kond Hills.

SUNDAY, 16TH. Mr. and Mrs. White went to Leigh for the day, Mr. White conducting services at Redcliff Church.

MONDAY, 17TH. Faversham Gospel Mission Sunday School, 10/-. Muswell Hill Baptist Church, £10/10/-. Barnardo's Christian Fellowship, 10/-. Cheam, £3/3/-. Clacton, £1. Chelmsford, £3. Woodford Bridge Mission. £1/1/-. Westcliff, £3.

Redcliff Church, £3/13/6. Canvey Baptist Sunday School, £1/14/-. Woodford Green, £3. Wimbledon, 5/-. Badminton and Tennis Club, £6/18/4.

TUESDAY, 18TH. N.19, £1. Chadwell Heath, 10/-. Garston Gospel Hall (via one of the staff), £5. Loughton, £1/1/-. Fetcham, £2. Woodford Green, 6/-. Epping, £2. Abridge, 10/- and 10/-. "E.L.," £1. West Mersea Christian Friendship Circle, £1/10/-. Northfleet, £1. Hornchurch, £1.

Six children went to a Girl Guide Party at Walthamstow. Arrived home very late because of fog.

WEDNESDAY, 19TH. Chailey Mission Sunday School, £2. Seven Kings, 15/-. Leytonstone, £3. Manor Park, £5. "T," £1. Keston, £3. Leytonstone, £2. Ilfracombe Assembly Hall Sunday School, £1/7/6.

THURSDAY, 20TH. Anon, £1. Anon, 10/-. Ilford, 10/-. Canfield Hall Sunday School, £2/10/-. Romford, £3/3/-. Barking Baptist Women's Meeting, £2. St. Albans, £5. Grantham, 8/-. Westminster Chapel, £70. Cranleigh Baptist Sunday School, £6/5/-. Guildford, £1. Haywards Heath, £5—"towards the Christmas happiness of your children."

Boscombe, £1/1/-. Frinton, 10/-.

Our first "expedition" carol singing in Abridge village. People were very surprised that we had an invitation to give and not a collecting box! Eight seniors were invited to a "Dick Whittington" Pantomime in London.

FRIDAY, 21ST. Strathblane, £5. Doncaster, £1. Stratford Central Baptist Women's Meeting, £1. Woodford, £2/2/0. Canning Town Girl Covenanter's Class, £2/2/-. Holland-on-Sea Baptist Women's Fellowship, £1/1/-. Ilford, 10/-. King's Lynn, £25. Ilford, £1. St. Stephen's Church, Walthamstow, £2. Woodford, 10/-. Totteridge, £1/1/-. Anon, £1. Cornwall, £1/5/-.

A pleasant surprise today—the workmen who have been here all the time since September, presented each member of the staff and seniors with a box of chocolates, and made a gift of £3/6/6 towards the tea, etc.

SATURDAY, 22ND. Bill and Peter both arrived home on leave for Christmas and just in time to lend a hand! Anon, £3. Cranford, £2. Southend, £2. Colchester, 2/6. Ramsgate, 5/-. Ilford, £1. Buntingford, £2—"I am very thankful to tell you that I am now back home and on my feet again after being paralyzed from my hand all one side and foot. It came back in a most wonderful way. But then His ways are wonderful!"

Manor Park, £1/10/-. Woodford Green, £3. Handed to Mr. White (anon), £10. Keswick Hall, Epping, 15/-. Michael's Christmas Gift, £5. An "old" girl and her husband, £3/3/-. Woodford, £1. An "old" girl, £5.

More carol-singing round the village of Abridge.

SUNDAY, 23RD. Special services at Abridge today. The church was decorated and the children especially delighted to attend and join in the singing of the well-known carols. This

evening's service was a special gift service when there was the opportunity to place a love offering on a decorated Christmas Tree. The Fellowship had decided this year to devote the gifts for "needy children in Abridge." The gifts for this purpose totalled £7/12/-.

MONDAY, 24TH. A very busy day. Two "old" girls arrived—also in time to help. Another "old" boy, his wife and two kiddies arrived from Birmingham. The petrol rationing having made his job rather precarious, although previously arranging to come here for Christmas, they had thought it best not to spend the money on the fare, but a kind friend, as a Christmas gift, made the visit possible.

Lots of people called to see us—turkeys, Christmas cakes, toys, etc., were arriving all day. The children were excited, yet anxious to help where they could.

All the children hung up their stockings—older ones as well—and Father Christmas must have had a very busy night. The staff were very tired by the time they got to bed, and knew the night would be short, for children do not sleep very long on Christmas night!

TUESDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY. All we needed was a camera to portray the happiness of the children as excitedly they climbed out of bed to survey the good things Father Christmas had left. The little things brought so much pleasure—the squeaky rubber toys for the older ones as well as the more useful pencils, puzzles, etc., not to mention soap and such like. At breakfast time, we all



A Quieter Moment

compared notes and found Father Christmas to be very fair in his "sharing out"! We had already eaten sweets, etc., so we hadn't much room for breakfast, and afterwards we went into the hall for our special carol service—to remind ourselves why we are celebrating Christmas. As "old" ones and visitors join with us there is a real family spirit on this morning of the year. We had a good sing; Pat led us in prayer; Dolores read the Christmas Story from God's Word, the Bible; and Mr. White gave us a little message illustrated from one of the presents he had received that morning.

Greetings came from New Zealand, voiced by Neil, from "old" members by Dick, and from the Family to the Staff by Charles.

During the morning we continued to examine and play with our Christmas presents and made sure we had thanked everyone we should. Dinner was just scrumptious and we could smell it cooking all the morning. There was plenty of turkey, sausage stuffing, baked potatoes, sprouts and later, of course, Christmas pudding.

During the afternoon we listened to Her Majesty's broadcast message and later, after tea, we had a lantern march. The hall was lit only by the Christmas Tree lights and we all entered carrying a coloured lantern as Christmas music was played softly on the piano. When we were all assembled we sat round quietly in a circle and, as the lanterns continued to give light, we sang the well-known Christmas carols, until suddenly there was a knock at the front door and who should arrive but Father Christmas himself. He looked very tired but was still cheerful. He brought another present for every child! Soon the little ones were on their way to bed—older ones played games and had supper, and eventually wended their way to bed, too.

WEDNESDAY, BOXING DAY. Here are some visitors' impressions of the day:

"HE IS FAITHFUL THAT PROMISED"—that text was the thrilling keynote of the whole Christmas celebrations.

It was printed in large letters high above the platform in the Florence Barclay Memorial Hall, and at the back were two more texts, outlined in glittering silver-paper against the dark woodwork "PRAISE YE THE LORD" and "JESUS OUR EMANUEL".

These texts first drew our attention and next the various sounds of a happy family enjoying itself to the full. At the far end of the hall, near the platform, were two large Christmas trees, beautifully decorated and hung with eye-catching presents. One had been presented by the 6th Epping Forest South Scout Troop, and the other by the staff of Smiths Ltd., of Cricklewood, and on each was a present for every child of the present Family.

A play was in full swing when we arrived, the title—"How Charlie Earns His Living" (incidentally, Charlie does earn his living this way). Several of the older lads of the family were giving an amusing and ingenious sketch of life in a man's outfitters' shop (both sides of the counter!) and the walls of the platform were gaily festooned with coloured ties and waistcoats of brilliant hue!

It's always amusing to hear what goes on between polite shop-assistants and demanding customers! The point often missed is that *we* might possibly be the demanding customers!

No sooner was that over than a large paddle-steamer glided in through the open door. It was a highly original boat, about 4ft. long and propelled by some very mysterious means! Sailor Bill (a model) was in charge and slowly and majestically the boat glided into the centre of the floor. And then we saw the name—OLIVE OIL UNLIMITED!

Mr. David Olney, who had contrived the whole thing, opened the hatch of this saucy-looking craft, and out came a bag of sweets for every child in the room. And weren't the youngsters pleased! Sweets are popular at any time of the year.

Then came games—and *what* games! Surely, no family party *anywhere* enters so whole-heartedly into the spirit of Christmas joy!

Then, with a whoop, to tea! One hundred and twenty-six of us sat down and we filled the lovely dining-hall, with its shining brasses, and overflowed into the two recreational rooms. There were all sorts of us: Mothers, Dads, Aunties and Uncles of the Family, "Old" Boys and Girls and their children, and friends who love the work.

Each table had an iced Christmas cake in its centre, and one in particular I think deserves special mention. It has been given anonymously (by the same donor who gave the enormous Easter Egg last April!). It was about a 20lb. cake, beautifully and elaborately iced with realistic deer in the drifting snow, wintry-looking trees and cold-looking snowmen. In fact, a real country scene in winter-time. It certainly looked too beautiful to cut and eat—but that was its ultimate fate!

After singing our grace—"Thank you for the food we eat"—we tucked in and thoroughly enjoyed every item. One of the things always noticeable to a visitor is the miraculous way in which a meal is cleared away. *Everyone* does table-drill and the *lot* is loaded on to a huge trolley to be dealt with in the kitchen.

Then upstairs once more.

Just after tea we had Prayers and they took a special form. With Mrs. Gilbert at the piano the youngest children gave us their interpretation of the Christmas story. Mrs. David Olney had transformed little girls into angels and little boys and girls into kings and shepherds. Miss Dolores Hodgkins read the narrative whilst we all joined in the well-beloved Christmas Carols. The little group around the babe in the crib, singing "Away in a manger" was infinitely sweet and appealing and will long remain in the memory.

The present-giving from the Christmas tree was the next item and afterwards time to admire each other's presents.

Then—more games. One feature of the family is the one hundred per cent. enthusiasm they bring to every game and another is the way they get *all* age-groups joining in!

Here are some of the games:

Musical Chairs (new version). This, innocently, appears to be like the old-style version, but only gentlemen take part. Then when the music stops each gentleman (ages varied from ten to eighty, so they say) rushes to the sides of the hall, lifts a lady (any age, but the more light-weight the better!) and carries her back to his chair.

Running Spelling Game. This is a team game, consisting of long lines of players who have to spell words, one letter to each player, and then run round the chairs of their own team. Mr. Victor White and Mr. Colin McDermid, who organised the games, certainly thought up some tricky words to spell and we wonder how *they* would have got on if they'd been the victims!

Indoor Hockey. This is played with real hockey sticks, but a rag ball. Just as well, for sometimes it flew through the air!

Sir Walter Raleigh. Another team game, made up of pairs, one representing the above-named gentleman, the other Queen Elizabeth. The gentleman had to spread his cloak (one of the Home's mats), whilst the lady jumped all the way down the room.

Talking Game. Generally between one girl and one boy, or one lady and one gentleman. A topic was given by Mr. White and then the victims, seated facing each other, had to talk as fast and as much as possible. I think it's safe to say that Barry still retains the championship for this and looks like doing so for some time to come!

With these and other games of similar character the evening passed all too quickly. The younger children gradually disappeared off to bed. This had one disadvantage. No longer could *they* be held solely responsible for the noise and gaiety.

When supper-time came, we were all exhausted with laughing at other people's funny antics, not realising how funny *we* appeared to other folk!

About seventy grown-ups and older boys and girls sat down to supper in the dining-room and it was a thrill to have two of the National Service Boys with us, even though one had to leave before the end to report back to camp. I understand he was not allowed to leave empty-handed!

After a lovely meal, Mr. Victor White, in welcoming everyone, once again gave thanks to God for His goodness and provision. "He is faithful that promised"—that text had once more been proved in a very real and practical way.

Mr. William Cowling—no Christmas Party would be complete without Mr. and Mrs. Cowling—replied on behalf of all the "old" boys and girls present. As the "oldest boy" he could look back on nearly fifty Christmases in the Home and *always* God had been proved faithful.

Mr. David Olney spoke on behalf of the present family of boys and girls. He has spent eight Christmases here, first as visitor and later as a member of the staff.

Mrs. Purves then gave thanks on behalf of the visitors present, saying, as one who esteemed Christian Family Life of great importance, what an inspiration it always was to watch God at work among both the staff and the children.

Mr. Victor White wound up a very happy time by giving all thanks to God, "Who givest all." Mention was made of those in real distress of mind and body, the Hungarian refugees, and earlier in the day a collection had been made amongst all the children and grown-ups. This totalled £6/5/6.

As we rose to sing the Doxology, our hearts were again filled with thankfulness and praise to God for all His loving-kindness and tender mercy.

THURSDAY, 27TH. Children still blissfully happy with their new toys. Staff—making up for lost time, viz.: washing, cleaning, etc., in the kitchen—surveying all the food left and deciding we shouldn't have to cook or buy for the rest of the week! In the office—looking at the pile of letters requiring attention. Well, we must get down to it all!

There was the usual Bible Study at Abridge in the evening. One of the "old" girls arrived home—in disappointing circumstances—but, nevertheless, we were glad she came here to us, so that we can continue to help and guide her.

Woodford, £1. Brondesbury Baptist Sunday School, £2/12/6. Epping, £1. Chelsea, £2. Preston (from the wife of an R.A.F. Chaplain in Germany), "——" has had a lot of opposition from the 'high' church lads and they wrote to the Asst. C.-in-C. about the lack of candles and ritual. The C.-in-C. ORDERED him to use them so —— resigned. It's a long story, but God worked wondrously and the 'powers that be' climbed down and now have asked —— to stay WITHOUT CANDLES. There has been great blessing and encouragement in other ways and two definite conversions. So Satan has been aroused!"

Bedford, £2/2/-. Canada, £1/9/6. Anon, £1. "H," 10/-. Isle of Wight, £1. Blackmore, 10/-. "G.R.," 5/-. Woodford Green, £1/1/-. Hampton, £5. Cranham Baptist Church, £4/5/-. Westcliff, 10/-. Seaford, £3. Muswell Hill Men's Bible Class, £5 (specifically for turkeys). Anon, £5. King's Lynn, 10/-. Manor Park Baptist Junior Church, £1. Crawley, £1/1/-. Bexhill, £2/2/-. Woodford, 10/-. Halstead, £1/1/-. Huntingdon, £1. Coventry, £2/2/-. High Cross, 5/-. Barking, 7/6. Chingford, £2. An "old" boy and his wife, £2. East Sheen, 10/-. Chigwell, £1/10/-. Cleveland Road Baptist Church, £1/6/9. Berkhamsted, £1/1/-. N.W.11, 10/-. Southend, 10/-.

FRIDAY, 28TH. Clapham, £2. N.W.7, £4. Anon, £2/2/-. Peggy decided to have a change of work from that of "nanny" to office work. We hope she will be happy.

SATURDAY, 29TH. Lois went for an interview at the Borough Treasurer's Department with a view to employment there.

SUNDAY, 30TH. The last Sunday of the year—a time of looking back and feeling deeply grateful to God for His love and patience with us, and a time of looking forward realising that, whatever the changing scenes around nationally and internationally may be, yet Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and for ever.

MONDAY, 31ST. Harpenden, £2. Cranham Baptist Church, £2. Woodford Green, £2. Tolworth Girls' School Christian Union, £2. Southampton, £1. Radlett, £10. Bishop's Stortford, £250. Liverpool, £1.

January, 1957

TUESDAY, 1ST. 1957 finds us very much in a muddle from the point of view of the buildings. Since September last, when the workmen commenced, we haven't ceased to be surrounded by dust! At times we have had hot water in only one bathroom and usable toilets have been scarce. However, the workmen have co-operated wonderfully in clearing up after each day's work and so far we haven't been without hot water somewhere. The layers of dust which have seeped into every room; the dirt which has been carried everywhere by active little feet; the noise made by hammering; the cold winds blowing right through the building; the days when the passages have been impassable and to get from one part of the building to another has meant going outside in the rain or cold wind; the difficulty of coping with the continuous stream of washing in half a small scullery and with very limited drying space; and many many other inconveniences; all these will soon be passed



Tea Time

and in a few weeks we look forward to using our new laundry, cloakrooms, bathrooms and toilets.

How grateful we are that the weather has not been too bitterly cold!

The whole undertaking is very necessary and we step into 1957 trusting the Lord to meet all our needs day by day.

Gifts today from: Leigh, £1. Watford, £3/3—"With the prayers of my wife and I for great blessing in the year to come." "P.C.", £5. Mathews Memorial Methodist Chapel, £2. Grantham—"You may not remember me—or my father. For many years he and your father stood together on Tower Hill. That was a good many years ago. Then I also had the privilege of sharing with Mr. White in Gospel Open-Air Witness. With some O.A.M. friends I saw your father just before his death and attended his funeral. He also preached for me at Faversham over 20 years ago. Well, this is my second period at Grantham, coming back after two years in Australia. We are a very small cause here and it's but a mite we send with prayer for continued blessing on your work. The Sunday School children, or at least about half a dozen of them, went out carol-singing on Saturday and collected the £2/5/- which we send herewith."

Anstey Union Chapel, £4/10/-. Royston, £2. Norwich, 2/6. N.W.2, 10/-. Moorcroft Hall, Thundersley, £1/16/3.

One of the lads went to see a specialist at the London Hospital. A nagging pain in his back and X-ray results caused the doctor to suspect a serious infection, but, we believe in answer to prayer, the result of today's interview rejoiced our hearts (and his too, but for the fact that he wouldn't miss any more school!) in that his condition had much improved following several weeks of rest and there was no more cause for anxiety.

Mr. White addressed the Gurney Baptist Church Fellowship of Youth.

From Chadwell Heath, 2 pairs hand-knitted socks.

WEDNESDAY, 2ND. Ilfracombe, 10/-. N.W.2, £1/10/-. Poulner Baptist Church, £5. Weston-super-Mare, £1—"My love to all the boys and girls. I'd love to have tea with them again—when I come to Woodford."

Kenton Evangelical Church—"It is at this season of the year our thoughts go out to those children who are not so fortunate as others who can enjoy their own family circle on Christmas Day and we feel it is a privilege to assist in a small measure those whose work it is in the Lord's name to make up for that loss. Please accept the enclosed cheque for £6/13/9, the amount of the retiring offering taken at our Christmas morning service, with our seasonal greetings and prayerful good wishes for the Lord's blessing in the New Year upon you all."

Latimer Hall Sunday School, £2.

Much preparation today for the party we plan, D.V., to give to the Hostel children tomorrow. After considering the matter very carefully, it was decided that the Abridge Fellowship should arrange

a Party for these kiddies and with the money collected at the Christmas Gift Service, give presents of toys and clothing to each child. After catering for each child, there was sufficient to buy articles from the haberdashery counter at Woolworth's to assemble a box of mending equipment for the mother of each family. Not only had the things to be sorted, but they had to be wrapped; the hall had to be cleaned and food prepared, etc. Knowing the great excitement of these kiddies in looking forward to the Party, it was with an extra feeling of "worth-whileness" that all these preparations were carried out.

THURSDAY, 3RD. Sudbury—"I received the *Links* book and it cheered me to read it through. The work for the Lord you are all doing at the Home is most encouraging to read about. We who put our Faith and Trust in Him are richly blessed, and your Home is an ideal place for a child to be brought up in. May you all have the joy of seeing many saved. Please accept enclosed 5/-, for the Lord has been good to me this Christmas again."

Islington, £3—"We are engaged in work for the children in Hoxton—a very changed Hoxton to one where I first did Sunday School work. Children now, for the most part, well-dressed and cared for and the majority dwell in nice new flats, but hearts are the same, and need cleansing and converting."

Earls Colne, 10/6.

Staff went down to Abridge to help to organise the Party for the Hostel children. An hour before time the children were on the doorstep and had to be sent away until the correct time. The Christmas tree was decorated with the parcels and coloured lights and tea prepared. At 3 p.m. sharp thirty-five children of eight families arrived.

This was the day of days for them, and their excitement was unbounded. News that a local schoolmaster had offered assistance to help in controlling the youngsters rather indicated we might be in for a lively time. So we were well prepared and no less than ten grown-ups helped with the organization of the games. After tea we had a few choruses, question time and prayers, after which the Christmas tree presents were given out to each child together with one for the mother of each family, with strict instructions that none were to be opened until arrival back at the hostel.

They scurried, like rabbits, home to see mother!

Subsequent letters—from the Warden: "On behalf of the residents here I would like to express my thanks and great appreciation for the really magnificent efforts which you and your organization have taken to provide all those gifts at Christmas and the Party and even more gifts afterwards. I think, if you had seen the children's faces on Christmas Day you would know that your efforts had been well worth while. I am sure you realize without my saying so that you are always more than welcome here any time you wish to pop in and have a chat with either the mothers or the children."

From one of the mothers: "We, the ladies of the hostel, wish to express our heartfelt thanks for what you have done for our

children this Christmas. We have never seen the children so happy as they were the day of the party. We also thank you for the token which we received and that came as a big surprise to us. May we wish you all the best this year."

FRIDAY, 4TH. Finsbury Park, £1/10/-. Henfield, £2/10/-. Y.L.C. Maranatha Missionary Fund, £1. Osterley, £1/5/-. Ley Street Hall Sunday School, £4. F.C.B., 10/-. Lancing, £1.

The Mayor of Wanstead and Woodford very kindly provided tickets for 20 children to attend a pantomime locally.

The hyacinths are racing the tulips in the dining-room.

SATURDAY, 5TH. One of our lads left after spending 6½ years with us. He has always been very happy in the family circle and we were sorry to say goodbye. He had very mixed feelings, knowing that the pathway might not be very easy in the future. Saying "goodbye" is never easy—living together we get to love one another, in spite of each other's faults and failings, but we look back on a period when the seed has been sown and we leave it to the Lord to water and nourish and bring the increase in His own time.

SUNDAY, 6TH. A young Christian student came to spend the day with us previous to preparing a dissertation during his vacation. He wished to visit a small "Home" such as ours, and a larger one, in order to compare notes. He had a chat with Pat, who has been in our Family for ten years, and who soon will be sailing to New Zealand with her newly-acquired husband.

We had the first Communion Service of the year at Abridge after the evening service and an opportunity for the re-dedication of Sunday School Teachers, Leaders of Organisations, etc., to their task for the New Year.

MONDAY, 7TH. Honiton—"Here is my subscription of £1/1/0 to the Homes, with 5/- extra for the always very welcome *Links*—so glad there are now two in the year! Truly the testimonies and the proofs of God's everlasting goodness and mercy are a stimulus to faith, like Psalm 42, 8, 11."

Saffron Walden, £2/2/-. South Woodford, £5. Leigh Elim Sisterhood, £1. Stanmore, 10/—"I look upon it as one of the privileges of my life to have known your father and to have had many contacts with him. We continue to remember you all at the Throne of Grace."

Lansdowne Baptist Sunday School, £2/7/6. Stratford, 10/-.

Commencement of Universal Week of Prayer, meetings being held at different local churches. Mr. White was the speaker at Salway Hall this evening.

Some of the women folk at Abridge met to discuss the arrangements for the Women's Meetings during 1957.

TUESDAY, 8TH. Children returned to school, except for three who developed mumps just in time to prolong their holiday!

Barking, 10/-. Eastney Gospel Mission, £4/17/10. Christchurch, 10/-.

The Women's Meeting recommenced and an encouraging number attended.

WEDNESDAY, 9TH. Ilford—"Just a line to thank you very warmly for the lovely time we had with you all on Boxing Day. It was most enjoyable and we do appreciate being able to share in the festivities. It must have been a massive bit of planning for everything to run as smoothly as it did! Many thanks also for the copy of the *Links*. The whole thing makes smashing reading and gives a wonderfully clear picture of the Home. I'm sure it's greatly valued by everyone who has an interest in the Family—it makes it all so real. Herewith a donation of £2 to help on the good work just a little." Ilford, £2.

Forest Road Hall, £1—"We pray that our Heavenly Father will continue to bless the work you have undertaken for Him and that during this year as each day unfolds you will find your needs supplied."

Walthamstow, £1. One of our "old" girls, £1 (she hoped to be with us on Boxing Day, but was prevented on account of the fog). Leyton, £2.

Monthly Prayer Meeting. Speaker: Mr. James Stokes (one of our Trustees).

THURSDAY, 10TH. Rayleigh, 7/6. News today that one of our Family may be able to have a pre-fabricated house in place of her fifth-storey flat. Since the sudden death of her husband she has been content to leave her pathway in God's hands, and He is wonderfully undertaking financially and in other ways. Christine down with mumps. Lois commenced work in the Borough Treasurer's Department.

FRIDAY, 11TH. Wanstead, £1/1/-. Leytonstone, £1/1/-. Walthamstow, £1. Received a beautifully bound small Family Bible. The following letter explains the gift—"You won't know me, but I have been interested in the work of the Homes since 1912 when, as a missionary student at Chelsea, I first heard of your father. I had heard of the Homes before that, because Mrs. Florence Barclay was the dear friend who was kindly paying my fees in the training home. It is because of my association with her that I am now writing this. Mrs. Barclay, as I expect you know, held a Ladies' Bible Reading on Fridays at Leyton. My mother was a member and it was as a teenager that I first met Mrs. Barclay at one of her meetings. She also visited my sick brother and grandfather. My father also attended her Good Friday meetings. What a lot of explanations—please forgive me. Well, this is what I'm wanting to say. My father passed away in 1916 some months after his 83rd birthday. On that birthday, Mrs. Barclay gave him a largish Bible which is now in my possession. It is a good print and has pictures of Palestine by Copping in it. I am, of course, now an old-age pensioner living in a bed-sitting room and have no place to store articles which I am not able to use. Apart from this, all Bibles *should* be in use, so please will you accept it for use in your Home. I thought perhaps it could be used for Family Prayers and that the children might like the pictures."

SATURDAY, 12TH. Sunday School parties at Abridge. Our senior girls went to their Social at the Baptist Church and others went to the Loughton "Youth for Christ" meeting and saw a film, "The Great Discovery."

Miss Long went over to Muswell Hill to accept a boat full of toys. The model boat had been made by a lady of 78.



The Boat — Victor experiments

At last the hyacinths are opening out and their scent creates a "breath of spring."

SUNDAY, 13TH. After the evening service staff and seniors gathered in the drawing room for community hymn-singing to mark the occasion of Pat and Neil's last Sunday in England.

MONDAY, 14TH. Leyton, £1. Tonbridge, £1—"Once again, mother and I do want to thank you very much for the *Links* which is so uplifting and gives much cause to praise God for His great loving kindness and faithfulness in the many blessings you have experienced over the past year."

Kenton Evangelical Church Young People's Fellowship, £1/10/-. Shirley Hall, Enfield, Sunday School, £3. Chingford Covenant Gift, £5—"With this gift come our very best wishes to you and all engaged in the work of the Homes for a Happy New Year full of the blessings of the Lord, such as you and your father before you have experienced in the years which have passed. It will not be without its testings but remember—manifold testings—but manifold grace and manifold wisdom at your disposal."

Bromley, 10/-. An "old" boy, 3/-—"Yes, I am after something again. Have you three dozen of those 'Truth and Error' booklets to spare? Having once seen them a lot of folk down here want a copy."

Chingford, 7 pairs socks. One of the senior girls went over to Ilford for an interview for a residential job.

TUESDAY, 15TH. Camberley, £1. N.19, £1. A parent of four young children called to see us, asking for help. There may be a divorce because of the admitted adultery of his wife.

WEDNESDAY, 16TH. At staff prayers we had a chat and prayer regarding the aspect resulting from last evening's interview about the possibility of sometimes admitting young children into our family. Victor, who came to us last July and who was only 18 months, has developed well and his presence has tended to increase the family atmosphere.

Mrs. Edith White, her son, wife and two children spent a day at Cranham with one of our "old" boys and his wife. Mrs. V. White addressed the Cranham Women's Fellowship house meeting. We are praying very much for this pioneer work.

THURSDAY, 17TH. New Haw Gospel Hall Sunday School, £10. N.13, £3. Fairchildes Youth Service, £1/10/-. Chingford, £2. Forest Road Hall Sunday School, £7/10/-.

Had a chat with a Solicitor in London about the relation of our Home to the Ministry of Pensions in regard to Family Allowances, especially bearing in mind a case at Bristol last autumn and a Court case to be held at Stratford next Wednesday. When the Ministry of Pensions institute proceedings we have to spend much valuable time checking our records, interviewing officers and attending Court.

FRIDAY, 18TH. Today we said "goodbye" to Pat and Neil as they sailed away on the Rangitara from the Royal Albert Dock to New Zealand. The children here were excited when an announcement came over the wireless earlier in the week to the effect that Sir Anthony and Lady Eden would also be travelling on this boat. They were sad to say goodbye, but excited at the prospects before them as they start life afresh in New Zealand. We look forward to hearing from them.

N.W.11, £5. Waltham Cross, £2. St. Andrew's Sunday School, £4. King's Lynn, winter coat and pair of shoes.

SATURDAY, 19TH. Juniors' Sunday School Party. The tilers have been at work this week and we can at last see some result for the upheaval and mess of the past few weeks. It was most gratifying today to be asked to work out the colour schemes for the rooms affected!

SUNDAY, 20TH. Young people took the evening service at Abridge. An encouraging testimony was that of a young man who had slipped away from the church for quite a long period and who had been drawn back by the power of prayer!

MONDAY, 21ST. Stocksfield-on-Tyne, £1/5/-—"You really have a happy family and an excellent atmosphere. You'll be interested to know that I have now modified my Dissertation title. It is now to be on Methods by which you have developed a home atmosphere within the "Home." Perhaps this in itself reflects my views on how successfully you seem to be carrying out the work.

I am sure most of this success is due to the virile Christian basis, reflected so much in the selfless devotion of the staff. I can assure you that there will be very little adverse criticism in my work! I do hope that you will receive definite guidance about the question of accepting very young children. Undoubtedly, the presence of very young children can only increase the family atmosphere. I do hope that some written and published history of the Home will soon be available. If ever I can be of help to you during a school holiday in sorting out material, etc., for such a project, do let me know."

Cranham, 10/-. Mr. White addressed the Lovelace Christian Fellowship. Mavis commenced residential work at Ilford.

TUESDAY, 22ND. Hook, £1/1/- Anon, 10/-. Manford Way Christian Fellowship, £5. Royston, 7 pairs gloves. One of the staff addressed Mathews Memorial Women's Meeting.

WEDNESDAY, 23RD. Mr. and Mrs. White attended Stratford Court regarding a parent who had been summoned for mis-using Family Allowance and Unemployment Money. We have prayed much about this case because the result of the hearing could mean imprisonment for the one concerned and this would inevitably undermine much that we have been endeavouring to do for the family now and in the past.

Our reading this morning was from Titus, chapter 3—"Put them (Christians) in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work. . . . But avoid foolish questions and genealogies and contentions and strivings about the law: for they are unprofitable and vain."

It is not opportune to record all details, but sufficient to note that an over-ruling power was evident in an opportunity being given for Mr. White to speak—no Press reporters were present—and the magistrate, although severe and clear in his summary, did not pass a verdict of imprisonment.

Mrs. White addressed the Buckhurst Hill Young Wives Fellowship.

THURSDAY, 24TH. Barking, £2. 7, £1. Margaret Preston Charitable Trust, £24/7/1. Anon, 10/-. "R.G.M.", £7. Boscombe, £7. Toronto, £1/16/5. Walthamstow, 10/-. Heathfield, 9 pairs socks.

FRIDAY, 25TH. St. Albans, 7/6. One of the staff went away for the week-end. Another had a chat with a printer about future editions of *Links*. Billy arrived home unexpectedly on week-end leave—full of joy in witnessing for His Lord.

SATURDAY, 26TH. Further interview with parent requiring our help for his four children, three of them under school-age. We have discussed the matter of helping younger children with one of our Trustees and with our Medical Officers. With the happy experience of looking after young Victor clearly before us, we feel God is leading us in this pathway. We half expected advice would be that it would not be wise, but with the alterations to the buildings making them more suitable and our doctor saying

"I always felt it to be a pity you didn't admit young children," and other indications in favour, it looks as though we shall!

The boys played a football match over at Wanstead Flats—drew 2—2. The senior boys went to their Sunday School Party. Others to a friend's party at Abridge.

Mr. White addressed the parents at a Sunday School Prize-giving in Romford.

SUNDAY, 27TH. Four "old" girls and boys spent the day with us. At Abridge we were encouraged by the presence of three more adults at the morning service. We always have a prayer meeting at 6.10 p.m. especially for the Gospel Service.

MONDAY, 28TH. Happy birthday to Mrs. Gilbert!

At last the tiling is nearly finished in the bathrooms. We don't know who has been most patient throughout the building alterations—the workmen, children or staff. When washing and toilet facilities have been so cold, limited and even messy, it's a wonder we have all kept smiling. The proceedings haven't been easy-going for anybody, but the staff deserve a special pat on the back for they have worked under very trying conditions, and yet the children have always been clean and had clean clothes to wear. In the wet weather the staff have had to bend under the new boiler to hang a few clothes to dry—the only available spot. Other times the washing queue (for children, not clothes), has been from 4 o'clock until bedtime—the only way to fit everybody in. There have been continuous draughts.

The difficulties need to be seen to be realised—but those who lead the work are very grateful to a staff who have plodded on and surmounted so many problems cheerfully.

Walthamstow, £2. Southampton, £1/10/-. St. Albans, 10/-. Stanway Evangelical Church Women's Fellowship, £2.

TUESDAY, 29TH. Two new little boys arrived today—ages 6 and 4. They came in quite cheerfully and did not take long to make themselves at home. One of the boys went up to London Hospital for a check.

Just after dinner, two Home Office Inspectors arrived and after a long chat in the office, had tea with the children and then a tour round the premises.

WEDNESDAY, 30TH. St. Albans. Carton calendar pictures, etc.

Badminton match—won, 6—3.

THURSDAY, 31ST. Boscombe, £2/2/-.

Sometimes we are asked whether a television set is permanently installed here, or it may even be assumed one is! We thought about it the other day and wondered when we would find time to watch it? What with Music, Games, Hobbies, Y.P.F., G.L.B., Boys' Brigade, Youth for Christ, Bible Study—when would we?

February

FRIDAY, 1ST. From an "old" girl—"I am sorry not to have written before. I haven't been very well. My dear husband

died on the 1st October after a very long illness, and though I nursed him at home, with the exception of a fortnight in hospital, I was shocked when the end came. My son and his family have come to live with me, so I am now kept busy helping with the little ones (there are four of them). I spent Christmas with my sister. Her youngest son came home on leave from Cyprus which made her very happy. Thank you so much for the *Links*. I do enjoy



Home from School

reading it so much, and the years seem to fall away when I read about the children. I do hope you are keeping well, also your family. I am enclosing a small P.O. for the children." Box Secretary, £2 and £2/11/6. Anon, £3. Southampton, £10. Proverbs, 8, v. 17—"I love them that love me: and those that seek me early shall find me." Woodford, consignment of rubber heels.

SATURDAY, 2ND. King's Lynn, £10. Goodmayes, £2/11/8. Several children visited relatives: some went shopping: younger boys went exploring in the woods and came home covered in mud! Another had a Ropeholder Party.

SUNDAY, 3RD. Abridge 31st Church Anniversary. Abridge is still a country village but is now closely linked to Woodford and London by a bus route. By bike, car or bus we can be there in fifteen minutes. The following extract from 1924 *Links* is interesting: "For some little while we have been specially thinking of the villages, and had offered to us in a remarkable way a wagon which could easily be converted into a Gospel wagon. This having been done, we had the 'send-off' meeting in the Home Hall. (Now Sturman Dormitory.) Messrs. Vic Jones and Roy Aylott, students from the B.T.I., Glasgow, are the Missioners for the first three weeks. The following encouraging report is to hand: 'You will

remember the wonderful weather that God favoured us with the day upon which the wagon left Woodford: the inspiring meeting, the crowd of kind friends, the stir which the wagon's advent occasioned in the neighbourhood, and the rousing send-off you all gave us as we started on our Gospel campaign. The journey to Abridge was delightful and surely the texts painted on the wagon must have gone home to many a heart and preached a sermon five miles in length. Abridge, which had been chosen as our first stopping place, is a sweet little Essex village of about 300 souls and presented a charming appearance as we caught our first view of it in the light of the setting sun. Arriving there we lost no time in preparing for our first open-air meeting, and our arrival caused much excitement amongst the villagers, who, on this first occasion, stood and listened from afar. This first gathering was very encouraging, however, and we were conscious of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the speaking, distribution of tracts and personal dealing, although it was but a beginning of the still greater things which the Lord had in store for us. . . . The wagon moved on after three weeks to Stanford Rivers and is now in Ongar. Abridge is not being forgotten, and the new converts are being kept in touch with. Through going to Abridge a hall which had been closed for some time for services has been re-opened and some 70 to 80 people have gathered each Sunday since."

So much for the beginning of our Gospel work in Abridge—and the witness has continued under the guidance of God. Dr. Carey Baker gave our 31st Anniversary message—it was very searching and challenged the Christians. The following somewhat amusing illustration perhaps best reminds us of the crux of the message: "A dear lady, whose job in life was washing up—continually, day after day. She erected a notice at her sink—'Divine Service three times daily'!"

MONDAY, 4TH. Buckhurst Hill Young Wives' Fellowship, 5/-. Routledge Christian Fellowship, 5/-. Romford, 10/-. Leigh, dressing gown. Dartford Guides, scrap book. Roger started Ropeholders—this is a young people's organisation designed to encourage young folk to take an interest in and help missionary work, and, of course, to lead them along the Christian pathway.

TUESDAY, 5TH. Mr. White went over to New Town Mission Men's Meeting. Some of the children visited the dentist. Percy and Doris, with Charlie and Peter, as usual, took charge of the badminton club. This is quite a reunion evening, several "old" boys and girls always coming home and also some young people coming from Abridge.

WEDNESDAY, 6TH. Stanmore, £2. Highgate Road Chapel, £3. Legacy, £100. Our badminton team played a match and won 5—4.

THURSDAY, 7TH. Central Baptist Church, Walthamstow, £10. New Town Men's Meeting, £5. Stock Exchange Christian Association, £3/3/-. London, £21. Waltham Abbey, second-

hand clothes. Miss Revell travelled to Liverpool for a long week-end.

FRIDAY, 8TH. West Mersea, £5. Harriet went to tea with her friend. South Woodford, blazer, 2 shirts and ties. We said "good-bye" to a lad who has been with us for just over a year. A broken home created the need for him to come here, but his father has re-married and there is the possibility now of a secure happy home life, especially as we feel that father and step-mother do realise the need for God in the centre of the home. Here is an extract from a letter received recently: "Thank you again for all your care of ——— and for the wonderful change in him which you have brought about."

SATURDAY, 9TH. As a complete family we went to a local restaurant for a party provided by the local Round Table members. We watched a very clever conjurer—we just couldn't understand how pieces of paper joined together, coloured scarves tied themselves together and a doll talked. But it was all there in front of us. We had a scrumptuous tea which included cold sausages on sticks, jelly, potato crisps and lots of delightful dainties. An "old" boy on leave from the Navy also came.

SUNDAY, 10TH. Services today at Abridge conducted by Mr. Olney and Mr. Bill Smith. Mr. White was at Welcome Mission this morning and Rise Park Hall this evening. A group of children from here went to Sunday School at Abridge as usual and the rest to Woodford Baptist S.S.

MONDAY, 11TH. Pouring with rain. A member of the staff went to help one of the family move house. Phone call from "old" girl's friend to say she was going to hospital immediately for appendix operation. Phone call from "old" boy to say he is going into hospital this week for major operation. "E.L.", £1. Maidstone, £3—"I was delighted to get the *Links*. It always is a thrill to read how God is providing your needs in these difficult days of high prices. I continue to pray for you twice daily and I trust that many of the children will come to know the Lord as their personal Saviour during their stay in the home. How I wish that hundreds of other children that live in Godless homes had similar training and privileges. I am afraid some children have a very hard time at home."

Ealing £20 Covenant—meaning that later we shall receive rebate of income tax from the Government resulting in the gift being nearly doubled! Rise Park Chapel, £2.

TUESDAY, 12TH. Keswick S.S., Boscombe, £1/1/-. Doncaster Pentecostal Assembly, £1. The previous school teacher of a little boy we have recently admitted called in.

WEDNESDAY, 13TH. Anon, 10/-. Faversham, £1—"Would you kindly let me know if the book Mr. Herbert White wrote was ever published?" (We are having many indications of the help it might be to many people to publish a book giving details of God's faithfulness to our family since 1899.) It was our prayer meeting today and we were privileged to have Captain Martin, Secretary

of Fegans Homes, with us and also to tea. We enjoyed comparing notes about the every-day details connected with the running of a children's home, and we were encouraged by the word he gave—"things that accompany salvation." As one pondered the blessings which *do* accompany salvation: Peace of heart and mind (John 14, 1); The blank cheque—"My God shall supply all your need" (Philippians 4, 19); A purpose in life—"To live is Christ" and "All things work together for good to them that love God" (Romans 8, 28); we were amazed that we so easily get downhearted.

Mr. Olney takes hobbies every Wednesday evening and these are very popular with the children. Today they were taught how to make artificial flowers and to weave the seat of a chair. At Christmas some elaborate candlestick holders appeared and these are still in the dining-room.



THURSDAY, 14TH. A new little girl, aged 6, arrived. Her brother came just before Christmas. She had been looking forward to coming and on being taken through the buildings this was her first comment: "Aren't the workmen making a mess. Oh, well, I suppose it doesn't matter because if they've made the mess they'll have to clear it up!" Ebenezer S.S., Bermondsey, £1/1/-. Felscombe Cliffs, 10/-. Avenue Hall Women's Meeting, £2. N.W.2, £1/1/-. United Free Church, Woodford Green, Women's Meeting, £1/1/-. Fellowship Meeting at Abridge this evening.

FRIDAY, 15TH. Woodford, £1. Manchester, £2 (Covenant). Our badminton team played an outside team.

SATURDAY, 16TH. One of the "old" boys came home on leave. (He is more than interested in one of our lady staff!)

SUNDAY, 17TH. One marvels that at this time of the year all our children are well. Usually there are some coughs and colds, but a mild winter seems to agree with us. Our vehicles packed to

capacity went to Abridge three times today. Mr. David Barr conducted the morning service and Mr. Alfred Brown the evening service.

MONDAY, 18TH. Spring cleaning (seriously held up because of alterations) started in an out-of-the-way spot today—the top hall. All paintwork washed—and there's a lot of it! Royston, 5 pairs hand-knitted gloves. Gravesend, £1. Children's Meeting at Eldon Road. British Legion, Abridge, Committee Meeting.

TUESDAY, 19TH. Extract from letter received from a parent of two children recently joining our family: "I must give you a big compliment. ——— and ——— wanted to get back to you and they were proper Mummy's boys before they came to you and I was surprised there were no tears." Eldon Road Meeting, 10/-. Mr. White went to Ashurst Drive Women's Meeting.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH. One of staff went to Upney Baptist Church Women's Meeting. Leyton—"I have just read for the first time the booklet *Links*. I was deeply moved by it and was constrained to send along a small gift. I will make your home a matter of daily prayer. May God graciously continue to bless this great work to which He has committed you and may the children grow up to love the Lord Jesus Christ and accept Him as their Saviour and Friend." United Mission S.S., Muswell Hill, £6. Ilford, £4/1/-.

THURSDAY, 21ST. Appointment at St. Barnabas School regarding the possibility of one of our boys staying on for the Extended Course. The headmaster gave an encouraging report about our family as a whole. The boys mix very well and appear as normal in every way as children from good private homes. Upney, £2/10/-. Shoeburyness Shoe Fund, £17/10/-. Commenced a new Bible Study at Abridge.

FRIDAY, 22ND. Ridgeway Hall, Chingford, £2. Committee Meeting of Church Junior Cricket League—the idea being to fix weekly cricket matches amongst christian organisations, thus providing healthy activity for youngsters in congenial company.

SATURDAY, 23RD. Mr. and Mrs. White spent day at Seaford. The suggestion had been made that this might be a suitable place for a summer holiday for the children, but (in spite of the rain) although it seemed in many ways suitable, there is a very steep incline along the beaches making bathing, we thought, dangerous. After all, children at the seaside like to splash about at random all day long!

On the way home Mr. White addressed a Young People's Meeting at Cranleigh in Surrey. A wrong turning and mists on the Downs delayed the time of arrival.

SUNDAY, 24TH. Mr. Olney took the morning and evening services at Abridge. Mrs. Jeffreys (ex-missionary) was the speaker at Sunday School.

MONDAY, 25TH. Half-term holiday today and for two more days. Bright sunny weather made it possible for children to be outside. Three younger ones decided to explore and were missing

for dinner and tea, but hunger and the realisation that it's against the rules to leave home without permission dampened the glamour of the day. They won't do it again! The girls played netball—and staff, too. Stratford Railway Mission, £6/6/-.

TUESDAY, 26TH. Chelmsford, £2/10/-, Cranleigh, £1. The boys had their turn on the playground—hockey and football. It's surprising how happy and carefree the children seem to be once, after the dark evenings and inclement weather, they can once again "let off steam" out of doors. The games they invent—the only trouble is Mr. Olney often misses things put aside for a special purpose—pieces of wood are used to build carriages and houses, etc., etc.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH. Climax of holiday—a party for all given by the Epping Congregational Church C.E. They sent a coach to collect us, provided scrumptious tea and organised a wide variety of games. Another special event today was at dinner time. A little boat "steamed" into the dining room. It had been made and given by a lady of 78 and contained a present for every child. Really, we should have had this nearer Christmas, but it provided a very nice interlude for half-term instead.

THURSDAY, 28TH. Miss Parkes went away for week-end. Carpenter and painters are still busy at work. Anti-climax to the month—children went back to school.

March

FRIDAY, 1ST. Navestock, £2/12/6. This evening, first of all the younger children went up into the hall for games and when they had had their turn, the older ones. Table tennis, chess, draughts, ludo, etc., are the activities. They stayed there until



In the Garden

the call for supper. Mr. Crowhurst organises this special evening every week.

SATURDAY, 2ND. Peter came home on 14 days leave from Chester. Louise and Alice came from Bournemouth—many years have slipped by since the time they lived here in Woodford with us. They brought some lovely jam sponges—enough for us all. Representatives of the British Legion, Abridge, came to look round our buildings and to have tea with us. They were surprised to find a real family atmosphere and it was news to them the way God does hear and answer prayer.

SUNDAY, 3RD. We all went to the services at Abridge or at the local Baptist Church. We have a rota for coping with the dinner so that no one has to stay in more than once in four weeks, and the same sort of rota operates for Sunday evening when the little ones stay at home and have their own special service before going off to bed. Occasionally, outside friends pop in to help—Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Brown came several times, taking a serial story entitled "Jack." Mrs. Brown led each meeting with prayer, choruses and quizz on previous instalment. There were four drawing competitions and also the opportunity to do a quizz or write an article for an imaginary newspaper. The standard of drawing, etc., was high and small prizes were awarded. Sometimes a staff member tells a story, sometimes they have a sing-song, and on other occasions film strips have been shown—"David the Shepherd Boy," "David and Goliath," "David and Jonathan" and "David the Fugitive." Others are planned for the future. Mr. Hull very kindly lends us his projector.

MONDAY, 4TH. Woodford, £4. Miss Parkes returned home after a week-end spent with friends at Eastbourne. A Home Office official called to discuss points arising from previous inspection, viz.: (1) That if we admitted younger children a room should be set aside for them to play in. (This had already been arranged.) (2) To suggest that the boys should be allowed to wash up, this being the trend in modern times! (The boys do help on occasions when the girls are out, or at especially busy times when visitors are here, but normally their jobs are the "manly" ones such as chopping wood, fetching coal, sweeping the playground, etc.). We were pleased to realise that these were the only two matters arising! The Abridge Men's Fellowship recommenced. Monthly Meetings of an informal character are being planned. Tonight, there was a "Record Round-up."

TUESDAY, 5TH. We have already been memorising scriptures to recite at the Annual Meetings, but now we are starting on the pieces of music. Peter, Rowland and Malcolm, all on leave from the Forces, came to play badminton this evening.

WEDNESDAY, 6TH. Northwood, £1. St. Neots, £5.

THURSDAY, 7TH. From an Old-Aged Pensioner, Southminster, 5/-, West Indies-International Christian Fellowship—"Our little Fellowship, which is now in its second year, recently passed a resolution at one of its committee meetings, resolving that we give

a tenth of all our gifts to some other needy christian work by way of thanksgiving to God for the gifts we have received from Him. In conversation with a friend, your work of faith was brought to our notice and the committee unanimously agreed that we send our January/March Tithe to help you in your work for the Lord and Saviour. And may God's richest blessing abide with it, to His Glory. Are visitors welcome to see over the Home and Mission at any time?" Goring Evangelical Free Church, £1/1/-. Income Tax Rebate on Covenant Gifts, £294/9/3. Muir Beddall Christian Fellowship, 10/6. (Mr. White addressed their lunch hour meeting today.) One of the staff went to the Hainault Fellowship Women's Meeting.

FRIDAY, 8TH. Lynn's birthday.

SATURDAY, 9TH. During the morning a very young woman arrived on the doorstep with her dog. On opening the door she asked, "How old do they have to be for you to take them in?" We weren't quite sure for the moment whether she was referring to dogs or children! But after a chat, very sad circumstances were revealed—she wanted us to take her baby, so that she could leave her husband whom, she said, she hated and who hated her. Another tragedy of young people who have grown up without any Christian background. We were able to put her in touch with a Christian friend experienced in handling such problems. Some of the seniors were invited to go to a Missionary Convention Meeting in London this evening.

SUNDAY, 10TH. Services at Abridge as usual, the evening service being conducted by Mr. K. Knowles. Mr. White was at Keswick Hall, Epping. During the morning service a little girl was brought by her mother to be dedicated.

MONDAY, 11TH. Since the commencement of the alterations to the buildings, in addition to praying for the supply of our day-to-day needs, we have been praying for £1,000 to meet the extra cost of the alterations. We were greatly encouraged today to receive news from a Solicitor that an old friend had recently died and left £1,000 for the C.H. & M. in her will. We praise God that He is undertaking for this specific need—we know the money will be to hand when required. We have sometimes "strained at the leash" because the alterations seem to have progressed slowly, but we know that all is working together and that work will be finished and money to hand just at the right moment. It was also rather fitting that God gave us a special encouragement this morning because we had been very disappointed in the conduct of one of our girls. In a family, anything like this is disappointing and can make us feel downhearted, but HE wonderfully encouraged us in one way so that another burden seemed lighter. Denmark Hill, £2/10/-. Epping, £2. Keswick Hall, Epping, £1.

TUESDAY, 12TH. Walthamstow Schools' Cricket and Football Association, £2/2/-.

WEDNESDAY, 13TH. Thundersley Gospel Hall S.S., £2/10/-. Kenton, £5. Margaret Preston Charitable Trust, £17/8/-. Two

friends from Cranleigh came to visit us, stayed to our Monthly Prayer Meeting and afterwards to tea.

THURSDAY, 14TH. Cranleigh, £3. The arrival today of little three-year-old twins. Their coming is another answer to our prayers. At the time we commenced the alterations our number of children was lower than for many years and we could not quite discern what plans God had in mind for us. However—"He doeth all things well." The building work has given rise to domestic problems which would have been increased with full number of children in residence. Now that the work is nearing completion needy cases are again coming to our notice and since Christmas seven have been admitted. Some of these are younger than we usually admit and this is how it all came about. Away back last July we admitted a family of four, their mother being one of our "old" girls who needed to go to hospital. Her youngest was a little boy, only 18 months. He has fitted so happily into the family circle that we began to realise, with the buildings now more up-to-date, we should be able to fit younger kiddies in quite well. Perhaps if young Victor hadn't arrived in somewhat unusual circumstances we should still have been saying: "We only take children of school age." When we were puzzled about the future, God was silently planning. We do not ever pray that children will be in need of our help, but that children needing help may be directed to us. At Abridge this evening a representative of the Protestant Truth Society gave talks on "Fighters for Faith and Freedom" and "Persecution of Today." It does well to remember that our heritage of freedom to worship according to our conscience has been bought with a price—a price of courage, martyrdom, blood! Also to be aware that there are people TODAY suffering because they are Christians!

FRIDAY, 15TH. Sidmouth, 10/-. Dr. Willings commenced the annual medical examination of all the children. Heights and weights always seem to have gone up in leaps and bounds and in Dr. Carey Baker's words—"it is checking a healthy set of youngsters."

SATURDAY, 16TH MARCH. All the girls went over to Goodmayes to meet their penfriends who belong to the Meldrum Sunday School which is today celebrating its 12th anniversary. We are glad that this year their leader, Miss Marriot, is so much better in health. This is an answer to prayer. A friend from the north called, bringing another friend, to spend time here with the children. Our badminton team played against the Holy Trinity team and for the first time, against this team, won! An achievement, because this was the club that first showed us how to play!

SUNDAY, 17TH. Services at Abridge conducted by Mr. Olney, morning, and Mr. F. Bullen, evening. Mr. White was at Nazeing Congregational Church.

MONDAY, 18TH. At last curtains are going up and it seems that the alterations are really nearing completion. It has seemed such a long, weary winter, even though at all times the workmen

have been most co-operative. Nazeing C.F., £3/3/-. Barking, £10.

TUESDAY, 19TH. "E.L.", £1. Two little boys arrived from Bournemouth to join our family. We met them at Waterloo and they were very excited to experience the thrill of going on a moving staircase and to see the tube train doors operating automatically. Coming here is always an exciting experience for a newcomer—everything is fresh—the buildings, people, routine, etc. These two laddies (aged 6 and nearly 4) have been used to going to Sunday School and their parents were both converted after seeing the film "Souls in Conflict," but a penalty is now being paid (at a price) for previous sin. Mr. White conducted a service at Canvey Island Baptist Church.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH. The Young People's Recreational Fellowship at Abridge is held every Wednesday evening. In charge is Charles, our senior—now a young man—with a committee of stalwart young people at Abridge. Mr. White was able to pop along to help and encourage them this evening. There appear to be quite a number of lads who do not go to Church or Chapel and we do want to get them interested.

THURSDAY, 21ST. Halstead, £1—"I hope you will still be able to carry on the good work. Excuse mistakes—I can't help it. My memory is failing me. I expect it will be so, as I shall be 82 years old next month." Canvey Island Baptist Church, £1/8/-. Bournemouth, £1. Falkland Hall S.S., £4.

FRIDAY, 22ND. All the senior school children were home today because of a scholarship examination being held at their schools. The boys went to London and visited the British Museum, walked along the embankment, went over the *Discovery* and had dinner in an A.B.C. The girls went exploring in Epping Forest after a visit to the hairdressers.

SATURDAY, 23RD. New Milton, £5. London City Mission Hall, S.W.6, £3. Lighthouse Mission, E.16, £5. Some children went out with relatives, seniors went to watch All-England Badminton Finals at Wembley.

SUNDAY, 24TH. Mr. White should have been conducting services at Harlow today, but his voice disappeared! Mr. Olney and Mr. David Barr took the services at Abridge.

MONDAY, 25TH. We fear that our little twins may have whooping cough so are making arrangements to isolate them from the other children. They are too young to be left, so one of the staff is sleeping with them and someone else is with them all day. They are very sweet and are happy with us. Some of us are still having difficulty in sorting Tina from Evelyn—it's usually the "fat one" or the "thin one." In having younger kiddies one sees the better opportunity of training them "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," before the Devil has commenced his work of destruction. Singapore, £50—"It is a joy again to be able to send you a little donation for the work with the children. What a wonderful opportunity it is to have them to train for Him.



May all who come under your roof truly come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. Thank you for *Links*. I enjoy reading the letters from those who were once with you and who now have their own homes. May the Lord abundantly supply every need in connection with the work." Hornchurch — "Enclosed, the widow's mite, 10/-." There was a Parent's Meeting at the Y.P.F. this evening.

TUESDAY, 26TH. Spring cleaning is in earnest. All hands on

deck. We are late starting this year. Prizegiving at Hainault Road Sunday School (Primary). Mr. White was asked over to give a word to the little ones and parents, too.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH. Maurice celebrated his fourth birthday and was very pleased with his birthday cake. On these occasions we sing "Happy Birthday to You" and there is always special remembrance at Family Prayers for the one concerned.

THURSDAY 28TH. Mr. White was asked over to a High School in the Southend area to address a Christian Fellowship there. The headmaster decided to throw the opportunity open for as many scholars as could get into the school hall. You can't talk about our Work without proclaiming the faithfulness of God. Mr. White brought back £2/10/- and a large supply of groceries contributed by the children. When asked to speak at meetings, we do not speak about the Work here unless specifically asked to do so. A member of the staff on one occasion recently prepared a devotional message for a Women's Meeting and was introduced just before speaking as "coming to speak about the Children's Home." This was unexpected and a little baffling. E.7, £1. Hainault Baptist S.S., 10/6. Romford, £5/5/-.

FRIDAY, 29TH. In line with the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race tomorrow, we had our Table Tennis and Draughts this evening, Oxford v. Cambridge. Oxford won by two games.

SATURDAY, 30TH. The children were invited by friends to watch the boat race on television. We had late dinner to accommodate the invitation and the Cambridge supporters were very

cocky afterwards and were quite sure Oxford didn't even try! (Of course, we weren't used to their new method!)

SUNDAY, 31ST. Today, on Mothering Sunday, in various ways the children have shown their appreciation to those who are virtually their mothers, by tributes of posies, flowers and cards. The Evening Service at Abridge was conducted by the womenfolk on the occasion of their anniversary. Mrs. Gilbert was in the chair, Mrs. Alfred Brown the Speaker, and Mrs. Farndon came to recite. The message clearly portrayed how Jesus understood our problems and difficulties because He himself was faced with just the same ones when here on earth. (1) Lack of money. Jesus was brought up in a poor home. (2) Time. How busy our lives seem to be and Jesus lived a very busy life and yet never seemed hurried. He always found time for prayer, but was never too tired—even when Nicodemus came at night—to see people who needed him. (3) Misunderstanding. How at times we do our best and yet we are misunderstood. Perhaps teenagers feel this most! At the age of 12 Jesus was misunderstood by his parents, yet He went back with them to Nazareth and stayed there until he was 30. (4) Unfair criticism. When Jesus was wrongly accused He answered not a word. How hard it is for us to follow this example when we are criticised—but it is best to leave the judgment with a just God. (5) Death. Jesus had to face death alone, because of our sin which separated Him from His Father. We *need not* face death alone—if we trust in the Lord Jesus Christ then the following can be our experience—“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.” A thirsty man can die with a pool of water in front of him if he will not stoop to drink—and today we shall die if we do not take the salvation which God has made available to us.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AN “OLD GIRL”

Evelyn Smith has won a County Major Scholarship and gained her General Certificate of Education, Advanced Level, in Latin, French and English. She is now studying at the University of Leicester to take a B.A. Honours Degree in French, with Latin as a subsidiary subject.

THIS IS MY STORY

At one stage in my life I became very bitter and often asked myself, “Why does God allow this to happen to me? Why must I live in a Home?” Of course, I could not answer my own question, only God knew the reason, but as I look back on my life so far, I can see how wonderfully God works His purposes out.

When, at the age of five years, our family was broken up, my two sisters and I were sent to live with an old lady. Unfortunately, three lively young children proved too much for her, and two years later she informed us of her intention to put us away in a Home. This Home, she said, was very quiet. The girls there all wore black stockings and never knew when it was Christmas, nor were they allowed to play with toys. You can imagine how terrified we were of going to this place, hoping that perhaps our guardian was only pretending.

However, our hopes were not realised, and off we went to Tip-tree. My first impression of Mr. White was of a kindly old gentleman looking over his glasses, his eyes always twinkling and a pat on the head for each of us. Mr. White sent one of the older girls to play with us that evening, and I remember how I stared at this rose-cheeked plump girl and wondered if we had come to the right place. Where were the girls in their long black dresses, and lank greasy hair that I had expected?

We *had* come to the right place, for it was here that God was waiting to show us our need of Him. Sunday, May the 9th, 1945, my sister and I asked the Lord into our hearts and to take charge of our lives.

How little did we realize what God had in store for us! November 20th, 1949, we were baptized, and then on leaving School felt God's call to join the staff of the Home. What lessons in faith God taught me in those months! I was humbled anew every day as answers to prayer came pouring in. Who could possibly doubt the reality and graciousness of God? I often thank the Lord for allowing me to have such an experience, showing me that with God *all* things are possible.

Time went on, and there was quite a disturbance in the church at the visit of two young South Africans to Woodford. The disturbance spread to the Home when the elder of the two brothers found he would like to show me the delights of his country. How the Lord undertook and guided in everything still amazes us. We felt that God had brought us together. Meanwhile, my sister had become engaged, so on April the 15th, 1955, a double wedding took place. Mr. and Mrs. White treated us as if we were their own children and gave us the wedding. Then, ten days later, they kindly took Wendel and me to Southampton Docks to see us safely off to South Africa. (We had just spent a delightfully sunny week on the Isle of Wight before leaving.)

I am sure in my widest dreams I never imagined myself sailing away to South Africa, or to any other country for that matter! But



God has guided and blessed each step of the way and has now blessed our union with a beautiful daughter.

I wonder now what is in store for us in the days that lie ahead? Only God knows, and we pray that we may know His will without a doubt, willing to go wherever He leads—even if we must stay in our “small corner” and shine for Him!

Well, this is my story and although it did not perhaps make sense at the time, left in God's hands, everything has “worked together for good.” May God bless you all, that you, too, may find peace in his prepared paths.

By an “Old Girl.”



The Ironing Room — New Laundry

BOX OPENING

1st May, 1955 to 30th April, 1956

MAY OPENING—			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
May 4th, Receipt No. 971 ..	..	..	2	1	9			
May 9th, Receipt No. 984 ..	..	..	40	0	0			
May 11th, Receipt No. 991 ..	..	..		10	0			
May 16th, Receipt No. 1004 ..	..	..	25	0	0			
May 23rd, Receipt No. 1030 ..	..	..		10	0			
May 23rd, Receipt No. 1031 ..	..	..		10	0			
May 23rd, Receipt No. 1032 ..	..	..		8	0			
May 23rd, Receipt No. 1033 ..	..	..		15	0			
May 23rd, Receipt No. 1034 ..	..	..		10	0			
May 27th, Receipt No. 1049 ..	..	..		10	0			
May 30th, Receipt No. 1064 ..	..	..	14	4	8			
June 3rd, Receipt No. 1068 ..	..	..		15	0			
June 13th, Receipt No. 1092 ..	..	..	1	9	3			
July 1st, Receipt No. 1140 ..	..	..	4	3	0			
July 19th, Receipt No. 1186 ..	..	..	4	11	0			
September 26th, Receipt No. 1334 ..	..	..	4	15	0			
						100	12	8

NOVEMBER OPENING—								
November 4th, Receipt No. 1436 ..	..	..	2	2	5			
November 14th, Receipt No. 1458 ..	..	..	39	0	0			
November 21st, Receipt No. 1487 ..	..	..		10	0			
November 28th, Receipt No. 1503 ..	..	..	26	0	0			
December 14th, Receipt No. 1605 ..	..	..	13	0	0			
December 15th, Receipt No. 1632 ..	..	..		10	0			
December 15th, Receipt No. 1633 ..	..	..		12	6			
December 15th, Receipt No. 1634 ..	..	..		13	9			
December 15th, Receipt No. 1635 ..	..	..		10	0			
December 15th, Receipt No. 1636 ..	..	..		10	0			
December 15th, Receipt No. 1637 ..	..	..		10	0			
December 22nd, Receipt No. 1720 ..	..	..	2	0	0			
December 23rd, Receipt No. 1728 ..	..	..		7	8			
December 23rd, Receipt No. 1729 ..	..	..	2	8	8			
January 27th, Receipt No. 85 ..	..	..	5	0	0			
February 10th, Receipt No. 141 ..	..	..	2	0	0			
April 13th, Receipt No. 319 ..	..	..	4	16	2			
						100	11	2

Total £201 3 10

We are most grateful for the great help given in this way by all Box Holders. May the Lord bless you richly as you continue to serve Him in this very practical way.

We are indebted to Mr. W. Parker for all his interest and consistent work put in, as Box Secretary.

GIFTS RECEIVED DURING DECEMBER, 1956

Stapleford Abbots	6 boxes Christmas crackers.
King's Rd. Baptist Church S.S. and Bible Class	Toys.
Clerkenwell and Islington Medi- cal Mission	Toys.
An " Old " Girl	Large tin toffees.
Hele Baptist S.S., Torquay ..	Toys and sweets.
Leyton	Presents for senior girls.
Brentwood	2 pairs nylon stockings.
Leigh	Conjuror's set.
Goodmayes Baptist S.S. ..	Toys.
Chadwell Heath Baptist S.S. ..	Toys.
Bedfont Tabernacle	Toys.
East Dulwich	3 pairs hand-knitted socks.
Leyton	Cardigan.
Seven Kings	3 annuals.
Dr. Barnardo's Staff, Barkingside	Toys.
Cranford Baptist Women's Meeting	8 cardigans, 6 dolls' pram sets, painting book and jig saw.
Haverhill O.I.C. Women's Meeting	12 flannels, 6 towels, 9 craftsmen aprons, 5 waist slips, 10 pairs gloves, 14 pinafores, 2 dresses, cot cover, second-hand clothes.
Harlow	Teddy, pixie hat and gloves made by a young girl.
Peterborough	3 scarves, 1 pair mittens.
Elmsleigh Gospel Hall	2 pullovers, rug, 3 pairs socks, skirt, gloves, toys.
An " Old " Boy	Toys.
Westcliff	Large tin toffees, box of apples.
Harringay	New books, game.
Canvey Island Baptist Church ..	Toys.
Canterbury	Pair toddler's reins.
Whitstable	" Trifles " for the stockings.
Wimbledon	3 vests, 3 hand-knitted cardigans, 4-oz. wool, second-hand clothes.
Chelmsford Elim Church S.S. ..	Toys.
Waltham Abbey Baptist S.S. ..	Toys.
Upshire Chapel	Toys.
Berkhamsted Baptist S.S. ..	Exercise books, coloured pencils, crayons, etc.
Haywards Heath E.F.C. S.S. ..	Toys.
Smiths, Ltd., Cricklewood, " Pumps Department " ..	Christmas tree complete with present for every child, brown paper and string to wrap presents, packets sweets.
Shernhall Handicraft Class ..	Rocking horse.

Eastney Gospel Hall	Toys.
Surbiton	Toys.
W. Oliver's, Ltd. (Girls) ..	Tree and toys.
Woodford	Dolls house.
Chelmsford Crusaders	Sweets.
Diss	Toys.
Brentford C. Church	Toys.
W. J. Bush & Co., Ltd., Hackney	Toys.
Strood Gospel Mission	Toys.
Scouts: 6th Epping Forest South Troop	Christmas tree with " utility " present for each child (tie, apron, etc.), decorated com- plete.
St. Andrew's Church, St. Albans	Toys.
Certon Ltd.	Toys.
Epping	Jumper, gloves and mittens (hand-knitted).
16th S. Essex B.B.	Toys.
A.S.S.B.G.	66 scripture painting books.
Woodford	Fruit.
Woodford (little girl)	Pram, doll and clothes.
Handsworth Avenue Methodist Church	Toys.
Ponders End Methodist Church	Toys.
Mathews Memorial Church, Walthamstow	Toys.
Brondesbury Baptist S.S. ..	Toys.
Wadham Hall S.S.	Presents (especially for teen- agers).
Redcliff Church	Toys.
Woodford	Fruit.
Woodford	Loan of silver cutlery for Christmas.
Waltham Abbey	19lb. turkey, ½-dozen celery, apples, brussel sprouts, cauli- flowers, nuts, oranges, etc.
A neighbour	Sweets.
Anon (Woodford)	Very large iced Christmas cake.
Woodford Bridge	Sweets.
Shrubland Rd. Congregational Church	Toys.
Guildford Park Hall	Toys.
Stapleford Abbots	Huge turkey!
Woodford Green, All Saints ..	Toys and Christmas cake.
Woodford Green	Large tin sweets.
Anon	Mince pies, Christmas cakes, etc.
Latchett Hall	Loan of chairs.
Woodford	Turkey.
Muswell Hill Baptist Young Men's Bible Class	Money especially for turkeys.

Moorcroft Hall .. ..	..	Toys.
Golders Green .. ..	..	Tin chocolate biscuits.
Waverley Road Neighbours ..	..	Box chocolates or sweets for every member of the Family.
Men working on alterations ..	..	Box chocolates for each member of Staff.
Abinger Common S.S. ..	..	Toys.
Eastney Gospel Mission ..	..	Toys.