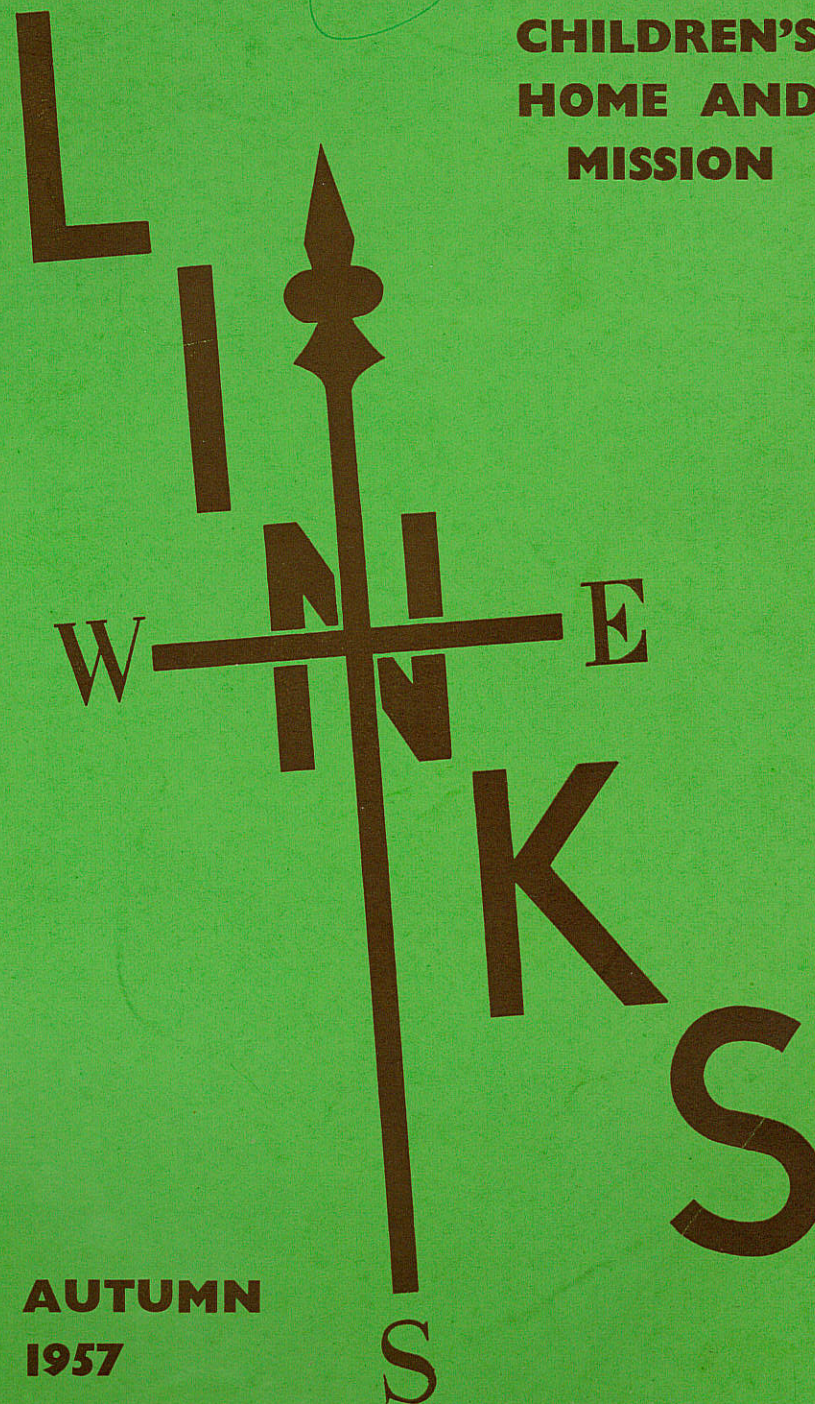


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**CHILDREN'S
HOME AND
MISSION**

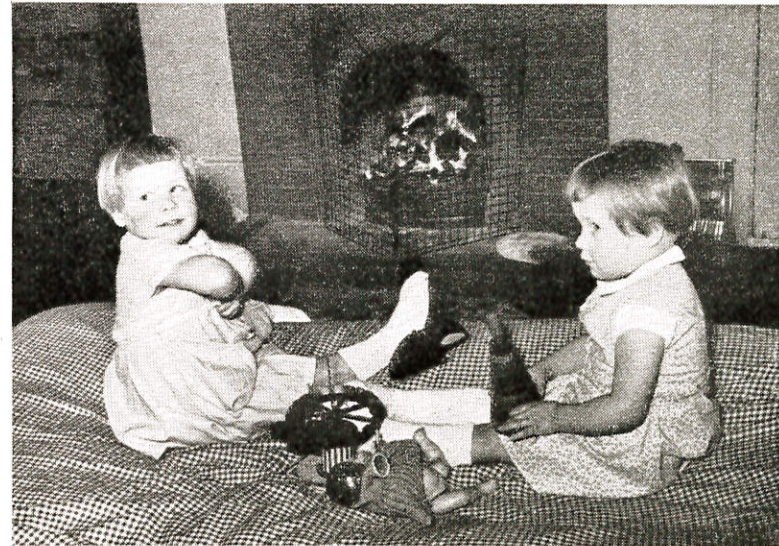


Mayfair Press, Ltd., Conduit Street, W.1

**AUTUMN
1957**

"They shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of god."

Luke 13, v. 29.



Jesus said, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 19, v. 14.

THE CHILDREN'S

FOUNDED

HOME AND MISSION

1899

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Lanes End Mission, Gravesend.
Old Independent Church, Haverhill.
Shoeburyness Gospel Hall.
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HON. AUDITORS:

Messrs. White, Salomon & Co.

EDITORIAL

November, 1957

Dear Prayer Partners,

Once again, we find ourselves busily preparing for the Autumn *Links* and, as is usually the case, we just wish that we had more time to pass on to you all the varied experiences which occur from day to day. However, the diary and other items will bring you in touch with the "doings" within the Family.

Those who were present on our Annual Day in May last will remember (and for those who were not, the report of the day is given in this edition) the challenge of the New Year, commencing May, 1957—"Bring all into the storehouse. Prove Me now, saith the Lord!" The past six months have been very exciting as we have been able to witness the POWER OF GOD at work from day to day. As I write, all the needs of the Family have been met and in addition to the daily requirements, we have been able to purchase a new 12-seater Bedford Utilabrake to replace the 1933 Austin. This was made possible by a legacy, the gift being earmarked "not for general maintenance." This gift we felt to be yet another manifestation of His Power, through Prayer. The first brand new vehicle we have ever had in the Family. We do feel it to be a wonderful privilege to be blessed in this way. All praise to Him.

We went to South Devon this year for three weeks during the children's summer holiday, God meeting all the extra cost this was to the family circle. It was a very happy time as you will read in the record given herewith. We, as a staff, do wonder at God's goodness in allowing us to share with Him in this vital work—our experience is so similar, in many ways, to that of the 70, who, when they were taken aside by the Lord, He said to them: "Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see!" (Luke 10, v. 24). What a wealth of joyous adventure there is for those who trust in Him.

Last month we said farewell to a young man who had joined us at the age of seven in 1942. Whilst with us, he found the Saviour and is now working at Abridge taking a Sunday School Class and leading a Young People's Fellowship. At the farewell tea with the children he gave his testimony and it was a challenge to us all. Such experiences are a great inspiration and encourage us to go on in His Name.

Our numbers are down a little at present, and we just pray that, if there are any children in need, He will direct them to us here.

The work at Abridge continues and we have much for which to thank God in this sphere of service. In October I had the pleasure of baptising a young lady who was "born again" during a Sunday School Anniversary Service three years ago. The first School Harvest Service to be held in our church was a very happy affair—

it was thrilling and challenging to see the church filled with young folk.

Opportunities to tell of our experiences at the hand of the Lord continued to increase and we praise God for allowing us to witness to His faithfulness.

As you unite with us in prayer day by day we feel that God has provided us with a very powerful and potent weapon to use against the unbelief of the present generation—the fact of answered prayer by a living God.

The Family sends you greetings for Christmas and prays that the New Year will be full of rich experiences and surprises in His Service.

Yours very sincerely,

VICTOR J. WHITE.



1933



1957

ANNUAL MEETINGS—25th MAY, 1957.

3 p.m. *Chairman and Speaker*—REV. GOODWIN HUDSON,
Vicar of All Saints, Woodford Green.

6.30 p.m. *Chairman*—MR. JAMES STOKES,
Secretary to our Trustees.

Speaker—REV. GILBERT KIRBY,
Gen. Sec. of the Evangelical Alliance.

During the Afternoon Meeting our new laundry extension was officially opened. As it was not possible for the 500 visitors present to be in the laundry together, Rev. Goodwin Hudson pronounced a Dedicatory Prayer and gave praise to God for His guiding and leading which had made the addition possible.

REPORT PRESENTED BY MR. VICTOR WHITE

1st May, 1956—30th April, 1957.

This is a very important afternoon—another milestone in the life and history of our Family Circle. A continuation—a move forward, reaped because of the pioneering and slogging of days gone by! I would like to emphasise this point—we haven't suddenly come upon the scene to change the pattern. We have the honour and privilege of carrying on, from where others were called to lay down the tools. I only wish that Miss Hutchin, my father and a host of helpers down the years were here today, to see the result of their labours so far. For many years we have realised the necessity of rather extensive improvements to the buildings and this afternoon we are here to give thanks to God for the fact that some of these have been accomplished—to His Glory.

What has been the theme or challenge of the year now behind us? It is rather difficult to summarise under one heading or text a multitude of experiences, but I feel most definitely that if we had to choose a 'heading' to cover our year's journey, it would be "LET GO AND LET GOD!" A scripture which so wonderfully gives the thought expressed is found in Malachi Chapter 3 and verse 10.

Part of that verse—"Bring ye ALL into the storehouse and prove me NOW saith the Lord of hosts."

We the Family here, entered upon this New Year on May 1st in a completely new way, for us! Let me explain:—

It is now over five years since the Home Call of my father, co-founder of the Family with Miss R. Hutchin. These have been most remarkable years. I recall now clearly a very vital incident which took place after the reading of my father's Will on his funeral day. One of my Trustees, patted me on the shoulder as he was leaving and said, 'Victor, beware, the devil is just around the corner.' What a peculiar remark to make indeed, on such a day and at such a time! Sometime later at our Trustees Meeting

in the City, I happened to remind him of his statement and remarked to him, 'The devil didn't remain behind the corner for long—he has come bounding down the road!' Then he said—'Yours the privilege my lad, yours the privilege!' Once again the wisdom and experience of age confounded the immaturity of youth. Humbly I say now—'I know what he meant then!' To be tested and tried in the service of God, no matter in what way, is a wonderful privilege, blessing and NECESSITY. In God's infinite love and wisdom He permits those who love and desire to be used by Him, such experiences as shall benefit us and fit us for the Work He has for us to do. That we might prove Him, that we might love Him all the more, that we might Grow and that others seeing the Mighty Hand of God at Work, may also rejoice and take heart! With all the trials within and without, God was with us and was great enough for every occasion. For the past five years and more there has been the Deposit Account in being—£1000 a gift from a friend in memory of his mother—£3000 part of the money from the Sale of our Tiptree property (News and details of which were given at the time of the transaction)—yes, throughout the past five years of transition this money, or at least part of it, has been at hand. Although from year to year we have waited upon the Lord for all needs, there has been the sense of that money there in the background—a kind of "Financial Prop."

This does not exist now—I said earlier, we entered this year in a new way. God has lovingly allowed us the experience of coming forward without the prop! This is how it has come about:

As is known to everyone here, for some long while we have been in prayer and also working for the general improvement of the premises—we knew that the cost would be heavy, more than the amount in the Deposit account—as we planned and worked, so the time for some definite decision drew nearer. Any action would swallow the Deposit Account completely and require a further sum of money to complete—this, at a time when the cost of living continued to rise and things in the world as a whole were, or appeared to be, so uncertain, internationally and nationally. Perhaps we ought to wait and see—wait until all the money had come in prior to commencing any such project—should we dare to presume upon God's goodness to this extent?

Then THE CHALLENGE—LET GO AND LET GOD—BRING ALL—PROVE GOD NOW. On Monday morning, the 13th August last—at a time when we were undecided whether to go ahead with this work, realising that in the afternoon the Architect and Surveyor would be coming to discuss details, I read from God's Word—2 Thess. 1 v 11. These words burnt their way into my heart and mind—'That OUR GOD would count you worthy of THIS CALLING and fulfil all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with POWER. That the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified!' I felt this to be a WORD FROM THE LORD—I drew my wife's attention to the

message—we prayed. Later, opening the post, I read in a chatty letter from a dear friend at that time in Canada—‘With the money in hand, it seems reasonable that you should press on with the alterations—*He having commenced a good work, will surely complete it.*’

This was to me the GREEN LIGHT—LET GO and LET GOD.

On Monday 3rd September came the next step—are you ready to accept the Estimate? In view of the previously mentioned experience and other little happenings since, I felt quite sure that we should accept, IN FAITH! Later that morning at Staff Lunch we discussed together the position. We had, in the light of His Word and His Promises, urged on by His Promptings in various ways, entered into a business arrangement for the commencement of the long awaited for improvements to the buildings. There was for us all a real sense of Relief—a sense of calm confidence—a realisation that HE WOULD NOT FAIL—the acceptance of His Challenge—PROVE ME NOW.

On the Saturday of that week, we received, what we felt then to be, the confirmation of God’s approval of the step we had taken—£100 from an elderly lady who had been saving for over 60 years and at that specific time felt God telling her to go over to Woodford and pass on her gift! How lovely it is to be in harmony with God, ready and willing to do His Will whenever He calls and directs!

Later in September the builders arrived—the work had begun! My! What a task it proved to be! Re-routing of the main passage to make room for the boys’ toilets, boys and girls cloakrooms. The gutting of the old scullery and external toilet to house the new girls’ toilets. The demolishing of the laundry as it was and erection of the new Boiler room, boys’ bathroom and airing cupboard. Never shall I forget how amazed we were to see the size of the hot water boiler and the new furnace! For a moment I thought the road carrier had made a mistake, thinking he had come to erect a new atomic station here, but no, this was for us. What a game the men had getting this into position in the boiler house. The girls of Sturman Dorm. did wonder what was happening when arriving home from school one day to find a rather crude tripod erected over a large hole in the floor for the purpose of hoisting the tank into position! The job of getting eight cold water tanks up into the roof was no mean task either. Other rooms too were chopped and changed about to fit the new scheme and then of course there was the completely new building—the Laundry, comprising washing room, ironing room, drying room and airing room.

There was the time too, when all the heating for the houses was cut off—another occasion when one forlorn looking sink remained, the only means of continuing the washing—standing there in the centre of the old washing scullery, with the now ancient, worn and broken pipes hanging festooned from the ceiling. Mrs. Gilbert battled on and one day a workman looking into the room

and watching the steam from the washing and dust from the drills of the men working on the Teratzo, pouring out into the playground remarked rather drily—‘Are you washers learning to Teratzo or you teratzoers learning to wash?’ My it certainly was a real mix up.

I would like to pay tribute to my staff and children. They were difficult months and although no one desires to make much of the situation, I KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE, and realise so well how much was overcome and in a very efficient and smooth way! Not only during those months but throughout the year you know, this type of work can be very exacting—our staff loyal and true, giving of their best in various ways, all helping to make up the sum total of a homely Family—a place where the young folk can feel sure and welcome—HOME! Do please pray for my staff as they continue in this work to which God has called them, that they may be given every strength and grace from day to day.

The health of the Staff and Children has been most remarkable over the year—just four mild cases of mumps, or BUMPS as we call it. In view of the lack of heating, draughts, etc., etc., this to me has been one of the outstanding characteristics of the period, and we praise God for His goodness and undertaking in this way. We have not had to worry our Doctors much at all—Drs. Smith, Baker and Willings—but we have been grateful for help and advice given, when called upon. You will notice I expect the name of Mr. Barrett in the Links for the first time—our hon. naturopathic herbalist—his help has been greatly appreciated over the year. Mr. Stephen Smith, our dental surgeon, has continued to look after the teeth of the young folk.

To continue with the “Improvements” story—weeks turned into months, Christmas slipped by and although we were in a mess, there appeared to be no sign of completion or of the financial help needed. We were constantly before the Lord in prayer—the building firm had from time-to-time called for instalments and we were nearing the end of the deposit account. Up to then we had been able to send along the necessary! It was in March that we had the thrill—the anticipated thrill of seeing the love and power of God at work. A letter promising £1000—a legacy of a dear friend of the Family—we did not even know that she had been called home. The amount needed, coming in this particular way, underlined again the wonderful overruling plan of God—He knows all from beginning to end, and we dare to doubt and worry! This was not someone hearing of the need and sending along their Gift—no, this was something promised long before. *In God’s time!*

At this particular time too, we were coming towards the close of the Financial year—April—day by day throughout the year gifts large and small had come along from near and far, with letters of great encouragement. How grateful we are for this constant help and blessing. Thank you all prayer partners for

your part in this enterprise for God. God bless you for it and give you joy.

The books were eventually closed—praise God, with a small balance in hand. With the now very insignificant figure of £4/16/1 as our Deposit total. All bills had been met. God had kept His promise—we had proved Him indeed! The builders had asked for £3,986 to the end of the year—this we had paid them—our other expenditure had come to £5,770 and this had been met with an Income of £5,113, plus balance of £624 brought forward from last year (How wonderful that God had arranged this too!) and part of the interest on the Deposit account!

Reminding you of my statement earlier—we entered upon a New Year in a new way—perhaps now you will appreciate the meaning—. At other times in the history of the Family there had been similar times, but for us, IT WAS NEW. Thrust upon the Lord absolutely—trusting Him from day to day, without the backing of the Deposit account in the background of one's mind, nothing but HIM. How we at staff prayers praised Him for the wonderful opportunity and privilege of our present position. Truly the challenge to PROVE ME NOW had been ours earlier, and here it came again, in a more forceful way perhaps. He had shown Himself to us, He just cannot fail—we must allow Him to prove Himself yet again and again!

At no other time could this experience have been ours, for it is only as we have been willing for Him to prune, correct, humble and use (and my, there was real need for much pruning in all our lives) that He has been able to bring us to this point—this blessed place—God be praised!

What of this new year—this new Way? From the world's point of view the position is illogical—to talk of a balance totalling about £20 with a Family of just on 60 and property the size it is—is just madness! The very happenings of this year disprove this—the challenge given to my father by the Bank Directors when he resigned to take up the work here—'You are giving up a certainty for an uncertainty' was made to look ridiculous by God—that was some 50 years ago now!

In the first week of our new year we received £176—including a legacy of £100. More than enough to cover one week's cost! Let Go and Let GOD. He can and He will—have you let Him?

What I have been talking about in so detailed a manner has of course, been mainly concerned with the financial side of things. There is, of course, much more to a Family of our size than this factor.

What of the children? We numbered 42 at the end of April last and have fluctuated between this figure and 48 over the year. I was most interested the other evening when listening to a recording of the Special Annual Day in 1952 to realise that since that time—5 years ago—we have helped just over 100 young folk. For the first 52 years an average of 14 children per year, against an average of 21 per year during the last five years. Now, a dif-

ferent need to that of earlier years, but there is a need nevertheless. Until this year we have been concerned with helping five year olds and over, but through the opportunity of helping one of the old members of our Family away back in July, with her family of four (the youngest only 18 months), we began to realise the practical possibility of attempting what we had been thinking about for some while—namely, taking into our care children below the age of five, when the special need arose. Looking back, we feel God has been guiding in this way too, and now we find that the building alterations and extensions have proved themselves to be absolutely essential to this new venture. God again planning and arranging without our knowledge! We now have five under five year olds, including twins of three.

At the other end of the scale we have three going out to work each day and three at home helping. Two lads will be leaving school in the Summer and we continue to pray that suitable jobs and accommodation will be found in good time. One aspect of this Work which apparently is causing interest as it is realised more and more, is the fact that there is the continuation of the family spirit, even when the young folk leave the immediate circle. By letter and visit here and to their homes we keep in touch and it is so pleasing to realise that the desire to continue to be a 'Member of the Family' is ever present. Whether undergoing training for a nursing career, studying at the university, at work in shop, factory or office, managing one's own business, mother of a family—no matter in what circumstance of life, there is that realisation that this is Home. Mother, still with us, is of course a great help in this sphere as at Christmas for instance when one who had been here some 40 years ago, called in to see us. He was stationed in France with the Canadian armed forces under the auspices of N.A.T.O. having the opportunity for leave, he came over to this country to pay us a visit—promising to call again this year with his wife and family who are joining him in France. Mother recognised him and in no time it seemed truly that he was at his ease—at home!

In June next we shall be having another wedding reception here—Violet is taking the plunge! We are so pleased and pray that God will bless her and Brian—he knows the Lord—that their home may be a happy centre with Christ in the midst! My wife and I had the pleasure recently of calling over at Cranham—not the first call, to spend a day with Mr. and Mrs. Cowling. It is always a blessing to be able to pop over to them and enjoy the homely and comfortable atmosphere of their bungalow. Both are very interested in the building of a Baptist Church right in the centre of the new estate there. I had the privilege of preaching in the Workmen's canteen on the building site where this new work was born.

Last Sunday week, whilst conducting the Sunday School Anniversary at Christ Church, Welwyn Garden City (Revd. K. Parkinson's Church—one of our Trustees and the son of Revd.

Louis Parkinson, one of the former beloved ministers of the Woodford Baptist Church), at the close of the Day, I had the joy of meeting one who had been in the Family some 20 years ago. Now married with two children, noticing that I was to be at Christ Church, she came along. Mrs. Parkinson kindly arranged for us to go back to her home for a chat and coffee—and prayer!

This sphere of the Work is most fascinating—and gives one such an urge to press forward—the fruit of the labours put in! This fostering of the Family Spirit—in a lasting way—we feel is so very vital. We are not an institution or orphanage, just a Family Circle. We have come together from varying circumstances and just seek to allow Christ to bring out the best—and my, what great potentialities exist in every life, when surrendered to God. We yearn that the young folk now making up the immediate Family may come to know Him, grow and serve Him. This does not mean of course that we emphasise the spiritual to the exclusion of the mind and body. God forbid. He desires that we should have a balanced life.

Only last week we played our first fixture in the newly formed Junior Church Cricket League, and won by two wickets! Just recently too the girls took up a netball challenge—I won't mention the result!

During the last visit from the Home Office we were delighted to hear that our young folk fitted in to the school routine quite normally. This was felt to be a very interesting point. A check had been made by the Home Office for the purpose of discerning just how things worked out. We were very pleased with the findings concerning our Family—apparently not always realised everywhere. Looking into this, I feel it to be due to the spiritual atmosphere, the selfless service of the staff and the general endeavour of all to make this “home from home.”

We are most grateful for all help given throughout each week by one and another outside of our staff. Domestic work, gardening, dress making, music lessons—all covered so well.

One of the many privileges of this Work is to go out and tell the Gospel message and bring with it a very practical application. We are increasingly receiving requests to go here and there—to many new places and share with them the Family experiences! As often as we feel able, keeping in mind the fact that we do have a small Family to look after and rather a lot to cover, we accept these invitations and do hear from time to time of blessing received and Faith strengthened. Of course, we all know of the real delight this particular side of the Work was to my father. I believe that it is scriptural that we should share with others the ‘Goodness of God in His dealings with us’—How Moses revelled in telling to Jethro, ‘all that the Lord had done for them!’ This sharing together of the manifestations of God's love and power brought mutual blessing—Jethro advised Moses about setting up Judges to help him—‘Otherwise you will wear out.’ Jethro was able to go back home and pass on the good news—words of encouragement

to many! Thank God for happy Christian Fellowship; we could do with more of it today and the devil, realising the blessing and strengthening this is to the Christian, does his best to frustrate it! Here again I must stop and keep to the Report!.

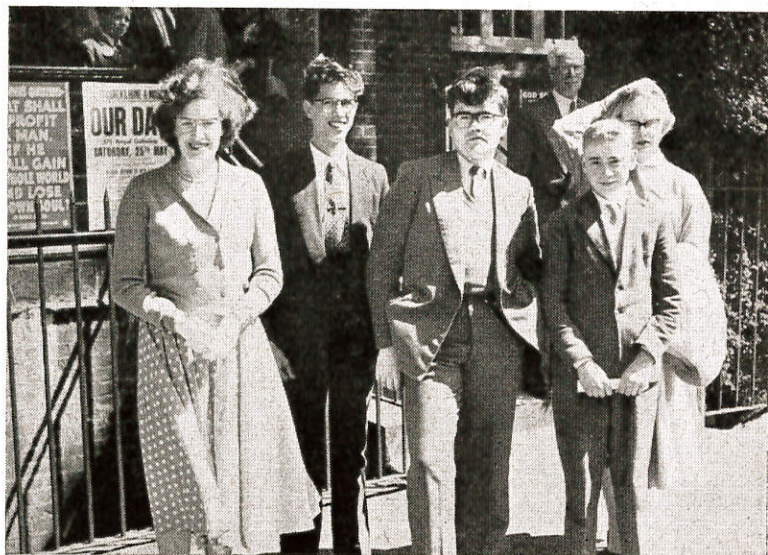
What of our Abridge Church? Well, I must say this, it does look nice, inside and out. Much work has gone into the redecoration of Church and Hall over the past few years and it is so nice to be able to go and Worship God in a building cheerful and clean. I find it rather problematical to sum up our journey through the past 12 months. We have had some highlights: the Sunday School Anniversary, conducted by Mr. Harold Ling: the Easter week-end rejoiced all our hearts and the climax was the Monday evening meeting where the church was packed to capacity, friends from Latchett Hall, Theydon Bois and other places, joining our folk for a most challenging time. Mr. Steve Stevens of the Missionary Aviation Fellowship, now stationed in South Woodford here, showed two of his films; one documentary, giving the background and story of the ‘Five Missionary Martyrs’ who were murdered in New Guinea last year. On other occasions, too, we have been thrilled and uplifted, BUT, we are not really growing as one feels we should. It is not that we desire to boast to others of a full church and bumper collection but rather that we *are* being used of God to break through the apathy and indifference which is very evident in the village, to the things of God! The Women's Meeting on Tuesday afternoon; Y.P. Recreational Fellowship on Wednesday; Young Sowers' League and Bible Study on Thursday; Full activity on Sunday—all these continue week by week. We have planned a special meeting for this coming Monday evening to discuss and plan a more virile open air work and summer visitation scheme. If the people will not come in, we must go out to them! I do wish to report how very encouraged we have been in the work by the loyal support and consistent activity of several of the fellowship. Particularly does one say a big “thank you” to the women folk who have in many varied ways, often behind the scenes, laboured hard and long—today they have rallied round to lessen the work of others—this is OUR DAY. I do wish it to be known that we are proud of and grateful for the unstinted help and encouragement of the loyal Abridge members. God bless you!

It is important that I mention our Working Parties. Year by year we do receive such practical help from them. Last week I was delighted to hear details of a friend who was instrumental in starting the Ashley Hall Working Party. She was on one occasion presented with one pound's worth of threepenny pieces. She decided to make something for Mr. White, or rather, his family. This party and others have proved such a big help to us. A thank you to all who have shared in this way.

Gifts in kind—my what a list and how varied. Food, especially at harvest time. We have also regularly received sacks of carrots and greens from Norfolk. Biscuits and Milk from local friends.

A Badminton net. Two budgerigars (Mr. and Mrs. Perkins). Handkerchiefs and so on. The Diary in the 'Links' covers this very interesting side.

Our one desire in calling these Gatherings has been to bring before you GOD'S FAITHFULNESS. You have seen the big strides He has enabled us to make concerning the accommodation. You have seen and heard the young folk and I have attempted to give you a glimpse of our experiences during the year at His Hand. Thank you for coming. Thank you for your prayers. God bless you all.



"Old" Boys and Girls arrive for "Our Day"

The Rev. A. W. GOODWIN HUDSON.

I am glad this afternoon to have had the opportunity of hearing something more about the work of God in this place. It is many years ago that I first came to know Mr. and Mrs. Herbert White. I remember coming here on one occasion when a party was being held and there were high jinks amongst the boys and girls. I was reminded of the man who was living in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake there. He sent his little boy to his grandparents, while he stayed behind to clear up some of the damage done by the earthquake. After a few days he received a telegram from the grand-parents, saying: "Please send us the earthquake, and take back your boy!" Well, I hope you do not have many boys like that here.

This has been a home to countless boys and girls in these past fifty-seven years and it is grand to hear read some of their

letters. Some of us know one or two of those who have passed through this Home. It is, of course, an inspiration to know that you have ventured so much this year, and that you have been so blessed of God, and provided for by Him.

The whole burden of the Epistle to the Hebrews, which was written to Christians, is precisely that—that we should go on in the things of God: that we should grow spiritually: that we should, in His Name, attempt more and more: that there should be progress in all our work and service for the Lord Jesus Christ. It is just as if we were doing as we so often hear the policeman bidding us do—to "move on": "don't hang around"—which we so tend to do—don't we? If you have a car, you will be fully aware of the new parking arrangements: it seems as if the whole of London is going to be a non-parking area. If I happen to stop my car in order to buy something in the shops I soon find the police telling me to "Move on." "Keep moving." That is the message that we should take to ourselves. This life is not a parking-place, it is not a *cul-de-sac*. God means us to continue to make progress right to our journey's end. This is a wonderful congregation for a Saturday afternoon. I believe it is because God's people like to follow those who are making progress. We do not want to follow those who do not make progress. It is essential for us Christians to be vitally alive, so that other people may follow us, and in following us we may be able to introduce them to Christ. When a man is on the move he generally knows where he is going. The glory of the Christian life is that we should have this definite purpose in life, so that everything else is subservient to it. It does not matter what our business may be. There is this one main essential purpose to which God has called us—and that is, to win others for Christ.

It is grand to have this clear purpose and plan in life: we can ask God to bless us to the end that we may be made a blessing to others. And what a vista that opens up before Christians as they walk with the Lord Jesus Christ.

I want to remember that the boys and girls are here this afternoon. They will not expect me to talk to the adults all the time. There was once a man who had a job on a rabbit farm. He was the kind of fellow who not only did not know anything, but he did not suspect anything. Have you ever met people like that? Sometimes Sunday School teachers are like that. There is blue murder going on at the back, while they speak to two or three in the front. Well, this fellow was a bit like that. His boss gave him a prize rabbit to take to the railway station for despatch. As he was going along the road with the prize rabbit in a box he met a chum, who asked him what he was carrying in the box. And when he was told he expressed a desire to see the rabbit. When the box was opened out jumped the rabbit and made off down the road. And this man, who was supposed to be taking the rabbit to the railway station said: "The rabbit does not know where he is going because I have got the address in my pocket."

Well, of course, that story cuts both ways. It seems to me that the world is a bit like the rabbit. It is going off down the road, the road of progress and achievement and inventions of many kinds—and what progress has been made in this century! Yes, the world is making progress all right. And one wonders whether it knows where it is going. One wonders whether the things which we have achieved, and the conquests which we have won, whether they make for life. Are the things which we have acquired in this twentieth century of real eternal value? God has given us a charge: He has given us a duty to perform. We need to remember that. Let us see to it that nothing robs us of that sense of duty. As we get older we need to pray more about this, because we tend to relax and to lose our first love. God wants us ever to have a heart for the lost, and to remember that it is the duty of every Christian to win the unsaved for the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore "as ye have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him." This is no sitting-down job. As Christians we are called to walk with Christ: we are to be built up in the faith: to be thankful: to count our blessings—and that will help to keep you cheerful: to keep on the move for God. And so, my word to you all this afternoon, to Mr. Victor White and the staff is—Keep on the move for God, and He will bless you.

I want to ask you boys and girls a question: Do you know why people fall out of bed? Can anyone answer that question? (Someone says, "Because they don't tuck themselves in properly.") What I was going to say in answer to that question is that people fall out of bed because they sleep too near to the place where they get in. And that is what some Christians do. There are boys and girls who came back to this Home after, it may be, a long absence, and one finds that they have made no progress whatsoever in the things of God. That is a very sad thing. They will begin to tell you that they have had their problems, and their disappointments. Sometimes people tell me: "I lost my faith some time ago." You do not lose your faith if for many years you have been going on with God. You may have your peace of mind and heart shaken: but you do not fall out with a friend that you have known and loved for years. But there are Christians who say that they have lost their faith: they have lost their love for the House of God: and for the Word of God; and all because they kept too near to the place where they got in: and they are spiritual dwarfs.

I wonder if Mr. White has a secret casualty list. Anyone who is in full-time service for God, who is a Christian worker, or a Sunday School teacher, has a casualty list. You think of those boys and girls who decided for Christ, but they gave up for one reason or another. And you know the reason: you have the judgment and the wisdom which comes from experience. Yes, it is because they did not go on with God. They lost sight of God, and then things went wrong. This is as true as I am standing here

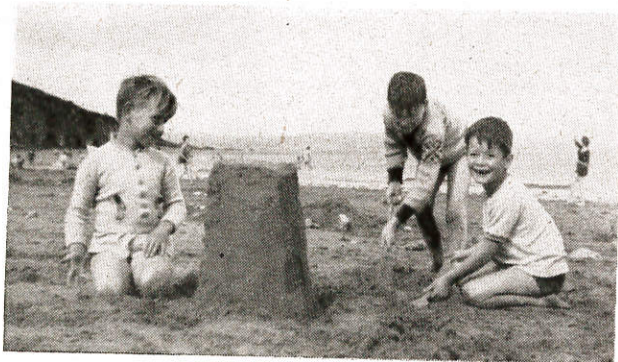
I was reading some time ago about Enoch. Enoch was a man

who went on with God. It is said of him that "He walked with God." An old divine wrote very sweetly about Enoch, and he said in one of his writings that one day Enoch was out walking with God, and they came very close to heaven, and God said to Enoch: "Come in and spend the day with us." And he went in with God and he has been there ever since. Fancy walking with God all the days of your life: making progress in prayer, and in faith, and in love: and then one day quite suddenly being in the eternal Home with the Lord Jesus. And that is how God wants it to be. So many Christians give up for one reason or another. Very often it is for a bad reason. Sometimes it is because of disappointment, or sorrow, or through marrying the wrong person, or through keeping company with the wrong people. And so they give up and do not go on with the Lord Jesus.

Other Christians stop growing for this reason. Now you might be surprised at this. Have you ever lived with people who do not close doors? When I was a boy my father used to complain bitterly about this. We used to come in and leave the door open, and the four winds used to sweep in and my father would say: "You boys, please shut that door." There are Christians who go through life and they never close doors behind them. They harbour grudges and resentments. Someone 'phoned me the other day. I have never had such a telephone conversation in my life before. There came over the 'phone such a story of resentment and hatred against someone else. "Can't you speak to them?" I tried to get a word in here and there. People go on leaving doors open: no wonder they catch cold. No wonder they lose their faith and their love for spiritual things. It would be a grand thing if, at the end of each day, we could close the door against every ugly incident. I have seen boys and girls who have not spoken to each other for days. Don't you do that. It will rob you of happiness. And those of us who are older. May God help us to close the door on every ugly incident that is past. If someone was rude to you forget it. If someone said an unkind thing to you, ask God to help you to forgive them. And close the day on every incident of this nature. Sometimes at ten o'clock at night it does not seem so bad. But if you go on thinking about it till two in the morning—well, if you are married I am sorry for your wife, or your husband. We must "forget the things which are behind." That is the secret of blessing for every Christian, whether young or old. We must stretch forward to the things which are before. "I press towards the mark" says the Apostle. What a wonderful man Paul was! He tried to put everything behind him in order that he might have all his strength concentrated on the goal and winning Christ's appraisal at the end. Don't go through life looking backwards all the time. There are many Christians who go to heaven backwards. God does not want to take you to heaven backwards. There are Christians who are always looking behind. You hear people say: "They were wonderful days when I was a boy; or when I was a girl." 'My father used to say So

and So." And I have to listen to all that their father had said. I am sure he was a good man. But I want to know what God is doing for people today. That is why you have come to this meeting today. You want to hear of what God has been doing in the Home here. Do not go through life backward. But go through life depending upon God to supply new strength, new joy and new hope, here and now, day by day. Don't be like the advertisement which came out in a local paper one day which said: "If George Brown, who deserted his wife and baby twenty years ago will return, the aforesaid baby will knock the stuffing out of him." That is the kind of thing that some Christians do. I hope there is no one here who is bearing resentment. If you are then you will not be much good in God's service and you had better get things straight. You have been standing still in spiritual things ever since the day that you began to harbour that resentment, that hate, and that grudge. Well now, cheer up.

There was a little boy, nine years old, and he had a football. I can sympathise with him because I can remember when we played football in our garden and the ball always seemed to hit the geraniums, and, as you know, they always fall flat if anything hits them. This little boy had been told not to play with his football in the garden. But he did and away the ball sailed through the dining room window. He was greatly troubled about it, and he went to his Sunday School teacher and he said to her: "I want you to take my name off the register because I will never make it." He was a keen little Christian. Sometimes we are tempted to think that we will never make it. But if God has made you His own, through faith in Jesus Christ, if you know what it is to confess Him as Lord, I want to tell you that by His grace and by His keeping power, you are going to make it. It will be by His mercy and grace that we shall share His glorious eternal Home. God help us to do it, in God's way, so that others may call us blessed, because we have brought them into the knowledge of Jesus Christ. To this end may God bless this work, as He has done in the past, and may He bless it increasingly in the future, for His Name's sake.



Broadsands, South Devon

The Rev. GILBERT W. KIRBY.

I feel that we are all privileged people to be here tonight with these boys and girls, and with those who are engaged directly in the work of the Home. I am sure I am speaking on behalf of all those who have been invited here in saying how grateful we are to be allowed to share in this happy Day with the children and with the workers. I remember the thrill which was mine when I was first introduced to this work a number of years ago, and I have never lost the thrill of it. I have not seen the work at very close quarters, but those who are engaged in it must experience a continual thrill, the thrill of experiencing the faithfulness of God as seen in His continual provision for these boys and girls. You will notice that the accent is really on the boys and girls. They are the V.I.P's, though we ought not to tell them that! But they are the important people. Jesus thought so. Have you ever thought of the kind of world into which our Lord came, and in which He placed such emphasis upon the value of the children? In those days boys and girls did not count for anything. They were just put on one side: they were not allowed to express themselves in any way: grown-ups had no time for them. But our Lord put a little child in the midst: He made a little child a pattern for grown-ups.

I was thinking about this meeting, and my thoughts instinctively turned to that wonderful 18th chapter of Matthew: the accent in the first part of that chapter is upon children. We read in the opening verses that when the disciples asked Jesus "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven," "Jesus called a little child and set him in the midst of them and said, Verily, I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven Whosoever shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth Me." You know we are always telling boys and girls that they have to learn from us. But we have to face it—the Lord Jesus said that we have to learn from them. It is a bit humbling: but there it is in Holy Writ. The Lord Jesus said that we can learn some very valuable spiritual lessons from the natural qualities that are to be found in boys and girls. Please remember this, that you will not get very far in the Christian life until you learn to listen to a little child. In fact, you won't get anywhere. You won't even begin the Christian life. Because, as Jesus said: "Except ye be converted, and become as little children . . ." God gives His priceless secrets to little children. I do not mind how old you are, you can still learn much from a little child. Think of the *simplicity* of a child. Do you remember that great moment in our Lord's life when He broke out into an ecstasy of delight, as He looked up into heaven, and said: "I thank Thee, O Father, that Thou has hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes." If we had needed to be extremely intellectual in order to be a Christian: if we had needed an academic background in order to understand God's truth, where would some of

us be? But God is no respecter of persons. He brings forth His treasures, and opens them up before His children.

Yes, it is true that we have to become 'as little children.' I wonder what qualities our Lord had in mind when He talked about a little child being a model, a pattern. What did He mean when He said that we have got to become as little children? What had He in mind when He said: "Except ye become as little children, ye shall not enter the kingdom of heaven"? What lessons can we learn from a little child? What special qualities do little ones possess? May I suggest one or two things.

A capacity for trust. Think of the trustfulness of a little child. A little child is not afraid of speaking to strangers: he thereby shows his trust in them. A little child is not suspicious. My friends, is not that the first quality that we need before we can become Christians? Don't we have to put our trust in Someone, in the Lord Jesus Christ? We have to rely entirely upon His word, and upon what He has done for us upon the Cross. That is where we begin. And we can learn that lesson from a little child—that capacity for trust.

Then there is something else about a little child. *There is a willingness to receive.* When we grow up and someone wants to make us a present, although we would like to say "Yes" we generally very courteously refuse and say: "I could not possibly take it. Thank you very much." Or, we say: "But you must let me pay for it." But have you ever heard a child talk like that? That is not true of most boys and girls. If someone offers them something they receive it willingly and gratefully. They believe that the one offering the gift takes pleasure in giving it to them, and they accept it without question. My friends, there are lots of people in this world who are not prepared to receive things from God. They want to barter with Him: they want to earn their salvation. I heard a story of a little girl who said one day very proudly to her father: "I am saving up to buy a bicycle." He knew how much pocket money she had. He asked her how much she had saved up towards the cost of the bicycle. She replied: "I've got a ha'penny so far." Well, that is like your effort and mine. If we had to earn our salvation we might possibly find that we had a ha'penny towards the cost of this so great a gift. But you may find, if you look at the ha'penny carefully, that it is a bad one! But, remember, you cannot bargain with God. God does not deal with men and women on that basis. "By grace are ye saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." You and I, like little children, must receive this gift from Him gladly and thankfully, and rejoice in His gracious gift. And we must be like little children in this respect.

And then, you know, *a little child is willing to be dependent.* He is quite happy in being dependent. He, or she, is not worried about the future. A little child wakes up in the morning, and takes it for granted that provision will be made for all his needs: he believes that all his needs will be met. He goes through the

day believing that all things necessary will be provided for him as each new day dawns. A little child is utterly dependent upon the resources that are provided by his father and mother. And this is but an illustration of the wonderful way in which God provides for those of His children who trust Him.

"If our faith were but more simple

We should take Him at His word."

And here in this Home are men and women who are humbly taking God at His word. They have proved that God is as good as His word. And when we take God at His word, and depend upon Him utterly, He will not let us down, any more than a good earthly parent will let down his little child.

Then, you know, *a little child is always honest.* The older we get, the more easily these qualities fail. Oh, yes, they do. When you are grown up you are very rarely honest. You know what I mean—really sincere. My little child had a birthday party this week, and several other little children came to tea. And on those occasions most of the children are sleepy before the evening is through. One little child was told by his mother to thank his hostess. "Say you have had a nice time," she said. "No, I haven't," he at once retorted. I wonder if you have ever been invited out to tea, and been as honest as that! I hardly think so. But there is a sincerity and a transparency about a little child. They do not put on any airs and graces. Oh, that we could be like that. We like using pious phraseology. Our "Amens" and "Hallelujah's" often come out at the wrong time: and all because we have developed into something that is stereotyped. We have lost something of the sincerity and transparency of the little child. We are guilty of not being absolutely frank and open, not only with our loving heavenly Father, but also with one another. We must be like little children.

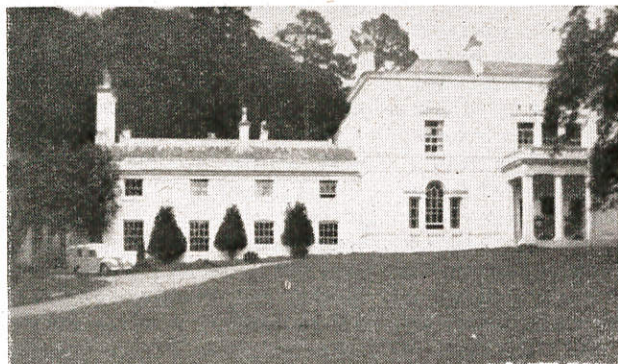
Now, you know, I do not want you to make the mistake of thinking that I have said tonight that we should be *childish*. The tragedy with so many Christians is that, instead of being childlike, they become childish. Now God does not want childish Christians. There are lots of them about. You may soon recognise them, they reveal it clearly enough. There were some at a place called Corinth. If you had gone to Corinth in the days of Paul, instead of finding a company of God's children, happily worshipping together, you would have found them all at sixes and sevens. You met one little group in one corner, and they said: "We are of Apollos. We belong to him. He is our man." You went to another little group somewhere else, and they said: "We are of Cephas. He's a better preacher than Paul." And yet another group sitting in another place declared that Paul was their man every time. Those people were not childlike: they were childish. Instead of glorying in the Lord, they were glorying in man. Instead of loving one another they were squabbling with one another. And you know, boys and girls do that sometimes—perhaps not in Woodford. When they do, thus quarrel amongst themselves it

is a sign that they are being childish. We can excuse them because they are children. But when grown-ups act like that we cannot excuse them any longer, and especially when they act like that within the Christian Church. So, my friends, I was not speaking of the desirability of becoming childish, but childlike.

I believe that the lesson that God would lay upon us to-night is the lesson of childlike faith in God, the faith of a little child. Lots of us get so sophisticated : we get so bogged down in religious discussions and theological arguments. They may have their place, but I believe very often the devil uses them to side-track us. There are some men who get caught up in controversy : they are never so happy as when they are arguing about something. And God is never so happy as when He hears you and me, not only calling Him Father, but when He sees us treating Him as Father, and confiding in Him as Father, turning to Him when we are in trouble, seeking for His guidance and direction. We are so dependent upon Him for the supply of our every need.

So that is my very simple message to you to-night. In my house I have a picture in the hall. It came from some magazine that I came across some years ago. It is a picture of a child, with a lovely open face. She has her hand up in class at school, and underneath are the words : "I know the answer." And the text is quoted : "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." "I know the answer" says the little child. Do you know the answer? Perhaps you are looking in the wrong direction. You have got to become as a little child : and you have got to remain as a little child : and you have got to go on with God in that relationship of Father and son. You know the words of that hymn, of which I am very fond :

"Oh, give me Samuel's mind,
A sweet un murmuring faith.
Obedient and resigned to Thee
In life and death.
That I may read with childlike eyes.
Truths that are hidden from the wise."



Fenton School Lupton House, Churston Ferrers, Devon

LETTERS FROM 'OLD' GIRLS & BOYS.

From JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA.

"Well, a week to-day is Christmas once again. I can imagine you are really up to the neck in preparation by now. We don't quite know where we are spending Christmas Day, but anyway, Wendel and I will go to Church Christmas morning in case we forget to remember the true meaning of Christmas. We are really going to put our hearts and souls into making this a good Christmas so I won't become too homesick. Wendel, I know, is missing your Christmas preparations and often says "How nice it would be if we could suddenly pop over and knock at the door Christmas Eve as a surprise!" We are looking forward very much to getting the "Links" and you may be sure will read every single word. I hope there will be plenty of photographs, etc. I wonder if you could wish all the children a very happy Christmas from us. Tell them we are missing them very much and hope they enjoy their Christmas to the full and feel the presence of God in everything they do. May God bless and keep you in the New Year. Lots and lots of love."

From LEICESTER (Univeisity).

Despite the fact that I promised to write you a really long letter, this is only going to be short one. As you see from my address I have arrived safely and have been here a week now and am beginning to settle down. There is a thriving Students Christian Union here. I have been to one of the "fact and faith" films and also to a Squash. Yesterday some of us went to a local Church of England. It was Harvest Festival day and reminded me of Stockwell. I cannot give you a description of the College and Hall as it is now so late. I shall try to write more fully later (she did). We are fully occupied most of the time and are expected to do eight hours work on most days—at least 40 hours a week.

This is just to tell you that I am always thinking of you and remembering you all. Give my love to everyone who remembers me, especially Mrs. White senior. If you could write at all I should be thrilled to hear any news of the Family. Any way I shall be continually thinking of you all. Much love."

From the "RANGITATA" (en route for New Zealand).

"It was so good to hear from home—thanks so much for writing. We arrived at Curacao yesterday a day late, only to please Sir Anthony, because he wanted to go all round the island and see it all in daylight. We didn't mind, because we had a good look too. It was hard to believe we were in the West Indies We tried to make friends with a little black boy—he was sitting by the quayside, but he was so shy and walked away. He was very sweet and had such big eyes. He was so skinny too—he wouldn't have been like that if he had been brought up in the C. H. & M !

..... We left Curacao about 6 o'clock yesterday and are reaching Panama on Saturday. We had a service here on board but it really breaks your heart to go. The chaplain made a couple of awful mistakes—he said: "We'll read the Gospel according to Isaiah" and when he prayed he said: "We thank Thee that Thou hast said 'Where two or three are gathered together in Thy Name Thou wilt grant our requests'." When we had finished we looked at each other in amazement and the same thoughts were running through our minds—of home and Latchett and the truth which we were taught. As yet we haven't found another Christian but we do know there is a Doctor Missionary aboard somewhere. We tried to find him but haven't succeeded. Remember us to the Staff and children. It's lovely to know we have your prayers behind us. Thanks for all the ways you have helped us both. We know that your reward is in heaven. Our warmest love."

From an "OLD" Boy.

I am writing to you hoping you are quite well and all the Family. I hope you all have a very happy Christmas and happy New Year. I am always remembering the work of the home in prayers. . . . (News about some of the "old" boys he has met.) We have started a little Bible Class at our works. There are five of us in it. We are hoping more will join. We all go to different churches. We have a prayer meeting—just the five of us—Wednesday dinner time at a Baptist church. There are many who work at our place who do not know Christ. We are praying for them and others that they will come to know Him. We would value your prayers for this effort. It is not easy, but we are trusting in God that He will give us the courage and strength we need. I never can forget what you have done for me and how I came to know the Lord.

I always remember the little meetings we used to hold outside near the playground. I am so glad to know that many of the "old" boys and girls know the Lord now as I do. I will continue to remember the work in prayer that God will bless it as He has always done. I have just received the Autumn *Links*. Thank you very much. I shall look forward to reading it. Yours very sincerely.

From a BOY IN THE FORCES IN GERMANY..

Thank you very much for sending me the *Links* and the lovely book about G. F. Dempster. Already two other chaps in the band have read it and they liked it very much. I started to read it last night and I am up to the last chapter. I think that it's very good. I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year and would you please wish EVERYONE that will be at the Home on Christmas Day a very happy Christmas from me. I wish I was going to be with you all—I **might** be next year if I'm lucky.

I would like you to pray for me, that I might be able to serve the Lord and witness for Him.

Well, I must come to a close now, hoping to be hearing from you again very soon; so until then, "A very happy Christmas to you all. I shall be thinking of you and Mrs. E. White saying "One, two, three, OPEN." God bless and keep you all. All the very best from an "old" boy.

From St. JOHN, CANADA.

Greetings from the "New World!" We enjoyed reading *Links*—it is always so uplifting and encouraging to read of God's faithfulness towards you and the work. I suppose you are wondering what sort of life we are leading here in our newly-chosen land. To put it mildly, the few months we spent on the Shetlands are a mere holiday compared with the haste and speed of life over here. The most wonderful thing is the fact that we have such opportunities for witness as we have never had before anywhere. We have three churches and the one here at Silver Falls is expanding very rapidly. There are new housing development schemes and there is an open door into many homes. People are hungry for the word of God and, with the exception of one Sunday, our services are well attended. . . . Besides the enormous amount of work attached to the churches there are invitations to address clubs, youth organisations, high schools, broadcasts, as well as requests to assist our port chaplain with his immigration duties. We are having thousands of Hungarian refugees landing in St. John this winter and I find that a good proportion speak German. Interpreters are scarce and I have found to be of some help not only with interpreting, but also with distribution of Christian literature. . . . I have to travel about forty miles every Sunday to take services. People here are very religious, and most of them belong to some church or another. However, evangelicals are few and far between and I soon found out that my type of preaching was something new to most. They find it practical—which is true to the gospel. . . . In spite of the many material blessings we enjoy here, we have not come to neglect spiritual values—there is a danger to do this! Instead, it is with rejoicing that we look back into the past, praising Him for His wondrous grace and guidance, trusting Him for future days of gratifying service and dedication to come. . . . With love to all.

From an "OLD" GIRL.

Thank you very much for sending on my examination results. I had begun to wonder whether I had failed. I was very pleased when I heard, although sorry I didn't manage to pass in biology. It is a lovely hospital here. Yesterday was operation day and was therefore a very busy day.

I have to go to a technical school for one study day. I thought I'd finished with school when I left you. Nevertheless, it all helps. Are you feeling better, Mr. White? I expect all your responsibility makes you tired, but then it's much easier now I've left! I think of you all very often and I will try and visit you. I have a day off,

but then it's such a long way from Sydenham, but I will try. Well, I must close now, but thank you once again for all you did for me. God bless you all. Love.

From an "OLD" GIRL.

It was lovely to be with you on "Our Day." I enjoyed the service very much and I especially enjoyed meeting people that I haven't seen for a long time. I'm really writing to say that I saw _____ today—it was a tremendous surprise to meet her. We had gone on a museum visit to Oxford and on the return journey we stopped at a transport café for a cup of tea. She said that when she saw our party of students walk into the café she knew at once they were art students—we all look so "arty"!

I expect you realise how difficult it is for a Christian at an art college. There are very few rules and those that we do have are very lax too, so that it is so easy for a person who is a bit weak to go astray. The standard of morals is very low—for one thing there's no check up to see if we are all in at night, so very often people stay out all night and, to a non-Christian, this "easy" life is very infectious, as no one bothers about anything here except art. As far as we know there are four Christians here. Three of us live here at the hostel and we all have rooms next to each other (it so happens that our names follow on alphabetically); the other one has "digs" in the village. We have a Bible Study on Sunday afternoons—we often get outsiders to this as it's usually a very lively discussion—and we have Prayer Meetings on Friday evenings and during the Wednesday dinner hours. A few other people here go to church sometimes, but we only know of four who "know whom they have believed." We are rarely ridiculed—I believe most of the others respect our beliefs, but they are apathetic towards us; perhaps some ridicule would arouse both them and us and do good sometimes. Last term we arranged for "Dust and Destiny" (you know, one of the Fact and Faith films) to come here, and almost the whole college came along to see it, and enjoyed it; in fact, they asked for more, so perhaps we'll be able to win them by films. There's a very good Baptist church here, the people are most friendly and I'm often invited to their homes. It's good to know that there are other Christians here to have fellowship with.

From an "OLD" GIRL.

I really am most terribly sorry not to have written for so long, but time just seems to fly. I'd like another ten hours to each day and four more days a week. Thank you for your Christmas gifts and the *Links*. I do so love receiving the *Links* and as I read I long to jump on the next train and come home to you all. We had hoped to come down to London for a weekend a fortnight before Christmas, then my husband went down with flu and put an end to our visit. We had the petrol and the vehicle—now we have neither, so I doubt if we'll be down till the weather is warmer. All our love.

From an "OLD BOY."

Thanks very much for your speedy reply to our request to come and stay with you for Christmas. Unfortunately, this petrol rationing and fuel shortage has made my job very insecure at present so my wife and I feel that, due to the present circumstances, we should forego our proposed visit to London. We were looking forward to seeing you all so much and it's a terrible disappointment I can assure you.

It is marvellous and wonderful how the Lord in His love for us and guiding us day by day continues to supply all our needs. But oh! How often we lose sight of this fact when we sometimes pray for things that we **want**, but can really do without. Then, if our prayers aren't answered the way we expect we begin to lose faith. Do you remember the lines of a verse in the hymn "We sing the praise of Him who died"? It's the last verse, which goes: "'Tis all that sinners want below." Our choir sings the word **need** instead of want. A world of difference! This lesson has been brought before us in this present crisis. God has promised in His word that He will supply all our **needs** (Phil. 4, 19). A verse, no doubt, of constant blessing and strengthening of your faith. Ask anything, but in His Name, and He will do it.

We continue to fare very well and are enjoying good health.

May the Lord continue to bless you all and make you a blessing to all the children, especially this Christmastide. Oh, how we had longed to have been with you, but there, we'll look forward to the day "When the Saviour in the Glory of His presence shall appear, we shall rise to the skies"—that's another of our Choir pieces!

God bless you all. Give our fondest affection to everyone. (In a special way God met travelling expenses and he did come with his family.)

From a BOY IN THE NAVY.

I am very sorry I have not written to you before. I hope you are all keeping well, as I am. I suppose you are preparing for Christmas and "old girls and boys" day. I am on a new ship in the Mediterranean which means I will not be able to see you this year so I'll wish you all a very happy Christmas now.

I have just been looking at a photo taken of all the boys and girls of 1944 and it has brought back many old memories which I can never forget. I even remember the first day I came to the home, I was up on the hall roof and had my first nick-name given me of "Monkey."

I've been to Suez. We were supposed to have been mine-sweeping, instead we just stood and watched the air force all day. What a life! They call this the Navy. We sail for Cyprus next week. We have been there once, patrolling the coast at night and sleeping during the day.

I am afraid I must close now. Thanking you again for everything.



HARVESTS RECEIVED DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, 1957, FROM:

Lanes End Mission, Gravesend.	Shernhall Methodist, Walthamstow.
Lifeboat Mission, Leytonstone.	
Leytonstone Methodist Church.	Elm Park Baptist Church.
Abridge Evangelical Free Church.	Waltham Abbey Baptist Church.
Chingford Hatch Methodist Church.	Upshire Free Church.
Manor Park Baptist Junior C.E.	High Ongar.
Harold Hill Free Church.	Claybury Park Baptist Church.
Salway Hall Primary, Woodford Green.	Meldrum S.S. and Junior C.E., Goodmayes.
Rise Park Church, Romford.	Mathews Memorial Methodist Church, Walthamstow.
A lady on Monday, 23rd September.	Keswick Hall, Walthamstow.
L.C.M., Hackney Wick.	Cambridge Hall S.S., Edmon- ton.
Barnet P.S.A.	Canfield Hall, Woodford Bridge.
Hoddesdon Congregational Church.	Ingatestone Congregational Church.
Out and out Mission, Bow.	Mountnessing Congregational Church.
Manor Hall, Borham Wood.	United Free Church, Woodford Green.
Salem Baptist Church, Romford.	
Wanstead Congregational Church.	Cranham Baptist Church.
	Latchett Hall, S. Woodford.

East London Tabernacle.	Muir Bedall & Co. Christian Circle.
Ley Street Gospel Hall, Ilford.	Rush Green Hall, Romford.
Tottenham Baptist Church.	St. Edmund's Church, Chingford.
Ilford High Road Methodist Church.	Salisbury Road Junior School, Romford.
Brondesbury Baptist Church.	Blackmore Baptist Church.
Brook St. Chapel, Tottenham.	Kentish Town Mission.
Waltham Cross Baptist Church.	Ridley Hall, Forest Gate.
Ingrave Hall, Romford.	Wangey Road Congregational Church, Chadwell Heath.
Chase Cross Mission, Romford.	Willesden Hall, Kilburn.
Epping Congregational Church.	Princes Hall, Buckhurst Hill.
Stockwell Baptist Church.	Railway Mission, Stratford.
Kenton Evangelical Free Church.	Emmanuel Chapel, Abridge.
Keswick Hall, Epping.	Ebenezer Strict Baptist, Ilford.
Shrubland Road Congregational Church, Dalston.	Broadmead Baptist Church, Woodford.
Hook Free Church, Surbiton.	Avenue Hall, Woodford Green.
Canvey Island Baptist Church.	Roxwell Church, Chelmsford.
Wood Street Church, Walthamstow.	Ray Lodge Congregational Church, Woodford.
Ashley Hall, St. Albans.	L.C.M., Rumbold Rd., Fulham.
Christ Church, St. Albans.	Hope Baptist Church, Forest Gate.
St. Mary's Church, Woodford.	Alma Road Mission, Ponders End.
Chingford Strict Baptist Church.	Hammersmith Bible Class.
Potter St. Baptist Church, Harlow.	Gt. Mundon Mission, Herts.
Higham Hill Infants School, Chingford.	

OUR STORY

(written in Perth, Australia, Autumn, 1956).

I went to the Home in 1902 and my wife in 1904, when the number of children was quite small—we both left when our schooling was finished, I joined the Garrison Artillery at the outbreak of war in 1914 and served until the finish in 1918. It was while I was in France that I felt lonely and asked Mrs. White to get someone to write to me. One of the girls wrote to me and much correspondence followed. When I came home on leave we became engaged and finally married in 1919 at the Ilford Baptist Church, Mrs. Edith White and "Mother" (Miss Hutchin) being present. After a few years of married life we decided to emigrate to Australia and left Tilbury on 17th September, 1927, arriving in Adelaide, South Australia in October. After several months on a wheat farm of 3,000 acres, where the temperature was about 105° in the shade—when you could find shade—and the flies drove us mad, not to mention sand everywhere, we decided to move to Perth, Western Australia. We arrived in Perth during May, 1928, where we had a dairy farm holding of 250 acres. We had no stock but were mainly occupied fencing and improving the block. Later we moved back into the city where I was employed in the Y.M.C.A. for seven years. After having been in the country 20 years, I suddenly thought that my wife deserved a good holiday. I went home to tea one night and told her she was going home for a holiday, which immediately brought forth a song and dance. Eventually she left for England. She stayed at the "Home" for different periods and visited our relations. Having had a wonderful time, and after 12 months touring the lovely "old country" she returned to Perth where we are still living. We are settled down, very comfortable and happy. I am now employed with Thomas Cook and Son, World Travel Agents, and often wonder when I meet the ships if I shall ever meet anyone from the "Home." If we never see England again, we still have one thing left—our memories. We have much to thank God for and we pray that He will continue to bless the work of the C. H. & M. and the Workers.



BOX OPENING

May and November, 1956

MAY OPENING—

			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
May 7—	Receipt No.	394	2	7	1			
" 14—	" "	427	56	0	2			
" 28—	" "	460	17	14	6			
" 29—	" "	465	1	0	0			
" 29—	" "	466	10	0				
June 11—	" "	523	6	6				
" 11—	" "	524	10	0				
" 11—	" "	525	10	0				
" 11—	" "	526	10	0				
" 11—	" "	527	10	0				
" 25—	" "	528	10	0				
" 25—	" "	564	8	12	6			
" 25—	" "	566	5	1	6			
Sept. 20—	" "	755	3	6	0			
			<hr/>			97	8	3

NOVEMBER OPENING—

Nov. 12—	Receipt No.	931	30	0	0			
" 15—	" "	946	15	0	0			
" 23—	" "	972	1	15	11			
" 26—	" "	974	15	0	0			
Dec. 17—	" "	1109	19	13	0			
Feb. 1—	" "	1393	2	0	0			
" 1—	" "	1397	2	11	6			
Apr. 15—	" "	1806	1	0	0			
" 15—	" "	1811	2	3	5			
			<hr/>			89	3	10
			<hr/>					
Total ..			£186			12	1	
			<hr/>					

Very many thanks to all Box Holders and to Mr. W. Parker, our Box Secretary.

DIARY

APRIL, 1957

MONDAY, 1ST. Cambridge Hall S.S., £7/10/-. A parent, gift of £2. Liverpool, £1. Some films are being shown each night this week at the Sir James Hawkey Hall: "Mr. Texas," "Oil Town U.S.A.," and "Fire on the Heather." We are arranging for all staff and seniors to go so that each night we shall be represented. We do not encourage our children to see the ordinary films and we thought that, not only would they enjoy seeing these evangelical films, but they would be helped in their spiritual lives thereby. The second monthly Men's Fellowship Meeting was held at Abridge when Mr. Ernest Plant came with a friend and not only entertained the menfolk, but energetically witnessed for his Lord!

TUESDAY, 2ND. Today a parcel arrived and we found it contained numerous bunches of primroses which had been picked for us by the children of Cranleigh Sunday School. They brought to us such a fresh glimpse of spring time. We thought of the children all spending quite a long time picking these one by one and we would have loved them to have seen the dining room and other rooms which were soon decorated with bowls of primroses. They really were appreciated! Colchester, 10/-.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD. Excitement today because our photographer friend came to take photos. Each child was to be in one and it was surprising how quickly they all arrived home from school. Nobody wanted to be left out. One of the staff went to Fillebrook Baptist Women's Meeting.

THURSDAY, 4TH. Anon, 12/6. Leytonstone, £3. A member of the staff was invited to Ley Street Young Wives' Fellowship.

FRIDAY, 5TH. Our first proper practise of the Annual Meeting music. We learn the words first and next concentrate on fitting words to music. Children managed quite well today.

SATURDAY, 6TH. Evelyn, at present studying at Leicester University, brought her newly-acquired "boy-friend," a fellow student, to see us. Janet (an old girl) and her husband and eldest daughter called in. They had travelled from Rugby.

SUNDAY, 7TH. Apart from conducting the usual Abridge services, staff also went to Latchett Hall Covenanters and Ridgeway Hall Covenanters. This evening the younger children had a "map-talk" on the "Journeys of Holy Week." This was in preparation for a film strip of the Easter Story.

MONDAY, 8TH. Bishopstoke, £9/17/11. Ridgeway Hall, 12/6. London, £1. Three children went to see Mr. Hole, our Optician. The Architect called to discuss final finishing off details of alterations, etc.

TUESDAY, 9TH. A neighbour who used to live nearby about 20 years ago called to see us. Another neighbour we heard is seriously ill and we are remembering him in prayer.

WEDNESDAY, 10TH. Our Monthly Prayer Meeting—Mr. Stephen Smith took us in imagination right into heaven as we studied Revelation 5, verses 1-13.

THURSDAY, 11TH. Loughton, £10. S. Woodford, £3. Romford, cot.

FRIDAY, 12TH. Westcliffe, an invitation from personal friends to have one of the girls to stay for the Easter holidays. The Youth for Christ Supporters Club used our Hall for a "get together." Squirrels Heath C.P. School, "Once again we have made a collection of odd 'halfpence' during Lent and we now send you £1. Will you please spend this on some little 'extra' for the children at Easter."

SATURDAY, 13TH. Some of the children went "Easter" shopping. Others went to watch the Amateur Cup Final on a friend's television. We have a good friend nearby who, whenever there is anything special on television, fills his room to capacity with members of our family.

SUNDAY, 14TH. Mr. White went to Cranham Baptist service—at present held in an old "workmen's canteen." The members are praying for guidance in launching out to provide a much-needed building for worship. An "old" boy testified to the power of prayer in his life recently when he had to undergo a serious operation. His fear was turned to peace and calm, he said, "in answer to Prayer."

MONDAY, 15TH. Westcliffe, "I enclose my small gift, £1. We have so much to thank God for, haven't we? And His Greatest Gift we can never praise Him enough for. Let the Redeemed of the Lord say so!!" Box Secretary, £1. 17th West Essex B.B. Company, 10/- Home Box, £2/3/5.

TUESDAY, 16TH. The Women's Meeting at Abridge. This year we have changed from Thursday to Tuesday to see if it will be more convenient. One of the staff did some visiting in Abridge. Another went to an Anniversary Meeting at Welcome Mission, Leytonstone.

WEDNESDAY, 17TH. Waltham Abbey: 5 Nightdress Cases, Rubber Soles, 2 Embroidered Table Cloths and Cloths to be embroidered, 14 Jam Spoons, 4 Butter Dishes and Knives, Buttons, Socks, Table Centres, 23 Pairs Shoes, 1 Satchel, 7 Shirts, 2 Pairs Trousers, 1 Cardigan, 2 Brushes in Cases. The children broke up for Easter holidays.

Loughton, "I am sending a little gift for the children. Mummy and Daddy helped me with the money. It is for them to have Easter Eggs or some special Easter treat. Praying God will bless you all—a little girl, aged 7." East Ham, £3.

THURSDAY, 18TH. Five children went to spend the weekend with their parents. From Derby we received two little dresses for the twins. Veronica and Alison returned home today with their mother. They have been with us for just over a year whilst their mother has been recovering from a serious illness. Now that she is

well on the way to recovery we are happy to know that this little family is reunited once again—we shall be in touch with them, and we know that other Christian friends will help too.

FRIDAY, 19TH. This morning we had a "Family Service" in our hall and quite a good number of our neighbours joined with us. Mr. Stephen Smith gave the message and the children rehearsed one or two Annual pieces, a very fitting one being "Jesus is the Saviour of the Children." The weather is just lovely and the girls played netball with some of the staff this afternoon whilst the boys watched some football. During the afternoon a friend from Walthamstow called bringing with her a 28-lbs. Easter Egg very prettily decorated with edible roses.



After tea some of the older children went to see the Martin Luther film at the Baptist Church, others went to Abridge for a United Service with the Church of England, and the tiny ones had an Easter Film Strip. Captain Martin, Secretary of Fegan's Homes, gave the message at Abridge, the service this year being held in our little church. He described to us the views of the two thieves who were crucified each side of our Lord—one who continued in his misery and the other, in contrast, who was the only one in the huge crowds who recognised Jesus as "Lord"—and who, as a result, could look forward to being with Jesus in Paradise. Mr. Martin pointed out that today, as then, Jesus divides the people—we are either on the side of the thief who continued in his sinful pathway, or we are on the side of the Lord Jesus Christ, calling Him Lord, and can look forward to being with him in Heaven when our journey here ends.

Which side are you on? Peter and Bill both came home on leave today and Peggy also spent the day with us.

SATURDAY, 20TH. The girls, after breakfast, left the boys to do the washing up whilst they went over to Chingford to play a netball match against Handsworth Avenue Methodist Junior Guild. The Guild won this time—but it was a very good match and we made them work hard for the win! Doreen went to Westcliff to some C. H. & M. friends for a holiday—little Victor came to see her off on the train. The weather being warm and sunny we expect to see Doreen well tanned when she returns.

SUNDAY, 21ST. When the children came down this morning they all found an Easter Egg beside their plate—and a greater surprise still, the large Easter Egg on the sideboard. Mr. White conducted the services at Abridge and the children had "open" Sunday School in the afternoon. The evening message gave us much food for thought: (1) The open tomb. (2) The open road. (3) They opened their hearts to Him. (4) He opened the Scriptures to them. (5) The open home. (6) Their eyes were opened. (7) He opened their understanding.

MONDAY, 22ND. Soon after breakfast the older children set off, suitably clad and with lunch, for a ramble. The little ones spent the morning playing and after dinner went down the school field at Abridge where they had a picnic tea. During the afternoon womenfolk at Abridge prepared tea for the ramblers—some 160 altogether! After tea we all packed into the church to see some films shown by Mr. Steve Stephens, of the Missionary Aviation Fellowship. The first one showed the work of the Aviation Fellowship in Sudan and the second, preparations and efforts to reach the Auca Tribe in Equador. Five young married men were murdered by the tribe, but the challenge has reached many more Christians who are ready to fill the gap and, if it is God's will, try to reach these people too. A very profitable meeting!

TUESDAY, 23RD. Nottingham, 10/-: "It has been a great thrill and encouragement to read of the many answers to prayer. My visit to you will ever live in my memory and I count it a great joy to be a fellow worker with you in prayer." Workmen's Tea Money, £1. "E.L.," Tottenham, £1. Manor Park, £5. Hornchurch, £1. Our dining room is prettily decorated with almost every kind of wild flower, brought over yesterday from a country church near Chelmsford. These friends brought 53 chicken's eggs, too. We also received 75 chicken's eggs and lots of chocolate ones from Harold Park Baptist Sunday School.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH. Some of the girls went to choose material to make summer dresses and the boys played table tennis with Mr. Crowhurst.

THURSDAY, 25TH. Wingrave, £5. Puckeridge, 5/-. Anon, 2/-. Walkern Mission, £5. N.W.2, £1.

FRIDAY, 26TH. Roger went to stay with friends on a farm in Sussex.

SATURDAY, 27TH. During the morning our fire siren sounded forth, but it was just a practice. Mr. White spoke at a C.E. Rally at Bloomsbury Baptist Church, having been asked to bring the challenge of the need today for devoted lives in the service of caring for children. Hampton Hill C.S.S., £1/10/-. Liverpool, £1. A neighbour called in and gave us a new badminton net. Ours was really worn out and this unexpected gift meets a very real need. We shall not be playing badminton now until next season—at present, hard work is putting the tennis court in readiness for the summer season.

SUNDAY, 28TH. You can't exactly call Sunday a "Day of Rest" with a family our size, but we do plan the day so that it is different in many ways from other days, with as little work as possible to be done! But we are all able to go to God's house for worship—praise—prayer—and challenge.

MONDAY, 29TH. Tiptree Congregational S.S., £2/4/7. N.W.5, £1. London C.E., 10/-. Princes Hall, Buckhurst Hill, £3. Seven Kings, £5. Seven Kings, £3. Tottenham, Anon, £10.

TUESDAY, 30TH. Horam, £3. Braintree, £1. Today is the end of our financial year (details given in Annual Report separately). For many years we have had a "prop" in the nature of a deposit account, but now that this money has been spent on the recent extension and alterations to the buildings we find ourselves in the unique position of relying "day by day" on the Lord for every need. The pioneers in the work did this, and we praise God that He is giving us, too, the opportunity of proving Him faithful. As a staff, after the children had gone to bed, we sat together for a little while, looking back and surveying the year. God had supplied every need and we had a small balance in hand.

MAY, 1957

WEDNESDAY, 1ST. The Children's Officer of Essex County Council called with a District Representative to have a chat with us and to look round the buildings. It was a lovely day: the boys were playing cricket, little ones playing with tricycles on the lawn. The girls were busy dressmaking.

THURSDAY, 2ND. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at Abridge.

FRIDAY, 3RD. Leyton, 10/-. Hainault Road Baptist Women's Meeting, £1. Shoeburyness Shoe Fund, £2/10/-. The van and car, loaded with children, set off to take part in a Junior Guild Meeting at Chingford. The car arrived but not the van. The van had a puncture so the occupants of the car, which had raced on ahead, were wondering just what had happened!

SATURDAY, 4TH. There is always a buzz of excitement here everyday with such a large family, but Saturday always seems a little more so because no two Saturdays are ever alike! We get up a bit later, of course, some have a "quiet-time" before the official getting-up time. Some children might go out all or part of

the day with relatives or friends. Those interested in sport play or watch sport on television, or even support the local team. Others invent games—no two ever alike. The staff need eyes all round to keep the atmosphere humming smoothly!

SUNDAY, 5TH. We go down to Abridge three times every Sunday using, if possible, two vehicles. Today the van broke down on the way to Sunday School, but the passengers eventually got there and later home for tea.

MONDAY, 6TH. Palmers Green, £6: "Prayer is the Power weapon for all the world's resources I find. Faith is my backbone!" British Legion, Abridge, £5. Woodford, £2/2/-. The Abridge Men's Fellowship had an enjoyable hour with Mr. Colin Selby, of Woodford Green, who thrilled his audience with a variety of piano-forte music. Quietly, he gave his testimony of what the Lord meant to him.

TUESDAY, 7TH. How wonderful the Lord is—we need lots of money each week to cover our needs. We opened the post today to find a cheque for £100—a legacy. Just when we need it. This means that the requirements of the first week of the new year are well covered. Praise God! The children returned to school today.

WEDNESDAY, 8TH. Brandon Mission S.S., £1. We had our Monthly Prayer Meeting and it was a privilege and pleasure to have, for the first time, Rev. Ronald Messenger as our speaker. He, not knowing our present position of **daily** waiting on the Lord for financial needs (a stupid position the world thinks), spoke on Elijah. A man of ordinary nature and temperament, prone to depression, disappointment, frustration—just like we are—yet God used him! In the most unlikely places, by most unlikely people, God supplied his daily need! The Abridge Young People's Fellowship came here for a tennis evening, but the wet weather enforced an indoor evening instead.

THURSDAY, 9TH. Polling day, so most of the children are home from school. Mr. George Tryon, who used to help with Gospel campaigns at Woodford and Abridge in pre-war days, called to see us, and invited us to take the children to Chessington Zoo one Saturday this summer and to take part in an evangelical tent meeting in that same area in the evening. We do see the Lord's hand guiding us. We rejoice to be able to tell others how good the Lord is!

FRIDAY, 10TH. Ilford, £1. Blackheath, £3/3/-. Several of our Trustees had lunch with us and then explored the buildings, taking note of the new laundry and alterations. The staff enjoyed meeting the Trustees at closer proximity than usual and were surprised to find them very practical folk—they had conjured up ideas of serious old folk who sit round a table with long faces at various meetings. Ours aren't like that! At the meeting, Mr. White gave details of the past year, emphasizing God's unfailing goodness. None of the Trustees could hide surprise when the small balance in

hand was mentioned. A small amount—a large family—but a GREAT GOD!

SATURDAY, 11TH. Varied activities following family prayers: some went to watch the West Indians playing cricket at Ilford; others had a picnic lunch; some went walking through bluebell woods plus a picnic; and others practised for their Sunday School Anniversary and helped to decorate the church.

SUNDAY, 12TH. The Sunday School Anniversary at Woodford Baptist Church, where quite a number of our children took part. Mr. White conducted Sunday School Anniversary services at Welwyn Garden City and was very thrilled afterwards to meet one of our "old" girls. She is happily married and has one child of her own and an adopted child. The latter was a little mite nobody wanted as it was thought he was very retarded, but she and her husband thought the matter over carefully and decided to take him into their family. Love and security have produced a healthy, intelligent youngster. We admire the parents' thoughtfulness and courage. The services at Abridge were held as usual and we were privileged to have Mr. Loynes, of Salway Hall, taking the evening service.

MONDAY, 13TH. A happy chat together before staff prayers, reflecting the experiences of the previous day. Gifts received: Welwyn Garden City, £4/4/0. Anon, 10/-. York, 5/-. A letter from an "old" member of the Family: "I wrote to you some months back about my lack of faith, and although I have tried, I find that somewhere along the way I've got like doubting Thomas. You see, I find I'm inclined to blame religious upbringing for this. It was always 'God answers prayer', now I ask is it only the prayers of Mr. White's Homes that He listens to? It seems that way to me, more so after reading *Links*. I now find I alone help my family and only by working very hard can I achieve this end. For instance, your book once again came with a bill. If I pray tonight, will that payment be made by prayer? No, it will not; only by my hard work. You will say God gives me the strength to work! If I look around millions of others, too, have the good health to work. I'm very much afraid I've got hard and bitter over many things. I don't blame God for this way of life. I had too little faith to start, I guess. This is a hard letter to write to a benefactor, but I feel you will understand, as always. Perhaps your prayers will lead me to Jesus again, to have the complete feeling of one day being with Him as one. I can't ignore Christ, not with the Home's teaching, but knowing Him and accepting Him is entirely different. I'm being honest with you before I visit you again on 'Our Day', as I will be there to see the old home again. So until then, fondest regards."

We were privileged to be able to reply to this letter at length and do pray that the Lord will speak to this heart and give assurance.

TUESDAY, 14TH. Walthamstow, £2. East Dulwich, 5/-. Southport, 5/-. Salway Hall Young Men's Bible Class, £3. The

children had a concentrated singing practice for the Annual Day. The tennis season started here.

WEDNESDAY, 15TH. Guildford, £5. Westcliff, £1: "In memory of my dear one who was called home three years ago. Please pray for me." N.10, £4: "Just a small gift to the cause in which my dear father and mother were so interested." Some of the older boys had a day off from school and spent the day in London visiting Madam Tussauds and other notable places. Esher, good second-hand clothes for children.

THURSDAY, 16TH. Mr. and Mrs. White went over to St. Andrew's Women's Fellowship, St. Albans. This church is in the centre of a new housing site and we had a good time exchanging our experiences in Christian work. We brought home some useful parcels and a pair of budgerigars—Mr. and Mrs. Perkins. The usual Bible Study and prayer meetings were held at Abridge. Gifts today from: "E.L., Tottenham," £1. Grantham, 8/-. Cranleigh, 10/-. Nottingham, 10/-.

FRIDAY, 17TH. Enfield: "I again have pleasure in sending a small donation towards the expenses of your grand work amongst the children. May the text on your 'Our Day' invitation card ring clearer throughout your new year of service. Mr. Herbert White would have been interested in the reopening of the rebuilt chapel of Cecil Hall this next Sunday and of the work which has progressed in spite of shortage of building materials and confined space. The whole premises will be ready later in the year. Trusting you will have a very happy day on the 25th." Chingford: "I write to say that owing to being in hospital I am very sorry I shall not be present at the Annual Gatherings. I am most disappointed as I always reckon to be present on 'Our Day' if I am in Woodford. I do sincerely hope that God will pour out His blessings as usual at the meetings and that the people will, as always, attend in their numbers. I am enclosing a small donation." Seasalter, £10. Lancing, £2. Doncaster, £1 and 5/-. The boys played their first cricket match in the newly-formed Junior Church League and won.

SATURDAY, 18TH. A visit from a lady who was instrumental in commencing the Ashley Hall Working Party. A friend, seventeen years ago, gave her £1 of threepenny pieces and she bought some material to make garments for our children. The working party has continued and each year we are the happy recipients of a variety of clothes. Chingford, 2 Hand-knitted Dishcloths.

SUNDAY, 19TH. A happy day spent at Abridge or at the Baptist Church.

MONDAY, 20TH. St. Albans, 10/-. Abridge, 2/6. Loughton, 10/-. Hainault, £1. East Barnet, 10/-. Box-holders, £25. Upper Holloway, £1/1/-. Forest Road Hall, Walthamstow, £5.

TUESDAY, 21ST. The day of preparation for "Our Day." Mr. Will Cowling arrived early to fix loudspeaker equipment—soon, wires had been draped in all directions and by early evening

the children were rehearsing with Mrs. Johnston at the piano and the singing could be heard probably all over this part of Woodford! However, all is well for Saturday, and folk who can't find room in the hall will be able to sit comfortably either in the recreation rooms or out of doors.

From Westcliff we received 7 pairs grey, hand-knitted socks.

WEDNESDAY, 22ND. Westcliff, 10/-. Loughton, £1. St. Andrew's Women's Fellowship, St. Albans, £3/10/-. Woodford Green, £1. Leicester, 26 grey cardigans.

THURSDAY, 23RD. The staff are very busy cleaning and polishing everywhere so that our home will be nice for visitors on Saturdays. The children help, too—one, on an errand, decided to be extra helpful, switched on an iron and later put it in a bowl of water to see whether it was hot. Needless to say, it spent a week away for repair! Stocksfield, £1/10/-. Woodford Green, 10/- and £1. Barnet, £1. Walsall, £2/10/-. Burnham-on-Crouch S.S., £3/0/10. Lambeth, £1.

FRIDAY, 24TH. Boxholders, £15. South Chailey, £1. Worthing, £2. Wanstead: "Your book *Links* is indeed a book of inspiration, and I look forward to receiving it. It is all very real to me as some years ago now I called and you kindly showed me over your Home. I do so enjoy reading your diary and I am so very glad you have been led to take in children under school age. Now your family is quite complete. Will you accept the enclosed, which I feel led to send you, with all my good wishes and prayers for the wonderful work you are doing." Helensburgh, £1. Leyton, £1/10/-.

SATURDAY, 25TH. "OUR DAY." [Details of meetings reported separately.] A fine, bright, windy day. Just right. The teamwork of staff, children, "old" boys and girls and friends resulted in an inspiring day. Our hall was packed in the afternoon and in addition about 100 folk listened through loudspeakers. Practically everybody accepted an invitation to walk round, especially to see the new laundry and alterations and afterwards adjourned either to Latchett Hall or the Baptist Church for tea. There were lots of fresh faces at the evening meeting, held in the Baptist Church, which means we had the joy of fellowship with a great number of prayer partners.

A variety of gifts were handed to us: Anon, Home-made Date Loaf. Barkingside, 6 Tea Cosies. Several parcels of Second-hand Clothes. Cranford Working Party: 3 Pullovers, 2 Cardigans. Harlow: Pullover, Skirt and Blouse, made by a little girl.

SUNDAY, 26TH. The children would say that today seemed a bit flat after yesterday—we know what they mean. Nevertheless, we had a happy day spent, as usual, in God's house and one feels there isn't sufficient time to praise and thank Him for His unfailing goodness!! May our lives express our feelings.

MONDAY, 27TH. London, £2. Epping, £2. "H.S.," £2. N.W.2, £1. Boreham Wood, £1. Seaford, £3/3/-. Southend,

5/-. S. Woodford, £1. Acton: "Please find enclosed £1 as a small contribution. I was touched and humbled by the wonderful work that is being done by the Mission and found inspiration and spiritual uplift on Saturday. May God continue to bless the work. There is no need to acknowledge this letter, it is just a small token of my appreciation for a well-spent Saturday afternoon." Buntingford, £50. Meesden, £5. Boxholders, £1/7/-. Anon, £7. Anon, £5/10/-. Endway (box), £1/1/9. Annual Day Gifts, £47/16/5. London: 24 pairs Slippers and 7 pairs Sandals. At Abridge this evening we had a meeting to arrange plans for open-air witness in the village during the summer.

TUESDAY, 28TH. Clacton, £2 and £1. Loughton, 3-piece Suite, 2 Fenders, 1 Stool, 1 Fire Screen, 1 Toaster, 1 Lamp Shade, 2 Pots for kitchen and 1 Meat Dish.

The boys played cricket against Holy Trinity team and lost. Second game in the league competition.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH. Gosport, £1: "A small gift in remembrance of one of your 'old' girls." "T," 10/-. Codicote, £10. Walthamstow, £1/1/-. Boxholder, 10/-. Clapton, £3. Heathfield: Parcel Second-hand Clothes.

THURSDAY, 30TH. Leyton, £2. Epping, £1. London, £2. Some of the staff and members of the Abridge Fellowship went over to Nazeing Congregational Church to the 162nd Anniversary of that church. Rev. George Duncan presented, in message form, a three-tiered cake, the bottom layer representing the non-christian whose characteristic is blindness; the middle layer, the carnal christian whose characteristic is weakness; and the top layer, the spiritual christian whose characteristic is fulness. Most came away feeling they could only attain to the middle layer! BUT, with a greater desire for fullness. A three-tiered cake will always remind us of the fact that we, by Christ's power, should be on the top.

The younger children at the infants school crowned their May Queen this afternoon. Little Victor went home to join his two sisters and brother. Their mother is gallantly struggling on and God has undertaken so that they can all be reunited once more. Prayer is needed for her health.

FRIDAY, 31ST. South Noorwood, £5. East Ham, 10/-. Shenfield, £1.

JUNE, 1957

SATURDAY, 1ST. An experiment today. We have invited parents, relatives and friends of the children here to tea. Most who were invited came—the children themselves took their own folk round. A sit-down tea had been prepared—home-made cakes were made by staff and senior girls. After tea the children sang some of their annual pieces; Mr. White popped in wee messages between the items. Django, Harriet and Doreen recited. Many remarks of appreciation were passed and it was evident that visitors were impressed by what had been seen and heard.

SUNDAY, 2ND. An uneventful Sunday. The kiddies sometimes find it hard to know that their school friends go off to the seaside for the day whilst they remain behind, but we believe in keeping Sunday as a day set apart and we make up for these seeming disappointments in other ways.

MONDAY, 3RD. St. Columb, £1. Bethesda Sunday School, Singapore, £5/14/5. Anon, £2. S. Woodford, £1. Abridge, 5/-. Anon, Homesdale, 2/6. "E.S.R.," 10/-. The Ropeholders had an Anniversary Service. The Abridge Men's Fellowship enjoyed an hour with Mr. Stranks, who outlined a little of his work as a Marriage Guidance Advisor.

TUESDAY, 4TH. Stratford, 10/-. Mr. White addressed a Women's Meeting at St. Barnabas Church, Woodford Green.

WEDNESDAY, 5TH. Goring Evangelical Free Church, £5. Boys' Brigade, 11th South Essex Co., £2/2/-. S. Woodford, £5: "Money saved on 'bus fares by accepting lifts in a friend's car." Mr. White addressed two dinner-nour sessions of the Christian Union at the Bank of England Printing Works at Debden.

Our Monthly Prayer Meeting. Mr. David Olney gave a very helpful address. It was with great thanksgiving that Mr. White reviewed the past month. On 1st May a small balance in hand—our Auditor thought this situation completely illogical—but the income of the first four weeks has been more than sufficient to meet the needs which also included a further instalment of £300 for the alterations. As each architect's certificate has come through demanding payment, the money has always been to hand. God has met every need in answer to prayer.

THURSDAY, 6TH. Cullompton, £2/2/-. Sutton: "Once again I am privileged to send my small gift to your work for the children. As I am now 84 and suffering from a very bad heart, so unable to go up and downstairs, I wonder if this will be my last letter to you, but 'My times are in His Hand' and one would not wish any other in control. Last November my dear and only son passed, quite suddenly, into the Presence of the Lord, aged 56½, saved at 7½. He had been steady and consistent according to age and opportunity and was fully engaged in Church and Young People's work to the end. We do not understand the Lord's dealings, but we know He makes no mistakes, and we are told that the trial of our faith is **precious**—I often feel that is the only really precious thing we can offer, all else is really His already." One of the staff addressed Claybury Park Women's Meeting.

FRIDAY, 7TH. Boxholders, £7/18/7. The boys played another cricket match and won handsomely (now 2 wins and 1 loss). Highams Park, Seaside Bucket. Shoburyne, Boy's Suit. Children commenced Whitsun holidays.

SATURDAY, 8TH. Two interesting letters. One from the Headmaster of a school in Devon, indicating it would be possible for us to take the children to his school for three weeks in August, the terms offered we thought suitable. Another letter from the

charitable trust of a former Bank Manager of our Founder, enclosing cheque for £125/5/3. We decided to accept the headmaster's offer and to trust the Lord to meet the financial need. Mr. White went to give the closing message to the N.Y.L.C. following a ramble. London, Black Doll for Sick Bay. It was so hot—some of the children went swimming—they really can swim.

SUNDAY, 9TH. The services at Abridge today included the Dedication of Twin Boys this afternoon. Both babies behaved perfectly, being wide awake and happy during their special part of the service and they both went to sleep so that mother and father could listen to the talk. Unfortunately, this family has moved from Abridge but will be close to Theydon Bois Baptist Church.

Mr. Peter Fayers took the evening service whilst Mr. White was at Latchett Hall. Peter's talk was challenging to Christians—he pointed out that the Bible has far more to say about the sin of **God's** people than of the outsider. Illustrating his talk from the story of Naaman, he showed us that humility is the **root** from which grow the fruits of the spirit: we need to **stoop** at the Cross.

MONDAY, 10TH. Bank Holiday. We hadn't arranged anything special today and just as well because it was rather a wet day. We played indoor cricket and rounders with Abridge folk who had come to join us.

TUESDAY, 11TH. Anon, Parcel Second-hand Clothes. Ashurst Drive Women's Meeting, Second-hand Clothes. Rev. Kenneth Parkinson came over for the day with one of his sons. We had expected the whole family but this couldn't be because of illness. Our boys played the Woodford Baptist cricket team and won—none too quickly before the rain came (now 3 wins to our credit and standing 3rd in table). One of our "old" boys agreed to take Mr. and Mrs. White down to Devon for a day in order to make detailed arrangements for the holiday. Our Hillman car isn't behaving too well at present so the journey in it might be rather tedious; this help will make a tremendous difference.

WEDNESDAY, 12TH. We confirmed the booking of a coach to take us to Devon. It's much more convenient by coach, from door to door complete with luggage, and it's cheaper. We go step by step by faith, in this project—when you rely entirely upon God you know He cannot fail! Dalston: "Enclosed find cheque for £5 to help towards the children's holiday." (Another confirmation of the arrangements made.) Stanmore, £1. Debden, 10/-. Woodford £1: "A love gift from the Lord's Purse—in thanksgiving for the happy day given to us all on May 25th, and His word for you today is Psalm 37, v. 23."

THURSDAY, 13TH. Minsterworth, £1. Warlingham, £1. Woodford Green, £2. The members of the Abridge Women's Meeting spent a happy day at Walton. The sun shone, but the wind was cool. Most of the children at home went to a swimming pool.

SATURDAY, 15TH. The Woodford Baptist Sunday School went to Walton for the day. Delightful weather, good journey, an altogether enjoyable day.

SUNDAY, 16TH. Mr. White addressed the morning service at Claybury Park Baptist Sunday School Anniversary. At Abridge we had our first open-air meeting on the Pancroft Estate. It was quite well supported, a challenging word given and tracts distributed.

MONDAY, 17TH. Children returned to school. Frinton, 10/-. N.13, £4. A meeting of the Christian Fellowship at Dr. Barnardos, Woodford Bridge. Children told about the holiday in Devon—asked to join in prayer concerning the cost and all arrangements.

TUESDAY, 18TH. Anon, £2/10/-. Highbury, £1. The boys played another cricket match and won (2nd in table now). Mr. White went to Avenue Hall Women's Meeting.

WEDNESDAY, 19TH. It was interesting for Mr. White to go to the united group meeting of the Chingford Baptist Church. Groups of womenfolk meet in several houses throughout the year and occasionally have a united meeting in the Church, the total number then being 250.

THURSDAY, 20TH. Radlett, £10. Hornchurch: "Please find enclosed small gift for your Children's Home. A friend of mine brought one of your interesting report books to read."

FRIDAY, 21ST. Woodford Green, 10/-. Woodford Green, £2/15/-. A small group of friends from Manford Way Fellowship came to look round. People always seem surprised at what is entailed in running a children's home and also are surprised to find that God, not the Government, supplies the needs!

SATURDAY, 22ND. £250 towards the cost of the holiday in Devon. Another evidence of the working and power of God.

SUNDAY, 23RD. Mr. David Barr and Mr. David Olney conducted the services at Abridge.

MONDAY, 24TH. Anon, 10/-. Southend, £1. Received information over the telephone that some of our neighbours intend to provide some pocket money for the children whilst on holiday.

TUESDAY, 25TH. We are finding out all we can about a suitable vehicle. At present we have two. One is a 1933 Austin. The engine will never wear out, but the brakes are poor and engine replacements are most difficult. The other, a 1947 Hillman Estate Car, has had good wear but is proving very heavy on maintenance repairs. We need guidance as to the most sensible step to take and are praying earnestly! A coach, in some ways, would be useful for getting to and fro from Abridge, but in other ways would be too cumbersome! Anon, 10/-. Bromley, £1. "E.L.," £1. Woodford, £10 for the holidays. Colchester, 2/6.

WEDNESDAY, 26TH. Loughton, 50 Handkerchiefs (mostly hand-hemmed).

THURSDAY, 27TH. Hook Evangelical Free Church, £3/3/-. Welling Gospel Hall S.S., £5. Mr. White went to a meeting at St. Luke's Church, Walthamstow.

A very special event—a wedding tea for Violet and Brian. They are getting married on Saturday. Sixty-four of us shared in the feast (see separate account).

FRIDAY, 28TH. Another tonic to our faith—an intimation of over £1,000 on the way—a legacy "to be used for purposes other than general maintenance." For the rest of the alterations? The vehicles? Or the renovation of the kitchen? **HE must guide us.** Walthamstow, 10/-. Hainault Women's Meeting, £1/1/-.



SATURDAY, 29TH. At last the day planned and anticipated for so long arrived. Temperatures in the 90's. Violet was very prettily dressed and the bridesmaids looked charming in blue. Violet and Brian have both worked hard and saved hard for this day and together they have prepared a very nice flat in Woodford for their first home together. After the ceremony in the Woodford Baptist Church, conducted by Rev. H. J. L. Hunter, we had a reception here at home. The happy couple left later in the day for North Wales. Cranham Baptist Church had a stone-laying ceremony this afternoon. Our prayers are behind this enterprise continually. Several of us were able to get over in time for greetings from churches and added ours!



SUNDAY, 30TH. Mr. and Mrs. White and their own family went over to Hook Evangelical Free Church. Mr. Stanley Sutton (the husband of one of our very "old" girls) conducted the services morning, afternoon and evening at Abridge.

JULY, 1957

MONDAY, 1ST. South Woodford, £5 "for your summer holidays." Radlett, £5: "I am delighted to learn of the open door in relationship to holidays and join in prayer that all arrangements may go smoothly and under His good hand a very excellent and wonderful holiday will be experienced." "R.S.," £3. A meeting of the Men's Fellowship was held at Abridge.

TUESDAY, 2ND. Worthing, £1. The Women's Fellowship at Abridge this afternoon had a "sewing meeting." Usually, they mend socks, but today they embroidered the children's new flannels with initials ready for the holiday. This evening an elderly lady called, leaving with us a treasured gold locket which had been a present to her many years ago from her late husband. She wished us to sell it and use the money for the children. The boys played a successful cricket league match against Manor Park Baptist team. Really thrilling now, for we are top!

WEDNESDAY, 3RD. Percy (one of our "old" boys) took Mr. and Mrs. White and Mrs. Olney down to Devon. The journey commenced at 6 a.m., approximately six hours on the outward journey, six hours spent there, and six hours coming home. Travel-

ling in a 1956 Consul was responsible for the speed and comfort. Business connected with the holiday was transacted and there was still time for a peep at the sea and a luxurious meal provided by some Abridge friends, before returning home.

THURSDAY, 4TH. Peterborough, 10/-. Wanstead, £2/2/-. Legacy, £1,082/0/3. We started the years with a very small balance but day by day in answer to prayer God, in His own way, is wonderfully coping with every need. Peterborough, some "odds and ends." Representatives of the Wycliff Language Course at Chigwell collected beds, blankets, forms, teapots, etc., for use at the camp. Mr. White addressed the All Saints' Mothers' Union.

FRIDAY, 5TH. Ley St. Gospel Hall S.S., £5. Sewel Memorial Mission, Lindfield, £6/5/6. All Saints' Women, £2/17/6. Django and Keith had school-leaving interviews today. Django wants to work on a barge (he dreams, eats and plays boats!). Keith wants to work in a butcher's shop.

SATURDAY, 6TH. Goodmayes, £1. Miss Revell went away to Teignmouth with her family for a week's holiday.

SUNDAY, 7TH. At the Abridge morning service Mrs. Rogers brought little Victor to be dedicated.

MONDAY, 8TH. Box Secretary, £2/3/6. Lighthouse Pentecostal Church, Canning Town, £5. Mr. White was invited to speak at a lunch hour open-air meeting at Postman's Park. One of our "old" boys arrived home from sea. He had had a fall down the hold of the ship and been flown home to England for treatment. We had a long chat with him—he isn't happy deep down—finding life unsatisfying—needing Christ.

TUESDAY, 9TH. West Mersea, £1/10/-. Tennis this evening. Every week several "old" girls and boys join us.

WEDNESDAY, 10TH. Cranham, £7/10/-. Colchester, £5. Monthly Prayer Meeting. We were privileged to have the Rev. Stoner with us—a very forceful speaker. Having heard him, you couldn't just sit down and do nothing for the Master.

THURSDAY, 11TH. Leytonstone, £4. Woodford, 5/-. Highbury, Second-hand Clothes. Several of the Bible Study group went visiting in the village of Abridge and gave out tracts. The visitors enjoyed themselves in spite of the rain. Mr. White went to the Epping C.C. Women's Meeting.

FRIDAY, 12TH. Hornchurch, 10/-. "In memory of Mrs. M. Johnson, £1/10/-." Epping C.C., £1/10/-. Whyteleafe United Free Church, £2/10/-. Mrs. White was asked to speak at the Walthamstow High School Christian Union.

SATURDAY, 13TH. Some children visited friends, others went picknicking or shopping. The boys (as usual) practised cricket.

SUNDAY, 14TH. Mr. White conducted services at Whyteleafe United Free Church. At Abridge Mr. David Barr took the morning service and Mr. David Olney the evening. Teeming rain

prevented an open-air meeting, so a lively prayer meeting was held instead.

MONDAY, 15TH. Hare St. Gospel Hall, Gt. Parndon, £3. St. Albans, £15 for the holidays. Lancing, £1. Mr. and Mrs. Olney and their two children went away for part of their summer holiday. The Men's Fellowship held a prayer meeting. Relay of Keswick meetings commenced at Woodford Baptist Church.

TUESDAY, 16TH. Highway Hall Y.P., £2/2/- (for holidays). Anon, £1 (for holidays). Claybury Park Baptist S.S., £5/5/-. East Ham, £2. Woodford, £1. Woodford Green, £2/2/-. The staff will be kept busy this week visiting the schools which the children attend. Each class is open in turn for us to see books and chat with teachers, and we find it very helpful.

WEDNESDAY, 17TH. Bank of England Printing Works, 10/-.

THURSDAY, 18TH. Thirty-five folk from the St. Andrew's Church, St. Albans, came in a coach to look round. We had a very happy time of fellowship with them and felt assured of their continued prayer fellowship. They brought with them some second-hand clothes, including some given by the Maple Women's Club. The Bible Study group from Abridge came to Woodford to listen in to the Keswick relay. Miss Mumford went on holiday.

FRIDAY, 19TH. Tottenham, £20 towards staff holidays. St. Andrew's Church, St. Albans, £3/4/3. Hockley, £10/10/-. Home Office representatives, Miss Smart and Mr. Todd, called by appointment, particularly to consider improvements to our kitchen and to discuss diet.

SATURDAY, 20TH. A day at Chessington Zoo for us all. The coach strike which must have disappointed many people, did not affect us. The kindness of a friend enabled this day out which included pocket money for all, dinner provided at a restaurant and the cost of coach. The day was inclined to be showery but this is an asset at a Zoo! Members of Hook Evangelical Free Church prepared tea for us at their church and also facilitated a wash and brush up which was more than needed! After tea we went to the "fishponds" at Surbiton to take part in a tent meeting. We counted it a privilege as a family to witness for the Lord and the fellowship we enjoyed was a blessing to us. This day had one disappointment: Ted, one of our "old" boys, had an engagement and coming-of-age party over at Edgware and we could not be present. Our greetings had to go by telegram. Woodford, gift of Bread and Cakes.

SUNDAY, 21ST. The young people took part in the evening service which was well attended, many Wycliff students and staff being present in the congregation. Afterwards an open-air service concluded the day's activities.

MONDAY, 22ND. Members of the Westminster Chapel Dorcas Guild brought over their year's work. They had all been here before and could well appreciate the alterations carried out during

the winter months. The garments were a delight and we were very conscious of the many hours of love and patience behind the beautiful garments which lay before us. They were as follows: 12 pairs Knickers, 10 pairs Briefs, 13 Nightdresses, 12 pairs Pyjamas, 9 Dresses, 6 Aprons, 16 Jumpers, 16 Cardigans, 22 Pullovers, 3 Scarves, 13 Vests, 1 Cot Cover, 13 pairs Ankle Socks, 19 pairs Socks, 14 pairs Stockings.

TUESDAY, 23RD. Anon, £1. Surbiton, £5. Manor Park, £2/10/-: "this is instead of buying flowers for my husband's funeral last week." Princes Hall S.S., Buckhurst Hill, £2. Shoebury Shoe Fund, £2/2/-. Anon, 10/-. Mr. White spoke at Dagenham Baptist Church Women's Meeting. Our cricket team were playing Broadmead. This match had far-reaching results—if we win, we win the shield. The atmosphere was somewhat tense when the team left, but they came home rejoicing! The shield had been won.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH. Dagenham, £1/10/-. Sevenoaks, £5. Woodford Green, £2 and 10/-. Interviews today regarding two boys in need of help. They will most probably be admitted next week.

THURSDAY, 25TH. "E.L.," £1. Mr. White at Eldon Road Baptist Church Women's Meeting.

FRIDAY, 26TH. Wood Green, £1. The children broke up for their summer holidays. Phyllis went away with her father for a short holiday. Dr. and Mrs. Willings and their two young children came to tea. This visit has been talked about for a long time and has at last materialised. Dr. Willings has, from time to time, visited us professionally since he came to the district last year. Malcolm (one of our "old" boys) came home on leave.

SATURDAY, 27TH. Some of the children went out with friends and some, with staff, went to the Wycliff Language Course Open Day at Chigwell. The weather—very squally—completes the training of would-be missionaries.

SUNDAY, 28TH. The one day in the week we are all together. We have to guard this day. Many activities could enter upon the sanctity of God's day, but holding fast repays adequate dividends. We read of an old man who had to walk several miles to and from his work every day and on Sunday he walked three miles to church and three miles back. One day a friend said: "Why don't you conserve your energy on Sundays?" Back came the reply: "I go to church to **get** energy!" So do we.

MONDAY, 29TH. Woodford Green, £2. Manor Park, £15. Holiday preparations are in earnest. Wherever you go there are clothes. The mending room is a hive of industry as staff and older girls share in the work to be covered before the 9th. The clothing store has been busy and all holiday clothes having been fitted are now being appropriately marked.



TUESDAY, 30TH. Seven Kings, £9. Epping, £1. The last cricket match of the season. Our team, as the winners, played a team comprised of representatives of all the other teams in the league. WE WON! A very good game. How proud we are of the lads. Seven from the family, and four from our Abridge Work. The team lost only one game during the season and won the league convincingly. (Incidentally, the only team that beat us was bottom of the league!!) We didn't dream when the season began that we should succeed in this way, and full credit must be given to all the boys and particularly to Derek, the captain, for his leadership and example. Medals were presented to each member of the team, including reserves. During October the shield will be presented at a special meeting. Well done, lads!



WEDNESDAY, 31ST. Home Box, £5/2/10. Chingford C.C. Women's Meeting, 10/-. Anon, 10/-.

AUGUST, 1957

THURSDAY, 1ST. Miss Parkes became engaged to one of our "old" boys. We wish them God's richest blessing and guidance upon future plans. The children were very anxious for a peep at the ring. Two boys, aged 10 and 13, joined our family—a little apprehensive at first, perhaps, but we know they will soon settle.

FRIDAY, 2ND. An Old friend (in years and length of friendship with the family) called unexpectedly and left two cheques, £50 Covenant Gift and £25 for the holidays. Woodford Green, £10. Epping, £2/10/-. Woking, 1lb. Tea. The boys played cricket (a friendly game) at Abridge and once again kept up their reputation. Mr. White interviewed a parent—circumstances, to say the least, problematic for her, but in answer to prayer God melted and broke down. Sometimes time seems inadequate for these things, but we remember Christ was never too busy to help someone in need and we would give Him thanks for being able to help others along difficult pathways.

SATURDAY, 3RD. Some of the children were invited by the Abridge branch of the British Legion to a fete.

SUNDAY, 4TH. The children enjoyed services at Abridge and Woodford Baptist Church today. They excitedly said "good-bye" to their teachers as they realised they wouldn't be there for the next three Sundays.

MONDAY, 5TH. Bank holiday for most, but as we are going away in two days' time we didn't plan anything special. Three children who have been in our family for several years returned to their father now that he has re-married and set up home again. We were sorry to say "good-bye" and will be much in prayer for their future happiness. From Highams Park, 1 Hand-knitted Cardigan, Second-hand Dress. Woodford, £1. "Old" Boys, £1/9/-. Waltham Abbey, 5/- (for holidays).

[See separate account of holiday.]

SEPTEMBER, 1957

SUNDAY, 1ST. It was nice to be back in our own places of worship once more and to witness to the faithfulness of God as folk enquired about our holiday in Devon.

MONDAY, 2ND. Legacy, £1,000. Bethany Hall S.S., £8. "W," £3. As gifts, small and large, have arrived here day by day since 1st May, we realise how specifically God answers prayer. Often He has provided in advance where He knew the need, but we didn't!

TUESDAY, 3RD. Wimbledon, £1 and Cardigan and Wool for girls' gloves, together with pattern. Keswick Baptist S.S., Bos-

combe, £2/4/6. The boys all popped along to the barber this morning. It was impossible to be attended to in Devon—the queues were too long.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH. After prayer, and feeling it to be God's Will, we took steps to purchase a Bedford Utilabrake to replace the 1933 Austin. The latter's maintenance costs had been considerable recently, and engine replacements were difficult to obtain. It's general condition was not up to standard for constant carrying of passengers, especially children and, prompted constantly by Mr. Olney, who mostly drove the Austin, we prayed that God, in His time, would provide. A recent legacy with a "tag"—NOT TO BE USED FOR GENERAL MAINTENANCE—was God's reply to the prayers and soon we shall be in possession of the first brand new vehicle our family has had. From East Rudham, 2 Sacks Carrots.

THURSDAY, 5TH. Mr. Crowhurst, with some of the boys, has been trying to tidy the garden. Apparently there was more rain in Woodford than in Devon and three weeks' growth has produced dahlias like small trees, and the weeds trying to catch up with them.

FRIDAY, 6TH. Leyton, £2. Django left us to return to his father. Our prayers will constantly follow him that he will allow God to undertake and guide.

SATURDAY, 7TH. Anstey, 3 Sacks Peas. The Abridge Sunday School went to Walton-on-Naze and those of our Family belonging to that Sunday School were included. It was a very windy day, but fine, and proved a day of opportunity for contact with parents we do not usually see in our church.

SUNDAY, 8TH. Mr. White conducted Harvest Services at the Lighthouse Mission, Leytonstone after Mrs. White and he had tea with Violet and Brian (recently married).

MONDAY, 9TH. Children returned to school. Some had gone up from Infants to Juniors, some from Juniors to Secondary. They all went off with an enthusiasm to make the best of a fresh start. The staff were able to review quietly God's enabling and undertaking through the holiday period. They had all enjoyed immensely the holiday with the children and the experience of God's interest and power in it will never be forgotten. Mr. White conducted a harvest service at Gravesend. Holy Trinity Women's Meeting, £2. An "old" boy, 10/-. Latimer Hall S.S., £2.

TUESDAY, 10TH. Lanes End Mission Hall, £2/10/-. Theydon Bois Young Wives' Fellowship, £1/1/-. Beechcroft Road S.S., Surbiton, £2. The Women's Meeting at Abridge commenced the winter session.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH. Anon: £1, 2 Pullovers, 3 Berets, 6 pairs Socks. Barnet Brotherhood and Sisterhood, Barnet, £5/5/-. Woodford, £2. The new Utilabrake arrived—red and black. We said, reluctantly, "good-bye" to the Austin, realising the good service she had rendered; we think Austins ought to pay us for good advertising! Monthly Prayer Meeting.

THURSDAY, 12TH. Like everybody else we have the days when we cover all the routine work and nothing spectacular is recorded and yet we are constantly reminded by letter, or visit of a friend, just how wide is the circle of prayer partners. God has specially called the staff here to do the job—but He has surrounded us with love and prayer. The complete circle will not be known down here.

SATURDAY, 14TH. A day of preparation for visitors. Twenty-four Post Office Christian Association members, and thirteen members of Stockwell Girls' Bible Class came to tea. They were very interested and the P.O.C.A. friends particularly could appreciate the improvements to the full. They had seen the mess of 12 months ago when the work had just commenced! We were able to pass on the details of how God had planned and undertaken right through the months until today.

SUNDAY, 15TH. Harvest services at Abridge. Miss H. K. Simpson spoke to the children in the afternoon and Mr. F. W. Bradbury, General Secretary of the Gideons, conducted the evening service. With recent testimonies of how copies of the written Word left in hospital and prison have resulted in reformed lives he forcibly reminded us that God's power is just the same today as it always has been.

MONDAY, 16TH. P.O.C.A., £17/19/2 and £2/5/-. Highbury, 2/6. The Abridge Primary School held their harvest service in our church, conducted by Mr. White. Royston, 6 pairs Hand-knitted Gloves.

TUESDAY, 17TH. Highbury, £10. Woodford Green, £5. Manor Park, Junior C.E., 10/- (Miss Revell spoke at their meeting). Southampton, £1. At Abridge we had a Harvest Supper. Mr. Colin Selby was one of our guests and entertained us with selected pianoforte music.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH. Walthamstow, £1 and 10/-. Southend, £3. Woodford, Second-hand Couch and Chair.

THURSDAY, 19TH. Westcliff, £20. Wycliff Language Course, £1.

FRIDAY, 20TH. Torquay, 10/- and Second-hand Clothes. E.L., Tottenham, £1. Stockwell Girls' Bible Class, £2. The brother of one of our boys returned to London after being abroad in Hong Kong for three years.

SATURDAY, 21ST. A small group from the Bank of England Printing Works Christian Union, Debden, popped over to have a look round.

SUNDAY, 22ND. Some of the girls went with Mr. White over to the Meldrum S.S. Harvest Service, giving them an opportunity to meet their pen-friends. Mr. Fry and team of young people conducted the evening service at Abridge.

MONDAY, 23RD. A little boy joined our family circle. He seemed very happy right from the word "go."

Rise Park Chapel, £2. Welcome Mission & John Gurr Memorial Hall, Women's Bright Hour, 5/-. Walsall, £2. "P,"

£1. Harvests arriving hourly. Mr. Olney out collecting. We have appreciated it when churches have arranged to bring the goods over, hence releasing Mr. Olney for sorting and storage—a very big job at this time of the year.

Margaret and Mary started work locally. They have been valuable gems in our Family Circle and we pray that they will be a blessing in their new sphere.

TUESDAY, 24TH. Rickmansworth: "... a gift of £25 in memory of their eldest sister who passed away last November. She was always keenly interested in your work amongst the children. Praying God's richest blessing on your work." From "A well wisher in Acton," £3. Roding West Local Savings Area, £3. Holloway, £2. The badminton club commenced again under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Kearns.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH. Our new little boys went to see our doctor. Wycliff Language Course, having over estimated, or under eaten, sent us the remainder of their stores—a very useful consignment. We let our small boiler out so that a representative of the boiler firm could fit a new plate at 9 a.m. The said person arrived at 10.10 and found that his company had sent the wrong plate! We re-lit boiler and continue to wait for another appointment. Wood Lane Baptist Church, £1/1/-. Bolney Mission, £5/4/3. Ware, 7/6.

THURSDAY, 26TH. The auditor popped along to chat over final details of 1956/57 accounts. At tea time a very nice young American gentleman knocked at the door. Someone in Pickering and English had told him of our work and down he came to see for himself. He heard the children practising for the harvest services and had a look round. Charles left us today after being here 15 years and 20 days. He has gone to live with the elderly widow of his late manager. The arrangement should be of mutual help. We are having a "farewell" tea next Thursday. Enfield, £1. Eden Baptist Chapel, £5. Wycliff, £10. High Ongar, 5/-. Waltham Abbey, £1/10/-.

SATURDAY, 28TH. Most of the staff and children went over to Kenton Evangelical Free Church to have a scrumptious tea and to take part in a harvest service. Mr. White was particularly asked to give up-to-date answers to prayer and there was no difficulty (except shortage of time) to pass on some of the proofs of God's faithfulness.

SUNDAY, 29TH. Mr. Parker took evening service at Abridge whilst Mr. White was away at Mountnessing C.C.

MONDAY, 30TH. Another opportunity as a family for witness to God's faithfulness—this time at Stockwell Baptist Church. Harrow, £25. Mountnessing C.C., £3/4/10. Hornchurch, £1 and clothing. Southminster, "I enclose 5/- towards the 'Home'". It was nice to be at the Annual Gatherings in May. I pray for the work daily that God will save the children under your care. Sorry it is so small, from an Old Aged Pensioner." (Typical of many letters).



VIOLET'S WEDDING FEAST

Yes, everything was there that was needed to make this gathering just that little bit "special," as all wedding celebrations should be. There was the happy couple constantly smiling round on a gathering of relatives and friends, all in holiday mood. The tables were just right, the bright colours of the salad and gleaming fruit in jelly, vying with the harlequin crockery and the pretty dresses of the young ladies present, to add a gleam of brightness to the occasion. Then the cake in its proud sugar icing, proof of the love and thought given to this day. The visitors were there, too, all enjoying the welcome of the occasion. The bountiful supply of food vanished in a surprisingly short time; but a quick look round at the boys and girls, and older folk, too, showed quite clearly the pleasure it had given. Then came the cutting of the cake—the two principal figures stood and together cut the first slice of the special cake, made by Mrs. Webb's busy hands and suitable for even the youngest to enjoy.

Mr. White then spoke in his breezy style, yet all the time giving witness to the rock upon which his own life and that of all in his care is founded. A silence then fell on the company as Mrs. White, Senr., got up and placed before Violet and Brian a square box. How eagerly those two were watched as they lifted out the contents, a lovely gleaming kettle, speaking to us of many "cups of tea" when we visit the home about to be set up. This was a gift from all at Woodford for the happy couple. Brian spoke of the warm corner in both their hearts that we would always occupy. Violet (as usual) was very original in her remarks. She likened our prayers

to a list of "gifts required"; often handed round when folks needed guidance as to what to give as presents; and then impressed upon us all how important it is for us to take care of the gifts God has given us, basing her remarks upon the thought that all the wedding gifts are taken care of by their owners in case the giver should later visit the house to see their gift.

It would be difficult for anyone to say who was the happiest person in that room that evening—whether it were Violet or Brian; Brian's parents; or those who had been "father and mother" to Violet for so long; or Mrs. White, Sen.; or some others of the family circle; or if it were one of the boys and girls gathered round those swiftly-emptying tables; but it would not be at all difficult for anyone to pick out who it was who was getting the most honour that evening. It was made increasingly clear as the voices of all joined in singing praises to the One who all wanted to honour, in the beautiful words of the "Home Anthem"—"How good is the God we adore."

I wonder if you have guessed? This was a wedding celebration, it is true, yet a wedding celebration with a difference, for it was a pre-wedding tea to enable all Violet's brothers and sisters to share in her big day.

As an Auntie (by adoption) to the bride-to-be, I thrilled at this extra proof of the love and thought that lay behind the planning of this celebration.

When the party broke up, some to clear away and others to prepare the room for **the** big occasion tomorrow, we slipped away with Violet to see some of the wedding gifts, and also the very dainty "Bo-Peep" dress which was going to do its share to make Saturday a very special day for her.

We came away from this "wedding celebration with a difference" rejoicing that these little "nieces" of ours, and their brothers, were being shown so clearly that the "best friend to have is Jesus," and that they were ready, when the time came, to pass on this knowledge to others.



Our Thanksgiving Service on the Beach

SUMMER HOLIDAY IN DEVON, 1957

Most parents with young children are perhaps relieved once they have set off for their holiday. Much preparation and planning goes beforehand, but all can be disrupted if a member of the family contracts an infectious illness such as measles, chicken pox, or mumps. We had a similar feeling as our time of departure arrived: nearly 40 children, would they all be well? Various friends had chicken pox—we hadn't had any children with chicken pox for ages—yet we didn't waste time worrying, realising in a quiet way that God had opened the door for us to go to Devon; God had supplied the need; why should we have any doubts? On Tuesday, 6th, there was no panic, for preparations had been going on for a long time and by evening all cases were packed and put in the hall to await the coach in the morning. Goodness, would there be room for us as well as the luggage? We really wondered, it seemed a mountain! The children went to bed early; staff coped with necessary odd jobs and finally did reach slumberland, carefully setting alarm clocks for 4.15 a.m.

It was dark when we got up and called the children—they didn't need shaking this morning. Quickly they dressed and arrived down for breakfast. It was necessary to have a good substantial meal in preparation for the long journey ahead. At 5.30 a brand new 41-seat coach arrived and the drivers, two of them, helped Mr. Olney pack the luggage inside. They must have needed a shoe horn! Breakfast finished, we assembled in the hall and then on to the coach. The Hillman, HRW 322, had been loaded and Mr. White travelled in this with three passengers. We pulled out of Crescent Road sharp at 6 o'clock (E.T.D.), waving to Mrs. White, Senr., Mr. and Mrs. Olney and one or two others who had managed to crawl out of bed at this unearthly hour.

At Aldgate Mr. and Mrs. Will Cowling in their Ford 8 joined the convoy. They had decided to come with us (just for a few days!) in Devon. Will is one of the very "old" boys—has grandchildren of his own.

As the staff sank back into the comfort of their seats it was with a sense of gratitude to God that He had made it possible to provide such a lovely holiday for the children—here at last—on the way! The children made lists of the counties, towns and "queer-named" places we passed through. It was three hours before we were able to pull up at a cafe, at Andover. We had passed other cafes but they were closed—we were too early for them! The journey was really quite uneventful, except for the appreciation of the beautiful scenery we passed through. Travelling mid-week, there wasn't much traffic and we arrived in Devon by mid-day. Soon we spotted the Churston Ferrers sign, next the little post office, and lastly the sign "Fenton School." Along the drive went the coach, not without some difficulty. The trees and shrubs were very

overgrown, and it is evidently an unusual occurrence for a coach to pass along that way.

We found ourselves before the stately mansion, known on the map as Lupton House. It was the former home of the Lord Churstons, the present Lord Churston now living in a smaller house nearby. The school staff were still hurriedly preparing for our arrival. We soon had all luggage sorted, beds made and were ready for the meal prepared by the cook and her husband. After tea the little children explored the grounds whilst the older ones went to the coast for a look at the sea. The staff thought they would have an extra long night, the children being so tired after the long journey, excitement, etc., but it didn't work out that way. From 4 a.m. onwards next morning there was chatter from still excited children and everybody was up in good time for "quiet-time" and breakfast.

After breakfast we went down to the sea. The vehicles were used for luggage and the majority of us walked down pretty, deserted country lanes to Broadsands. We had the use of a hut there and with a primus stove brought by Mr. Cowling and other equipment from home we were able to provide cups of tea and lemonade when needed. We came back for dinner and had a cricket match on the games field in the afternoon. This came to a hasty end with the arrival of a heavy shower of "Devonshire rain." We dived for the shelter of the trees, but soon the rain trickled through these and we got rather wet!

Throughout the holiday we usually had family prayers in the assembly room after breakfast. Mr. White took many of the topics connected with the sea: sand, boats, tackling, rudder, sails, waves, lighthouses, fishermen, nets, etc. How many do the children remember? And do they remember the lessons drawn from them? The first Friday was a horrid wet day so the games room was very useful. Mr. and Mrs. H. Sayer (of Surbiton) and their two sons, on holiday at Teignmouth, came over to see us. Their coming lessened the disappointment of not getting down to the sea, although we did eventually arrive there in the afternoon and enjoyed the jam tarts brought by these friends. Phyllis also arrived today, making our family complete. Mr. Sayer taught us a new chorus: "I am the way, the truth and the life."

Sometimes, in small groups, we went to explore Brixham; one cannot easily tire of the uniqueness of this fishing village. The lighthouse was a target of interest for a few of us who walked along the harbour wall, but it was found to be a disused one. The first Saturday afternoon, although raining, the little ones went down to the beach, and paddled with raincoats, etc., on. One of the staff even took them in swimming, but had to keep her raincoat on to keep warm! It was rather a strange spectacle! There was a reason for this unconventional expedition to the sea: tomorrow would be Sunday and extra disappointing so early in the holiday

to miss an outing to the beach two days running. Hence, we let off steam—didn't even notice the rain. The older ones went down in the evening—there was an unusually high tide which made the trip for the swim well worth while.

Each Sunday we all walked to Brixham Baptist Church in the mornings. We remember the happy times of fellowship we had there in 1954 and it was like home to go there again. The Rev. Colin Jones, Minister-Elect, conducted the service on the first morning. Mr. and Mrs. Sayer and family came to dinner and very kindly took charge of the children for an hour in the afternoon. Luxury, indeed, for the staff to have a quiet Sunday afternoon. On Sunday evenings staff and older ones went to different places of worship, as far as Upton Vale Baptist Church, Torquay. Some stayed afterwards to open-air meetings.

One sermon was especially for C.H. & M. staff. "Be still"—we shall remember the retired minister's challenge. From practical experience he emphasized the need to relax and be still often if we are to be enabled to feed others.

Amongst the most cherished memories of the holiday are the times of fellowship with other Christians. Some friends came to see us at home or on the beach and we were able to visit others. We eventually came home well fed spiritually and the better equipped to face the winter's work ahead. The children didn't mind setting Sunday apart; they didn't mind setting aside the suggested one-tenth of their holiday pocket money for the collections; 'twas but a very small way of thanksgiving to God for His love revealed to them in many ways, especially through the provision of the lovely holiday.

We had planned to spend time on the playing fields, but eventually the weather so improved that we were at Broadsands most of the daylight hours and our activities consisted mainly of shell hunting, fishing, rock climbing, paddling, swimming, sandcastle building and last, but not least, eating! We find these days that children need educating as to how to spend a day at the seaside—yes, the seaside for them is a crowded resort where most time and money is spent on amusements. We prefer the countryside, the fresh air, the wonder of all the beauty to be seen and explored along the coast. At first some of the children were quite lost—didn't know what to do with themselves, but the longer we stayed the more increased became their confidence, interest and activity and they weren't quite so punctual when it came to "going-home" time! Some swimmers asked to go bathing from the rocks where the water was deeper, but Mr. White always insisted on supervision in these cases.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowling (whose few days turned into three weeks) had a very unique idea—they took two staff in turns for a ride round and tea out on several occasions. As they put it, "to give them a special treat and give them a rest from the children." This was a gesture which was appreciated; the staff, realising it was the

children's holiday foremost, did not mind being with the children, but this unexpected luxury and opportunity to see more of the beautiful Devonshire scenery was most welcome.

Sometimes we wondered whether we had brought more than just a handful of children with us, they spread out on the beach bent on numerous investigations and it wasn't until tummies told them it was meal time that we realised we hadn't lost anyone!

Mr. White tried to teach us volley ball. We had seen the students at the Wycliff Language Course playing and it looked very easy. There was a shock to come. There was laughter when the "coach" was calling out "You must hit the ball up! UP! UP!—and missed a shot himself; only to be told by one of the boys, "No, sir, you must hit the ball **up!**"

One of the thrills of the holiday was that one of our "old" girls, who with her children has shared in our family during the past year, after being in hospital until the day before our departure, was able to come with us. The three weeks made her look much more fit than lots of bottles of medicine and pills! It was her little Janet's birthday so mother provided special birthday cakes and ice-cream for us all.

For the last three years, when saying grace before meals, we have used the verses which we learned in Devon in 1954. We prevailed upon the children to think out some different ones and eventually adopted "We thank Thee for the food we eat, we thank Thee for Thy love so sweet"; and also, "As once more our meal is spread, we thank Thee for our daily bread."

On one occasion Django was offered 5/- if he would dive in the sea to find a lady's false teeth: he dived and dived, in vain! One of the staff managed to swim right across Boodsands Bay which might be estimated at about $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile. This achievement was unintentional, but it set the target and before long the bay had been swum, breast stroke and back stroke, by other members of the family, the youngest being Harriet, 12 years. Mr. White had promised certificates for any achievement 25 yards and over, in the water, and these were ultimately awarded by some friends from Torquay towards the end of the holiday.

One day we had a sand castle competition: ideas were very original and included an abbey, church, helter-skelter, Oakdale Infants School, etc. Mr. Cowling had the honour of the task of judging the competition.

We did well for ice-creams. Apart from what we bought with out pocket money, we had ice-lollies all round given by a gentleman in a neighbouring hut. On the last afternoon one of the ladies in the ice-cream kiosk who had served us day-by-day called one of the staff on one side and wanted to know something about the family. She thought we were very well behaved! Although a

widow and obviously not having great means she requested to give us all an ice-cream each!

We enjoyed our picnics on the beach. The cook prepared a variety of sandwiches and always some home-made cake. Once some people passing by saw the sandwiches being handed round and sat down with us hoping to be included.

Sometimes during the evenings some of the staff and older children snatched a little ride in the car to some of the beauty spots—we were amazed to find that there were so few folk of an evening enjoying Devon's beauty! We drove along the country lanes, often only wide enough for one car, and so it was just as well perhaps that other folk didn't have the same idea.

A table tennis tournament was started amongst the older children and staff, but as the weather improved and we were at the sea so much, we didn't get as far as playing a championship match.

We had one "expedition": breakfast sharp to time and then off to Brixham, where we had arranged to go across Tor Bay, on the *Western Lady*, to Torquay. It was a beautiful morning. Mr. and Mrs. Cowling, who had made other arrangements for the day, were there to wave us off. The Captain was most interesting; he told the children about all the big ships he had captained, how he had seen marvellous scenery all over the world, but nothing equal to Tor Bay! He even let the children sit with him on the bridge and explained how he manoeuvred the boat by operating the engines.

Early one morning a small group went across to Brixham Harbour to see the fisherman at work unloading large fishing trawlers. First the fish were drawn up from the hold and thrown on to a waiting lorry from baskets. When the lorry was full it drove to the Fish Market where it was unloaded on to the floor to be sorted in to bins according to type and size. All this activity proceeded to the accompaniment of the screeching of hopeful seagulls, some of whom weren't disappointed, as one or two odds and ends were thrown out for them. It was funny to watch them squabbling (just like children!). We decided it must be very cold in winter time to work in any department of the fish industry.

The children had "snacks" laid on always—abundance of large juicy blackberries waiting to be plucked. To and from the beach they quenched their thirst continually, but never did the supply run out. The girls collected enough one day to be stewed for tea. The boys, of course, couldn't manage to collect more than they could eat on the spot!

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, of Surbiton, came over one evening. They were staying in Brixham. Mrs. Smith lived in Brixham before her marriage and remembers Lupton House in its former glory, when Lord Churston lived there, and she was often the recipient of his lavish entertainment. After supper we had some lively community hymn singing. The buildings resounded—literally!

One morning, some gannets more intelligent than us, knew that there were lots of nice fish to be obtained in our bay. We watched some of them swooping down from 20 and 30 feet, diving into water to procure fish—then off. This operation continued for some while and it was fascinating to watch the skill of these birds.

The cook and her husband fed us very well all the time we were away. One occasion was rather amusing: the menu stated a "hot pot," which was apparently one of the favourite dishes of the boarders at the school. It was an extra hot pot, because the pepper pot must have been upset into it. The meal was served in the usual way; then the extraordinary facial expressions after each first mouthful was a sight to behold. Needless to say, we had to resort to an alternative.

The little children always kept us amused with their quaint sayings and doings. On one occasion Maurice wanted a spoon to "wind" his tea; and on another, Tina handed Mrs. White a newspaper, saying, "Here is your comic, Mrs. White!" The first tea time we couldn't find one four-year-old anywhere. After an extensive search he was found sitting comfortably and quietly in Mr. Cowling's car, obviously not hungry.

On the occasion when Dr. Willing's father and mother and two sisters popped over from Torquay to see us, we asked Miss M. Willings to judge our "shell and stone" competition. Collecting had progressed right through the holiday—a competitor could produce 25 specimens. Prizes first, second and third were awarded, and chocolate bars for each who had entered. The collections were varied and some treasures were brought home for keeps.

The last full day in Devon was spent at the sea, and on arrival at the beach we had our family prayers. We felt nothing could be more fitting than to have our thanksgiving service on the spot where we had spent so many happy hours—and where we could witness for the One we love and trust.

Last evening we just had to tackle the packing. Mr. Cowling looked at the pile of luggage in the hall and shook his head in bewilderment. He thought it couldn't possibly go in the coach.

Soon after breakfast on the 28th we had our usual prayers at which Mr. Cowling and Mrs. Rogers (an "old" boy and an "old" girl) expressed thanks for being able to share in the holiday and Harriet (one of the present family), spontaneously, on behalf of the children, thanked the staff. Our coach from Woodford arrived at 9.30 and when we had said "good-bye" to Mr. and Mrs. Miller (Headmaster and his wife) and to the school staff we were once again travelling, this time towards London, drinking in the wonder of the English countryside and determined to retain in our mind's eye many of the scenes.

The Hillman car was held up through a puncture and Mr. White's hands got well greased. Stopping at an Andover café, he requested the proprietor to allow him to wash. Permission was

granted, but not in a sink! An old "mop bucket" in current use, was filled with hot water, some soda put in, and Mr. White requested to wash in the yard outside!!

Perhaps the highest peak of holiday happiness is when one actually arrives home again. We were all excited at returning to Woodford and perhaps the happiest moment for the staff was the unprompted rousing cheer of the children as the coach turned into Crescent Road. There was no doubt as to their thrill at being home once more. They pranced into the buildings, rushing hither and thither in their excitement.

The greatest delight was to find a beautifully prepared meal waiting for us in the dining room. Although tired, we were also hungry.

How good is the God we adore,
Our faithful unchangeable friend,
Whose love is as great as his power
And knows neither measure nor end.

'Tis Jesus the first and the last
Whose spirit shall guide us safe home,
We'll praise Him for all that is past
And trust Him for all that's to come.



At the Seaside
Mr. Cowling—an old 'boy' with Victor—our youngest

THIS IS MY STORY.

I am sure that nobody on board the Greek Liner "Neptunia" was more relieved than my husband when at last we sighted land after 8 days voyage across the Atlantic. Karl-Heinz had been seasick from the time we left Ireland until we reached Belle Isle, a little island off the coast of Labrador. We were on our way to Montreal, our final destination being Saint John, New Brunswick, where God had called us to serve Him in The United Church of Canada.

The country of my adoption is quite a contrast to the land of my birth. I was born in Kent, England, and spent the early years of my childhood in various parts of the country. In December, 1944, because of unsuitable home conditions, my two sisters and I were placed under the care of The Children's Home and Mission, which was then temporarily at Tiptree, Essex, and under the directorship of the late Mr. Herbert White. A few months later, in May, 1945, the challenge of the gospel was presented to me, and I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour. I heard later that my twin sister had also received Christ at the same meeting. I was then just nine years old, but in all the succeeding years, up till the present time, I have proved Him to be a loving Saviour and a faithful friend. After leaving school, I joined the staff of the Children's Home and Mission, during which time my spiritual experience was deepened and I learned to be utterly dependent upon the Lord, and rely trustfully and prayerfully upon Him to provide my every need.

In 1953, while on holiday in the North of England, I met the young man who is now my husband. At that time he was in training for the foreign mission field and planned to go to Tanganyika. However, the Lord did not open up the way, and a year after our marriage we followed His call into the ministry of the United Free Church of Scotland. Our first appointment was on the rough and rugged Shetland Islands, where we proceeded a few weeks after our little son was born. We spent eight months on the Shetlands. The work was hard, but enjoyable, and we experienced great blessing. However, our stay was destined to be of brief duration. In the autumn of 1956 we realised God's call to serve Him in Canada, and here we are labouring under His guiding hand. We can but magnify and praise His Name for the way in which He has led us here. This is not only a wonderful country to live in, but it is a country of untold opportunities for the preaching of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is a great need for ministers and evangelists. My husband has three churches in his charge and has to travel in his car over 40 miles every Sunday for the services, besides all the other activities and visitation which he has to do during the week. It is a busy life, but it brings great satisfaction and spiritual gratification to both of us.



Meanwhile our little son, Juergen, is growing fast and brings us great joy. He is a real contribution to our happy home life and is truly a gift from God.

As I reflect upon my past and consider my present life, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to all those who helped me to deepen and strengthen my faith in God, especially to Mr. and Mrs. V. J. White and Mrs. Herbert White.

And to those who read this story I would lovingly recommend my Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, "who is the same yesterday, to-day and forever."—

THE CHILDREN'S HOME AND MISSION Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 30th April, 1957

PAYMENTS		£	s.	d.	RECEIPTS		£	s.	d.
1956					1956				
242	To Rates, Taxes and Insurances..	..	239	5	11	By Covenants	773	6	9
460	" Heat and Light ..	..	585	10	9	" Subscriptions and Donations	2,005	3	8
43	" Telephone ..	..	47	12	5	" Box Holders ..	201	186	12
471	" Postage, Printing and Stationery ..	..	387	3	3	" Shoe Fund and Pound Day ..	17	21	14
1,933	" Provisions ..	..	2,060	19	8	" Legacies ..	2,181	447	17
414	" Furniture, Linen, Clothes and Shoes ..	..	384	8	4	" Government Grants (Pensions)	135	28	7
249	" Household Expenses ..	..	234	10	10	" Payments received on account of Children ..	1,276	1,501	4
860	" Staff Allowance and National Insurance ..	..	929	17	3	" Interest on Deposit Account ..	—	48	6
175	" Gifts to Staff (Holidays), Donations and Pocket Money Scheme ..	..	116	13	7	" Amount transferred from Special Fund ..	—	4,035	0
35	" Medical Supplies ..	..	27	1	11	" Amount transferred from Accumulated Fund, being excess of Expenditure over Income for the year ..	—	630	1
230	" Travelling and Excursion Expenses ..	..	246	8	10				
354	" Repairs to Property ..	..	180	12	10				
222	" General Repairs and Replacements, including Vehicles ..	..	225	3	2				
36	" Incidental Expenses ..	..	22	17	0				
35	" Holidays ..	..	72	3	1				
80	" Depreciation—Motor Car and Van..	..	80	0	0				
88	" Tiptree Land Tax and Valuation ..	..	—	—	—			
288	" Alterations and Improvements to Property ..	..	3,986	2	3				
			9,826	11	1				
373	" Transfer to Accumulated Fund, being Excess of Income over Expenditure ..		—	—	—				
			£9,826	11	1				
			£6,588						

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BALANCE SHEET, as at 30th April, 1957

1956	LIABILITIES	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
	INVESTED FUNDS—				
	The Florence Barclay Memorial Hall ..	2,250	0 0		
	The Dr. F. E. Marsh Gift ..	1,700	0 0		
	The Mr. & Mrs. William Stark Gift ..	1,150	0 0		
5,100		5,100	0 0		
	SPECIAL FUNDS—				
	Balance at 1st May, 1956	3,172	9 4		
	Income from sale of Tiptree Land ..	867	6 9		
		4,039	16 1		
	Less: Transfer to Income and Expenditure Account (improvements) ..	4,035	0 0		
3,172				4 16 1	
	ACCUMULATED FUND—				
	Balance at 1st May, 1956	1,451	14 6		
	Less: Transfer to Income and Expenditure Account ..	630	1 1		
1,452		821	13 5		
£9,724		£5,926	9 6		

1956	ASSETS	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
	FREEHOLD PROPERTY—				
	The Florence Barclay Memorial Hall ..	2,250	0 0		
	18/24, Crescent Road, Woodford ..	1,700	0 0		
	8/10, Crescent Road, Woodford ..	1,150	0 0		
5,100		5,100	0 0		
3,172	DEPOSIT ACCOUNT ..			4 16 1	
	HOME ACCOUNT—				
	Garage and Sheds ..	98	3 0		
	Household Furniture, etc. ..	500	0 0		
	Motor Van ..				
	and Car ..	£150	0 0		
	Less: Depreciation ..	80	0 0		
				70 0 0	
	Prepayment ..	124	4 0		
	Current Bank Account ..	62	0 2		
	Cash in Hand ..	2	12 7		
		856	19 9		
	Less: Sundry Creditors ..	35	6 4		
1,452		821	13 5		
£9,724		£5,926	9 6		

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

Dated this 27th day of September, 1957.
Barclays Bank Building,
73, Cheapside,
London, E.C.2.

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



On Holiday—Ready for Church