

# THE Cheshire Smile

Vol. 8

No. 2

SUMMER 1962

ONE SHILLING

*Photo: Camera Craft*

Irene  
Batcher  
takes on  
some  
of the  
secretarial  
work at  
the West  
Midland  
Home  
(see p.32)



# The Ryder Cheshire Mission for the Relief of Suffering

**Founders: Sue Ryder, O.B.E.  
and Group Captain G. L. Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C.**

Non-denominational and depending upon voluntary help and contributions, the Mission forms a family, or "Commonwealth", of the following entirely separate and autonomous Foundations, more of which, it is hoped, will follow. A special point is made of keeping administrative costs down to the minimum.

## I. FORGOTTEN ALLIES TRUST

*Hon. Treasurers:*

G. D. Levack, Esq., F.C.A.  
H. Ince, Esq.  
T. Siddall, Esq.

*Hon. Architect:*

J. Adams, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.

*Hon. Medical Adviser:*

Dr. Grace Griffiths

*Secretaries:*

Miss P. Bains  
Miss D. Urbaniec

*Hon. Secretary:*

Miss A. Grubb

*Hon. Solicitor:*

W. L. Morris, Esq.

All enquiries about Forgotten Allies Trust should be made to Cavendish (Glensford 252).

Following the relief work started in 1945 in many camps, hospitals, and prisons for the victims of Nazism, there is today still much individual case-work throughout Germany, in addition to the following:

**Sue Ryder Homes for Concentration Camp Survivors.** Cavendish and Melford, Suffolk. 140 Forgotten Allies are brought each year from the Continent for a complete holiday and to join those already resettled there.

**Sue Ryder Home for Sick and Disabled Forgotten Allies,** Hickleton Hall, near Doncaster.

**St. Christopher Settlement.** Grossburgwedel, Hannover.

*Secretary:* Mr. Jerzy Neumann.

Eight homes and several flats, built mostly by international teams of volunteers for those whose health is broken.

**St. Christopher Kreis.** Berlinerstrasse, Frankfurt a.m.

*Chairman:* H.H. Princess Margaret of Hesse und bei Rhein.

Since 1945, Sue Ryder has been personally responsible for the visiting, after-care, and rehabilitation of the Stateless boys in German prisons, many of them convicted for reprisals against their former torturers.

**Homes for the Sick in Poland**

(adults and children).

*Chairman:* Director Rabczynski, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Warsaw. Prefabricated buildings, each containing forty beds and costing £5,000 are sent from England to relieve the distress of the Forgotten Allies. Nine Homes have been established at Konstancin, Zyrardow, Naleczow, Helenow, Pruszkow, Radzymin, Bydgoszcz, Zielona Gora and Gdynia.

**Homes for the Sick and Disabled in Jugoslavia**

(adults and children).

*Chairman:* Dr. Kraus, Ministry of Health, Belgrade.

Three Homes have been established on the outskirts of Belgrade.

### **Home for the Sick and Disabled in Greece.**

*Chairman:* Mr. Theologos, Institute for Research and Development of Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled, Athens.

One Home has been established near Athens.

## **II. RAPHAEL**

Out of the combined work of the Sue Ryder Forgotten Allies Trust and the Cheshire Foundation Homes for the Sick there has evolved the concept of a series of International Settlements and Training Centres, which shall have as their object: (i) supplementing the work of the two Foundations, principally by taking those specialised cases which neither of them are able to admit; (ii) testing out new ideas; (iii) safeguarding and developing the spirit and ideals of the Mission as a whole.

The first of the Settlements, both of which come under the personal control of the two founders and belong directly to the Mission, are:—

### **Dehra Dun, U.P, India.**

Lying in the foothills of the Northern Himalayas, Raphael is the Far Eastern Headquarters of the Mission. From small beginnings in tents in April 1959, it today houses 65 leprosy patients and 40 defective and homeless children, and is being planned as a whole "village" of Homes where 600 or more of the incurably sick may lead as full and happy lives as possible.

*Hon. Medical Director:* Lt.-Gen. K. S. Master, M.C., I.M.S.(Rtd.).

*Hon. Secretary:* Mrs. A. Dhar.

*Hon. Welfare Officer:* Mrs. D. Rawlley.

### **Hydon Heath, Godalming, Surrey.**

Recently opened for the older age groups, especially those who are married and would otherwise be forced by their disabilities to separate.

*Hon. Medical Officer:* Dr. R. Mann.

*Hon. Financial Adviser:* A. O. Gill, Esq.

*Hon. Buildings' Supervisor:* T. Taylor, Esq.

*Warden:* R. Taylor, Esq.

## **III. THE CHESHIRE FOUNDATION HOMES FOR THE SICK**

*Registered in accordance with the National Assistance Act 1948*

Caring for the incurable and homeless sick (mostly in the younger age-group), they are autonomously run by local committees within the general aims and principles of the Foundation. In each country there is a central trust which owns all the properties, presides over the Homes, and is the source of the committees' authority. Average number of patients when Home complete: thirty.

### **United Kingdom**

*Chairman:* Dr. G. C. Cheshire, F.B.A., D.C.L.

*Trustees:* Grp. Capt. G. L. Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C., Mrs. Sue Ryder Cheshire, O.B.E., Mrs. M. M. Clark, J.P., Sir H. Edmund Davies, B.C.L., R. R. Edgar, Esq., The Earl Ferrers, His Honour Judge Rowe Harding, Dr. Basil Kiernander, M.R.C.P., The Lady St. Levan, J.P., Miss C. E. Morris, M.B.E., Alderman A. Pickles, O.B.E., J.P., B. Richards, Esq., W. W. Russell, Esq., Major The Lord St. Oswald, M.C.

#### *Secretary:*

Miss M. S. Mason

#### *Asst. Secretaries:*

Miss E. Evans

Miss E. Mayes

#### *Hon. Treasurers:*

J. R. Handscomb, Esq.

R. G. Emmett, Esq.

#### *Hon. Solicitors:*

Fladgate & Co.

Enquiries to: 7 Market Mews, London, W.1. (GROsvenor 2665)

*(homes listed overleaf)*

		Tel. Nos.	
		Office	Residents
<b>Allt Dinas, Cotswold Cheshire Home,</b> Overton Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire ...	Cheltenham	52569	
<b>Alne Hall,</b> Alne, York ... ..	Tollerton	295	
<b>Amphill Park House,</b> near Bedford ... ..	Amphill	3247	3173
<b>Athol House, London Cheshire Home at Dulwich,</b> 138 College Road, S.E.19 ...	Gipsy Hill	3740	
<b>Cann House,</b> Tamerton Foliot, Plymouth, Devon ... ..	Plymouth	71742	72645
<b>Carnsalloch House,</b> Kirkmahoe, Dumfries ...	Dumfries	1624	2742
<b>Coomb,</b> Llanstephan, Carmarthenshire... ..	Llanstephan	292	310
<b>Danybryn,</b> Radyr, Glamorgan ... ..			
<b>Dolywern,</b> nr. Chirk, Denbighshire ... ..			
<b>Greathouse,</b> Kington Langley, Chippenham, Wiltshire ... ..	Kington Langley	235	327
<b>Greenhill House,</b> Timsbury, near Bath, Somerset ... ..			
<b>The Grove,</b> East Carleton, Norfolk ... ..	Mulbarton	279	—
<b>Hawthorn Lodge,</b> Hawthorn Road, Dorchester, Dorset ... ..	Dorchester	1403	—
<i>(for mentally handicapped children)</i>			
<b>Heatherley,</b> Effingham Lane, Copthorne, Crawley, Sussex ... ..	Copthorne	2670	
<b>The Hill,</b> Sandbach, Cheshire ... ..	Sandbach	566	508
<b>Holehird House,</b> Windermere, Westmorland	Windermere	2500	
<b>Holme Lodge,</b> Julian Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham ... ..	Nottingham	89002	—
<b>Honresfeld,</b> Blackstone Edge Road, Littleborough, Lancs. ... ..	Littleborough	88627	880651
<b>Hovenden House,</b> Fleet, Spalding, Lincolnshire	Holbeach	3037	
<b>Kenmore,</b> Whitcliffe Road, Cleckheaton, Yorkshire ... ..	Cleckheaton	2904	2724
<b>Le Court,</b> Liss, Hampshire ... ..	Blackmoor	364	229
<b>Llanhenock,</b> Nr. Newport, Monmouthshire...	Caerleon	545	
<b>*Marske Hall,</b> near Redcar, Yorkshire ... ..			
<b>Mayfield House,</b> East Trinity Road, Edinburgh	Granton	2037	
<b>Miraflores,</b> 154 Worple Road, Wimbledon, S.W.20 ... ..	Wimbledon	5058	
<i>(rehabilitation of ex mental patients)</i>			
<b>Mote House,</b> Mote Park, Maidstone, Kent ...	Maidstone	87911	87317
<b>St. Bridget's,</b> The Street, East Preston, West Sussex ... ..	Rustington	1988	
<b>St. Cecilia's,</b> Sundridge Avenue, Bromley, Kent	Ravensbourne	8377	7179
<b>St. Teresa's,</b> Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall ...	Marazion	336	365
<b>Seven Rivers,</b> Great Bromley, Colchester, Essex	Ardleigh	345	463
<b>Spofforth Hall,</b> near Harrogate, Yorkshire ...	Spofforth	284	287
<b>Staunton Harold,</b> Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire ... ..	Melbourne	71	387
<b>West Midland Cheshire Home,</b> Stourbridge Road, Wolverhampton, Staffs. ... ..	Wombourne	3056	—
<b>White Windows,</b> Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire ... ..	Halifax	81981	82173
Holy Cross, Mullion, Cornwall, was handed over in 1953 to Major (Mrs.) Shelagh Howe, who has managed it ever since entirely on her own initiative.			

## Eire

**Ardeen,** Shillelagh, Co. Wicklow ... .. Shillelagh 8

## India

*Trustees:* Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, T. N. Jagadisan, J. A. K. Martyn, O.B.E., Sir Dhiren Mitra, Col. L. Sawhny, Admiral G. B. Madden, Brig. Virendra Singh (Chairman), P. J. O'Leary (Managing Trustee), Y. S. Tayal (Treasurer), V. J. Taraporevala (Hon. Legal Adviser).

*Enquiries to:* P.O. Box 518, Calcutta.

**Anbu Nilayam**, Covelong, Madras.

**Banarsidas Chandiwala Swasthya Sadan**, Kalkaji, New Delhi.

**Bethlehem House**, Andheri, Bombay.

**Cheshire Home**, Bangalore.

**Cheshire Home**, Poona.

**Govind Bhawan**, 16 Pritam Road, Dehra Dun, U.P.

**Rustomji P. Patel Cheshire Home**, Sundernagar, Jamshedpur, Bihar.

*(for crippled children)*

**Shanti Rani House**, 13 Upper Strand Road, Serampore, West Bengal.

**Vrishanti Illam**, Katpadi Township, North Arcot.

*(for burnt-out leprosy patients)*

## Malaya

*Chairman of Governors:* The Hon. Mr. Justice Tan Ah Tah.

*Hon. Secretary:* Mrs. F. A. L. Morgan.

*Hon. Treasurer:* H. K. Franklin, Esq., A.C.A.

*Enquiries to* 10B Chulia Street, Singapore. (Singapore 93210)

**Johore Cheshire Home**, Jalan Larkin, Johore Bahru.

**Telok Paku**, 398-A Nicoll Drive, Changi, Singapore, 17.

## Nigeria

*Chairman of Trustees:* Sir Adetokunbo Ademola.

**Oluyole**, Cheshire Home, College Crescent, Ibadan.

\***Cheshire Home**, Enugu.

\***Cheshire Home**, Lagos.

\***Cheshire Home**, Port Harcourt.

## Sierra Leone

*Chairman of the Trustees:* The Chief Justice, Sir Salako Benka-Coker.

**Sir Milton Cheshire Home**, Bo.

**Cheshire Home**, Freetown.

## Jordan

*Chairman of Trustees:* The Rt. Rev. Mgr. Nameh Siman, V.G.

**The Cheshire Home**, Jerusalem Road, Bethlehem.

*(for crippled children)*

†**Amman**.

## Morocco

*Patron:* H.E. The Princess Lalla Fatima.

**Dar-el-Hanaa**, Rue d'Ecosse, 18, Tangier.

## Hong Kong

**Cheshire Home**, Chung-am-Kok, Hong Kong.

## Ethiopia

**Cheshire Home**, Addis Ababa.

\* *In preparation*

† *In process of construction*

# The Cheshire Smile

The Quarterly Magazine of the Cheshire Homes

Vol. 8, No. 2

Summer, 1962

Hon. Editor: Frank Spath  
Hon. Treasurer: Paul Hunt  
Secretary & Advert. Manager:  
Mrs. M. K. Thorlby  
Hon. Consulting Medical Editor:  
Dr. B. Kiernander

Editorial and Business Office:  
Le Court, Liss, Hants.  
(Tel. Blackmoor 364).

Price 1s.  
Subscription rate:  
6s. a year, post free.

No receipts for subscriptions will be sent unless specially requested.

---

Contributions to *The Cheshire Smile* are invited from all readers and, in general, should reach the Editor at least six weeks before the magazine is published. Opinions put forward in individual articles do not necessarily represent the official view of the Cheshire Foundation, but it is our aim to encourage free expression of ideas.

The magazine is edited, managed and published by disabled residents at Le Court. It is printed by the Southern Publishing Co. Ltd. of Brighton. The cover designed by J. L. Spath.

Publication dates fall roughly in the middle of March, June and September, but in early December.

---

If you would like to ensure that you receive "The Cheshire Smile" regularly, we should be glad to put your name on our mailing list. You will find the necessary form on back page.

## CONTENTS

### of this issue

	page
Editorial—"Living Waters" ...	7
Mrs. Primrose Cheshire... ..	10
Spring Conference, 1962 ...	12
Lord Denning retires from Chairmanship ... ..	21
Mr. Barry Richards, a profile ...	23
News and Features from the U.K. Homes ... ..	25
West Midland Home—special feature Geo. A. M. Robertson ... ..	32
One-man Exhibition ... ..	39
The Le Court Association ...	43
Overseas Homes' News ... ..	48
Essays in Simplicity. Lost by W. Riley ... ..	53
Poems by Pamela Breslin... ..	54
Housing for the Disabled Lady Hamilton ... ..	55
Lessons from the Lame Charles Darby ... ..	58
Living Proof, a film. Reviewed by Paul Hunt... ..	59
Book Reviews —————	
"And Yet We Are Human" (B. Beasley) ... ..	60
Organisations confer on mobility for the disabled ... ..	62
"Your Heritage" ... ..	63
"Miracles of Achievement" ...	63
Schoolgirl Slaves ... ..	64

---

**L**iving Waters is the first film produced by the Ryder Cheshire Film Unit. I was deeply impressed when it was shown at Le Court a few months ago. It made me realise more than ever before just what the Cheshire Homes have done, and are doing, in the East. It is to be hoped that all our other Homes in the U.K. will be given a chance to see it soon.

As regards the technical side, I am no expert in the craft of film-making, and will not attempt any detailed criticism of the film. However, I can't resist venturing the judgment that, considering all the circumstances, this is something of a technical achievement. We must give the G.C. a well-earned word of praise, for it was he who, during his travels, did most of the actual shooting of the film.

This documentary gives a very clear presentation of the appalling need for welfare services in India and other Asian countries to relieve widespread distress; and of how the Cheshire Homes in these countries have been making pioneering efforts to meet some of these needs, not expecting to do more than scratch the surface of the needs as a whole, but just hoping to influence others to follow the example.

There is a description of the beginnings of the operation in 1955, when Leonard Cheshire and a small band of helpers went to India following an appeal for help. The growth of the Indian Homes is traced and two of them are given close-up treatment. What has probably the most human appeal is the wonderful story, told in some cinematographical detail, of Mrs. Chinnadorai and the Katpadi Home for burnt-out leprosy cases. But the film as a whole, with so many glimpses of the poignant situation still prevailing in these countries, will certainly touch the hearts of many people in the West. It bears striking testimony to the mission for the relief of suffering, which is the life-work of Group Captain Cheshire and his wife, Sue Ryder.

The film evoked in me—and I feel sure many others will have a similar experience—a renewed desire to share in the work of this mission as much as circumstances will allow. The G.C. in his recent extensive travels, has become increasingly aware of the pitiful conditions in which millions live in the under-developed parts of the world. One of his main concerns at the present time is to bring the needs of these countries to the attention of the Cheshire Homes, established and secure, in the U.K.

At the spring conference last year he had something to say on the principle involved. In his speech, reported in *The Cheshire Smile*, he repeated the general aims of the Homes, what we are all trying to do. "Our object is to give a home for life to those

## **" LIVING WATERS "**

**By the Editor**

who have some apparently incurable disability or illness; but not just to shelter them and give them a home; rather, to give them the means of living a useful life. In other words, we don't want to do everything for them; we want to bring them somehow into the work of building up the homes, and make them feel they have something to contribute."

He continued, "Following up this thought, I would like to feel that, as new patients come into the Homes—perhaps patients who have not enjoyed home life for a long time—they will then devote their attention to seeing if they can help the homeless outside—those who have not been so fortunate as themselves—to get a home." After describing how St. Teresa's had pledged themselves to raise £1,500 for the Children's Home at Raphael, Dehra Dun, India, he expressed the hope that this example

would spread to other Homes. We are delighted to report that it has spread during the last twelve months, and looks like spreading far more as the outward-looking attitude becomes more general.

"I am quite sure", said G.C., "that the secret of success, here as in all other spheres of human life, is always to be looking out beyond ourselves to somebody else. Troubles come only when we feel we have done our job and everything is all right; and we become merely concerned with our little selves rather than with those around us."

The G.C. had more to say on the subject at the Soring Conference this year, which is reported elsewhere in this issue. He is surely right. And I personally can't think of anything more useful in fostering this "looking beyond ourselves" than the film *Living Waters*, and its successors which are promised.

---

### Family Day—Saturday, 16th June, 1962 Alne Hall, York

Representatives of the Homes will be meeting at Alne Hall, for the annual Family Day, under the Chairmanship of Mr. J. Noel Blenkin, Chairman of the Alne Hall Management Committee.

A reception will be held in the morning, followed by a buffet lunch. The main conference will take place in the afternoon, opened by the Chairman and followed by Group Captain Cheshire reviewing the last year's progress and answering questions. Later Alderman Pickles will call on the Chairmen of the Northern Homes to give a brief talk about their own Homes.

---

### Grant to Raphael from OXFAM

The Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (OXFAM) recently allocated £5,000 for the Leprosy Unit, at Raphael, Dehra Dun, India, where over 65 cases are being cared for.

---

### A DAUGHTER FOR G.C. AND MRS. BUNNY

We have much pleasure in announcing the arrival of a second child on Saturday, April 21st, to Group Captain Leonard Cheshire and Mrs. Sue Ryder Cheshire. This time it was a daughter, Elizabeth, weighing 8lb. Their first child, Jeromy ("Baby Bunny") was two years old last January.

---

## The Group Captain's Mother

Primrose Cheshire's death on 16th March, 1962, has left a gap in the lives of many people that perhaps will never be filled, for, although after her husband, "the Professor", retired from the Vinerian Chair at Oxford, she lived a quiet, simple life at Laundry Cottage, she did join him in dedicating her life to building up Le Court, and later the other Homes also.

Despite a gradual deterioration in her health during the past few years, she persisted in going to the Home each Monday afternoon to join a sewing group organised to repair the patients' clothing. Throughout the year she was never idle and filled up every spare minute making something not only for her immediate family, but also for the patients and for her stall at the Le Court Fete, where her dainty lavender bags were always much in demand. Whatever she undertook to do, she did well and supremely artistically, whether it was book-binding for the Professor, covering furniture, doing intricate embroidery, working in the garden that she loved or going round a Home talking to each patient in turn. Her infectious sense of humour, which endeared her to so many was a stimulus and encouragement to all whom she met, and was perhaps only matched by her strength of mind and firm determination.

She shrank, latterly, from formal social occasions and big parties and was never happier than when sitting by a log fire in the evening, with the Professor. Her house, with its flowering plants all so tenderly cared for, was typical of Primrose—she herself was always dainty, beautiful, elegantly dressed—unbelievably fragile with her fine snow-white hair. She always had a charming, personal welcome for visitors and had the art of making one feel genuinely welcome. As one drove up to the door, she would appear wreathed in smiles, generally attired in the cotton sun-bonnet that she wore in the garden and followed closely by her beloved dog Jill, to whom she always insisted that due attention should be paid.

She was fluent in French, German and Italian, and one of her great joys was to spend an annual holiday in

Switzerland or Italy. In the winter of 1957/8 she went further afield with the Professor, to India, in order to visit all the seven Homes there. Few people who have not done such a tour can have any idea what an undertaking this was for someone in her 70th year. Their visit has left a lasting impression upon all the patients, staff and committees, and moreover it played a decisive part in helping their son at a time when there were important and far-reaching decisions to be taken. There is no doubt that her health was never the same again.

Her last day was typically spent in her beloved garden. Her last walk was up the steep hill behind Laundry Cottage to pick some of the early small wild daffodils. These were still alive, in a vase where she put them, some three weeks after her death and were a tender and moving memory of a most lovable nature.

Her life had been full of difficulties which she met always with dignity and with a high courage. She had suffered physically over a long period, and no one can estimate the prolonged anxiety that she must have borne throughout both world wars—the first in which her husband was serving in balloons in France, and the second with one son a prisoner-of-war after being shot down in a plane and the other constantly on bombing operations over enemy territory. But the quiet joy and the justifiable pride which Leonard's war achievements brought her, and, since the war, the unique place which she and the Professor held in Leonard's organisation brought her great happiness. This was expressed in the love which she radiated towards her friends and through her generous and self-sacrificing nature.



**A portrait taken some years ago of the late Mrs. Primrose Cheshire. It is one of the Professor's favourite photos of her.**

All those who knew and loved her will be grateful that she was spared any further suffering, though our hearts go out in prayerful sympathy to each member of her family.

This appreciation may be fittingly closed by the following quotation written by an old Oxford friend: "Mrs. Cheshire was the kindest, gentlest, sweetest woman, I think, that I have ever known. I remember her infinite

acts of warm generosity and in particular my mind goes back to the war. . . . She was very beautiful; she had a lovely voice and she dressed exquisitely always—in such a *cool* way, I always thought. It has been a lovely piece of good fortune to know her and I will remember always with infinite gratitude the innumerable kindnesses which I have received from her . . ."

M.S.M.

# Spring Conference, 1962

## A Condensed Report

THE annual Spring Conference was held at the Irish Club, Eaton Square, London, on Saturday, 31st March, under the Chairmanship of Lord Denning.

The morning session was opened by the Chairman, who first expressed the sympathy of all those present, and indeed of everyone in the Homes, for the Professor on the loss of his wife, the mother of Leonard Cheshire.

Lord Denning spoke of the first meeting of the Trustees. "It was just ten years ago today. Mr. Edgar could not come because of the snow. The Group Captain, the Professor, and me." He contrasted the position today. What do we see—some 34 or more Homes in the U.K. which are an example of co-operation between the Welfare State and Voluntary Service. "The way they have grown shows they fulfil a need." He spoke of having visited various Homes in the last year or so—Bath, Sandbach, Maidstone, St. Bridget's, Heatherley. The achievement of Heatherley was specially noted: "They have not only got the house, but built an extension, paid for it, admitted 30 patients and are hoping to have 38—all in 14 months!"

"May I say", continued Lord Denning, "how glad we are this morning to welcome people from some great countries overseas. Their problem," he explained, "is of course different from ours. We have, as the backbone of our maintenance, the grants from Local Authorities. But India, for instance, and other Asian and African countries, cannot afford anything from local authorities for their Cheshire Homes. Yet if you were to go there and see the teeming millions and the poverty, and the growing need . . . !

This movement is growing throughout the world. But I would like to see our U.K. Homes, which have become settled and stable, make every effort

to help the Homes in these other countries. The goodwill that is created, the example we set of voluntary service, will be followed overseas. We want the movement fostered of staff going to other parts of the world."

Lord Denning finished by announcing his retirement following on his appointment to that heaviest of judicial tasks—Master of the Rolls. "I am very sorry, but it has got to be faced. There is plenty to do, more than enough, and I would be unable to give you the time which the Chairman of a Foundation should give."

Group Captain Cheshire spoke of the shock with which everyone had received the news of Lord Denning's retirement. "It would be quite impossible to say how much we as a Foundation owe to him. It is certainly impossible for me to do so adequately at such short notice. I only knew of it yesterday." The G.C. offered the Chairman, on behalf of all the representatives, and those whom they represented, the most truly grateful and sincere thanks for his work. Heartfelt thanks were also offered to Lady Denning. It will be extremely difficult to find a successor to Lord Denning, and meanwhile Professor Cheshire has been prevailed upon to become our Acting Chairman. (*Ed.—He has now agreed to accept the position on a more permanent basis.*) The appointment of a Vice-Chairman will shortly be announced.

### Contractual beds

Mr. R. S. Worthington (St. Cecilia's) introduced the first subject. This question of contractual beds is particularly tied up with the Cheshire Homes. I think I am right in saying that the object of our Homes is to take in those in need, regardless of anything else. On that basis we are often put in a position where we have a Part III patient—one not too ill and sponsored by a local authority—who gets progressively worse, and eventually becomes too ill to be maintained by the local authority. When that happens, if the Home has no contractual beds (under contract with the local Regional Hospital Board) it is landed with a very sick person and only his National Insurance payment to maintain him. If, therefore, our policy is to take in those in greatest need, it is essential to safeguard finance by trying to arrange with the local Regional Board one or two contractual beds. Then in such cases as that described we can go to the Board and ask them to take over the particular patient's maintenance. We can't expect them to do it "by right", but if we already have a foot in the door, so to speak, with one or two contractual beds, they will in time be persuaded to do it.

One speaker said that his Home's experience with their R.H.B. was that the Board would only recommend their own patients for admission to contractual beds. Since the Home could not accept this, they had turned down the suggestion of having such beds.

Mr. Worthington asked whether if the Homes had to send away those patients who became very ill because no finance could be found to support them, would this not create the impression that our Homes are not "home" for good and all? We have found, he said, that the R.H.B.s are not as hard-hearted as they try to make out.

The Group Captain pointed out that this is a question of fundamental policy. We are here to take those people who are incurably sick, however bad. Some of the people we take are hospital responsibilities; therefore we should be entitled to hospital grants. I don't think it is right to

appeal to the public on behalf of patients whom the State has legally undertaken to maintain. The only argument against it is that the Hospital Boards will interfere; it has been found on past experience that this is not so. It is a matter for negotiation. Anyway, it is always open for any Home to cancel arrangements which have been made, if things don't work out.

It is unfortunate, but true, that there is a conflict between local authorities and the R.H.B.s about the maintenance of many such patients; we come somewhere in the middle. The only way we can get the R.H.B.s to play ball is to go to them as a united Foundation, together with the local authorities, who are now having to pay for patients who should be hospital responsibilities. We understand that the R.H.B.s consider this to be a new problem, as perhaps an extension of their responsibilities, which they are willing to discuss. We have to decide today whether we are all in favour of going out for this. It's the principle that matters, not the details, which can be worked out later. Are we all agreed, or are there any serious reservations? If we are agreed, the Trustees can set up the machinery to negotiate.

A long discussion followed on the requirements that various R.H.B.s and local authorities have stipulated for a Home before they were prepared to make grants or maintenance agreements. Also, on the difficulties that have arisen in various Homes in their relations with the Boards, and the local authorities. There were speakers to support and to disagree with the motion. A representative from Heatherley spoke of the problems that have arisen since they had registered as a nursing home, and thought it was time for the Foundation to approach the Ministry of Health to help sort out the many conflicting opinions between different authorities. A speaker from Amptill said they had never found the local authorities would wind up maintenance grants for very ill patients; their patients were in the Home for as long as they wanted to be there.

The Chairman, summing up, thought it seemed quite clear that there was room for negotiation and co-ordination. There are differences of treatment in various counties, and

as between different authorities, which need to be co-ordinated. This should be taken up at the highest level.

The motion was put to the meeting, and agreed.

### Red Feather Emblem

Dr. Beswick (Honorfeld) introducing this, said that some four years ago they had suggested that the Foundation should have a national emblem. They had never followed this up until their Management Committee had decided to have an emblem for Honorfeld. We decided on the red feather, and had an emblem designed by a Manchester firm, which cost about 1s. each, but would sell at 2s. each. We have now about 10,000 of these. It was popular in our part of the world, and so we wondered whether other Homes would be interested. We asked, and 17 replies were favourable, 1 was against, and there were 2 "don't know's". We have also got blocks which will print red feather headings on note-paper. We now propose that the Foundation should accept the red feather as our national emblem.

The representative of Mote House said that they felt the emblem already mentioned did not look like a feather; also, that it was too expensive to buy and too expensive to sell. The feather that we have, he said, looks more like a feather, it is redder, and costs only 1d. each for large quantities. We sell them at 1s. They come from America, and are identical to the feathers used by the United Appeals Fund in U.S.A. and Canada. We have sold 5,000 in two months, these being in fact a free gift to us. We have now got another 20,000 with the idea of sharing them with other Homes. We did not realize we were working on parallel lines with the Lancashire Home; it is rather embarrassing, really.

G.C. Cheshire then pointed out

### "The Cheshire Smile"

Mr. Bizley (Le Court), who had been asked to introduce this subject, stressed that *The Cheshire Smile* is the official organ of the whole Foundation. The fact that it is edited at Le Court does not give it any closer ties with that Home than with any other. Some time ago, all the Homes were circularised with a request to provide

that there is a good reason why we can't adopt the red feather by itself as a national emblem. It belongs to the Japanese Community Chest, who use them in U.S.A. and Canada, to raise money. Whether we can use it in a frame or context, or with something else—that is another matter. The red feather certainly seems to have caught on everywhere.

Dr. Beswick thought that one weakness of our organisation lay in the fact that we have not got an emblem which is clearly recognisable.

Several speakers advocated the banning of all emblems until everyone had agreed on a suitable one for the Foundation as a whole. Some expressed dislike for the red feather, one condemning it as an inept emblem and liable to misunderstanding. When someone asked what the red feather represented, G.C. replied that in Japan it stands for peace, security and prosperity. It was first taken over and used by the Singapore Cheshire Home to raise funds.

The Chairman thought that the meeting had on the whole shown an obvious desire to have an emblem for the Foundation. The very fact that the Homes are all making their individual efforts reflects this desire. He considered that, whilst not discouraging the use of red feathers by individual Homes, action should be taken to agree upon an emblem for the Foundation as a whole, and for this to be made available to all the individual Homes. No decision was made, but the Chairman promised that all points raised in the discussion would be taken into account.

an annual sum of £3 10s. for necessary secretarial expenses. Despite the fact that these expenses had risen, there had been an unfortunate falling behind on the part of some Homes in regard to this annual subsidy. The speaker urged all the Homes to meet this request for support.

## Christmas Cards

Mr. Fenner (Norwich) wanted to test the feeling of the meeting with regard to the production of special Christmas cards. Should these be done on a national or regional basis, or should it be left to individual Homes to decide whether or not to make use of this money-raising idea? More and more people were coming to the conclusion that commercial Christmas cards are not all that good and are buying instead cards that help voluntary organisations. There is a lot of goodwill here waiting to be tapped. The operation could be quite a profitable one. According to an estimate they had had, a run of 10,000-12,000 cards, in one colour,

would cost something like 1½d. each and could be sold at, say, 6d.

Mrs. Clifford Smith described what they had been doing for some years at St. Bridget's with old Christmas cards. They reconstituted them, by cutting off the pictures, and remounting them with suitable words. She quoted figures of their profits from the sale of cards (for instance, £8 10s. for every thousand 3d. cards; £33 for every thousand 10d. cards). Last year they made £350 profit.

The meeting agreed with the Chairman that the best plan was probably that it should be left to the individual Homes to carry out their own schemes, if any.

## Decentralisation of Trust

The Chairman indicated that this was a very important matter. Our organisation has extended so greatly it has now grown to a point where it is too big to be administered from one central Foundation. When there were 7 Homes, we could perhaps just manage it, but now that there are 35, we cannot deal with them all adequately and efficiently from one centre. The question is whether we can decentralise, and set up organisations for all the Regions in the United Kingdom.

At this point, the memorandum which had been previously circulated to all representatives was read out. The main section being as follows:

"Past experience has shown that so many matters come up at the monthly Trustees' Meetings that it is impossible to give adequate consideration to them all. Moreover, in many cases local knowledge and personal contact with the Home in question is vital to the proper solution of the problems which arise. Such has been the growth of the Homes that the Trustees feel that new machinery is now needed to meet the situation, and they have therefore decided to set up Executive Committees in each region, as distinct from the existing Regional Committees which are composed of representatives of the different Homes in the region and have no executive powers. These latter will now be known as Regional Conferences and

will from time to time be called together, at the request either of the Homes in the region or of the Executive Committee for discussion of matters of mutual concern, and so provide a link between the Homes and the Trustees. The present Terms of Reference of the Regional Committees will require to be revised accordingly. In order to implement this intention the new office of Regional Trustee will be created."

So we propose, continued the Chairman, that in each Region there should be a body of Regional Trustees with delegated authority to do what the Trustees in London have always been doing. For instance, in the Northern Region, there would be one Trustee at least on the Regional Board who would be on the central (London) Foundation. With him there would be up to five others—no more than five—drawn from the Region; at least one of these being someone who had been Chairman of a Home. These other Regional Trustees would cease to be voting members of their own Homes, but could still attend meetings.

There would thus be decentralisation whereby the Regions through their Trustees would run their own affairs. If, for instance, there was a project for a new Home, the local Trustees would deal with that, or the question of finance, the co-ordination of policy, queries such as this business of contractual beds, and so on.

A provisional list of Regions, with the Homes in them, was then put forward for discussion.

A representative from Spofforth Hall reported that Alderman Pickles, Chairman of the Northern Committee (who is now in America), had recently put forward the resolution that the Northern Committee would support a system of Regional Trustees to be set up with delegated authority from the central Foundation; this the Committee had passed. The speaker said that in the past it has been virtually impossible to get replies from the Trustees. One could not get on at all unless one was prepared to cut through a lot of red tape. With a small Regional Committee we might be able to get them on the telephone if we find ourselves in a spot—and get a decision quickly. Mr. Marking (London H.Q.) expressed some doubts about the working of the proposed scheme. We have got to be very careful that we don't build up a series of bureaucratic empires.

In answer to an enquiry concerning the proper names for the proposed Regional Committees and their members, Lord Denning said he thought the term "Regional Executive Committee" might be better than "Trustee Executive Committee".

Professor Cheshire said that at the present moment we have this arrangement by which certain Trustees take a particular interest in certain parts of the country, but although they can put the case to the main body of the Trustees they cannot do anything on their own. What we really want is quick decisions and quick solutions. If, as in the proposed scheme, you had not one person but two or three with combined authority, it would be safe to leave it to them to do what is right. In a very difficult case it would of course be referred to the central Foundation.

In reply to the suggestion of bureaucracy—there is going to be no Regional offices, no secretaries. The Trustees will have to do their own clerical work.

The Group Captain said that we must preserve for the future what has already been achieved. The idea of this new proposal is to make new Trustees responsible for groups of Homes. We will give them a

specific brief, and authority to carry out the powers that the central Trustees would hitherto have had to exercise over those particular Homes.

Dr. Beswick said that the Lancashire Home was somewhat anxious about developments. We fear that this setting-up of Regional Committees will simply multiply work for the sake of multiplying work — Parkinson's Law. There is another possibility, that the Regional Trustees might become a "buffer state" between the national Trustees and individual Homes. Honresfeld, according to this speaker, had been irritated by the three last circulars received from the national Foundation—one, on insurance, third party risks; another about the Homes not entering into contracts over £500 without consulting the Trustees; the third about the tenure of office of the Chairman of Homes. We don't understand what the Trustees are about. There is also the question of ultimate responsibility; will this be with the national Foundation or the Regional Trustees? We don't feel that our own Northern Regional Committee fulfils its task.

The Chairman said the former speaker had made a very powerful and impressive speech, and it is only fair to recognise that many of his points have substance.

Mr. Handscomb (Joint Treasurer) explained the Trustees' case in regard to the restriction of contracts and the matter of insurance. You know that the Cheshire Foundation is a Company limited by guarantee, and what we call "Trustees" are in fact directors and members. The Foundation, as the only legal body, is responsible for completion of contracts. It was therefore considered only reasonable that there should be some restriction. If a local committee entered into a contract to build, say, another Le Court, without any idea of how to raise the money—possibly £50,000, the Trustees would feel legally obliged to undertake the contract. As regards insurance, there was a very nasty accident at one Home, which might have brought a claim. It was considered desirable to try and arrange some umbrella cover for all, on that particular risk only. This was entered into, as cheaply as could be done. The

company has now more or less agreed to insure us against anything we hadn't thought of. The Trustees do not think this was high-handed action on their part.

Dr. Beswick said this illustrated the lack of liaison between the Trustees and the individual Homes. Our insurance cover at Honresfeld, he said, includes eventualities like the Home being burned down, etc., for £20,000.

Another speaker remarked that these arguments all seemed to point to the need for decentralisation. The Trustees, at present, can't possibly keep in his closest contact.

G.C. Cheshire said the Trustees recognised that the Homes should be as free as possible to do what they thought fit with the money they raised, but the Homes should equally recognise that all the money they raise is raised with the name of the Cheshire Foundation, which thereby takes the consequences of what is done. No Home could act in isolation. If it did anything good, all the others benefited; if anything stupid, all suffered. Therefore, whilst as large a measure of autonomy as possible is given, the Homes must accept the Trust's final authority. We are trying to make the Homes move faster, not slower; but if a Home makes a contract and then cannot fulfil it, we should have to use other Homes' money to meet its creditors.

#### **Welfare Officers**

A very short discussion took place on the idea of Welfare Officers in the Homes. The representative from Coomb spoke of having two there;

When the Chairman spoke of putting the motion to the vote, questions were asked as to whether the representatives present would be voting as individuals or on a mandate, from their own management committees. "We have no mandate," said one. "Have we, therefore, the authority to accept the proposal?" The Chairman said that the Trustees could delegate authority without the consent of the Homes, although they would not want to do it. "We would not want to do anything contrary to the real wishes of the Homes." He asked whether the vote could be regarded by the representatives as a means of gauging the scale of approval or opposition. "If there is firm unanimity, do you think this would be acceptable?"

Mr. Justice Edmund Davies said that whatever anyone may say we simply have to do something of this kind. The amount of detailed work with which we, the Trustees, are confronted is quite stupendous.

A representative from Dulwich urged the meeting to leave the matter to the Trustees. He urged the Trustees to run the Foundation as they thought best. "If you decide to run it this way, tell us, and we have got to fall in line."

When the motion was finally put to the meeting it was carried by a large majority.

they wanted to share their experience with other Homes. This discussion was cut short by the break for lunch.

#### **Mission for the Relief of Suffering**

At the beginning of the afternoon session, Group Captain Cheshire said he wanted to put across the concept of the Mission. It is not a new concept. In the very beginning, we set out to bring help to those who were not being helped by anyone else. That was the only reason for our existence. We found that the secret in all work of this kind is to have your minds fixed on something outside yourself. "I found," the G.C. remarked, "I had to look after somebody who was in need and thereby I myself greatly benefited". When others came, and

there was virtually no staff, they had to look after each other as much as they were able; they forgot some of their ailments and took on a new lease of life. So it was in many cases with those who came forward to help, many of whom in those early days had their own problems.

Today, through the tremendous effort put in by numerous people, there are some Homes that are quite well established. But we don't want anyone to reach a stage where it is thought there is no more to be done. The moment that happens the whole life

and spirit of the work dies.

What is the future for us? Some would urge us to build up a large organisation that would do everything we ever wanted to do. But a large organisation, once it becomes organised, loses the personal spirit, and becomes bureaucratic. We know full well, with our 35 Homes in the U.K. just how difficult it is to balance local initiative against the need for a central authority to hold a watching brief over the way things are done.

So, bit by bit, we came round to this concept of the Mission for the Relief of Suffering, a parallel for which—even though an exalted one—might be drawn from the Commonwealth. In the latter, there are various completely autonomous countries which run their own affairs as they think fit, but are united into one "family". "In just the same way" said the G.C., "we now think it best that our organisations should each retain its identity, work out its own salvation, get its own circle of helpers and have its own objects in mind, yet be linked together in an all-embracing family or Mission. This Mission is not yet an organisation; it is a concept".

It is easy to see that a charitable organisation can become self-centred. We don't want that to happen to us. When we started, other organisations helped us; without their help we might not have got going at all. Now we, in turn, must be ready to help others, provided, of course, it be not to our own detriment. If we stop looking out towards others throughout the world, then the basic principles and ideals on which we started will die. It is like water; so long as it keeps on running it is fresh; when it stops running it begins to stagnate.

As a practical outcome of this idea, and as a direct result of the efforts of the Sue Ryder Forgotten Allies, the Polish Ministry of Health have put forward the Potacki Foundation for membership of the Mission. The Potacki's are one of the great families of Poland. They left their family fortune to a charity bearing their name, which is dedicated to research into cancer, tuberculosis and other diseases. A leprosarium in Poona, India, has similarly applied. With

this in mind we can perhaps envisage a "family" of different organisations throughout the world each of which would be completely autonomous, yet all of which would, through being joined together, work more effectively for the relief of those who suffer.

As a concrete expression of its aims—which are to bring still further help to those who suffer than lies within the powers of its individual member organisations—the Mission is to run one or two international settlements, called "Raphael". The first of these is in India, the second at Godalming in England. These are separate from the Cheshire Homes, and from the Forgotten Allies, yet have been brought into being by both organisations jointly. Their purpose is, firstly, to look after those specialised cases whom neither the Cheshire Homes nor the Forgotten Allies cater for; and, secondly, to try and set up for all time a model of how this sort of work should be done. There we could begin to train our own staff, our own Corps of Nursing as it were. They would be people with a good measure of dedication, and would have to show that this is what they mean to do as their life's work. They would not draw a full wage, but they would be pensioned, so that when they retired from work they would have security. The Homes, in this country or overseas, would be able to call on them just if and when they were wanted. If we could thus create an ideal of service I think you will agree we should have gained very much.

If, however, we are to bring about this ultimate ideal, not only will all of us have to play our part, by contributing, both of our experience and of our resources, to Raphael, but we must also realise and appreciate the over-riding importance of not spending one penny more than we absolutely need. Every penny we spend is a penny someone else in the world cannot have. Our big problem is to find the right mean between making our own Homes as well fitted-out and comfortable as reasonably possible and saving as much as we can for those in need elsewhere.

Alderman Stephens (St. Teresa's) then gave an account of his recent

visit to the Homes and Settlements in Asia and Africa. He singled out International Raphael, at Dehra Dun. "I was more than impressed. I would go so far as to say that we are *privileged* to be allowed to contribute to the building of this Settlement. Certainly, no one man could ever hope to deal with the huge problems that beset India, but what G.C. Cheshire has done is to inspire responsible people who are now taking an interest in what he has started and following his example. One other thing I would say—if we don't support the G.C. we are not only letting him down, we are letting ourselves down."

In the leprosy unit at Raphael there are now over 75 patients who have been taken out of conditions that were worse than those we give to animals in this country. They are being rehoused, and many will be given an opportunity to go back into ordinary society. Money is just not available in India for such work; and this is where we can all play our part.

When questions were asked whether the other large international leprosy organisations were not looking after these problems, G.C. answered that the chronic sick were not being cared for.

The giving and the collecting of money is not enough, G.C. emphasised. We are primarily interested in bringing people closer together, by building up lasting links. We are trying to break down the barriers that divide, and which, if they go on dividing, will finally destroy us. This is something that has a very concrete application for us, and I would like to get your reactions to the idea, so that we can know how to build these links. The great strength of the Homes has been the personal contact between the patients in the Homes and you who work for them. Let us take this a stage further, and make that link an international one.

We shall not have a central fund into which people can just put money and leave it to us to decide where to use it. Neither are we going to say

very much about order of priorities. We want people to survey the whole scene, the needs all over the world, and then decide what they feel they ought to support.

One speaker was puzzled at the proliferation of names. Why Raphael? Why not just keep the whole thing under one name? Addressing G.C. he said, "You have started an organisation which we know as the Cheshire Homes. This organisation we all know has a tremendous appeal. We shall lose this support if we appeal for something under a different name." G.C. replied that we have not got to think only of the English-speaking world, but of the rest of it too. One couldn't go to Russia and say "Join the Cheshire organisation", but one could go and say "Join the Mission for the relief of Suffering." The idea of the Cheshire Foundation, within its terms of reference, is good, but it is limited. The Mission is a much wider concept; more outward-looking, less in danger of becoming a private empire.

A representative from St. Teresa's said that they had found in the last eighteen months that the very fact their patients were working for people with similar disabilities in other parts of the world had a tremendous appeal for the public. St. Teresa's has been putting over the idea that just as we, as individuals, in this country have a sense of purpose, so, if we work for people in other parts of the world, that unity will become world-wide. I am sure there would be tremendous support if we do it slowly, and sell the idea. It certainly seems that the residents at St. Teresa's don't find the idea a difficult one to grasp and they had raised £900 in eighteen months. Perhaps they see the problem more clearly. If it is not difficult for them, why should it be for us?

The Chairman, summing up, thought that the general feeling was that, although there may be practical difficulties, the idea is one that ought to be furthered with all the powers at our disposal.

## Lord Denning retires from Chairmanship

Lord Denning, who has been the Chairman of the Cheshire Foundation Homes since the Trust was formed in 1952, has recently been appointed to the post of Master of the Rolls, the most onerous judicial office in the realm. Our great pleasure at the honour conferred on one who has presided so magnificently over the phenomenal growth of the Cheshire Homes during these past ten years is tinged with not a little regret that the heavy tasks incumbent on the holder of his new office—including, for instance, being in charge of the Record Office—have forced him to lay down the Chairmanship of our Foundation. His retirement was announced at the Spring Conference, which by an extraordinary coincidence, was held ten years to the day after the very first meeting of the Trust.

His legal colleague, Dr. G. C. Cheshire, the Group Captain's father, writing a profile of Lord Denning in our Spring 1960 issue, first described the very beginnings of the Foundation. In January 1952 the affairs of the only two Homes then existing were distinctly under the weather, but the Group Captain decided to establish a central Trust, with a one-room office in London, and no paid staff.

The Professor (as Dr. Cheshire is universally known) continued the story: "The trustees were Miss Morris, Mr. Edgar, the Group Captain and myself, but it remained to find someone of wisdom and experience, bold enough to act as Chairman of a body that, if the prophets were heeded, had a good chance of dying of inanition. We approached Lord Justice Denning, as he then was, and ready as he always is to help a lame duck over a stile, he consented without hesitation. This was an act not only of faith but of courage, for it would be little short of

disastrous if a man holding his eminent office were to be connected with a movement that for all anyone knew might wither away for lack of support. But Lord Denning has never lacked moral courage. Neither has he lacked determination to see a job through. For instance, the first meeting of the trustees was held at Le Court on Sunday, March 30th, 1952. It was a weekend of heavy snowstorms and many roads were impassable. Mr. Edgar, who lives some five miles distant, was completely marooned and, though all his farm workers and tractors were mobilised, it was impossible to cut a way through the drifts. Yet, undaunted by the prospect of being stuck *en route*, our Chairman set out on his forty-mile journey, driven by the intrepid Lady Denning, and arrived debonair and cheerful."

The Professor then went on to contrast the first meeting with the position today. "It is not going too far to say that much of the success that has attended the Foundation in that time is due to his enthusiasm for the good cause and to the energetic manner in which, often at the cost of his leisure, he has nursed its development. He has travelled up and down the country, sometimes to iron out a tangled situation, at others to inspire and persuade hesitant promoters to establish a new home where the need is great, and by his patience and forbearance in the conference chamber he has often produced harmony out of discord."

The good work that Lord Denning has done will assuredly live on, and it is to be hoped that a worthy successor will be found before long. (Since the above was written, Dr. G. C. Cheshire has accepted the position of Chairman of the Foundation.)

### A Gesture of Appreciation?

To the Editor:

The news of Lord Denning's retirement from the Chair of the Cheshire Foundation Trust must come as a very sad blow to all who have come to know him in the organisation.

In the early days in particular, when there were so many difficulties to be faced and solved, and subsequently when the G.C. was so busy founding the Indian Homes, Lord Denning's

personal interest and help to individual Homes and people attached to them, went far beyond what could reasonably be expected from someone holding such high public office, and who had already given his name and support to what was then a very young and inexperienced organisation.

He was always as willing and anxious, where this was needed (and how often it was, too) to befriend and advise individual Homes and those

attached to them, as he was to guide the development of the Foundation as a whole.

Would it not be a gesture of appreciation for all Homes to help to compile a photographic album to give to him so that in years to come he may be able to look through this and recall to memory scenes from the many English Homes founded under his Chairmanship?

R.S.W. (*Chislehurst, Kent*)

---

## IF

(*With apologies to Rudyard Kipling*)

If you can keep on smiling  
When your friends all let you down,  
And see some good in living,  
Though the whole world wears a frown;  
If you can bear affliction—say,  
For years, without a groan,  
And keep a cheerful spirit  
When you're roughing it alone.  
If you can keep on hoping  
Though your chances all seem slight,  
And bravely face all hardship  
When you're left alone to fight:  
When hungry eat a dry stale crust,  
And still thank God above,  
Or forgive when you're forsaken  
By the very ones you love.  
If you can keep a secret,  
Yet never breathe a word,  
Never pass on gossip that by chance  
You may have heard;  
Or be true to your promise  
When your friends are in distress,  
And help them and assist them  
By the means you may possess.  
If you can stand up for the Right  
When everyside opposes,  
And keep your self-control and poise,  
When a vicious thrust imposes,  
If you can live up to the good  
My poem pre-supposes:  
Then you ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH, my friend,  
And this, I vow, is true:  
The World will be a better place—  
When there's millions more—LIKE YOU.

by *Vera Marie* (1943).

The Trustees,  
Cheshire  
Foundation Homes

## Barry Richards

by Dennis Holman



Photo: Jean, Steyning

**I** REMEMBER asking Barry Richards how he first came to be interested in the Cheshire Homes.

He promptly replied, "I've always been interested in welfare work, but was never quite certain as to what sort until I met Leonard."

They first met when the Group Captain came down to Chislehurst to open a fete in aid of St. Cecilia's one summer day five years ago. Barry was most impressed, but, as he says, having made up his mind to work for the Foundation, he then had the greatest difficulty in finding somebody in the organization he could talk to about it.

Wherever he tried he drew a blank; most of the people concerned were away or unavailable for one reason or another, and it was not until Margot Mason returned from India that he was finally able to establish contact.

So it seems that the Cheshire Homes got Barry in spite of themselves!

One of the important things about him, I think, is his persistent resistance to formality; he is one of the least formal and least pretentious persons I know. He must have been born that way because, when his parents wanted to send him to Westminster as a small boy, Barry refused to go as he had heard the boys there wore top hats.

Instead, he went to University College School in Hampstead, and later to Eton House, Tonbridge. He should have gone up to Cambridge but, when the time came for him to sit

for the entrance examination, it was discovered that his name had not been entered. The oversight meant that he would have had to wait at least another year, so the plan was abandoned and he was sent to complete his education in Paris, at the Sorbonne.

Barry was in Paris for two and a half years—until his father, perhaps wisely, decided it was not quite the place for his son's proper development. He was brought back home to London and, although he particularly wanted to study medicine, he was persuaded by his father to go into the family milling business.

Barry had read French history and psychology—unusual enough subjects for a young Englishman. But it was more the university with its completely international and astonishingly diverse character that provided him with his interesting and off-beat background.

The importance which people in England normally attach to distinctions of race and social level simply do not occur to Barry. It is unlikely that they should when his closest friends in Paris in those days belonged to nine different nationalities and their fathers were, respectively, a Polish count, a

French radiologist, an Egyptian businessman, a Belgian engineer, a German chocolate manufacturer, an Algerian doctor, a Russian emigré, a Singhalese judge and a Lithuanian prince.

One can imagine the discussions that went on in the cafés they frequented, the world problems they solved, swearing that although they did fight in the cafés, they would never fight in a war. Alas, the unhappy sequel to their dreams is that most of those young men were killed in the war.

Religion was one of their pet subjects, and their arguments no doubt stimulated Barry's later interest in Buddhist philosophy, for which, as he says, he has always had a strong intuitive leaning.

With it is a fascination for Eastern physical cults—the umbilicular passivity of Yoga and with it, oddly enough, the other extreme of Judo, the Bushido science of violent self-defence; he became and still is president of one of the leading Judo clubs in Britain.

Incidentally, he is also keen on some of the more conventional British sports, particularly tennis and fly fishing. His hobby, too, is as English as roast beef—he collects rare Restoration glass and has some of the finest pieces in the country.

As a young man he once contemplated going into politics and, had the war not intervened, would have stood as Liberal candidate for Thanet. Although he had no enthusiasm for the war, he started in air-sea rescue and finished up in Movement Control; he was in one of the first R.A.F. units that crossed over to Normandy shortly after D Day, and later was stationed in Ghent, in Belgium. He collects an amusing little anecdote which happened during his initiation into the R.A.F.

It took place in fact during his very first forty-eight hours pass, when still on the "lowest form of service life", he met Air Chief Marshal Lord Dowding. The event was a reception given by Barry's mother who, on introducing him to the Air Chief Marshal, and in order to break the ice, remarked "You two should have a lot to talk about, Barry is in the Air Force too."

In 1937, at the age of twenty-seven, Barry had married, but soon after the war started his marriage, like so many others during that unhappy period, failed to survive and was dissolved. Still, Barry and his wife had had a daughter, Susan. She is very happily married and has recently presented her father with his first grandchild.

In his inner life Barry admits to having always felt a strong attraction for the ascetic; he has had to fight sometimes against the temptation to turn his back on the world, and he believes he might have succumbed had he not been able to convince himself the he can be more useful in it.

At the same time he has a sound appreciation of the good things in life, is a connoisseur of wine and has a marvellous cellar which his friends enjoy as much as he does.

"Indeed," he says ruefully, "in trying to understand the weaknesses of others I have developed too many of my own."

His sympathy is practical. He has that rare ability to put himself in other people's shoes, and he is happiest when he is involved with their problems. At present he is guiding the footsteps of those trying to establish Mote House, the new Cheshire Home at Maidstone. However, Miraflores is his major concern and, while it remains so, there should be no fear that he may suddenly decide to pack up and leave to seek his salvation in the wilderness.

---

### "If they could only see . . ."

We are wondering whether you would care to introduce *The Cheshire Smile* to your friends and neighbours. Will you give them the opportunity of seeing the magazine, and discovering what we are trying to do for disabled people? We are willing to send you a few copies for this purpose—entirely free of charge.

You may find that some of these friends would be glad to have a copy of each issue as it comes out. If this is so, we should be pleased to hear from you, and to send you a regular batch for sale in your area. Before you know where you are, you will have become a PROMOTER of *The Cheshire Smile*.

---

The middle pages of the magazine are  
devoted to

# News and Features

## from Cheshire Homes in the U.K.

---

*For easy reference we print the following index of bulletins included in this issue*

	page		page
Alne Hall, York .. ..	30	Llanhennock, Mon. .. ..	25
Cann House, Devon .. ..	41	Mayfield, Edinburgh .. ..	28
Carnsalloch, Dumfries .. ..	42	St. Bridget's, W. Sussex .. ..	41
Greathouse, Wilts. .. ..	31	St. Cecilia's, Kent .. ..	27
The Grove, Norfolk .. ..	40	St. Teresa's, Cornwall .. ..	46
Hawthorn Lodge, Dorset .. ..	40	Seven Rivers, Essex .. ..	26
Holehird, Westmorland .. ..	47	Spofforth, Yorks. .. ..	38
Holme Lodge, Nottingham .. ..	26	Staunton Harold, Leics. .. ..	29
Kenmore, Yorks. .. ..	44	West Midland, Staffs. .. ..	32
Le Court, Hants. .. ..	43	White Windows, Yorks. .. ..	45

---

### Llanhennock, Monmouthshire

Sunday, January 28th was the day we had all been longing for. Pat Jarvis and Ernie Addis, our first two residents, arrived from Coomb. Pat's father drove them down. They only had a few days' warning, so had quite a rush getting their things together and saying goodbye to all their friends. During the next week Eunice Taylor arrived all the way from Hovenden and is now only 20 miles from all her friends and relations in Abergavenny. Molly Davies also comes from Abergavenny, and with Archie Watts from Risca, is new to Cheshire Homes. Both have fitted in happily and already have their niches. Molly is a most industrious knitter and Archie has his "scrounge list" ready for all visitors. He has found he has to be a little careful how many he mentions the same item to, after four electric irons arrived on one day. The next arrival was Ernie's motorized chair, since when he has been very independent and is only a few miles from his home town. Eunice has

started on supplies for their shop and residents' welfare fund—her experience at Hovenden will be invaluable. Our sixth resident, Elsie George, arrived today. She has been 18 years in St. Woolos Hospital and we do hope we give her home comfort and happiness.

So far we only have authority to admit on the ground floor but when the smoke stop doors are installed upstairs and some additional washing facilities put in, we hope to admit a few more but they will have to be able to negotiate the stairs. Eventually we hope to extend on ground floor level only, aiming at maximum independence. But we have not paid off the purchase price of the house yet!

Lastly, I would like to introduce our pet "dragon". Miss MacGrath appeared out of the blue to be our Matron and takes each crisis—and I can assure you there have been many—in her capable stride with humour and understanding.

## Holme Lodge, Nottingham

Since our last report much has taken place. A huge Bonfire and Firework display on November 5th attracted an enormous crowd of people to the garden of our Home, and the heat generated by Mr. Bob Blackburn and his helpers gave us a few anxious moments for the windows of the building. This event "sparked off" a happy romance between two very popular members of our band of helpers. Monica (Mrs. Jackson to the general public), who had been helping us since the very beginning and when we opened became our Housekeeper and Cook, became engaged to Mr. Jack Carter. Jack also came as a volunteer as soon as we bought Holme Lodge and was in fact our "Unpaid Clerk of the Works" during the reconstruction period. A few weeks ago, to the surprise of the happy couple all the residents and staff, accompanied by a large crowd of their friends, went to pretty Edwalton Church and saw Monica and Jack married.

Cyril, one of our more recent additions, has decided to go to live with his brother, and his place has been taken by Albert, to whom we offer a warm welcome and the hope that he will be very happy with us.

The residents are feverishly prepar-

ing for the fete, which this year will be held on Saturday, 23rd June, and should be at least twice the size of last year's. Baskets of all shapes and sizes, dolls, woolly toys and embroidery are beginning to fill the store cupboards ready for the great day.

Joe, one of our male orderlies, hit upon a wonderful idea to help meet the costs at the Home and he has installed a number of hens who are providing us with eggs; he also has rabbits, the progeny of which will assist Mrs. Clay, our new Housekeeper, to stay the pangs of hunger.

The great excitement at the moment is the construction of the lift. Through the generosity of two Directors of a Nottingham engineering firm it will soon be possible for all residents to take themselves upstairs without assistance. This will greatly lighten the work of the staff. It is hoped that the G.C. will be in Nottingham in June to launch the new ship on its up and down life.

Flag days are now very much in our minds and those of our friends in the branch committees, and everyone is looking forward to the results to see if they exceed 1961's amazing totals.

REG. WRIGHT.

---

## Seven Rivers, Essex

The Fleet's in! Even though we are only 15 miles from the sea, until recently it would have been quite a surprise to see the Navy in force in the small country village of Great Bromley. But about 25 lads from H.M.S. *Ganges*, Shotley, a Royal Naval training establishment, have quite regularly been spending the weekends at Seven Rivers. They camp in the grounds and help enormously about the house by turning their hands to anything that needs doing. Window cleaning, washing up, gardening and taking the residents to church or out for walks when fine, are all in a day's work to them.

On Sunday evening they strike camp, pack it all up and walk back to their base 12 miles away. This is all regarded by the Commander as good training for the lads in service and

adaptability, and it is a great help at Seven Rivers when often staff shortage is felt at weekends.

Four residents, Annie, Frank, Robert and Tom, spent a week in April at a Residential Craft Course held at the Writtle Institute of Agriculture near Chelmsford. This was arranged by the Essex Association for the Welfare of the Physically handicapped. The mornings and some afternoons were spent in craft work, but there were outings to places of interest, and in the evenings talks, films and entertainment. Basketry, leatherwork and soft toy making particularly interested our residents, and they all came home with new ideas and having enjoyed the change of surroundings and new company.

E. HOBDEN.



## Patricia Ferguson

Sister-in-Charge, St. Cecilia's

All of us have our individual frustrations, but it was a matter of mass frustration when our Matron, Phyllis Cooper, left in August. Some of us felt that we could not take readily to another. So Sister Ferguson did not find the dice loaded heavily in her favour when she arrived to take over. What a heaven-sent gift it is to be able to win a way into the hearts of people as she has won her way so deeply into ours. But this battle for the confidence of people is not the first which has engaged the stout heart of Patricia Ferguson.

She began nursing in 1937, but because of a breakdown in health was advised to give up the idea. She then joined the W.A.A.F. and had a hard struggle to get accepted as a driver. They told her that she would never drive anything heavier than a car, but she wanted to go in for bigger stuff. She won.

The end of the war, and her second battle to be fought. More jobs as a driver, and three years as a groom

where she learned the art of horsemanship.

All the time the nursing profession was calling her. So she applied to Hammersmith Hospital, and was accepted. When her training was finished she worked as a District Nurse in Chelsea. Strangely enough, Elsie Peppercorn, who was one of Patricia's patients in Chelsea, is now a resident at St. Cecilia's.

Patricia says, "For many years I had been following the career of Group Captain Cheshire, and the wonderful work he was doing for disabled people. When a vacancy occurred at St. Cecilia's for the post of Sister-in-Charge, I felt that here at last was the type of work I had been waiting for. Now I have settled down happily with my ready-made family. They are wonderful people, and I hope I will be able to make this a really happy Home for them, a 'home' in the true sense of the word."

T.R.L.

## Mayfield, Edinburgh

After the showing of the Mayfield House film on February 16th, Mr. Newlands, on behalf of the Home, accepted a cine projector and screen presented by Mr. Maley, who was representing many Post Office workers in Glasgow. These people, ex-work-mates of our own Bobby Kean, are showing a lively interest in our Home, and we are very pleased. Later Mr. Maley took the Pathfinder and Mayfield films to Glasgow, and at that show he also held a raffle for Johnny's rug. We understand a substantial sum was raised, and that should please Johnny.

The end of February saw the arrival of our bus, which has a capacity load of about seven wheelchairs and eight people seated. On four days a week the bus is used to take the "workers" to and from the Crippled Aid Workshops in town, and also on Monday afternoons a short run in the local countryside is arranged. We are hoping to make more use of our coach as the weather improves, and soon, like

its daring pilot Joe, it will be well known in Edinburgh.

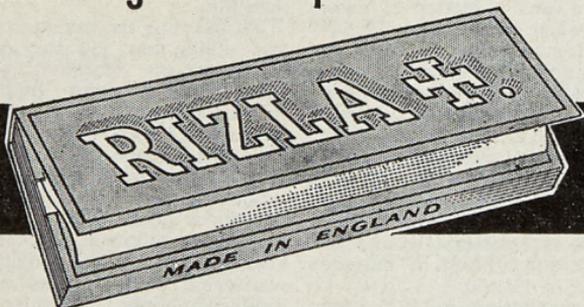
Further education classes have begun in the house. So far there are five people attending, and between them they study Maths, English, Geography, French and Italian. Edinburgh Corporation Education Committee provide the teacher and books, and we provide the "nuts", or pupils. We think much benefit can be derived from this scheme, which is open to all the residents.

Soon holidays will again be the main topic of conversation. Archie was the first to go this year—in April; then Matron went, and soon others will be trekking "tae a' pairs o' the country."

The O.T. department is still going strong, and thanks are overdue here, and in many other respects, to Mr. Cummings and Mr. Burns. These men devote so much of their free time to helping us in many ways, and we feel their service deserves recognition.

BERNARD.

Finest Cigarette Papers made today



Don't just ask for "Cigarette Papers"—always insist on

**RIZLA**

WORLD'S LARGEST SALE



Photo: "Kent Messenger" (the County paper of Kent)

Dr. Ramsey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, visited Mote House in February to confirm two of the residents, Jean Quelch and Myfanwy Allen, in the newly decorated Chapel.

## Staunton, Leicestershire

It is difficult to know where to begin with the Staunton news these days, as there always seems to be so much going on, with concerts, outings, etc. In the year since we received our coach, the outings have gradually increased, until now it is almost a full-time job keeping track of them. However, I do not propose to bore you with a list of these, but I must say that by the time you read this, it will once more have transported two parties to Anglesey for a very welcome holiday by the sea.

In the last few weeks, we have said goodbye to our "G.P.", Dr. Elliott, who has gone to Africa, and we offer a sincere and hearty welcome to his successor, Dr. Happle. We knew that Dr. Elliott enjoyed his work amongst us, and wish him the very best of luck in his new venture; and we hope that Dr. Happle's association with us will be equally long and happy.

We are sorry to report that at the time of writing two of our chaps are in

hospital, Bob Robb and Albert Brookes. Albert was particularly unfortunate, for he was spending a fortnight's holiday in the Plymouth area when he decided to have appendicitis! We all wish them the very best of luck and trust that by the time this is printed, they will both be completely restored to health.

Staff still come and go, but I'd like to give a special word of welcome to Sister Judy Cook, a New Zealander, who has come to help us out for a few months.

Toc H in the Home had a big boost on April 14th, when some 150 men and women from 17 branches attended our Re-dedication Service and Birthday. The guest speaker was Dr. N. S. Turnbull of Nuneaton, who has recently returned to this country after 35 years working against leprosy in Africa. His talk proved of particular interest to us in view of the good work "G.C." has been doing in the same field in India.

T.M.G.

## Extracts from Annual Report, March 1962

May we start by extending to Mrs. D. E. Coggan a cordial welcome and by placing on record our deep appreciation of the encouragement we all of us, Staff and Committee alike, receive from her interest in our work? This indeed has been a year of V.I.P.'s for, in addition to Mrs. Coggan, we have had visits from the Founder himself, Group Captain G. L. Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C., Lord Denning, P.C. (the former Chairman of the Trust), and the Lady St. Levan, J.P. All of them expressed their delight for what has been done at Alne Hall and the Lady St. Levan expressed her satisfaction in a very delightful letter to the Chairman and members of Committee.

For our residents it has been an enjoyable and happy year, marred only by the loss through death of Percy Ford. Percy was a delightful fellow and we miss him sadly. But it was encouraging to learn from his relatives how grateful Percy had been and how appreciative they were of all the homely comfort and happiness he had enjoyed during his life with us.

We have been able to extend the useful facet of our work in taking holiday patients for short periods throughout the year. Its value has been demonstrated over and over again and in many ways by the recipients of our hospitality. Additionally, it is good for our permanent friends to have visitors to blow a wind of change across their daily routine and it has helped us to maintain our average number of patients at around thirty per day. We are most grateful to those who come out to Alne to entertain us; for the many outings that Matron and others have arranged for the Home, and for gifts, donations, and visits and help of all descriptions.

The difficulty of obtaining permanent qualified Nursing Staff persists but we are grateful to those who do come, even if only for short periods, and particularly to Matron. It is because of this difficulty that we

are unable to accept those who need heavy nursing.

It is with regret that we have to record the resignation from the Committee of Sir Bertram Wilson and Dr. S. Hart. They have both left York but we shall never forget all they both did to put us on our feet.

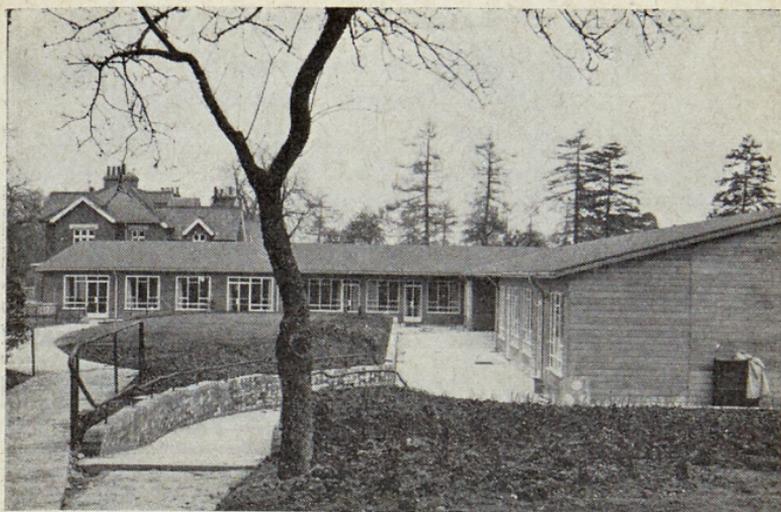
To succeed Dr. Hart as Chairman of the General Committee we have been fortunate to secure the Sheriff of York (Councillor J. M. Wood). Those of us who know Jack and his work realize that we have been very fortunate. Dr. T. H. Park has kindly accepted the vacancy on the Management Committee. We are grateful to him for the medical help that he will afford the Committee.

The Annual Accounts show that the total cost of maintaining the Home increased over the year by £242 to £12,536, but this was more than covered by £360 additional revenue in respect of holiday patients. The net deficit on maintenance for the year was £1,176 as against £1,324 in 1959/60. The average number of patients accommodated during 1960/61 was 28 as against 27 in 1959/60, so that reduced to costs per patient per week, the figures are:—

1959/60 ..	£8 13s. 4d.
1960/61 ..	£8 12s. 0d.

reflecting a reduction over the year of 1s. 4d. per patient week.

The Management Committee devoted considerable time in 1960/61 to the Extension Programme, to which reference was made in our last report. An annexe of two storeys to the main building was contemplated and for this preliminary plans were prepared. The anticipated cost of such a scheme, however, appeared much higher than the committee could meet in the foreseeable future. Accordingly a less ambitious scheme was prepared and it was decided to proceed with the timber annexe which we now know as the Cedar House.



The fine new annexe at Heatherley.

### Greathouse, Kington Langley, Wilts

During the winter a branch of Toc H has started at the Home. We are most grateful to the members of the local Toc H, also the Southern Area Adviser, Mr. J. McMillan, for the very great help they have given us.

Now that the new garages have been completed, and we have a number of

small cars, it has made a great difference to the owners who can roam the countryside at will.

Paul Musgrave, who lives at Bath, went to the new Cheshire Home near there earlier this year, and we wish him all the very best.

### An Open Letter to G.C.

I feel that I must congratulate your organisation on having, at "Greathouse" put up with my idiosyncrasies for nearly four years; but, nevertheless, I am very pleased to be going back to my native county of Surrey, to another Cheshire Home, Heatherley, on the borders of that county, and so be near my friends and relations. After having lived in one of your Homes, I certainly have no wish to spend the remainder of my life in any place other than a Cheshire Home, which you have been good enough to found for the well-being of us handicapped folk. When I was lucky enough to become in the first place, one of your ever-increasing family, there were only 12 of your Home-from-Homes in Britain. But now, I am happy to say, you have 36 of these havens up and down the country;

so that a disabled person coming afresh into the care of the Cheshire organisation can these days be near his own home, instead of 100 miles or so away.

I count myself very much as having been smiled on by Fate the day I entered "Greathouse"; we are well cared for; have jolly good meals all things considered; possess our own 21-inch television set and cinema projector; are well warmed by blazing, coal fires, and have continual outings to such places as Longleat and Peter Scott's sanctuary on the River Severn.

When I first came to Wiltshire from near London, I had visions of chaps sucking straws, together with "The flies be on they taters, Jarge." How wrong I was!

EDWIN HAND

# West Midland Cheshire Home

by **Geo. A. M. Robertson**

(Chairman, Management Committee)

**T**HE aim of a Cheshire Home in every county seemed to me two years ago to be a pretty stiff target. Today it is well on the way to being achieved and, with so many new home projects coming along, some organisers may be interested to read a potted history of the West Midland Home, and an indication of how the Home works.

Two people sparked off the venture, quite independently of each other. Both had read Russell Braddon's "Cheshire V.C.", and both had been fired with enthusiasm for Leonard Cheshire's work for the relief of suffering. Each decided to do something about it.

J. G. Garrett persuaded the librarian of the Old Wolverhampton Book

Club to buy "Cheshire V.C." Many of the members read the book and the West Midland Home now shares with the local Blind Institution pride of place in the club's charitable disbursements. He did more than that, however, for it was he who, as Company Secretary, advocated that McLeans should donate the proceeds of their annual dances to the Cheshire Founda-



Photo: Camera Craft

At work in the O.T. Room. Sidney Timms is rug making, helped by Harry Nickless, while, right, Ann Bate (the first resident) and Ray Fisher combine on a sewing and embroidery job. Tommy Kenny and Veronica Price are in the background.



tion. And it was this that through Margot Mason, put him in touch with Miss V. R. Kinvig.

Miss Kinvig has a reputation in Wolverhampton for good works, and it is easy to understand why the Group Captain's mission appealed to her. She went to London and discussed with Margot how she might help. "Found a new Cheshire Home" was the gist of the advice given. "And talk it over with Mr. Garrett" was the rider.

#### **First meeting**

The first joint meeting was held at St. Mary and St. John's Church Hall, Snow Hill, Wolverhampton, in 1958. The B.B.C. film "Founded on Failure" was shown and quite a lot of people turned up. But only two persons remained after the meeting to get on with the job—Vikki Kinvig and Jack Garrett—not an encouraging start.

But they decided to go ahead and a meeting was convened at the Deaf and Dumb Institute in Rupert Street, Wolverhampton. I remember the occasion well. Jack Garrett had invited me to come along, but a lecture I was doing kept me away until nine o'clock. When I arrived the greeting was much too effusive. The ulterior motive became apparent when I was

elected, or rather coerced, into the office of chairman.

We had, at that time (about four years ago), ten pounds and a few blankets, plus a tiny but enthusiastic group of ladies. This group met regularly for the next twelve months, by kind permission of Mrs. Leese at the W.V.S. headquarters in Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton. The committee was added to: Mrs. Linn became our honorary solicitor; Bill Turner, a war-time pilot who flew with G.C., dropped in at my home one evening after a press announcement, gave me £10 (for the funds, of course) and was promptly co-opted; Mrs. John Brockhouse rallied round and so, indeed, did many others.

#### **Support groups**

It became apparent that the organisation we had—enthusiastic as it was—would not do. We were not getting our message across to enough people. So a number of Support Groups were started. Each group represented a part of the area the new home would serve, e.g., Brewood, Stourbridge, Tettenhall, Wombourn, Penn, North Wolverhampton and West Wolverhampton. That was a start; the target was set, being the formation of enough groups to cover adequately—from a

fund raising and a publicity point of view—the area south of Stoke, north of Worcester, west of Birmingham and east of Wellington. Embryonically, a group is one or two persons who have the cause at heart and who live or work in an area that is without a group. They are asked to get as many people together as possible and one of the members of the Management Committee addresses the meeting and, usually, shows one or other of the Cheshire films. Support is called for on the spot and an inaugural meeting of the new group follows. A Committee is appointed and the work of organisation begins. Garden parties, cheese and wine bibulations, bridge and whist drives, house-to-house collections and flag days follow in quick succession and the money and goodwill roll in. (I can discern a look of incredulity on the faces of Group Committee members at this pronouncement, but if it were not so how would we have raised £35,000 in four years?) The Group Organisation is the backbone of our financial success and the means of our personal contact with everybody in the West Midlands.

### Finding a house

One of our earliest tasks was to find a suitable old house. For months we searched far and wide in Staffordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire, but without success. Eventually Miss Shaw - Hellier of the Wodehouse, Wombourn, came to our rescue and gave us a five-and-a-half acre field known as Ferguson's Common, Penn. Now we had only to build our Home. Only! The site had to be drained and cleared of bushes and small trees, and here the I.V.S. in their work parties in 1958, '59, '60 and '61 did a fine job. They also dug the foundations and drained trenches for the first part of the new building, and helped to prepare the kitchen garden. An architect had to be found and C. Fleetwood-Walker, A.R.I.B.A. in association with K. A. Lloyd, F.R.I.B.A., fitted this professional role admirably. G. S. Darby, A.R.I.C.S., produced a bill of quantities and Hy. Vale and Sons (successors to T. Pemberton) are dealing with the account. Several local firms helped to build the substructure. Much of the labour and materials was given and our thanks are due to the many donors. And so by the summer of 1960 the foundations and drains of the first part of the new West Midland Cheshire Home were complete.

What's new to eat  
that makes a treat ?

**Shippam's**

**New!**

**Spreads**

**1/-** A JAR  
10 VARIETIES

It had been our intention to build the Home wholly by voluntary labour, counting on gifts of materials for the bulk of our requirements. Now it became evident that this would delay completion for, perhaps, several years. We already had many offers of help from sub-contractors and suppliers, which meant we would be able to get a very favourable price from a builder to complete the work. Tenders were accordingly invited, and A. R. F. Godfrey Ltd. of Wolverhampton, who submitted the lowest price, were appointed. They completed their contract by October 1961 in an admirable and workmanlike manner. The total cost of building and equipping this first part for twenty residents was less than half that of an average nursing home.



Photo: Camera Craft

*Clive Hatfield and Michael Pettit in one of the bedrooms. Clive is a first-class architectural draughtsman and does jobs for a local firm, while Michael is recording on tape a book which promises to be a real thriller.*

### **Completing the job**

The job of correlating the work of architects, quantity surveyors, voluntary help and builder was undertaken by a special sub-committee, and it was due mainly to their efforts under the chairmanship of D. A. H. Cheshire (no relation incidentally!), and with M. P. Ryan as secretary, that so much was done to reduce the cost of the building and speed its completion. As we now have the permission and approval of the Trustees to go ahead at once with the completion of the second part of the Home, to increase our strength from 20 to 35 residents, the Buildings Committee will have to shoulder the onerous burden of getting that job done cheaply, quickly and well. They have acquired a lot of "know-how" in building the first part, and this added to their enthusiasm and ability, will enable them to do justice to this second instalment.

During the early summer of 1961 an Admissions and Staffing sub-committee was elected, which comprised three doctors and six laymen, of whom

three of the ladies have nursing qualifications and experience. Admissions procedure is quite straightforward, and at the present time, appears to be effective. Applicants are sent a questionnaire form in duplicate; one to be filled in by the applicant, one by his doctor. These are considered by the committee and, if favourable, the applicant is visited by one of the doctors who reports back to the next meeting. On the evidence of this report, associated with the applicant's and his doctor's return, individual assessments are made by members in committee, and these are the basis of eligibility or otherwise. For the time being it has been necessary to exclude geriatrics and heavy nursing cases.

### **Administration**

Senior staff are appointed by the Management Committee and are answerable to its chairman. Nursing and domestic staff are appointed by the sister-in-charge, Miss J. Egan. Secretarial, accounting and P.R.O. work is done by the Warden, Mr. C.

Holland, brother of the Warden at Staunton Harold. The maintenance of the buildings, domestic equipment and grounds is the responsibility of Mr. F. Walker. This team works well together, the duties of each being clearly defined by the Management Committee. The Admissions and Staffing sub-committee works within this framework; a framework that ensures that the governing body of the Home, i.e., the Management Committee, exercises direct control of senior staff, and may benefit by a direct relationship with them. No member of the staff is a member of the Management Committee, but invitations are frequently given to senior staff to attend meetings to give their reports and to discuss their problems.

The Finance and Fund Raising sub-committee, of which the Treasurer is a member and Commander K. James, Chairman, is responsible to the Management Committee for its work. It considers and implements ways of raising money, directs group fund-raising activities, arranges investments, allocates payments and affords an advisory service to the Treasurer. Subsistence payments from local welfare authorities are also arranged by this committee and the proper operation of an imprest account system for the day-to-day running of the Home

### West Midland, Wolverhampton

Here at Penn, where we have now been operating for nearly five months, we have had five new residents since the last issue of *The Cheshire Smile*, bringing our total up to fifteen, and two more are expected at the end of the month. We also understand that work on the extension is due to commence shortly, which will mean that eventually we shall be able to accommodate thirty-five; but that is looking ahead a bit.

In the meantime, there have been a number of social events, which we have all enjoyed immensely.

First, there was the St. Valentine's Party on February 14th, which Sister Egan sprang on us as a complete surprise, bless her! All we were told was that supper would be a little late that evening, but when we arrived in the dining room—and what a charming

is under its control.

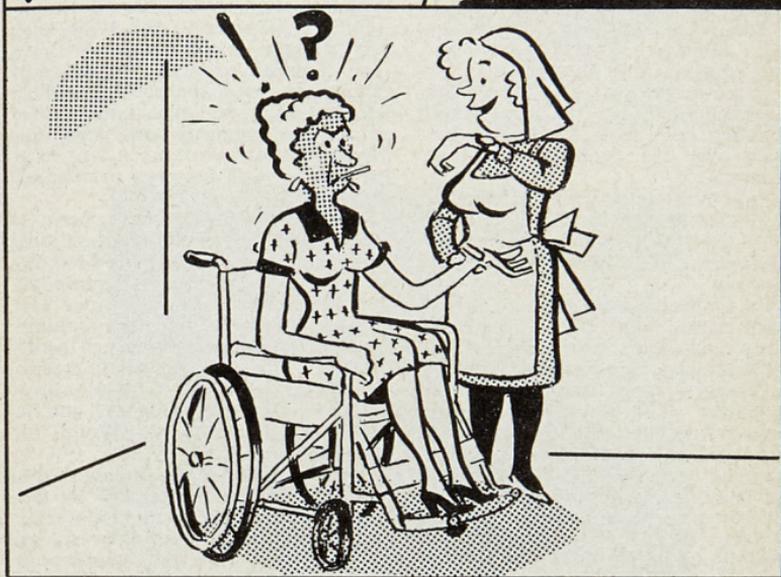
So there we have it, a Management Committee set up by the Trustees to govern the Home aided by a Buildings Committee, an Admissions and Staffing Committee and a Finance and Fund Raising Committee. Then there is our Friends Association, a vigorous body representative of all our support groups. Liaison between Friends Association and the Management Committee is achieved by representation: two members of each being members of the other. The aim has been to encourage as many people as possible to work for the good of the West Midland Home and to feel that they are all a part of one enterprise. In this way we think we are best able to help a little towards the relief of suffering and the care of the incurable sick in the West Midlands.

If I may end on a personal note I would like very humbly to say how great a joy it has been to me to have had the opportunity to contribute a little towards this project. I have met people whose disability has merely served to increase their determination to live happy and useful lives. I salute them and ask them to accept my assurance that their example will always be a source of encouragement to me when difficulties loom large and hope and happiness seem far away.

room it is, incidentally—we found that the tables had been pushed together to form a festive board down the centre of the room, beautifully decorated with flowers and bowls of fruit. An excellent meal was served to the strains of Strauss' waltzes on a record-player, which gave way to trad. jazz and the pick of the pops as the evening progressed. One of our guests, Mr. Ray Bowyer, who has a fine voice as well as being no mean raconteur, also entertained us with songs and stories and led a session of enthusiastic community singing. Mr. G. Robertson, our genial Chairman, in a brief speech expressed the hope that it would be the first of many such parties, a sentiment with which, needless to say, we all heartily agreed!

The highlight of our recent festivities, however, was undoubtedly the

YOU'RE KIDDIN' by FROSTIE.



"I THINK WE SHALL HAVE SOME RAIN TODAY, MARION—I CAN FEEL IT IN YOUR BONES."

Mr. F. A. Frost of Dudley, who drew this cartoon, is the uncle of Marion Hayward, a resident at the West Midland Home.

dance which was held here on April 3rd in aid of our funds. About a hundred people attended and dancing to John Carrier and his Orchestra took place in the dining room, which was cleared for the occasion, while the lounge was converted into a cocktail bar—an innovation which many of us thought would be an asset as a permanent feature! Such of the residents as were able to joined in the dancing, while the rest looked on, and the Twist was performed so vigorously that we began to wonder whether the need for wheelchairs by some of the guests would not be greater than our own by the end of the evening.

Turning to other matters, there have been several staff changes lately. Miss Allen, who did so much for the Home from the time of its conception and agreed to act as matron until it was on its feet, left at the beginning of February and Sister Egan was appointed sister-in-charge, a choice which met

with unanimous and enthusiastic approval. Unfortunately, owing to shortage of staff, she was obliged to run things aided only by her second-in-command, Nurse Cave, one other part-time nurse and a band of voluntary helpers for a number of weeks, and we would like to record the fact that during this time not only were we residents as well looked after as when we are fully staffed, but not once did she lose her infectious gaiety or Gaelic sense of humour. Happily the position has improved now, but we are glad to say that most of our good friends amongst the voluntary workers still come in and help us and we hope they always will.

We were also very pleased to welcome Mr. Charles Holland, who has been appointed Warden and with his charming American-born wife took up residence here on March 1st.

IRENE BUTCHER

## Spofforth, Yorkshire

The most important event of this quarter has been the arrival of Miss Dodds, S.R.N., our new Matron, on 25th January. Unfortunately her right arm was still in plaster as the result of a fracture. The plaster has been taken off, but the arm is still troubling her. Mrs. J. Greaves has taken over the duties of part-time Secretary.

Nigel Wilson, the youngest member of our family, left us on 16th February to live with his mother, father and only sister in Micklefield. We certainly miss him.

The Home has been given a "Steck" grand piano, which is also a pianola. It is a magnificent instrument.

The Singing, Play Reading, Painting and History classes have finished until September. The classes have again been very popular—History has probably been the best attended. Mrs. Lean had to give up the Play Reading and Painting classes during the term, but her place has been adequately filled by Mrs. R. Hughes for Play Reading and Miss D. Thurborn for Painting. We already regard these ladies as old friends.

The Garden Fete will be held on Saturday, 15th September; preparations are already in hand. The Residents will again run a stall, and are hoping to improve on last year's figure of £167.

The outstanding social event was the visit to the Pantomime "Sleeping Beauty" at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, on 3rd March. Most of the Residents, members of the Staff and also of the

Management Committee enjoyed a first-class show which starred David Whitfield, Morecambe and Wise, and Tony Heaton as the Dame. We are very grateful to the Management Committee, and particularly Mrs. Bennett, who, we understand, made all the arrangements, and also defrayed the cost. We hope a visit to a Pantomime will become an annual event.

Other social events have been a party given by the Harrogate Lions Club who brought along the Methley Male Voice Choir; a Cinemascope film "Les Girls" shown by our old friends Leeds Toc H; two one-act Plays by Hunsingore Women's Institute; the Collingham Players in a play "The Vixen and the Grapes", produced by Mrs. R. Hughes; and a travel film shown by Mr. Woods of Harrogate.

Also we have had the singing of the Oratorio "Olivet to Calvary" by the Weatherby Evening Institute Choir; a piano recital and conjuring tricks by Master James Horsefall, nephew of Mrs. Addyman, a member of the Management Committee; and a programme of coloured slides of Scotland given by Miss Olga Bates. To all who have helped in these social events we tender our sincere thanks.

Mr. Ian Fryer, Chairman of the Residents' Welfare Committee since its inception in the summer of 1960, has resigned, and Miss Alice Dean has been elected in his place.

JOSEPH TWIST.

## EXHIBITION RADIO STATIONS

On 23rd June there are to be two Exhibition Radio Stations at Cheshire Home Fetes. One is at the Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, Home and the other at the Sandbach, Cheshire, Home.

No details are yet available about the Yorkshire station except that it will be at the Grammar School where the Fete is to be held. The school is only about 100 yards from the Home.

The G.P.O. has issued a special amateur licence having the call-sign GB3LCH (Great Britain 3 Leonard Cheshire Home) for the station at the Garden Fete at the Sandbach Home.

It is hoped to demonstrate contacts with other Cheshire Homes and with amateur stations throughout the world. Radio equipment of both professional and amateur construction will be on display, and a group of experts will be on hand to answer questions.

If any listener in another Cheshire Home cares to send in a report on the transmissions, it will be greatly appreciated, and acknowledged with a special card which is to be printed.

Visitors, whether radio enthusiasts or not, will be most welcome at either of these exhibitions.

## One-Man Exhibition

John Hallard is an artist resident at Ampthill Cheshire Home. He has, in the past, experienced great difficulty in selling his paintings. But, due to the kindness of a local friend, a one-man exhibition was organised in nearby Ampthill and proved a great success. The exhibition was opened by Sir Albert Richardson, the well-known R.A., and John sold about eighteen paintings, which realised some £12. In opening the exhibition, Sir Albert said how pleased he was with John's work, but did advise him, like the students at the Royal Academy, to concentrate with a copy book on basic shapes, i.e., trees, etc.



Photo: "The Bedfordshire Times"

**John Hallard, with Sir Albert Richardson.**

### Friends by Post

A nurse in one of the Homes was instrumental in bringing to our notice two letter-writing schemes (called respectively "Friends by Post" and "Conversation by Correspondence"), which are being run for handicapped and lonely people. Some of our readers might welcome contact with people outside their Home. We have been asked to mention these schemes and say that explanatory leaflets would gladly be sent to anyone who might like to join. There is no charge whatsoever, but a stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated when applying to Mrs. H. E. Salomon, 54 St. Michael's Avenue, Bramhall, Cheshire.

## Hawthorn Lodge, Dorset

How quickly the time goes; it does not seem more than a few weeks ago that I was sending a few notes for the last issue of *The Smile*.

Our Home is still full and our latest admission is a little boy who was born on the 12th March this year. Just a little scrap of a thing but the focal point of interest at present. All the children are well and the staff have overcome their bouts of flu, colds and other seasonal complaints.

## The Grove, Norfolk

Since our last bulletin, The Grove has gone on well from small beginnings. We are now twelve in number, and one and all very happy. We have had "teething troubles"—as no doubt other Homes will understand. Staff have been very hard to get at times, but we have never been neglected in any way, thanks to voluntary help and the ladies of the Committee.

We have had various entertainments both at home and outside. We had coloured slides of Norfolk, Nature Study and the Continent. Then British Railways brought travel films of East Anglia, Scotland and Italy. The Heelsdon Toppers have entertained us with songs and dances. Schoolchildren from Franningham Earl brought their brass band and handbells.

Some of the family attended a party at Hetherset, and others went to a dinner by kind invitation of the Wymondham Red Cross. Also four of us saw a play at Costessy—"How to stay Married", and I would like to mention here the comfort I felt when we turned in at the gates of our Home.

A highlight has been the Silk Show held for us in Norwich. It was put on by the Silk Centre of London, and the gowns and dresses were displayed by seven top mannequins. Macdonald Hobley was compere. Lord Ferrers spoke on our behalf, and in the interval a draw was made for lucky number programmes. During tea Macdonald Hobley came and wished us well and autographed our programmes. Perhaps I should add that some of the silk was woven at Norwich. We arrived home in time

The Week's Good Cause Appeal by Johnny Morris on the West Region Home Service on Sunday, 1st April, was a wonderful broadcast. Up to the time these notes are written the amount received is over £900. This will be a very considerable help to us here. The response of so many kind people was both touching and remarkable and gives us every encouragement for the busy times ahead.

H.J.W.

to watch BBC news and to see ourselves on the screen. The Committee had worked under difficulties to arrange it all, but judging by the attendance we believe their efforts were rewarded.

Soon we are to have a dog, a Pyrenean Mountain dog. She has been given by Dr. Irene Green, and we are to have her when she has been trained. When we first saw her at eight weeks old she was like a woolly lamb; now at fifteen weeks she is as big as an Alsatian and when fully grown will be able to stride a wheelchair. Already she is affectionate towards us and shows signs of being a gentle guardian.

The time ahead looks very promising, and at the end of September five of us are going to the Holiday Camp at Gorleston. None of us have been before but from reports we should have a grand time. DOROTHY.

When I went into hospital in 1947 life was very dull. Even now I am only thirty-nine, and you can understand how I felt in a ward full of elderly sick people. So when the opportunity came for me to be admitted to a Cheshire Home I was delighted with the idea.

At the moment of arrival I knew I had made the right decision. Already I feel ten years younger, thanks to the companionship of young people. The family are very happy in spite of their various disabilities. I am a spastic and unable to do anything for myself, but I enjoy life immensely thanks to Sister Sheila Temple and all other members of the staff.

JIM WILKINSON.



The recently completed extension at St. Bridget's.

### St. Bridget's, Sussex

Some people might think that between Christmas and Easter things are rather quiet, but not so with us. We have many forms of entertainment, all of which we very much enjoyed and appreciated. Dr. Neil Orr gave a most interesting talk and showed films of life in Antarctica. Captain Mackenzie told us about life as a river pilot; the river he had been on being the Thames. Miss Steinberg showed films of Spain and Tangier, and Mr. Oswald, of Cyprus and Jordan. The Concert parties and Drama Groups were excellent. Mr. Hitchman, who also showed us a film, is interested in making a small film

of our Home.

We are now looking forward to Easter and to the many things that are going to take place this summer—the most important of course being the opening of the extension. We sincerely hope that the weather will have improved by then. Most of the family are busy doing their various handicrafts in readiness for the Exhibition in Littlehampton at the end of May and so on into the summer.

The family are looking forward to meeting all those who are coming to spend holidays with us during the next few months. H. M. ELLIOTT.

### Cann House, Devon

This Spring, Cann House is having a face lift. Our old friends, the Knights of St. George have at last persuaded us to allow them to paint the hall and passages. Owing to the height of the hall we had left this section to be painted professionally, but the Knights had always considered it a challenge to them and eventually got our permission to tackle the job by arranging for the proper scaffolding to be erected free of charge.

Central heating is being installed throughout the house and the fitter creeps from room to room trying to

keep the inconvenience down to a minimum. We have high hopes of more comfort next winter.

In addition, we hope to see work commence on our new drive. At present we have to use the tradesman's entrance which is very narrow and a dangerous exit. The new gates and drive will open up our approach and put us on the map. To be ready for more critical appraisal, the external painting of the house is also being tackled.

By the time this goes to press we shall know the result of our Devon

Cheshire Week, being held in April. We are hoping that enough will be collected to cover the cost of all this work and give us enough to think of our next improvement—the provision of a Chapel.

Our patients continue to be well entertained and get around famously by means of the Friends of the Disabled bus run by our good friend Stan Cullis and his Committee. Besides the home games of Plymouth Argyle, we had a grand day for the cup-tie match against Tottenham Hotspur. Our football fans also went to the ground early and shook a box at the football crowd for our Cheshire Week, and were pleased with the result, especially as they beat donkey "Candy's" morning effort.

The provision of a handicraft teacher on two days a week by the Director of Education, Plymouth, has eased the situation in this field, and we are grateful for his help.

H. HAROLD

#### Entertainments

On January 18th, for the first time, we had "The Smilers" concert party, under the direction of Mr. Minhinick. Later on we had the pleasure of listening to the Band of the Devon and Dorset Regt. Then on February 20th

we listened to the Tecalemit Choir, under their conductor Mr. Dennis Feeney. The next day we had the Tamar Valley Jazz Band with us. They made the blood run wild through our veins.

Then came St. Jude's Concert Party.

On March 15th we had the "Sunshine Variety" Group here for the first time.

And lastly, the Derriford Congregational Church Choir visited us.

E.J.W.

#### Candy

Candy, after having her picture on the cover of *The Cheshire Smile* was, of course, only too pleased to take part in the Devon Cheshire Homes week. With saddle-bags, red feathers and coloured ribbons she set off, and had a very successful outing.

Also prior to this she was invited to appear in an advert for beach-wear on Westward I.T.V. She went to the studio at Plymouth, but when they lowered the arc lights she reared up and bit one of the girls in a swim-suit. She became so frightened that they could do nothing with her, so she came back to Cann House with a "couldn't care less" expression on her face.

P.P.

### Carnsalloch, Dumfries

Carnsalloch Home has now grown into a large happy family. We have eleven patients, including Nora Porteous and Georgina Caldwell, who arrived on 21st February, and Margaret Murray, who arrived on 1st April.

Our Doctor, Dr. Miller, very kindly gave us money at Christmas time to start a welfare fund. Now we have to work and increase the fund for ourselves; and meantime it is a hive of industry here while some are knitting, some making trays, and some doing tapestry work—all to swell the welfare fund, from which we hope to pay for bus runs, etc.

We are lucky to have kind ladies who come out each week to take many of us in their cars for runs

round the beautiful country. To add to the enjoyment of the outing, they each provide a cup of tea and something nice to eat.

We are also very lucky to have ladies who volunteer to show us various handicrafts. Dr. Ewart, who herself is partly disabled, showed us how to do tapestry work, while Mrs. Bain has shown us how to make all sorts of things, one being paper flowers; some residents intend to make rhododendrons, the simplest flowers, to start with.

So Carnsalloch is really going with a swing now, and we all join together in wishing other Cheshire Homes all the best.

SADIE GORDON.

## The Le Court Association

*Reproduced by kind permission of the Editor, "Petersfield Post"*

Many people throughout Hampshire have a knowledge of what goes on at the Cheshire Foundation Home at Le Court—and the more they know, the more inspired they are to do something to help. This is happening all the time with individuals who come into contact with the home. They are affectionately known at Le Court as "slaves."

But now, the home is setting out to put the interest of many people on a more organised footing. Representatives of local organisations have recently met at the home, and the campaign plan is to try to form Le Court Support Groups in towns throughout the county.

A central committee has been formed at Le Court, and it is going ahead with a four-point mandate:

(1) To form groups to interest people in Le Court.

(2) To clear up misconceptions about Le Court.

(3) To help raise money for any special project in connexion with the Cheshire Homes.

(4) To support Le Court in whatever way possible, such as making things for sale at the annual fete, and encouraging young people to "slave" at the home.

Petersfield Rotary Club, which was one of the organisations represented at the meeting, is already organising a pilot scheme for Winchester. It is enlisting the aid of the Rotary Club there, and, at the end of May, before an audience of representatives of

various Winchester organisations, and other interested persons, it is hoped to arrange a showing of the Le Court film "The Living Proof."

Plans are also afoot for one of the Le Court residents to attend the showing, and also Mr. Charles Darby, who leads the Independence Unlimited group. This is an organisation of residents and outside experts who meet every Tuesday to discuss, and invent, short-cuts and cheaper ways of making the lives of handicapped people as independent as possible. It has already achieved many successes.

Support groups, it is thought, might be able to offer particular and specialised help to this unit. The provision of electric indoor wheelchairs is another problem which faces the home, and its residents. Such things are not provided under the National Health Scheme. They cost about £150 each, and it may be the support group in a certain town will dedicate its efforts towards raising sufficient funds to buy a chair for the home.

Another way of helping is in organising car trips for the residents, and also local clubs for disabled people.

It is envisaged that if the Support Groups scheme works it will benefit not only Le Courtiers, but handicapped people in all parts of the county. Such matters as wheelchair adjustments and repairs, and the provision of aid-to-independence gadgets in the home might all be tackled by a keen local committee.

## Le Court Matron Weds

*Reproduced by kind permission of the Editor, "Petersfield Post"*

Wedding bells are to ring soon for Miss Rosemary Clarke, matron of the Cheshire Foundation Home at Le Court. She is to marry the widower of a former resident at the home. He is Mr. Leslie Donovan, an aviation engineer, of Hatfield, Hertfordshire, whose wife, Edith, died in April 1961.

Mrs. Edith Donovan, a model, was a resident at Le Court from July 1957

until her death. She left two sons, Robert and Gregory.

Forty-one-year old Miss Clarke will leave Le Court, where she has been matron for the past five years, shortly before her marriage, which will be at Harrow on May 12.

"My husband and I will still work for the Cheshire Foundation during our spare time. Our big ambition is to

open a home at Hatfield," she told a reporter. "It is the aim of the foundation to have a home in every county—Hertfordshire has not got one yet."

Announcing the engagement, the Le Court Newsletter states: "Matron's leaving will be one of the greatest losses Le Court has ever had."

Later it continues: "Les's association with us began when Edith came here in July 1957. He became part of our lives, and we grew to have a

profound admiration for him as Edith's disability increased, and he was always the same, devoted and thoughtful, and yet so full of fun. When she died last April we felt for him deeply.

"That these two people who have such a special place in our affections should be married is the only thing that could reconcile us to losing matron."

## Le Court - Notes in brief

We have all been saddened by Mrs. Cheshire's recent death. She worked for Le Court in so many ways over the years, and had a very special place in our hearts. The appreciation of her elsewhere in this issue expresses our feelings well.

We regret that this quarter has seen Sir Ernest Gowers' resignation from the Management Committee. Of more than five years on the Committee, Sir Ernest spent three as Chairman. We would like to thank him for his generous gift of time and interest over such a long period.

Sir Christopher Lighton, Chairman of the Management for the past two

years, has now stepped down because of ill-health. We thank him too, for all his continued help, and welcome Lady Doris Blacker as Chairman in his place.

In the March elections for the Welfare Committee, Peter Wade was returned for a third year as Chairman, Sylvia Hunt was elected Vice-Chairman, and Pat Collison, Secretary. Derrick Feltell did not stand for re-election after four years on the Committee, and he was thanked for a long and valuable period of service.

We welcome Mrs. Latham as our new Matron. She was formerly on the staff of St. Bridget's.

---

## Kenmore, Yorkshire

It is with regret we have to record the deaths of two of our family, Donald Knowles and Michael Bateman.

Donald was my room-mate, and we came to understand each other's point of view, though very different. We had most interesting and friendly discussions on religion, politics and life in general.

Michael, unfortunately, could not speak, so we evolved a system of signs. His wonderful eyes spoke louder than words.

Illness and various irritating circumstances have abounded lately, but it is sincerely hoped by the time this is in print things will have sorted themselves out.

June 23rd will see the second Annual Fete at the Whitcliffe Mount Grammar School, Cleckheaton. This is to be opened by a "personality". The Fete last year was marred by extremely bad

weather, but even so great crowds were attracted by the appearance of two members of the "Coronation Street" ITV cast.

We understand that very soon a start will be made on the new extensions, and we hope to be able to accommodate 16 more residents. At the time of writing the Extension Appeal Fund sponsored by the Mayors of Brighouse and Spensborough has reached its target of £10,000—a remarkable achievement. Our gratitude must go out to their Worship for so kindly sponsoring the appeal, and thanks, too, to the secretary of the Appeal Fund, Charles Fenton, Esq., and all who have contributed great and small amounts.

Jimmy Redfearn has recently joined our family at Kenmore, and we hope he will be very happy with us.

DUDLEY KITCHING.

## West Riding Homes

The West Riding Home's news begins on a sad note as we report the death of Mrs. Jean McGlashen, our first lady resident, who came to White Windows during the days of adaptation and conversion over five years ago. Others of our families who have died since the last publication are John Foxwell and Alan Croft.

At White Windows we possess some ten to eleven acres of land surrounding our home, the greater part of which is still uncultivated. Nevertheless, the Management Committee are gradually improving the appearance of the grounds, so that our family can enjoy the outdoor as well as the indoor amenities. In this task our grateful thanks are due to the members of the Lindley Toc H, who over the years have given a tremendous amount of voluntary help—each Sunday morning some half dozen of their members armed with picks, shovels, trowels and all the paraphernalia that goes to making paths, walls, garden-beds, etc., do their stuff. When we realize that these kind friends of our home travel approximately fifteen miles round journey to work on our behalf, on the very morning when their own families would appreciate their company, their worth becomes the greater. Much remains to be done, but we are now beginning to see the shape of things to come—well done, Toc H.

Louis Battye again hits the headlines in our dual family, and this time for two reasons. He has now become the proud possessor of a Sleyride

indoor wheelchair. The period during which he held his "provisional driver's licence" proved most hectic, and everyone gave Louis as wide a berth as possible. Now I am happy to report his proficiency in handling the machine and as soon as the Trans-Pennine highway is born Louis will be one of the first to show his prowess.

A new novel "Cornwall Road" will, by the time this goes to Press, have appeared on the literary market of this country—the author, Louis Battye, Esq., White Windows, Sowerby Bridge. This is the second of his books and we hope the forerunner to many more novels from his pen.

Kenmore's extension appeal sponsored by the Mayors of Spensborough and Brighouse has reached its target of £10,000. The Management Committee wish to thank these civic dignitaries for their wonderful support, and also all those generous people of the West Riding who have made this magnificent total possible.

Both of our homes are going through that contagious disease period of "Staff problems" and we wonder if it has something to do with the weather. To date we have seen no sign of spring, and yet here we are only a few weeks away from White Windows' Fete, to be held this year on May 26th with Dr. R. Webster and Mrs. Webster of "Ask me Another" fame as our openers. Who knows, once the sun begins to shine, maybe all our worries will disappear in the warmth of his rays.

L. J. TIREBUCK.

## My Prayer for My Friends

*by Dora Howell (of Mote House)*

Dear Lord, look down on these friends of mine,  
Shower them with blessings and love divine,  
Walk and Guide them all the way  
What more, Dear Lord, for them could I pray?

If their way is long and they need a friend,  
I know I'm not much but my life I'll spend,  
To share their worries, their joys and cares,  
To lighten their burden is my constant prayer.  
And please, God, bless our wonderful staff too,  
Without them, Dear Lord, what should we do?

With their patience, friendship and love,  
I am sure that you have sent them from above,  
So may happiness be with them in all that they do,  
Now and all the long year through.

## St. Teresa's, Cornwall

The long winter seems to be, at last, giving way to something like Spring. Any day now we shall be able to sit out and get some fresh air into our lungs, after being—for the most part—confined to the lounge for the past six months. Then, in June, we shall be going on those very enjoyable sea trips to the Isles of Scilly. How nice it would be if some of our "Brothers and Sisters" in the other Homes could have the opportunity of a trip to the Scillies.

We were deeply sorry to hear of the death of the Group Captain's mother. Professor and Mrs. Cheshire paid a visit to St. Teresa's on February 19th, so it came as a great surprise and something of a shock when we heard of Mrs. Cheshire's death. All here sent their heartfelt sympathy to G.C. over his loss.

Here in the Home we had another bereavement. One of the original residents of St. Teresa's, Harold Smith, died suddenly on March 9th. Harold is sadly missed. He was a very obliging man, and being able to move about was quite useful about the place.

We had a film show in the lounge on the 10th March, the film being "Dentist in the Chair", a comedy which we all enjoyed very much. We selected the film ourselves, but we are very grateful to Mr. Couch of St. Ives for coming over with his projector and projecting the film for us; we also thank those members of the Staff who stayed on to help put a number of us to bed after the show.

On Thursday, April 5th, we had a Quiz contest in the lounge, our opponents being a team from St. Just Youth Club. It was a very close "fight" and actually ended in a draw. The St. Just Youth Club are, I believe, champions of West Cornwall; well, they retained their record of being undefeated—and so did we. The questions were compiled by Mr. John Sharpe of Penzance. He was not able to be present for the occasion but Mr. Maurice George was a very competent question-master, with his wife, Joyce, doing the scoring. The Youth Club were accompanied by their Vicar, the Rev. G. Barrie, who, by the way, also provided the transport for them. It was in every way an enjoyable evening; we look forward to a return contest later in the year.

At the time of typing this, April 11th, our senior lady orderly, Miss Grace Maundrell, is walking from John O'Groats to Land's End. She started out on Tuesday, April 3rd, and the latest news we had was that she had covered somewhere around 300 miles in six days, very good going. We all hope (at least we residents do!) that Grace will complete the walk and in good time, with no really bad trouble with her feet.

That is about all for this time, except to say that some of us are busy doing something about Open Day which will be in June, date not yet fixed. L.H.

### Pictorial Record of the Cheshire Homes

(with nearly 200 pictures)

An attractively produced 48-page souvenir volume of pictures is in preparation which we hope to publish some time this year. It is being printed throughout on art paper, and the book (9 $\frac{3}{4}$ in by 12in) will have stout covers designed to stand a good deal of wear and tear.

The selling price of the Pictorial Record has been fixed at 3s. 6d. for single copies, but we are arranging to allow the Homes and "Friends" to purchase quantities at reduced rates (although we shall be forced to charge for postage and packing).

Orders of 6 or more will be charged at 3s. 3d. per copy

" 12 " " " 3s. 0d. "

" 100 " " " 2s. 9d. "

(Will the Homes please note that although these prices are 6d. more than previously specified, we are fairly certain that there will be no further increase.)

## Holehird, Windermere, Westmorland

John and I feel that we are part of the History of Holehird, in that we were the first two patients to whom the stout, solid oak doors were opened on May 31st, 1961. At the end of February 1962 we shall have been here ten months—months which at first appeared—dare we say it?—somewhat boring once the novelty of the spacious grounds, the glorious view, and pleasant surroundings had worn off. And yet when one looks back there have been many eventful occasions, the first being the excitement of our Opening Day on July 1st, quickly followed by the great occasion of the Group Captain's visit on July 21st. Both the Committee and local people have been most kind in taking us for outings to see the countryside, and the parishioners of St. Mary's have been very faithful in coming with their cars to take us to church, after which in warmer weather they took us short runs before bringing us back home for lunch.

In August we were joined by two more patients, Bob and Jo, and at the end of August there were two holiday patients, one from St. Bridget's, Sheila Marshall, and the other a local lady, too ill to leave her bed, so we never met her. In October we enjoyed a visit by Frank Watson from Honresfeld, and also held an extremely successful Coffee Morning—our first! Also at the end of August we started Occupational Therapy, which has been a source of tremendous

interest and pleasure, especially to me, because it has revealed to me that I can use my hands to make baskets, as a result of which they have become noticeably stronger. John has made rugs, and Bob made stools. As well as giving us great pleasure, this is a means of income to the Patients' Welfare Fund, and I find my time passes so quickly that I hardly have a moment for my once favourite occupation of reading thrillers!

We now have with us Reggie and Jimmy, and are looking forward to welcoming many more new patients when all the alterations are completed. That remark surprises me, in that I have written so much that there has been no opportunity to mention the upheaval we have all endured this winter! At first the workmen were a source of interest to us, but we soon learned to dread the taking up of floor-boards, and the drilling of holes for the electric wiring, through which the icy winds whistled! However, we got our central heating for Christmas—AND were we thankful!—thankful, too, for the most glorious Christmas of our lives. Looking back, the past ten months have been most eventful and I cannot see how we ever had time to be bored!

We now look forward to building up a wonderfully happy Home for the patients still to come, and send our greetings to every member of the "Cheshire" family.

BILL POWLEY (*Resident*)

---

## Ardeen, the Irish Home

The lift will be finished in about a month's time, and then we hope to admit the remainder of our residents. Our official opening is planned for June 17th and the Minister of Health is coming.

The staff, apart from Miss O'Leary, the Matron, consists of two S.R.N.s, Miss Cullen, the secretary, and one orderly, a cook, and a cleaner. Two ladies come on Monday afternoons to do the washing, one a doctor's wife, and the other the wife of a veterinary surgeon. We hope to get a washing-machine soon—not before time!

We were delighted to have Paddy Flynn, from Le Court, over here for a short holiday. We had a few "Irish evenings" whilst he was here.

The local point-to-point races were held at Shillelagh in April, and we were able to view the course in comfort from the house. Several friends had given us their field-glasses for the occasion. We had a stall on the course where we sold, and took orders for, handicrafts. Some of our residents had worked hard and they do really good work.

---

## OVERSEAS

---

## CHESHIRE

---

## HOMES

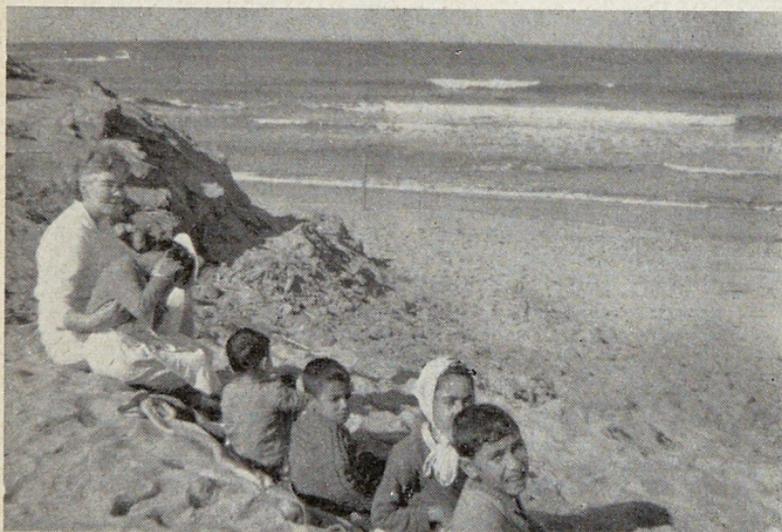
---

### Morocco

Miss Eagleston, the Matron, has done extraordinarily well in creating one of the happiest Cheshire Homes at Dar el Hanaa, Tangier. The Chairman of the Committee, the Cherifa of Quezzane, spoke exceedingly highly of all that Miss Eagleston was doing. In March, seven children were already installed, and others were coming shortly. Many offers of help had been received. In particular, a local French orthopaedic specialist sees some possibility of being able to help three of the

patients become more mobile. Many people had produced gifts of various kinds, but much equipment was needed in the shape of wheelchairs and walking aids.

As seen in the picture, a happy afternoon is often spent on the beach. Those children who can walk go paddling in the sea, the others are carried down to the water's edge and scream with delight as their feet are dangled in the waves.



**Miss Eagleston, Matron of the Tangier Home, takes the children down to the beach.**

---

### Portugal

The first Home will be opened shortly, with a few patients in a house in

Oeiras, made available by the Misericordiae.



Clement, in the wheelchair, is the head boy of Oluyole, the Ibadan Home, Nigeria.

## Nigeria

### Oluyole, Ibadan

This home is now in the charge of a Nigerian matron, Martha, who has continued to run it on the lines that Mrs. Cutler established before she left two years ago.

Miss Margot Mason writes: "The children gave me the most wonderful welcome, and brought tears to my eyes when they sang a calypso, which had been specially composed for my visit, entitled "Welcome to Noble Mother Miss Mason."

We hear that the patients in the Home have improved beyond words. "Little children who were wasted and undernourished when I last saw them two years ago have now filled out, and several who were completely helpless are able to get around on crutches and

do all kinds of things for themselves." The leader, Clement, is doing extremely well at school. He travels by car each day with a wheelchair at the Home and a wheelchair at the school, and the other pupils at the school take a great delight in helping him in and out of his chair and looking after his needs with every care. Two of the other patients also go to school, and those who stay in the home are taught by visiting teachers who come voluntarily in the evenings after their own work is finished.

### Lagos

The Chief Justice, Sir Adetokanbo Ademola, who is Chairman of our Nigerian Trust, has made available a small property in Mushin. A great

deal of structural work will have to be done on it, but there have been many offers of help from scouts and other organisations.

Bishop Aggey has been appointed Chairman of the local Committee. A leader of the Moslem religion, Alhaji Ashode, also serves on the Committee; he hopes to get some land on which to build at Ikeja, near the airport.

When Miss Mason visited the Orthopaedic Hospital at Igbobi, she saw many young patients who had been in hospital for a number of years, incurable, and nowhere else to go. The Medical Officer in charge told her how grateful he would be if the Cheshire Homes could take a few of these, and release their beds for others who were waiting to come in.

#### Port Harcourt

A property has been acquired in Port Harcourt, and the first six months' rent was met by a generous donation from the International Women's Society in the town, after a speech by Miss Mason at a meeting specially arranged for her. A Support Group under the leadership of

Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Newland, has been formed within the local Shell Company, and several donations made.

The Chairman of the local Committee is Mr. Ambrose Allagoa, a barrister, who has shown a great deal of interest in the work. There have been offers of help from nurses and a physiotherapist; a possible house mother is thought to have been found.

Negotiations are proceeding for a plot of land on which a permanent Home can be built.

#### Enugu

Sir Louis and Lady Mbanefo invited Miss Mason to Enugu. She had interviews with various Ministers in the Government of the Region, all of whom welcomed the establishment of a Home there. A Committee has been formed, with Sir Louis as Chairman, and they are going ahead and seeking a suitable property.

#### Owerri and Aba

Other Homes are envisaged for these two areas, where some land has been made available.

## Sierra Leone

*Sierra Leone Home, Freetown. The first two crippled children, Mrs. May Cutler (Matron) Sir Salako Benka-Coker, Chairman of Sierra Leonean Trust.*



#### Freetown

Two houses have been made available here by the Government, and Mrs. May Cutler has established herself in one with the first two crippled children.

The formal opening took place on Friday, March 2nd, and amongst those present was Miss Margot Mason, one of the many engagements during her recent round of visits in West Africa. She was welcomed at the airport by the Chief Justice, Sir Salako Benka-Coker, who is Chairman of the Cheshire Homes Sierra Leone, and Mrs. Cutler, and the two children. On the day of the opening, the Chairman arranged for a party of prisoners to clear the gardens of the Home; and the band of the Sierra Leone Army was playing in one corner of the grounds. The Prime Minister, Sir Milton Margai, performed the opening ceremony, and many people came along. It was a great and inspiring occasion, the highlight being when Sir Milton unlocked the door of the

Home, and the two crippled children, Baba Tundu and Mariattu appeared on the verandah for all to see.

The energetic Chairman of the local Committee is the Solicitor-General, Mr. J. Smythe, who was in the R.A.F. during the war. Plans have been discussed for the holding of a Red Feather Day; also for the long-awaited visit of Group Captain Cheshire in May.

#### Bo

Mrs. Cutler made a wonderful job of establishing the Sir Milton Cheshire Home in Bo. Before she moved on to Freetown she handed over to a Sierra Leonean matron, Mrs. Domingo. There are nine children now installed and, probably, the present building will soon become too small for their requirements. The Chairman of the Committee is Mr. Roxy Harris, a surgeon, who, when he goes on leave, proposes to hand over to Mrs. Handscomb, the wife of the manager of Diamond Corporation in Bo. She devotes a great deal of time to the Home, and helps to teach the children.



The two first children at the Home in Bo, Sierra Leone.

#### Hong Kong

Margaret Marshall, who has taken charge of the Cheshire Home at Hong Kong, sent the following report of progress there.

“... You are very right, there is little time at all for letters. I can just manage the daily little notes which are a must to keep things running. I don't know if Leonard (the G.C.) described this place—a disused army camp—built in terrace formation up and down a steep cliff face. All very scattered—plenty of slimming exercise getting from one place to another! The two miles of road down to us at the end of a peninsula is under repair, which has isolated us for about two weeks, but it is well within sight of completion.

“Residents are absolutely fine—it is such a joy to help them—they are so cheerful and appreciative. Altogether Chinese are extraordinarily cheerful. The latest addition is a fourteen-year-old boy—T.B. meningitis—who has been in hospital for eight long years. He is a ‘sweetie’—intelligent and collects stamps—so we have a lot of fun sorting—he has been given quite a lot here.

“The Home being so very new has aroused a lot of interest in Hong Kong—and there seems to be a continual visitation—all very worthwhile.”

#### New Home for Children at Raphael

A new Home has been set up at Raphael, Dehra Dun, for the children of many of the leprosy patients in the settlement, and other children coming from unsatisfactory backgrounds (e.g., T.B. in the household, drunkenness, or something of the sort). Dr. Andrews (Mrs.) has gone out to help start this up, and now that things are ready the

Home will be run by three Indian nuns, who will also take care of the children in Pamela Breslin's school. In the meantime, these latter children are being competently looked after by an American lady, Mrs. Lynn Haithcox, a qualified teacher, who by good fortune happens to be living close by.

## Pamela Breslin

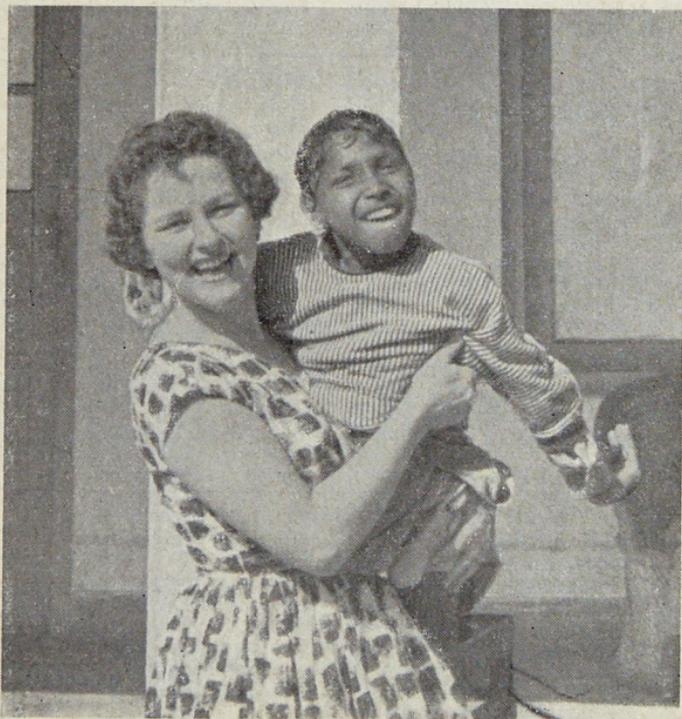
Pamela Breslin, an Australian teacher, came out to found the school for mentally retarded children at Raphael, Dehra Dun. She has now left, and is to be married in Bangkok on 2nd June to an Australian Civil Engineer.

Pamela had been working in an Australian school for the deaf and dumb, and was highly qualified in this work. She saved up out of her own earnings in order to be able to give two years' service to Raphael, at the two pound per week pocket money which is the most that anyone there earns. She also paid her own passage to India; so her service was indeed a gift.

Everyone who has visited Raphael will agree that the school is the most outstanding achievement. None of the children are able to speak coherently; the great majority of them can't utter even a single word. Pamela had to start from scratch. She got them to try and identify colours, follow

nursery rhymes by means of coloured posters and songs, recite simple prayers and draw extraordinary drawings. And she has succeeded in introducing not only an interest in their lives, something to which they look forward, but even a sense of order, and therefore peace and security.

We shall miss her very much; she was extremely vivacious. She didn't hesitate to tell people exactly what she had in mind. There were, however, moments of depression for her, when she felt that everything was useless and in vain. Indeed, she once said that she must be the only teacher in the world whose children had never made any progress at all since the first day they came to school. But she will be long remembered throughout Dehra Dun for her attractive personality, and the contribution she has made to the children.



## Bholi

Miss Pamela Breslin, in the photo opposite, is seen with one of her charges, a boy of about eleven called Bholi. He arrived one day at Raphael, more than two years ago, like an unstamped parcel on a train to Dehra Dun. He had a label round his neck stating, "Cheshire Home". On being asked his name, he mumbled "Bholi". Nothing more has been found out about his background. From his very blurred speech it is thought that his "home" since birth was the railway station at Moradabad. He says he has a mother who begs.

In spite of the fact that he is very spastic and can only sit or recline, he

is like a ray of sunshine to those about him. Each morning Pamela is greeted with a cheery call of "Hullo teacher", which helps to make the most arduous labours light. She writes that the statement "Happiness is a purely relative thing" can be seen and proved in the ever-smiling countenance of this strange little creature from nowhere. Oddly enough, the name "Bhola" (which is his correct name) means "the lost one".

He loves this photo of himself, and looks at it so proudly, holding it in his bent little fingers and saying "Hum" (me).

*(Poems by Pamela Breslin on next page)*

---

### Essays in Simplicity

## LOST

by W. Riley (of St. Teresa's)

THE road curled away into the distance, like a lazy snake. Benny trudged along sturdily, but in reality he was lost and a little bit frightened. But Daddy was a soldier, and soldier's sons don't cry. He kept his eyes fixed straight ahead, looking for a familiar landmark.

He had come to stay with Auntie Janet for a long-promised holiday, and he wondered what she would do if he were really lost.

He looked around anxiously once more, and it was then that he noticed the gentleman. With a child's sure instinct, he put his hand confidently into a large strong one, and looked up into a pair of laughing eyes.

"Please will you take me home to Auntie Janet?"

"Auntie Janet—and where does she live?"

"Somewhere near here, I don't know where, I'm lost." The gentleman, who said his name was Uncle Dick, looked hard and long at Benny.

"I believe I know your Auntie Janet, you are so like her. Could you possibly be Benny?"

"Yes", Benny beamed.

"I do hope Auntie Janet will let me come home too." Benny wondered what he meant.

Now he had company, the walk home seemed very short to Benny, and soon they were ringing Auntie Janet's familiar bell;

Janet opened the door herself.

"Benny—Dickon."

Without thinking the old pet name had slipped out.

"I found your little boy lost, Janet. May I come home, too?"

"Of course, Dickon", said Janet, and kissed him.

*This little story wins the next 10s. prize in our competition.*

## POEMS

by Pamela Breslin

### "A Leper"

Dull eyed  
He squats  
A monument  
Aware of nothing  
But the seering singe  
Of suffering  
That soon will mellow mildiy  
Into nothingness  
Until a document  
Declares he is "burnt out"—  
Free from infection  
Feeling  
And the strange stark stigma  
Of a name  
But which is worse?

### "David"

We saw you smile  
And once you laughed  
Yet there was little  
In those eight long years of breath  
To conjure up the image of a smile.

And yet, we saw you smile  
And once we heard a laugh.

We can but guess  
What caused those vacant dull des-  
pairing eyes  
To twinkle with a mirth so unex-  
pected  
That we stood, self-conscious  
Waiting for that secret joy to lose  
itself  
And die into that vacant stare  
We knew.

We can but guess  
God sent a special angel  
To whisper  
Of the glory yet to come  
Which is now yours.

### "To Share"

Man's utter incapacity  
To share a grief  
He cannot see  
Bewildered once  
And frightened me  
Until I found  
That suffering  
Cannot impair  
When once  
A man has learned to share  
His silent grief  
With Christ.

### "Bridget—A mongol Child"

Strange Child  
What say your eyes?  
What mean those garbled words?  
That spill illogical  
Upon my wondering ears?

What means your smile  
And warm embracing clasp  
That joyfully  
You greet me with each day  
As wondering I question God?  
You answer  
With a leap  
And mangled lyrics  
Of a Christian hymn.

Have you a message to impart  
That only you  
And others such  
Can understand?

Or did God choose you  
Little one  
To teach the world  
That sanity and wisdom  
As we know  
Cannot be all?  
That you, strange mixture  
Of the East and West  
Are proof of happiness  
We cannot know  
While sullen sanity  
Enfolds the world  
Or yet another precipice  
Of hate?

# HOUSING FOR THE DISABLED

by Lady Hamilton, O.B.E., M.A.

*Summary of an address delivered at the Housing Centre, London, last October. Lady Hamilton, after a distinguished career at Cambridge, has been active in many fields of public life. She is a woman of vast experience and vast knowledge. She has served on the Board of the St. Giles Housing Society, which is running a pilot scheme for providing accommodation for wheelchair cases in converted houses.*

IN discussing this subject I am using the term "disabled" in its broadest sense, to include all of those with impaired functions . . . including sufferers from any disease, accident or condition that disables or enfeebles; rich and poor alike, because old age, disease and accident are common to all income groups. I shall not be discussing housing for those who at our present stage of knowledge can never hope to live an independent life; for example, people who need a machine in order to breathe, like an iron lung or a tracheotomy machine, or people suffering from practically complete paralysis as a result of a broken neck.

When thinking of the planning of dwellings for the disabled, by which I mean, in general, family homes, one has to remember that most people, whether disabled or not, live in dwellings that are not purpose-designed, but built on traditional lines. For disabled people who have to continue to live in existing homes there is very little to be done to improve fundamental planning. Ramps can be put in instead of steps, doors can be widened, handrails fixed as required; kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms can be re-arranged within the space to make life easier—or perhaps possible at all—for the disabled person. But, fundamentally, the house remains a house built according to tradition . . . How bad for the disabled the British national tradition is, all those who work amongst them know.

I propose, therefore, to ignore for the moment the problems of disabled people who have to live in existing housing, and concentrate on discussing purpose-built housing for the disabled—what should be its characteristics and its ideal planning.

There is one great difference between people with impaired function and those with normal strength and energy. The latter can afford to be inefficient in their housing . . . The disabled cannot afford to be inefficient because they have not the strength to surmount such difficulties. If their house has too many stairs, they simply become house-bound and cannot go to work. If they cannot get into the w.c. they have to use a commode and someone

has to empty it. If the house is too much for them to manage, and there is no-one to do the work for them, they have to go into a chronic sick ward at a cost to the nation of £20 to £30 a week, plus a capital cost of £3,000 or more a bed; or alternatively into Part III accommodation at £7 to £10 a week, plus £1,000 or more capital cost for a bed. Where there is a family, the children have to go into care at £7 or £8 a week each. Housing for the disabled, therefore, if they are to carry on without being a burden to their families or to the rest of the community, has to be efficient.

There are certain considerations which I feel must be borne in mind in planning new dwellings for disabled people:

1. The dwelling must allow the individual, whatever his or her handicap, to move about in it with maximum convenience and minimum effort. Hence it must be on one floor only, unless the owner is rich enough to instal a lift which is very expensive in a single family dwelling. It must be a bungalow or a flat with no steps, wide doors, and the maximum ease of circulation.

2. The disabled person must be able to use all the facilities within the dwelling just as a non-disabled person can. This will probably mean a larger kitchen and a larger bathroom than normal.

3. The dwelling must have maximum ease of communication with the outside world. It must be really easy for the disabled person to get in and

out, and for him to sit out of doors, either on a balcony or terrace, when the weather is suitable. The disabled person's motorised transport, if any, must be accessible at the minimum distance.

4. Adequate heating is as important to most disabled people as food, and will require special consideration in planning.

5. When all these basic requirements have been met, the next thing is to take the work out of running a house in every possible way by careful work study, both in arrangement of rooms and development of appliances.

6. The house must be basically multi-purpose in plan. A house which will provide for one disability only would never be built. Private people would hesitate to build a single-purpose house unless they were very wealthy, and public authorities in this country would not build exclusively for one condition at all. I suggest that the purpose-designed house we want must be good for *all* with impaired function whatever it is; good also for the ageing and aged, because often a disability is acquired late in life.

7. The price of every single component, and of the whole house, must be ruthlessly reduced to the absolute minimum.

If in this country we can achieve a supply of such purpose-designed houses, I believe that many now in chronic wards of hospitals will be able to come out into the world again, and many old and disabled people leave institutions. Families now divided, and all that this means in human grief and cost to the community, will be able to stay together.

So far, there is very little purpose-built housing for the disabled anywhere in the world, and in this country little thought has been given to the matter, although housing perhaps makes more difference to the disabled than anything else. The report of the Committee of Enquiry on Rehabilitation, Training and Resettlement of Disabled Persons (the Piercy Report) did not even mention housing, although the enquiry was most comprehensive and the report almost a Bible on the subject of disability. Even the latest report of the National Association for the Paralysed, though called *Permanent Accommodation for the*

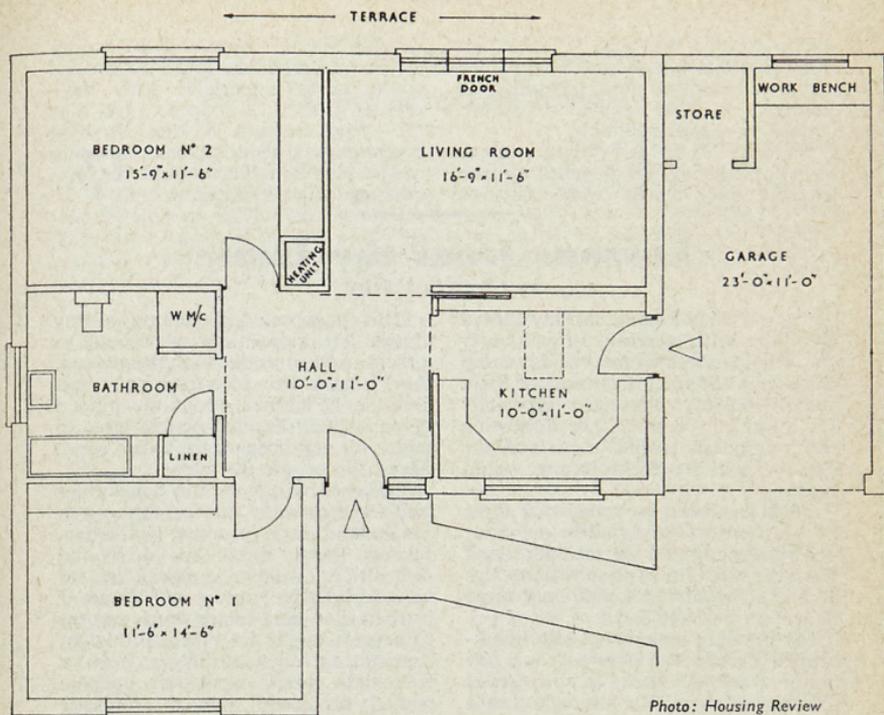
*Physically Handicapped*, did not mention housing at all. So far as I know, apart from the excellent new project just announced by the National Fund for Poliomyelitis and other Crippling Diseases, sponsored jointly with the Royal Institute of British Architects, for an Architectural Fellowship to study the problem of housing the disabled, architects have paid little or no attention to the problem.

Famous doctors who are world authorities on their subjects work in our departments of physical medicine, but they all seem to be interested in adaptation rather than in new building.

My interest in this subject was aroused when my sister-in-law became paralysed, and it was found that no advice or help was available in finding suitable accommodation. I attended in 1960 the Eighth World Congress of the International Society for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled in New York, and was impressed by Dr. Rusk's purpose-designed house adapted from the ranch-type of building. It was better than anything I have seen in this country. On my return I made enquiries and found there was considerable interest in this type of accommodation, and a demand for it. Accompanied by an architect, Mr. Francis Smith, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.C.S.S., Sir Patrick Hamilton and I have studied purpose-built housing for the disabled in the U.S.A. and in Denmark. In America I have seen disabled people who would normally be in a home or institution remaining in the community because they were living in specially designed accommodation. I have also been to Belgium and Stockholm.

As a result of his study of the matter, Mr. Francis Smith has suggested a simple basic principle for the design of a house for people with impaired function in order to secure maximum ease of circulation between the different parts of the house.

The lay-out of the house was basically a row of three rectangular rooms; a kitchen; circulating hall which could either be used as a room by itself or as part of the main living room from which it was separated by a large sliding door; and a bathroom. The front door opened direct into the hall, the bedrooms and living room also opened off the hall . . . Because



The two-bedded room, local authority type house, to be built at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford.  
Architect: Francis Smith, F.R.I.B.A.

the house was built around the hall the centres of all rooms were as close to each other as possible, and the disabled person had the minimum distance to travel. This lay-out was extremely easy and economical to heat.

(Lady Hamilton then showed plans of purpose-designed housing. Afterwards two plans based on Mr. Smith's suggested principle of circulation were displayed. Lady Hamilton also showed some slides taken in Dr. Rusk's model house in New York.)

I would suggest three further questions for study:

A possible way to classify people with disability is by their gait; namely, the people who shuffle and are unsteady on their feet, such as arthritics and sufferers from Parkinson's disease and the very old; and those who are either chair-bound or else steady in their gait even though they rely on sticks or crutches. It might be that the

house which allows for generous circulation space is not the best for people who shuffle; perhaps more enclosed spaces would suit them better; on the other hand, perhaps the house with good circulation could be supplemented with specially designed and secured furniture which the people who shuffled could use for support. If so, no special lay-out plan would have to be evolved for the "shufflers" of whom there are large numbers in the community, and whose needs have not been studied.

The second query concerns siting of purpose-designed houses for disabled. Many hold that it is vital to the happiness of the disabled that they should not be segregated together but should be housed here and there among normal people in the community. It is important to remember that seriously disabled or deteriorating cases need to be within reach of help. In Belgium, where important work is

being done in this field, it is felt that for them housing should be provided close to hospitals and rehabilitation centres, so that skilled assistants would be readily available.

Thirdly, is it not important to develop housing for disabled private clients? Such clients could afford to

develop special items and do experimental work which local authorities could never undertake with their present method of finance. I feel that the richer section of the disabled community should have its housing needs studied and should be encouraged to experiment.

## Lessons from the Lame

by Charles Darby

ON a rainy evening in May 1961, I sat with a group of voluntary helpers in a Dorset holiday camp discussing the final arrangement for a week's holiday organized especially for disabled people. The following day our guests would arrive and the task of making them happy would begin.

I had just been informed that three people were to be placed in my care; one with a crippled leg; one paralysed from the waist down; one with no legs at all, no right hand and only three fingers on his left hand!

My previous experience with handicapped people was limited to a few hours work a week at our local Cheshire Home. The thought that I would have to attend to all the personal needs of my charges was rather frightening. How could I cope with dressing, undressing, washing, shaving and, above all, with the other more intimate requirements? Knowing that skilled nursing staff would guide me did little to ease my apprehension.

But my nervous fears were banished when I met my three friends. Without embarrassment, without any sense of false modesty, they took charge of *me* and my education began.

From my grand old man I learned how to fix the metal support which strengthened his crippled leg. He was then completely independent. From my young paralysed friend I learned how to clean and adjust the necessary contraption which hung permanently down one trouser leg. But once his lower parts were clothed he did everything else himself. From my little legless man I learned about courage and determination, for he needed practically no assistance whatsoever! Washing, dressing, shaving, even taking a bath, he managed them all entirely unaided.

This unexpected lightening of my duties left more time to devote to others and so my education progressed. As I attended to their physical needs I not only learned about the hidden things which disabled people have to suffer, I also began to know more about the people themselves.

I learned to ignore the deformities and seek below the surface. I began to understand how it must feel when, because your speech is slow and difficult to follow, conversation is abandoned and you are left alone. I learned that inarticulate words can try to express highly intelligent thoughts; that uncontrolled dribbling from a speechless mouth does not indicate mental deficiency; that a grotesque appearance can conceal a beautiful nature; that a mishapen body does not distort the soul!

During that week of education my own insignificant troubles were eclipsed by the spirit which, in spite of pain and handicap, enabled our guests to sing and laugh and enjoy to the fullest extent that never-to-be forgotten holiday.

So many of us take our own health and strength for granted. We are inclined to look upon the physically handicapped as alien creatures, objects of pity who cannot be treated as ordinary people. I learned that they *are* ordinary people, who do not want our pity but desire only understanding and friendship.

And so I have tried to put into words the lessons I learned from my disabled friends, in the hope that other able-bodied people may be led to seek a better understanding of the problems of disability. There is so much we can give and so much to receive, for I also learned that true happiness comes only from giving happiness to others.

## Living Proof—a film about Le Court

Reviewed by Paul Hunt

As a member of the community concerned in this film, I feel rather diffident about undertaking to review it. One of the dangers inherent in the project anyway (residents filming themselves), was that it might exhibit an unhealthy sort of mutual admiration. However, I think the film manages to avoid the worst excesses of this kind, and hope to be as successfully "objective" myself. Also I think the chance to discuss some of the wider implications of *Living Proof* is well worth the risk.

First, some credits and technical details. The film was made, over a period of about three years, by four disabled residents at Le Court. Members of the Film Unit are: Neville Thomas, founder and director; Barbara Beasley, secretary and script-writer; Laurie Mawer, cameraman; and Brian Line, sound recorder. They have had countless willing assistants, and were given professional advice in the later stages by Ian Curtis (producer of the BBC *Pathfinder* film on the Cheshire Homes). *Living Proof* is in colour, using 16mm. film, with a linking commentary written and spoken by Barbara Beasley; it has a running time of 25 minutes. And it cost approximately £150 to make, most of which was generously raised by local friends who held several dances and a jumble sale.

The first showing of *Living Proof* took place before an invited audience in February of this year. A copy is now being loaned for publicity purposes, and in particular is to be used in the setting up of support groups in Hampshire. So far as one can judge audience reaction has been genuinely enthusiastic, and applications to loan a copy are coming in fast. (Anyone interested should contact the Unit secretary—naturally there are certain conditions as the copy is very precious.)

At first sight one is struck by the absence of serious technical faults in *Living Proof*—the makers had been apologizing for weeks before the premiere so our expectations were not high! Many shots are "jumpy" in the old silent style, but this was due to the limitations of the rather ancient camera used. One soon forgot these and became absorbed as the film progressed. The cutting (downfall of most amateurs) is excellent—Ian Curtis having provided the necessary ruthlessness—except in one over-long sequence

where the shots of Farnborough Air Show are quite irrelevant to the main theme. The commentary binds the film together well and imparts a great deal of information, but is perhaps somewhat doctrinaire.

The most striking parts of *Living Proof* are those which show people doing out-of-the-ordinary things—or rather ordinary things by extraordinary means. Albert painting with the brush held in his mouth, and shaving himself without use of hands; Evelyn typing and sewing with her toes; Joy using her feet to comb her hair, light Andy's cigarette, and weave a scarf. By any standards these are fascinating things to watch, and they seem to have drawn the best out of the cameraman and director.

But although these are the scenes one remembers particularly. I think they are not in themselves the most important things about this film. What comes over above all is the happiness and fulfilment that are possible in a Cheshire Home. The shots of people doing wonderful things by foot could have been taken in any hospital. But no hospital could have provided the framework of freedom and spontaneity from within which the people in this film give such an impression of actively enjoying life.

For me, *Living Proof* goes a long way towards justifying an insistence on a "liberal" kind of organization for our communities. I am convinced of the intimate connection between the obvious happiness and vitality of the people in the film, and the various "privileges" we have come to take for granted at Le Court. For instance, everyone being dressed and up for breakfast, every effort being made so that residents can go to bed when they want, the opportunity for constructive work, consultation of residents and their undertaking of many responsible

functions, and so on—all these established freedoms have a very real relation to the fact of there being anything at all worth filming. *Living Proof* proves, to my satisfaction at least, that to give people (disabled or not) a high standard of physical comfort can be a *basis* for growth, but of itself it does not touch more than the fringe of their problems; only when opportunity for the exercise of freedom and responsibility is added, will growth and fulfilment of personality be likely to take place.

This connection between freedom and the growth of the person is one thing that occurs to me when thinking about *Living Proof*: another which I should like to touch on briefly here, seems just as far reaching.

For the first time ever, probably, people with disabilities who are mainly on the receiving end of "charity", have been able to show how things appear to them. They have presented to the world a picture of what being disabled looks like and feels like, *from the inside*, as it were.

I believe this idea of people expressing themselves and thus helping others to understand them, their aims and desires, is of the utmost importance in a field much wider than that of the Cheshire Homes. The charity that does things *for* people,

while in no way to be despised, is but a shadow of true charity, which aims always to do things *with* people. And how can you do things *with* people unless you listen to them continually, unless you make an immense effort to understand what they think and feel about themselves and about the world? This necessity for an attitude of sensitive awareness so that any help offered may be relevant to the needs of the recipient, extends through every form of man's assistance to his fellows. It is as important in relations between two people as it is in the international field—the lack of such sensitivity is one reason why generous aid to under-developed countries often produces resentment instead of gratitude.

It is hoped these remarks on a few of the implications in the appearance of *Living Proof* do not seem too fanciful. I believe them to be of consequence, and I look forward to many more attempts at self-expression from residents in the Cheshire Homes. Certainly the members of Le Court's Film Unit have every intention of continuing their contribution. Financed by hoped-for proceeds from this film, they will be starting on a new venture shortly. Under the Presidency of Miss Mai Zetterling, and with Ian Curtis's continued advice, there's no holding them.

## And Yet We Are Human

*And Yet We Are Human*, by Finn Carling. Chatto & Windus Ltd., 1962. 12s. 6d.

Finn Carling was born a spastic, and it was not until his teens that he was able to walk. He went to a Rudolph Steiner school and later read psychology at Oslo University. With his intelligence, character and handsome looks he could not fail to make his mark. He became a writer, is married and has children, and in general has succeeded remarkably in overcoming his handicap.

*And Yet We Are Human* is a painful book. It is not long. The author makes his points in an oblique way, telling little parables—most of them tragic—interspersed with reflections. One has the impression at the end of

the book that, for all his psychological insight and his compassion for other people's sufferings, his own experiences have been too damaging. His spirit is still unhealed by the happy marriage and the recognition as a brilliant young writer. The title alone is a cry of despair and hostility against the world of his able-bodied fellow beings. Of course it is difficult to judge how much of this tormented quality is due to the difference between the Scandinavian attitude to life and our own, but Mr. Carling certainly ups his scales more heavily to the emotional side of the subject than the intellectual.

He constantly reiterates the theme that people with no physical disability are often just as debarred from the

fulness of life by personality defects as cripples are by their limitations. Their deprivations are imposed from within. This is very true, as we all know. Yet his stories have such a naked intensity that his acceptance of disability surely cannot be as pervading as he would like to convince himself.

The impact on a child of being disabled, and especially of being deformed and arousing horror in others, must be profound indeed. The book makes one long to hasten the process of educating public opinion away from the old semi-superstitious revulsion from cripples. Few people look on the disabled as non-human, in the way the title implies, but few see behind the outer form to the ordinary person inside. It is the same ignorance which carries on the colour bar, anti-Semitism and all sorts of other unthinking and hurtful prejudices.

In the Cheshire Homes we can do something towards this education. The severely disabled man or woman in the community has to face continual reminders that he or she is different: the stares; the common conviction that a cripple is not to be trusted with responsibility; the unwanted and sentimental pity. Too many find relief in the mental isolation of over-compensation or retreat. Living together we can forget our physical handicaps and build up a self-confidence and maturity with which to meet the world on equal terms. Each Home is a focus able to influence its

immediate neighbourhood, and many reach out much further. Already, since the war, there has been a great change in public attitudes. We can increase the change, so that books like *And Yet We Are Human* will not be written in the future. B.B.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

*Materials for all sections  
can be obtained  
from*

### Taylor's of Bristol

*Write for free  
illustrated catalogue to:-*

**G. E. TAYLOR & SONS LIMITED**

**Occupational Therapy Section  
2 Asher Lane, Redcross  
Street, Bristol 2**

Established 1856

*Telephone: 2-1616 (2 lines)  
Telegrams: "Mutual Bristol"*

#### SMALL ADS

Small advertisements are accepted entirely **free of charge** from *bona-fide* advertisers resident in the Homes. The charge to those outside the Homes is 2s. 6d. per line (or part of line).

Has anyone in the Homes, or outside, something to sell? Or some need to make known? Something to exchange? Why not advertise in this section?

Handmade goods of various kinds are available, or can be ordered, in most of the Homes. Why not visit your nearest Cheshire Home, and see if there is anything you would like?

For Sale—Handmade hearth rug, 18in. x 30in., deep blue and silver grey check pattern. Two guineas or nearest offer. Apply C. Horton, Le Court, Liss, Hants.

"Five". Six poems by five authors, including Royce McCoye of Great-

house. A few copies left, price 4s. plus postage, from The Elegebra Press, Greathouse, Kington Langley, nr. Chippenham, Wilts.

Second-hand indoor electric wheelchairs bought. Reselco, Sleyride, or mono-drive units wanted. Apply Welfare Committee, Le Court, Liss, Hants.

Original designs for Christmas Cards wanted. Simple drawings for possible reproduction and sale in aid of Homes overseas. All contributions acknowledged. Send to Paul Hunt, Le Court, Liss, Hants.

When answering advertisements, please mention *The Cheshire Smile*.

# Organizations Confer on Mobility for the Disabled

*Reproduced by kind permission of the Editor of "The Magic Carpet"*

On the initiative of the I.T.A., a new committee has been set up to co-ordinate action by all the various organizations having an interest in the whole question of the mobility of the disabled. It has been given the title of "The Joint Committee on Mobility for the Disabled" and its first meeting was held in London on 14th December, with Mr. O. A. Denly in the Chair.

The following organizations were represented:

*The British Council for Rehabilitation of the Disabled.*

*The British Legion.*

*Central Council for the Care of Cripples.*

*The Disabled Drivers' Motor Club.*

*National Association for the Paralysed.*

*The Multiple Sclerosis Society.*

*The Invalid Tricycle Association.*

Apologies for absence were received from representatives of the Queen Elizabeth's Training College for the Disabled, the Polio Research Fund, British Limbless ex-Servicemen's Association and the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organization.

## Formation of a Joint Committee

Mr Denly outlined the reasons for convening the meeting. In July 1961, the Invalid Tricycle Association had approached the Ministry of Health about the possibility of setting up an Advisory Committee to deal with matters relating to the design and supply of wheelchairs, motor tricycles and cars for the disabled. On the 14th August, 1961, Miss Edith Pitt, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health replied as follows:

"I have considered your proposals very carefully but I do not think that in view of the arrangements which already exist, a formal Advisory Committee is really necessary.

"I and my Officers are, as you know, always ready to receive representations from organizations concerned with these matters and to discuss their special problems with them, and an Advisory Committee would not seem to offer any

advantages over this arrangement since we have found that these organizations have shown no hesitation in the past about acquainting us with their views on the various aspects of our activities in this field."

The Minister of Health's Advisory Committee on the Health and Welfare of the Handicapped Persons has considered the parking problems of disabled drivers, but it has not to our knowledge dealt with any other matters relating to mobility for the disabled. The Minister of Labour has a National Advisory Council on the Employment of the Disabled, but again this Council has not to our knowledge dealt with any matters relating directly to mobility for the disabled. Voluntary organizations for the disabled interested in these problems have in the past made individual representation to the Ministry of Health and other agencies, but to date there has been no pooling of information and knowledge on the problems involved.

It was, therefore, suggested that a co-ordinating committee be formed to deal with all matters relating to mobility for the disabled. Topics would include not only wheeled chairs and personal motorized transport, but also access to and use of all forms of public transport, and access to and movement in public buildings and places of entertainment. The role of the committee would be as follows:

1. To examine the various problems involved and exchange information.
2. To place on record any investigation, research or practical experiment already proceeding, and where appropriate invite voluntary organizations to participate.
3. To publish agreed reports either through the journals of the voluntary organizations or the Press.
4. To agree the problems which need raising with government agencies, the best way and time to raise them, and then to make joint representation to the agen-

cies concerned—primarily the Ministry of Health.

Everyone present agreed that the formation of such a joint committee was desirable, and it was agreed that the title of the new committee should be the "JOINT COMMITTEE ON MOBILITY FOR THE DISABLED". Several people present were unable to commit themselves without reference back to their own organization, and it was agreed that the new committee be formed by invitation to representative organizations. It was agreed that members of the Joint Committee could include both representatives of organizations and independent members.

It was agreed that, in addition to the organizations represented and for whom apologies had been sent, invitations be sent to the following organizations:

National Spastics Society.

The British Rheumatism and Arthritis Association.

The British Red Cross Society.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade.  
The Institute of Almoners.

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

The Council of Industrial Design.  
The Invalid Tricycle Association undertook to provide secretarial services for the Joint Committee, and it was agreed that meetings be held approximately once a quarter with the next meeting in March 1962. Lady Hamilton kindly invited the committee to hold the next meeting at her residence in Chelsea.

The following items were then discussed:

Driving Instruction.

Parking Facilities.

Legislation concerning Driving Licences.

Legislation concerning the Speed Limit.

Issue of Wheel Chairs.

Supply of Electric Indoor Chairs.

The Issue of Cars and Tricycles when Garage Accommodation is not available.

---

### "Your Heritage"

"Your Heritage", by Mrs. N. C. Black. P.R.M. Publishers 12s.6d.

Watermouth Castle, North Devon, was purchased by Mr. N. C. Black in 1949. A restoration effort was made to preserve the estate, which had been the home of the Bassett family, whose forefathers came to England with William the Conqueror. The house and estate were thrown open to the public in 1950, and Mr. Black's wife acted as guide during the next seven years, to some 70,000 visitors. Her experiences during this period inspired her to write poems, and also a book which she called "Your Heritage". She died in April 1959.

The book has recently been published, and the proceeds from the sale of it are, under her specific instructions, to go towards the Cheshire Homes and the Forgotten Allies Trust.

Dr. Rowland Farrell has contributed a chapter on the Cheshire Homes. It shows one way in which the large old houses in this country can be put to good use.

---

### "Miracles of Achievement"

A new book, under the above title, contains some potted biographies of Christian men and women remarkable for their outstanding achievements in the last hundred years. Amongst famous names like Helen Keller, Dick Sheppard, Leslie Weatherhead, Ida Scudder and Charles Spurgeon, comes the familiar one, for readers of this journal, of Leonard Cheshire. There are fifteen pages for the sketch of G.C.

(*Miracles of Achievement*, by W. J. Smart. Peter Davies, 1962. 18s.)

# Schoolgirl Slaves

## One way of spending the holidays

Reproduced by kind permission of the Editor, "Weston Mercury and Somerset Herald"

**F**ORSAKING their usual holidays with their families, two Weston-super-Mare schoolgirls have been assist-

ing in a mission for the relief of suffering, founded by a V.C. bomber pilot of World War Two.

Annemarie Medland, an 18-year-old Weston-super-Mare Grammar School girl in the third year Sixth, and Penny Youll, 17-year-old head girl at La Retraite, Weston, have each spent summer and winter holidays helping at the famous Le Court, near Liss, in Hampshire.

Annemarie and Penny, although now firm friends, hardly knew each other before their first visit to Le Court. A teacher at La Retraite had assisted at a Cheshire Home on a number of occasions, and had talked about her experiences to the girls. Also teaching at La Retraite is Annemarie's mother, who mentioned it to her daughter.

Both girls decided they would offer their services to the Home near Liss. They came back greatly uplifted at what they had seen there, and immediately decided to go again.

Writing in "The Phoenix", the Girls' Grammar School's interesting and well-produced magazine, Annemarie



Photo: Western Mercury  
**Annemarie**

### SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Annual Rate—6s. (post free)

If you would like to receive *The Cheshire Smile* regularly, please fill in your name and address below and post this form, with a remittance for 6s. to The Treasurer, The Cheshire Smile, Le Court, Liss, Hants.

(N.B.—Receipts are sent only on request.)

Mr. / Mrs. / Miss.....

.....

.....  
(Please use capitals)

I wish to commence with the ..... issue.

Date.....

8/2

points out that Le Court is the foundation home. The original house was pulled down some years ago, and a new building constructed and adapted for disabled and wheelchair patients.

"There are ramps instead of steps, especially wide passages and huge lifts to accommodate as many as three or four wheelchairs. The passages have hand-rails along the walls, and the cupboards and wardrobes in the bedrooms can be opened with the foot, since many of the patients cannot use their hands."

Annemarie tells in her article how the Cheshire Homes try to offer the affection and freedom of family life, the patients being encouraged to take whatever part they can in the daily running of the house. Some work in the kitchens, peeling vegetables or cleaning the silver. They earn a little money through the sale of handicrafts, while some do factory out-work.

"All sorts of hobbies are pursued," she states. "One man paints with a brush held between his teeth, and another patient, a woman, does the most delicate embroidery with her feet. Through these hobbies, and the factory out-work, many of the patients are able to contribute a good deal towards their own maintenance, though no-one is ever turned away because of inability to pay."

What is it like in one of these Homes? Annemarie states "The atmosphere at Le Court struck me very forcibly. There is no emphasis on formal control, every patient is a complete individual.

"It would be easy to pity these people, but they lead lives of such great energy, ingenuity and joy that pity becomes impossible and depression ridiculous."

These two teenage "slaves" found that their unusual holidays were a wonderful and rewarding experience. They spent most of their time working in the pantry—"where we always

seemed to be washing up," said Annemarie with a lively chuckle—and they also served in the dining hall.

Was it not at all depressing? "Oh, no," replied Penny, "far from it. The people there are really wonderful, and it does one good to be among them."



Penny

Annemarie hopes one day to go to university. Last year she gained G.C.E. "A" Level passes in English (Distinction), History and Geography, and this year will take Latin. A fine dancer, she has taken part in Operatic Society shows and, some years ago, the British Legion pantomimes, and has also been seen on the amateur stage with the Red Triangle Players.

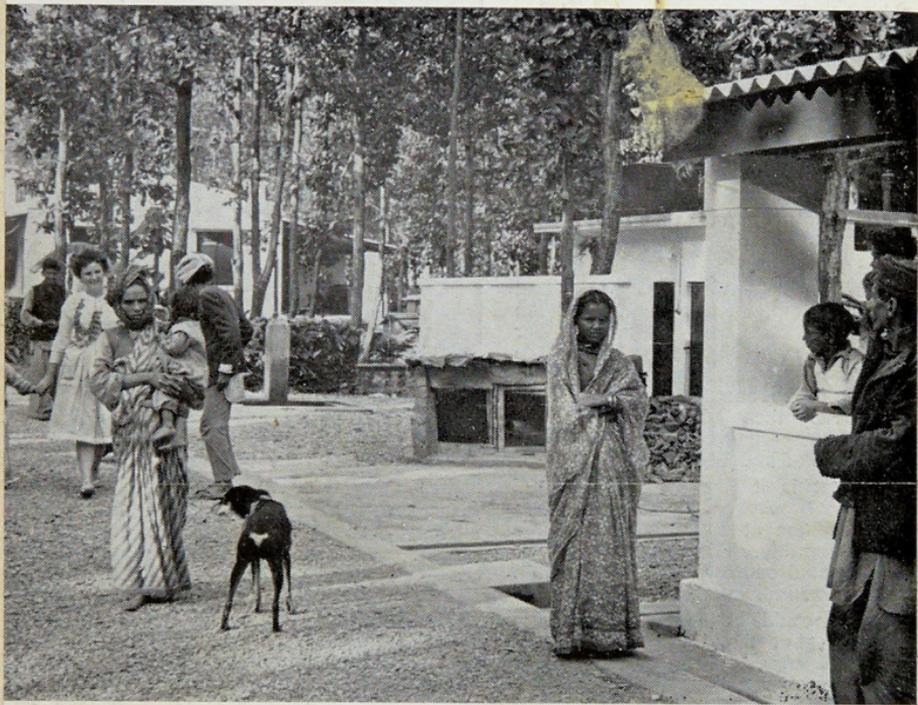
Penny is also third year Sixth, and taking Science. Penny also hopes to go to university, and would like a job eventually that will give her the opportunity of travelling abroad.

---

### Toc H and Cheshire Homes

In the Toc H Annual Report for 1961 there is a note about how the organisation is helping the handicapped, housebound and elderly. It is reported that Toc H, or the Women's Association, have contact with 26 out of the 34 Cheshire Homes in the U.K.

## RAPHAEL



*A scene at the Leprosy Unit, Raphael,  
The International Centre, Dehra Dun, in Northern India.*