



CHESHIRE SMILE

The Cheshire Messenger of the Cheshire Homes, Winter 1966/67, Price 15¢

Hampshire Sphinx

The Sphinx below won a prize at the Basingstoke Carnival this year. Its creators, 21 apprentices at Messrs. Lansing-Bagnell, then decided to trek through rural Hampshire drawing their handiwork behind them and collecting for Le Court en route. They arrived wet and battered – but £111 in hand. Who says the youth of today are no good?



CHESHIRE SMILE

The Quarterly Magazine of the Cheshire Homes

Vol. 12 No. 4 Winter 1966/67 one shilling and sixpence

Cheshire Smile is edited and managed by disabled residents at Le Court. Contributions to the magazine are invited from all readers. Opinions put forward in individual articles do not necessarily represent the official view of the Cheshire Foundation. It is our aim, however, to encourage free expression of ideas.

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 *Cheshire Smile* regularly, we should be glad to put your name on our mailing list. A subscription form is on the back page.

Deadlines for Next Issue

All news items for the March 1967 number should be received by the Regional Editors not later than 6th January. Regional Bulletins, letters to the Editor, etc., must be received here at Le Court by 20th January. No further notice of these dates will be sent to the Homes, so please make a note of them in your diaries. Special articles, photos, drawings, etc., should be sent, as early as possible, direct to the Editor, Le Court.

Hon. Editor FRANK SPATH Hon. Consultant Medical Editor Dr. B. KIERNANDER

Treasurer DENNIS JARRETT News Editor PETER WADE

Secretary Mrs. F. FINUCANE Asst. Secretary SHEILA M. PERCIVAL

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

Subscription rate — 7s. 6d. a year post free

No receipts for subscriptions will be sent unless specially requested

IN THIS ISSUE

An Ordinary Baby Rosalind Chalmers *Page 5*

A short story by a literary figure in one of our Midland Homes

People and Places *Page 8*

Staff Recruiting Drive Hilda G. Moore *Page 10*

The head of the Service Corps asks for the co-operation of the Homes and friends outside

Annual Conference '66 *Page 12*

Speeches, full of interest, on a wide variety of subjects to do with the Foundation

Good Samaritans of St. Anthony's *Page 18*

Experience of Disability Dame Eileen Younghusband *Page 20*

Review of 'Stigma', a book of essays recently published, edited by Paul Hunt of Le Court

Compassionate Ivy *Page 22*

Pictorial feature on a young girl in India who came to the Bangalore Cheshire Home

M.O.H. Standards for New Homes *Page 24*

The Ministry of Health advises local authorities on the building of Homes for the disabled

Comment Paul Hunt *Page 26*

Out of Doors *Page 27*

Spastics Residential Centres *Page 28*

The Position of the Epileptic in Society R. Mathys-Haller *Page 29*

An urgent plea for more to be done to integrate the epileptic into society

U.K. News *Page 32*

'Damascus' *Page 37*

An Ordinary Baby

A Christmas Story, by Rosalind Chalmers (of Greenacres)

Mrs. Shotts stretched out her hand to switch the light off and then dropped it suddenly, stiffening.

'Bert!' she called over her shoulder to her husband.

'Hullo!'

'I'm sure that was someone at the door.'

'What, at nearly twelve o'clock on Christmas Eve? Never.'

'I heard something. Go and see, Bert.'

Bert Shotts came out of the kitchen, drying his hands. As it was Christmas they had been drinking a glass of sherry together after the bar closed, but even at Christmas, Mrs. Shotts hated to leave any washing-up. It was easy to keep a neat house when there were no children to turn it upside down again, and Bert was a tidy man. Though it would have been nice to have a child about at Christmas, thought Mrs. Shotts, Oh, well, mother was coming tomorrow, and it was always a busy time at the pub.

This time they both heard the knocking. It was not loud, but steady and quite deliberate, and as such, compelling. Mr. and Mrs. Shotts looked at one another.

'I'll open the door on the chain,' said Bert.

Outside it was dark and piercingly cold. Bert gasped as the chill caught his throat, and he blinked once or twice before he could see anything.

'I'm very sorry to disturb you. But it's my wife. We intended to drive through the night, but now she is too ill to go on. We saw the lights, and we hoped . . .'

'We don't have rooms. This is only a small country pub.'

'I see. Then . . .'

Behind Bert, his wife said, 'Bring them in, Bert, and I'll make a hot drink. It's Christmas.'

'What on earth made you start out at such a time?' asked Bert, as he unhooked the chain, and opened the door wide, adding, 'You're only about fifteen miles from Birmingham. You'd have better luck there.'

'I don't think so. We've come from Birmingham. If we may come in for a moment we shall be very grateful.'

In the electric light the visitors blinked as Bert had done in the dark. Mrs. Shotts blinked too. The man and his wife were both black. Not coloured merely, but as uncompromisingly black as the night outside. They were young, surely the girl couldn't be more than twenty? And if Mrs. Shotts knew anything about it, she was going to have a baby. But, although chilled, weary, and perhaps on the verge of a humiliating rebuff, they retained and indeed transmitted a formidable dignity. The girl leaned heavily on her husband's arm, and they both stood there with composure, and waited. Mrs. Shotts dropped her eyes.

'I'll put the kettle on,' she said, and added, 'sit down'.

They sat on the sofa, and Bert, a little awkwardly, sat on another chair. But he had no antipathy towards negroes; they often came into the pub, and if he had

considered them at all, he would have thought of them patronisingly as 'darkies,' 'house-boys', 'witch-doctors' even, and now he was astonished and disturbed by a feeling not of superiority, but of inferiority. Which was surely ridiculous. He pulled himself together as his wife returned with the tray, and said shortly:

'At least you have a car.'

'Not a car. A motor-bike.'

'Oh. But had you got to travel tonight?'

Bert, it seemed, was trying hard to find the couple themselves to blame for their plight, and by implication, everybody else innocent.

'I will tell you. We had to leave the lodgings we had in Birmingham, and as we could find no others we decided to go south to where we have relatives, to the only house where our sudden arrival would not be an embarrassment at Christmas.'

It was not a reproach but a statement. The kettle whistled, and Mrs. Shotts rose to deal with it. Her hand shook slightly but she couldn't do it. The spare room was all ready for mother, as usual, the bed turned down, the extra blanket . . . Mother would never forgive them if they gave her room at Christmas to strangers, and to negroes at that. They might stay for days if the girl was ill, and it might harm their trade. Besides, wasn't their first duty to their own family?

It was difficult to be sure whether the hot tea revived the girl for she had not spoken before, and did not speak now, except to murmur her thanks. But Mrs. Shotts

felt better for it; no-one could say they had turned the couple away without offering them something.

Bert was likewise ill at ease, but the solution of the spare room had not occurred to him. When no lead towards further action had come from his wife, and the tea had been drunk and the mince pies eaten, he stood up and prepared to open the door again. The couple stood up too, gravely and without resentment, and then Mrs. Shotts had her idea.

'Bert! The old caravan!'

'Eh?'

'It would do — at least for a night. It has bunks, and I can lend you a blanket. It's at the bottom of the garden,' she explained eagerly, turning to the man, 'there's a pump outside. Bert will show you.'

'We would be very grateful.'

The caravan was old, decrepit, and, Bert suspected, not entirely waterproof. A bleak habitation at Christmas, or indeed at any other time, but it had, at least, a roof. The guests disposed, Bert turned to stumble back to the house, when something occurred to him.

'You didn't tell me your name.'

For the first time, although he could not

be sure, he thought the man smiled. 'Our name is Black.'

Mrs. Shotts slept fitfully. The Christmas bells began early — had they ever stopped? Towards seven she gave up the struggle, and slipped downstairs without waking Bert. Mother was expected before dinner, and there was the turkey to put in the oven, and the pudding to see to. She opened the back door to take in the milk, and there facing her in the greyness of dawn was Mr. Black, his tall figure concealing for a moment the garden, the caravan, the village.

'Please may I use your telephone? Our baby has come, a boy, a beautiful boy, but I think I must ring a hospital.'

'I'll do it — you go back to her.' Without waiting for an answer, Mrs. Shotts flew. At least, I can do this much, she cried inwardly. I shan't be completely useless.

She dialled 999, and waited briefly, then gave the necessary information. Outside, the bells pealed joyfully as, still in her thin slippers, she ran through the raw December morning to the stable.

To the stable? Don't be absurd, she told herself. It's only an ordinary baby, an ordinary little black baby. Just because it was Christmas was no excuse for imagin-

ing things, and blasphemous things, too. It was only a little black baby.

'You wish to see the baby?' Mr. Black came to the door of the caravan. She nodded, and climbed up the rickety steps, following him a little fearfully to the bunk with its two meagre blankets, where Mrs. Black and the baby lay.

But as Mrs. Shotts said to Bert afterwards, she noticed nothing except the baby.

'A nice one, was it?' asked Bert.

'It was quite pale. I'd forgotten they don't get dark till later. It gave me quite a shock, as if — but, of course, it was only an ordinary baby.'

'So they've gone?'

'Yes. The ambulance came almost at once.'

'A baby at Christmas,' said Bert slowly. 'Pity it had to be one nobody wanted. Still, you never know. You never know how they'll turn out.'

'I'll get him a present,' said Mrs. Shotts. And thinking about that eased the pain in her heart, but not the feeling of intense deprivation that was almost too great to bear.

Family Day

Family Day was held for the first time at White Windows on 16th July, and resulted in a great occasion. About 90 guests were present, including G.C. and his personal secretary in London, Mrs. Chatterjee; the secretary of the Cheshire Foundation, Miss Elaine Mayes; Mr. and Mrs. P. Rowntree; the Bishop of Wakefield; the Chairman of Sowerby Bridge Council, Mr. T. H. Longbottom and Mrs. Longbottom; and the Headmaster and some of the staff of St. Gregory's Grammar School, Huddersfield. Coffee was served to the guests on their arrival in the morning; later there was a sherry party with the residents, and lunch.

During the afternoon a meeting was held in the Sacred Heart Junior School, Sowerby. Dr. F. J. Laycock was Chairman, and G.C. spoke of some of the latest developments in the Cheshire Movement. This was followed by an open discussion led by two residents — Jim Jaquest and Louis Battey.

Finally Mr. Rowntree expressed thanks on behalf of the Trustees. Back at White Windows tea was served and Family Day was over for another year, but G.C. stayed the night with us, leaving for Huddersfield the following morning where in the afternoon he opened the new Home, Beechwood. We hope to see him again soon. We wish to express our sincere thanks to all who helped to make the day such a success, including a number of the girls from St. Gregory's and a detachment of our good friends, the Keighley Sea Rangers.

The London Shop

With Christmas all-too-rapidly approaching, it is perhaps timely to mention that the shops at Nos. 51/53 Knightsbridge, kindly given free to the Foundation for the sale of Christmas cards last year, will still be in operation this Christmas. During the whole

of this and last year the shops have been selling all forms of merchantware, nearly all given freely, in aid of the Mission for the Relief of Suffering. It is encouraging to know that quite brisk trade has been done throughout the year. Our thanks must go to Mrs. Collyer, who has manned the shop so diligently, and to Mrs. Kate Barker for all the help she has given from No. 5 Market Mews.

Publicity Material on Loan

It is now over a year since Group Captain Cheshire came to Athol House and asked us if we would assemble a collection of coloured slides and information about the Cheshire Homes, which would be available on loan to people organising lectures and publicity.

The Cheshire Foundation Slide and Information Library was, therefore, set up with slides of Homes in this country and overseas, taken by the G.C. and Mr. Wilfrid Russell. Our group under the chairmanship of John Beckingham sent out two circulars to all the U.K. Homes, informing them of the Library's purpose and asking them for slides and information.

The response has been disappointingly poor.

Perhaps, some of you still have never heard about the Library. We are now appeal-

ing, through the *Cheshire Smile*, for your co-operation. We know many Homes have slide collections for their own use. Why not let others – particularly new or overseas Homes – benefit from seeing how you have overcome certain problems – e.g. providing ramps instead of steps, gadgets for opening doors, feeding, dressing and toileting devices, special adaptations of wheelchairs, etc. Naturally, we are interested in the residents, and the architectural features of the Homes, but it is the gadgets, the special aids to independent living, which can be of such vital importance to other disabled people. There may be friends of your Home who would be glad to let us have slides – perhaps duplicates – of important events.

Even if you have no slides you can help by sending in information about your

Home, as some are already doing. Tell us about the daily routine, whether you have a shop, residents' meetings, film shows, how often you go out and how, what work you do, and whether you read, write, garden, paint, sew, knit, cook, etc., also about any special gadgets.

Information and slides (which must be described; we can only guess what the picture is if you don't tell us!) should be sent to:

The Secretary, C.F.S.I.L.
Athol House
138 College Road
London S.E.19.

We should be very grateful.
Virginia Woodward
(Secretary)

Residential Accommodation Bureau

By Miss A. E. Skinner, Medical Social Worker, Neurological Department, St. Thomas' Hospital, London.

Reproduced from 'New Society', by kind permission of the Editor and Author.

Many of your readers will be aware of the long continued shortage of suitable in-patient care for the young chronic sick. Families are struggling to look after patients with progressive neurological disorders against increasing odds, and I feel it is time to take a new look at how the old problem could be solved. It is known that the responsibility for finding beds for young chronic sick people is vested in the regional hospital boards. The present situation indicates that the regional hospital boards have failed, and it is difficult to find evidence of any intention to make better provisions in the metropolitan regions for those between the ages of 16 and 60.

I should like to make a plea for a bed bureau for this small but neglected group of people, with representatives from each regional hospital board and voluntary institution. Such a bureau could have a team investigating every application, sorting

priorities, having control over all admissions. It could provide a unified bed service to which hospital specialists and general practitioners could refer all cases where accommodation and care is an immediate or easily foreseeable requirement. Such a system would have immense advantages over the present regional approach which because of bed shortage encourages unrealistic planning and long lists.

Just now, each metropolitan regional hospital board reacts differently to an application for admission to a young chronic sick unit, and in every region there is a disappointing and discouraging response to inquiries followed by long delays or no action. Waiting lists for independent institutions are also lengthy, waiting time can be as much as four years, and even then not all patients are eligible on account of diagnosis, or even social standing. Surely all these patients on all the lists cannot be in any order of priority. The passing of time and the progress of disease are not always in step.

The Editor writes:

We reproduce the above letter because we

think the idea worth some consideration of a central bureau to co-ordinate all applications and admissions to residential institutions – statutory or voluntary – for the severely and permanently disabled throughout the country. The Cheshire Foundation knows only too well – from the number of deserving people we have to turn away every week, indeed every day – that there is still a great need for more residential accommodation of the kind we provide. And we are interested in exploring with others any possibility that might help to give more suitable living conditions to those still in need. We can see that the very existence of such a national bureau would in itself be one of those immense advantages of which Miss Skinner speaks.

We have, however, one reservation about the scheme she puts forward; it concerns her reference to the proposed bureau 'having control over all admissions.' We feel strongly that there should be no compulsion in regard to sending disabled people to any particular accommodation, to which they may, or, for one reason or another, may not, want to go.

A round up of topical items about interesting people, and places of note by the Roving Reporter.

It would seem appropriate this time to mention first the appointment of our Chairman, Sir Edmund Davies, to be a Lord Justice of Appeal, and to extend our congratulations to him on his elevation. Our congratulations also go to Lady St. Levan on the recent celebration of her Golden Wedding. She was one of the original Foundation Trustees, and has done so much work for the chronic sick over the years.

We were all very sorry to say goodbye to Mrs. Romola Chatterjee in September. She had come to No. 5 Market Mews in April 1965 to work as the Group Captain's private secretary. She left for India, via the United States, having won the affection of all who came in touch with her.

Romola Chatterjee comes from Calcutta, and has two grown-up sons working in America. The way in which she had tackled the difficulties of living and working in contemporary London has aroused the admiration of us all – and more than that, the affection of everyone, both in and outside Market Mews, who has been fortunate enough to meet her.

So smoothly did she settle in to what must have been completely strange surroundings that, just before she left, she told me that in terms of the Hindu belief in reincarnation she was certain in one of her previous existences she must have been English. She will be missed especially at Market Mews, but also in the wider circle of the Cheshire family. We wish her the best of good fortune. Perhaps, she will return to the family, not in another existence, but in another sphere. We most certainly hope so.

On 19th September, Battle of Britain Sunday, the Group Captain gave the Address at the special service held at Great St. Mary's Church in Cambridge. It was, as usual, a moving occasion, full of memories for many of us. The setting in the lovely University Church on Kings Parade was as perfect as it could have been. There were many uniforms, mostly R.A.F., ranging from



Air Marshal to Leading Aircraftman; also, the Cambridge police, and, of course, the Mayor and Corporation in their robes and with the golden paraphernalia of their office. Then there was the choir, which sang beautifully, and the clergy. The Group Captain was in a dark suit, with no medals.

His Address, which was given after the Service, stressed the importance of every single individual's contribution to helping his neighbour, however trivial and insignificant it might appear to him and so perhaps scarcely worth the effort. If the men in the Fighter Squadrons in August and September 1940 had not given everything they had when the odds against them must have seemed so overwhelming as to make flying their sorties hardly worthwhile, we would not be living as free men and women today.

Mrs. Chatterjee, Miss Eileen Keleher, Mrs. Chadwick, and Miss Janice Klumpp from Market Mews were in the church.

The other day I drove to Cavendish for tea with the Group Captain. Sue Ryder was just off to a speaking engagement at Hatfield, so I was only able to see her for a few brief moments. The Group Captain was in a caravan moored in the drive of the Old Rectory, near the front door, which serves him as a film workshop. He was busy cutting and splicing his new film of his West African tour. He showed me the rough version inside the caravan. Although the commentary had yet to be synchronised with the film, and it was still in black and white – the final version will be in colour – I saw enough to appreciate that it will be a fascinating production. Professional in its impact, it is yet amateur, insofar as it will have cost only a fraction of what a professional documentary of the same length would cost. There were some lovely panoramas of Freetown, and a moving sequence of the late Chief Justice on his sick-bed. Sir Salako Benka-Coker was the first Chairman of the Sierra Leone Trust and, from the outset, placed his full influence and interest behind the two Homes, at Bo and in Freetown. He died shortly after these pictures were taken. In the film also are some delightful shots of Margot Mason, our former Secretary, rushing up the stairs at No. 7 Market Mews.

Before leaving Cavendish, I called on 'C.D.' Evans in her cosy little house, 2 Lime Villas, which is bang opposite the entrance to the Old Rectory. So now she is much closer to her work – barely a hundred yards – as G.C.'s Cavendish secretary, than when she had to commute between Camberley and London every day. I thought she looked very well. She has made her house extremely attractive, and is seldom without a weekend visitor in her guest room.

The projected Hertfordshire Cheshire Home has already been mentioned in these columns, and I am glad to report that progress is being made. On 16th September, a County Appeal was launched in the Old Palace, Hatfield House, which was kindly lent for the occasion by the Marquess of Salisbury. Our local Patron, the Hon. Lady Bowes Lyon, was in the Chair, and after refreshments had been served, the meeting was opened by Mrs. Kathleen Overton, J.P. It was in her house that a meeting took place about a year ago, which resulted in the setting-up of a Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Leslie Donovan. The Group Captain went down to Hatfield, and after the film 'Living Proof' made by Le Court residents, was shown, he gave a talk, which was warmly received. On the platform with Lady Bowes Lyon were Lord Salisbury, and Mrs. Donovan.

The Old Palace is normally used for serving teas to the public who visit Hatfield House. The guests – invitations had gone out to 200 people and the meeting was well attended – sat at small tables on which were pamphlets and covenant forms. Our sincere thanks are extended to Lord Salisbury for lending the Old Palace, and our encouragement to all those who realise the need for this Home, and are doing so much to achieve it.

We have also mentioned the Oxfordshire project in previous issues – a project with which Mr. T. A. Taylor, our Honorary Surveyor, is actively interested. On 30th September, a public meeting was held in Oxford Town Hall to launch an appeal for this venture. The Group Captain went down for this meeting too, and again the film 'Living Proof' was shown before he gave an address. The G.C. was supported

by Mr. Neil Martin, Conservative M.P. for North Oxfordshire, who took the Chair, Mr. Evan Luard, Oxford's first Labour M.P., and the Lord Mayor of Oxford, Air Vice-Marshal W. F. MacNeece Foster. The need for a Home in Oxfordshire is borne out by the fact that enquiries have revealed no fewer than 80 men and women in the County, including the City, who need the sort of care we offer. It is very much to be hoped that new Cheshire Homes will soon be under way both here and in Hertfordshire.

During the Duke of Edinburgh's summer tour of the Caribbean, he visited Jamaica, and whilst there met the local Cheshire Home Committee, whose Chairman is Mr. Felix Fox. The Duke closely questioned the Committee on some of the difficulties that confront them in their efforts to start a Home in Jamaica. Although the search for suitable premises has been going on for over six months, nothing has as yet been found; but they are continuing to look. His Royal Highness expressed the hope that a Cheshire Home run by Jamaican staff would not be long in forthcoming.

Also present at this meeting was Lt.-Col. Nigel Watson, Hon. Overseas Organiser for the Cheshire Homes, and Dr. Harry M. Colleymore, a leading orthopaedic surgeon in Trinidad, who has dedicated himself to the aftercare of the permanently disabled. He firmly believes that a Cheshire Home is the logical follow-on for those whose disablement is beyond rehabilitation.

Dr. Colleymore has been Chairman of the Trinidad and Tobago Society for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled, and it is thanks to his initiative that the Cheshire Home at San Fernando, Trinidad, has been in preparation since November 1965. He has become Chairman of the Management Committee to the new Home.

At the end of the Commonwealth Paraplegic Games in Kingston, Jamaica, this summer, three of the Trinidad team became the first residents at the San Fernando Home.

The Group Captain recently had a visit from Mrs. Anne Joliffe, who has now retired from India. Mrs. Joliffe was at one time Matron of the Delhi Home, and was largely responsible for starting the one at

Bangalore. She was also concerned with the setting-up of the first Home in Ceylon. She has recently launched a new scheme, the Sue Ryder Home Visitors, near Bangalore, for the purpose of visiting and caring for sick people in their own Homes.

Mr. Cole, Chairman of the Bombay Home, Bethlehem House, is in England on leave. He attended the Trustees Meeting in October. During lunch that day, he mentioned to one of the Trustees that the annual pantomime which was started by Jimmy and Nina Carney in 1956 and became an annual feature of Bombay's winter season until last year, has been dropped. It seems the vast amount of work and rehearsing which had to be put into it – in 1965 there were no less than 60 performers – was becoming just a little too much for the organisers. However, Mr Cole himself put on a straight play last January, which was performed five nights running, and brought in more money than the pantomimes had done in their time. He is taking back to Bombay copies of another play which he plans to put on in late February. I hope he has another success, for Bethlehem House depends very much on the outcome of this annual event.

The Group Captain paid a five-day visit to Portugal in September. Most of the time was spent at the Cheshire Home near Lisbon, which accommodates only eight girls at present, although they have plans for expansion in the future. During his stay, Group Captain also went to Oporto, where there is interest in starting another Home.

The Duchess of Gloucester attended a Ball in Lagos on 5th August, which was held to raise funds for the new Cheshire Home.

A charming flat in London overlooking the Thames, kindly lent by Mr. Richard Croucher, was the scene of a well-attended wine and cheese party in July, organised by Mrs. Barker. Approximately £40 was raised for the Mission.

An interesting item of news about the pupils of the Westcliff High School for

Girls, Essex. They wrote early in 1966 to tell us that they were adopting the Oluyole Cheshire Home, Ibadan, Nigeria, as their school charity for this year. In July, the Head Girl wrote again saying they had finished their campaign, which consisted of various fund-raising activities held by each form in the school, and a charity ball run by the sixth form; they had collected £605. It was agreed by the Management Committee of the Nigerian Home that the whole of this sum should go to the Building Fund for the new Home being built in Ibadan.

John Martyn, O.B.E., Managing Trustee of the Indian Homes, and lately retired from

the Headmastership of the Doon School, Dehra Dun, has been visiting England recently. He paid several visits to Market Mews, and also went down to Le Court. On his return trip to India, he spent ten days in Ethiopia visiting our Home in Addis Ababa, meeting Miss Tabernacle, the Matron, and members of the Committee. He was then going on to Nairobi, where he hoped to make contact with the recently formed Committee.

Other recent visitors to Market Mews include Mr. A. D. Marriott from Lagos (who has been Hon. Treasurer for the Home there); Miss Josie Collins (the Group

Captain's representative in Australia, getting Support Groups going in the various States, and arranging adoption schemes for Raphael); and Mrs. Barroilhet from Chile, who had formed her own Committee to start a Home for the incurably sick in Santiago, but has now linked up with Mr. John Parkes and the Cheshire Home Committee. Mrs. Barroilhet met the Group Captain, and also visited the Dulwich Home so that she could form an idea of how a Home was run in England.

Staff Recruiting Drive

by Hilda G. Moore, Administrator-Tutor of the Service Corps.

Probably most people in the Cheshire Homes know by now that the Foundation has established the Service Corps in order to recruit and train staff for the Homes in the U.K. and Overseas. I was appointed in January 1966 to take charge of the Corps.

I am writing this article for two reasons. Partly, to describe what has been done so far, and what we hope to achieve in the future. Mainly, however, I want to appeal to the Homes, and others interested in the Foundation, to help me get in touch with possible trainees, both male and female, and with various types of trained and experienced people who will form our new Personnel Corps.

Perhaps, I ought to say something here about this Personnel Corps. In brief, the idea is to form a pool of all types of personnel, already trained and experienced, who could be called upon to 'fill the breach', at least for a time, during staff emergencies in any of the Cheshire Homes.

Group Captain Cheshire and others have described in previous issues of the *Cheshire Smile* what, in very general terms, the training of the Service Corps should embrace. It has been my duty, with the help

of an Advisory Committee, to give effect to these general aims, to work out in detail what they entail.

The training, as most readers will know, is to be centred at Le Court, where a new Home for the Service Corps will be built in the next twelve months or so.

The preliminary part of the training lasts 17 weeks (or roughly four months). Seven weeks of this is taken up with theoretical instruction in basic subjects, such as hygiene, biology, etc. Immediately following, the trainee is given a four-week period of practical experience in a Cheshire Home, under the supervision of the Matron of that Home. And, then, six weeks experience of sick nursing in a hospital; this is regarded as essential since sick nursing is often required in Homes for the disabled. That is the end of the preliminary training.

Next, the girl is given a further eight months practical experience in a selected Cheshire Home, and after that has to serve for six months in a reservoir, which will form part of the Personnel Corps, supplying the Homes with staff in emergencies.

Thus will be completed the full 18-months of the Service Corps Training. If the girl is then content to remain at that level of training, she will be encouraged to work in a Cheshire Home of her own choice. If

she shows aptitude for the work, and a real desire for further training, she will be given every encouragement to undergo such training in a hospital, with a view to her returning to work in Cheshire Homes at a more senior level.

During the preliminary training, the girl will, of course, have board and lodging, and receive pocket-money, £2 if under 18, £3 if between 18 and 21 and £4 if over 21. Then, afterwards, she will be paid a full Whitley scale salary. Holidays will also be according to Whitley scale schedules. Members of the Personnel Corps will be entitled to join a superannuation scheme.

A new school, or set, will be taken in four times a year, the schools overlapping somewhat. Each school now totals six girls, but this will be increased to ten when the hostel is ready. Applications for training have been coming in reasonably well, and we are now full up until April 1967, when we shall be taking in our fifth school. But we must look to the future, and that is why I am appealing to the Homes to help in this recruiting drive.

New Joint Committee

A committee is to be set up by the three major national voluntary organisations concerned with the welfare and rehabilitation of the physically handicapped to review their work, says a Ministry of Health statement.

The committee will consider how and to what extent the activities of the three bodies – the British Council for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled, the Central Council for the Disabled, and the National Fund for Research into Poliomyelitis and Other Crippling Disease – should be more closely associated.

Mr. Richard Wood, Conservative M.P. for Bridlington and former Minister of Pensions, will be its chairman. The committee is expected to begin work after the summer recess.

Stamp Contest '66

Owing to the fact that the numerous postings to and fro of the various stamp forms took longer than was anticipated, it has only just been possible to announce this year's winner. He is Mr. Peter Newbury of the Raphael Settlement, Hydon Heath, Godalming, Surrey, who only made one mistake.

Since the competition has given such pleasure to those taking part, I propose to run it on similar lines next year.

Edwin Hand (Heatherley)

Le Court Films

The Le Court Film Unit films – LIVING PROOF (25 minutes, about life in one Cheshire Home); NO LIMIT (20 minutes, about the special gadgets evolved at Le Court); and CHALLENGE (27 minutes, about gadgets and techniques for overcoming disability) – are now distributed by Concord Films Council, Nacton, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Lincs. Man Wins Another Morris

The annual Lincolnshire Car Competition came to another successful conclusion in August, and the lucky winner of this year's Morris 1100 was Mr. R. Johnson, Main Road, Authorpe, near Alford, Lincs.

A short ceremony was held at Stonecroft House to mark the handing over of cheques totalling £1,105, the proceeds of the contest. The money, as before, went to the Lincolnshire Homes, and the one for mentally retarded children at Addis Ababa.

It is intended to arrange the competition once again in 1967.

Fire at Amphill

Fire broke out at Amphill Cheshire Home on Thursday 30th June. It was discovered, about 6 p.m., in the staff quarters at the top of the house. The time was certainly fortunate, because the residents were all still up, and the evacuation of the building was managed much more easily and quickly than if they had been in bed. There was no panic, and we are told that everyone behaved admirably. The staff were wonderful, some who live out returning to the Home as soon as they heard about the fire. Passers-by, called in, gave whatever help was needed.

The firemen tackled a difficult job without undue fuss, and had the situation under control about an hour after arrival. They left two men in the house throughout the night – as an insurance.

A large hole was burnt in the roof over the corridor between the entrance hall and the ballroom. Quite a lot of damage was caused to the staff's personal effects by water and smoke.

At the time of writing, the cause of the fire is not known. An electrical fault is suspected. It will be some time before all the repairs, such as rewiring, are completed, although they are already in hand.

Coventry College for Disabled

It is hoped that, sometime in 1968, work will start at an 11-acre site in the suburbs of Coventry on building the first national college of further education for disabled people in Britain. Plans have been considered by Coventry City Council's education department, and it seems that the new college will be constructed as mostly single-storey buildings. Designed for ease of movement by wheelchair-users, it will be fully residential with room for 120 students,

and will offer a wide variety of academic and vocational courses. The first 16 to 18 year old students should be entering in 1970.

Cheaper Parties at the Zoo

Did you know that from October till March the London Zoo operates a scheme through which parties of young people or parties of disabled are allowed in at reduced prices. The combined admission *and* lunch charge is only 7s. 0d. per head.

Anyone interested should get in touch with the Catering Manager at the Zoo, Regents Park, London N.W.1.

New Rail Rates Cause Hardship

The new rates for the conveyance of invalids by rail which British Railways announced earlier this year have been discussed at length by the Joint Committee on Mobility for the Disabled. The British Red Cross Society, the Central Council for the Disabled, and other organisations have approached both British Railways and the Ministry of Health about the new charges and the hardship they are causing.

As a result of these representations, the Ministry of Health started discussions with the Ministry of Transport regarding the effect on disabled people who require exclusive use of a train-compartment, yet are not eligible for free transport under the National Health Service. It has been proved that there is a minority of severely handicapped people (perhaps, mainly on stretchers when travelling) who make rail journeys, with escorts, of course, either for work or personal reasons, for whom no statutory help is available.

The Ministry's discussions cannot proceed very far until the size of the problem is known. So the various organisations concerned with the welfare of the disabled have been circularising their members in an effort to gain as much information as possible.

Do you know actual cases of this kind of hardship? It would be appreciated if you would send the information (stating type of case, e.g. wheelchair, crutches, stretcher, etc., type of disability, and whether regular or spasmodic traveller) to the Central Council for the Disabled, 34 Eccleston Square, London S.W.1.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE '66

The Annual Conference of the Cheshire Foundation Homes was held this year at the Royal Commonwealth Society, Northumberland Avenue, London W.C.2, on Saturday 18th June.

Chairman's Report on the Past Year

The Chairman welcomed all who had come to the Conference, many from far places and at great inconvenience.

After the Annual Conference in 1965 a questionnaire had been sent to the Homes asking for their views on where future Conferences should be held. Only 14 Homes replied, of which 11 were in favour of London. The remaining three wanted the location to vary, one Home suggesting that the Conference should be held alternately in London and in the North. The Chairman again asked the Homes to write in to Market Mews stating their preferences.

The Foundation

Dr. Cheshire had become a Patron of the Foundation and Mr. J. H. Inskip, O.C., had been appointed a Trustee shortly after the last Conference.

A special mention was made of Miss Edith Evans, affectionately known to us all as 'C.D.', whom the Chairman described as 'a staunch, loyal, warm hearted friend, and a most faithful servant of the Foundation'. She had left Market Mews in the course of

the year, to assist Group Captain Cheshire at Cavendish.

The Chairman said that the two questions he had raised last year must always recur. The first was 'How far are we answering the need of the chronically sick and disabled?' and the second 'How are we measuring up to our mutual needs as Members of this great Foundation?'

In answer to the first question the Chairman told the Conference about new Homes and new developments.

New Homes

In June 1965 Stonecroft House in North Lincolnshire had been opened, while Beechwood in Huddersfield, the third West Riding Home, was to be opened by Group Captain Cheshire in July.

The South West Lancashire Home at Liverpool was being prepared for occupation. A property had been acquired in Sheffield. Matten Hall in Northumberland was expected to be ready for occupation by the end of this year.

The Foundation had been given a splendid house in Colwyn Bay, which had been left by a Miss Newton, to be used for physically handicapped people. Her Executors had approached the Foundation, and enquired whether it could be used as a Cheshire Home. The offer had been accepted, and a Steering Committee had been formed under Major Griffith, formerly Appeals Secretary at Dolywern.

Another property had been offered to the Foundation, in Bognor Regis, which could

be used for the rehabilitation of ex-mental patients. The Chairman recalled that at the last Conference, Dr. Ford Robertson had spoken of the great need for this work to be extended, and of the desirability of having such a Home on the coast. By reason of this most generous gift his hope might shortly be realised. This particular aspect of the Foundation's work was expanding also in Wimbledon itself, where the two first Homes of this type were situated - Miraflores and Gaywood. The property adjoining Miraflores had now been acquired by the Foundation.

For the more distant future, there were plans for Homes in Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire, Derbyshire and West Glamorgan. In Oxfordshire Mr. T. A. Taylor, the Foundation's Honorary Surveyor, had been instrumental in forming a Steering Committee, and a great deal of interest had already been aroused in the City, University and in the County.

In Hertfordshire, a Steering Committee had been formed on the initiative of Mrs. Leslie Donovan, formerly Betty Clark, who for six years had been Matron of Le Court. She and her husband had given endless talks in their neighbourhood over a period of years, which had resulted in the formation of a Steering Committee, and interest was growing rapidly in the County. In both Oxfordshire and Hertfordshire the Health and Welfare Authorities were giving considerable encouragement to the Steering Committees.

In Derbyshire, a group was being formed

under the guidance of Mrs. Clark, Trustee for the East Midlands.

In West Glamorgan, there had been a disappointment in that plans for taking over Aberpergwm had perforce to be abandoned, but a very enthusiastic Steering Committee was looking for other premises, or a building site.

The Chairman had to report that unfortunately the Foundation had had to abandon the project of a specialised Home for handicapped children at Highgate.

At Le Court, plans were in hand for a Heavy Nursing Wing, with accommodation for post-polio respiratory cases.

The Chairman next spoke about Ireland. Ardeen, the first Cheshire Home in the republic, was now the first Home of many of the trainees for the General Service Corps. Girls who were recruited in Ireland spent their first months at Ardeen, studying under Matron and gaining practical experience. They then came to Le Court for further training, and in this way a nucleus was being formed of a valuable reservoir of staff for the Homes, both in this country and overseas.

Cork was the second Home in the republic, and in Limerick a house had been given to the Irish Trust. A new Home was also starting at Tullow.

In addition to all the new Homes and hopes for new Homes in the future, existing Homes were extending and improving their amenities. Amongst these Homes were Ampthill, Cann House, the three Welsh Homes at Coomb, Danybryn and Dolywern, The Grove, Heatherley, Hovenden, Dulwich, Mayfield House and Spofforth. The Chairman took this opportunity to remind Committees of the necessity to practise economy, and said that 'an eye must always be kept upon the purse, for the calls upon it are so very great, and never-ending'.

Publicity

The Chairman touched upon this subject only briefly, since it was to be discussed later in the agenda. He mentioned two functions in which the Foundation had been represented, or was going to be represented, by disabled residents from the Homes. At the British Trade Fair in Oslo, in May, the Foundation had participated in an 'Aids to the Disabled' stand,

and two Le Court residents, Barbara Beasley and Frank Spath, Editor of the *Cheshire Smile*, flew to Oslo and played a notable part in spreading information about the Cheshire Foundation, not only amongst Norwegians but also amongst representatives of British Industry who were exhibiting at the Fair.

In September, Dr. Laycock, a Trustee, and Louis Battye, a resident of White Windows, were going to represent the Foundation at the Tenth World Congress of the International Society for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled at Wiesbaden, Germany.

Overseas

Group Captain Cheshire had just returned from a vigorous and exhausting three and a half months tour of India, Ceylon, the Far East, the South Pacific and Australia. In Australia, he averaged two talks a day for the five weeks he was there. In November and December 1965, he had visited the seven Homes in West Africa, and also the Home in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Mrs. Sue Ryder Cheshire, in addition to her frequent trips to Poland, Yugoslavia, Greece and Israel, joined the Group Captain in India for a short while, and also spent some ten days in New Zealand raising money for Raphael, Dehra Dun, and speaking to support groups who wanted to start their own Homes. During those ten days Mrs. Cheshire averaged three talks a day.

At present there were 40 Homes overseas, in 17 countries. Next year, it was hoped to have 10 new Homes in four new countries. It was clearly necessary for those connected with the Foundation to begin to appreciate the increasingly international nature, and needs, of the Cheshire Movement.

During the last twelve months progress had been made in Kenya, where the Mombasa Home was officially opened in April. In Nairobi, there had been a 'marriage' between the Committee of the Cheshire Home and of the Amani Home, which had been started three years previously. In Chile, a lady in Santiago, who wanted to run a Home for cancer sufferers, had now linked up with the Cheshire Home Steering Committee, and an offer of a very suitable house had been received.

Captain Andrew Duncan, had recently returned from Uganda, where he had visited the two new Homes at Kampala and at Jinja.

It was hoped to start a second Home in Morocco at Marrakesh.

Colonel Nigel Watson was at present in Jamaica, where he was hoping to start a Home at Mandeville, about 60 miles from Kingston. He was also planning to visit Panama, where there was great interest in forming a Home, before returning to England. Mr. Moysey Adams, Chairman of Greathouse, had paid another visit to Trinidad, where there was now a Management Committee, which had been offered some temporary accommodation in San Fernando. Later, they hoped to buy some land and build a Home.

During his last tour the Group Captain had opened the second Ceylon Home at Mount Lavinia, and it was hoped to have a third Home at Matale, north of Kandy, in the fairly near future.

A new Home was being built by the Royal Air Force, at Addis Ababa.

The Chairman said that this was the answer to the first question - 'How was the Foundation answering the appeals for help that it was constantly receiving?' He said that while he, personally, felt that the record was far from poor, whilst others, with whom he would not disagree, might say it was an excellent one, there was no room for complacency. He then quoted some grim statistics. Information given by the Homes in the United Kingdom showed that during the twelve months ending 31st December 1965, no less than 876 applications had been rejected, mainly for lack of beds, but in many cases because the condition of the applicants was such as to make their acceptance impossible owing to the shortage of staff. He added, 'we must not rest while a need of that kind, and those dimensions, remains unsatisfied'.

The Chairman said, 'We've done well, we can do better. There's an old Albanian proverb - "Never measure yourself by your morning shadow". Our morning shadow is a long one, as I see it, but we need to take care never to be flagging in our efforts, and all should go well'.

The Chairman ended by relating a story of a visit he had paid to one of the Homes. He had met a resident, a man, who had a

daughter living not very far away from the Home, and the lady Chairman of the Home said, 'I must tell you a word about that man'.

'I was here on Christmas morning, and seeing him here I expressed surprise that he hadn't gone to spend Christmas Day with his daughter. He turned to me and said - "What, spend Christmas Day away from here! This is supposed to be a home, isn't it? I regard it as my home, and where else than at home do most people want to spend Christmas Day?."

The General Service Corps

Miss Moore said that the Service Corps, which had been mentioned at previous Annual Conferences, had now been established. It was training people who were interested in serving the disabled, not only for the nursing side but also for catering, occupational therapy, secretarial duties and so on. Recruits to the Corps would be men and women of all ages, and it would offer them training in that aspect of the Foundation's work for which they were particularly suited. Before starting on their training, recruits would be asked to spend a trial period of two to three months in a Cheshire Home; this was essential in order to prevent wastage. If they were then still interested and anxious to serve the Foundation, they would receive four months preliminary training, to be conducted at Le Court. At the moment, there was temporary accommodation for six students only, but permanent accommodation was being built to take ten to twelve students at a time.

It was planned to have four 'schools' a year, each of four months duration, to be dove-tailed into each other.

The preliminary training would cover instruction in anatomy, hygiene, and the special conditions relative to the residents of Cheshire Homes. It would also include practical nursing experience in Treloar Hospital, Alton, for four to six weeks. It was hoped that many Homes would offer to take the students for further training after that.

Eventually, it was hoped that members of the Corps, who had received special training on the nursing side, would be

recognized by the General Nursing Council. In the meantime, those who had been trained would be provided with badges and certificates.

In due course, arrangements would be made to offer training in catering, secretarial work and occupational therapy.

The recruits so far had been Irish, and the United Kingdom Foundation had good reason to be grateful to the Irish Foundation for starting the Service Corps, since the first 'school' from Ireland had been extremely successful.

Miss Moore invited the Homes to offer suggestions for recruitment. She thought that many of the Homes might know of likely candidates for the Corps.

It was hoped to recruit girls through schools and technical colleges in the United Kingdom and Ireland, also from Jamaica, India and other overseas countries. [See *Miss Moore's article on page 10*].

There then followed questions from the floor, and the following points emerged:

Those who entered the Corps would, basically, get the Whitley Scale of emolument; their contract would be with the Corps, in other words with the Foundation as a whole, not with an individual Home. If a Home wanted a member of the Corps, that Home would apply to the Corps, and, as it were, negotiate terms for employing such a person.

It was hoped in the future to establish a pool or reservoir of S.R.N.'s and other trained staff, on whom the Homes could call in an emergency.

It was pointed out that if a Home was registered as a Part III Home, this gave a little more latitude than a Nursing Home registration in the matter of having a S.R.N. on duty twenty-four hours a day.

Brig. Booth, Chairman of Ardeen, where Irish recruits to the Corps spent their first months, explained how carefully the recruits were selected, and assured the Conference of the continued co-operation of Ardeen in this scheme. He said they would try to produce three courses of six girls a year.

Group Captain Cheshire said that the Corps was for people who felt they would like to give a substantial part of their lives to this work. A person who joined the Corps was really offering to go wherever she or he might be sent, or was particularly

needed. Members of the Corps would be asked to give a minimum of two years service to the Foundation. It was hoped to work out a gratuity scheme which would relate benefits to length of service.

There would be opportunities for those who were working in various Homes to come back to the Headquarters of the Corps for further training from time to time.

At the moment, no specific designation for members of the Corps had been decided upon.

Basically, the Foundation would have to bear the cost of building up the Corps, but it was hoped that some payment would be made by Homes to the Foundation, at and when they came to employ a member of the Corps.

The New Film

Before the film was shown, the Chairman informed the Conference that several Homes had very kindly contributed a total of £755 towards the cost of making films.

Group Captain Cheshire explained that the theme of the new film was, roughly, 'The Strong and the Weak', that each needed the other. The story of the Foundation would be in three parts, each of which could stand on its own. The film to be shown at this Conference was only the first part, the story of the beginning. The Group Captain said it should really have been written or filmed around Le Court, but that had already been done twice, and it was difficult to reconstruct the old Le Court. So it had been done round St. Teresa's, and was the factual story of the beginning of St. Teresa's, with those who played a part in it taking part in the film.

After the showing of the film there were questions and answers. The Group Captain said he wanted to build up a library of films showing different aspects of the Foundation, to be used centrally and also by local Homes in connection with their own appeals. The films were also for future generations who would be starting their own Homes, to show them how the Foundation began. He said that looking at other organizations he felt that as years went by there was confusion in people's minds as to what actually did happen in the beginning. Another purpose was to record for all time, to a certain extent, the

message of those who played a part at the beginning.

The other two parts of the film would show the growth of the Foundation after St. Teresa's, and the Foundation as it now was.

Following a suggestion made at the 1965 Conference, a Slide and Information Library about the Homes was being built up at Dulwich, by the residents. Homes could borrow sets of slides and, equally, if the Homes had any slides to spare they would be welcomed by those who were building up the library. [See a Note about the Library on page 7.]

Publicity

The Chairman had written to the Committees of all Homes before the Conference asking for their views on this important subject. Broadly speaking, the Trustees wanted to know what the Homes thought should be the focal point of publicity – the Foundation, or individual Homes. Also, what were the best methods of getting the most desirable publicity for the movement.

Before calling upon the representatives of various committees to speak, the Chairman dealt with one suggestion which had been sent in before the Conference, asking whether it would be possible to organize a National Red Feather Week or Red Feather Day. The position was explained as follows: firstly, for street collections, permission would have to be obtained from the local police. For house to house collections, application could only be made to the Home Office for an order or exemption, which would mean that individual Homes would not have to obtain their own licences for this form of collecting. However, if an exemption order were obtained by the Foundation it would still be necessary for Homes to apply to local police for dates. Moreover, it would be necessary to produce a composite account of all the money collected up and down the country in this way, and it would not be practicable.

Unfortunately, it would not be possible to select a date for a national Cheshire Home Red Feather Day, or Week. There was only one national fund-raising day, and that was Poppy Day. Even the Red Cross were unable to have a National Day.

About publicity itself, the Homes were

overwhelmingly in favour of the informal approach to the public, on a local basis. No support was shown for paid appeal organizers or fund raisers. There was however a feeling, and this was stressed by more than one speaker, that there was a considerable lack of general information by the public on Cheshire Homes, and Cheshire work as a whole. One suggestion put forward by Mr. Logan-Wood of Seven Rivers, was that limited resources should be set aside for spending money on advertisements in professional papers covering the worlds of Law, Banking, Insurance and Medicine.

Mr. Roe of The Grove suggested that there should be some professional advice in the handling of publicity. This was supported by S/Ldr. Rush, the Chairman of Matfen Hall, who explained that the Management Committee there had a Public Relations firm, which worked for the Management Committee, giving them advice free; other Homes might consider this. He also suggested that the Foundation might appoint a Public Relations firm to help in keeping the image of the Foundations' work in the public eye, but this should not be on a paid basis. Many representatives stressed the importance of having speakers willing to go round and attend small meetings, and speak for twenty minutes or half an hour on the work of the Homes, and perhaps show a film or slides. Although one speaker expressed doubts as to submitting residents to continual visits from outside people, there was general agreement with Mrs. Allott, who said that in her experience residents welcome and liked being visited. These visits were invaluable for creating interest in the Home and its work.

Most Homes were in favour of Television and Radio appeals both locally and regionally, covering several Homes, and also on a national basis. But when a National Appeal was envisaged, the Homes wanted to be advised as early as possible, to enable them to co-ordinate their local publicity with the National Appeal. The Committee of Seven Rivers considered that the public would more readily support a local appeal, rather than a general appeal covering the whole country. But other speakers considered that a national appeal sponsored by the

Foundation should be organized on the same basis as the previous successful B.B.C. appeal, and the proceeds handled in the same way.

Mr. Remy Green, Chairman of Mote House, emphasized the need for a standard Red Feather emblem to be used by all Homes. In connection with this, Mrs. Torr of Sandbach handed round samples of a flag in the form of a shield which had been produced very cheaply for them, and was selling well.

In giving his own views on this subject of publicity, the Group Captain emphasized the many calls that are made on him for talks to schools, Rotary clubs, Hospitals, British Legion and other societies. He added that invitations for such talks sometimes amounted to four or five a week, and naturally not all could be accepted. He was however, particularly aware of the importance of the schools and the younger generation. Although, at the present stage, they may not be in a position to help financially, they would be the people of the future from whom the support for the movement must come. Regarding the suggestion for professional publicity, he would be in favour of this for a special appeal to cover a limited time, but as a long term proposal there was not only the danger of forcing the pace too much and thereby aggravating the existing goodwill of the public. There was also the possibility of the professionals putting out what they wanted to say rather than what was in our own mind.

The Group Captain stated the importance of building up a panel of speakers that could be drawn from Committee members, or staff or residents, and he stressed the need of a well-produced brochure or set of photographs for publicity work. While the Homes had emphatically negated a Foundation appeal for overseas Homes he pointed out that, although charity began at home, it did not end there, and the Homes started abroad would need our support.

Although many representatives had spoken on this important subject of publicity, it was still not clear whether Homes felt the present word-of-mouth policy should continue, or whether it should be supplemented by a more positive publicity campaign, and the Chairman asked for

any further suggestions that Homes might have on this subject, to be submitted.

Points from the Homes

The Selective Employment Tax

The National Council of Social Service, on behalf of a large number of Charities, had made representations to the Chancellor for exemption from the tax. The Chancellor was adamant that he could only allow a rebate to Charities on the same basis as those who were statutorily exempt; that is, they would have to pay the tax and re-claim it after four months. A spokesman of the National Council had said that it was not proposed, at this stage, to make further representations for exemption. After about a year, when it was seen how the tax was working, the Council thought the Chancellor might well allow complete exemption.

Solicitors, etc

Although the general discussion on publicity had finished, Mr. Haryott, Treasurer of Stonecroft, brought to the notice of the meeting the way in which Homes might benefit from wills and bequests. As Treasurer of a comparatively new Home he had already been approached by solicitors with clients desirous of benefiting the Home in their wills – and although it might be a long term project there was much to be said for bringing Homes to the notice of chartered accountants, Bank managers and the local secretary of the Law Society.

Mrs. Elliot Seager, Danybryn, reported that she had already seen a secretary of the Law Society in Glamorgan who had provided her with the names and addresses of all the solicitors in Glamorgan, whom they were now going to contact.

Pensions and Superannuation.

Mr. Langley, Secretary of the Warwickshire Home (Greenacres), said that his Management Committee had been discussing the possible ways of providing pensions for their Matron and staff, when they were no longer able to carry on at the Home. It had been suggested that this might be done through the Central Foundation.

Sir Edmund Davies remarked that at Danybryn they operate a superannuation scheme through the F.S.S.N. (Federated Superannuation Scheme for Nurses),

which allows nursing staff who are transferred from previous hospitals or institutions, where they have paid the government scheme to carry on their rights through insurance policies. Three of their staff had taken advantage of this method.

Capt. Harold, Cann House, pointed out the difficulty of the F.S.S.N. scheme in that only if the whole of the staff joined the scheme could income tax benefits be claimed. If just two or three of the staff joined, then 10 per cent of the employer's contribution was to be added to the full pay of the person, and they had to pay tax on it. He mentioned the Social Workers Fund, which runs a scheme whereby 5 per cent is deducted from the employees and 5 per cent from the employers, and they are able to claim back income tax. He did not think it necessary for a superannuation scheme to be run by the Central Foundation unless it was over and above what could be obtained from the F.S.S.N. or Social Workers.

Mr. Haryott, Stonecroft, endorsed what the previous speaker had said. If a Home becomes a participating employer in the F.S.S.N. scheme, then all employees who are qualified have to join if the tax benefit is to be obtained. As a non-participating employer, it is optional, but the benefit of tax relief is not obtained. He had had some correspondence with the F.S.S.N. on this and suggested that other Homes might like to take it up as there was much to be said for becoming participating employers, without compelling their newly engaged qualified staff to join.

Young Voluntary Helpers.

Mrs. Torr, Sandbach, spoke on the pleasure given to the residents by visits from school children. They had been much helped by the International Voluntary Service and the Community Service Volunteers, whose young members had stayed at the Home. They had been fed and housed, and in return, worked there for perhaps four hours a day. Quite apart from the help they gave it was a good way of spreading interest in this work.

Mr. Langley, Greenacres, referred to an article in the press quoting a speech by the Minister of Health in which the latter had reported further proposed expansion in various welfare departments. Mr Langley

pointed out that there was no mention at all, however, of the chronic sick. There seemed to be a great lack of interest at ministerial level for this section of society, which resulted in many of the younger people being sent to geriatric Homes.

Mr. Allott spoke of the repeated applications he receives on behalf of older patients, some of whom were bedridden. He sought guidance from other Homes as to how these applications were treated.

Mr. Mansell Jones, Coomb, suggested that the problem was really one of nursing. Homes must inevitably be restricted as to the number of heavy nursing cases they could accept.

The Chairman in his closing remarks observed that this problem was one that was constantly being met by all Homes. Unhappily, he said, owing to the nature of things many deserving cases had to be turned down.

Day of Prayer

The Cheshire Homes' Day of Prayer is to be held next year, as previously, on the Sunday that falls in the Week of Unity in January. This time it will be Sunday, 22nd January, 1967.

We hope that all Homes will hold suitable services to mark the occasion, and that all our many friends outside will join with us in intercession.

As before, the (R.C.) Family of the Cross have arranged a Day of Recollection at the Convent of Our Lady of Sion, Bayswater, London.

Two Poems

by Dot (of Heatherley)

Christmas

Little Lord Jesus looks down from his crib
The ox and the ass standing near,
Of all the fine Christmas cards this is the
best
Which tells of that Wonderful Year.

There are paper chains, tinsel and red
berried holly
And mistletoe over the door,
There are silver stars, crackers and cotton
wool snow
On the Christmas tree, there on the floor.

Outside it is snowing, the foot-steps are
hushed
The Church bells ring piercingly clear
Come to Mass; Come to Mass, Come to
Mass; they plead
For Jesus our Saviour is HERE.

New Year Resolutions

This year I'm going to resolve
To eat up all my fat
I'll not pull caps off younger boys
And NEVER tease the cat.

I'll eat my horrid cabbage greens
And all my crusts at tea
In fact I'll be that bloomin' good –
You won't know I am – ME.

The Christmas Visitor

I didn't know it was you at the door
That evening not long ago.
The washing was done and the ironing,
I watching TV by myself.
I heard your knock but I didn't go,
It might have been the rent collector,
Or the woman from next door
(She always wants to borrow something),
Or a man selling carpets.
How could I know it was you?
So I waited a bit and you knocked again,
But the play was interesting,
I thought, they'll go away.
You didn't tell me you were coming,
So how could I know?
At last I went and opened the door,
But the street was empty.
You were gone.

Rosalind Chalmers

You Cannot . . .

You cannot bring about prosperity by
discouraging thrift.

You cannot strengthen the weak by
weakening the strong.

You cannot help the wage-earner by
pulling down the wage-payer.

You cannot further the brotherhood of
man by encouraging class hatred.

You cannot help the poor by destroying
the rich.

You cannot establish sound security on
borrowed money.

You cannot build character and courage
by taking away man's initiative and inde-
pendence.

You cannot help men permanently by
doing for them what they could and should
do for themselves.

Attributed to Abraham Lincoln

Two Poems

by Claire Smith

Another Day

What is another day across the dark and
ever widening streak of grey
And sleep and death are separated by the
ticking of a clock
Bird's sing, a cuckoo calls, the crowing of
a cock
The smell of rain-washed earth and fields
and hay,
And milk cans clattering across the way.
Some things to be done, and some to be
undone.
Some battles to be fought, some lost,
some won,
Someone is born and someone dies,
Someone learns truth, half-truth, or lies,
The young folk work and sweat and curse,
The old folk fret and pray for nothing
worse.
Then, the day, half-spent and pregnant
with to-morrow,
The unborn, worrying child of joy or sorrow
Is casting hours relentlessly down time's
deep well,
And few could draw them back but some
could tell
How well a day could go and to what
length
If youth had age's wisdom, age, youth's
strength.
Then twilight comes and holds the tired
day's hands,

They kiss and merge while nature pauses,
stands to greet the night,
To sleep, and to forget.

Oh, for such faith as this, and yet, and
yet . . .

A prayer that we'll be better than we are,
A sigh, a darkening sky, and a lone pale
star.

Listen for and hear the angel voices in the
treetops,

And catch a glimpse of God.

Some come up from the valley, and the
noise that is the other world.

They bring the gifts to please, and sit and
talk of many things

Of 'Jones' and 'Brown' and work and loves
and hates, and hates, and hates.

Our Home

This is a little world upon a green hillside
Where we, the patient and the impatient ones
Stay on and wait, and wait, and wait . . .

We are the lambs and sheep that, tethered
together by a bond

Of striving limbs and slowly moving
wheels,

Look for and find heaven's pictures in the
clouds,

We comfort them and tell them not to
worry, pray for them,

And when they leave we sometimes weep
for them,

For this must be our way.

Ours is the easier life, we sleep and wake,
And eat and sit and think, and think, and
think.

They go back to the valley and the noise
That is the other world.

All have to fight and to live because they
are strong and whole,

And that must be their way.

This is a little world upon a green hillside,
And, in the midst of it, a tower,
A splendid tower of strength,

A tower from which our banners flutter,
bravely, bravely, bravely;

We are the lambs and sheep that rest
within the arms of Christ,

Finding everything in nothing.

And a quietude and certainty.

That we are not alone.

GOOD SAMARITANS OF ST ANTHONY'S



By Colin Colebrook

Reproduced from the Wolverhampton Chronicle by kind permission of the Editor.

Despite the great disabilities which handicap the incurable residents of the West Midlands Cheshire Home, off the Stourbridge Road, Penn, they manage to lead a useful and happy life – and helping them to do this are local young people and children who regularly visit the home.

They bring with them the brightness and vivacity of youth that is so important to everyone, and even more so to the old and the disabled.

Not only do they do valuable practical work for the home, but more important they provide lively company for the residents who very rarely go outside it. Local news

well as residents were another two girls who came round with a cup of tea and a smile.

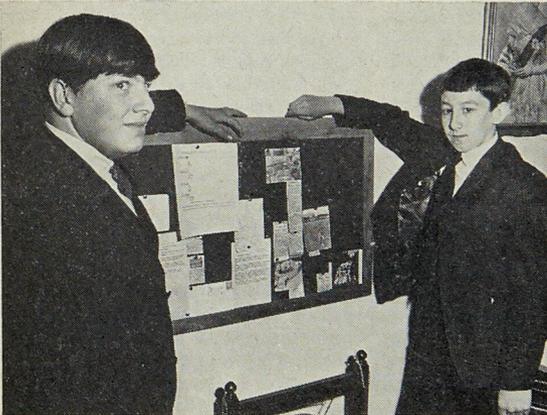
The children present represented the four local schools which are providing a regular supply of pupils to help in the home. Some are sent as part of their social education but most come on a purely voluntary basis for the joy of the work. Interest in the work is so great that the 34 children recently gave up their Sunday evening to come and help.

Some children prefer to help by doing practical work with their hands, and making things for the home. The secretary, Major S. Sanderson, is most grateful for this assistance: 'When a pupil feels he can help by making something this is tre-

In his turn Major Sanderson is full of admiration for the children: 'While we greatly appreciate the voluntary work done by everyone, the children's contribution is particularly important for they bring with them a bright and youthful atmosphere that is so important to the home.'

But the teachers feel that their pupils are getting as much benefit as the residents: 'It gives them understanding into the difficulties of other people and makes them more sympathetic,' Mr. D. J. Hutchings, a teacher at Penn Secondary School, commented.

The good work done by the children is augmented by other young people including students, apprentices, teachers, and police cadets. The police regularly



and gossip which the youngsters bring provides a much needed link with the world outside.

When we visited St. Anthony's Home we found there a number of children doing a variety of useful jobs.

Girls were busy in the kitchen preparing food for the next meal, while others helped with the washing up from the last one. Some help to feed those with muscular dystrophy and other complaints which prevent them from feeding themselves.

Meanwhile, a group of willing lads were decorating a room. Two other boys were erecting the fine notice board which they had made themselves.

Keeping the thirsty workmen happy as

menous'.

Others do equally valuable work by helping with catering and providing little services to the residents such as letter writing and running errands.

Why do the children come and help? One answer comes from Susan Edwards. 'I particularly like talking to them and getting to know them – I don't mind working but I enjoy talking to them best . . . They are very disappointed if for some reason we can't come.'

She is full of admiration for the residents: 'They are all very brave people and I admire their courage and determination, for they are determined to make the best of their lives.'

provide two cadets to live and work at the home every month. The two who are there now, Cadets Patricia Timmis, from Newcastle, and F. R. Halfpenny, from Stone, were rather apprehensive at first, but are now really enjoying their work.

Left-hand page Jane Hammonds from Highfields Secondary School, at work in the kitchen.

Neil Owen (left) and John Edmunds, from Wodensborough School, made the notice board shown in the picture.

Serving tea to residents Irene Newman (left) and Marie Jones.

Photos : Wolverhampton Chronicle

Experience of Disability

by Dame Eileen Younghusband, D.B.E.

Adviser in Social Work, National Institute of Social Work Training.

Stigma. Edited by Paul Hunt. Geoffrey Chapman, 1966. 25s.

This remarkable book is a collection of essays by men and women who suffer crippling physical disabilities, whether from polio, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, coronary thrombosis or other causes. The collection has been made by Paul Hunt, who lives at Le Court Cheshire Home; he himself contributes the most profound essay of all.

It is a horrifying book with naught for our comfort save to show that men and women, who sometimes despair in the face of great odds, may yet maintain their integrity as human beings. The never-fully-paid price of so doing is emphasized again and again by each writer, perhaps most vividly in remarks like: 'not for more than a few dreary moments can the demands of the body be ignored'; 'disablement is such an appalling waste of time'; or 'it's not big services which injure our pride but the necessity of asking for a multiplicity of small ones'.

The writers give a far more radical and shattering picture of what it is like not to have the free use of one's limbs than is normally painted by those who look into this world from outside it. Indeed, perhaps the most frightening thing of all about these essays is the intense feeling not only of being cut off from people whose limbs are their ever-responsive slaves, but of active hostility towards the 'normal' world. This is for many reasons a natural reaction. It is, unfortunately, matched by some acute observation about the antagonism of 'normal' people to those who are crippled. No doubt it is true that much dark mythology born of fear surrounds attitudes to the deformed, the 'evil misshapen cripple',

the 'wicked dwarf', but counter-balancing compassion – with age-old stories of miraculous cures – is not given equal weight. Be that as it may, there is plenty of evidence here of two worlds at odds with each other; the one envious yet dependent, the other often insufferably superior, while pushing away the fear that 'this might happen to me'. If those in the 'normal' world will not always recognise themselves as such free and blessed creatures, it is yet important to be aware that this book contains a true account of the world as it is experienced by people whose limbs cannot obey their will.

Perhaps the starting point for an understanding of this world is to reflect for a moment on a human society constructed on the assumption that legs, arms, hands, fingers will respond instantly and in perfect co-ordination to the slightest message from the mind. And to think too of the flexible efficiency of feet and hands, which are more effective and adaptable many-purpose tools than any so far devised by man. Moreover, these unresting slaves are apparently part of our personality; or rather, our personality is expressed through the service they give, to an extent which we, who have them, can only glimpse by an exercise of the imagination, such as that provided by the reading of this profoundly moving book.

In effect, then, all the writers describe the many-sided consequences of being deprived of these aids to living. The most obvious consequence is frustration, the time and effort it takes to do something which the able-bodied do without thought. Allied to this is the far worse frustration of being dependent on someone else's hands and feet. If these *are* willing, there is the guilt of being a burden because one pair must do duty for two; if they are sometimes willing, and sometimes unwilling, there is the strain of humouring the free man who is not an ever-ready slave



Paul Hunt

as one's own limbs are. One writer conveys a vivid sense of what this means when she says how wonderful it would be to have unseen hands to attend to her needs, and what a 'delight it would be not to have to be grateful to the hands'.

Coupled with this, is the sense of belonging to a 'special sub-world' as one writer puts it, of being inevitably cut off from many of the activities and much of the companionship of the normal world. This, added to frustration and pain, is bad enough; but it is worse still when crippled people are 'treated as silly children' or as mentally defective, or with an attitude of 'we know what's best for you'.

These are described as the attitudes of the outside world in general. Family relationships are, as one might expect, profoundly affected according to the onset and degree of disablement, and the role of the person in the family. The disabled mothers speak of the pain of not being full parents to their children, of relying on others to care for them, of the children having to admit that their mother (or father) is a cripple – not quite a whole person. Both men and women say that the marriage partner may disappear if the physical and emotional strain is too great. The fathers speak bitterly of inadequate financial provision from the state so that the children constantly go short in comparison with other children. Several vividly recall the normal adolescent emotions, and loathing of the disabled body that denies them expression.

Several writers give some very interesting advice to parents of crippled children. On the whole, the feeling is strongly against special schools or special clubs for disabled people on the grounds that to the maximum possible extent they should be enabled to find their own way amongst unhandicapped people in the ordinary world, rather than be segregated. At the same time, at least one writer recognises the

cruelty of other children to one who is crippled, and the taunting, bullying and exclusion from play to which he will be exposed in an ordinary school. The whole subject of the upbringing of disabled children deserves very much fuller treatment by a group like the present writers.

Relations within the family are interwoven with relations with others. Here, all the writers seem agreed that for them the two most important elements in life are friendship and work, human relations on an equal footing, and earning their keep. Some scathing things are said about occupational therapy, and about the failure of society to provide employment for disabled people in their own homes if they cannot go out to work. Several of the writers actually hold full-time jobs, whether in employment or as housewives. For them, as for most other people, work means to belong, to be accepted, to possess rights as a productive worker, to have demonstrated to oneself and to others the ability to be essentially independent. It is worth almost any sacrifice, the writers say, to get and keep a job, however much the dice are loaded against crippled people: 'for us, work itself is leisure and pleasure.'

The desire for friendship, for deep and equal human relations, in spite of the divisions between 'them' and 'us' runs all through the book. Some doubt whether it is possible for normal people to have 'the same relations with cripples as with others from their world'. To others, to achieve this is the only reliable demonstration that they are people first, people like others, even though disabled, and that they can give as well as receive.

It is obvious that those who wrote this book have helped to create such friendships, and thus also found some protection against the doubt and despair which may erode the personality of the severely disabled man or woman. The knife-edge which we all walk is far more perilous for those who must fight with well-directed skill a constant battle to retain, year after year, their intellectual integrity and sense of purpose within the narrow confines of home or hospital, without shrinking into aimless boredom or apathy. Some talk of accepting their lot; one writer points out that it is disastrous to be too accepting because this may mean giving up trying,

or on the other hand, to be too dissatisfied as this may prevent one from making the best use of what one has. There is naturally a heavy emphasis on the use of the intellect since this is a key to freedom, even though the more intellectually aware may also suffer more severely from loneliness and frustration.

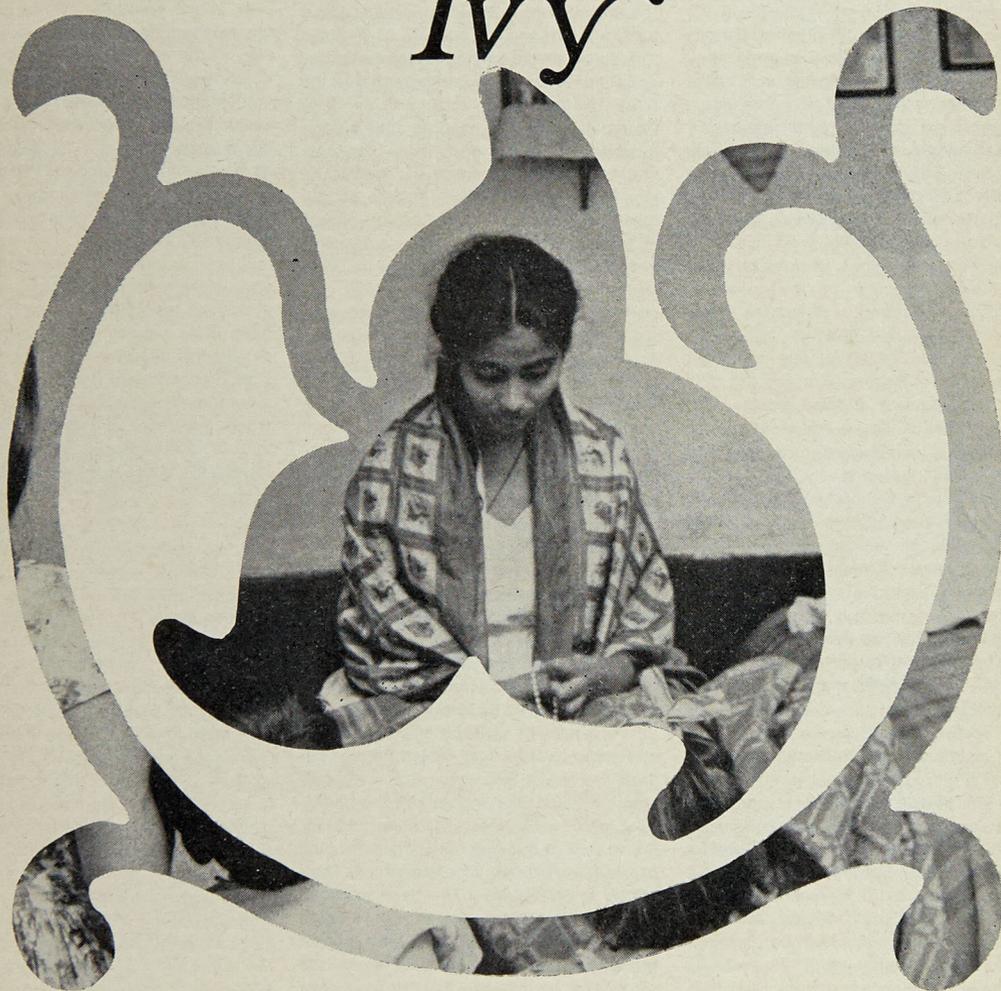
The disabled are also brought face to face, like many others cast back upon themselves, with profound questions about human worth and the purpose of life. Like those who are persecuted for their religious or political views, they struggle to find the basis of their own self-worth, and to maintain a sense of meaning and value in a world where self-confidence can only come from within themselves. Paul Hunt, in a penetrating analysis, speaks of 'our most important asset as disabled people in society - the uncomfortable, subversive position from which we act as a living reproach to any scale of values that puts attributes or possessions before the person'. To strive to do this is no mean achievement and no mean service in a society which increasingly judges human worth by status, job, income, gadgets and mechanical aids to mobility.

This very valuable book, nonetheless, has a missing chapter. Most of the writers speak of the insensitivity and general hamfistedness of the physically normal. They tell us we try to help when we shouldn't, and stand by or are just not there when we should. But they forget we often don't know how to help and are embarrassed and gauche not so much from ill-will but from ignorance. We are aware that 'the disabled' include just as wide a range of different people as 'the normal', but there must be some guide-lines on how and when to help or to recognise that our arms or feet are not wanted. This missing chapter might well, indeed, be the beginning of the next book. There are frequent intimations in this one of the shortcomings of ordinary people, of professionals, and of the social services. The days are gone when one group in society took it upon itself to plan for rather than with another group. Those who plan and implement the social services need to have the views of the 'substantially and permanently handicapped' themselves about the most effective aids to living, about better ways of

keeping handicapped people part of the community rather than segregating them, and about new and imaginative services which so far do not exist.

For a statement of the principles on which provision for all disabled people should be based, let a woman contributor, Audrey Shepherd, have the last word: 'We [in England] have little sense of being bound in one body, a body made up not only of the healthy and the prosperous, the respectable and the successful, but also of the old, the failures, the mentally ill, criminals, the physically handicapped, the emotionally crippled, the misfits, the awkward squad. Because of this, but also because society has a 'conscience' about its less fortunate members, it preserves its respectability by pursuing a policy of apartheid. And so there grows up a community without a heart. The 'norm' is the man with a house, family, garden, job, and a car at the gate. All the misfits are divided into their respective organisations. They have been catered for. A great deal of money has been spent on them and that should be enough. But it isn't. Instead of a community bound together by love and tears, rejoicing and suffering, we are left with a closed shop, an exclusive club, lacking life because it lacks wholeness.'

Compassionate Ivy





Ivy Paul lived in Bangalore with her widowed sister, who had eight children and an income of 45 rupees a month, for which she had to go out to work every day. They all lived in one room – seen in the pictures – and cooked, ate and slept on the floor.

Ivy had rheumatoid arthritis, and, because sleeping on the floor was so painful, the Mother Superior of the local convent hired a bed for her. The lack of nourishment in her diet caused her condition to deteriorate.

Then the Reverend Mother heard about the Cheshire Home that was being started locally. Through an intermediary on the Committee of the Home, she managed to bring Ivy's case to the notice of Group Captain Cheshire. The Group Captain and Mrs. Cheshire happened to be in India at the time, and they changed their itinerary to include a visit to the girl. Well, G.C. came, he saw, and he brought Ivy back as the first patient in the Bangalore Home. That was in 1959.

Today, Ivy is blooming. She spreads sunshine about her, on all the others in the Home, on all who visit it. And, being well-educated, she is a great help in running the house, keeping the accounts, receiving patients with a cheerful smile, etc. She knows that love and compassion should be the foundation of every home, and this she instils in all the other patients.

A certain local well-to-do gentleman once offered her a proposal of marriage. She turned it down. When asked why, she just said she couldn't leave her 'loving inmates'. Ivy will never forget the Group Captain's compassion and love for those who suffer. She fully realises that but for him and her removal to a Cheshire Home she would have died at an early age.

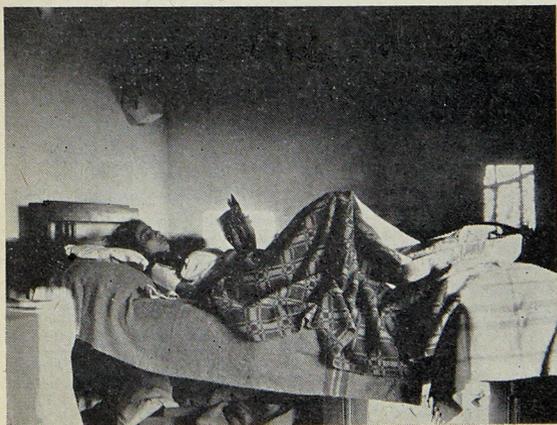
People have been amazed at her knowledge of what is going on in the outside world. One lady recalls that, at the station, just before leaving for the U.K., she was handed a letter from Ivy. It ran: 'If the cold is too much for you, come HOME. If not, then don't forget us please. Love and gratitude from us all. This is Ivy, a good friend who never forgets a good deed.'

Left-hand page: Ivy saying her prayers.

Above: Her room was at the top of these steps so she was virtually unable even to get out.

Below left: She passed the time reading until her sister came home for her evening meal.

Below right: At a party given by the Bangalore Home Committee to say farewell to the first Matron, Mrs. A. Jolliff.



MOH Standards for New Homes

These are the standards recommended to local authorities for their purpose-built residential accommodation for the handicapped. They resulted from the work of the Minister of Health's Advisory Committee on the Health and Welfare of Handicapped People. Extracted from a Circular sent by the Ministry of Health to local authorities in September 1965, and reproduced here by kind permission of the Ministry.

A General considerations

1 This note is designed to give guidance about the accommodation needs of younger physically handicapped people, i.e. those in the age group 17-50, to authorities as they develop their services for the handicapped. The aim should be to provide an environment in which they can lead as active, independent and varied a life as their disabilities allow. Their needs are different from those of elderly handicapped people who have come into care late in life and who can usually live suitably in ordinary homes for the elderly where they have the companionship of their contemporaries. Only experience will show whether handicapped people who have been admitted to homes in youth or middle age will be happier when they grow old if they stay in familiar surroundings or will prefer to move elsewhere.

2 Local authorities planning homes for the younger handicapped should first obtain an accurate estimate of the number of handicapped people in their area needing, or likely to need, residential care. Where numbers in any one area are small, account should be taken of the need in neighbouring areas but at the same time authorities should aim at making adequate provision which does not entail the transfer of residents great distances from their home areas. Authorities might also consider whether there are any handicapped people living in voluntary homes outside

their own area who might wish to return to their home area if accommodation were available.

3 Whereas elderly people enter a home with a life time of experience and activity behind them, the young or middle aged handicapped person may feel that a normal life has been denied him and look upon his admittance to a home as an opportunity to lead a fuller life. Staff need to be aware of these feelings and to understand the reasons for what may appear to be awkward behaviour and to show tolerance towards the emotional tensions which can arise among a group of severely handicapped people. In view of the extra amount of individual attention required by this group homes may need to be staffed on more generous lines than homes for the elderly. Where a home or hostel is predominantly for the less handicapped and those going out to work, staffing may be adjusted accordingly.

4 Where possible handicapped people should be encouraged to obtain work outside the home, in either open or sheltered employment. For those whose handicaps are too severe to allow this, meaningful, useful occupational work should be provided either in the home itself or at a nearby occupation centre. If provision for occupation is attached to the home, it should be in a separate workshop set apart from the living accommodation, and residents should be encouraged to spend regular hours there, as if leading a normal working life. They should also be given the satisfaction of earning an extra personal allowance for any saleable articles produced or outwork undertaken.

5 Some local authorities already make provision for short stay care in their homes for the handicapped and it is hoped that others will also adopt this practice which can help to relieve strain on relatives caring for a severely handicapped person.

B Standards of accommodation

6 Many of the structural considerations contained in Local Authority Building Note No. 2 on Residential Accommodation for the Elderly apply equally to homes for the handicapped, for example choice of site, aspect and general layout and design considerations. But the space requirements in homes for the handicapped must be greater, due to the residents' difficulties of movement. The following is a broad guide to the standards which are considered desirable at the present time for homes for severely handicapped people. Experience may show the need for modification or further provision. The standards given would need to be modified for hostels or flatlets intended for less severely disabled people.

(i) Size of home

In view of the importance of providing premises which can be made homely, homes should be kept small with a limit of about 30 to 35 places.

(ii) Sites

Sites should be easy of approach and accessible to the normal amenities of town or village life such as shops, churches and places of entertainment, near at hand. The home should be planned as part of the community and integrated as far as possible with the daily life of the district. Isolated sites should be avoided as it is important to preserve links with family and friends.

(iii) Bedrooms

At least 75% of the residents should have single rooms, to encourage greater independence and allow complete privacy when required. Authorities might consider putting sliding doors between some of the single rooms so that more doubles can be created if required for married couples or friends who wish to share. Single rooms should be 110 to 120 square feet and double rooms 170 to 180 square feet. There

should be no 3 or 4 bedded rooms. Before planning the size and shape of the rooms authorities are recommended to consider what furniture is required and how it can best be placed to allow maximum circulation space and for the turning of wheelchairs. Ideally the rooms should be designed as bedsitting rooms allowing sitting space near the window and where possible space for interests such as painting, writing, etc. It is hoped that authorities will invite residents to bring with them small items of their own furniture such as bookcases, or record players, which help to give a personal homely touch to the rooms.

In all rooms call bells, light switches, etc. should be easily accessible to handicapped people.

(iv) *Dining room*

About 20 to 25 square feet per person should be provided. The dining room should normally be used for large scale social activities and should be planned with this in mind.

(v) *Sitting rooms*

Homes for the handicapped are likely to accommodate a wide range of age groups and it is therefore desirable to have a series of small sitting rooms rather than one or two large ones. These should include one designed for hobbies. The very severely handicapped who cannot attend a centre can often be encouraged to develop interests and activities which absorbs much of the day, and a suitable room with plenty of shelf space and simple furniture should be available. A minimum aggregate of 30 square feet per resident, distributed throughout the rooms, is needed. Sitting space can also be provided in alcoves, bays, halls, landings and corridors, making an attractive feature and helping to create an informal atmosphere.

(vi) *Bathrooms*

There should be one bathroom to every 8 to 10 residents, so designed that they can be conveniently used by people in wheel chairs. Authorities might consider installing showers suitable for handicapped people in one or two of the bathrooms.

(vii) *W.Cs.*

There should be at least one W.C. to every 3 residents. They should be provided in pairs separately for each sex and be conveniently placed for day and night

time use. All should be suitable for wheelchair users. It may often be suitable for a W.C. and bidet to be provided in bathrooms.

(viii) *Corridors*

Corridors with heavy traffic i.e. leading to the main entrance, dining and sitting rooms, should be wide enough to allow wheelchairs to pass, i.e. about 6ft 6 inches. Elsewhere they should be about 4ft 6 inches to 5ft in width. All corridors should be fitted with handrails.

(ix) *Lifts*

There should be at least one lift if the building is not a single storey one.

(x) *Utility room*

A larger than normal utility room should be provided so that residents can be encouraged to undertake such tasks as personal washing and ironing and the preparation of drinks and snacks.

(xi) *Treatment or medical room*

A small treatment room of about 100 to 120 square feet should be provided for the use of doctor, district nurse, physio-therapist, etc.

(xii) *Garage space*

There should be a covered area adjacent to the home for garaging cars and invalid vehicles; this should be linked to the home by a covered way. There should be one power point in the garage for recharging the batteries of electrically propelled vehicles, and another inside the home for electrically propelled wheelchairs.

7. Other essential accommodation such as kitchen, staff accommodation, cloakroom, stores, etc., should comply with the standards laid down in Local Authority Building Note No. 2 - Residential Accommodation for Elderly People. The advice given in the Note on lifts, accident prevention, stairs and handrails should also be followed. Additional aids may be necessary.

8 Local authorities are recommended to study the manual 'Designing for the Disabled' by Selwyn Goldsmith, A.R.I.B.A., published by the Technical Information Service of the Royal Institute of British Architects in September, 1963. This comprehensive manual, although dealing primarily with domestic housing for the disabled, contains much of considerable interest to all those concerned with the provision of accommodation for handicapped people.

Our London Headquarters sends the following comment on the above Circular :

We in the Cheshire Foundation most congratulate the Ministry of Health on these well-thought-out and constructive recommendations. If a standard pattern for purpose-built residential accommodation for the disabled has to be worked out, then this one prepared by the M.O.H. is probably the best that has so far been presented.

Local Authorities planning their own Homes, and backed by Treasury support, will certainly be able to build far more luxurious projects than a voluntary organisation, such as the Cheshire Foundation, which is dependent on charitable income. But such projects take time even to decide upon, let alone to build. We thus consider that these proposals don't really meet the immediate needs of the many unfortunate people living in distressing circumstances whom we turn away every day because we just haven't sufficient accommodation for them. Our policy has always been to meet a real existing need, and to make do with what we can get in the way of properties, and what we can raise in the way of funds.

We firmly believe in starting in a small way, and having something to show, because we have learnt from experience that until you can demonstrate a Cheshire Home in being, actually looking after disabled people, money is very hard to come by. And we are entirely dependent on public support for capital expenditure.

However, in the future, when more and more of our Homes will have to be built from scratch, we shall be turning to and pondering the recommendations contained in the Ministry Circular. We are, at the moment, also preparing a brochure with our own recommendations for new and existing Homes, and these recommendations will be continually amended as the experience of the Foundation grows.

COMMENT

by Paul Hunt

Living in the same house as the Editor of the *Cheshire Smile* has its advantages. One of them, for me, is that I usually see exchange copies of almost all the journals and newsletters in the disablement field. With practice, I can skim through the miles of print about parties, outings and fund-raising events, slowing down only for the more interesting items and bits of controversy (alas, few and far between).

There are perhaps 40 or 50 British magazines related in some way to permanent physical disability, and one can divide these roughly into several groups. Some, like the *National Cripples Journal* or *The Responaut* are published primarily by and for the disabled themselves. A second group are issued mainly for the members, both disabled and otherwise, of a society for a specific disease – the *M.S. News* and the *Muscular Dystrophy Journal*, for instance. Then there are the 'professional' magazines, such as *Physiotherapy*, *Occupational Therapy*, and *Medical Social Work*, chiefly for their own members, and not only about physical disability, of course. And lastly, there are a number of journals that have to be lumped together in a miscellaneous category: *Rehabilitation*, which is the quarterly put out by the British Council for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled, the *News Review* of the Central Council for the Disabled, and the *Cheshire Smile*, for example. If you add the ordinary medical and nursing press to this list, it becomes a really formidable one.

My recent browsing has been rewarded by a whole series of articles in *Rehabilitation* (which I used to think dull and too technical). They were all Papers given originally to an international seminar on rehabilitation held at Oxford in July last year. Professor Nugent's fine contribution to the series, 'New Avenues of Life', was abridged for the last *Cheshire Smile*. I find this kind of thing both exciting and encour-

aging, because at last the 'experts' seem to be coming down off their pedestals and saying things that make sense to those of us they are trying to help.

The *Spastics News* has been printing some lively items too. In particular, there was a letter in the August number from the disabled residents at the Oakwood Centre for further education, near Colchester. In a polite but outspoken exchange of views with their Warden, they discussed a number of issues that had arisen at the Centre. A few extracts are probably the best way of indicating the interest and value of this debate.

'From the point of view of staff going off duty we naturally accept the fact that half-past-ten is a reasonable time to go to bed, that is, until an alternative solution is found which will allow a greater degree of flexibility. What we do object to is the arbitrary nature in which bedtime is set for each individual. Our objection concerns the reasoning behind this arbitrariness, a reasoning which says, in effect, that we must go to bed because it is good for us. Accepting the present difficulties in staff recruitment, our position – taken to its logical end – would be to let the individual who chose not to go to bed at the specified off-duty time suffer if need be on his own part. . . .

'We are rather amused at Mr. Watson's assumption that we want more authority and less responsibility. The actual truth is that we want more responsibility in order to exercise the authority over our personal affairs to which we, as responsible citizens, have an indisputable right. This includes the responsibility of consulting, and submitting to the convenience of, the staff in matters concerning transportation to hospital appointments, etc. . . .

'[We do not] decry the facilities available at Oakwood – judged by present standards, they are indeed admirable. But this only adds to our argument that such

facilities are not, in general, adequate for the true integration of the spastic into society, necessitating as this does the ability of each resident to invite individuals from outside into their room on a basis of privacy. If it is the ultimate aim of the Spastics Society to help the spastic person to integrate as an individual into the outside world as far as possible, as it should be, then a policy of providing single rooms wherever possible should be initiated.'

Good rousing stuff. As the residents themselves say at the end of their letter, it is in some ways a pity to air issues of this kind in public. But, on the other hand, there is a great deal to be said for such open discussion, and all concerned – perhaps, especially the Editor of the *Spastics News* – are to be congratulated.

Lastly, I want to present an accolade. Quite outstanding amongst all the magazines concerned with disablement is the quarterly, *The Magic Carpet*, published by the Disabled Drivers Association. It's full of useful information about mobility for the disabled, and it has a forceful editorial policy on issues like the elimination of architectural barriers, provision of cars and two-seater trikes, the integration of the handicapped into society, and so on. Yet the magazine as a whole also seems to reflect the full range of opinion in the Association, and particularly impressive is the spirited and intelligent debate about matters of basic policy. I think it is no coincidence that the Association itself is a democratic body, in which the executive (and the magazine staff) are responsible to the membership. I am not suggesting that all organisations for the disabled ought to be democratic in exactly the same way, but it does seem to me that some of them might learn a lot from a study of how the Disabled Drivers Association conducts its affairs.

Spastics Residential Centres

A recent survey of the adult residential centres run by the Spastics Society has produced some interesting results. It was conducted by Mr. J. A. Loring, Assistant Director of the Society, and Controller of its Social and Educational Services.

The Spastics Society has nine residential centres for adults, ten small hostels, two holiday hotels, two training centres, and two further education centres. Eight of the residential centres were specially selected for this survey.

There were 277 spastic residents in the centres, more than half of them having come straight from their own homes; few from subnormality hospitals. The centres are, with one exception, predominantly male communities. The great majority of the residents are actively employed in workshops during the day.

Two-thirds of these disabled are chair-bound, more than half can't clean themselves in the lavatory, nearly a quarter can't feed themselves, even with a spoon and two-thirds can't dress themselves unaided.

Approximately one-third have major speech defects. Only 166 are able to talk 'fairly clearly', and a number of these have quite serious impediments.

Exciting Gift for Ampthill

For the residents at Ampthill, 28th June was a red letter day. A coach, specially adapted to take 15 residents *in their wheelchairs*, arrived at the Home. And the uncomfortable, undignified procedure of wheelchair people being lifted out of their chairs and up into a coach seat, with the reverse procedure taking place at the end of the journey, became a thing of the past.

The coach was purchased from BEA, having been used at London Airport. Normal seating was removed, and provision made for wheelchairs to be pushed up a ramp (the material for this being donated

More than three-quarters had received formal education of some sort for more than a twelve-month. An encouraging number had been to local authority day schools.

There were 328 persons on the admission and waiting lists for the Spastics Society's Centres and Hostels. Their development programme aims to provide a further 415 residential and 500 day places during the course of the next five years. Mr. Loring stated that the Society cannot hope to satisfy all the demand for residential places, and unless local authorities include more such centres in their plans, and accelerate their building programmes, a substantial number of spastics, of more or less average intelligence, may still find that the only place available for them is a subnormality hospital or a geriatric ward.

The Spastics Society tries to ensure that spastics of more or less the same physical handicap and intellectual level are placed together in communities. But, in fact, said Mr. Loring, these characteristics may not provide the most satisfactory basis for a community life which obliges the residents to live together in many diverse situations. One cannot assume that people who are alike will necessarily get on together. The first recommendation for residential care

by Alcan Enfield Alloys), and then fixed into position along each side of the coach.

Luton Corporation Transport agreed that the vehicle should be garaged at their Kingsway Garage, and four L.C.T. men volunteered to drive it. Male members of Dunstable Support Group together with Auto Bodies (Luton) Limited, carried out the work of providing wheelchair fixings, and fitting normal seating. Total capacity is now - 15 wheelchairs and 12 seated passengers.

Dunstable Support Group has made arrangements so that affiliated Support Groups wishing to take Ampthill residents on an outing can have the use of the

because of urgent social need should not be confused with the recommendation of suitability. The residents may be seeking people with complementary rather than similar interests, and their unrealistic aspirations are often concerned with this search for human relationships. Both marriage and employment are concerned with inter-dependent behaviour of this sort.

From an economic standpoint, residential units of 25 disabled are probably ideal, but there are even greater economic advantages in having two or three such units working together. It is stated that the first break-even point is around 70, but that the economic advantages of large-scale operations only really begin to show with still larger numbers.

On balance, it would seem that whilst rural sites have their attractions, centres close to a community, shops and outside interests are to be preferred, if only because they are more popular with the majority of residents. They are not necessarily easier to staff. In fact, it is not all that difficult to staff some remote rural centres. The current policy of the Society is to plan satellite-type units in urban areas, with one central workshop serving a number of small family-size units.

vehicle - provided certain conditions are observed.

The first outing was a run round the Bedfordshire lanes with a stop at Dunstable for a fish and chip supper - something the residents especially enjoy.

That this long-wanted facility at Ampthill has now been provided is a tribute to the initiative and enterprise common amongst Cheshire Home Support Groups.

If any other Home, or Support Group, would like information about the way in which the various problems have been solved, at little or no cost, they can write to the Chairman, Dunstable Friends League, c/o Ampthill Cheshire Home.

The Position of the Epileptic in Society

By Mrs. R. Mathys-Haller

This personal story first appeared in Pro Infirmis, the Swiss journal for and about disabled people. It is reprinted here by kind permission of the Editor and the Author. The article was reproduced in Candle, the journal of the British Epilepsy Association, and we are grateful to the Association for permission to use their translation which was done by Mrs. Valerie Warren.

If I venture a lay opinion on this question, it is because its problems are continually on my mind and because I know that the situation can be changed only if definite measures are taken. I should mention in addition that my discourse must of necessity remain a mere outline.

One of my brothers and I myself have been epileptics for many years; also I worked for several years in an E.E.G. laboratory, where I came into daily contact with sufferers from epilepsy. Is it therefore to be wondered at that I have given much more thought to many of the questions connected with epilepsy than would generally be the case? In the course of my work I was a witness to difficulties which are usually concealed and of which I should now like to give some account.

Fear

There is the anxiety and fear occasioned by epilepsy, which is still rife and widespread throughout our land. Very few people know, in fact, exactly what it is they fear. It is simply that the illness itself seems uncanny to them and therefore they see this uncanniness as an attribute of the sufferer too.

I was assured that this was not merely a figment of my imagination by the constantly recurring, anxious question from the patients I examined: 'Please, tell me

honestly, Miss, they surely aren't *epileptic* fits I keep having, are they?'

To many people epilepsy does not seem an illness like other illnesses; I realised this through the fact that our patients gave every conceivable name to their attacks but carefully avoided using the word 'epileptic', even if they knew quite well that the attacks from which they suffered were indeed of an epileptic origin. The only explanation I can find for this is that they were afraid of the truth. They know the opinion of the world at large on the subject of epilepsy and for this reason they fear the illness.

Would it not be possible, on the grounds of the present-day successes in treatment, to appoint professional people to the task of dispelling this general fear?

Occupational Problems

The first problem, fear, is certainly connected with this second one, the problem of finding work. One wonders just how many well-educated young people cannot find work which is in accordance with their capabilities, in spite of the general scarcity of staff, simply because they frankly inform the prospective employer at their interview that they are sufferers from epilepsy. Admittedly, there are jobs in which someone suffering from fits would be, because of his illness, a potential danger, not only to himself but to others. But how often is this argument a mere excuse to get rid of him. I am thinking here of a clerical worker whose misfortune it was to have three fits in the course of a month. After the third one he lost his job, because the others in the office refused to continue working with him. I wonder, do people in good health realise that a similar thing might happen to them? For who can be certain that he will not be physically handicapped at some time in an accident

and encounter the same difficulties as the epileptic colleague, whose presence he today refuses to tolerate?

On the whole, only very few accidents occur, of which an epileptic is the cause, and the reason for this low accident rate is not because few epileptics are capable of working. Indeed, many more epileptics hold ordinary jobs than one might imagine; for many of them purposely conceal anything which might betray the fact that they are epileptics. Thus, they work together with colleagues who enjoy good health, and nobody knows anything at all about their illness. It is a well-known fact that many are deterred from consulting a doctor about their illness by the fear that they might be held back from making progress in their work or even lose their jobs altogether, as might be the case if they entrusted themselves to regular medical care. Sooner would they consult a quack whom someone has recommended to them. Others, once they have obtained a prescription for the necessary medications, never darken their doctor's surgery door again, but rather collect the drugs thereafter direct from the chemist, for many a chemist will issue drugs, which should be on doctor's prescription only, without any such prescription, once he gets to know the patient as a regular customer. This course of action has been followed by many epileptics, who see it as the gateway to a 'normal life'. However, one can hardly term this life a normal one, for here the patient encounters so many burdens which he must bear all alone.

If, by being frank about his illness, he loses the chance of a job which he is capable of doing, he is bound to conceal his illness the next time. But is that not far more dangerous for everyone concerned? And who can fail to realise how great the burden of a patient must be, who daily has

to come to terms with this secret knowledge, merely in order to earn his living? Of course, there is invalid insurance for those who are completely incapable of working, but what of those who are not chronic cases and who desire to support themselves by the work of their own hands? They would do so, if only it were not made so difficult for them and if they were only allowed to know the pleasure and satisfaction which comes from the achievement of one's job.

And why is there such adherence to the conservative idea that an epileptic is only fitted to be a farm-labourer, gardener, cobbler or at best a weaver? Not that I have anything against these professions, but surely there are as many epileptics attracted to other professions as there are healthy people! I grant that the aforementioned professions are particularly suitable for an epileptic, and it is all to the good if he derives pleasure from the work they entail. What happens to those, however, whose inclinations lie in a quite different direction? Those whose health is good are repeatedly advised not to choose a profession which is at odds with their abilities, since contentment in one's work is vital for emotional balance. The epileptic, however, is expected to go into one of the few jobs open to him and to count himself lucky that he can get in anywhere at all. Would it not be possible to create or to discover more opportunities of a professional training for young patients? Surely, such a measure would inspire new hope and joy in living in many young people whose infirmity might otherwise cause them to despair.

Problems with Other People

Because I am an epileptic my husband and I gave up the idea of having children of our own, although our decision caused us both intense suffering. Since my health was otherwise sound, we registered with an adoption society. We knew that we were still too young to be eligible for an adoption, but we were thinking on the lines of a foster-child, whom we might adopt later on. Upon registration we declared the reason why we had not risked having children of our own. My husband's superior and mine too were willing to lend their support to our venture.

Three weeks after we had registered, the

telephone rang. A man was at the other end. He said he was ringing about our application to adopt a child, and right away he began to abuse me, asking whatever we were thinking of. How could anyone entrust a child to the likes of us? etc., etc. I cannot remember everything he said; I only know I felt as though I had been struck in the face and believed that my legs would give way under me. Finally, the caller paused for a moment and I was able to get a word in. Indeed, I stuttered rather than spoke, as I asked him whether he had consulted our referees and whether we might come round to talk the matter over. He butted in, saying that it was quite unnecessary to take up references in such a case and that we could save ourselves the trouble of calling in. There was a click — he had hung up on me. I fell into the nearest chair, incapable of rational thought. The first emotion I became clearly aware of was towering rage, but at the same time I was paralysed by the knowledge that I could do nothing to resist these bureaucrats, since they are of course 'in the right'. My only consolation at this time was my work. I could no longer bear peace and quiet for then I was tormented continually by sombre thoughts. I felt as though something inside me had snapped and I could talk about it to no-one, for a long while, not even to my husband.

The main question which kept cropping up in my mind was: why should a person who has had the misfortune to inherit an illness also lose the right to being treated as a human being? Why must he always encounter such hatred? I was quite capable of working. The clinic where I had formerly worked had transferred me and so when that horrifying telephone conversation took place I was employed as assistant to the medical officer in charge of E.E.G.s at an institution for epileptics. On several occasions I was called upon to replace sick colleagues at other clinics or even to help out in a private practice. In the evenings I coped with running my home and working in the garden.

Later, without any further efforts having been made on our part, we were entrusted with two foster-children, both of them so neglected-looking and pathetic that no-one else wanted them. Since then eighteen months have gone by, in the course of

which the children have grown used to, and developed so well, both physically and mentally, that it is a great joy to us both. Only we must now fear again, lest others might become interested in them and take them away from us on the pretext that I am not well enough to look after them. And what could we do to prevent it? It is something I cannot bear to think about.

In connection with the diagnosis of epilepsy we hear a great deal about ensuing personality changes. Today I stand quite convinced that such changes may be traced to influences in the patient's environment, that is to say to the attitude of his fellow-men. No epileptic can escape from his illness. It is up to him to learn to live with it. The more smoothly this adjustment can be made, the less chance there will be of changes in personality occurring, unless, of course, the sufferer has an extremely severe form of the illness or has sustained brain damage from violent, recurring fits. Changes of this type should be far less frequent than they are currently held to be. But surely the personality of someone who, because of his illness, repeatedly meets with cold rejection on the part of those around him, must necessarily undergo some change. How frequently even a patient's nearest and dearest prove incapable of meeting him halfway in a relationship of mutual confidence. They become so confused on hearing this, that and the other thing about epilepsy, garbled popular opinions on the subject, that they finally no longer know at all what they themselves believe, or what they should do, or to what extent they may hope. Is it any wonder then, if an epileptic feels that he is universally rejected and misunderstood? Often he does not understand what is happening to him and his own body, and he is assailed by uncertainty. In this situation, an environment in which he might find support, understanding and willingness to share his new problems could be of cardinal importance to him for it is at this point that the pattern of the patient's future will be determined, whether he will triumph over his illness or founder upon it.

The Relationship to One's Doctor

For this same reason it seems to me exceptionally important *how* a doctor first in-

forms a patient that he is an epilepsy sufferer, for the doctor's attitude may well determine whether the epileptic will adopt a positive attitude to the future or whether he will believe that all is lost from the very beginning.

One morning a young man came to me for an E.E.G. He regarded me gloomily, was visibly nervous and his hands were trembling. At first I thought he was afraid of the examination, for sometimes the most far-fetched stories are told about E.E.G.'s as well! Therefore I tried to talk to him and explain that there was nothing to fear, but he was only half listening to me and suddenly burst out: 'Don't bother with me, there's no point. I really don't know why I came here in the first place'. Taken aback, I asked him what had happened. He then told me that he had come straight from his doctor and that the latter had said, as he saw it, the young man was now an epileptic and could count himself lucky if his wife didn't ask him for a divorce, once she knew about it.

What must it have meant to him to hear this from the lips of a doctor from whom he had expected help!

But does not this one statement typify the attitude of a broad section of the public to this illness?

I know that not all doctors think like the doctor I have just mentioned. On the contrary, many do all in their power to improve the epileptic's lot, and these, on behalf of us all, I tender sincere thanks for what they are doing. How much we owe to medicine! What would we be without the drugs which are at our disposal! But apart from medical aid, I feel sure that social assistance should not be omitted. For even the best of drugs cannot have their full effect, if the person taking them has lost all his vitality and joy in living. To prevent such a loss seems to me an essential part of healing.

So much could be done for these patients merely through accurate explanations about epilepsy in publications which would be available and comprehensible to all. And what a relief it would be to many epileptics if they could feel that they were accepted as complete human beings, in spite of their illness, and that they might encounter understanding instead of rejection. How much nonsense might be

cleared away; nonsensical ideas which do so much harm when spread amongst the credulous, and repeatedly cause the epileptic to suffer! Surely enlightened information on epilepsy should be issued at the same rate as medical advances are made?

There is another problem which repeatedly occupies my mind. Parents often bring their epileptic children to the surgery for examination. Certainly their intention is to do all in their power to help their child. Often the doctor knows at once that this is a case of epilepsy, but says nothing about it to the parents. Admittedly, it is not always easy to break such news; there may be other reasons too, but as I am not a doctor I wouldn't know. However, it seems to me that in such a case, it would be to the young patient's advantage if the parents were informed in words they can understand about the nature of the illness and the necessity of prolonged treatment. Then it would not happen so often that the parents change their doctor every few weeks because 'the last one wasn't doing any good anyway'. They cannot know that he would have needed a far longer time to bring about any visible improvement, for no-one has seen fit to tell them so and to explain why. Then, when renewed fits occur they feel that the medicine is ineffective or wrongly prescribed. The situation worsens when they begin to believe everyone who asserts that this or that nature healer has an infallible remedy for such ailments. The child becomes a guinea-pig, until the many varied powders, and potions have so upset its balance, that its admittance to a special hospital or institution finally becomes unavoidable.

Or there is another variation. Many parents 'sin' against their children out of the fear that they might later be reproached that they had not taken sufficient care of them or had missed out on something. This motive or alternatively exaggerated sympathy for their child leads them to coddle him. The child is forbidden to do all sorts of quite normal things because the parents fear an accident and practically every tiny obstacle is cleared from his path lest he should over-exert himself. It is possible that the product of this kind of upbringing may turn out to be a weakling who cannot come to terms with life. For

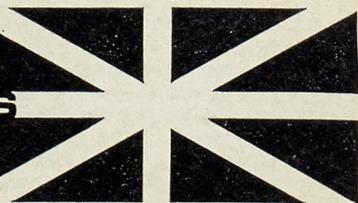
what opportunity did he ever have to meet life's challenge or to practise coping with its daily problems? Nonetheless the blame is laid on his illness and its effects, rather than on his misguided upbringing, which is doubtless the main cause of his inability to cope with life.

More Advice

How much might be done to prevent such misfortunes, if the people in question were referred to social workers, specially trained for the job, who could assist them with any problems which might arise, including problems of upbringing and education, of course.

It is obvious, when one thinks of the packed waiting-rooms, that a doctor cannot cope with all the difficulties which arise, and anyway the problems are very often not medical ones. If there were more facilities for epileptics to obtain personal advice, many of their difficulties might be nipped in the bud, which, were they allowed to persist and develop, would be irremediable or remedied only with extreme difficulty. Country-dwellers, I am sure, must find it a boon that our lady health-visitors carry out home visits to hear problems and give advice. Within one's own four walls there is less feeling of urgency to hurry up over one's problems, for one has not had to walk through a crowded waiting-room beforehand. It is essential that everyone should be made aware of what facilities do exist to aid epileptics. General psychiatric clinics for adults, psychiatric aid for children, psychological centres of education, pro-infirmis centres, social services provided by the psychiatric clinics, the epileptic institutions and county hospitals. Of course, institutions for epileptics will never become superfluous, for as long as the illness exists there will be 'chronic cases'. However, many epileptics could become more independent and more capable of running their own lives without continued assistance, if they were only helped over the initial difficulties of adjustment which the illness is bound to bring with it.

If all these aims are to be achieved, however, more is needed than the education of the patient and those around him. What is also required is a radical change in the attitude of the world towards epilepsy.



General Editor for U.K. News: Peter Wade



SOUTH OF ENGLAND

Regional Editor: Rosa I. Searle

St. Bridget's outstanding event of the year was undoubtedly the local Angmering Horse Show and Gymkhana organised by Mr. E. Clifford Smith and his loyal group of helpers. A warm welcome greeted Group Captain Cheshire, who brought along his two children and their nannie. The celebrities, Cyril Fletcher and Sam Kydd, were kind enough to go around the field, despite the rain, collecting for the Home.

The usual Garden Party at Mrs. Lawrence's residence in Ferring had to be held indoors this year owing to the high winds. During the afternoon a substantial cheque was handed to the Chairman of St. Bridget's, the result of the weekly gatherings of the Ferring Bridge Circle.

Mrs. Kessler, held another fortnightly jumble sale in her Littlehampton shop. In 12 months, her efforts have succeeded in raising over £1,000 for the Home.

A visit to Mote House by Matron Mrs. Latham and several of the residents was a happy affair. A picnic lunch on the journey added to the pleasure.

The family were sad to report the loss of Johnnie Smith who had been at St. Bridget's for many years.

Heatherley's family also derived much pleasure from a brief informal visit of the G.C. and his children.

Mrs. S. Johnston, of the Management Committee, organised a very successful coffee morning at Heatherley. This was followed by a cheese and wine party run by the physiotherapists Mrs. Colman and

Mrs. Broome to raise fund for buying new physiotherapy equipment.

The visit of 38 R.C. theological students from Broome Hall, Dorking, was a unique occasion, in that the guests provided a talented and enjoyable entertainment. It was a long-to-be-remembered evening for everyone.

The residents participated in many outings during these months, including a visit to Cowdray Park, where they watched polo and met Jimmy Edwards; an outing to Wisley Gardens lapping up botanical knowledge; and several ever-popular excursions to the sea.

Le Court lost their Matron during the summer. Mrs. Pat Galbraith, who had been working at the Home for some 14 years, the last three as Matron, resigned for personal reasons. She had endeared herself to everyone, and Le Court without her is not the same. The family's heartfelt good wishes go out to her for the future.

The Home's Annual Fete was opened by David Dimbleby, son of the late Richard. He was accompanied by G.C., who after thanking him, appealed to the public for increased support to help with their new developments.

Another six young girls, all from Ireland, are at present training for the Service Corps – their activities, of course, centred at Le Court – in the skilled hands of Miss Moore, Administrator and Tutor of the Corps.

The publication of resident Paul Hunt's book 'Stigma' took place in September. The book was launched at a party in London arranged by Mr. Duncan Guthrie of the Polio Research Fund.

The family have enjoyed many social events and outings during these months, including a visit to a traction engine rally near Winchester. Organised by the Southampton and the Winchester Groups, the rally was opened by Winchester City's

Mayor, Councillor Mrs. W. J. Carpenter-Turner, J.P.



EAST MIDLANDS

Regional Editor:

In **Amphill's** news last quarter, we mentioned the engagement of resident Nora Wren and holiday-resident Fred Giles. Well, the wedding duly took place as arranged on 1st October. The sun shone on the bride as she left Amphill R.C. church, for the reception at the Home, to which 100 guests had been invited.

Our Matron, Mrs. Norbury, left during the summer, and we wish her the best of luck in her new appointment.

The Fete on 3rd September was a success, although at the time of writing no figures are available. One of the highlights was the free-fall display by the Parachute Regiment.

Amphill residents have taken part in exchange holidays, and several went to Gorleston Holiday Camp.

The Grove was recently visited by the Norwich Citadel Salvation Army Band and Singers, who entertained with a selection of rousing marches and tasteful singing.

The residents continue to make shopping expeditions to Norwich, thanks to voluntary helpers. They are taken into the shops, and so can see what they are buying – much more satisfying than having to get everything brought into the Home.

Several of the family went to Gorleston Camp once again.

The residents of **Stonecroft House** are certainly 'with it' They attended a barbecue

at the Oaklands County Club, where there were several 'Groups', and also the personal appearance of Kenny Ball and his Jazz Men. Then, a bus load went to the Beat Festival held at the Scunthorpe United Football Ground; amongst those present were the Troggs, Billy J. Kramer and the Dakotas – about ten groups in all, with Georgie Fame and the Blue Flames topping the bill. After this, one of the residents and a nurse ran a dance at the Corn Exchange, Brigg, which showed a handsome profit for the Resident's Fund. Thanks go to Jackie and the Atlantics for their part in the success of this venture.

Several residents enjoyed a lovely holiday at Caister Holiday Camp.

Hovenden House was sorry to lose two nurses, Doreen and Sue, who left to get married. Everyone will wish them long and happy married lives. In their place the Home welcomes Carol and Christine.

We have been busy watching workmen laying the foundations of the new extension, which will enable Hovenden to take in more residents.

The chapel is now in use.

The extensions at **Seven Rivers** are going along apace. At the moment, one side of the dining room is open to the air, apart from a plastic sheet. When the new part is complete it will provide another bedroom, a surgery, a quiet room, and more space in the dining room.

A most successful and happy dance was held in Great Bromley Village Hall. This, we think will become a regular event, and will do a great deal to cement the friendly feelings between the Home and the local community.

Stanton Harold would like to congratulate male-nurse Roger Thomas and former staff member Mary Smith on their recent marriage. We wish them a long and happy life together.

The Fete. Once again, we did it! After an unpromising week weather-wise, we had a fine day. 8,000 people came, and something like £3,500 profit was made.

The holiday season being over, we can now say that most of the residents who wished had a holiday, some in exchanges with other Homes, some with friends and relatives, and some 24 went to our 'summer home' at Trearddur Bay, Anglesey.

I feel I must say a special word about

our police-cadets, who, although helping all the year round, are particularly conspicuous in the holiday season when they, together with former cadets now fully-fledged policemen, turn out in force to help us at Trearddur. We recently had our first four *women* police-cadets. Most of the male residents agreed that they were much more decorative around the place than their male predecessors!

We were sorry to hear of the death of Wilf Pollard. He was a very popular member of the family, and is greatly missed.



LONDON AND THE SOUTH EAST Regional Editor: R. Norman Whiteley

A lot has been happening at **Athol House** in the last three months. A work-party, organised by the Student Christian Movement – four girls, four boys – spent two weeks with us. They painted three bedrooms, the hall ceiling, and the staircase walls and ceiling – all very hard work. And, at the end, the residents played host to them at a roast turkey dinner, with all the trimmings, washed down with beer and cider.

Virginia Woodward holidayed in the Isle of Elba. How she got there is worth recounting. She flew from London in a normal scheduled flight to Rome, then travelled to Pisa and took a light aircraft to Elba, off the coast of Italy, where she stayed with friends for nearly a month.

On 17th September, we had our Garden Fete, organised by Rotary Clubs and Inner Wheels of South East London. It was opened by Tim Turner, commentator of 'Look at Life'. A perfect day drew over 1,000 people, and resulted in a record figure which might reach £1,000.

At **St. Cecilia's**, we much appreciate the tremendous help given by our voluntary drivers and Mr. Black – who has put in so many bus-hours for us. Mr. Black's London Tours to Greenwich Park, the *Cutty Sark*, the Tower of London, and

Buckingham Palace (the outside only!) are now a legend in the Home.

But a party of us did see Buckingham Palace from the inside one day this summer – at least, the lawn! The occasion was the Not Forgotten Association's Garden Party for disabled ex-service men and women. The Queen came out, and spent three-quarters of an hour chatting to the guests. An excellent entertainment followed, and a tour of the Royal Mews.

Our gratitude is again due to the Not Forgotten Association for the use of their magnificent coach (fitted with an automatic wheelchair lift) for our annual visit to Rustington. We had a wonderful day – the weather was perfect, and the sea calm.

At **Mote House**, the House Committee held a coffee morning to raise money for the Curtain Fund. It was a great success, raising over £200.

We were delighted to have a surprise visit from Group Captain Cheshire, his children, Jeromy and Elizabeth, and their Nanny, in August. The residents who had not met G.C. before were thrilled to meet and talk with him. Elizabeth was very pleased with the bride-doll made and given to her by Terry. She would not go to bed until G.C. had phoned her mother and told her the news. The following morning, G.C. was kept busy taking the children for rides down the fire-shoot to the delight of the onlooking residents.

The death of Herbert Steinle in August was a great loss. He had been with us for nearly three years. We also deeply regret the death of Derek Webb, Matron's husband. Our sympathy goes out to Matron and her family.

We had a new addition to our family when Sister Ann's baby, Nicolas Paul, was born in June. We are very thrilled, as it makes Mote House even more like home.

Residents have been on holiday to Lulworth Court and to Golden Sands.

In July, twelve residents paid a visit to H.M.S. *Kent*. They were shown around the ship, and afterwards had high tea with the Commander and crew. B.B.C. cameras were there, and a film of the event appeared in 'Town and Around'.

Forget the squeeze and the freeze, said **Gaywood** on Saturday 10th September. The gayest and most interesting place in

Wimbledon was undoubtedly the Cheshire Home barbecue there on that day. What impressed most people was the festive atmosphere.

There was food for everyone, honest to goodness barbecue fare – masses of well-cooked chicken and hot-dogs. For good measure, excellent background music was played throughout.

One highlight of the evening was when a bouquet of roses and carnations was presented to the deputy Mayoress. Another highlight was the presentation of a gift from the League of Friends to the Warden of the Home, Mrs. C. de Jong.

One Saturday afternoon in the summer half a dozen residents cleaned the walls of the dining-room and painted them in pale green; then fixed up a few pictures, making the room look much more attractive and homely. It was then decided to redecorate the kitchen, and this was done on another Saturday. A dance was held that same evening to celebrate.

A coach trip to Eastbourne took place on Sunday 18th September. Although the day was overcast, everyone enjoyed themselves. Some took the open-top bus to Beachy Head, to have a look at the lighthouse. Other brave souls went out in a speed-boat, but that proved a rather damp experience. Coming home, we all had a jolly good sing-song, and we have never laughed so much for ages.



WEST MIDLANDS

Regional Editor: Rosalind Chalmers

One of the most enjoyable recent events at **The Hill** was a Folk Song Concert and Chicken Barbecue, organised by the Sandbach and District Young People's Support Group. First-class entertainment and fare were provided; the Bus Fund benefitting by over £60. The bus is now being converted.

Another example of youthful enterprise has been provided by Margaret Coppenhall, aged 13, who raised £5 for the Home on a

single-handed house-to-house car-cleaning expedition. Thank you, Margaret!

We welcome Bill Griffiths from Birkenhead as a new resident, and hope he will settle happily with us. One of the things he should enjoy, as do we all, is the monthly Film Show kindly given by Mr. Dean and his colleagues of Photopia Ltd., Newcastle-under-Lyme.

The big event of the year at **Greenacres** was the Michaelmas Fair on September 29th at Sutton Town Hall. This was opened in the morning by Barrie Edgar of the Midland B.B.C., and later a Fashion Show was introduced by Wendy Cooper, Woman Journalist of the Year. Mrs. Cooper is a frequent and very welcome visitor at Greenacres. The Fair, which raised about £600 for our Building Fund, was a most successful and happy occasion.

Greenacres' own 'Open Day' on July 2nd was not primarily intended as a money-raiser, but rather as an opportunity for interesting people in the home, and to hint at what we hoped to do in the future. Nevertheless, with some stalls on the lawn, we raised about £90.

Miss Bibby continues to produce magnificent vegetables in the garden which we very much enjoy. The North Birmingham Soroptomists, have given us a fine summer-house, which the Lions have erected, facing the sun.

Winnie Lucas and Mabel Montgomery went to St. Bridget's for a holiday, while Anne Pink (who has a sister in Sutton) and Irene Banks came here. Other residents went on holiday to friends.

St. Anthony's annual Flag Day, though held in bad weather, produced £500, thanks to the great efforts of our many friends. Other welcome contributions have come from the Codsall Darts' League – £200, and Mrs. Lewis and friends by collecting sixpences have raised the magnificent sum of £150 for new kitchen equipment.

The police cadets continue to give us their good offices with the blessing of the Chief Constable of Staffordshire. The sight of 15 of these stalwarts digging another vegetable garden caused our four French students to say: 'We think your English policemen are wonderful!'

To complete the holiday list, five resi-

dents went to Clacton, where the Spastics Society looked after them very well. Ray Fisher made his annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, accompanied by Sister Beglan.

Mrs. Chessworth, our Occupational Therapist, has left us for a forthcoming 'happy event', and in her place comes Mrs. Wilkes, just in time to enjoy the comfort of double glazing, which has recently been installed into the Occupational and Physiotherapy Rooms.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Booth, our new Sister-in-charge, has been forced to retire through ill health, but we now have as Matron Mrs. Downing, who was welcomed to the Home on the same day that the Wombourn & Himley Group of Friends held a Spanish Dance. Sister Beglan appeared as an attractive senorita, and was photographed for the local paper.



SCOTLAND

Regional Editor: Amelia Bruce

As in the rest of the Foundation, holidays at **Mayfield House** are, at the time of writing, coming to an end. But one or two residents are still due to go away. Exchanges have been made with residents from Marske Hall and Alne Hall. Rita Vynckier came to us for a three weeks holiday, complete with wheelchair and luggage, all the way from Belgium.

On 10th August, some of us went in our own bus to Dunfermline. We enjoyed watching the peacocks strutting around the glen, and eating food from our hands. There was some rousing entertainment from the Royal Corps of Signals' Band.

The Edinburgh Festival Tattoo, and the Stenhouse Horse Show were visited, and we enjoyed seeing the Pakistani Dancers on both occasions.

The latest enterprise for a few residents is the making of mosaics from terazzo tiles. Mr. Carson, our adviser, manages to come twice a week.

The local Domino League have suggested that we form a team – six players and two reserves – and join to compete

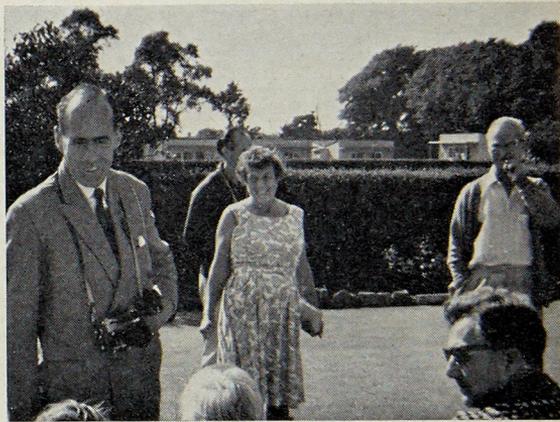
News in Pictures

Top left: The new extension at Danybryn.

Top right: Group Captain Cheshire walking round Gorleston Holiday Camp with (centre) Dr. Irene Green, Chairman, and (right) Mr. Ivor Hook, Chief Organiser of the Camp, talks to residents of Greathouse.

Mote House residents on board H.M.S. Kent during the summer.

Photo : Kent Messenger



with teams from the Thistle Foundation, Phoenix Youth Club, and Simon Square Crippled Aid Society.



NORTH OF ENGLAND

Regional Editor

We are glad to learn that yet another Cheshire Home is to be opened in the North, at **Matfen Hall** in Northumberland. We welcome all connected with it to the Northern group, and hope that it will not be long before we have some accounts of their doings to add to our section of the *Smile*.

At **Marske Hall**, the residents started a fund some months ago for the purpose of buying a Minibus. An ambitious scheme, but a worthwhile one, since there has recently been difficulty in getting drivers for the large bus. It was hoped to solve this problem by having a smaller vehicle. Several efforts have been organised by the residents, and, on September 17th, they held an At Home with help from some good friends. We were fortunate in that the day was fine enough for the stalls to be out of doors. The people attending spent most generously on the raffles, tombola and other attractions, with the magnificent result that £275 was raised, bringing the total in the Fund to £440.

Family Day was held for the first time at **White Windows** this year, and was the highlight of the summer activities. About 90 guests attended, including G.C. A report appears elsewhere.

The room behind the office has been converted into our new chapel. This has been a genuinely ecumenical enterprise by the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Methodist Churches and we are very grateful to them. The old chapel is now to be converted into an extra bedroom for four male residents.

A number of outings have been enjoyed during the period, some rather marred by the weather, but all appreciated. We have welcomed five new residents, Rose Bur-

rage, Claudette Johnson, Joan Whitehouse, Barry Jones and Stuart Denham, and two – Florence Haken and Clarence Guy – have moved to **Beechwood**, our second offspring Home.

Spofforth Hall, too, has had a busy time. Our Garden Party was well attended in spite of a chilly afternoon. There were various stalls, including a Handicraft Stall run by the residents, and a Fancy Dress Parade for the children with some marvellous costumes.

We had a wonderful outing to Scarborough, through the kindness of Miss Wiseman and other friends of the Home. After a wonderful tea in a Church Hall (all home-made!), we went to the Open Air Theatre to see a performance of 'The King and I', which was a marvellous show with the natural setting making a perfect background.

Evening classes have begun, with a singing class on Wednesday evenings, which is very much looked forward to. Some of the residents are getting ready to present the Annual Pantomime.

New residents are – Roger Stevenson, Mary Lewis, Mary Henderson, Patricia Danby. In September, Miss Mitchell, our Matron, went on holiday to Austria, and Miss Ibberson looked after us for three weeks.

Work has now commenced on improving the pathway to the Home, and on interior decoration to the whole building.



WEST OF ENGLAND

Regional Editor: Bob Hughes

From **Greathouse**, Alice and Eleanor went to Heatherley, John and Michael to St. Anthony's, and Emily and Betty to Staunton Harold, on exchange visits. Fifteen residents, joined by Jean Price from the Cotswold Home, spent a week at Gorleston Holiday Camp.

One highlight of this quarter was our first trip to Wales via the new Severn Bridge, when Phyll, Alan, Fred and John

visited Danybryn, with members of the Chippenham Toc H. We later visited the Rhondda Valley to lunch with Mr. and Mrs. Leader.

The visits *en masse* to Timsbury and to the Cotswold Home for tea have forged new links between the Homes.

We are sorry to lose Mrs. B. Jaspar, our Secretary, and hope she might some day follow the example of Mrs. Pauline Hudd, who has returned to our staff after an absence of 18 months, to settle down into marriage.

This year, **Greenhill House** nearly all managed to go on holiday again at Exmouth from 23rd June to 2nd July. We stayed at the Pole Sands Hotel as usual, and with some homebound disabled friends brought by the Red Cross, made a party of about 40. The weather was perfect, and brilliantly sunny nearly all the week.

The local Rotary hired a pleasure boat and took the whole party, wheelchairs and all, for a lovely cruise up the River Exe. A great many other happy hours were spent on the sea front and shopping in the town.

The **Cotswold Home** also invaded Wales, via the new Severn Bridge, with the Group of Friends. Later, we toured the beautiful Forest of Dean, where we had tea. On another occasion, we visited Ledbury, Malvern and Pershore.

The Andoversford Show and Gymkhana, an event much looked forward to, was blessed with glorious weather. In the handicraft section, Evelyn Perkins won both first and third prizes, with Florence Tobin coming second – with their exquisite embroideries.

The Lions Club have made a smashing transformation to the kitchen. A friend has supplied us with gallons of paint, and another decorated two bedrooms during the holidays.

The sixth Birthday Party was a sparkling success. Florence Tobin and Katherine Payne assisted Matron, Miss E. M. Wilson, in the now traditional cake-cutting ceremony.

Margaret Franklin, Evelyn Perkins, Jean Price and Tom Newman have all been to Lourdes, and found it a wonderful experience.



WALES

Regional Editor: J. O. Davis

Danybryn's Fete on 2nd July at the Sophia Gardens in Cardiff was opened by the Lord Mayor, and drew a good crowd. The official Opening of the new wing by Lady Treherne took place in August. A picture of the new wing appears on page 35.

Residents attended two other notable events – the Military Tattoo in the grounds of Cardiff Castle and the Air Display at St. Athan's. Our visits to the Morganstown Fete and to the home of J. C. Clay (the Glamorgan cricketer) were rather spoilt by rain.

Coach trips have included visits to Ogmere, Font-y-Gary, Merthyr, Aberavon, and Porthcawl.

A party went to Cardiff to hear the Ohio Youth Choir – ninety strong – who are touring Europe giving charity concerts.

Two newcomers to the family – both teenagers – are Ian Moody and David Larking; they came from a Penarth school for handicapped children. Bronwen Davies, who came from the Coomb Home about two years ago, died this summer.

A raffle at **Dolywern**, organised by Sam, in which nine prizes – all the work of residents – were given made a profit of

£225, which was presented to the Fete Committee. A band of residents got together and wrote 200 personal letters to friends of the Home, enclosing books of tickets. 5,000 tickets were printed free of charge by Mr. Crane of Oswestry.

Eileen Byrne and Enda Teehan from Ireland, two of the present Service Corps trainees, have been with us for a month. We were sorry to lose them, as they became so much part of the family. We did appreciate their work.

The family was invited to a garden party at Plas Power, Wrexham, by Colonel and Mrs. Fitzhugh. A tour of the farm was conducted by Mrs. Fitzhugh, and an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

Toc H members went to New Brighton, invited by New Brighton Toc H. A boat trip to Liverpool was arranged, with a lovely tea afterwards.

The football fans are having trips to Wrexham and to Chester to watch games.



SOUTH WEST

Regional Editor: Pamela Harvey

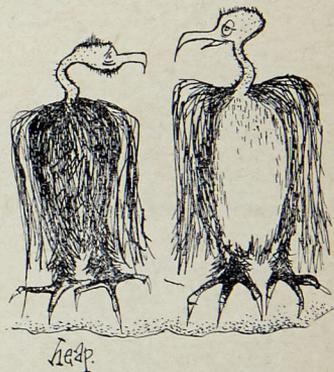
Cann House had an Open Day on 20th August, which was a real success. One big attraction was a Baby Show. Never before had so many babies been seen at Cann

House, and they certainly gave a young look to the grounds. It was a grand day, with lovely weather.

With regret I report that Eileen, who has been with us at Cann House since the early days, passed away in September. Eileen had suffered much in the past year; we miss her sadly.

We were sorry to see Gwen, our Welsh Nurse, leave us at the end of August, also Hilda, known to everyone as 'Flower'. We hope to have visits from both of them. We welcome Staff Nurse Pattermore, and hope she will be happy with us.

Our week-end night nurse, Pat, got married in September, and we were delighted to receive the top tier of her Wedding Cake. We wish Pat and Terry every happiness.



"Let's go pick up a couple of birds, Charlie!"

'Damascus'

There recently came into our hands the second number of 'Damascus', edited by a blind girl, Clare Ryan (of Kew, Victoria, Australia) for the Villa Maria Society for the Blind. This issue included letters from the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Harold Holt, and Group Captain Cheshire.

G.C. had written to Clare Ryan: 'It was a great pleasure meeting you, and I do congratulate you on the way you manage to do so much. Seeing you set off along the street with only your dog, made me wonder how on earth you were going to find your way.

'I personally draw great inspiration and encouragement from seeing how the blind manage to live such full and purposeful lives in spite of their disability.

'I wish the magazine every success in its mission, and hope that next time I am in Melbourne I may have the opportunity of seeing a little more of your activities'.

The issue also contains an article on Group Captain Cheshire and his work. It ends by quoting some words of his: 'It is within the power of any man to do something for one person... there, I think, lies the key to it. So long as we look at it as one vast problem, we will never be moved

to do anything (we *won't* do anything), but, from the moment we see it not as a problem, but as a person, never mind the three million others, just one person... then we have started'.

Mission for the Relief of Suffering

Registered in the U.K. as a Charity

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

President: Mrs. Lakshmi Pandit

Out of the combined work of the Sue Ryder Forgotten Allies and the Cheshire Foundation Homes for the Sick there has evolved the concept of an association – or family – of separate and autonomous organisations, each devoted in its own way to the relief of suffering, but all sharing the same ideals and principles. The function of this Mission is, on the one hand, to strengthen its member-organisations by virtue of making them part of some larger entity, and, on the other hand, to extend their opportunity of doing good by the possibility of joint and concerted action. Application for membership from any charitable organisation is always welcome.

The Raphael Settlements

As one step towards this goal, the Forgotten Allies and the Cheshire Homes have

pooled some of their resources and experience in order to establish a series of International Settlements in different parts of the world, the primary aims of these being:

(i) to supplement the work of the two Foundations by taking those specialised cases which neither of them are able to admit;

(ii) to safeguard and develop the spirit of the Mission as a whole;

(iii) to test out new ideas.

Dehra Dun, U.P., India. (Tel. Dehra Dun 901)

Beautifully situated in the foothills of the Northern Himalayas, the first Raphael is the Far Eastern Headquarters of the Mission. Beginning with only tents in April 1959, it today houses 96 leprosy patients, 50 men-

tally retarded children, and 20 other children who, although fit, come from unsatisfactory home circumstances. Raphael is planned as a whole village of Homes for many different kinds of people in need.

Hon. Sec: Mrs. Ava Dhar.

Hon. Welfare Officer: Mrs. D. Rawlley.

Clock Barn Lane, Hydon Heath, Godalming, Surrey, England. (Tel. Hascombe 383)

More recently opened, the English Raphael provides accommodation for the older age groups, and for married couples (both young and old) who might otherwise be forced by their disabilities to separate. It will shortly have a 12-bedded wing for the heavily disabled.

Warden: Lt.-Col. R. Taylor, M.B.E.

1 Sue Ryder Forgotten Allies Trust

Registered as a Charity

Founder: Sue Ryder, O.B.E.

Hon. Advisers: Sir Eric Berthoud, K.C.M.G., K. Johnstone Esq., C.M.G., J. Priest Esq.

Personal Secretary: Miss P. Bains

Secretaries: Miss C. Brookes, Mrs. I. Gee

Hon. Treasurers: S. Poole Esq.,

H. Ince Esq., T. Siddall Esq.

Hon. Medical Advisers:

Dr. Grace Griffiths, M.B., M.R.C.P.,

Dr. M. Ryder, M.B., Dr. W. Tillman, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Appeals Secretary: Mrs. J. Griffiths-Jones
All enquiries about Sue Ryder Forgotten Allies Trust should be made to Sue Ryder Home, Cavendish, Suffolk. (Glemsford 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 permanently 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, and for others released from prison and in need of rehabilitation and help.

St. Christopher Kreis.

Berlinerstrasse, Frankfurt a.m.

Chairman: H. H. Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhein.

Since 1945, Sue Ryder has been personally responsible for the visiting, after-care, and rehabilitation of the homeless boys of eight nationalities in German prisons.

Homes for the Sick in Poland.

Chairman: Director Rabczynski, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Warsaw. Prefabricated buildings, each containing

forty beds and costing £7,000 are sent from England to relieve the distress of the Forgotten Allies. Fourteen Homes have been established at Konstancin, Zyrardow, Naleczow, Helenow, Pruszkow, Radzynin, Bydgoszcz, Zielona Gora, Gdynia and Gora Kalwaria, etc.

Homes for the Sick and Disabled in Jugoslavia.

Chairman: Dr. Kraus, Minister of Health, Belgrade.

Three Homes have been established for 120 patients on the outskirts of Belgrade, and a further four Homes are at Pristina, Pec, Travnik and Kragjevac.

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.

2 The Cheshire Foundation Homes for the Sick

Registered in accordance with the Charities Act 1960

The Homes, which care for the incurably sick or permanently disabled, mostly in the younger age-groups, 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 residents when Home is complete: 30.

United Kingdom

**All enquiries about U.K. Homes to:
7 Market Mews, London W.1
(GROsvenor 2665)**

Patrons: Dr. G. C. Cheshire, F.B.A., D.C.L.,
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Denning, P.C.

Chairman: The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Edmund Davies.

Trustees: Dr. Margaret Agerholm, M.A.,
B.M., B.CH.(Oxon.),/Group 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.,/R. G. Emmett, Esq.,/The Earl Ferrers,
His Honour Judge Rowe Harding,/J. H.
Inskip, Esq., Q.C.,/F. J. Laycock, Esq., M.B.,
B.CH., D.P.H.,/The Lady St. Levan, J.P.,/
H. E. Marking, Esq., M.C.,/Miss C. E.

Morris, M.B.E.,/B. Richards, Esq.,/Peter
Rowntree, Esq.,/W. W. Russell, Esq.,
(Vice-Chairman),/The Lord Sinclair,
M.V.O., (Managing Trustee).

Secretary: Miss E. Mayes.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Elizabeth Chadwick.

Hon. Medical Adviser: Dr. Basil Kiernander, M.R.C.P.

Hon. Treasurers: J. R. Handscomb, Esq.,
R. G. Emmett, Esq.

U.K. Cheshire Homes Directory

		Tel. Nos.	
		Office	Residents
Alne Hall , Alne, York	Tollerton	295	
Amphill Park House , Amphill, Beds.	Amphill	3247	3173
Athol House , 138 College Road, London, S.E.19	Gipsy Hill	3740	6770
Beechwood , Huddersfield, Yorks.			
Cann House , Tamerton Foliot, Plymouth, Devon	Plymouth	71742	72645
Carnsalloch House , Kirkmahoe, Dumfries	Dumfries	4924	2742
* Chiltern Cheshire Home , Powell St. Marys, North Park, Gerrards Cross, Bucks.			
Coomb , Llanstephan, Carmarthenshire	Llanstephan	292	310
Cotswold Cheshire Home , Overton Road, Cheltenham, Glos.	Cheltenham	52569	
Danybryn , Radyr, Glamorgan	Radyr	237	335
Dolywern , Pontfadog, Wrexham, Denbighshire	Glynceiriog	303	
* Eithinog , near Colwyn Bay, Denbighshire			
Greathouse , Kington Langley, Chippenham, Wiltshire	Kington Langley	235	327
Greenacres , 39 Vesey Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks	Sutton	7753	7960
Greenhill House , Timsbury, near Bath, Somerset	Timsbury	533	
The Grove , East Carleton, Norfolk, Nor. 94W	Mulbarton	279	
Heatherley , Effingham Lane, Copthorne, Crawley, Sussex	Copthorne	2670	2735
* Hertfordshire Cheshire Home , Hitchin			
The Hill , Sandbach, Cheshire	Sandbach	566	508
Holme Lodge , Julian Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham	Nottingham	89002	
Honresfeld , Blackstone Edge Road, Littleborough, Lancs.	Littleborough	88627	880651
Hovenden House , Fleet, Spalding, Lincolnshire	Holbeach	3037	
Kenmore , Whitcliffe Road, Cleckheaton, Yorkshire	Cleckheaton	2904	2724
Lake District Cheshire Home , Holehird, Windermere, Westmorland	Windermere	2500	387
Le Court , Liss, Hampshire	Blackmoor	364	229
Llanhennock Cheshire Home , Caerleon, Mon.	Caerleon	545	
Marske Hall , near Redcar, Yorkshire	Redcar	2672	
* Matfen Hall , Matfen, Northumberland	Stamfordham	212	
Mayfield House , East Trinity Road, Edinburgh 5	Granton	2037	4157
Mote House , Mote Park, Maidstone, Kent	Maidstone	87911	38417
* Oxfordshire Cheshire Home			

U.K. Cheshire Homes Directory (continued)

		Tel. Nos.	
		Office	Residents
St. Anthony's , West Midland Cheshire Home, Stourbridge Road, Wolverhampton, Staffs.	Wombourn	3056	2060
St. Bridget's , The Street, East Preston, West Sussex	Rustington	3988	
St. Cecilia's , Sundridge Avenue, Bromley, Kent	Ravensbourne	8377	7179
St. Teresa's , Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall	Marazion	336	365
Seven Rivers , Great Bromley, Colchester, Essex	Ardleigh	345	463
*Sheffield			
South-West Lancashire Cheshire Home , Springwood House, Liverpool 19			
Spofforth Hall , near Harrogate, Yorkshire	Spofforth	284	287
Staunton Harold , Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire	Melbourne	71	387
Stonecroft House , Barnetby, near Brigg, Lincolnshire	Kirmington	244	
White Windows , Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire	Halifax	81981	82173
<i>Mental Rehabilitation Hostels</i>			
Miraflores , 154 Worples Road, Wimbledon, S.W.20	Wimbledon	5058	
Gaywood , 30 The Downs, Wimbledon, S.W.20	Wimbledon	9493	
Nicholas House , 3 Old Nichol Street, Bethnal Green, E.2.	Shoreditch	5165	9298
<i>Homes for Mentally Handicapped Children</i>			
Hawthorn Lodge , Hawthorn Road, Dorchester, Dorset	Dorchester	1403	
The Green , Christleton, near Chester	Chester	35503	

Overseas Homes

Hon. Administrator:

Secretary: Miss E. Keleher, 5 Market Mews, London, W.1. GRO 2267

CEYLON Chairman Sir Richard Aluwihare, K.C.M.G., C.B.E.

Cheshire Home, **Mt. Lavinia**.

Cheshire Home, Wester Seaton Farm, **Negombo**.

CHILE

*Cheshire Home, **Santiago** (Mr. John F. Parkes, Edificio Espana, Santiago).

EIRE Chairman: Conor A. Maguire.

Ardeen, Shillelagh, Co. Wicklow.

Rathfredagh House, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.

St. Laurence Cheshire Home, Nr. Dunkettle, Cork.

ETHIOPIA Chairman: Makeda Kiflegzi.

Cheshire Home, P.O.B. 3427, **Addis Ababa**.

CM

HONG KONG

Cheshire Home, Chung Hom Kok, Nr. Stanley.

INDIA Chairman: Major-General Virendra Singh Managing Trustee: J. A. K. Martyn, O.B.E.

Office: 534 Raja Basantaroy Road, Calcutta, 29.

Cheshire Home, Rustam Bagh Estate, H.A.L. Main Road, Domlur, **Bangalore**, 17.

Cheshire Home, opp. Buddhev Colony, Kareli Baug, **Baroda**.

Bethlehem House, Cheshire Home, Andheri, **Bombay**, 69.

*Cheshire Home, **Burnpur**. (Lt. Col. Kak, 3 The Ridge, Burnpur).

Shanti Rani House, 13 Upper Strand Road, Serampore (nr. **Calcutta**), W. Bengal.

*Cheshire Home, **Coimbatore**.

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

Banarsidas Chandiwala Swasthya Sadan, Kalkaji, New Delhi.	
Rustomji P. Patel Cheshire Home, Sundernager, Jamshedpur , nr. Tatanager, Bihar.	C
Vishranthi Illam, Katpadi Township (North Arcot), Madras State.	L
Anbu Nilayam, Covelong , Chingleput Dt., Madras.	
Cheshire Home, Mangalore, 1 (Mrs. O. Albuquerque, Sea View, Hoige Bazaar.)	
*Cheshire Home, Ranchi. (Lt. Col. Kak, 3 The Ridge, Burnpur.)	
Cheshire Home, Bishop's Compound, Poona, 1.	
Tiruchi Cheshire Home, Tiruchirapalli.	
JORDAN Chairman: Rt. Rev. Mgr. Nameh Simaan, V.G.	
Cheshire Home, P.O.B. 100, Bethlehem.	
KENYA Chairman: Air-Marshal Sir Francis Fressanges, K.B.E., C.B.	
Likoni Cheshire Home, P.O. Box 2661, Mombasa.	
*Amani-Cheshire Home, Nairobi. (Mrs. D. Hughes, P.O. Box 2693.)	
MALAYSIA and SINGAPORE Chairman: The Hon. Mr. Justice Tan Ah Tah.	
Registered Office: 10B Chulia Street, Singapore 1.	
Johore Cheshire Home, Jalan Larkin, Johore Bahru.	
*Cheshire Home, Kuching , Sarawak. (Mr. Alan Lim, P.O. Box 200, Kuching.)	
Rumah 'Amal Cheshire, 7½ Mile Ipoh Road, Batu Caves, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor.	
Cheshire Home, 90 Nicholl Drive, Telok Paku, Singapore, 17.	
MAURITIUS Chairman: Mr. L. Epsitalier Noel.	
Cheshire Home, Tamarin.	C
MOROCCO Patron: H. E. The Princess Lalla Fatima Chairman: Mme. J. M. Cherifa d'Ouezzane.	
*Cheshire Home, Marrakesh.	
Dar el Hanaa, 3 Place des Aloes, Marshan, Tangier.	C
NIGERIA Chairman: Federal Chief Justice Sir Adetokunbo Ademola.	
Cheshire Home, Enugu.	C
Oluyole Cheshire Home, P.O. Box 1425, Ibadan.	C
177 Agege Motor Road, Mushin, Lagos.	C
Obiomo Cheshire Home, 6 Onwenu Street, Port Harcourt.	C
PAPUA & NEW GUINEA Chairman: P. Chatterton, Esq.	
Cheshire Home, Box 527, Boroko, Port Moresby.	CM
PORTUGAL Chairman: Sr. Joao Guedes de Sousa.	
Lar da Boa Vontade, Rua Candido Reis, 38 – Santo Amaro de Oieras.	
SIERRA LEONE Chairman: The Hon. Banja Tejan Sie.	
Sir Milton Cheshire Home, Bo.	C
Cheshire Home, Freetown.	C
SOUTH AFRICA Chairman: F. A. Jackson, Esq.	
Queensburgh Cheshire Home , 890 Main Road, Moseley, Natal.	
*Cheshire Home, P.O. Box 3088, Port Elizabeth.	
THAILAND Chairman: Princess Prem Purachatra.	
Cheshire Home, Bangkok.	

UGANDA Chairman: M. J. P. Keating, Esq.

*Cheshire Home, Naguru, **Kampala**, Buganda. **C**

*Nadiope Cheshire Home, **Mbirizi**, Busoga Province. **L**

*Cheshire Home, **Tororo**. (Alan Walker, Esq., P.O. Box 223, Tororo.) **C**

WEST INDIES

*Cheshire Home, **Jamaica**. (Mr. Graham Fulton, c/o Royal Bank of Canada, Kingston.)

*Cheshire Home, **Trinidad**. (Mrs. T. J. Woods, St. Clements Rectory, Ste. Madeleine, San Fernando.)

Cheshire Home, **Trinidad**, St. Andrews Gardens, San Fernando.

*Homes in preparation.

C For crippled children. **CM** For mentally-retarded children. **L** For burnt-out leprosy cases suffering from consequent disabilities. Overseas Homes are generally known by the names shown in **bold letters**

3 Missionaries of Charity

Mother Teresa was born in Albania in 1910. In 1928 she came to Calcutta to join the Loretto teaching order. Here she remained for 20 years until the call came to devote her life to the poor and destitute. So with the permission of the Church she

founded a new congregation, the Missionaries of Charity, dedicated to the service of the poorest and most abandoned. Today her congregation, which numbers over 250 Sisters and 13 Brothers, runs 14 Homes in India, mostly for the dying, many schools,

and has now spread to Venezuela.

Enquiries to: Mother Teresa Committee (U.K.), c/o 2 Silvermere, Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey.

Subscription Form

(Please write 'RENEWAL' if you are already a subscriber)

Annual Rate—7s. 6d. (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 7s. 6d. to The Treasurer, The Cheshire Smile, Le Court, Liss, Hants.

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

Mr./Mrs./Miss _____

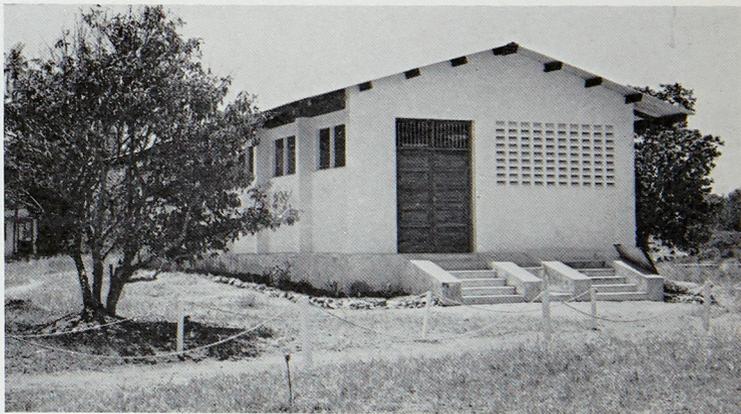
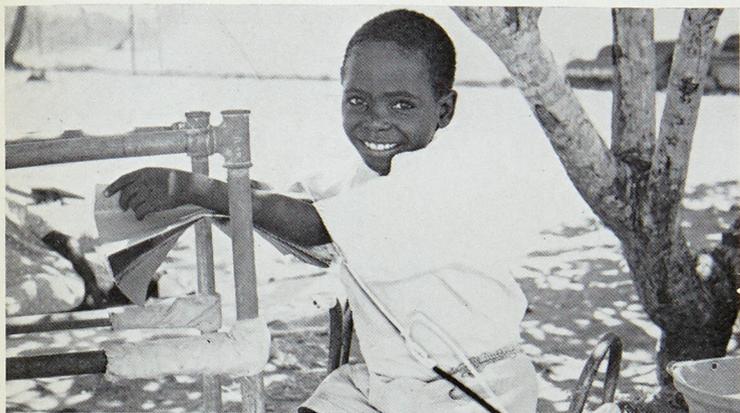
(block capitals)

I wish to commence with the _____ issue

Date _____

All cheques, P.O.'s etc., to be made payable to
THE CHESHIRE SMILE 12/4

It may be easier for many people to take out a three-year subscription for 21s. (post free). Others may find it more convenient to make out a Banker's Order for the remittance to be sent regularly to our bank (Barclays, Petersfield, Hants) every year without any bother to themselves.



An East African Home

Two of the children, (left) N'doro, who suffers from ricketts, and (above) Ali, who has a blood disease, at the Likoni Cheshire Home, Mombasa, Kenya. The building in the photograph is a view of the new ward presented by Lions International.