

COTTAGE HOMES

Many of us have taken part in various activities in support of the Linen & Woollen Drapers Cottage Homes during the past year, and will be interested to know that the total donations which have been sent amounted to £456 for both stores for the year 1972/73.

Of this total, £114 has been made up of 1p per week subscriptions donated by members of staff at both stores as a regular deduction from their weekly salary, and a covenant of £60 donated by the Company.

The remaining £342 is the result of the consistent efforts of the House Stewards, Mrs. J. Adams at Slough and Mrs. I. Smith at Uxbridge, and the interest and generosity of all who have helped.

I have in front of me the 141st Annual Report of The Cottage Homes, which lists full details of the subscriptions and donations collected from towns and firms in these towns throughout the British Isles.

It can be easily seen from this that our donations measure up very well to most towns and firms, and it is reassuring to know that we can still be generous to others.

To produce such splendid figures is a great tribute to our House Stewards, and they should be congratulated on their achievement. Very shortly one of them, Mrs. Adams, will be leaving us to live and work in the pleasant countryside town of Blandford Forum. Mrs. Adams' energy has stimulated much interest in the 'Homes', and her consistent activity in organising Raffles, 'Bring & Buy' Sales and the Football Buster has produced £297.

This is a wonderful achievement and one which I know is much appreciated by those who live in and work for the 'Homes'.

We wish both Mrs. Adams and Mr. Adams, the Department Manager of the Slough Men's Outfitting, every success and happiness in their new surroundings, and feel certain that their activities in aid of the Cottage Homes will be remembered with pleasure by us all.

D.C.Suter,
Managing Director.

And another article on the Linen and Woollen Drapers Cottage Homes -in 1918 known at the RetailTrust

THE COTTAGE HOMES

This title is short for "The Linen & Woollen Drapers Cottage Homes" and the important word is "Homes". These "Homes" are not institutions with line upon line of beds, but individual self-contained flatlets for single people and bungalows set together in pleasantly landscaped surroundings with many special amenities such as meeting rooms and modern nursing centres.

The Cottage Homes provide accommodation for people who have retired from businesses like ours which are trading in drapery and clothing and include many from Department stores. The homes are allocated only to those whose circumstances require that they should have special consideration. Very often this can make what could have been a lonely retirement into many happy years of considerate living with people who have a similar background.

I have visited one of the Cottage Homes, that in Derby, where everyone I spoke to thoroughly enjoyed their life there.

There are 150 residents on the Derby estate, another 250 in Mill Hill, North London, and 100 in Crookfur, near Glasgow.

As well as providing these homes, this organisation helps many others who cannot be found accommodation on these estates.

Needless to say, all this needs money. This year more than £190,000 is required to meet current expenses, and the smallest contribution is always fully appreciated by organisers and residents. If you would like to help there is a form attached to this sheet which if you pass to the Wages Office will authorise the deduction of a fixed amount each week, say, 1p, 2p or 5p, which is then sent to the Cottage Homes.

Many members of the staff have been making such contributions for many years and on behalf of the Cottage Homes I thank them for their generosity. Our two House Stewards, Mrs. Pippin at Slough, and Mrs. Smith at Uxbridge, have done a lot of good work for the homes and they, or I, will be pleased to tell you more about them. One interesting fact is that seventy five per cent of the residents in the homes were assistants, nineteen per cent buyers or managers and six per cent had their own businesses.

D. C. Suter,
District Steward
for the Cottage Homes.

TO: SUTERS LIMITED.

Please deduct per week from my salary for The Cottage Homes Fund.

Signed:

Date: