

Vietnamese refugee has new hope after Foster Parents Plan adoption

Mrs. Janet M. Armstrong (R.D.), Stony Hill Farm, R.R. 1, Acton, has financially "adopted" Ung Duc Duong, a 10-year-old Vietnamese girl, through Foster Parents Plan, P.O. Box 65, Station "B", Montreal.

The sponsoring means new hope and a chance in life for the child, who otherwise appeared doomed to a life of hopeless poverty in one of the world's depressed countries.

The report on the little girl says

"Duc Duong posed for her picture on the path leading to the refugee camp, where she lives. She wears old, worn clothing and stands barefoot on the rocky ground. A few scrawny bushes grow there, nothing else. The place itself creates the feeling of helplessness.

Ung Duc's parents are from China. They came as refugees from Communism, many years ago. Now they have become homeless again. This time the Viet Cong drove them out of their home. In 1954 they were among the countless families who fled, having chosen to lose everything, rather than live under Communism. Just after they found shelter at Binh Long, the Communist terrorists struck again. They fled to Binh Tuy, about 109 miles from Saigon.

There are eight children in the family. Duc Duong has three sisters, Liu eleven, On, nine and Huong six, and 4 brothers, Dung eight, Minh five, Thong four, and little Van two. The old paternal grandparents live with them too, who are totally dependent of the family. When they moved to their present home, a little hut the father had to go into debt, to buy it. It will be many years before installment payments cease. The hut measures 30 ft. square and has wooden walls, dirt floor and sheet iron roof. Furniture consists of two beds, a cot, and a table with four stools, nothing else.

The parents cleared a piece of forest, with back breaking toil. They built a rice-paddy that yields enough for nine months only. They also have some sweet potatoes, corn and vegetables around the house and the mother raises four piglets, to be sold

later. They have no cash income at all.

The four older children attend school. To pay fees, the family has to sell some of their much needed rice. The children run around barefoot and in rags. But they study. Duc Duong is in the third grade. She is a diligent, good student. She hopes to be able to study and become a teacher, she told the interviewer, but whether this dream will ever come true, depends on the help she gets."

More than 8,000 children in eight underdeveloped countries



now are being cared for through Foster Parents Plan by individuals and groups in Canada. They contribute \$16 monthly to the child's support and exchange letters each month, with translations both ways supplied by the Plan.

Canadians who are Foster Parents include the Pearsons, the Dieffenbakers and many other well-known persons. They also include many ordinary people with love in their hearts and a need to share it with others less fortunate.

Many individuals and groups, such as schools and employee groups, are sponsoring children as their personal Centennial projects.

To Foster Parents, the magic word is love. When Paul S. Lindsay of Montreal visited Greece, he was almost overcome by the

warmth of the welcome from the family he had been helping for several years.

Mr. Lindsay, who admitted he had gone to Greece partly to see how his dollars were spent, was so impressed by the operations of Plan that (a) he adopted another child before leaving Greece, and (b) on his return accepted a voluntary post on Plan's board of directors.

The close relationship between the child and the Foster Parent develops right from the beginning. The new "parent" gets a picture of the child and a case history, giving all details about the child and the family. Through monthly letters, they continue to know each other better.

From the \$16 monthly contribution, the child receives cash support plus clothing, medicine, school fees, etc. There is a full-time director and trained social workers to look after the welfare

of the children in each of the eight countries where Plan operates - Korea, Hong Kong, Viet Nam, Greece, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and the Philippines.

The Plan's purpose is to provide life-giving care while the child grows up and learns to become self-supporting. Every child must go to school.

Children of all faiths are assisted because the Plan is a non-sectarian, non-profit, non-propaganda, independent, government-approved organization. About 100,000 children have been graduated in the 30 years it has been operating.

Jack K. Mitchell of Montreal, the Plan's Canadian Information Director, said the thousands more children are in desperate need, and may be chosen by age, sex and country. Information can be obtained by writing Foster Parents Plan, P.O. Box 65, Station "B" Montreal.

LIMEHOUSE

Welcome district newcomers products displayed at W.I.

By Mrs. A. Benton

Early in the summer the Lawson family, fourth line, sold their farm to the Lister family. The Lawson's, who have recently been with Mrs. Osborne in the village, moved into their new home on the fourth line last week-end. We welcome the Listers to the neighbourhood. They have three children, who are attending Limehouse Public School.

Sunday School will open for the fall term at 1.30 p.m. next Sunday, October 15. Church service will be cancelled that day on account of anniversary services at Knox, Georgetown.

The W.I. met in the Limehouse Memorial Hall Wednesday evening last week. Mr. N. Loughrin of Streetsville and Mrs. Brownridge of Milton sold, displayed and explained the Amway products made in U.S.A. and distributed in Canada.

Principals meet

Principals from Acton, Brookville, Campbellville and Milton public schools met with Halton area No. 4 school inspector, W. L. McNeil Monday of last week, in Campbellville Public School.

Campbellville principal James Watson described some highlights of his summer course for public school principals.

The principals plan monthly meetings.

LAZY DRIVERS

How many times have you driven for miles with a dirty windshield just because you were too lazy to stop, get out, and clean it off? How many times have you been too lazy to put on your turn signal, because you didn't see any traffic in the rear view mirror? Laziness is one of the commonest human traits, but don't let laziness cause you to have an accident.

Constable Peter Campbell addresses W.I. on safety

Miss Nora Kenney was hostess for the October evening meeting of the Acton W.I. Safety was the theme throughout the entire meeting.

Mrs. Lindsay opened with a poem "I know something good about you." And a silent prayer in memory of Mrs. Evans.

Roll call was answered with my own safety hint which brought to light a good many safety hints. Correspondence dealt with, namely, A Training School, Haling with Yeast, Nov. 9-10. A thank you was read from Merl Harris, winner of the W.I. Bursary. Congratulations were extended.

Regret was expressed on not being able to accept an invitation to attend the Georgetown W.I. meeting. The area convention is to be held at Waterloo University on October 24 and 25.

A resolution was discussed on the misuse of sprays and insecticides. A wreath was to be ordered for Remembrance Day.

Miss Kenney introduced the

speaker, Constable Campbell, whose talk was on safety. Adults make the same mistakes as the children and more of them. Three hundred people alone are killed, 6,000 hospitalized just wrongfully crossing the streets. Always walk on the left hand side of the road, facing traffic, said Constable Campbell, as there are 2,400 000 drivers. It pays to be extra cautious. He described motor-cycles as an accident on two wheels looking for a place to happen.

Always check your car inventory way before starting out. Always expect the unexpected. Some may say they are good drivers, there is no such thing as a perfect driver. Always keep two car lengths behind a car on the highways.

On Drugs. Keep out of the reach of children. Don't become a drug addict. Don't have anything to do with strangers that pose as bank managers. Beware of all salesman. Magazines, aluminum, books, etc.

When you go on a vacation

notify the police and give your name and address. They will gladly check your home for you. Give your neighbor a key, have them change a light or change the drapes every day.

Do not let newspapers pile up at your door. It's a sure give away that you are not at home. Ask your neighbor to park his car in your drive way. Make the place look as if it was lived in.

Mrs. Anderson thanked the speaker. All agreed we had heard something really worth while. The Halse Sale for October 27 was discussed. It is to be in Simpsons' Sears.

Mrs. Davidson gave a report of the Directors' meeting. Next year the District Annual to be at Boston Church. Roll call to be a hobby. There is also to be a district day on November 7.

Mrs. Lindsay closed with the Lord's prayer and the W.I. Grace. Committee of the month served a delicious lunch.

Miss Kenney was thanked for the use of her home. And all who helped.

Never allow bottles, baskets, shoes or anything to be placed on stairs, even for a short while. Such temporary storage creates a hazard.

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