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MERCY MOVES FOR JAILED MOTHER

The case of the jailed mother of four children, Esther Cooper, who serves a six months sentence for altering a birth certificate, is taken up by the Reverend George West of Salisbury.

On the edge of a Wiltshire stubble field, in the overcrowded gypsy home of Mrs. Cooper's brother, an agricultural worker, the children find temporary shelter. Fourteen-year-old Dorothy helps her aunt in caring for the younger children. Asked why her mother altered the date of her birth certificate, Dorothy says:-

SOUND

In nearby Salisbury, public indignation runs high. Offers of monetary aid to support an appeal are many. On this Mr. West says:-

SOUND

The authorities intervene to take the children to a County Council home. For them, bereft first of their mother and now of familiar relatives, the unknown future is terrifying.

In the eyes of the law, justice has been done, but for four little girls, the world - this autumn morning - has lost its sunshine.