



FIRE HITS KAREN QUARTER, TOUNGOO



Fire stopped at door of Charity C. Carman, missionary. She is staying in house to which Karens moved her belongings, and has made her former home a school.

In February a fire swept through the Karen quarter in Toungoo, Burma, destroying the school (above), the church, and more than 50 houses. Fortunately, no lives were lost.

Most of the fire victims are Baptists. Many of the families suffered the devastation of their homes twice previously: first in World War II, later in civil uprisings.

The American Baptist Foreign Mission Societies cabled \$2,500 for relief on hearing news of the fire. The Burma Baptist Convention and the Burma Christian Council extended help. The latter also administered a grant of \$2,000 from Church World Service for relief and reconstruction.

The Karens welcomed help, but did not wait for it. They began salvaging materials immediately and to plan for rebuilding. Few, however, were left with even meager resources.



The Baptist minister's son (l), playing a game like marbles, using large nuts, is one of nine children rescued when parsonage burned. His younger sister hid in cabinet. A bit of her skirt showing outside led to her discovery and rescue.