

Started work at 13— still busy at 79

HAS NEVER BEEN TO CINEMA

THERE is an old gentleman living in the East Suffolk village of Stowupland of whom the rest of the villagers are proud. Sixty-six years ago he started work at the age of 13 as a wheelwright and carpenter. To-day, at the age of 79, he is still working.

Mr. T. W. Brame lives with his unmarried daughter in a little house in Church Walk. In his garden, which is kept bright with the flowers, fruit and vegetables he cultivates, is a tiny workshop, and on any fine day, winter or summer, he can be found mending or making some piece of carpentry.

For it is work, he believes, which "keeps him going." Two years ago he gave up his permanent position with the firm of W. Meakings, of Creeting St. Peter, after a 50-years-old association. But it was because he loved work so much that he decided to keep on doing odd jobs for the firm at his home.

Mr. Brame was born at Earl Stonham, an only child. When he began work there as an apprentice he earned 3s. a week, and after he had served his time his wage was raised to 18s. for the 55 hours' work he put in each week.

We asked him what he thought about the younger generation.

"They are doing a good job of work," he said, without hesitation. "Of course things are quite different to-day, and people don't have to work as hard as they used to. Do you know, I never had a holiday with pay until my last three years at work!"

Life for this white-haired, contented old man has been very peaceful. He has seldom moved far away from his beloved Suffolk. "I'm a home bird," he says. He has never been to the cinema or watched a football match, and he is a teetotaler and non-smoker; his interests lie in the ever-changing beauty of his garden and the haven of a happy home.

HIS GARDEN

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HIS GARDEN

It is his garden that he is especially interested in. Only recently he won a special prize for vegetables at the local flower show. He is also a much respected member of the Congregational Church, being a lay preacher and, until last year, a teacher at the Sunday School. As a lay preacher it was, until five years ago, his practice to cycle to all the villages in the circuit on his bicycle to conduct services.

Once a month he meets old friends and chats about bygone days at the Over Sixties' Club, which association, he thinks, is a splendid idea.

Mr. Brame has been a widower for eleven years. He has three sons and two daughters. Above all, he enjoys almost perfect health—"I've never had a serious illness in my life."

We could have sat talking

to this wonderful old man every day, but at last it was time to go; besides, in a few minutes he would start preparing the lunch so that it would be all cooked and waiting ready to serve by the time his daughter came home from work.

Mr T. Brame, father of Leslie Albert Brame