CUCKFIELD RURAL COUNCIL'S HOUSING ACHIEVEMENTS.

PRAISE AT HANDCROSS OPENING CEREMONY.

The post-war achievements of the Cuckfield Rural District Council in the realm of housing—their record has not been surpassed by more than two or three other rural authorities in the whole country—were highly praised on Thursday by Mr. T. S. Williams, Principal Housing Officer to the Ministry of Health for the South Eastern Region. Commencing their housing programme two years ago, the Council completed 56 houses in the first year, and during the past twelve months have added houses at an average of three a week. By the end of this month it is anticipated that 212 will be completed.

THE 200TH HOUSE.

Handcross, in Slaugham parish, has the distinction of having the two-hundredth post-war permanent house to be completed, and at the opening ceremony on Thursday a large and representative gathering assembled on the attractive site in Horsham Road, where thirty houses of different types, four flats and a special residence for the District Nurse are in the course of erection by Messrs. Saunders Contractors Ltd., Burgess Hill, and Messrs. Sanders Ltd., of London. The Principal Housing Officer for the Region was accompanied by Mr. G. Yeomans (Regional Architect), and in addition to Mr. W. B. Adams(Chairman)and other officers and members of the Cuckfield Rural District Council the attendance included members of Slaugham Parish Council, Surveyors and Housing Officers from other local authorities (including Newhaven and the Cuckfield Urban) and representatives of the contractors and of the water, gas and electricity undertakings serving the area. Feeling particularly pleased with their "Christmas present" were Mr. and Mrs. S. Sargent and their two children (photographed above), who have been allotted the tenancy of the 200th house. Their neighbours are to be Mr. and Mrs. N. Cook and their two children.

The housing achievements of the Rural Council were outlined in speeches by Major C. H. JAMES (Chairman of the Housing Committee), Dr. G. B. TAIT (Chairman of Slaugham Parish Council and a local representative on the Rural Council) and Mr. W. B. ADAMS. Handcross, where the site has been well chosen from an amenity point of view and as a suitable continuation of the village itself, is pleased with this step towards the realiza-

Continued in column 5.