

2 a.m. NEWS

We are not ashamed —says Big Jim

From PHILIP FINN,
New York, Monday

BIG Jim Taylor put his arm round dark haired Mrs. Madeline Ker at his Brooklyn, New York, home tonight, kissed her lightly on the cheek, and said: "I don't care what people say. She is a very, very pure person."

Then the balding, silver haired leader of the Close Brethren said: "We have never at any time done anything improper."

WHISKY

Resting on his lap was a large leather-bound Bible, and in his right hand he held a tumbler half full of Scotch.

As we talked in the upstairs sitting room of his large detached house 32-year-old Mrs. Ker, mother of four, from Harrow, Middlesex, smiled up at him.

When I arrived at his home, Big Jim was sitting in an arm-chair wearing only under-pants.

He said: "I suppose I had better put my pants on. But, quite honestly, I find it more comfortable just sitting in my underpants."

Big Jim seemed completely at ease, and quite oblivious of the sensation surrounding him and Mrs. Ker and her husband during their recent visit to Nigg, Aberdeenshire.



Reunited . . . Big Jim and Mrs. Ker.

Then it was claimed that Mrs. Ker had been found in bed with him when other members of the sect walked in.

It led to a furious row among members of the sect, and today Big Jim was busy sending off up to 8,000 letters "explaining" the events in Scotland.

Mrs. Ker and her husband Alan, a research chemist, are staying with Big Jim and his wife Irene (60).

'Separated'

Today Mr. Ker was not at the house, and Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Ker explained that had gone to Washington on business, and would be back later.

Mr. Taylor, who claims that his hold on the leadership of the Brethren is still unchallenged, said: "Absolutely nothing happened in that bedroom

that Mrs. Ker and I are ashamed about.

"It is true that she was lying under the sheet on the same bed as myself. But I was on one side of the bed, and she was on the other."

Whose clothes were on the floor?

Said he: "Some of the clothes were mine. I don't know who the other clothes belonged to."

"I didn't ask her to lie under the sheet. Mrs. Ker chose to lie under it of her own free will."

"Certainly nothing improper happened, and it is wrong to say that she was naked."