
" Our scanty stock as soon as known,
Our insufficiency
For feeding famished souls we own,
And bring it Lord, to Thee ;
Our want received into Thy hand
Shall rich abundance prove,
Answer the multitude's demand,
And fill them with Thy love."

Charles Wesley.

Sound Cinema	Men's Meeting
Handicrafts	Savings Banks
Youth Choir	Clothing Cupboards
Physical Training	Sunday Schools
Guides, Brownies, Teenies	
Scouts, Cubs	Christian Endeavour
Camps and Outings	Youth Centre
Women's Meetings	Canteen, etc.

Please send your gifts to :

REV. A. E. D. CLIPSON
Working Lads' Institute
279 Whitechapel Rd.
London E.1.

THE WHITECHAPEL MISSION

Founded by REV. THOMAS JACKSON, 1896



"MAKING MELODY"

BEING THE
ANNUAL REPORT
DECEMBER, 1949



Superintendent :
REV. A. E. D. CLIPSON
Working Lads' Institute, 279 Whitechapel Road, London, E.1

The Whitechapel Mission

Founded 1896

CENTRES OF CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY

- Church - Brunswick Hall, 210 Whitechapel Road, E.1.
Working Lads' Institute - Youth Centre, 279 Whitechapel Road, E.1.
Holiday and Rest Home - Southend-on-Sea. Tel. 68206.
Windyridge Farm Home - Thorington, Essex. Tel. Brightlingsea 129.
Whitechapel House Hostel - 153 Tulse Hill, S.W.2. Tel. Tulse Hill 1391.

THE GENERAL OFFICE IS AT 279 WHITECHAPEL ROAD, E.1.

All gifts gratefully received and acknowledged.

Superintendent : Rev. A. E. D. Clipson. Tel. BISHopsgate 8280
Secretary : Mrs. G. Wilson
Deaconess : Sister Molly Fishwick, B.Sc. Tel. BISHopsgate 2712

- Solicitors - Messrs. Butt & Bowyer, 14 National House, Moorgate, E.C.2.
Auditors - Newport Nelson & Co., 79 Bishopsgate, E.C.2.
Bankers - Barclays Bank Ltd., Mile End Branch, 234 Whitechapel Road, E.1.

Executive Committee for Whitechapel Mission and Working Lads' Institute and Homes

Revs. Robinson Whittaker, Alfred E. Binks, Percy D. Beckwith, W. Upright, George E. Wiles, Reuben Skinner, E. H. Pittwood, J. E. Thorp, Dr. W. Lawson Jones, M.A., C. Leonard Tudor, Messrs. H. H. Bowyer, O. A. Rattenbury, J.P., Dr. J. L. Temple, M.D., E. Rutter, F. C. Yelland, F.L.A.A., J. Lloyd, L. G. Freeman, S. W. Newman, T. England, Mesdames A. E. D. Clipson, F. Harding, W. Puce.

Hon. Treasurers : Mr. O. A. Rattenbury, J.P.
Mr. F. C. Yelland, F.L.A.A.
Mr. S. W. Newman.

Superintendent and Secretary : Rev. A. E. D. Clipson.



SOME OF THE STAFF

Halifax Photos, Ltd.

Front Row : (Left to right) Mrs. Hopwood, Mrs. Kennedy, Miss O. Stammers, Mrs. R. Stammers, Mrs. Clipson, Sister Molly, Miss M. Field, Mrs. G. Wilson, Mrs. F. Hall.

Back Row : Mr. G. Hopwood, Mr. B. Andrews, Mr. R. Stammers, Rev. A. E. D. Clipson, Mr. F. Hall, Mr. J. J. Barnes, Mr. Mackender. (Mr. & Mrs. Tomlinson and Mr. Bernard unable to be present.)

Making Melody

The mellow sound of bells flowing over our English countryside stirs something deep in all our hearts. From quivering steeples high above crowded cities and from Saxon and Norman towers rising in the midst of villages of a thousand years comes the call to worship. Many of these bells were cast in the Whitechapel Bell Foundry (established 1570) as was Big Ben. The Vestey peal, consisting of thirteen bells and weighing sixteen and a half tons, was completed here and will shortly be hung in Liverpool Cathedral. These bells have been described as "the largest peal ever made, and one of the sweetest."

Whitechapel! "The largest . . . and one of the sweetest!" "Can any good thing . . .?" Well, we are happy to know that something lovely and melodious has gone forth from this crowded, cosmopolitan corner of London. It may be that more



Rev. & Mrs. A. E. D. CLIPSON

after that fashion has gone forth than has been acknowledged. We know of beautiful lives lived in this difficult environment, of those who having "a new song" make music and gladden the hearts of others. It is customary for many who live around us to seek other surroundings, to move to the suburbs as opportunity arises; nor can we blame them. But how we appreciate the love and fidelity of those who, having found their suburban home with its sweet air and its garden, still come in week by week to worship with us! And among those who live around the Mission, with no prospect of removal, we

have those devoted souls to whom its services are always given first place, and whose greatest joys are known within its walls.

The Holiday and Rest Home at Southend-on-Sea continues to fulfil its happy function, and whereas last year two hundred and fifty people enjoyed its amenities, this year four hundred and forty four have been entertained. Many letters have been received from those who have benefited by a holiday there. The Home is expensive to maintain, but the generous help of our friends makes it possible for us to continue the work, and our own Whitechapel people are among the most appreciative of the guests.

Windyridge, our Farm Home for boys on probation, is thriving under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hall and their loyal helpers, and among the happiest things that have happened there in recent months is the return of an "old boy" who has served his term in the Army, the latter part of it in Egypt, and on receiving his discharge he came "home" positively laden with presents. Every member of the staff and even the children had been remembered. That does indeed "speak volumes." What further testimony to the effectiveness of the six months residence under a Court order could be desired?

Whitechapel House, the Hostel which was opened by the Home Secretary in October, 1948, is working to full capacity under the care of Mr. and Mrs. Tomlinson and an assistant warden. In so short a time, several boys have been back to renew acquaintance and Mrs. Tomlinson will never forget the telegram she received from one who having Army leave wired to say he was "arriving home to-night." It is not possible in the space at my disposal to do full justice to our Wardens and Matrons and their helpers. Not all the boys are so amenable, or ready to accept what is offered. On the whole the

lads both at Windyridge and Whitechapel House this year have been well-behaved and have brought credit to those responsible for them. There is no doubt that this is largely due to the atmosphere in the respective places, and to the way they are treated. The hard-bitten ones who turn up occasionally can have a very disturbing influence in such a family, unless kept in check. Our wardens have to watch as well as pray! Nevertheless, family worship is upheld regularly at Windyridge and Whitechapel House, as it is at the Southend Home and at the Institute here at Whitechapel.

A special word of thanks is due to Dr. Crosbie Walsh, who from the time of the opening of Whitechapel House has paid regular weekly visits and given the most careful attention to the health of the boys. None could have done more for us than he has done, and he is regarded as our good friend.

The summer outings to Brighton and Windyridge, and later to Epping Forest, were all most enjoyable, the weather being



A GROUP OF TEENIES

Halifax Photos, Ltd

ideal and no mishap marring any day. What such outings mean to those who never get any other change of air and scenery—and there are many—none can really know unless he lives among them and sees them daily in their own setting. We are very grateful to all who helped us to carry out these undertakings.

Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies and Teenies—you should see these last in their regalia—a Junior Choir and a Singing Class, Children's Cinema, Children's Lantern Service, all cater for the young folk, and the pick of them assemble on Wednesday evenings for the Junior Christian Endeavour. We hope in the near future to have a number in preparation for membership.

There are still homeless men and women in this well-regulated country, and many of them drift our way. Food and lodging has been provided for a large number, particularly in the winter months. We have been pleased to receive clothing from time to time. The department which deals with this is well organised, thus enabling us to meet the need of all kinds with little or no delay.

The erection of blocks of flats in our immediate neighbourhood presents possibilities which are not overlooked. As they become occupied they are being visited, and attractive cards setting forth the varied activities of the Mission are left with each family. This will be followed up, and we trust will bring some at least of our new neighbours into our services. This part of London has its own traditions and customs and is loth to part with them. We are trying to adapt ourselves to them the better to make our approach. Whilst a few faithful souls meet at eleven o'clock for a Sunday morning service, thousands are congregated a mile away at the famous Petticoat Lane Market. Our Mr. Mackender, who can turn his hand to an amazing number of jobs, has made an excellent folding stand, which has enabled us to take a pitch in a turning just off the crowded market, and where by judicious use of the voice a very large number of people can be reached. The first venture here was made on our Anniversary Sunday, when thirty young people from Northampton paid us a visit under the leadership of their minister, the Rev. Harold Hammond. In spite of bad weather a large number gathered round and gave good hearing. During the summer several evenings were spent on a similar stand at Speaker's Corner, Hyde Park, and many interesting contacts were made.

Every effort is being made to rectify the damage done to Mission properties directly and indirectly by the war, and our Brunswick Hall interior is now both attractive and comfortable. Much more requires to be done, and we can expect more expense. That is the one thing that is apt to trouble us. There is so much to do in all directions, so many wonderful opportunities



IN PETTICOAT LANE

prayers, their interest, and their generous help.

During the year we have had many visitors up "the sixty-nine steps." Some who have come in sorrow have gone away happily. Some who came in hope went home in sorrow. We have shared all with them in so far as that is possible. Outstanding among those who came and were entertained the memory of Margaret will remain fragrant. Never having known full health she bravely came to London to undergo a most delicate operation in a world-famous hospital, and with her parents we anxiously awaited the result. With them we felt the numbing sense of loss when we were told that she had passed away, but also with them we will always treasure the memory of her faith and her assurance that all would be well, as indeed, we believe it now is, in "The Land that is fairer than day."

for service, and so many willing helpers, but at times the bogy of expense assumes almost frightening proportions! We are, however, conscious of the great debt of gratitude we owe to our friends and subscribers, and to those who having passed on have left legacies that the work might continue. We trust that all who read this report will accept our sincere thanks for their

"Without Money"

By Sister Molly

One of the features of life in Whitechapel is its street market. All along the wide stretch of pavement in front of the Mission, nearly to Stepney Green in the one direction, and almost as far in the other, are the stalls with their display of things new and old. Many of the stalls sell fruit and flowers (almost the only flowers that Whitechapel children know). Some sell clothing and others jewellery. Others again show a strange collection of second-hand things. Among all this is much that is cheap and shoddy, but bright and colourful, and very attractive to the eye.

In this environment the Whitechapel Mission offers—for sale—things that are of true and lasting value. By word and deed we "offer Christ." In the services and meetings we preach His Gospel and His Grace, and week by week, on Sunday and weekday, folk gather to hear. One of the outstanding things about Whitechapel is the faithfulness of many who come under real difficulties to worship. Our church, though comparatively small, is an inspiration to worship. After the long neglect made necessary by the war, the building has been renovated and redecorated, and now, with its simple beauty affords a contrast, on the one hand to the garishness of the stalls, and on the other hand, to the sordid dreariness of many of the streets.

On the human level, we offer friendship and help in the name of Christ, to all who come to us in their need;—(that doesn't mean that we give them always what they ask for). There are many who come to us in need of clothing, some of them in a pitiful plight. One old lady, having tried on at least twenty coats, said, "I wish I could get another like this one. I've had it ten years, I got it here. Sixpence I paid for it". We did satisfy her in the end—for sixpence. Others come to us because they don't know what to do. Sometimes it is a "form" that needs to be filled in. As one old man said, "I can write all right, but I can't spell, and I don't always know what to put." Often the problems go deeper, into the realm



SISTER MOLLY



IN THE SUNSHINE AT SOUTHEND

of human relationships; difficult at the best of times, but more so in an environment such as this.

To Whitechapel, as everywhere, come sickness and sorrow, and in these times, too, the Mission has a word to say, and a comfort to offer. As the only Non-Conformist Church in Whitechapel, we have a special ministry in connection with the London Hospital, which is our very near neighbour. We have valued highly our contacts with doctors, nurses and patients, and we believe that our ministry is, in turn, valued by them. Among our own people, in hospitals and in their homes, we have been able to exercise a ministry of help and comfort. One woman, visited in a time of sorrow said, smiling even as she wept, "I knew someone would come from the Mission, as soon as you knew about it."

From time to time, among the displays of the stalls, one sees something of real value; some product of a craftsman's skill, and often something to which age has added beauty. So it is that, among so much of life that is glittering and garish, there is found from time to time, something of immeasurable value in the heart and life of man and woman, boy and girl. It is found in the loving care of older boys and girls for the little ones; in the zest of a little lad who sings with all his heart, "Yes, Jesus loves me"; in the patience and courage with which so many face lives of hardship, or loneliness; but most of all, in saintly lives lived under conditions of adversity. Here, surely, will Jesus find "bright gems for His crown".

Mission Anniversary

The Mission Anniversary is always, of course, an important event in our calendar. It has a two-fold significance. In the first instance it is the actual anniversary of the opening of the Working Lads' Institute, the first building occupied by the Whitechapel Mission, and in which much of the work is still done. By coincidence it also marks the date of the birth of Rev. Thomas Jackson, the founder of the Mission, and when I remind you that he was born in 1850 you will realise that we have great hopes of a special celebration when next October comes round.

This year we began the weekend with a concert given by the City of London Residents' Association Choir. The concert was of a high order, and the Alexandra Room, newly decorated, was full to capacity. Rev. Harold Hammond, of Northampton, was our guest preacher. Revival came to Mr. Hammond's church nearly two years ago, and many splendid young people joined the church. At their own request they were allowed to charter a coach and come in force to support their minister on the Sunday. Thirty of them were there, some taking part in the services, morning and evening, others taking the Sunday School, and yet others testifying in the open air at the famous

Petticoat Lane Sunday morning market. It was altogether a day long to be remembered. On the Monday, Mr. Hammond was our principal speaker. Mrs. Harding presided at the afternoon meeting, and words of greeting were conveyed by Rev. George Kendall, O.B.E. The Revs. Dr. Wilfred Lawson Jones, M.A., and William Motson and Dr. John L. Temple and Mr. D. M. S. Harrison (Shipley, Yorks.) spoke briefly at the tea-table. The evening meeting was very well attended, and brief reports on all the principal activities of the Mission were given by the various members of the staff: Mr. Frank Hall representing Windyridge Home, Mrs. Kennedy the Southend Holiday Home, Mr. Tomlinson the Whitechapel House, Mrs. Clipson the Women's Meetings and Clothing Department, Sister Molly the work among young people, and a rapid survey of the whole organisation was given by the Superintendent who paid a warm tribute to the various members of the staff for their hard work and loyal support throughout the year. The chair was occupied by Mr. Harry W. Danbury, who ably discharged his duties, and solos were beautifully rendered by Mrs. W. Harold Ferry. A heart-searching address was delivered by Mr. Hammond. Thanks were expressed by one of the Circuit Stewards, Mr. O. A. Rattenbury, J.P. In every way the Anniversary can be accounted successful, and we are indeed grateful to all friends.



GROUP AT THE ANNIVERSARY TEA

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IN ACTION AT WINDYRIDGE

Life in the Open

A week ago I happened to be in Derbyshire on ground very dear to us all because of associations with Rev. Thomas Jackson. On my return I found that a gentleman from New Zealand had called at the Mission and had tea and a look round. It is thirty-five years since he had his abode in the Working Lads' Institute, and from here he went to that distant land, and found his way up-country to the sheep farms. There he has continued through the years enjoying life as a shepherd, and now, having saved enough money for a trip to the Old

Country he has returned for a vacation, and in the hope of taking his sister back with him.

He is but one of the many who call from time to time, and all pay their tribute to the value of their experience in this place. Not all who come to us are fitted for life on the farm; not all who are entered at Windyridge are altogether suited to the conditions, which are vastly different, as may be supposed, from town life. Nevertheless, many a lad has found his true vocation there, and the way in which particular boys become attached to their charge for the time being is sometimes amusing and sometimes pathetic. One boy a few months ago was really distressed at having to leave the cows! And another before his time was deeply devoted to the chickens!

The lads from Whitechapel House, who have tea with us every Sunday and join us for evening service, are given the opportunity of responding over the teatable to the few words of farewell it is customary to offer as one by one they leave us, and in some cases we have all been impressed by their well-chosen words, and their undoubted appreciation of what has been done for them. When Mr. Duligall left us to take up



MRS. GLIPSON

ing townward. And then the market—always a thrilling place—but today, what a show of poultry, and greenstuff, what a display of presents and sweets, what an atmosphere of joviality and goodwill! And after all this there was to be the long ride home, with the red sun slowly sinking behind the dark wood, the haunting cries of the birds as they wheeled round following the plough as it turned up the rich earth. And after that lovely ride to get out of the trap with numbed limbs and dash into a warm kitchen redolent with the smell of cooking, and with so many evidences of the imminence of the festive season on every hand. And after all this it was still Christmas Eve! And Christmas Day to follow, and then Boxing Day, and then a long, long holiday—almost a fortnight stretching so it seemed into infinity! Now I knew on that occasion the fulness of the joy of anticipation, and I took and enjoyed richly all the good things that were thrust upon me in such a way as I have never since known. Christmas should surely mean as much as that to every child.

For many years an old lady, long widowed, would come and occupy the rocking chair in the corner by the fireside throughout the whole of Christmas Day. She shared in all we had, and had the good sense and tact to express amazement and delight in every trivial toy we showed her. The only shadow cast upon those bright hours for me was the constant reminder from our aged guest that she had carried me in her apron on the day of my birth, and her somewhat contemptuous references to my meagre proportions on that important occasion. I felt she had me at a grave disadvantage. We remained good friends, however, and eventually I qualified to become her escort to the Old Folks' Concert—another red-letter day then in the life of a small country town.

The very young and the aged should always be our special care, and with the return of Advent we have again the opportunity of showing them our affection, and surrounding them with warmth and happiness. Preparations are already well in hand at the Mission for the reception and entertainment of the many guests it will be our privilege to receive. Separate parties for the little ones, the homeless, the women and the men, with good hot food and suitable programmes are arranged. Coal and groceries will be distributed where there is need, and we shall not have far to seek. It would be very easy to prove the need, but we must not betray the necessitous conditions of many of our friends, any more than we can speak of the human problems with which many of them are grappling. I write on Monday. Last night there were in the congregation those whose little world had crashed about their ears that very day, and provision was made for them immediately after the service. None would have suspected the tragedy; but few of us knew of it. We cannot, of course, give details, but the need is terrible.

Already, with the coming of colder weather, we are besieged with requests for aid of all kinds, and we are doing our best to meet each particular case; as the weeks pass and we commemorate again the coming of the Christ-child we like to think that all who come within our care will find peace and comfort and joy through the ministrations our friends make possible.



"SANTA" COMES TO WHITECHAPEL

Halifax Photos, Ltd.

YOUR HELP towards the maintenance and extension of all the activities mentioned in this report will be greatly appreciated. We shall never be embarrassed by having too much money! We could fill an "Eventide Home" with loveable men and women who are well known to us had we but the means of buying one. What a joy it would be to take in some of our old friends and let them live care-free for the rest of their days. Plans are out for the conversion of an old dormitory on the top floor of the Working Lads' Institute into



"WHAT'S NEXT?"

Halifax Photos, Ltd.

five bed-sitting rooms to house students (without regard to colour). Where is the money coming from? We do not know, but we do know that the need for such rooms is there, and while thousands will still need rooms there will be five catered for in due course. I saw an advertisement not long ago in which the Superintendent of a great mission asked for £10,000. Optimistic? Yes! Knowing him, I hope he reached his target, for he would put it all to good use. And as I read his advertisement, I thought, Yes! and we could do with just that amount, and even more, to meet the opportunities of service now before us. We are grateful for all the generous help of our friends, and we trust they may enable us to do much more in the coming year.

A. D. Clippson

THE WHITECHAPEL METHODIST MISSION

Summarised Cash Statement for the year ended 31st March, 1949

RECEIPTS		£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS		£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand, 1st April, 1948		218	15	11	By Working Lads' Institute and Social and General Work Salaries and Administration, Maintenance and Relief Work		2,608	7	1
To Working Lads' Institute and Social and General Work—Subscriptions, Donations, Grants, Legacies, Rents, and Interest		3,218	10	7	By Windyridge Colony & Hostel—Boys' Maintenance, Property Upkeep and Farm Supplies		3,780	5	11
To Windyridge Colony and Hostel—Subscriptions, Donations, Grants, Interest and Sales of Farm Produce		3,284	2	4	By Whitechapel House, Tulse Hill, S.W.2—Purchase of Equipment, and House running expenses		2,083	17	1
To Whitechapel House, Tulse Hill, S.W.2—Subscriptions, Donations, Grants and Interest		825	8	1	Builders for War Damage Reinstatement		975	0	0
War Damage Commission for reinstatement		975	0	0	By Southend Holiday Home—Maintenance and Running Expenses		945	16	9
To Southend Holiday Home—Visitors		558	1	10	Special Repairs		500	0	0
War Damage Commission, for repairs		231	4	1			10,893	6	10
Nuffield Foundation Gift		850	0	0	By Balance, 31st March, 1949—Cash at Bank on Deposit Account and in hand less Bank Overdrafts		267	16	0
To amount withdrawn from deposit with Chapel Aid Association		1,000	0	0			£11,161	2	10
		£11,161	2	10					

We have audited the above Account and certify it to be correct and in accordance with the Books and Vouchers of the Mission.

79 Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
11th May, 1949

(Signed) NEWPORT, NELSON & Co.
Chartered Accountants Auditors

Form of Bequest by Will

For the guidance of friends who may desire to make bequests for the Holiday and Rest Home, the Boys' Hostel or Farm Home or the general work of the Whitechapel Mission we append the following form of bequest.

I Give and Bequeath to the Superintendent, for the time being, of the Whitechapel Methodist Mission, 279 Whitechapel Road, London, E.1, for the use of the said Mission, the legacy or sum of £ (free of duty), and direct the said last mentioned Legacy or sum to be paid within twelve months after my decease from the proceeds of my real and personal estate, but primarily out of my personal estate, and the receipt of the Superintendent shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.

NOTE—The Mortmain and Charitable Uses Act, 1891, enables Testators to give by Will for the benefit of any charitable use not only pecuniary Legacies, but also tenements and hereditaments of any tenure.

The Will must be signed by the Testator at the foot or end thereof in the presence of two independent Witnesses, who must sign their names, addresses, and occupations, at the same time, in his presence and the presence of each other.