Activities at Whitechapel

Sunday Schools Whitechapel Fellowship Young People's Fellowship Whitechapel Youth Centre Women's Meetings **Men's Meetings** Guides, Brownies, Teenies Scouts, Cubs **Clothing Department** Youth Choir **Camps and Outings** Sound Cinema Handicrafts Savings Banks **Hospital and Prison Visitation** British Women's Total **Abstinence Union** Social and Moral Welfare Work

Divine Worship

Please send your gifts to :-

REV. A. E. D. CLIPSON, WORKING LADS' INSTITUTE

279 Whitechapel Road London E.I



BEING THE ANNUAL REPORT. DECEMBER 1955

THE WHITECHAPEL MISSION

FOUNDED 1894

Centres of Christian Activity

Church: Brunswick Hall, 210 Whitechapel Road, E.I. Working Lads' Institute: Youth Centre, 279 Whitechapel Road, E.I. Windyridge Farm Home: Horkesley Park, Nayland, Nr. Colchester. Tel.: Nayland 332.

Whitechopel House Hostel: 153 Tulse Hill, S.W.2. Tel.: TULse Hill 1391. "Bethany" Eventide Home: Thorpe Bay, Essex. Tel.: Thorpe Bay 64073.

The General Office is at 279 Whitechapel Road, E.I.

ALL GIFTS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED AND ACKNOWLEDGED

Superintendent: Rev. A. E. D. Clipson. Tel.: BiShopsgate 8280. Superintendent's Secretary: Mrs. G. Wilson. Clerk (Hon.): Mrs. Walker. Deaconess: Sister Margaret Taylor. Social Worker: Miss Joyce Gardiner. Solicitors: Mesers. 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.I.

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

Revs. Percy D. Beckwith, Reuben F. Skinner, James E. Thorp, George Kendall, OSE, William Upright, C. Leonard Tudor, Dr. Irvonwy Morgan, MA, George E. Wiles, Lt.-Cmdr. Horace Denton, JP, OSE, Messrs. Ernest Rutter, John Lloyd, OSE, Henry H. Bowyer, John P. Everitt, Andrew McBain, Mesdames N. Doreen Clipson, Alice Pruce and Dora Buck.

Hon, Treasurers: Messrs. Fred C. Yelland, sacca, and Leonard G. Freeman, ARICS. Superintendent and Secretary: Rev. A. E. D. Clipson.

Windyridge Farm and Home Management Committee

Messrs. Andrew McBain, Thomas England, S. W. Newman, F. C. Yelland, FACCA, Rev. J. R. S. Hutchinson, Dr. W. A. Bullough, CBE, MSC, MB, CBB, DPH, Mrs. F. C. Yelland, Mrs. A. E. D. Clipson, Rev. L.S. Shutter. Chairman: Lt.-Cmdr. Horace Denton, JP, OBE. Secretary: Rev. A. E. D. Clipson. Medical Attendant: Dr. R. H. Berry.

Whitechapel House Hostel Management Committee

Messrs, J. C. Erskine Hill, DSC. BA. F. R. Bradshaw, F. C. Yelland, FACCA, H. J. Bolton, FACCA, John Lloyd, DBE, Mesdames F. C. Yelland and A. E. D. Clipson. Chairman: Mr. Leonard G. Freeman, ANCS, Secretary: Rev. A. E. D. Clipson. Medical Attendant: Dr. Crosbie Walsh.

THE CROWDED WAYS

"Where cross the crowded ways of life, Where sound the cries of race and clan, Above the noise of selfish strife, We hear Thy voice, O Son of Man".

The familiar hymn is often in our minds for it is especially appropriate at Whitechapel. Thousands of people of almost every clime and creed and tongue hurry along our wide pavement every day, and on the picturesque stalls and barrows which line the roadway. foods, garments, tools, jewellery and merchandise of all description, and from many parts of the world are displayed. We have two pedestrian crossings within a hundred yards of the Mission, but alas! only a few days ago, a man venturing to cross between them was hit by a motor cycle and lost his life. The traffic went swirling by, the unlovely music of gramophone records amplified continued to assault our ears and jar our nerves, the shouts of the newspaper men were still heard above most of the other sounds, and the crowds hurried along the pavement as the measuring of the road and the clearing away the ugly marks of the accident were carried out.

Let none suppose that any of the phrases used by Frank Mason North exactly fifty years ago are out of date: they are as appropriate here and now as they were then.

> "In haunts of wretchedness and need, On shadowed thresholds dark with fears, From paths where hide the lures of greed. We catch the vision of Thy tears".

Our girls, visiting the homes of some of our aged men and women, taking their little gifts and comforting words, often come back torn by emotion and almost in tears. There they sit, or lie, many of them never free from pain, and unable to rise to open their own door. The dreadful loneliness, penned in among the seething multitudes, is what hurts most, and it is indeed pathetic to see their faces light up with joy when one of us goes in for that so brief a visit which is all that can be accorded if the work is to be done. And the visiting is so very important. It was remembered on a recent evening that a little sum of money (repayment from our Savings Bank) had been promised to such a woman that day. Sister Margaret had already done more than a fair share of work, and had a meeting



THE MISSION'S HEADQUARTERS

The Working Lad's Institute, 279 Whitechapel Road, London, E.I

The 60th Mission Anniversary will be held on October 15th 1956 conducted by The Rev. Dr. Norman H. Snalth, M.A.

A 16 mm. Sound Film of some of the Mission's activities is being prepared and will be available soon

assembling within a short time; together with other friends I was due at Whitechapel House (seven miles away) for a Committee Meeting within half an hour. As we had the car at the door I offered to run the extra mile each way so that the promise might be fulfilled. In those circumstances I rushed into the room where an old lady was waiting waiting—a prisoner in her high-backed chair. Her face shone with pleasure when I went in; imagine my feelings when I had to rush straight off again to discharge my duty elsewhere. One of very many whose only bit of relief from the truly deadly monotony of existence is that which a friendly visit brings. This lady, found on the floor, has since been taken to a Hospital.



Sister Margaret Taylor

"The cup of water given for Thee Still holds the freshness of Thy grace; Yet long these multitudes to see The sweet compassion of Thy face".

The family and personal joys and sorrows of our people are shared, and none can work here for long in any capacity without becoming aware of the great affection they have for those who move amongst them in the Name of the Lord. It is a humbling experience to know that so many who have so little and yet are possessed of so much in the way of simple faith. indomitable courage and unfailing humour, really love you and pray for you unceasingly. They are themselves so lovable that none having come amongst them to engage in Mission work but are reluctant to leave. no

matter how alluring the prospect may be. Sister Molly Fishwick, B.Sc., who has been with

us seven years and is now at Leeds, has left many friends behind her, as also has Mr. Malcolm Trew, who after two and a half years with us has now gone into College to prepare further for the work of the ministry. Both will long be remembered for their visits as well as for their sermons and addresses. Sister Margaret Taylor has come to us for her first appointment, and was straightway accepted by all around and is rapidly making her way. My niece, Miss M. E. Field, through the unexpected death of her mother, had to return home in February, having been with us for five and a half years. She, too, was greatly missed, and for some months her work fell largely on Mrs. Clipson, who already



Miss Joyce Gardiner

had enough to do. In September Miss Joyce Gardiner came to join us, and although coming from very different surroundings in the lovely Vale of Pickering, Joyce has settled well and is happily serving with the rest.

Miss Bridget White, B.A., a student, gives most valuable help with the children one evening each week; Mr. Kenneth Walters, a teacher, leads our Youth Club for us; and others, nurses and students from the London Hospital are often on our premises sharing the fellowship and lending a helping hand. As I write, a few girls and lads from the Youth Club are scrubbing out our largest room in preparation for the Anniversary. Say what you will, these young folk have the right stuff in them, and even as they scrubbed, with now and then a bit of soapy horseplay, they were discussing deeper matters in a manner most revealing and encouraging to those of us who heard them. We are indeed fortunate in that we have quite a band of voluntary workers, who cheerfully undertake so many onerous duties, and in some cases travel considerable distances to do so.

The complete staff of the Mission in all its branches at present numbers twenty-five, and changes are inevitable. Miss Simpson, who has served well and faithfully at "Bethany", no easy post, has been compelled to leave us, and Mr. and Mrs. Hopwood have taken over the responsibility. Mr. Elwyn Rogers who for some two years has been our Assistant Warden at Whitechapel House has now gained an appointment at an Approved School. Miss Simpson and Mr. Rogers have our gratitude and our good wishes. New appointments will, we expect, be taken up at Whitechapel House and Windyridge (this latter Home now increasing the number of residents to the agreed thirty) before this appears in print, and we hope that all our new helpers will feel at home among us.

The outstanding event of the year, of course, was the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh for the official opening of Windyridge, which is given due place elsewhere in this report. As I finish writing



A 'Pearly King' is taken to his resting place

During the year one of the firmon the the year one of the firmduring the year of London side along our red. The of the people prominent in the procession, in band and wife, attend our meeting, and it is by their commerting and it is by their commerting and it is by their our meeting and it is by their commerting and it is by their other that an existing show obtained for these who have meeting an archive this.



H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

this introductory word at 10.30 p.m. with the traffic roaring by beneath the windows, and an occasional wolf-whistle piercing the night, the lines of Mr. North's lovely hymn still haunt me:

> "O Master, from the mountain side. Make haste to heal these hearts of pain; Among these restless throngs abide, O tread the city's streets again : Till sons of men shall learn Thy love. And follow where Thy feet have trod; Till glorious from Thy heaven above, Shall come the City of our God".

> > Yours in the Service.

A.E. D. Clipson

COVER DESIGN. Once again we are indebted to Michael Clipson for our Cover Design, which is prompted by the daily scene outside the Mission.



The arrival of His Royal Highness

The Official Opening of 'Windyridge'

MAY 12th, 1955, will long be remembered by all who had the privilege of being present for the official opening of our new Farm Home by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh. After a rainy spell we were favoured with perfect weather. The Duke was able to travel, as he had hoped, by helicopter, and a company of at least five hundred assembled at Great Horkesley Park. Everything went off "according to plan" and we are most grateful to all the friends, the staff and our visitors for their wonderful help.

Lt. Commander H. Denton, R.N.(Retd.), O.B.E., J.P. opening the proceedings





Prince Philip addresses the assembly

"What is he like?" That, of course, is the question that is put again and again; naturally. I suppose. From the moment that Prince Philip stepped out of the machine and with a friendly smile and casual question set everyone at ease, we felt that a gentleman of understanding and good will had come amongst us. No member of the staff was overlooked, and each lad in residence received a warm handclasp and a cheery word or two. To accompany His Royal Highness around the premises was quite an adventure. Many intelligent questions were asked and a few sound suggestions made, The one or two places we had carefully left off the schedule were the very places our distinguished visitor insisted on seeing, and a few questions were asked which could not possibly have been anticipated (nor could the answers). Nothing seemed to escape that penetrating glance, and there is no doubt at all about the sound practical knowledge of which we sometimes read in the Press, and for which the Royal Navy should at least have some credit.

The Duke said, "It is nearly seventy years since the White-

chapel Mission began its work for destitute boys in the East End of London. Established by the Methodists, it is a practical demonstration of their work for the poor, the neglected and the unhappy.

"This new venture will continue the work of coping with the problems of the day using the methods of today, but based on the principles of a lively Christianity. This is a wonderful undertaking in every way, particularly as it recognises that misfortune rather than evil intent is at the bottom of most problems.

"We must recognise that in a large and relatively free society

A friendly word in the garden





His Royal Highness in the Greenhouse

FAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES

such as ours many people are going to get hurt through no special fault of their own. Not everyone can hope to go through life, particularly early life, with a full measure of affection, guidance and opportunity. Getting hurt can take many forms and can have many different results, but the thing to remember is that it is happening all the time, and that it is the duty, not a charity, for the more fortunate to do what they can to help.

"One of the difficulties is that there are many people who do not know or do not want to know what can happen to people who have not had the benefit of the same care and protection as themselves. However, I am convinced that there is a great well of sympathy and understanding in the community as a whole largely untapped because the problems are not fully understood. The more people know of the dangers the more it will become a matter of course to attempt to minimize them.

"The Whitechapel Mission deserves to be most warmly congratulated for pioneering this work. It must be a perplexing task to convert the disappointed, disillusioned and unco-operative, and set aright the false values which do so much harm.

"Here the lads on probation will be helped to prepare themselves to take their place in the community as steady and dependable citizens. I have no doubt that at the end of their training they will leave here happier and more responsible people, able to face with confidence the difficulties which confront them. Above all, they will leave with a fresh understanding of the things in this life that are worth striving for.

"I wish the Warden and Staff, and all who go through 'Windyridge' every good fortune and success in the future".

The Chairman of our Windyridge Management Committee Lt. Commander H. Denton, R.N.(Rtd.), O.B.E., J.P., presided, the opening devotions were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Eric W. Baker, M.A., Secretary of the Conference, and a welcome extended on behalf of the Church by the President of the Conference, Rev. W. Russell Shearer, M.A. Thanks were expressed by the Rev. J. R. S. Hutchinson, of Colchester, a member of the Committee.

The Home and grounds were then open for inspection, and teas were served. Music was provided by the Boxted Silver Band, who were most warmly congratulated upon their services. A letter received from Commander Parker, dated 18th May, told us that His Royal Highness thought the programme was "extremely well run", and that he was "delighted to have had the opportunity of seeing the wonderful work we are doing". We are very grateful to His Royal Highness, to Commander Michael Parker, and to all who did so much for us on this very important occasion.

The Home is now fully staffed and by the time this appears in print we shall probably have the full complement of thirty lads in residence.



NOW-WHY "FRIESIANS"?

PLANES HEWA

Accompanied by Lt. Cdr. H. Denton, R.N. (Retd.), O.B.E., J.P., Cdr. Michael Parker, M.Y.O., R.N., Rev. A. E. D. Clipson, Col. Sir Francis Whitmore, Bart., K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., C.B., J.P. and Col. Ralph Blewitt, the Duke returns to the Helicopter.

PLONET NEWS





We say "Goodbye" and a sincere "Thank you"

HOLIDAY & REST HOME, Southend-on-sea

THE sale of the above property has brought to a close a most interesting chapter in the life of this Mission. Who can estimate the good that has been done through its ministrations during the last thirtyfive years? In recent times over six hundred people have been entertained there each summer, and many others who for various reasons have needed a rest and change have gone there at other times. Several District Conferences have been held there, and countless people will cherish happy and grateful memories for a long time to come.

The property was old when the Rev. Thomas Jackson took it over. In the last eight years more money has been spent on it than was really justified, and we could have gone on spending. Not only did the building need a new roof, but the foundations had given way, and dry rot had got a hold. It has been our ambition to keep the lovely site and either do something really good with the existing house, or set up a new one, but lack of funds made this impracticable. The trustees therefore agreed to the sale of the property and it was bought by the Corporation of Southend-on-Sea in July. Now we are looking for a more suitable building, preferably in the vicinity, and hope by next season to be able to take some of the very many people who were bitterly disappointed this year. The old Home has played a noble part, and we were extremely reluctant to let it go, but there was no alternative. It is our misfortune to be in the midst of the Mission's affairs at the time when inevitably such things demand action to be taken. It grieves us, but we feel quite confident that we are moving in the right direction. The need is there, and by replacing redundant property with something bigger and better we are endeavouring to meet that need. We thank all who have so generously supported this work and assure them that their gifts and prayers were never more needed than they are at the present time.

The Eventide Home, Thorpe Bay

"BETHANY", our lovely little Eventide Home still functions at Brunswick Road. Thorpe Bay. Many friends to whom the Holiday Home was well known have been anxiously enquiring as to the whereabouts of Mr. and Mrs. Hopwood. They are safe! Unfortunately. Miss Simpson felt she could not face another winter at "Bethany", and our friends the Hopwoods have gone in there to take over for the time being. As well may be imagined there have been many problems to face over all the changes that have taken place. but providentially all seems to work out happily. We would like to see many more elderly friends as comfortably placed as are these dear people at "Bethany", some of whom are nearing ninety years of age, but again we are up against financial limitation, and already our commitments are deep. To bring the two Homes eventually under one roof is still our intention, and would, of course, solve most of our problems. We continue in hope.

WHITECHAPEL HOUSE

So many things have happened in the past year, some of which have a right to priority in this report that it would be easy to overlook the importance of other branches and the work that is being done. This Hostel, situated on Tulse Hill, has now got quite a reputation among such Hostels in the country. In the year, a number of people from other countries have paid visits, and have invariably spoken highly of what they have found. Lads come and go, some better than others, all different, but all alike in that they have need of what we can do for them. It is never smooth running with an establish-



ment of this nature; it never can be, otherwise the need for it would disappear, but on the whole (and this is very important) much good has been done. Sunday by Sunday, the young men in residence join us for tea at the Mission, and form part of our congregation for the evening service. Informal services are also held at the Hostel on most Tuesday evenings, and a number of London ministers and laymen can testify to the value of such gatherings for they have readily given of their help. Mr. Elwyn Rogers gave us most satisfactory service as Assist-

Whitechapel House



May Queen 1955



IL IFLY PHOTOS

ant Warden during the last two years and we were all sorry to say Goodbye when he took up a post with larger responsibility. Mr. and Mrs. Tomlinson have now been with us seven years. By the time this report appears a new Assistant Warden. Mr. Richard Jarrett, will he in residence.

May Festival

AMONG many other delightful memories 1 recall the smell of nawthorn and wet grass. Children in the country have a wonderful time when the birds are nesting and the fields are spangled with bright flowers. Small wonder that from time immemorial the month of May has been heralded with rejoicing. Here in Whitechapel we have each year a May Festival, and our children enter fully into the spirit of the occasion. There is something pathetic about it all to those of us who know what Springtime is really like. Each year, with colourful dress, with suitable adornment, with happy song and verse around the Maypole our young folk give us a delightful time, usually ending with a display of their prowess in the various activities they favour, such as Scouts and Guides. This year. Mrs. Hammond, a good friend from Brentwood, crowned our May Queen; Mrs. Lanceley trained the children, and Mrs. Portas made their dresses.

Harvest Festival

OUR Harvest Festival is always held on the last Sunday in September. Year by year our good friends from Burnt Heath Methodist Church, Ardleigh, Essex, send us a generous load of fruit, vegetables and flowers, and of recent years other friends from nearby Crockleford, and Woodford, have added their contribution. We are grateful for this thoughtful and timely help. Our own people bring their gifts also, and consequently we always have a good and colourful display. In the afternoon the children have a special service at which they bring forward their gifts, and we all come in thankfulness before Him of Whom it is written, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof".

Ready for the Harvest Festival





TEA AT MARGATE --- A Summer Outing, 1955

U STIN HOLSSRIJ,

The Clothing Cupboard

GARMENTS and footwear of all kinds are always in demand here. and parcels of such are most acceptable. With the return of the winter we see many pathetic sights. Most people are aware of the high cost of clothing and shocs in these days. When all that the Welfare State can do has been done there is still a great opportunity for the exercise of that charity of which we read in the New Testament. Here is one way in which many can help. Please remember the need. Kindly address your parcel to Rev. A. E. D. Clipson, 279 Whitechapel Road. London, E.1. Mrs. Clipson will deal with it and send an acknowledgement if the name and address of the sender are included. Please accept our thanks for all that has been sent in the past year to the Clothing Cupboard.

Mrs. Clipson with a client in the Footwear Department!

JOHN LENU



The Mission Anniversary

OUR Anniversary is always a time of inspiration and blessing. Friends come from near and far, and every year the ministerial brethren over a wide area give their support, and bring us greetings from other Missions and Circuits. This year was no exception, and indeed almost constituted a record. Our guest preacher was the Rev. Dr. Eric W. Baker, M.A., Secretary of the Conference, and both on Sunday evening and on Monday afternoon his sermons were greatly appreciated. On Monday evening, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Harold Verity of Bolton Abbey, who gave a most inspiring lead to the meeting, Dr. Baker delivered a most challenging address which will long be remembered by us all. Miss Mary Buck was the soloist on Monday afternoon, and together with Mr. R. Clare (both of Leigh-on-Sea) sang a duet in the evening meeting. The lads from Windyridge and Whitechapel House sang Hymn No. 898 to the tune "Saltash" with great effect. To all our friends and helpers we would say a sincere Thank You for a memorable time.

OBITUARY

SINCE our last Report was published death has removed two of our valuable Executive Committee Members and Supporters; Mrs. Alice Harding of Thorpe Bay, and the Rev. John Mainwaring, O.B.E., of Kidderminster. Both left fragrant and grateful memories with us all.

THANKS

We are indebied to the Wesley Deaconess Order for the valuable help its members give, both as Deaconesses and Students. Nurse Maureen Mansfield, who has served here as a voluntary worker for about four years entered the college at likley in September.

CHRISTMAS

OUR late Chairman, the Rev. Alfred E. Binks, once told me that the worst time of the year for him and his wife since he took up an appointment as Separated Chairman, was Christmas. For many years having been in Mission work they both missed terribly the homely gatherings, the Christmas festivities, and the joy of bringing happiness to the unprivileged as they had known these things. I could well understand. What I cannot understand is the insistence by so many people, and by so many who ought to know better, that the need for all this has now disappeared. We can only say what we have said so often, "COME AND SEE". Let us show you the places where so many of our people have to live, let us introduce some of them to you. Last December the 'Methodist Recorder' took



Mrs. Rittman, Gerda. Maisie, Mrs. Clipson Mrs. Griggs and Mrs. Pruce dishing out the dinners at a Christmas Party

me at my word, and consequently my friend Mr. Stringer was escorted round the back streets, and taken into some of the homes we visit. In due course, there appeared a front page article in the 'Recorder' telling of some of the things he had seen. The problem of housing and its many subsidiary problems is NOT solved, by a long way. This almost sounds like a grumble, and it is not intended as such, but the facts are there, and many of our Methodist people appear to be unaware of them.

Once again we are inviting large numbers of men, women and children to our parties. Once again, parcels will be prepared (a work extending over many weeks) with the name of each recipient carefully marked thereon. Once again our helpers will trudge through the murky streets carrying goodwill and comforts to those who are unable to attend. It will be a joyous time for all concerned. We are putting our trust in our many friends to see to it that the wherewithal to provide all that is necessary on such occasions is forthcoming. We are again indebted to Mr. Bertram Mills for his kind offer of free tickets for a number of children to visit the Circus on December 22nd. As a precautionary measure the little ones are tied together with string on these trips!

One of our devoted members receives her plate. (Christopher wonders if there is enough) !



1. FRAY FOR OUR WORK AND WORKERS.

HOW	2.	SEND A DONATION NOW.
YOU CAN	Ż,	HAVE A COLLECTING BOX in your home.

4. BECOME A COVENANTED SUBSCRIBER which method of giving nearly doubles the value of your gift. We will gladly send you particulars.

- 5. MAKE A LEGACY IN YOUR WILL. (See form of bequest below).
- 6. Arrange in your Church :

(1) A GIFT AND TOY SERVICE.

- (2) A CAROL PARTY.
- 7. SEND PARCELS of Clothing and Shoes.
- 8. ASK FOR A MISSION SPEAKER for one of your meetings.

HELP US

For the guidance of friends who may desire to Form of Bequest by Will make bequests for 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

> > If you have already made your Will, kindly add a Codicil directing a Legacy to the Whitechapel Mission.