

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.

Windyridge Farm Home: Nayland, Nr. Colchester. Tel.: Nayland 332.

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

Ministers :

Superintendent: Rev. A. E. D. Clipson. Tel.: BISHopsgate 8280.

Rev. Eric W. Murray, BD, Dip Soc Sc.

Superintendent's Secretary: Mrs. G. Wilson.

Solicitors: Messrs. Butt & Bowyer, 14 National House, Moorgate, E.C.2.

Auditors: Messrs. Gane Jackson, Nelson & Freeman.

Bankers: Barclays Bank Ltd., Mile End Branch, 234 Whitechapel Road, E.1.

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THE WHITECHAPEL MISSION

FOUNDED BY REV. THOMAS JACKSON 1896



CHANGING PATTERNS

THE ANNUAL REPORT DECEMBER 1963

CHANGING PATTERNS

HOW very different the world and the Britain of today from the world and the Britain of 1927, the year in which I began my ministry and the concluding year of the life and ministry of Thomas Jackson, the founder of this Mission. Many unexpected changes have taken place, but surely no one could have anticipated the trends, the difficulties, the challenges and the opportunities which confront us at this present time. Looking back, we are humbled by the remembrance that, doubting nothing, our forbears with so little material equipment but with a mighty faith, dared big things, and like little David before the giant Goliath they took their firm stand on principles well-founded and understood against the evils of their day. There are those who would smile at their zeal, would speak of "a broader-minded and more tolerant generation", would be prepared to jettison much that has been gathered laboriously through the years, and would have us hand over our social work to the well-organised and highly paid services of the community at large. To do so would be a grievous mistake. The work of rescue and rehabilitation is never so successfully done as when it is animated by Love in the New Testament meaning of that word, and it has ever been the joy of those responsible for this Mission that all its work is done on a sound evangelical basis. The would-be rescuer must have an objective in view, a safe harbour into which the storm-tossed soul can be brought, and what better objective than the bringing of the erring one home to Christ? This we seek to do by every means within our power.

THE PRESENT WINDYRIDGE, our Farm Home in Essex, was opened in 1953 actually, the project being graciously acknowledged and made widely-known by a ceremonial opening ceremony in 1955, when H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh paid us a visit. That particular work, however, had its roots at 279 Whitechapel Road, London E.1, and when in 1938 the late Mrs. Atterton gave a few acres and buildings at Thorington, Essex, greatly daring, under the leadership of my immediate predecessor, Rev. J. E. Thorp, it was decided to set up a small training establishment for lads in trouble, away from the noise and confusion and many temptations of the city. The move proved a good one, and a proud record exists of all that was accomplished there between 1938 and 1953.

Last year another rather bold experiment was tried at the invitation of the Home Office. It has proved successful as our Warden's report bears out. Everyone concerned feels it is a good thing that lads who have proved themselves satisfactory during their first few months in the Home can be allowed to take outside employment with normal conditions and pay, whilst still resident at Windyridge, so as to be eased gradually into the world of responsibility and competition which lies outside the estate.

RIGHT:
*A Typical Audience
Spring Festival 1963*

However, the most pleasing thing about Windyridge is the fact that so many, having been discharged, continue to keep in touch by writing, by telephoning, by visiting, and by bringing along friends and relatives to see the place. A number of distinguished visitors have been there during the year and all have been greatly impressed.



The Rev. A. E. D. and Mrs. Chipson

WHITECHAPEL HOUSE, situated seven miles from the Mission over on Tulse Hill, was first opened by the Mission in 1948 as a Probation Hostel, and reopened in 1956 for the express purpose of receiving lads of the same age-group as we deal with at Windyridge, but in this case they are wanderers taken off the streets of London. (And as the Warden of the Hostel suggests in his report many people are surprised to learn that there are any youths wandering about in this fashion at this time.) In the seven years an average of over 200 a year have passed through "Whitechapel House". Again, the report speaks for itself.

We were happy to have both Windyridge and Whitechapel House so well represented at the Mission on the occasion of our 67th Anniversary when Dr. A. Stanley Leyland, M.A., was the speaker and the Chair was taken by Mr. Alan Hilton, J.P., C.A., D.L., of Leicester. The company was greatly impressed by the lads from Windyridge singing, "Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us".





The Men's Meeting

Under the able guidance of my colleague, Rev. Eric Murray, B.D., the Youth Work at the Mission has been re-organised and new order is emerging. Loyal voluntary helpers, Miss Marjorie Dixon, Miss Moya Wiley, Mrs. E. W. Murray, Mr. Freeman and Mr. H. Leonard give devoted service week by week, which is greatly appreciated.

Visitation in the homes of our people, in the great London Hospital of which I have the honour to be the Free Church Chaplain, and in many homes and hospitals is a regular feature of our work, and brings a great deal of joy and satisfaction to those who engage in it as well as to those who are ministered unto. "Visiting" may be regarded as old-fashioned and unproductive by some, but in my own experience it has proved to be enriching in every way, and all our helpers are encouraged to visit, particularly the aged and the lonely.

FOR SOME YEARS we have been endeavouring to replace the very dilapidated church building and the Working Lads' Institute, both of which have a long and honourable history, with a modern block more suitable for the needs of the present time. These two buildings are on opposite sides of a busy main road, and neither of them is suitable for its purpose. New churches, clubs, business premises, shops and dwellings have gone up around us, but I doubt if any of the people concerned have one-tenth part of the hindrances and frustrations that have beset us. Patiently or impatiently, as the case may be, we have had to deal with the difficulties one by one, and as I write this we do at last appear to be approaching the point at which we may hope to make a start. In all our troubles we have had and continue to have many good friends who give of their time and talents freely, and are as concerned as we are to see things moving.

I have asked Mrs. Clipson to let me have a paragraph or two



A Women's Meeting

about matters with which she primarily deals, but day by day and generally all day long she is here at 279, and hard at work with heart and hands and mind all fully engaged on the multiple tasks and problems that any one day may bring in its wake.

Much of it may seem trivial, much, some would suggest could be relegated to other sources of help, but as the years pass and friendships strengthen, nebulous plans take shape and new patterns emerge, we look back with profound thankfulness in that we have had "some small part and lot in these matters". Many questions arise, and some remain unanswered:

"Not till the Loom is silent
And the shuttle cease to fly,
Will God unroll the canvas
And explain the reason why,
The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skilful Hand,
As the threads of gold and silver
In the Pattern He has planned."

APPRECIATIONS

THE issuing of this little report gives one the opportunity of saying how much the help of so many friends is really appreciated. The accountancy covering all the Mission's activities is considerable, and is all dealt with by our Hon. Treasurers, Mr. F. C. Yelland and Mr. H. J. Bolton. Our auditors are constantly expressing their own gratitude for the way in which our figures are presented to them. And we are well served on all our committees. A great deal of time and a certain amount of travelling is involved in each case, but it is all cheerfully undertaken, and a happy atmosphere prevails at all our meetings. Miss Olive Scott, who came along two years ago, when I was incapacitated for a time, is still regularly coming, and would indeed be sadly missed if for any reason she ceased her labours on our behalf, and truly, hers is a labour of love. As mentioned elsewhere Miss Moya Wiley puts in a lot of time with the Youth Club and Mr. Freeman and Mr. Leonard, helping with the children and the Men's Meetings respectively, are unflinching in their regularity and faithful to their commitments. Miss M. Dixon also works hard among the children and sometimes at no little sacrifice. There are others who are generous with their help, but to leave unmentioned Mrs. Brown would be churlish. Mrs. Brown goes the second, and sometimes the third mile, and always with a smile. To all these — to Mrs. Wilson and Mr. Eastwood, to Mr. and Mrs. Elliott and their Staff at Windyridge and to Mr. and Mrs. Cawkill and all at Whitechapel House we would say a sincere Thank You.

We are glad to have the Rev. Eric W. Murray and Mrs. Murray invited to remain with us for a further period, for we appreciate their help.

Our daughter, Gerda, who has now taken up an appointment at Hull, has kindly drawn the design for the cover of the Report once again. We are grateful for that.

To all our friends who send us their gifts of money and clothing, toys, books and produce, we would say a big Thank You. A few have seen fit to leave legacies to the Mission. These are exceedingly helpful, as are covenant subscriptions. It is quite impossible to continue this work if we are to depend upon what can be raised locally at church level. Our own people are most generous, but few of them can afford anything beyond the necessities of life, and some who come our way, even in these days fall below having the necessities. I marvel at the way in which the money has come through the years, and thank God for so many friends of the Mission. Please continue to remember us in your prayers, and think on the need of those to whom it is our privilege chiefly to minister. Thank you!

A. D. Clipson

AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE

by E. W. MURRAY

LOOKING back over this year it has been a pleasure to see how the work amongst the young people in the Mission has shown a steady progressive change. It reflects happily the hard work put in by the members of staff, and is a good indication of the growth of character and development of interest among the boys and girls themselves. Several new clubs have come into being as a result of discovering the differing needs of the young folk. We have started a Boys Intermediate Club, and a separate Girls Club too, because they wanted to be entirely separate from each other and follow entirely different pursuits. Later, they will grow out of this stage and will come together again in the Senior Youth Club, bringing new ideas together to enrich their lives. This is one of the most pleasing things about the development of our Youth Work, the continuity in growth which all the clubs cater for.

Another new movement is the Modelling Club . . . a small group of boys with an urge to be constructive. They have built a model Church for use as a collecting box for the new building and a demonstration railway set . . . one of the few Dr. Beeching won't be closing down! Amongst their other projects has been the building of a library for the Clubs and Sunday School, ranging from fiction to non-fiction, low-brow and high-brow . . . this has become one of the most popular rooms in the Mission, as any club night will show!

We have been glad to welcome to the Senior Youth Club as the new club leader Miss Moya Wiley, and have regretted the departure of Mr. R. Conway-Crapp who has left since he has now moved to Leicestershire. Already Miss Wiley has settled in with a bang, and the latest developments have been very pleasing to see. Visits by the Local Youth Officer, Mr. Finch, who is always ready with very good advice and help, have brought in favourable reports on what this club is doing.

Miss Dixon and a new helper whom we have been glad to welcome, Mr. Freeman, have done invaluable work amongst the Playhour and Junior Clubs. These are the small ones of the youth age . . . but they have an importance far outstripping their years, and the progress made has been good to see.

Another part of the Youth Work at the Mission which I have not touched on yet is the work of the Morning Church and the Afternoon Sunday School. We have a very strong connection between our Youth



RIGHT: *Busy in the Library Room*

BELOW: *The youngsters love the indoor slide*



Clubs and our Sunday Work, seeing both as integral parts of the children's lives, and our success in the one department is often one of the chief aids to success in the other. This year we tried for the first time a combined Prize Giving and Anniversary Service for the Sunday School. It was a great success. The scholars presented everyone who came with posies of gaily coloured flowers for the ladies and huge button-holes for the men . . . the gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Portas. The Church was full for the service as special invitations had been sent out by the children themselves. I think one of the remarks made by one woman to me best reveals how all enjoyed it. She said, 'It's been so happy . . . anyone would think I'd been to a wedding!' And one couple passing by, when they saw the button-holes and how happy everyone was, asked me if the bride had come out yet!

LEFT: *The Modelling Club's Display at the Spring Festival*

RIGHT: *Much appreciated indoor games*



Perhaps the most pleasing event of the year, apart from the Christmas parties which are always a great favourite, was the Spring Festival! Everybody in the Mission joined in — youngsters and old folk, staff, helpers, and visitors. We put on a stage show lasting well over two hours in the evening, opening with the procession of the May Queen at whose gracious royal command the show began! That, combined with the afternoon displays and sale-stalls, brought everyone together in one great happy family in one great happy event.

This perhaps is the thought which dominates us most at the Mission, that we are one great family. Whether we go on old folk's outings, or youth outings to the sea-side or to Epping Forest, whether we belong to clubs, meetings, or discussion groups, we belong to each other in our Christian Family in the Mission.

WHITECHAPEL HOUSE

WHENEVER we talk of the work we are doing at Whitechapel House — not that we talk a lot about it — but whenever we do people are quite amazed that in this country there are youths wandering about from town to town and city to city without a place they can call their home.

Some who come to us have had homes which, for one reason or another, are now broken up or closed to them. Parents have separated and their whereabouts are not known. Others have never had a normal home but have perhaps been in the care of local authorities and after leaving "the Home" they have lost touch with their welfare officer. They are now left to plough their own furrow and it's hard to keep straight. Without a settled address it is difficult, if not impossible, to get suitable work, and many resort to "living rough".

"Where have you been living lately?"

"Kippin' aht!"

"Where?"

"In the park: Waterloo station: 'anging rahnd Victoria. 'Ad nuffink to eat for three days."

How often we hear this, and behind the stories they tell there is the stark reality of genuine hardship and misfortune.

But, not only do we get the unfortunate: we also take in the foolish and headstrong — occasionally the sick, the lame and the lazy — and what we are able to do for such as these is limited to the effort they themselves will make with the backing we can give. Those who have homes we encourage to return if we think this is best for them.

By the time this report is read we fully expect that the total number passing through Whitechapel House in the past seven years will have topped the 1,500 mark, and whilst we may not be known from John o'Groats to Land's End, we are known in places as far apart as Inverness and Dover, South Shields and St. Helier, Londonderry and Cork.



Religious persuasion is no bar to admission at Whitechapel House, nor is nationality or colour, and what we are seeking to do here is done in the name of Christ.

"I was a stranger and ye took me in . . . Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these ye have done it unto Me."

Heard at the Anniversary tea (as the sixth bun disappeared): "I picked a right day to be out of work!"

J. ERNEST CAUKILL.

FORM OF BEQUEST BY WILL

For the guidance of friends who may desire to 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, and 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.

WINDYRIDGE



by J. IVAN ELLIOTT

I AM happy to be able to report the undoubted success of the experiment we are conducting at Windyridge for the Home Office. This scheme was fully explained in my last year's report and I will therefore only briefly outline here the experiment.

When it is considered a boy has achieved stability, regular working habits, is trustworthy and can accept responsibility, employment is found for him locally and from then onwards he contributes towards his maintenance, receives additional pocket money and privileges but still resides at Windyridge and continues to receive character training.

Between May and October this year we have been able to put out to work 16 boys who have without exception given satisfaction to their employers. Quite a number of the boys, at the request of their employers have continued in their employment after leaving Windyridge and have settled down in lodgings at Colchester. They frequently visit us and we are expecting to have some of them with us at Christmas over the holiday period.

A Post Office Savings Account is opened for each boy while he is here and out at work and recently one boy, when the time came for him to leave here, had a total of £149.14.5 to his credit. This is, of course, exceptional but generally they are able to take with them between £60 and £80 in their Post Office book when they leave here which gives

them a good start financially and not to be in any way compared with the position under the old scheme when they left Windyridge very often without any money whatsoever.

Co-operation from employers in the district has been magnificent and I have received many compliments from them about our boys.

Staffing problems have been acute during the year - some members of staff having reached retiring age and left us and others have gone on to further training with the result that remaining members of staff have been severely strained; some of them having to be on duty for periods of up to 16 hours per day. I feel it is salutary for one to be reminded now and again and especially at a time like the present, when the emphasis appears to be upon a continually shorter and shorter working week that the work carried on at Windyridge and other such Homes calls for men and women who are prepared completely to disregard working hours, disregard relatively poor remuneration (Probation Homes and Hostels are the Cinderella of the Social Services) and to put first all the time the interest and well-being of the lads in their care.

I am more than thankful to be able to report that I have a Staff here at Windyridge who are prepared and willing to do so.



The Old Cottage - A quiet corner at Windyridge

All Training Departments are serving their purpose magnificently. The quality, degree and intensity of the training the boys are receiving is steadily increasing and I feel that the standards reached during the last year have been beyond expectations.

I would like to take the opportunity to pay tribute to the Probation Division of the Home Office whose officers are always so very anxious and willing to encourage us in our work here by doing everything within their powers to give us the tools we need to do the job.

A Contract has recently been entered into with a Company of Building Contractors and work has commenced on the site for the building of a pair of semi-detached houses to accommodate married Instructors. The need for Staff accommodation is one of long standing and it is most gratifying to see steps being taken to deal with this problem.

It was found impossible to hold our Garden Fete this year owing to shortage of Staff but we are hoping that next year we will have the Staff to enable us to cope with the additional work entailed, and that we shall be able to hold our Garden Fete on Saturday 27th June 1964.

The Revd. Barry Heafford, Minister of the local Methodist Church conducts a short Service in the Home for the boys and Staff every Thursday afternoon. Barry and his wife have invited boys to tea in their home on Sunday afternoons and there are never any refusals to their invitations, which only confirms that the relationship Barry is building up with the lads is one based upon sound principles and is therefore one of immense value. On Sunday evenings many of the boys go to Mile End Church where they are made very welcome.

Note.—Windyridge, formerly known as Great Horkesley Park, is situated six miles north of Colchester, facing Suffolk across the River Stour.



LEFT: At Wannock Gardens, Eastbourne, 1963

BELOW: The Action Song - "Now, how does it go?"

BELOW RIGHT: Barry Pickard at the piano - No racial problem here!



THE LATE MR. AND MRS. JOHN COGGLE

SINCE our last report was published both Mr. and Mrs. John Coggle, of Cheshunt have died. John was a Lay Pastor and Warden and Betty a Deaconess at the Mission during the war and after their marriage they remained here for some time. John was more instrumental than anyone else in the preliminary arrangements for the acquisition of the first Windyridge. They were always ready to give a helping hand, and we greatly enjoyed fellowship with them.

It was sad to see Betty suffering from a growth and trying hard to overcome her disability so as to be able to look after her husband who had for a time been the victim of a disease which crept stealthily upon him, bringing about atrophy of the muscular system. When John told me that he had been warned of the brevity of the span left to his wife, he himself was unable to lift a hand to open the door. After Betty's death the little home in which so many had enjoyed hospitality had to go, and John went off to a mansion in Norfolk, which is given over to the physically incapacitated. Mercifully the end came swiftly and he was soon reunited with Betty.

If any light shines on this gloomy picture it is seen in the great upsurge of affection on the part of ALL at the Cheshunt Church and many neighbours and friends, who had fully appreciated the sacrificial service given by these two people in all directions. They will be remembered long and lovingly by a very large number of people. We were proud to know them.

FOUR MORE PICTURES OF OUR WORK



RIGHT: The May Queen is crowned by Miss Amy Beanland





*Not a Christmas scene! - But the children
always love a Party*

The Festival of Giving

CHRISTMAS has at its centre Giving — Giving — Giving. What a joy it is to give! Our Mission throughout the year has been giving out not only material gifts; these have been many and have been greatly appreciated by our people. The lonely and the elderly are our special care. "The Mission never forgets us" — so said a lady now well over eighty, and unable to come along to the services. An old man, himself legless, lost his wife during the year. He was taken a gift after our Harvest Festival services. "I knew you would be coming," he said, "I get so lonely now she has gone. Do come again soon, won't you?"

And there is no mistaking the fact that as we give out to others, so we receive a great deal ourselves. The simple faith found among our people is wonderful and humbling. This is a ministry of caring in the real sense, even for the unlovely and the unwholesome and unwanted, and oh! there are so many. A cup of tea and a sandwich for the hungry one, a tablet of soap and a flannel for the one who has become unwashed! No need for words. It always works! A warm pullover for the old Canadian who is so chesty — warm underclothes for the old sailor home from the sea, and who feels the cold. Said one stranger as he was being helped a few days ago. "When I win me pools, Miss, I'll help yer, that I will"!!!

If you could but pay a visit to our Women's Meetings! For many, though it be a Monday or a Wednesday, it is their Sunday. Not only do they enjoy the friendship of each other, they listen eagerly to the messages, and it is a joy to hear them sing. Their closing chorus:

"Into my heart, into my heart,
Come into my heart, Lord Jesus,
Come in today, come in to stay,
Come into my heart, Lord Jesus."

And so this Christmas we would especially ask for your gifts so that we might be able to pass on those little extras which mean so much, and above all remind them of the Greatest of All Gifts Given To The World.

"Go break for the Gospel, Bread",
These words unto me the Angel said:
"And must I keep giving again and again?"
My petty and pitiless answer rang. —
"Ah! No!" said the Angel, piercing me through,
"Just give till the Master stops giving to you".

DOREEN CLIPSON



Mrs. Clipson amongst the flowers

8 ways by which YOU can help our work to progress:

1. PRAY FOR OUR WORK AND OUR WORKERS.
2. SEND A DONATION NOW.
3. HAVE A COLLECTING BOX IN YOUR HOME.
4. BECOME A COVENANTED SUBSCRIBER.
5. MAKE A LEGACY IN YOUR WILL.
6. ARRANGE A GIFT SERVICE OR A CAROL PARTY IN YOUR CHURCH.
7. SEND CLOTHING PARCELS AND SHOES.
8. ASK FOR A MISSION SPEAKER OR OUR FILM.