

## THE WHITECHAPEL MISSION

FOUNDED 1896

### Centres of Christian Activity

*Church:* Brunswick Hall, 210 Whitechapel Road, E.1.

*Working Lads' Institute:* 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:* Rev. William Parkes (*Superintendent*).  
Rev. J. Rodney McNeal.

*Deaconess:* Sister Jacqueline Wright. Tel.: BISHopsgate 8280.

*Superintendent's Secretary:* Miss N. Jones.

*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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*Deceased during year:* Rev. James E. Thorp, Alec R. Clark, Sydney Walton, CBE, MA, B.LITT.

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# ONE FOUNDATION

BEING THE ANNUAL REPORT. DECEMBER 1965.



# THE CHURCH - ONE FOUNDATION

"The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord"

If this were not so, how easy it would be for even the Lord's most faithful people to sometimes despair. Thank God that even in the darkest situation He grants light, and in the hardest places the comfort of His presence.

Imagine one of the toughest areas in the whole of Britain - a district with a notorious nineteenth century past, and enormous social problems in the present. Put into that district a church with totally inadequate resources, crumbling fabric, and a hardy but largely aged congregation. How simple it would be to just give up, to abandon all that indifference, all that taking without giving in return, all that unbelief and sin. But Jesus Christ is Lord, and because we believe this and prove day by day that it is so we aspire to rebuild on the old and true foundations of the Gospel in all its mighty power to save, and service to the community that needs a whole salvation.

The theme of this report is the One Foundation. Shortly we hope, all the planning, the praying, the hoping will come to fruition; all the frustrations will pass away; the old Brunswick Hall, saturated in prayer and praise, but often now saturated also with damp, will give way to a new and worthy set of premises. Much, much planning still has to be done, but on the old foundations a new set of buildings, suitable for the present day will arise.

At the moment the work is divided into two parts. Worship takes place in the Brunswick Hall, whilst all other meetings, and most of the staff dwellings are on the other side of the road at the old Working Lads' Institute. This building is in a worse state than the Church itself. In the new scheme all of our agencies in Whitechapel will be on the one site. At present we are busy praying and thinking through just what the essential needs are, and what they are likely to be for some time in an area such as this. Obviously the Sanctuary must be at the centre of all that we shall do. We believe that the preaching ministry still has a place here, and the pulpit of the Mission, for long the place where the Gospel has been prophetically proclaimed, will have a prominent place. We are mindful too of the need for worship to be 'worth-ship' and remember that our God should only receive the best that we are capable of. The social witness of the Mission must continue without any slackening of what we consider to be essential. The aged, the young, the one cast out from society, will find the haven that they have always found at Whitechapel. More, much more, is being considered, but all of it will be on the old foundations. We have not found, and are not likely to do so, any quick and slick way to confront with resistless power, the apathy of present-day man. Passing 'isms' and 'ologies' do not impress us. The so-called New Morality seems an empty thing when you know that youngsters coming to Mission activities are on reeferers and purple hearts. The Gospel of the sure foundation of Christ, so dear to Thomas Jackson, J. E. Thorp, and Arthur Clipson, will see no watering down at our hands. The building will be so different, the foundation will be one continuity and purpose.

## OUR NEW STAFF

**THE REV. WILLIAM PARKES**, our newly appointed Superintendent, was born in Dudley of non-Methodist parents. He answered the call to the Ministry while serving with the R.A.F. in the Far East and candidated in Korea, entering Hartley Victoria College in 1953.

Probation was served in Barnsley in a section comprising ten mining villages and after Ordination in 1959 he was appointed to Sheffield (Brunswick) Circuit. In 1963 he was awarded a World Methodist Council Scholarship to the Candler School of Theology at Emory University U.S.A., where he continued his studies in Church history, a subject on which he regularly contributes to several journals. After a further year at Sheffield Mr. Parkes comes to Whitechapel as one of Methodism's youngest Superintendent Ministers.

Mrs. Parkes also comes from Dudley; she met her husband at a Student Mission. There are two children, Kathryn (8) and Andrew (5).

**THE REV. J. RODNEY McNEAL**, is the son of a very distinguished father - the Rev. George H. McNeal, who was a Minister at Wesley's Chapel and founder of the Sheffield Mission. Mr. Rodney McNeal is a Minister of considerable experience who has served Methodism in widely spread Circuits including, in the years following the War, the Wesley Houses on the Continent. He comes to Whitechapel from Bradford where, during his stay in that Circuit, he was Chairman of the Immigrant Liaison Committee and exercised a distinguished ministry amongst the Pakistanis.

Mrs. McNeal was formerly a deaconess; there are two sons both working in the City of London - one a doctor, the other a probation officer.

**SISTER JACQUELINE WRIGHT**, whose home Circuit is Fleetwood, Lancs., entered the Deaconess Order in 1959. She comes to London Whitechapel direct from the Caravan Mission.

To the Superintendent and his colleagues we extend a cordial welcome. Elsewhere in these pages is evidence of how well they have already settled into the life of the Mission; a new chapter in our history is beginning and we pray that God's richest blessings will rest upon them as they lead our work.

H. J. BOLTON.

**ANNIVERSARY 1965.** l - r. Mrs. McNeal, Sister Jacqueline, The Super, The Chairman of the District, Rev. George Pollard, Mrs. Parkes, Mr. F. C. Yelland.

## THIS & THAT

"Nothing is quite like Whitechapel". I heard that, or something very similar, from the lips of many people before coming here in September. How true that is, I have now completely discovered. The traditions of this Mission are tremendously strong. Pride for the past, is one of the motivations that enables it to face the manifold difficulties of the present.



"GREAT IS  
OUR NEED"

Two pictures that  
tell their  
own story.

We **MUST**  
rebuild.



The Rev. and Mrs. J. Rodney McNeal, and Sister Jacqueline joined me on our first Sunday in a time of prayer before we climbed the steps of the pulpit rostrum. The morning service was so thin, that our hearts almost dropped. In the evening, things were much better, and the Chairman of the District, a good friend and wise guide, charged us and the congregation to labour on in the strength of Christ. This we have sought to do, and thanks be to God, we have had encouragement as well as set-back. The Anniversary was judged a splendid one, and goodly companies were greatly helped by the ministry of my dear friend, the Rev. George Pollard of Sheffield. We were heartened by the greetings of our fellow London Missioners, and the representatives of the nearby Churches. Congregations have fluctuated, but have shown an upward trend; a company of young people have found identity in the Church, and we believe they already feel that they belong. The Women's Meetings, always a strong feature of our work, have had a splendid Autumn. We delight in seeing a growing number of nurses and other members of the staff of the London Hospital. A faithful band of men meet week by week. All these things serve as tremendous encouragement to us, and are proof that there are those who are constantly remembering us in their prayers. The practical interest of our subscribers and supporters is something that is truly wonderful. To all who enable us to bless by the consecrated use of their pockets and purses, our deepest thanks.

The work at Windyridge and Whitechapel House is truly outstanding. How happy we are that these two great social agencies of the Christian Church are under our banner and responsibility. I wish that it were possible for every Methodist, and indeed every Christian in our land to spend time at both of these places. We have something to be proud about, and I will run the risk of being hasty in judgment when I say that I do not think the wider Church knows enough, or even cares enough, about them. To the Staff at both of these 'children of Whitechapel' I give my thanks, for their loyalty, their labours, and their great friendship.

To my fellow workers at Whitechapel itself, I also owe a debt of gratitude. They have faced situations that only a stalwart Christian without any traces of a faint heart, could have passed through. Rodney McNeal, as a senior and widely experienced minister has worked faithfully under a much junior man, and been a tower of strength in working with the men, the individual case work, and across at the hospital. Mrs. McNeal could not have worked harder. Sister Jacqueline brightens up dull days with a ready smile and gay spirit. Her work in visitation is a trojan job, and already the young people are responding to her winning ways. Miss Olive Scott has, on a voluntary basis, not only kept up the great work she does in the Women's Meetings, but served long and weary hours as my Secre-

tary and guide in the business affairs of the Mission office. Without her, we just could not have got through the routine. Mrs. Brown, the faithful Chapel keeper for so long has finally had to retire. I doubt however, if we can keep her down for long. When she is around the day goes much more smoothly. Mr. Leonard renders tremendous service, and in our problems over a caretaker Mr. Williams, Mr. Eastwood, Mrs. Clarke, and several other ladies have helped us over many a stile.

We also have had to regrettably say several farewells. The Rev. Eric W. Murray, and his good lady had a tremendous burden during their year here, following the lamented death of the Rev. Arthur Clipson. Only when one comes into the situation can one see what it must have cost them in labours abundant. We thank them, and trust that their ministry at the King's Cross Mission will be powerful. Miss Marjorie Dixon, for so long associated with the Mission has also left the district. Thank you Marjorie for everything. Mrs. G. Wilson, Superintendent's Secretary, and much more, for many years, retired in August. We wish her the happiest of rest in her native Hull, and know that Whitechapel will always have a real place in her heart. Mr. Portas and Mr. Hensey, the Society Stewards, retired during the Summer. For their work in the vestry and the Mission generally, our thanks. Miss Scott speaks of the tremendous work of Mrs. Clipson elsewhere.

Thankfully it is not all farewell, for we welcome to Whitechapel the new Secretary, Miss Nellie Jones. Miss Jones hails from Sheffield, and apart from experience in the newspaper world, she has served as the Editor of the Christian Endeavour Magazine. May her stay be long and happy.

Finally a word of appreciation to all our loyal people, to our Treasurer, Mr. F. C. Yelland, and our Circuit Steward, Mr. Henry J. Bolton, and all those good friends who serve on the various Committees of the Mission.

A Portrait of  
the New "Super"

WERE you to come across the Rev. William Parkes for the first time in an "off duty" period (which is doubtful) you would see a sandy haired, fresh complexioned young man of no more than medium height, fairly sturdily built. He would probably be wearing an old pair of slacks and possibly minus a tie. Were you asked to guess at his occupation it is doubtful whether you would include "minister of religion" in your first half dozen tries.

If, however, you were to enter into conversation with him you would rapidly guess the true state of affairs, and three facts would almost certainly emerge in the first few minutes. The first would be that here was a man who is all-time for his Lord and an eager evangelist. The second



Rev. & Mrs. William Parkes  
Kathryn and Andrew

would be a certainty that here was one who loved his fellow men, whatever their station or colour. Following close on the heels of these two would be the certain knowledge that by choice he is an adopted son of John Wesley and, because of that, a Methodist for life. Should you see him for the first time in the pulpit and listen to him preach you would gain only in the speed, not the certainty, of your knowledge.

"Bill" Parks is no ordinary mortal.

To begin with, he has a restless, enquiring mind and an intriguing perceptiveness. His clarity of vision is unusual in so young a Minister and enables him often to throw new light on old problems. He has a certain intolerance for tradition where this is delaying progress. His enthusiasm and exuberance are quite delightful and will carry him successfully through many difficult situations. He is not perhaps the world's finest business meeting taker, but this is because he wants to get on with things in as direct and simple a way as possible. His preaching is spontaneous, persuasive and virile. He believes in Christ — "Behold, the man!"

To entrust the Whitechapel Mission to his care was an act of faith, for he is one of the youngest to hold such a position in Methodism. That he was prepared to come out of a Circuit and a situation where he and his family were well loved and supremely happy before his invited term of office was ended to take up this position proves that he is not a man of weak desires, nor daunted by challenge. God's work will prosper at Whitechapel under his Superintendency.

C. W. WILKINSON, *Circuit Steward, Sheffield Brunswick Circuit.*

Note. The Superintendent accepts no responsibility for any of the above!

## "Whitechapel Calling"

NO! we never thought that we should spend our closing years of ministry in E. London, but although it could have been village life had we wanted it, as Dr. Johnson once said, 'He who is tired of London is tired of life'.

Yes, there is a tremendous challenge here and untold opportunities to meet the needs of people in so many various ways. This is not London suburbia, Carshalton — Sutton or the like — one wakes up to the roar of traffic, for we live in the flat next to the Underground. London hardly seems to sleep at night, and at an early hour the traders are busy setting up their market stalls.

Yes, it's quite an exciting place to live in is Whitechapel. When we left Bradford, the Bishop — always friendly to the Methodists — said to me, 'Oh Whitechapel, that's the place where they stick knives in your back'. Well no, not as bad as that today, whatever yesterday was like, but an area crying out for everything that the parson, the doctor, the social worker, and anyone indeed who loves people is able to give.

Now perhaps the interested reader says, but what are you really doing down there? Give us a few thumbnail sketches; is it different from ordinary



Rev J. Rodney McNeal

Mrs. McNeal



circuit work? In some ways yes and in some ways no, for a Mission that is not a Church is a rope of sand.

It becomes apparent to us working here in this Mission that despite a Welfare State for which we thank God, there is still a great deal of poverty, need, and loneliness. Never a day passes but we interview people asking for somewhere to sleep for the night or clothes that they need, or 'Can we listen to their troubles and cares?' We try to do and we try to combine real compassion with sound sense. We thus become acquainted with many of the welfare agencies that will co-operate with us in helping men and women in all sorts of need and adversity.

The housing problem in East London is chronic — here is a West Indian that the writer dealt with. His coloured landlord demands his eviction for no real reason except to let his room for a higher rental, and wife and children can be turned out — even threatened with a hatchet. I accompanied him to the rent tribunal and the tribunal fixed the rent for any future occupant and will keep an eye on this landlord. It was a pleasure to help this man, the son of a West Indian Pastor, and now settled in better accommodation that we spoke for. The problems of work amongst coloured people are immense — but we are glad to help. My wife could say much about her clothes cupboard. "Please Mam can you find me a shirt, a pair of shoes, or socks, or an overcoat".

You may think that in a Welfare State no one is without clothes. It really is not so. We can use all the good clothes that you send.

Many men have come here straight, or recently, from prison — this is very exacting and difficult work and I am glad to have a son who has served in the prison service for some years to advise sometimes. How can we help some of these cases? Last Sunday at the end of a busy day a man turned up — in and out of prison for 27 years, and yet the real presence of a gentleman — and sat down at the piano and played with great acceptance. Here was a man with many gifts — we do our best to help — it's a strange, sad, and incredible story — he might have been a University professor.

The London Hospital across the road is a real oasis to us. It is a joy to visit there, to escape sometimes from the roar of Whitechapel, and one can be very proud of this great teaching hospital. We often see nurses and others in our services. Here in one of the wards is an old man slowly reaching the end it seems; can we find his daughter? — she was once in the A.T.S., someone adopted her when he was too poor to help, he would love to see her if we could find her whereabouts. We have approached Army records, and all sorts of clues are being followed up and we hope to be able to bring this girl to her father.

Here is a Seaman just off his ship at West India Dock — he waits to catch a bus in the dark and suddenly a heavy boot kicks him in the face and breaks his jaw. Then we see him in hospital, he asks us to contact the Union for Seamen. In a few hours there is someone by his bedside attending to his needs, and one is glad to have been of some service.

It would be possible to write far beyond my space about the many who visit the Mission and who we meet in this area who are in real need.

Finally we are not just a social agency; we are preachers of a gospel and without the grace and love and power of the Spirit of God in all our work we should be empty vessels. But we do try to love people in Christ's name, and that surely is our reward. Will you remember us all in your prayers, your gifts, and your love.

J. RODNEY MCNEAL.

## FIRST IMPRESSIONS

by SISTER JACQUELINE

I RECEIVED the news of my appointment to the Whitechapel Mission with mixed feelings! To face being caught up in the hustle and busile of London's East End after travelling for four years around some of the most beautiful counties in Britain was not very easy.

On the other hand I knew that God was calling me to work amongst His own people, the Jews, and where can the voice of British Jewry be heard more clearly than in Whitechapel? Also, so far as the Mission was concerned, with plans afoot for new premises and with a completely new staff working here, I felt that these could be tremendously exciting days in which to be associated with the Whitechapel Mission. I sensed even before I set foot in the place that life would be anything but dull, and how right I was!

In our first few weeks we had been burgled twice. We learned the hard way! Certain boys in our Youth Club were so expert that they broke locks before our eyes without us realising until later how green we were!

Because we were a new staff all the scroungers in the area were queueing up to tell us their sad tales of woe. Our dilemma was (and still is!) to be able to distinguish between the genuine cases and the not so genuine! There is always the same tale of a job 'tomorrow' or National Assistance money they will receive 'tomorrow'. All too often 'tomorrow' never comes!

These first few months have been spent in getting to know our people. There are approximately 500 people on our lists to be visited. Many of these are old and sick. Some of them have not been able to get to the Mission for years yet they are not forgotten, and a visit from one of us brings them great joy. Others are connected with us through our Women's Meetings, Men's Meetings and Youth activities. All of these people must be visited in the next few months so that we can get to know them and get to know their needs.

Apart from the visiting, my work has largely been among the young people. This is interesting work to say the least. Life could never be dull with the type of child who comes on to our premises! They are noisy, cheeky, irrepressible, but oh, so lovable! I shall never forget the little boy who came to me proudly showing off his penknife. "Where did you get that from?" I asked. "I nicked it, Miss," was his reply.

Each week we have something for the different age groups. The Play-Hour cum Sunshine Corner for the under-eights is quite popular, and our noisy, boisterous group of Juniors love their Monday Club. We have had to separate boys from girls in this latter group for their own sakes and for ours! We draw our Sunday School recruits from these two groups.

One source of real encouragement to us is our small band of teenagers who come regularly to their Senior Club, to the Y.P.F. and, thank goodness, to Church. Lively and questioning they bring so often a breath of fresh air to this old Mission. It is our hope and our constant prayer that these young people will in the coming months be led into a real experience of Christ. Indeed, this is our prayer for all our people that they will find in the Mission not just a club where they can meet their friends but a fellowship so warm and real that they will find in coming the Risen Christ who can save and make all things new.



Sister Jacqueline

## WOMEN'S MEETINGS

OUR Women's Meetings continue to bring a real sense of fellowship to the Grandmother, the busy Mother, or to those who live alone - often without any known relative. The Meetings are held twice weekly throughout the year, without any break during the holiday period.

The Annual Outing took place in June, and an enjoyable day was spent at Hastings followed by tea at Wannock Tea Gardens, Polegate.

The Savings Bank is a great boon, and nearly all the women take advantage of it. They can pay in for themselves, their families or neighbours, and some women have as many as eight or nine cards. They know that the money is safe in Mission hands, whereas left at home, or in the purse, there is always the temptation to spend, or have it stolen from the tenement room. Most of the money is re-claimed at Christmas, but sometimes it serves to help with a much needed holiday, payment of rates, or even the repair of a broken denture!

At the end of August we had to bid 'Au revoir' to Mrs. Clipson who had been our President and friend for so many years and, at the end of July, past and present members of both meetings, together with some friends from the Church, gathered for a social afternoon. I tried to pay our tribute to Mrs. Clipson in the following lines, reminding ourselves of the variety of her service, and wishing her Godspeed in the days ahead.

It's nearly eighteen years ago  
Since Mrs. Clipson came to us,  
And all the way along these years  
She's been our friend, just true, no fuss.  
When sadness came, her smile brought cheer,  
Our happy times she'd always share,  
Sometimes at home, sometimes away,  
The Mission's work just filled each day.  
Her visits to the lonely souls,  
The little gifts, the homely prayers,  
By these she brought folk to her Lord  
And many hearts just felt "He cares".  
And so the years have come and gone,  
The May Day revels, children's fun,  
The girls and boys, the short, the tall,  
The fat, the thin, she loved them all.  
Then came the Outings to the sea,  
The ride by coach, the scrumptious tea,  
Such happy days for all she planned,  
Then always near with helping hand.



All Smiles for  
a Day  
in the Country

October. Anniversary Days!  
 Rich days of fellowship she'd say.  
 Our family she loved to greet,  
 Tuise Hill and Windyridge complete.  
 Then strenuous weeks to Christmas-time,  
 The dinners grand — my! how we dined,  
 And what delight those parcels brought  
 To which she'd given such time and thought.  
 But in God's plan the changes come.  
 As Mrs. Clipson soon moves on  
 To a new home, with family blest,  
 We hope that she will take some rest.  
 But in the meantime we would say  
 "God bless you on your holiday,  
 and Thank You, now, from everyone,  
 For what, throughout the years, you've done."

Tangible tokens of our gratitude were then made on our behalf in the form of a cheque handed to her by the most senior member of the Meetings, and a box of chocolates by the youngest visitor, Master Jonathan Murray. Mrs. Clipson was obviously surprised at this item in our programme, but made suitable acknowledgment to us, and asked for the loyalty of all the members to the new Staff who would be arriving in September.

O.G.H.S.

## WINDYRIDGE

A YEAR since our last Report — twelve months of change and challenge. 1965 began rather sadly with the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott to take up an appointment with the Oxford Children's Department. For the past 6½ years Kitty and Ivan had so ably fulfilled the duties of Warden and Matron, and many a young man will have reason to be grateful for their guidance, warmth and understanding whilst in residence at Windyridge.

With two key members of Staff gone, the outlook was certainly bleak at the beginning of the year but mainly due to the understanding, effort and sacrifice of our gallant band of Staff we were able to cope. Perhaps Matron and I might be forgiven if we take this opportunity of thanking our colleagues for the way they have supported and encouraged us during this period of upheaval.

We have welcomed four new members of Staff. Miss R. Errington—Assistant Matron, Mrs. A. Warren—Seamstress, Mr. R. Gooch—Assistant Warden, and Mr. D. G. Sleep—Cook. We look forward to a happy and long association with these new friends. Miss Hart, a familiar figure to many people visiting Windyridge over the past six years, retired in October. We wish her a long and happy retirement and hope that her association with our "family" will continue for many years.

Although perhaps our pattern of training has altered over the years, basically our function and the needs of our young men are still the same. These, I believe are three-fold. To teach a boy to work, to work hard and to take a pride in the job done. To train in the fundamental social values and to play a useful and fuller part in the life of the community.

I feel that we are extremely fortunate in our Instructors and I shall never cease to be amazed at the high standard of work produced in the departments with the least amount of fuss. The relationship between the Instructors and boys has never been better and this is due in no small measure to the real interest and concern each Instructor has for the boys in his Department. Our scheme of outside employment contributes much to the further development of character and responsibility and we owe much to the goodwill and understanding of the employers.



The Team 1965

One of the contributory factors in the downfall of many a youngster to-day is boredom. Boredom created by so much leisure and without the education to use it correctly. So often have I heard a boy say on his arrival at Windyridge "I did it because I just wanted something to do". This problem has been the focus of our attention for some months now and it is interesting to see the change in a boy when he discovers the real pleasure gained when he crosses the line between looking on and taking part. Our aim has been to get our boys involved in life and this has taken many forms. We are now affiliated to M.A.Y.C. and also the County Youth Association. We formed a Cricket and Swimming Team during the Summer and had several Table Tennis and Football successes, in addition to which several boys dug gardens and mowed lawns for the old and sick, and we are making plans to help the elderly in other ways. Readers of the 'Methodist Recorder' will have read of our Walk to Clacton in aid of Dabou and also of our Harvest celebrations.

I hope that friends coming to Windyridge will not leave without visiting our Club Room which has been decorated and almost completely rebuilt by the boys at their expense. Funds have been raised by various means including collecting old newspapers, etc. One Youth Club in Bristol will shortly be holding a Jumble Sale on behalf of our Club Funds from which we hope to purchase a television set.

Each evening of the week there is some organised activity in addition to many unorganised ventures. Credit is due to the Assistant Wardens for much of this side of our work. They have given freely of their time quite often when they should have been off duty. Their enthusiasm has even infected Matron and Miss Errington who are busily engaged in their free time making coffee tables and painting and decorating.

Our association with Culver Street Methodist Church continues and although attendance at Church is not compulsory there is always a good number of lads keen to attend, and quite often numbers have to be limited through lack of transport.



Open Day:  
 Members, Visitors,  
 and Friends

I feel that this year has been very much worthwhile, particularly in our relationships with the local community. The trend towards self-help on the part of the boys is extremely valuable in breaking down the "us" and "Them" barrier and the institutional mind which expects everything to be offered on a silver platter with no effort on the part of the recipient.

We at Windyridge are looking forward to 1966 and a further year of challenge and development.

TERENCE I. BILTON, *Warden.*



## WHITECHAPEL HOUSE

We are here to help boys,  
 Help them if we can  
 In the strength of Jesus  
 That is what we plan.  
 Every lad who comes here  
 Comes because of need —  
 Homeless or forsaken,  
 Any sect or creed.  
 Pray for us we ask you  
 Every morn and night  
 Lift our cause to heaven  
 Help us see the light.  
 Ours the hands to lift boys  
 Up from error's way,  
 So we serve our Master;  
 Every single day.

IT seems impossible that a year has gone by since I wrote my first Annual Report. A year of hard work, of frustrations, of problems, of comings and goings but above all a year of wonderful blessing. A year for which we thank God. During that year nearly 200 boys have been in our home — some for a few days, some for months. Some have gone from us and probably we shall never see them again; some come back to see us and let us know how they are getting on. They have come to us from the four corners of the earth and our aim has been that here they will find not only food and shelter, but a purpose in life. That they will come to know that not only are we concerned about them but, what is more important, that God is concerned about them.

One of our lads did a four month trip to the West Indies in the Norwegian Merchant Navy. When he docked in London he came straight to Whitechapel House and when Matron answered the door bell, there he was, his face all smiles — "Hullo Matron, I've come back home". He had, and we were delighted. Another lad we were able to re-unite with his family

who, for almost two years, had mourned him as dead. A modern version of the story of the Prodigal Son. And so we could go on — stories — stories — every day a new one. There's certainly never a dull moment in our house!

Our greatest difficulty has been the lack of suitable staff. We pray that God will send us the right people to help us in this important and worthwhile work. In the meantime we go forward confidently into yet another year encouraged and strengthened by the verse which confronts us every day from my office wall —

"Faith, mighty faith, the promise sees,  
 And looks to that alone;  
 Laughs at impossibilities  
 And cries: it shall be done."

WILLIAM T. BURT, *Warden.*

## THE CLOTHING CUPBOARD

IT is just three months since I came with my husband to the Whitechapel Mission. Many and varied have been the tasks that have fallen to my lot, chief of which is looking after the 'clothes cupboard'. Its existence fills a real need in our neighbourhood; there are so many elderly and sick folk. They cannot afford to buy new clothes and are glad of the opportunity of being able to come to us to supply their need. Many of them are only too willing to make some small contribution and so swell our rebuilding fund. There are those whose need is great who have nothing to give in return. — The young unmarried mother who wants to keep her baby; we were able to give her a full layette. — The man making his way back to Manchester supplied with a pair of boots (earning them by carrying heavy packages down 69 steps!). Was it just coincidence that on the morning I opened a parcel of men's clothing containing a pair of size 6 boots a man should come in for them? He was returning home to his wife and family in the north and wanted to be decently shod. He gave us 10/-. all that was left after paying his fare home, so that someone else could be helped.

There are many knocks upon our doors, so many have fallen by the wayside, some because of their own folly, others because life has given them hard blows. We stand here to help and succour; we need your help too; remember us in your prayers. As the Lord has blessed you, will you enable us to go on helping those whose need is so great. 'In as much as you did it unto the least of these My brethren ye did it unto Me!'

VIOLET MCNEAL.

*Note.* Mrs. McNeal would like to stress the urgent need for men's clothing, and that suitable for outside women. These items are particularly needed. — but please continue with normal ladies wear too!

*Cover Design.* We are grateful to Mr. Michael Clipson for the design that appears on the cover of the Report.

## Christmas 1965

It is no accident that this Report comes to you near the birthday of our Lord. We shall bring home to many whose lives are often drab and dreary the great and good tidings. We appeal to you to help us by sending a gift for that something a little special — the meals we shall serve, the parties we shall give, the parcels we shall distribute.

A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL.



Two aspects of our Youth Work — (left) Three of our boys decorating the Flat for our Secretary; (right) Some of our younger members waiting for the Party to begin!

## TREASURER'S NOTES

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL to those who by their response to our appeals have maintained their gifts and entered into Covenants during the past year.

For those who are able to pay Income Tax at the standard rate of 8/3d in the £, a Covenant for £1 p.a. brings in a total for the Mission of **£1.14.1.** the extra 14/1d per £ being a repayment by the Inland Revenue of Tax which they have previously collected from the donor's income. This is a very simple and most helpful way of increasing our income, at little or no cost to the giver.

For those who are making their Wills please remember the work which must go on and leave us a Legacy or arrange for a Codicil to your existing Will.

For those who own Stocks and Shares or other forms of Capital may we suggest a transfer to the Mission, or a part only, or a transfer of the Dividends or Interest.

If you ask why we make these suggestions it is because none of our Central Missions in the large towns at present or in the foreseeable future can exist without massive outside support both in voluntary staff and money.

After making due allowance for all that Local and National agencies are doing and with full appreciation of their work, there is left a vast area of work waiting to be done by dedicated Christian workers, for those who for one reason or another just cannot cope. It is the case of the "extra mile" touch all the time.

If you have any queries or suggestions over any sort of help you can give our hard pressed staff, please do not hesitate to write, call or phone.

Again with thanks and sincere appreciation,

FRED C. YELLAND, Hon. Treasurer.

## 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.

## 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.

## OBITUARY

**The Rev. J. E. Thorp.** Since the last Report, the second Superintendent of the Mission, in succession to the Rev. Thomas Jackson, has passed to his reward. The great bulk of his long ministry was spent in this place, and he worthily continued the great traditions of the founder. We thank God for his great life.

**Mr. Sydney Walton, C.B.E., M.A., B.Litt.** Mr. Walton, a well known figure not only throughout Methodism, but also in the life of the City of London, was a keen member of the Executive. Much of the effort to re-build was in his hands. We shall sadly miss his guidance.

**Mr. Alec R. Clark.** Mr. Clark served as a member of the Mission Executive, and cared greatly for all things appertaining to Whitechapel. We are so happy that Mrs. Clark has consented to serve on the Windyridge Management Committee.

**Mrs. W. E. Hunter Rowe.** For some time the members of the Women's Meetings have known the great hospitality of Mrs. Rowe in their annual visits to East Anglia. She was a gracious Christian lady. To Alderman Hunter Rowe, a member of the Executive, we extend our deepest sympathy.