

THE WHITECHAPEL MISSION FOUNDED 1896**General Office, 279 Whitechapel Road, E.1.**

Tel. : 01 - 247 - 8280

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CHANGE****AT****WHITE
CHAPEL**

All Change at Whitechapel

I SUPPOSE few people associate Whitechapel with a main line station. They are right, of course, although the underground system that runs absolutely alongside and beneath our building is so arranged that considerable changes take place from line to line underneath the Mission. The station apart, the cynic might say that few changes ever take place here.

Sociologists speak of 'sub-cultures', 'twilight areas' and 'interstitial zones' and most would agree that Whitechapel qualifies for all of this jargon and more besides so far as the nature of much of its society is concerned. But Whitechapel IS changing, not always for the better or the sweeter, but changing it is. Whitechapel has always been in the throes of change even if sadly its setting both humanly and physically speaking has improved insufficiently enough during the process.

If along the Whitechapel Road a new face is slowly appearing with building and development schemes, behind this wide thoroughfare there still lie the fears and wants, personal tragedies and overwhelming human problems that have beset us for generations.

In spite of some popular opinions to the contrary, Jack the Ripper no longer stalks our streets at nights and the gin palaces have disappeared. But in their stead there are more sophisticated evils and equally degrading spots. Changes, yes, changes for the better, well . . . our children still have environmental disadvantages that would make faint hearts weep; family breakdown and mental health in this area cause grave concern and have been well publicised. Overcrowding and homelessness, whether by dreadful accident or deliberate and inadequate choice menace our whole environment.

Just a day or two ago, when walking behind the Mission I came across a small child playing on a heap of decaying filth (not necessarily a left over from the dustmen's strike) smashing a dozen or so cheap wine and methylated spirits bottles with a large marble. Sad toys for a child growing in a sad area. God gives us strength and grace to fight against the changes of the more modern sick society and present to individuals in our situation the changelessness of infinite Love.

Meanwhile the Mission changes drastically. Brunswick Hall has gone and the new Mission is slowly rising on its island site. If the present rate can be kept up, September or October next year will see the completion of the scheme. Until then we stagger on at 279 with all the difficulties that this presents.

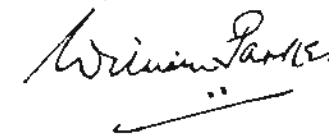
If by our great change we can help institute a wider change – and symbolically in rearing from rubble and decrepitude, we shall stand as a living message to the whole area, what a future there will be for the Whitechapel Mission!

The work grows, interest has not been higher for many years; calls upon our ministry and service continue apace.

We are facing a historical moment of new beginnings. We do so with concern and gratitude to God for opened doors and fresh privileges.

Go through with us, pray and give, support and encourage, and blessings abound towards you.

Sincerely,



ANYWHERE . . . BUT LONDON

FULL-TIME Christian work is not a new venture for me. Until four years ago I was employed as a Port Missioner with a well-known naval Christian society; unfortunately I had to retire from this owing to ill-health. When I fully recovered the old desire for Christian service returned to me again. Last year I decided to candidate for our ministry, but was unsuccessful in my attempt.

"What next Lord", I prayed, "If only I could get back into your work, I'll go anywhere . . . ANYWHERE? . . . Ah! except London", I muttered under my breath. This was the last place I wanted to go and now here I am at Whitechapel! It is God's will for me to be here, of this I have no doubt, but at this stage it is not my intention to tell you how I was guided here, perhaps I will be privileged to do this on some other occasion.

What impressions have I on the work so far? This question I will try to answer in the following way

Anyone who is familiar with our old Mission premises, will never forget the steps, nor will I, especially when the door-bell rings, and I have to negotiate all sixty-nine for a false alarm! Then there are other problems domestic-wise, when we all become "Char-ladies". Rooms have to be cleaned and prepared for meetings, and those steps . . . they have to be swept and mopped, not to mention that dark, dismal corridor. BUT, "the best is yet to be". How encouraged we are, when we have to pop across to the post office, and see our new building going up and up and up. Hallelujah!

How thrilling it is to be back in the "front line of battle" once again. As a great believer in pastoral visitation it has been my joy to visit the homes of one or two of our sick and elderly members. One such visit I will never forget. The lady in question had been ill for a long time, and on my visit the dear soul welcomed me into her little kitchen. We conversed for a while, and then when I was about to leave, I asked if we might have a word of prayer. She agreed, and as I was just about to commence, there came a knock at the front door. On answering the caller was told, "The vicar is in at the moment", I was wearing my "dog collar" at the time.

In she came followed by a nun. "Oh! Good-afternoon Father", she said in her broad Irish accent, and for the rest of our conversation I was thus labelled! Needless to say I did not leave without my word of prayer, with and for them both.

I had not been visiting in Whitechapel long before I saw the material as well as the spiritual needs of some of the local inhabitants. One dear old couple I met were in a pathetic state. The husband (once an active member of our Mission in his younger days, as so was his wife) had to have his leg amputated as a result of gangrene. They live in a multi-storey block of flats on the fourth floor, which is not served by an elevator. He showed me a wheel chair he is unable to use because of the steps. They are both well into their eighties, so you can perhaps understand the plight they are in. As pensioners (and poor one at that) they were badly in need of clothing, and we were pleased we were able to meet some of their requirements from our clothing cupboard. How gratefully they received what little we could offer them. This leads me to say a big THANK YOU to those of you who help to keep our clothing-cupboard well stocked. Please keep up the good work, our recipients are so appreciative, as we are also.

What a joy it is to share, with Mr Parkes, the chaplaincy of London Hospital, and what a task we have trying to fit all the visits in. Many of the folk we contact have no real connections with church, although their hospital reference cards usually bear the tag, Methodist, Baptist, Salvationist or some other "ist", which doesn't count for much these days. We are well received by both staff and patients, the latter whom we try to encourage and reassure in this their time of crisis. Occasionally one has the opportunity to revive past memories of Sunday School days and to discover why there seems to be no personal interest in Christianity today. This gives them a little food for thought.

Other opportunities one has for the proclamation of the gospel are terrific. The women's meetings show a slight increase in numbers, but our meetings amongst the men interest me most. Where else in Methodism do you find a congregation on Sunday evening where the men outnumber the women at the average of about three to one? Oh yes we do have to "throw the sprat to catch the mackerel" - by the way of the Sunday tea - but the mackerels are there. On the other



Pastor and Mrs J. Terry

hand, let's face it, they are men who would not be entertained in other fashionable churches because of their "off-putting" appearance, but when I look at them I do not see them as "down and outs", but as souls for whom Christ died. Did not Jesus say, "Go into the highways and byways", to "seek and save that which is lost"? I thank God that here at Whitechapel exists a Mission that is willing to do just this.

No doubt some of you may be tempted to think these men only come for what they can get? This, in part, is quite right (especially as far as the food is concerned) but they are not forced to attend the service. "They come for what they can get". Surely there is a parable here somewhere? Do we go to church because we have been brought up this way? Or do we go for what we can get? There's a "lot to be got," when we are expecting something from Him!

Was it St. Paul who said of Lydia, "She worshipped God and heard us"? In that case she was attentive and receptive, and in most cases these men are the same. At least they do listen. One final thought, although we cannot see much fruit for our labours at the moment, "in due season we SHALL reap if we faint not" . . . "Brethren pray for us".

JIM TERRY.

WELCOME . . .

. . . and FAREWELL

THE Rev. and Mrs. J. Rodney McNeal departed for pastures new in August. For four years they served manfully and well on the staff and the Mission will be indebted to them for a long time to come. Mr McNeal's work among alcoholics and the 'outcasts of men' was costly and very frequently unrewarding, but the praise of his colleagues in the work in the East End, so rightly circulated in the periodical 'Interact' reveals just something of the esteem in which he was held. Mrs McNeal gave hours and hours of work in the life of the Mission in the clothing cupboard and among the men and women generally who came upon our premises.

Instead of "sitting down" and enjoying a well-earned retirement, Mr McNeal has accepted the need for oversight to be given at the Rivercourt Church in Hammersmith and is serving as an active supernumerary in yet another Mission situation, albeit a somewhat different one from Whitechapel.

We welcome in Mr McNeal's stead James Terry. Although not ordained, Jim Terry has years of experience of full time work in the agencies of the Church. Following his period as a student at Cliff College he remained as a staff evangelist, completing in all seven years in this field.

LAST SERVICES AT BRUNSWICK HALL

I WAS privileged on June 29th to take part in the last service to be held in Brunswick Hall, the Mission Church, before the bulldozers were to commence their work. This was a glad occasion, one had looked forward to for so many years, and yet there was mingled with it as you can imagine, mixed thoughts and feelings. Thoughts of past days and people, with the things which had been "said and done". It had been no "idle flutter" when Rev. Thomas Jackson bought that building for worship years ago. He was not only a man of action in his day, but truly a prophet of God, little of stature but big in heart and mind with a belief in a Mission which was to be unceasing in its ministry in that particular part of London. The Congregationalists and Baptists had worshipped there, the great Haddon Spurgeon having laid a stone at its entrance. Now on the market, Thomas Jackson put in his bid and was outwitted by the head of a syndicate which wanted it for use as a cinema. Thomas Jackson told them in no uncertain words, if they attempted to do this he would shake them over the very "Jaws of Hell". The frightened gentlemen withdrew and so it became the Church of the Whitechapel Mission, a place of veritable healing and sanctuary. For eighteen years I was privileged to work by the side my husband, the Superintendent, following on the good work of Rev. J. E. Thorpe, Rev. Jackson's successor. As the simple message of the gospel has been preached, men and women and little children have found here the "open door", knowing that they would be listened to and be helped. I saw again the smiling face of a woman we had persuaded to come to Church. One Sunday she came smiling down the aisle bringing her husband. He had never been inside a Church before. He also kept coming and then joined our fellowship. A few weeks passed and she came not only with her husband but with "the man from upstairs". We can't all produce him, but no harm is being done if we can, and bring him to church. That home was a happy home from then on because of the friendship and caring found in the Mission. I remembered many things as I stood in the pulpit on that last evening; the "Clothing Cupboard" which was under the Church, and its ministry, because it is a ministry. Again and again we thought we heard the words of the Master: "I was naked and ye clothed me". The old man one winter's day, cold, hungry, needing an overcoat so badly; having found one for him some kind friend had sent along, I can see him now, his step was lighter as he emerged into the outside world again. "Thank yer kindly lady. Boy I've backed a winner today, aint I?" Yes, as much as ye did it, etc.

Why pull the Church down? Its fabric was wearing out, but the work is not finished, just being transferred to a new and better building, a building which will embrace so much.

Service followed with one of the Seamen's Mission organisations and he has packed much experience in a wide area of Christian endeavour into his years. He will serve as Associate in Whitechapel, and, all in all, undertake the personal contact and ministry in the immediate area. Mavis, his wife, is a State Certified Midwife, and hopes to use her professional experience in the immediate neighbourhood. It is good to have them and already the 'team' has found a cohesiveness in the common work.

Sister Eileen Knight strove dutifully and well with the Deaconess work last year. Throughout a great deal of this time she was far from well, but like all of us, Whitechapel had got into her blood and she battled on. Very regretfully she had to take a rest period as from August and for the time being at least we are without a Deaconess. We hope and pray that Sister Eileen will soon be perfectly fit and return to the full work of the Order that she loves and cherishes so much.

Mr. and Mrs John E Stowers took up their appointments as Warden and Matron at Windyridge during the year and have settled into the work wonderfully well. With a background of much experience in the care of young people in difficulties, they bring a new richness to the great work at the 'Ridge'. It is good to have the Stowers family within the Mission family.

Mr Frank Elwood, who had served as one of our Assistant Wardens for a number of years, left us to go into full time training in September. We shall miss Frank, but welcome his successor shortly.

The Staff in Happy Mood

Back Row:

Rev. Wm. Parkes
Pastor J. Terry

Front Row:

Mrs E. Reynolds
Mrs J. Terry
Mrs Wm. Parkes
and Jonathan
Miss N. Jones
Mrs N. D. Clipson



Our Harvest Festival
1969



As we listened that night to the message from Rev. William Parkes and Sister Eileen, we realised there was so much to be done. A caring Church can never cease to care. It is truly a piece of God's Work, so much needed in this particular part of London. Have you noticed that so many of the "wanted men" are found in and around Whitechapel. Not an easy neighbourhood to work in, but such an opportunity to take the message into the Brick Lanes and Petticoat Lanes of this area where so many of our people live. The Mission was born here and here will be its witness among people in dire need. The world's outcasts many of them, but not God's.

One of the stallholders on the wide pavement outside the Mission looking at the Church which had commenced to be pulled down, said, 'Mr. Clipson's dream coming true'. Yes, a dream of so many, a dream which is to become a reality and an answer to the cry of old: **Come over and help us.**

DOREEN CLIPSON.

Transformation Scene

ONE OF the delights of the old-style pantomime used to be the final 'transformation scene' when the raising of various curtains eventually revealed the 'Finale' in full glory and the audience gasped in admiration.

Such an easy transformation was not our lot when, because of the demolition of Brunswick Hall to make way for the new building, we had to find another Church. There was only one possible solution, the Alexandra Room, the schoolroom-Sunday tea-general purposes room in the W.L.I. building! But what to do with it and how to set about it? Heads got together, suggestions were made, offers of help in time and materials accepted and gradually, by dint of much hard labour, many hours of toil, many cups of tea, and much dust and dirt (!) the transformation began to come to life.

Looking at the result it is hard to realise what a change has taken place. We have a Church - oh yes, it still has to be used for Sunday

tea and Wednesday women's meeting and Junior Club, but nevertheless, on a Sunday evening it is a Church, where worship can be conducted in fitting conditions.

No words can express our gratitude to those who worked so hard and long, Mr Leonard, Mr Fuller and boys from Tulse Hill and Ilford, and maybe words are not really needed, for the real appreciation of what was done is seen Sunday by Sunday in the increasing number of those who join in worship, in the heartiness of the singing and in the atmosphere of interest and reverence.

A transformation - yes - and perhaps not only in surroundings but also in hearts.

ANNIVERSARY TIME

WE ARE 73 years old but we had more than seventy three folk who remembered and shared with us in our Anniversary celebrations both for tea and the evening rally.

This year it was indeed 'all change at Whitechapel' for although we were able to have tea in the W.L.I. premises, using our now dual-purpose Church-cum-general-room, it was quite impossible to have the afternoon and evening rallies in this building.

We were so grateful when our request for accommodation in the Tower Hamlets (locally known as Charringtons) Mission just along the road met with so ready a response from the Superintendent, Rev. J. Gent.

By this kindness we were able to worship in a truly beautiful church and enjoy the atmosphere of such surroundings.

Our ladies supported us well in the afternoon and made their own contribution to the meeting in the singing of their special hymn "Down in the Valley"; the Rev. and Mrs Arthur Bird led us in the singing of choruses and later Mr Bird held our interest as he spoke of the love of Christ.

Thanks to the kindness of friends and helpers an excellent tea was enjoyed by more than eighty folk, many of whom commented on the 'feast' provided and greetings and good wishes were passed on from local churches.

The evening rally was a happy one, under the chairmanship of Mr David Barnes and with an inspiring address from the Rev. 'Bob' Morris of East Ham. Mr and Mrs Bird delighted us again with their singing and at both gatherings Mrs Parkes led our hearts in worship by her playing of a fine organ.

As usual Sunday services were conducted by 'our own folk', our new Pastor, Mr Terry in the morning and our Superintendent in the evening.

A busy week end but one well worth all the extra duties to be done and one for which we give thanks to God and to the many friends who joined with us in work, prayer and praise



Work in progress on the new building

Rebuilding Appeal

The situation as at the end of October 1969 is that whilst our building grows steadily the appeal results do not keep pace. It would be easy to be disappointed and feel that the great air of expectancy had been deflated somewhat, but this is not so. I am as confident as ever that the required finance will come. I just wish that it were a little speedier in arriving! This is of the Lord, of that I am quite sure, and in leaving it to Him we do so, not that we can sit back and wait the final shout of triumph, but in confidence and trust.

WM. PARKES.

Something like £12,000 is still required

CAN YOU HELP? Please consider it.

What about a —

COFFEE MORNING

AFTERNOON TEA

SMALL "BRING AND BUY"

A WHITECHAPEL NIGHT with a Whitechapel speaker

A COLLECTING BOX —
specially produced for the Appeal

BOOKLETS OF "BRICKS"

A SHEET OF SEALS at 2/6 per sheet

PASSING THE REPORT ON TO A FRIEND —
extra copies available

Asking for more literature

Considering SPECIFIC GIFTS (furnishings, beds, etc.) for
the Mission or Hostel rooms

Work among Women

THE OLD adage that woman's work is never done is true in many ways, not least in the sense of the work among the women who share in the life and activities of the Mission.

And this is as it should be for there is a continuing ministry to be both given and received.

Those of us on the Mission staff enjoy the fellowship we have with 'our ladies' in the Monday and Wednesday meetings and try to share with them the ups and downs of life that come along. We rejoice when things go smoothly, we are sad when we hear of distressing experiences. The loss of a relative, the mean theft of carefully saved cash from an old age pensioner — yes, this has been the experience of one dear soul four times in recent months — the continuing painful illness necessitating regular hospital visits with very little relief, all these and many other experiences are shared, and, we hope, perhaps alleviated by the sharing.

On Monday afternoons a few meet in No. 5, one of our smaller rooms, for an hour of fellowship together. It is an informal time, not always under the same leadership or with the same speaker, but **always** happy! Well-loved hymns, choruses, a talk (we wouldn't aspire to calling it an address) and, of course the inevitable "cuppa", together with a chat afterwards, hearing and passing on the news of the previous

week. A small meeting but none the worse for that for here there can be perhaps that closer relationship when we really get to know each other and share experiences. And this sharing of experience and particularly hearing of the simple faith and trust of those whom we seek to serve is indeed a rich blessing. The giving is not all on one side from us to them — it is indeed a two way traffic that to appropriate words from Shakespeare 'blesses him that gives and him that receives'.

Wednesday sees a larger and maybe more conventional meeting but still with the same happy atmosphere and 'cuppa'. Here there is usually an outside



ABOVE: Some of our Women's Meeting Members



BELOW: Some of Wednesday night's regulars

speaker or a musical afternoon and we do appreciate the willing service given in this way by friends of the Mission.

The Thrift Club is a feature of both meetings and the savings thus carefully gathered week by week make sure that when Christmas comes there is that little extra for the season's festivities.

No reference to these meetings would be complete without mentioning the name of Mrs Reynolds, our most loyal pianist. How we miss her on the odd occasions when she cannot be with us, and how we enjoy her smiling face appearing so regularly week by week. To her and indeed to all who serve and help we would say 'Bless you for all the blessing you bring to us'.

One of the highlights of the year is, of course, the annual trip to the seaside. We are not always fortunate with the weather and there have been occasions when the rain has started with us and stayed with us all day until the homeward journey when the sun has deigned to shine. This year, however we were happy both in our choice of Brighton as our destination and in our choice of the day, for the sun shone and 'a good time was had by all', except for the final few minutes when two of our party suffered losses of money. We sympathised with them and searched in the hope of finding the missing cash, but to no avail and it was a sad ending to an otherwise perfect day.

So the work continues through the year, sometimes glad, sometimes sad, sometimes easy, sometimes hard, sometimes appreciated, sometimes not, but always **needed**, for indeed there is no end either to the need or the opportunity, and so we seek to follow Paul's injunction to the Galatians and "as we have opportunity" . . . so we seek to do good

NELLIE JONES.

THE STORE OF NECESSITY

SINCE OUR last annual report, many have been the parcels of clothing that have found their way to Whitechapel. We do appreciate your kindness in the past, but again I appeal to you for yet more clothing, we can never have too much.

We look forward to the day when we can move out of our dingy little room, to a more spacious place in the new Mission. For us it will be all change at Whitechapel, yet these men are the same. They come and go, all sorts and conditions of men. Some are scruffy hard-living drunks, some are sick, but most of them have a sad story to tell. If at times our stomachs are sickened, two well known phrases come to mind, "There, but for the grace of God . . ." and the lovely words of our Saviour, "Inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me". This gives us the courage to carry on this work, when at times our spirit fails us.

In the next few weeks, we shall be sorting through the cupboard to find suitable clothing for 60-70 Christmas parcels. Our efforts are well rewarded when we see the appreciation on the faces of our people.

All change at Whitechapel! Yes, but the work of the clothing cupboard is still the same. In this humble, yet vital work of the Mission, we try to show the practical side of Christianity. May I appeal to you once again, on behalf of these people who are less fortunate, and leave you with the words of the Master: "Inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

A cupboard incident: One day we had a meths drinker who needed a pair of shoes. We had to smile when he said he had worn out his old ones by walking back and forth to the labour exchange! His need was met, for whatever the conditions of their humanity, all God's children need shoes.

Our thanks for the past, and our hopes for the future.

MARGARET R. PARKES.

From the Treasurer

AGAIN the time has come round for me to thank very sincerely all those who have given us help financially, and in many other ways, during the past year, and this I gladly do. Without this generous support and interest it would be impossible to carry on and it is good that there are those who interest others in our work, who replace those who pass on.

We are glad too that so far the Rebuilding Fund Appeal has not affected the usual donors but we realise that some cannot give more than a limited amount. We are quite certain that we need now and as far as we can see, shall always have to rely on the regular subscribers, to keep going the work of the kind that has to be done.

Covenants are a great help and those paying at the standard rate of 8/3 in the £ benefit the Mission enormously, at little or no cost to themselves. Please do not hesitate to ask any question about this kind of help.

Other items in this Report will show the urgency and necessity for the numerous activities at present carried on and for expansion which can only begin when we get the new premises and financial support necessary.

FRED C. YELLAND.

Mrs Parkes, often accompanied by baby Jonathan, gives hours of work to the Mission every week. The wife of a Mission Superintendent is not as easy one, a frequently absent husband and irregular family life makes it more than a little unenviable. Thank you for everything.

They Came to Us

IT WAS in the summer when A . . . came. He was 76 years old and has spent a total of 42 years of them in prison. We quickly came to love him. He was quiet, grateful (not that this is tremendously important) and made himself so very useful as cleaner, 'refreshment-maker' and general help. But A . . . was completely institutionalised. He was afraid to cross the road, uncertain of why 1969 should be here and he with it. The world outside was too big, too confusing for the little man who had only really known the inside. A . . . walked out one morning. On occasions we look for a minute or two through the large windows of our improvised Church and hope he will come into view from behind the market stalls. He hasn't yet, but we hope he will. You see, we love him.

B . . . was a seaman, but his feet beat him. They were enlarged and sore and on busy tankers B . . . just could not keep up. We took him in, helped to clothe him, found him a bed. B . . . was part of our little community. He was sure he could find work and he did. Do not despise the dish-washers of this world for where would we be without them. B . . . comes now walking more upright. He knows he is wanted, he is a man, he has a place that is 'home' . . .

C . . . is old. Just how old we do not know for such a question would raise considerable abuse upon our heads. She sleeps rough and screams across our Sunday tea table if the unfortunate "down and out" sitting opposite seems to have a crumb or two more than she has on her plate. She comes to the service and sits like a shrivelled up little doll that has passed through too many hands. She screeches through a familiar hymn and smiles. C . . . may not have a bed but she does have a place. She would not admit it perhaps, but she does, and it is with us.

D . . . is faceless. Not faceless as are the teeming thousands who giving nothing of themselves, walk our streets, but faceless because of distortion. Like the man in the Bible healed by our Lord, he has fits. D . . . is faceless, unrecognisable, forced to wander among a people who look horrified at his very presence. Children can hurt with their cries, and D . . . has known much hurt. He sits with us for a meal. He says little and asks for little. Having eaten and obtained a clean shirt he bids us goodnight until next week, but what's that, can it be talk? Yes, it is, he clearly said, through a gap that serves as a mouth. "Thank you, God is good . . .".

Mrs. Kit Gordon joined the office team on a part-time basis earlier in the year. She has contributed a great deal to our efficiency and helps make life a little easier administratively.

TULSE HILL

The Thomas Jackson Memorial Hostel



Mrs Trumper, now 75 years old, who has been with us 15 years, and Mrs Tancock make the beds

THE PATTERN of work in any home must be associated with the character and need of the residents.

In this area our work is as distinctive as it can be. So far as we are aware our residential work in London is the only centre where youths with such diverse backgrounds as probation, Borstal and Detention Centre after-care, psychiatric and physical problems, and just normal, plain homeless lads alone in the big city, can find shelter under one roof.

The work has long been recognised as deeply significant by the Department of Health and Social Security and we are indeed grateful for their positive encouragement which really means the difference between keeping open the avenue of hope to deprived lads, or shutting the doors.

Night after night every single bed (21) is taken and we wish the walls were made of rubber. There are long term residents who will need a Christian therapeutic community for a very long time, and those who are able to stand on their own feet in a matter of a day or two.

One marvels at the capacity of the Warden and Housemother (Mr and Mrs Alan Southen) and their loyal staff to go on day in and day out, often in situations of tension and extreme difficulty, without losing patience or the hope of renewal that comes from a belief in the ultimate good that can be made to function in all.

It is not easy work but it is overwhelmingly rewarding!

The new era in fresh premises will see the work restored to its original home with an increased bed capacity to 30 places. Meanwhile the light always shines from Whitechapel House, a light that represents much to lads who often have a record where the best is grey and the worst very black indeed.

Personal stories could be told by the hundred but the privacy of those concerned forbids it. Do take our word for it, we see real renewal and response, often among the least likely. Infinite love and patience does win through.

WINDYRIDGE HOME

"A New Look"

LIVING as we do in an era of rapid change in outlook regarding the treatment and rehabilitation of the young offender, "Windyridge" has recently stepped into line to meet the consequent challenge of new concepts and has itself adopted a new look in both attitudes and professionalism. Everything possible has been done to emphasise a homely atmosphere within "The Ridge".

The latest improvement is the erection of a fine Warden's House, which will relieve the over-crowding of staff accommodation and improve the general living conditions of the boys.

Our fundamental aim is to offer our youngsters time to think things out for themselves. Since adolescence is a period of searching for truths, the assessment of self and the demands of the society of which he is a part, what he finds must surely be the responsibility of the adults around him.

If we wish to achieve any measure of real and lasting success, we must have more to offer than charity of thought and the will to help and understand. We must be aware of the phenomena of difficult behaviour and offer an effective means of guidance through the difficulties of adolescence, so that we re-awaken those who have opted out and become negatively withdrawn and reassure those whose unbearable sense of insecurity has expressed itself in aggression.

The farm maintains a small herd of dairy cows, a growing herd of breeding pigs, a small flock of ewes and some poultry. A small acreage of arable land is also under plough.

In the workshops boys may learn the elements of a number of trades, including bricklaying, carpentry and joinery, painting and decorating or simple plumbing. All maintenance work on the estate together with some structural alterations and new buildings, including making bricks, is carried out in this department.

The garden department caters for practical experience in this sphere, together with training in the proper use of modern machinery. Training is also available for those interested in market gardening.

The main purpose of any departmental training is to stimulate interest, to give satisfaction in participation in constructive work and to demand standards comparable with those of paid employment.

Facilities are available for attendance at the local Technical Colleges of Further Education in preparation for City and Guilds examinations.

Towards the end of training opportunities exist for a boy to work out with local farmers or employers so that he can experience actual working conditions and re-assess his own ability before he leaves "Windyridge" to take up permanent employment.

A great deal of thought is applied to the constructive use of residents' leisure time and daily routine, so that these latter needs are catered for satisfactorily and positive guidance given towards ultimate maturity.

In no way is a twelve months "Condition of Residence" meant to imply a need for segregation from society as a form of punishment for previous anti-social behaviour, and therefore, as much contact with the local community as possible is encouraged through local Youth Clubs, Further Education Evening Centre Classes or sports fixtures with neighbouring Football or Cricket Clubs. Invitations are occasionally extended to other organisations in the area so that lads may learn the responsibilities of being hosts.

Not least among our social contacts is our relationship with local Churches, both Methodist and Anglican.

Many hands of friendship are offered to every boy who enters "Windyridge" and Liaison Probation Officers and the Padre are frequently at hand so that there is always someone available to talk things over with.

It would not, I think, be out of context here to record the appreciation of the staff of "Windyridge" for the support and trust which is extended to them by the Management Committee.

It is an inspiration and help to remember always the well worn phrase, "There, but for the Grace of God - Go I!" and everyone involved in the care of our youngsters is unstinting in his efforts to accept them and love them as we love ourselves.

JOHN E. STOWERS, Warden.

WARMEST THANKS are due, as always, to our tremendously hard working Treasurer, Mr F. C. Yelland; our Circuit Stewards, Mr H. J. Bolton and Mr Sidney Fuller; our organist, Mr H. Leonard; and door steward, Mr Williams. To the Sunday tea helpers, Mr and Mrs Williams; our young Ilford friends, Derek and Maureen; the Sunday School workers who come to us from the hospital; Mrs E. Reynolds for her great help with the women's meetings, and the ladies from Broomfield, Brentwood and Walthamstow who rally to our side on the big occasions when hands and hearts are all important. We appreciate what they do and wish words could really convey it.

Add to this our deep appreciation of what supporting Churches and individuals do on our behalf in their giving and prayers and our indebtedness knows no bounds.

WHITECHAPEL ADVENTURERS



Whitechapel Adventurers staff in planning session

AT THE beginning of this year attendance of children at the Sunday School dropped off completely and for several weeks no children at all came along. This was partly because two large families of children left the area. After prayer, and the realisation that if the Lord wanted children in this area to hear about Himself and His love, He would bring them along, we ventured on to the streets and befriended children we met there and invited them to come along to Sunday School, after also meeting and talking to their parents. The next week and for several weeks after, the children came. Since then we have met others, particularly those living near the London Hospital Students' Hostel where we live. These latter children have been coming more or less regularly since then, and we have come to know them very well, especially as we have some contact with them during the week. We have also been enabled to start valuable friendships with their parents, which we believe to be a very important facet of our work. We are conscious of our responsibility before God to these little ones, of the difficulties confronting us, particularly our relationships with the children, but we are also aware of the fact that this is primarily God's work and He is longing to bless it if only we remain faithful in prayer and activity. In closing we would like to say how grateful the four of us are to Mr Leonard our pianist, who week by week remains faithful, his quiet support on Sundays is such a help.

ANDREW MOTT. ROBIN SUDLAW,
JUDI FREEMAN. ROSE HALCOMBE.

Without Miss Jones, our Secretary, things would grind to a miserable stop. The amount of administrative work is huge and includes not only the Whitechapel Section but a great deal for Windyridge and Tulse Hill as well. She is secretary, shorthand-typist, book-keeper, adviser and Income Tax and S.E.T. lawyer rolled into one, with an additional dash of a hundred or more other functions! Thank you and bless you!

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

CHRISTMAS is almost here and the goose is getting fat - well not really a goose, but turkeys, we hope - for once again Wednesday, December 17th will see us all busy preparing and then eating, along with all our folk, a full-scale Christmas Dinner.

At 2.30 the women will sit down to full plates of turkey and all the ecceteras associated with such a dish, followed by Christmas pudding, mincepies, and of course a cup of tea, and later, the men will have their share during the evening.

The children's turn comes on the following day, not this time a turkey meal, but one more to their liking, sausage, beans and mash! And, of course, entertainment to follow.

Last year we had a wonderful time. YOUR gift this year can help to make these two days a time of extra special enjoyment for many who have so few 'special' days. Will you remember them and help them to have a 'Happy Christmas' even as we wish you will have?

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.