B (170)

Clergy- 2

Poplar + Limehouse

District 11 1897

From Charles Booth,
9, Adelphi Terrace,
Strand, London, W.C.

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B 170

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Name.	Vocation	Address of informant	Page.
Free. R. ✓	Church of England	St. Cuthbert's Lodge Poplar	5
Hewlett Jesse. ✓	—" —" —" —"	St. Luke's Millwall	27
Visit to Limehouse Church. ✓	—" —" —" —"	St. Anne. Commercial Rd.	31
Visit to St. Matthias Poplar	—" —" —" —"		35
Visit to St. Stephens Limehouse.	—" —" —" —"		37
Mc. Neil Rev.	Second Interview —" —"		41

Character of population.

June 9th.

~~(1)~~ (2)

Interview with Rev. R. Free, St Cuthbert's Loop, Milwaukee:-

St Cuthbert's is the Mission District which has been carved out of Christ Church, Isle of Dogs (Mr Coldwell). It has only been started for a few months, and Mr Free ~~came~~ came here in January.

Mr Free is a man between 30 and 40 with a fine, very high head, sloping away suddenly from the apex: a great shock of rather light hair: blue eyes: distinctly a pleasant and an able face.

As Mr Free has scarcely had time yet to feel his feet his work of course is in an embryo condition.

Mr Free has found the people extraordinary genial and friendly, though not willing to come to Church.

In the matter of points sexual states are very

Persons employed

Buildings.

poor, especially Claude St. Garrick St. and Cross St., but the people generally are better off than those in North Kensington, whence Mr. F. has just come: there "they were a very shady lot". But down here there is more drink: they are a very drunken lot. There is too a tremendous lot of gambling among the boys, not so much on horses as with cards. The great gambling corner is exactly opposite Mr F's house and it goes on all day and every day: someone is always posted to watch for the Copper, and when he appears they are playing leap-frog or some other innocent game.

One lady Church Worker, unpaid. This lady Miss Gibbs I met at Miss Price's: she seemed to me very excellent and sensible.

There are five other ladies who help in visiting etc.

At present there are no buildings: a

Services

temporary church has been fitted up in a room at St. Mildred's House. £300 has been raised for building a church, which will shortly be begun.

S. CUTHBERT'S MAGAZINE.

NOTICE.

Information is invited, from Secretaries and other responsible persons, respecting the various Agencies and Societies connected with the District of S. Cuthbert. All matter intended for insertion must reach the Editor on or before the 20th day of the month, and must be written on one side of the page only.

Hours of Service.

"*I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the House of the Lord.*"

SUNDAYS.

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

Service of Praise.

"*O come, let us sing unto the Lord.*"

Our Organist is doing excellent work, and is gradually forming a Choir. Practices are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 8 p.m. Our aim is to make the music of the services as congregational as possible, and we suggest that all who can should get into the habit of practising both Hymns and Psalms before coming to Church. Will any young men with voices volunteer their services?

HYMNS FOR MAY.

2nd.	9th.	16th.	23rd.	30th.
127	242	205	184	150

stronglythan we do at present. Also I should much like to see the early Celebration of the Holy Communion more used and appreciated.

Within the last few days we have inaugurated Branches, adult and juvenile, of the Church of England Temperance Society. We are starting a Company of the Church Lads' Brigade—an institution which bids fair to be one of the most useful and popular in the District. I am also glad to be able to state that we now have four ladies regularly acting as District Visitors, one of whom, namely Miss Gibbs, is giving the whole of her time to the work.

It will be seen, therefore, that we have at any rate made a fair start; and, although we have

among their poorer neighbours. And is it too much to ask some of our young men to help, too? Send in your names, and I will do all I can to assist you. You shall have twenty houses, or you shall have one, just as you please.

I look confidently to wealthy Christians for liberal support. At present there is no source of income whatever for working expenses. The District contains about four thousand inhabitants. At least £200 a year is required.

Will those who have them please send me letters for Hospitals (Out and In-patients), Dispensaries and Convalescent Homes? These are in constant demand.

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SUNDAYS.

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

11 a.m.—Mattins (with Litany on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays) and Sermon.

11.30 a.m.—Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays).

3 p.m.—Children's Service with Catechising (1st Sunday).

4.30 p.m.—Holy Baptism, after notice.

6.45 p.m.—Churchings.

7 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.

---

3 p.m.—Sunday School.

OFFERTORIES.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	8.30 a.m.	11 a.m.	3 p.m.	7 p.m.
Jan. 17th.	——	1 3	——	1 7
„ 24th.	——	1 0¾	——	2 3¾
„ 31st.	——	9	——	1 9
Feb. 7th.	——	10	——	2 2
„ 14th.	——	7½	——	3 4
„ 21st.	——	7¾	——	2 1
„ 28th.	——	5¼	——	7 5
Mar. 7th.	——	10	——	2 4½
„ 10th.	——	2 0 (H.C.)	——	——
„ 14th.	1 7	1 0	——	3 8½
„ 21st.	2 0	7	——	4 8
„ 28th.	1 1¾	8	——	2 9
Apr. 4th.	1 1½	2 6½	5¼	5 1½
„ 11th.	1 0	1 2	9½	3 8¼
„ 18th.	5 5	2 8¼	7	3 3½
„ 25th.	1 5	10	——	1 9½

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HYMNS FOR MAY.

	2nd.	9th.	16th.	23rd.	30th.
Mattins.	137	343	305	184	150
	315	466	313	143	466
	324	330	324	305	336
Evensong.	540	499	195	18	18
	136	178	255	218	150
	...	...	...	221	...
	379	219	231	142	144
	...	...	...	...	147

N.B.—Hymns Ancient & Modern, and the Cathedral Psalter are used.

CHOIR.

Trebles.—H. Bennett, A. Cable, H. Howell, J. Radford, W. Sumner, A. Winzir, G. York.

Tenors.—

Basses.—

N.B.—A Prize is given periodically by Mrs. Free to the boy who keeps his Surplice cleanest and attends practices and services most regularly.

Register.

BAPTISMS.

Jan. 31st.—Herbert Munsey, son of Edward James and Rhoda Ann Emily Robinson.

Mar. 21st.—Agnes Amelia, daughter of Eugene and Jane Ryan.

„ 21st.—Ivy, daughter of William Philip and Sarah Jane Taphouse (private)

„ 24th.—Catherine, daughter of William Philip and Sarah Jane Taphouse (private).

Our Monthly Letter.

Dear Friends,

It is time I said a word or two in explanation of my presence among you, and I take the opportunity afforded by the first issue of our Magazine.

As you probably know, I have been appointed to the oversight of the western portion of the Parish of Christ Church, Poplar, comprising that part of the West Ferry Road which lies between the Fire Station and the first Dock Bridge, with all adjacent streets, except Ferry Street. In inaugurating this movement, the object of the Bishop of Stepney and the Vicar of Christ Church has been to bring the ministries of the Church to those who, by reason of the distance of Christ Church, have hitherto been more or less precluded from enjoying them.

I began work in the S. Cuthbert's District, as it is now called, on January 17th, holding Services, by kind permission of Miss J. Price, in the Mission Room at Ingleheim Place. It soon became apparent, however, that we had outgrown our accommodation, and a speedy exodus was accordingly made to S. Mildred's House, where Miss Hilda Barry very generously placed at our disposal the largest room in the building, fitting it up with the furniture ultimately destined for use in her own Chapel.

Meantime the work has been steadily growing. Our Sunday School now numbers 200, and our little Chapel on Sunday evenings is often thronged. I could wish the numbers attending the Morning Services were more encouraging; and, while I am quite ready to admit that for a great many it is impossible to attend at 11 o'clock, I still think that with a little effort and self-denial we should be able to muster far more strongly than we do at present. Also I should much like to see the early Celebration of the Holy Communion more used and appreciated.

Within the last few days we have inaugurated Branches, adult and juvenile, of the Church of England Temperance Society. We are starting a Company of the Church Lads' Brigade—an institution which bids fair to be one of the most useful and popular in the District. I am also glad to be able to state that we now have four ladies regularly acting as District Visitors, one of whom, namely Miss Gibbs, is giving the whole of her time to the work.

It will be seen, therefore, that we have at any rate made a fair start; and, although we have by no means any cause to be puffed up, yet we are glad to bear testimony to the success that so far has attended our efforts.

The new Church and Club rooms will, I sincerely hope, be in process of erection very shortly. The delay has been occasioned by a number of minor difficulties unknown, and perhaps unimaginable, to those who have never come into close contact with building operations. The site selected, the kind gift of Lady Margaret Charteris, is, as you probably know, at the corner of Cahir Street and the West Ferry Road.

I cannot close this letter without expressing my deep sense of gratitude for the universal kindness which Mrs. Free and I have received since our advent to the Parish.

God grant that S. Cuthbert's may prosper! We cannot expect to accomplish anything without many difficulties and much discouragement; but we do hope and believe that you will do everything in your power, by work, by prayer, by sympathy, by the word in season, to give us that indomitable enthusiasm which is so necessary to success.

With kindest regards and best wishes for the future,

I am, dear Friends,

Yours very faithfully,

RICHARD FREE.

By the Way.

As soon as possible I wish to divide the whole District for purposes of visiting. Ladies who read this could surely spare an hour a week from piano-playing or fancy-work to visiting among their poorer neighbours. And is it too much to ask some of our young men to help, too? Send in your names, and I will do all I can to assist you. You shall have twenty houses, or you shall have one, just as you please.

I look confidently to wealthy Christians for liberal support. At present there is no source of income whatever for working expenses. The District contains about four thousand inhabitants. At least £200 a year is required.

Will those who have them please send me letters for Hospitals (Out and In-patients), Dispensaries and Convalescent Homes? These are in constant demand.

Communicants

~~Social Agencies~~ Open Air Services

At the morning service there are "very few": "so few of them are up by 11 o clock": in the evening the average is about 35: & few of those who come may previously have gone to Christ Church, but Mr F. thinks the majority are new church goers. [Mr F. complains of the action of the County Council in having a band in the Island Garden from 7 to 9: he has no objection at all to sunday bands but to have them at this hour is to offer a direct encouragement to people to neglect religious observance.]

There are only 5 and these Miss Filby, Miss Price, and other workers.

Mr F. thinks it will prove very difficult to get the people to communicate here: in North Kensington he was most successful, but here they seem strangely apathetic.

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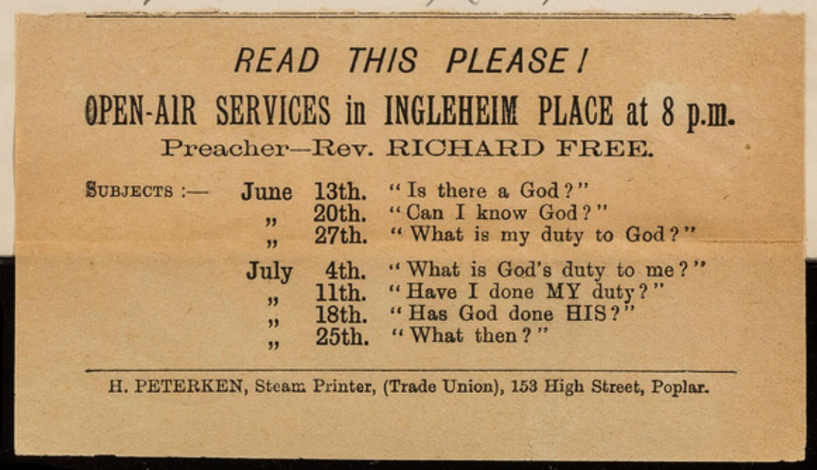

READ THIS PLEASE!

OPEN-AIR SERVICES in INGLEHEIM PLACE at 8 p.m.

Preacher—Rev. RICHARD FREE.

SUBJECTS :—	June	13th.	"Is there a God?"
	"	20th.	"Can I know God?"
	"	27th.	"What is my duty to God?"
	July	4th.	"What is God's duty to me?"
	"	11th.	"Have I done MY duty?"
	"	18th.	"Has God done HIS?"
	"	25th.	"What then?"

H. PETERKEN, Steam Printer, (Trade Union), 153 High Street, Poplar.

Social Agencies.

Some open air service has already been held. They take place outside Mr. F's drawing room window, the house being in Inglehurst Place which is almost a slum. Mr F. is a great believer in these services "as they won't come to the church, the church must go to them."

Lad's Club meeting once a week: taken over from Miss Price: about 30.

Church Lad's Brigade about 15. 40 attended the inaugural meeting and all pledged themselves to join, but most fell away on finding that there was a fragment of drill a week.

Both club and brigade are much hampered by want of funds to buy materials.

Small branch of C.L.T.S. (about 15): not necessarily for total abstainers: Mr F. has become a total abstainer since he came here, though he does not much believe in it. But with these people you have no influence unless a T.A.: they don't understand a moderate

drinkers).

Band of Hope (27): associated with this is a Band of Mercy, inculcating kindness to animals.

Mothers' Meeting, about 30 with 15 in average attendance

A Branch of the Sunbeam Mission managed by Miss Downs at 162 Manchester Road. The object of this Mission is to draw out the sympathies of upper and middle class children towards the very poor or crippled children in large towns

3. RULES AND SUGGESTIONS.

RULES AND SUGGESTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE SUNBEAM MISSION.

N.B. Members are specially requested to read through these rules before sending the first magazine.

1. Members (with the consent of their parents) to undertake to supply and send by post one magazine monthly to one poor or suffering child in London or some large town.

2. It is suggested that members might (with the approval of their parents) send to the child in addition to the magazine an occasional friendly letter or a box of flowers, or a little garment (knitted cuffs, a crochet shawl, etc.,) toys or pictures, etc. It is not advisable to send

Printed at the Church of England Home for Waifs and Strays, Frome, Somerset.

Hon. Treasurer: ADMIRAL BATTISCOMBE,
Hon Secs.: Mrs. BATTISCOMBE & Miss M. BATTISCOMBE,
Eastwood, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset

[illegible] one of these Tracts, members are earnestly asked to make a practice of READING THEM OVER AT LEAST ONCE IN 3 MONTHS.

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3. It is also suggested that a double reply post card should be sent to the child, about once in six months asking if his or her address continues the same, and that those who write letters to the children should mention that they are Members of the "Sunbeam Mission," and *should always enclose a stamped directed envelope*, if they wish for an answer; and also that they should ask the child to let them know at once when his or her address is changed. It would be a great help if Members would always send the childs fresh address to the Central Branch as soon as they receive it. Members should give their full address every time they communicate with the child.

4. Poor children are entered on the list of recipients from the age of 5 to 14. It is left entirely to the discre-

drinkers).

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tion of the Members whether they continue sending to the child they have undertaken to befriend, after he or she has passed the age of 15.

5. Members or Associates wishing for the name and address of a fresh child can apply to the Hon. Sec. enclosing 3d. for each child applied for, unless the child they have already befriended dies, or is lost sight of, in which case, if number, name, and address of Member is sent to the Hon. Sec., a fresh name will be supplied free of charge. In every case a stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

6. No one can become a Member of the "Sunbeam Mission" after the age of 17, but it is hoped that many above that age, including parents and others interested in the welfare of children, will join as ASSOCIATES, under the same condition as Members, except that the admission fee in applying for the FIRST child will be 1s. instead of 6d. (There is no annual subscription.) Members having reached the age of 17 can be enrolled as Associates by sending 6d. to the Branch they have joined, but this is quite optional.

7. "Golden Sunbeams" price 1d. monthly, profusely illustrated, is specially recommended as suitable, and will always contain a page of information interesting to Members of the Sunbeam Mission. Published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, Northumberland Avenue, London, and may be ordered through any bookseller. It is suggested that Members wishing to read the magazine themselves, need not send it away till the end of each month. It is a good plan to write the Member's or the Associate's name and address, and above it the words "If undelivered to be returned to" in one corner of the wrapper in which the magazine is posted, as the magazine is then returned through the Post Office should the child have left the address.

N.B. Members are requested to study the rules for Book Post as issued by the Post Office, and ALWAYS TO WEIGH MAGAZINES BEFORE SENDING THEM. In consequence of the Magazines having been overweight, or the wrapper having been attached to them, or enclosures inserted contrary to rules, the poor children have in some cases been charged extra postage, and have been obliged to refuse to take in the Magazine, not having sufficient money to pay for it.

8. It is further suggested that Members who write letters to the children might try and induce them to join the Children's Scripture Union (cards, 1d. each, publised at 13a Warwick Lane, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.,) or the Bible Reading Union (cards 1d. each, published at the Sunday School Institute, 13, Serjeants Inn, Fleet Street, London).

9. It is suggested that every Member or Associate should try to procure at least one fresh Member or Associate within one month of joining. By this simple means a very large number of poor or suffering children would soon receive a "Sunbeam." An extra letter for this purpose is enclosed with every card of Membership. If any Members or Associates are willing to circulate the papers No. 1. and No. 2. amongst their friends, The Hon. Sec. will gladly supply them in any number from 6 upwards *free of charge*.

10. Members are *most earnestly requested* to continue sending the magazine regularly, and if for any reason they are unable to do so, to give notice at once to the Hon. Sec. This rule is a *most important* one, and Mem-

drinker).

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bers are entreated to carry it out conscientiously. Poor children look out eagerly every month for the magazines, and are disappointed if even one is missed, and if the supply ceased altogether, it would cause them great distress. Attention to this rule is the only means which can prevent this disappointment and distress.

It is earnestly desired that Members should make it their first object to bring before these children by means of magazines and letters, the claims of our, LORD JESUS CHRIST, as their SAVIOUR and their KING, undertaking this work in *the Spirit of Faith and Prayer*, and that they should then supplement this effort, by exercising little deeds of kindness towards them, bearing in mind that we try to supply them with the names of children who in many cases are sick and suffering, and in all cases are very poor and unable to procure the many little things which are always a pleasure to the young.

N.B. Whenever information is required from the Central Branch it is particularly requested that Members and Associates should ALWAYS QUOTE THE NUMBER on their card of Membership, and should enclose a stamped directed envelope for the reply. By writing "Sunbeam" outside the envelope, delays will be avoided when the Hon. Sec. is away from home. As the efficient working of the "Sunbeam Mission" largely depends on the carrying out of these rules, Members are earnestly asked to make a practice of READING THEM OVER AT LEAST ONCE IN 3 MONTHS.

HON. TREASURER: ADMIRAL BATTISCOMBE,
HON SECS.: MRS. BATTISCOMBE & MISS M. BATTISCOMBE,
Eastwood, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset

Printed at the Church of England Home for Waifs and Strays, Frome, Somerset.

THE LADIES' ✝ GUILD OF

S. Cuthbert,

MILLWALL, LONDON, E.

Priest in Charge, Rev. RICHARD FREE, B.D.

President: Miss HILDA BARRY, S. Mildred's House, Millwall.

Hon. Sec.: Mrs. RICHARD FREE, Ingelheim Place, Millwall.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss PURSER, 13, S. John's Park, Blackheath.

---

1. The object of the Guild is to assist the various Institutions connected with the above Church, especially the Sick and Poor Fund.

2. Ladies interested in work among the Poor are earnestly invited to join the Guild, and to try and get as many additional Members as possible.

3. Business shall be transacted by a Local Committee of twelve Ladies, who will meet at the Secretary's House on the Monday following each Quarter Day, at 4 p.m.

4. It is suggested that Members make special prayer on behalf of the Guild at their Easter Communion, thereby forming and sustaining a strong and widespread feeling of spiritual fellowship.

5. Subscriptions to the Guild shall be limited to One Penny per week, payable Quarterly or Yearly, but Donations shall have no limit.

6. Full reports of the Guild, its work and its expenditure, will appear regularly in the S. Cuthbert's Monthly Magazine, post free 2/6 per annum.

This Guild is Miss Free's affair and she is very keen about it: she has already got about 200 ladies to join. The idea is not that they should work in the parish, but that they should take an interest in it and especially.

Education.

Nursing.

Charitable Relief.

remember them in their prayers.

The Sunday School has 200 on the books with average attendance of 150. There are 10 teachers drawn from the parish: all but two are competent teachers.

Miss Downs does any nursing required for nothing. There are two other nurses within easy reach who will come if required.

Give tickets for groceries, coal, bread, meat etc but no money. Helps the children of drunken parents if found destitute and ~~starving~~ starving, but avoids out of work cases as far as possible. Has thrown in his lot with the C.O.S. who do their work here admirably: at North Kensington could not work with them, nor with the Friendly Workers' Society (Bourdett's) which was quite useless

I lunched with Mr and Mrs Free and spent a considerable time with them. They are both most excellent people who are setting about their work with the utmost earnestness and energy. Mrs Free I imagine will do almost as much as her husband: she is a bright, cheery, buxom woman, quite an ideal parson's wife. Mr Free is of a less practical nature than his wife: rather dreamy and emotional I should say, but at the same time thoroughly sensible. His great aim evidently is to make the people religious: "what these people want is moral strength and there can be no true moral strength without religion"; ... "I disapprove of Toynbee Hall because it is run on secular lines". But at the same time Mr Free's own opinions are not rigid or bigoted: he seemed to me a man full of doubts on doctrinal points who is always "feeling after God": he spoke of the danger & very clergyman is under of being somewhat of a rambler, of putting the intangible and the indefinite into too

definite terms under the stress of emotional excitement, and thus of giving the impression that he believes more than he really does: he spoke further of the absurdity of supposing that any man believed every detail of any faith: of the enormous distinction between faith and knowledge - to say "I believe" is not to say "I know". He has I should think made a wider study of theology than is usual and he spoke with regret of the very limited theological training which most of the clergy receive.

As I have said the Fries have planted themselves right among their people; their house is at the corner of one of the poorest streets in the district: it was once a beer house and contains a fair number of rooms, though most of them are very small. Here they live with one small girl servant from the locality, and I imagine her Fric has to do much of the work (she was cooking the lunch when I arrived.). They frequently have people in

to their drawing room for talk and singing, and are still opening another room as a reading and writing room.

June 12th.

~~GJS~~ (2)

Mr Hewlett, of Lots, Millwall:-

Mr Hewlett has set back our form fifteen, but I fear is not anxious to meet us. Mr Bellairs asked him to meet me, but he did not come; subsequently I called and he was out, but his housekeeper promised that he should write and make an appointment. We have a considerable number of opinions as to Mr H. all pointing to the fact that he is past his work (see Martley, Oakley etc). At the same time his schools are said to be well managed.

For form see our:-

Form A.*—The Church of England.

Life and Labour of the People in London: INFLUENCES.

(Mr. CHARLES BOOTH'S Inquiry).

QUESTIONS to be asked in each District as to the work of the Church:—

(a) What is the general character of the population?

Working class

(b) What portion do the ministrations of the Church touch?

Including children, quite ¼.

(c) What persons are employed? (stating duties and whether paid or not)

Curate - mainly among sailors
Scripture Reader, among resident poor
20 paid day school teachers
32 unpaid Sunday school teachers among children young men & women

(d) What buildings are used? (including mission rooms, schools, and clubs)

Large Schools
3 stories high -
a thousand children in one day & Sunday schools -

(e) What Services or other religious meetings are held, and by whom and by how many attended?

Sunday at 8.30 3 (first Sunday in month) and 7 -. week days &

(f) What Social Agencies are connected with the Church—institutes, societies, clubs, entertainments, meetings, &c.

Young men's club.
Poor children's dinners
Mothers meetings
Temperance & Band of Hope
Dorcas & clothing Guild
Penny Bank & mothers Guild
Sailors' libraries & &

(g) What Educational work is done?

Large day schools
& Clergy -
Scripture Reader
Voluntary visitors.

(h) To what extent are the people visited? (by Ministers or District Visitors)

(i) What arrangements are there for nursing the sick?

Nurse should be provided

(j) To what extent is charitable relief given or administered by the Church?

Dependent upon the Metropolitan Visiting Society for relief of sick but all the poor children are fed with a good dinner 3 or 4 times a week - Treasurer Mr F. A. Bullivant

Parish St Luke's Millwall

[NOTE.—Where possible, a comparison should be made between Past and Present.]

The present vicar has been here 30 years and though the parish is poorer the church, moral condition has greatly improved.

Parish 11 11a

July 5. 97.

Second interview with Mr Neil (Mr Matthias & applied).

Mr Neil has been in since our first interview, on which the general point enumerated on Form B were gone over.

Administration much improved, & complaints more quickly attended to. But action sometimes arbitrary & tyrannical in dealing with people against whom there is some little personal pique or spite. This charge applies to all, even to the early official & to some members, but mainly to the subordinate official – Sanitary Officers &c.

The late clerk drank, but, apart from his occasional personal action, was an right when sober. The new man good, & improvement expected.

Just as in dealing with some, action too arbitrary, so in other cases it is far too dilatory & lenient. This especially so when members of the Board, who purposely get on to protect their own interests, are concerned. Not so bad now, because more working-men on the Board. But their presence on the Board is injurious to the parish in many other respects. They are hard & grasping in dealing with their own paid

Dr. Comer.

The need of a Court of appeal.

officials, of whom they are exceedingly jealous, because they have to vote more money for their activities than they can earn themselves or ever hope to earn. The working-men on the Board are like the old Tories: they care little for the rights of any class but their own. They are often exceedingly ungentlemanly & unparliamentary, and often deter men of the highest worth from coming on. The working-man as a rule cannot take an all-round view. "I express these opinions with regret, as I am a Liberal; but they are the outcome of a long experience".

On the general practice of the Board Dr. Comer, a retd Medical Officer, could give information. "I have seen reports prepared by him entirely neglected" because they upset the prejudices of some of the members.

The remedy for practically what the Board delets: namely, that some central body, like the L.C.C. should be a court of appeal easily open, for all matters, to those who feel that they have been unfairly dealt by, or who cannot compel the Board to act.

Crosby.

Sir Alexander.

Poor Law: Out-door Relief.

Police.

Need of a better class of man.

Very superior, honest & upright. ~~[illegible]~~ Can take an all round view but is "let-alone-ed ~~[illegible]~~ because both for position & religion he appeals upon working-class. But he is endeavoring then slowly to see things as they are - to face facts & realize that they lie in this world & not in another.

Sir Alexander (Medical Officer) Quick intellect; a "very superior" man.

During ordinary times administration of out-door relief very fairly carried out, but when weather is severe they are apt to give far too much towards it. They are prompted thereto because of the working-class members. Workingmen in particular illustrate Lord Brougham's general remark that people are particularly liberal with two things: their own opinions & other people's money.

Many work watching, & their superiors know it. They are too easily made lax by bribing in one form or another. Should be drawn from a better class, both as regards position & education, like the Royal Irish Constabulary. They often keep

Need of clubs & cafés.

Prostitution

Police & Solicitation

Loose women as regards those who are married.

one of the worst when there is a row on, & in dealing with people are sometimes a little too rough.

But as a rule they are efficient & an improving force. Thinks too that they are less open to bribery. Mr Neil emphasized again however the point about the need of having a better class of man. Also urged the necessity of having places & calls, telephonic stations perhaps, or some arrangement in city street by which men could be summoned at need.

The police are not too obliging. Since the Cass case they have been frightened, & least in alone, ~~on one side~~. "When I came to Poplar there were no prostitutes in East India Dock Road". Now so many. Prostitution as showing itself publicly has very much increased. Asked what class of women they were Mr Neil said he would have thought "they could have tempted no man". "But sailors are like stallions when they come ashore & the first woman they see go with, they take."

But if it were not for these women in the Middle East London would be a dangerous place

disorderly houses

Homes of loose boys.

for married women. They would be liable to assault or to great temptation. As it is hardly any woman is insulted in East London. In this the East compares favourably with the West.

The disorderly houses themselves are often owned by well-to-do local men, or by those living West or in the suburbs, who go to church or chapel, & pass as pious people: "I know instances in my mind". The agent is always made the scapegoat, but the nature of the tenancy is often known.

Mr Neil has, he believes, got rid of all the disorderly houses in his district, & he described to me two or three cases in which he had fought single-handed to get them closed. He complained somewhat bitterly of the lack of support he met with. Told of one man who lived with his daughters close to a house of ill-fame in the High Street, within earshot of bawdy singing, who refused to stir because he did not want his head broken. Neil said that he would get his head broken on the same, but as a coward and not as a brave man, so he would subpoena him.

Although he believes his own district is cleaner

Consider keepers of houses to be treated as
thieves & loose people.

The cab perhaps inevitable.

of the houses. Mr Neil says that they have only gone into somebody else's. To stop this moving easily from one place to another he advocates treating any keeper of a disorderly house who has once got into the hands of the law as a thief & loose person & making them report their whereabouts every 48 hours, so that the police might be able to keep an eye upon them.

Mr Neil has clearly worked hard & courageously on this question, but his views are not illiberal for the sake. The fighter is always in the main attitude, but would be more ready to acquiesce if it kept in the background, for "in order to go on", the cab appears a little of the possible necessity of licensed houses.

The best information on the whole question:-
Mrs Wills - 31 Surrey Street.
Dalton (Rector of Hoxton).

One of Mr Neil's last remarks was on the necessity in East London, friends of "a body of Lyman independent & courageous", who would be ready to act-

either on their own initiative or in bringing up the parson. In unpleasant work such as that of curbing disorderly houses they were exercising a semi-public beneficent influence. He felt that "it was only fair that it should be left to the parson". On the other hand he felt that, given a reasonable civil of this kind, it was quite the parson's work to deal with it, & he even said, quite without boasting of any kind & with a phrase reflected rather than ~~[illegible]~~ in his own share, that he "thought the Church deserved some credit" for what it had done in securing reform in strictly social abuses. He said too that when he was able to carry a bill of work of this kind through, he felt that he was doing quite as much good as in getting people to come to church. On the other hand feeling keenly that the first obligation of the parson is to ~~[illegible]~~ teach & to make people think truly, & holding that "no man can teach who is not a learner" he regretted claims that disturb attention & take him too much from the study. Hence his plea for lay co-operation.

Drinking

Mr Neil suggested that the best information could be obtained from the ministers who regularly attend the police courts, some of whom he thought were connected with the Church of England Temperance Soc. Most information also from

F. Sherwell, Editor Church Monthly
30 New Bridge St. Blackfriars.
(Use Neil's name as introduction).

Mr Neil is among those who have noticed increased drinking with improved trade, & went so far as to say that overtime wages are the working-man's chief curse. Wages are so good since the war & liquor. The Jubilee has been a great occasion for excess.

There are however many more total abstainers among the men, & this, especially among the respectable, drinking has diminished. "But those who drink, drink, I think, as much as ever".

Women, he thinks, do not drink less, but he has no strong impression of great increase.

Not a criminal district.

Cohabitation.

There are not many in Paris who live as husband & wife, who are unmarried. Most of the men who do act widows, who begin by living simply as housekeepers & looking after a man and after a time cohabit. Mr Nair said that in other cases a "rearrangement" has been effected, if they had been married, there would have been a divorce. On the whole question we must take a lenient view, "lean to the side of mercy". People "do not know the sin" of what they are doing.

A great obstacle to virtue from the numerous facilities for entertainments of various kinds. If people do anything or go anywhere, they have not only to pay for admission or fare, or whatever the expense may be, but like to be well-dressed, & also often lose time. So in these ways doing is made more difficult. Also other habits of virtue accidentally interfering, there is another & another branch of church influence for which credit should be given.

Unhealthy housing.

Regards Tenement Buildings as a doubtful reform when

Heated.

Tenement-Buildings.

the housing difficulty is to the front — as it is with particularly in his parish.