

B 172  
Miscellaneous

4

Missions and  
Mission Workers  
District 11  
Poplar & Limehouse



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

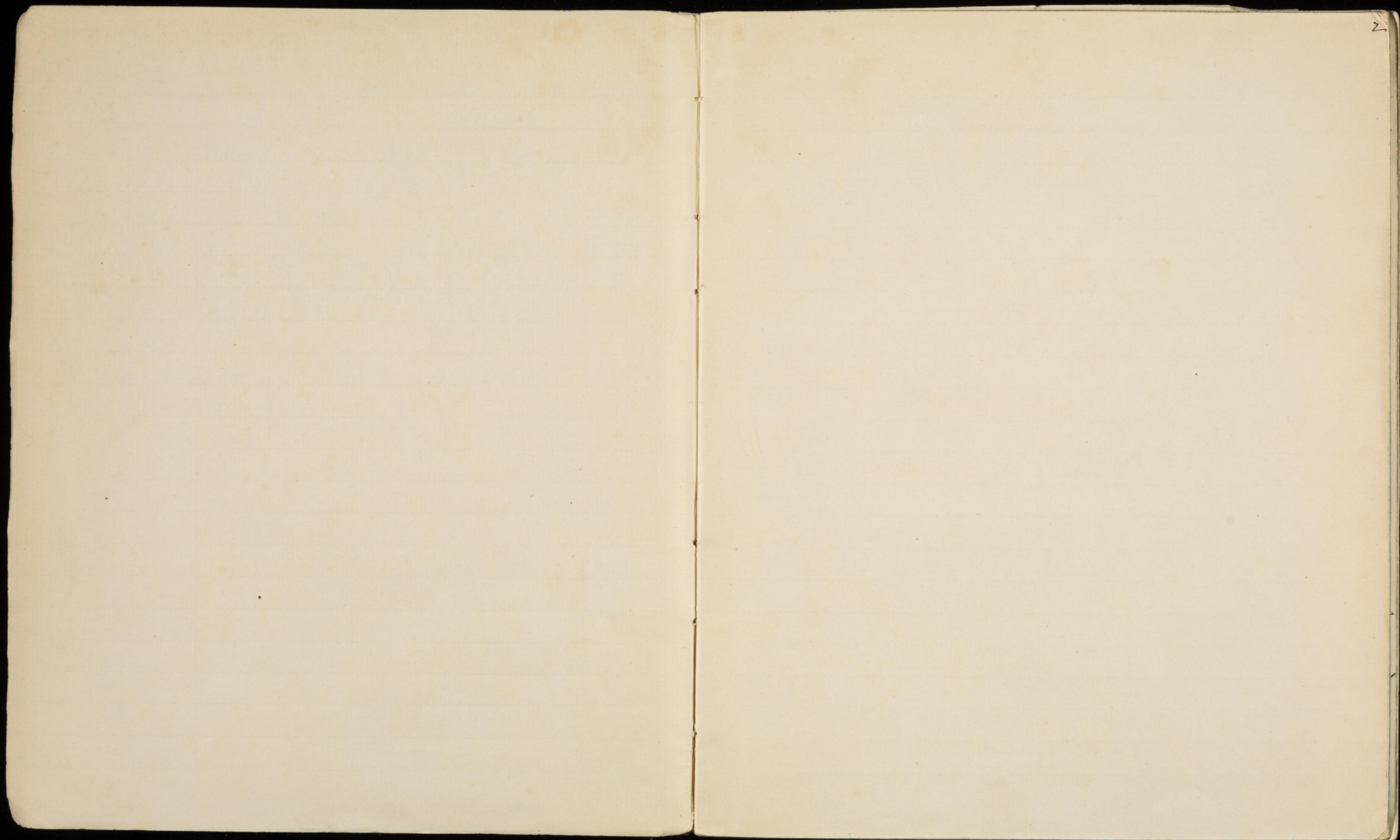
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B 172











Mr H White  
Tobago Street Mission, Millwall

(d) Building used

(c) Persons employed.

(e) Services held.

11/4  
4  
2  
Mr H. White. Dockmaster, Millwall Docks.  
(14 Pier Head)

Hon Secretary of "Millwall Juvenile & Adult Mission."

Tobago Street, Millwall. or

GLA May 1897

Mr White has been a resident in the "Island" for more than 20 years and was connected with the Presbyterian Church there. They did not make any vigorous efforts to reach & influence the outside population and so Mr W. devoted his energies to this little mission, which has existed 16 yrs. It is held in a building, which appears to have been a stable and loft but is now converted into two rooms, the upper being reached by an iron staircase.

There are no paid agents except the caretaker, teachers and other workers being volunteers. The meetings held are as follows

|         |              |                    |            |                         |
|---------|--------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday. | 10 am to 11. | Children's service | Attendance | 20 to 30                |
|         | 11 to 12.15  | Adults             | "          | about 30                |
|         | 2.45 to 4    | Sunday School      | "          | 180                     |
|         | 6 -          | Children's service | "          | about 17 teachers<br>80 |
|         | 6 -          | Open Air meeting.  |            |                         |
|         | 7 -          | Adult Service      | "          | 60                      |
|         | 8.30         | Prayer meeting     |            |                         |



# Meetings (continued)

(h) Visitation. Sick

House Cripples Band

Open Air Bands.

Monday. 3pm. Mothers' Meeting Attendance about 30.  
 " evening Sewing class for girls.  
 " 7pm. "Onward Band. Prayer meeting & training class.  
 Tuesday " Choir & singing class (downstairs)  
 7.45 Bible class (upstairs)  
 Wednesday 7 - Children's Gospel Meeting. 40 to 50  
 8 - Adults " " 25 to 30  
 Thursday 7 Juvenile Christian Band About 12.  
 8 Open air meeting  
 Friday 7 - Band of Hope  
 8 - Gospel Temperance Mtg.  
 Saturday 7 - Prayer meeting  
 8 - Open air meeting in Tobago Street.

Mr White visits the sick and anxious ones. All the cripples upon the "island" are regularly visited by the ~~Workers~~ Home cripples band. There are about 80 of these unfortunates. This work is done in connection with the Ragged School Union, which makes an annual contribution to the funds of this mission.

Open air meetings form a great part of the work of the Mission. There are two bands



of workers having their headquarters at Tobago Street.

(1) The 'Onward' band which contains the workers belonging to that Mission. (2) The 'Ebenezer' & 'Excellior' Band of United Open Air workers' which is a union of the workers from 7 different  <sup>Bodies of</sup> places on the island e.g. the Salvation Army, the Primitive Methodists, the Wesleyans, workers from the Seamen's Rest etc. This band holds open-air meetings in various parts of the island and quarterly meetings of the members, each of whom pays 3<sup>d</sup> per quarter as a subscription.

Non-church-goers sought.

Religious Activity

Mr White says the object of the work is to reach those people, who do not attend a place of worship and in this they succeed by their open air meetings.

There is much religious activity on the island but in spite of all, he thinks religion is at a low ebb. The places of worship are not nearly filled and he thinks the attendance at church and chapel has decreased.

He did not know much of the other religious work nor did he appear to care much.



All his attention is absorbed by the Tobago St Mission  
and the work centring there. Mentioned a Mr  
Turner, a scripture reader connected with St  
Luke's, who did a good work amongst the people.  
He has gone now. The curate (Rev E. W. Wilson  
19 Shafford Street) visits a good deal & should be  
seen.



Mr John Galt.  
London City Missionary

Boundaries of  
District.

Character of  
People

8  
(2)

Mr John Galt. London City Missionary, 130 Grundy  
Street, Poplar. Has a Mission Hall occupying  
the ground floor of this house (a corner), whilst he  
lives in the upper part. The frontage is only the  
ordinary width, about 18 to 20 ft but the building  
extends back a considerable depth so that the Hall  
may seat 150 people.

Mr G. has been 5 years in Poplar and had  
been 2 years in Bethnal Green previously. He is a  
thoughtful, earnest man, between 30 & 40 years of age.

His district is bounded, south by the East India Dock  
Road and north by Willis Street, east by St Leonard's  
Road & west by Crisp Street. Within this area he  
reckons there are 1300 houses. The greater number  
of these would be in Bromley St Leonard's; the hall  
is in Poplar, and the district is regarded as  
Poplar.

Of the people on his district, he reckons about  $\frac{1}{3}$  are  
born Londoners, another third the children of countrymen  
& the remainder immigrants. The greater part (say  
 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) are employed in connection with shipping.  
This means irregular work, the men being "in and out";  
they



Workers.

Services & Meetings.

**GRUNDY STREET  
LONDON CITY MISSION HALL,  
130, GRUNDY STREET.**

**Missionary - - - Mr. JOHN GALT.**

GOSPEL MEETINGS.—On Sundays at 6.30 p.m.  
Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—Every Sunday at 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

MOTHERS' MEETING.—On Monday Afternoons at 2.30.

BAND OF HOPE.—On Thursdays at 7 p.m.

CHOIR PRACTICE.—On Thursdays at 8 p.m.

"GIRLS' OWN MISSION."—On Fridays at 7 p.m.

MATERNITY SOCIETY.—Meets on the first Tuesday  
Afternoon in the Month at 3.

Applications for Hospital Letters, &c., should be made at the  
side door in Nye Street, from 9 till 10 in the Morning, or before  
or after any Meeting.

Educational Work

Visitation

9

They earn good money when at work but have no reserve for other times. They are just the ordinary people of London: not the best or the lowest.

In connection with the Mission work, Mr G. is the only paid worker; he is assisted by about 40 others, who help in Sunday school, visitation etc, of these helpers  $\frac{2}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> are ladies and one-third men.

Services are as under: (See also printed list)

Sunday. 6.30 p.m. Gospel service. About 60 attend.

10 am. Sunday School. " 80 "

2.30 pm " " " 150 "

Monday - 2.30 p.m. Mothers' Meeting " 20 "

Thursday. Band of Hope 7 p.m. Average attendance about 40 to 50. Membership 100.

Friday. Meeting for girls over 11. Increases toward time of excursion. The age limit rises one year in every two years. The object is to form a young women's meeting eventually.  
(Been in existence nearly 3 yrs.)

Also holds two open-air meetings on Sundays and two on other days of the week. These are held in different parts of the district.

None apart from the religious work teaching. The girls attending the Friday meeting are taught sewing.

Mr G. visits all his district. Gets round the whole of the houses about three times in the year.



**The PEOPLE**

OF G

**GRUNDY ST**

(In connecti

**P. RAWLIN**

**Boot & Manuf**

3, BRIGHT STREET, ST. LEONARD

POPLAR, E

The Best and Cheapest Boot

**SPECIAL ATTENTION TO BE**

Noted for Men's Boots, all Solid Leather only used, with Neatness and D

Boots, 2/11. Repairs at usual Low

**OUR MOTTO.—NO PAPER AND NO BUSINESS ON SUN**

## Nursing the Sick.

and sees somebody at about 90% of the homes. Does not always try to read the Scripture to the people; "This becomes a form of ritualism to some men". Endeavours to speak a word for the Lord and to lead the people to better things. In addition nearly every house is visited every Sunday by the 21 visitors, who take Horner's Penny Stories and leave for reading. In this way <sup>they</sup> try to supersede the papers, scrappy and comic. These stories are placed in a paper cover. (see other side for title), which beside local ads contains information as to hospitals and charities likely to be useful to the people, calendar, postal information etc. With these books ~~the~~ Mr G. reckon they reach 9/10 of the homes every Sunday. Also give away a large number of tracts, sermons etc.

St Frydwides' (boys call it "St Fried fish") employs a trained nurse to visit the sick. She is a good nurse & knows her business. Grattan Guinness's nurses also come but theirs are mostly maternity cases. They distinctly follow up their work with religious teaching.





### Nursing the Sick.

10  
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Nursing (cont<sup>d</sup>)

Charitable Relief

Other Religious Influences

11  
The sisters from St John's also visit. Have a Maternity Society in connection with this Mission. About 6 women mend and make garments and they loan out the "bag" to mothers. These bags contain clothing and other things needed for mother and child at lying-in times.

Only give <sup>relief</sup> in cases of absolute pressing need. Spend about £5 at Christmas and not more than 50/- during the rest of the year. Give a large number of hospital letters, about 150 in the year, mostly for the London, Victoria Park (chest) and the Children's Hospital at Hackney Road. There is a ~~preference~~ feeling amongst the parents against the children's hospital at Shadwell & they prefer to take their children to Hackney Road.

St Friedwides is undoubtedly the most active work in the district. Have eleven people always at work including sisters. They try to bring people to the church. Although they do the most visitation, Mr G. does not think that they have



Religious Influences (cont.)

The Salvation Army

Poplar & Bromley Tabernacle

No-cooperation

have the most influence. The Salvation Army have a great influence. They hold open air meetings and get greater numbers than any others. There are also a number of unattached bodies most persistent in promulgating peculiar views, such as ~~the~~ Swedenborgianism, Conditional Immortality, Christadelphianism. There are not many of them but they have a strong influence. Go about button-holing people in the parks, at open air meetings etc.

Speaking of Poplar & Bromley Tabernacle (See Bow & Bromley Non-conformist Book p 49.) Mr G. said that a Mr Barnes of New York came there about 10 years ago and conducted a Mission; almost ruined the place and the congregation divided. Dr G. Dutton Guinness put Mr Chaplin in (this would be when the Church at Berge Hall joined with that at the Tabernacle) and for a time he did well; had a magnificent work. Thinks he became too big for the place and now the work has gone down. He is now working without salary and is not on good terms with the people.

No-cooperation in charitable work.



The Charity Organization Society

Drink

"The C.O.S. is hated with bitter hate. Men swear & women weep when you mention it". They don't like the "brutal impudence" - this is the correct word - of the women who visit. "Is it right that a woman should stick her fingers into a bed to see if it was feathers and then suggest that the applicant should sell it to buy an instrument? Mr. J. felt evidently felt as strongly as any of the people for he gave me several other instances of the <sup>all</sup> ways of C.O.S. visitors - "Can't you sell the sewing machine & get them" to a woman needing some appliance. "Could you not take in washing" to a woman with 5 children, one being a cripple. He also insinuated that it was too much dominated by the Church. "Sister Constance recommends" <sup>this</sup> etc - was generally sufficient.

Mr. J. visits the publichouses with papers (illustrated) on Sunday afternoons. On his district there are 17. licenced houses and he finds 600 men in these houses on Sunday afternoons. On Monday the women go to the public's. "The publichouses are turned into cowsheds" is the men's way of stating the fact. The influence of drink is the biggest influence in the district; it is the thing



ProstitutionCrimeMarriageThrift.

thing that touches most people. Regards the Sunday drinking as the greatest hindrance to the people attending public work. The men recognise the inconsistency of drinking and church going. If a man goes to church he stops drinking and if he commences to drink he drops the church.

Not much here.

Very little crime; people are working class and law abiding. At the time of the great frost when nearly all were out of work, there was not a single arrest for theft altho' thousands of pounds worth of goods were exposed in Chiswick Street.

This district not like Bethnal Green. There the majority of the marriages were under 20; ~~here~~ here they are usually over that age.

Thinks the people are thrifty. There was over £2000 of their savings distributed at Christmas.

Save by means of Loan & Investment Societies. Pay 6<sup>d</sup> per week for the year and at the end share out. Only about once in 20 times that they want a loan. Pay in ad-



Thrift (cont'd)

addition 1<sup>d</sup> per share and 2½ quarterage. One of these Societies in several of the neighbouring public houses. The Society of the White Swan, Eider Street, distributes about £1000 at Christmas; another in Christ Street about the same amount; the Brown Horse, Tetley Street, about £500 and one at this Mission about £250. This has about £100 members.

As to housing of the people, Mr J. attributes the deterioration of certain streets to the effect of the leasehold system. When the leases have nearly ~~their~~ expired the landlords will not do any repairs, naturally desiring to make all they can. The better people then leave and their places are taken by a poorer class, who do not mind the dirty rooms. As an example he quoted Burcham Street, which was a decent street. Came down thro' 2 or 3 drunken women coming into the street, the other people then cleared out. "Now there is war to the knife between the landlords & sanitary authorities and the latter are winning."

The Churches are not reaching the people. Does not think it is the fault of the people. Many of the  
deacons



and elders are foremen or managers in the yards and their conduct does not always recommend the church. Then there is a good deal of ~~bad~~ "creedism"; preaching a creed instead of Christ. Ministers are not men as they should be; a conventionalism <sup>isnt</sup> about them. I think all these things hinder.

As to other work in the neighbourhood, we should see Mr Dodd, L.C.M., who has the district west of Christ Street. Has been 10 years on district. Has the Shaftesbury Memorial Hall in Kirby Street.

Private address 83 New City Road, Plaistow E.

South of East India Dock Rd is Mr Kirkham. Only 12 months there. He holds services in the Poplar workhouse.

Mr Jas Aulds, 61 Grundy Street has a Mission at 77 Augusta Street. He is connected with the Congregational Church (Trinity). He also visits the factory girls in Bell & Black's factory.

As to Trinity Congregational Church, might see Mr Gilles, 9 Teviot Street. I think the number is right there is a brass plate on door.



Mr Galt is one of the most interesting men I have met. He was familiar with our books and evidently took a ~~kind~~ keen interest in the life of the people around. Upon most of the questions that arose he was at home and had his own opinions which he often expressed in pithy sentences. "The very worst class of people go to mother's meetings."

The Hall is supported by one individual, so that he has no local Committee as is usual.

The ~~Protestant~~ ~~free~~ people, he says, were not so well educated as those here and education here is not sufficient to make them take any interest in literature. Halfpenny & penny papers, comic or obscene are read.

Gambling is terribly prevalent. In Christ St, tipsters jostle each other and the only newspapers that sell are the Star & News and that is for the betting. Boy run round the streets "Latest winner".



Mr T. Wilson Booth

Salmon's Lane Mission

Geo. E. A. May 24/97

Buildings Used

11/17  
118  
Mr T. Wilson Booth, 43 White Horse Lane. E.

Hon Sec. of the Salmon's Lane Mission, Condor St.  
Limehouse E

Mr B. is a master printer, carrying on business at the above address. A quiet thoughtful man, of nearly 60. He was not at all communicative and altho not refusing to ~~speaking~~ information when asked, never volunteered it, always waiting for a question. For the past 30 years he has been engaged in Christian work in Stepney & Limehouse, and was a member of the Church at Stepney Meeting House. He has also been on the Guardians & Vestry of Mile End & might be seen when we do that district.

The Mission is a ~~off~~ secession from Walter Austin's Cottage Mission. At that time they had the house adjoining. The buildings now used consist of a hall holding about 120 adults and 2 rooms over it, whilst they have recently used ~~one~~ a room on the lower floor of the adjacent house & hope to have it all soon.

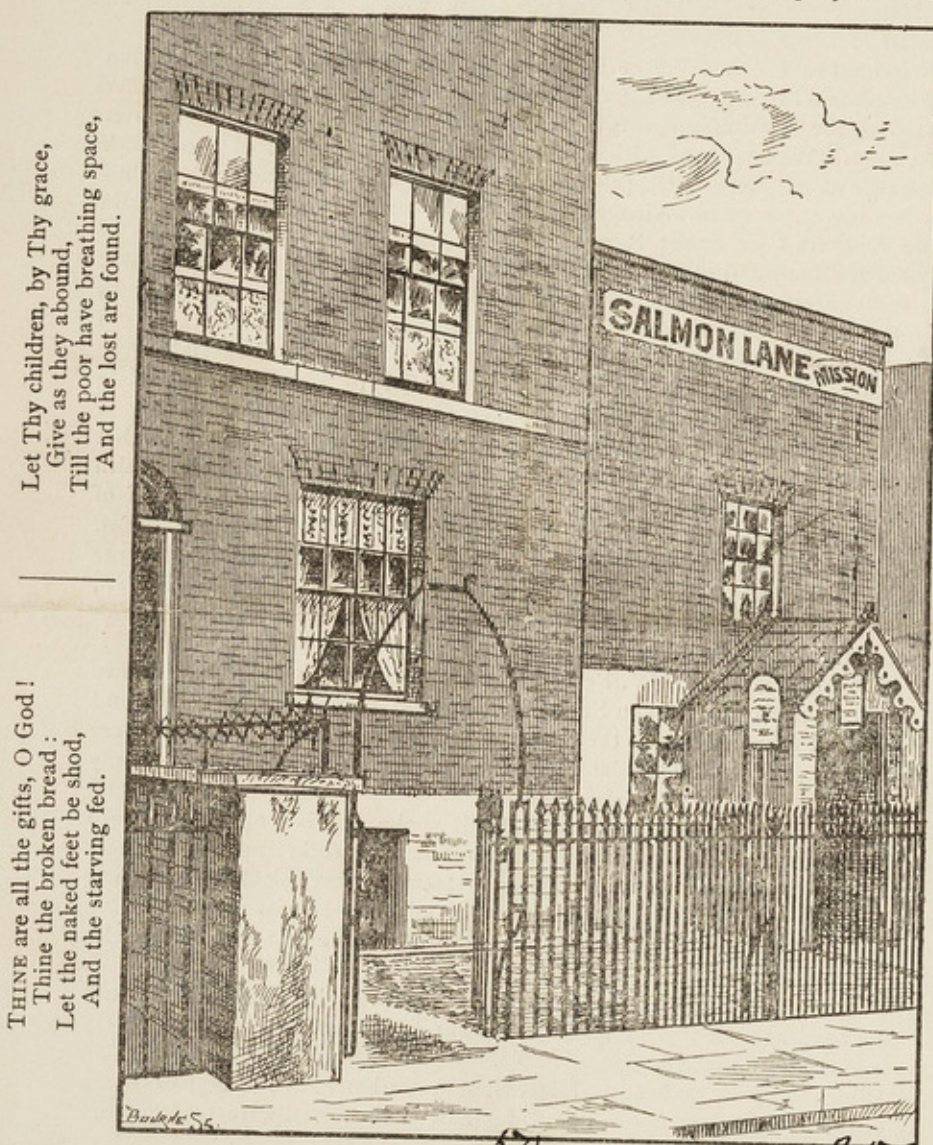
The people attending the Mission come from the



# Salmon Lane Mission.

CONDER STREET, LIMEHOUSE, E.

Committee—O. PETERKEN (Chairman), F. ALLEN (Treasurer), W. ADCOCK, C. J. BOSWORTH, W. LEIGH, Mrs. ALLEN, Mrs. LOCKWOOD.  
Hon. Sec.—T. WILSON BOOTH, 43, White Horse Lane, and 26, King John Street, Stepney Green, E., to whom all communications should be sent.  
Bankers—LONDON AND SOUTH WESTERN BANK (Stepney Branch).



Let Thy children, by Thy grace,  
Give as they abound,  
Till the poor have breathing space,  
And the lost are found.

THINE are all the gifts, O God!  
Thine the broken bread;  
Let the naked feet be shod,  
And the starving fed.

Welcome smiles on faces sad  
As the flowers of spring;  
Let the tender hearts be glad  
With the joy they bring.  
J. G. Whittier.

Wiser than the miser's hoards  
Is the giver's choice;  
Sweeter than the song of birds  
Is the thankful voice.

SUNDAY.—Children's Service at 11 a.m.; Sunday School at 2.45 p.m.; Adult Service at 8 p.m.

From May to Sept., Open-Air Services are held at 5.30 and 8 p.m.

MONDAY.—Mothers' Meeting at 2 p.m.; Christian Endeavour at 8 p.m.

TUESDAY.—Junior Band of Hope at 7.30 p.m.; Senior Band of Hope at 8.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY.—Gospel Temperance Meetings and Entertainments.

THURSDAY.—Gospel Service at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY.—Cripples' Meeting at 7.30 p.m.

During the winter, if funds permit, Free Meals and Relief Tickets are given to children and the deserving poor.

The Funds of the Mission are almost exhausted, and the Workers have had not only to give their services, but largely from their slender resources.

the adjacent streets: Conder St., Brenton St., Aston St., and a large number from Eastfield Street.

The people are really poor, and are very indifferent to everything but drink. Has known the district for many years (Mr B. was secretary of a Ragged School in Carr St from 1868 until 1874) and it is as poor as ever. Asked to compare the streets off Whitehorse Lane e.g. Ernest, Shandy etc with Limehouse fields, he said that he did not think them so bad as L. Fields either in poverty or wickedness. Men are supposed to be connected with docks & shipping, carmen etc. Women do a great deal of charring and washing.

The Services held are as under:

|                                                  |                            |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| On Sunday                                        | Children's Service 11am    | About 50 attend. |
|                                                  | Sunday School 2.45         | " 200 "          |
|                                                  | Adult Service 8 —          | " 80 "           |
| From May to September open air service at 8 p.m. |                            |                  |
| Monday.                                          | Mothers meeting 2 p.m.     | About 30.        |
| Tuesday                                          | Junior Band of Hope 7.30   | " 45             |
|                                                  | Senior " " 8.30            | " 20             |
| Thursday                                         | Gospel Service 8 —         | " 15 to 20.      |
| Friday                                           | Cripples' Meeting 7.30.    | " 36.            |
| Wednesday.                                       | Gospel Temperance Meeting. |                  |

The workers are all voluntary. Only person paid is the cleaner. About 25 workers, of whom 15 are in the Sunday school.

Little relief given. Last winter there was no necessity for it. No free meals were given.



at Stepney Meeting House, in which church he had become a member in 1865. He took a class, in what was then the largest Sunday School in East London, and over which Mr. S. Linder was the respected superintendent. Among his fellow teachers were Captain Butchart, Mr. John Gregory, Mr. E. Thornton, Mr. Andrew Ashcroft (who was also the conductor of the Ashcroft Evans Choral Society), and other men and women of ability and enthusiasm. Mr. Thomas Scrutton was at this time the leader of a splendid Young Men's Bible Class.

In addition, Mr. Booth took a class on Sunday evenings at Carr Street Ragged School, and gave up one or two week evenings to different classes at the latter place. Speaking of this period, he says: "These were the happy days when a devoted band of men and women spent the whole of Sunday, from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m. in earnest work at Stepney Meeting, and in the slums of Limehouse.

Mr. Booth was an active member, and for several years one of the Secretaries of the Stepney Meeting Young Men's Society, which included on its roll the present editor of the *East London Observer*, O. W. Peacock, J.P., J. Williams Benn, L.C.C., late M.P. for St. George's, East, and other men who have made their mark in the world.

In 1868 he became Hon. Sec. to Carr Street Ragged School and devoted most of his energy to the earnest work needed in connection with it. What with children's dinners, reading and writing classes, penny bank, temperance work, evangelistic services, and visitation of the people in their homes, his leisure hours and those of the splendid staff of workers were fully occupied.

Mr. Booth looks back upon this as the happiest work of his life, and he was engaged in it until 1874 when he resigned, and took up work again at Stepney Meeting, filling the offices of sub-superintendent of the Junior Division of the Sunday Schools, and superintendent of the Children's Sunday Evangelistic Services, the latter post he held for 13 years, and the work was attended with much success. The average attendance being nearly 300 children. This service commenced by him is still one of the features in Stepney Meeting Sunday School work.

In 1882, the Rev. G. S. and Mrs. Reaney came to Stepney Meeting, and Mr. Booth took the most active part in nearly every department of their many-sided work. Those who knew the amount of time and service given by him during the five years of their brilliant pastorate, cannot but think that he was so much absorbed in the work that it retarded the growth of the business he was then building up. He himself, says: "That he made an idol of the work, and that since he has withdrawn from it, he has learnt the lesson that we must not set up idols even in Christian work to dethrone Jesus. That Christ must have the chief place in heart, life and service."

Perhaps the most prominent work of Mr. Booth's active life has been his devotion to the Temperance Cause. In his earlier manhood he was in danger, for he had acquired a love for both drink and tobacco; but after his conversion, "God's grace changed the liking into loathing," he gave up both, and from that day to this (30 years ago) not a drop of alcohol, or whiff of tobacco, to his knowledge, has passed his lips.

In 1867, he founded Bands of Hope at Carr Street and Stepney Meeting, and was Secretary and Superintendent of the latter for 24 years. The Senior Band of Hope attained considerable fame and success, and one of the deacons used to say, "if he wanted earnest work done, he went to these Senior Members to get it." They held meetings and gave entertainments at our Sailors' Institute, Ebenezer Chapel, Tower of London, George Yard, and many other places, securing many adherents, and in every way promoting the cause of Temperance. Many of our missionaries took part in their meetings, as Boase, Custard, and Lonsdale. Gilbert, Johnson, and Whitmore rarely returned home from the May meetings without paying a visit to Mr. Booth's Societies. From their ranks not a few young men have entered the ministry of the Church of England, Baptist, Congregational and other denominations, others are superintendents and secretaries of Sunday Schools, Bands of Hope, etc., and many hold good positions as merchants, accountants, etc., in the city, colonies, and other parts of the world.

The late James Boyer and William Rains with Mr. Booth, were the founders of the Tower Hamlets Band of Hope Union; the latter was secretary for five years.

The Union commenced with seven societies, and when he resigned numbered 70. It now has 80, so that the good work begun so many years ago, has continued and progressed right up to the present time.

Mr. Booth has also taken a lively interest in local affairs, and was several times elected to the Mile End Vestry and Board of Guardians, on the latter he was appointed Chairman of the School Committee, and his services were greatly appreciated by his colleagues and the children. The increasing anxieties of business and placing out in the world a large family of boys and girls have led him to give up most of this local work.

In November, 1892, his friends presented him with a purse of gold and an illuminated address as follows:—

"Presented to Thomas Wilson Booth.—Your many friends in East London desire to place on record their high appreciation of the valued services you have rendered to the cause of progress in the Tower Hamlets during the last quarter of a century. We look back with pleasure upon your long record of good work in the cause of religion and Gospel Temperance, and also in advancing the political well-being of your fellow-citizens. We would especially note your work in bygone years at Carr Street Ragged School; your services to the cause of Temperance amongst young and old at Stepney Meeting; your many years' work there in connection with the Sunday School, first as teacher, and latterly as superintendent of the Sunday Evening School; and we cannot refrain from making mention of your public-spirited work in carrying on at a financial loss the *East London Press*, by which you were able very greatly to promote and stimulate a healthy public opinion in all matters connected with the higher well-being of the dwellers in East London. We ask your acceptance of the testimonial that accompanies this address, and earnestly hope you may long be spared in health and strength to labour in the future, as you have done in the past, on behalf of all that makes for the advancement of the toiling masses of this great metropolis. Signed on behalf of the subscribers, George Nokes, S. Golding, George Marshall, Owen W. Peacock, C. J. Holmes, Alexander Grant, John Brown, S. A. Mann, Edwin H. Kerwin (hon. treasurer), and Edwin R. Hoskin (hon. secretary)."

On this occasion Mr. O. W. Peacock, J.P. (Chairman), said he had known Mr. Booth for nearly 30 years in Sunday School and Band of Hope work, and his addresses to the children at the Seamen's Chapel and Lycett Memorial were always well received by the scholars. He knew of no one who was more ready to make sacrifices for the good of others.

Mr. E. H. Kerwin (Great Assembly Hall) spoke of his long acquaintance with Mr. Booth, and his association with him in social work, and also in Press work. He did not know anyone whom he esteemed more highly than he did Mr. Booth, both as a man and a Christian, or anyone who was more deserving to be the recipient of the testimonial which, in the name of many friends who had subscribed to it, he had to present.

Mr. J. Brown (Mile End Board of Guardians) said he had known Mr. Booth for a long time, and whether he was engaged in religious, social, or political work, he always set before him the highest ideals.

Mr. Whitaker spoke on behalf of Mr. Booth's workmen, in the highest terms of his character as an employer, remarking how glad they all were to take part in this expression of goodwill to him.

Many of our readers will be glad to have this portrait and sketch of their friend and fellow-worker, and to know that he is not resting on past services, but has returned to the scene of his earlier labours, and is devoting much time to the Salmon Lane Mission, Limehouse Fields, which is growing so that the committee have had to rent the large house adjoining their Hall. He is Divisional Superintendent of the Tower Hamlets United Temperance Council, a branch of the National United Temperance Council, which Mr. A. F. Hills inaugurated about two years ago, and an active officer of a growing Christian Endeavour Society. Mr. Booth's labours have all been voluntary, excepting the secretariat of the Tower Hamlets Band of Hope Union, and must have cost him not only time and service, but also frequent calls upon his purse. He is in this "down grade" age a firm believer that the good old Gospel is the power of God unto Salvation to all who believe.

Brenton St. Aston  
Eastfield Street.  
r, and are very  
drink. Has known  
(Mr B. was Secretary  
until 1874) and it  
compare the streets  
handy etc with Limehouse  
think them so bad  
wickedness. Men are  
cruel etc. Women do a great

About 50 attend.  
" 200 "  
" 80 "  
in service at 8 P.M.  
About 30.  
" 45  
" 20  
" 15 to 20.  
30. " 36.

Meeting.  
y. Only person  
25 workers, of whom 15  
here was in necessity



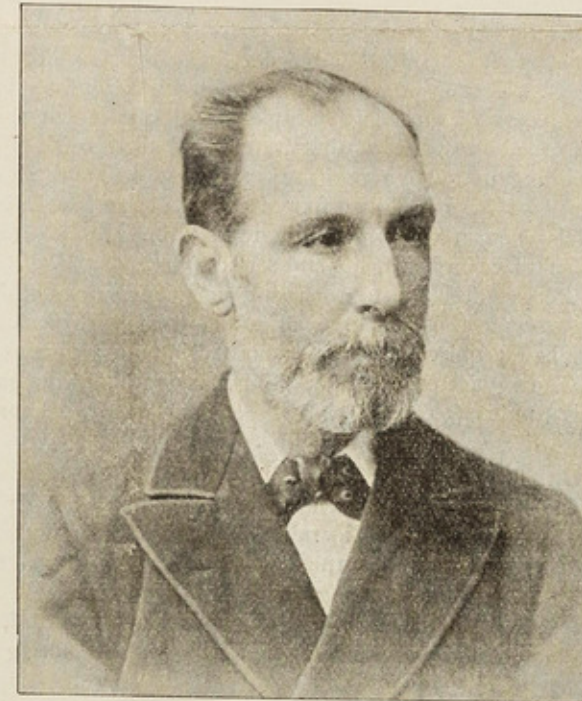
## T. WILSON BOOTH.

Reprinted from an article on "East End Workers," appearing in the March number of "CHART AND COMPASS," Sailors' Magazine, edited by the Rev. E. W. Matthews, Secretary of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society.

WE have pleasure in giving the following sketch of another East End worker who happens to be the printer of *Chart and Compass*. As he has been associated with the magazine from its start, and we have now commenced our eighteenth volume, perhaps we ought to have waited till we reached our 21st birthday in magazine life. But as he is again taking a more prominent part in Temperance work, where it is still so much needed in this great East London, where spirit shops, grogeries, rum holes, whiskey dens, and pubs. of every variety seem to be still doing a daily, hourly, demoralising trade. It is quite common to see women, married and unmarried, standing at the bars before 10 in the morning. We have been told that women will begin to frequent the bars in the early evening, and be in and out till closing time. How must all this affect male relatives and children. Only this morning, 9 40 a.m., we saw a young man brought from one of these drink shops in a state of utter collapse. It is, therefore, fitting to refer to Mr. T. Wilson Booth, who is again taking up Temperance work where it is so much needed in this East End of London. It is, therefore, as an East End worker, that we write of our friend. The son of the late Captain Thos. Booth, he was born in Stepney, the sailors' parish, and has a great deal of the salt of old ocean in his constitution. He loves the sea and sailors, and the good old Sailors' Society. His earliest recollections of work for the latter, are, helping with his sister (now gone Home) to sell fancy goods and small articles at the first bazaar held in our Shadwell Institute. For many years he has given addresses to Sunday Schools on behalf of our Society, and up to date conducts services in nearly all our London Institutes.

He was an active member of our Stepney Meeting Auxiliary when that Society collected nearly £100 a year to aid our funds. When a lad, he attended the ministry of Dr. Reed, at Wyckliffe Chapel, and was so impressed with the earnest preaching of the good doctor, that he purposed being a minister, and although in the years of his earlier manhood, he went astray, and forgot these impressions, after his conversion under the preaching of Rev. E. Price, at Coverdale Chapel, when 23 years of age, they returned with added force, and after a year or two of quiet preparation, he offered himself as a student at Hackney College and was selected one of four candidates to be admitted in January, 1867.

Being in delicate health at the time of his examination by the Board of the College, he was advised not to enter on a course of study during which he might break down physically, after a few months' training. He was greatly disappointed, but accepted this decision, and gave himself with great earnestness to various work



T. WILSON BOOTH.

District. Poor & Bad

Services Held

Persons Engaged

Charitable Relief

Brenton St. Aston  
Eastfield Street,  
, and are very  
drink. Has known  
(Mr B. was Secretary  
until 1874) and it  
compare the streets  
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About 50 attend.  
" 200 "  
" 80 "  
in service at 8 P.M.  
About 30.  
" 45  
" 20  
" 15 to 30.  
30. " 36.

Meeting.

y. Only person  
25 workers, of whom 15  
he was in necessity



## Visitation

Work mostly  
with the children

## Other Religious Agencies

They visit the children attending the Sunday school and the mothers attending the mothers meeting but there is no systematic visitation. Find the parents of the children are very indifferent to the welfare of the children.

Their work is chiefly amongst the young. They are not sent to the meetings but come because they like them. Some of their workers have been in the school, as scholars and becoming attached to the place will not go elsewhere. The young people attending the services are of this class. Cannot get hold of the men: have tried but not succeeded.

St Matthews' has a Mission in Carr Street and holds a mothers' meeting there. St John's is never heard of. Salvation Army does not do much. Seems to have failed in Linthouse. The Mission in Elsa Street (Mr Tope's see page ) Mr B. thinks is not very successful but it is very active; visits etc. Dr Barnardo also carries on a work here, mainly supported from the Edinburgh Castle. In Carr Street there was a ragged school; the building



is now a deaconesses home.

He has not a very hopeful view of the future of the district: apart from the gospel nothing can do any good there but if he ~~had~~ did not believe in the gospel as a means of regenerating the people he would have given the Mission up long ago.

From the general drift of our talk, I gather that the Mission involves much work for a small band of people and that its influence is mainly if not entirely with the children and their relatives. Apart from these it does not directly touch the people.

## Stepney Notes.

The Jews increasing

As Mr B. is living in Stepney, we then had a short talk about that district of which the following are the main points.

The Jews are increasing in Stepney. This is detrimental to the neighbourhood, especially from the tradesman's point of view as they are not customers and even when they are, they are not good customers. They give a lower  
tone



Religious work in Stepney

22  
tune also to the streets they enter. As a rule they pick out the best streets. Stepney Green is almost entirely Jewish. They buy the houses and will pay more than ~~any~~ other people.

As to religious work, Stepney parish church & the branch church are the most active. Of the dissenting places of worship, Stepney Meeting House (Rev. C. Chambers) is ~~the~~ doing a good work. Not so much as before Rev G. S. Reaney seceded to the Anglican church. Some who attended the Meeting house then now go to the Parish Church. Rev J. W. Atkinson, of Latimer Chapel, Bridge Street ~~at~~ collects about £4000 a year for use in the district. The Wesleyans are also doing a good work - Chapel in Mile End Rd at corner of White Horse Lane.



Rev<sup>d</sup> J. Loye.

Unitarian Mission, Elsa St.

Geo. L. A. May 29/97.

The People of  
Lincoln House Fields

11/17 23  
Rev<sup>d</sup> J. Loye, Unitarian Minister in  
charge of Durning Hall, Elsa St, Lincoln House Fields.  
156 Stepney Green E.

I met Mr Loye & then walked down to D. Hall,  
where he was expecting applicants for Jubilee Dinners.  
He had entered 130 names on the previous day and  
was expecting a similar number then. Fortunately  
only about a dozen came - all women, one or two  
bringing a child.

Mr. L. describes the people as a labouring  
population, gas, waterside and other labourers. Many  
of them prefer the casual life to regular. Some of the  
men would rather have alternates days work. If  
~~they~~<sup>he is</sup> are regular, a man has to take a certain  
amount home. The irregular man can do as  
he likes. The men seen standing about in Ben  
Jonson Road are often 'extra' men' at the Gas  
works.

Elsa Street is better than it was. Mr L. <sup>& his family</sup> have  
13 houses in the street & collect the rents for  
some others and this brings them into close ~~contact~~

Contact



Much gambling  
with young men.

Influence of the Mission

244  
Contact with the people. There is a good deal of gambling, but it has decreased, it is mainly a number of young men 20 to 35 years of age, who play. Mr. T. has tackled them; his plan being to fix upon one man and follow him up. As an example of the families living in this street he gave the following details of one. Father an iron sorter in a situation for 25 years, wife, a daughter working at a jam factory and two elder lads, who will become loafers and tamps. One can work as a bricklayers labourer but has no energy. The

The influence of Durning Hall is strictly localized. They reach the people in Elsa St. as far as the corner of Carr Street, Beyond that point Mr. T. said his influence did not go. That unreached portion was occupied on one side by fish curers and on the other by low women. Also reached people in Eastfield Street, Carr St & the adjoining courts. I noticed that as we walked along Elsa Street all the children knew Mr. T. Some spoke, whilst in Eastfield Street, he was also well known but there pleased look did not come into



into the children's faces so frequently as in Elsa Street. I should think the influence of the Hall was very strong in Elsa Street & had undoubtedly raised the character of the street, ~~which~~ at least the part between Carr St and White horse Street.

Mr Loye's family all work here. e.g. wife, two sons & two daughters. In addition they have about 32 Sunday School teachers. & Two ladies also take a girls class & an industrial guild. Mr L. only one paid.

The Building which is ~~very~~ new and cost £3000 consists of 3 class rooms on the ground floor, which formed the original hall but are now divided by moveable partitions, These open into a large hall, which would seat about 150 people, but is used as an entrance hall. There is also a kitchen and other offices. Above the lower Hall is the large Hall, fitted as a church with chairs <sup>to</sup> and holding 150 people but could take more. Sunday. School at 11 & 3.15. About 500 on the book; average attendance about 50 in the morning and 300 in the afternoon

Service

### Persons Employed

### Buildings used

### Services held



## Services. continued.

Christian Life Guild also meets on Sunday.  
It is really a teachers guild. Pay 1<sup>st</sup> a week, the  
amount thus collected given to the poor. About 246<sup>a</sup> <sup>week</sup>.

## Social Agencies & Meetings

Sunday Evening Service 7 P.M. About 50 adults and  
20 children. Mostly young men and women;  
get about half a dozen of the mothers.

Something doing every evening:

Monday - Brass band practice - 7 to 10 P.M. 2.  
sets of performers.

Tuesday, 7.30. Mother's Meeting. About 100 on the books  
and 80 average attendance.

8 - Young Women's Sewing class. About 12 attend.  
20 on books.

Most of these are factory girls.

Wednesday, 7.30 to 10 P.M. Industrial Guild. A sort of  
social meeting. Mixed, children, men and women,  
altogether. Average attendance about 40. Have magazines,  
play chess, draughts, do work of various kinds,  
macramé etc.

Thursday. Singing class. Learn cantatas, part  
songs, anthems etc. for Sunday - Make  
music a great feature of their meetings.  
Average attendance about 25.

Friday. Brass band practice as on Monday.  
Junior singing class.

Saturday - Post Office Savings Bank. Have books  
supplied by the P.O. & have about 500 accounts  
opened.



### Money Club

### Young Men's Sick Benefit Society

27  
opened. The money is all deposited in the P.O. bank but the people must draw & deposit here. Have advised them to go to the P.O. direct but they prefer to come here.

Also a Money Club worked on similar lines to those at the publichouses but no secretary's fees are charged. Only pay 1<sup>d</sup> for card while fines are nominal and not pressed. Shares are 6<sup>d</sup> each. & 1<sup>d</sup> entrance. Try

to get them to join in family groups. and thus if they want to borrow one member of the group becomes responsible for another. Borrowers pay  $\frac{1}{4}$  in the pounds.

At Christmas the money is shared out. Last year the turn over was £1100 and about £600 was paid out at Christmas. The members received  $\frac{2}{7}$ <sup>d</sup> a share in addition to the money returned.

The Young Men's Sick Benefit. Subscription 1<sup>d</sup> a week, pays  $\frac{3}{4}$  a week in sickness. About 20 members.

They have Entertainments and concerts occasionally. Usually on Monday nights instead of the Band practice. Generally give a free invite. Only charged once and it defrays half the expense. Monthly popular magazines are also loaned to the



### Visitation

### Nursing the Sick, etc.

### Other Religious Influences

the people in the district. These are sent to the Mission by friends after ~~they~~ being read.

Visit the parents of the children; generally the mothers. Stop & talk to the people in the street and take every opportunity for becoming acquainted with them. Collecting the rents helps them in this direction.

The sick folk are cared for by St. Barnard's nurses and those connected with the Church. The people largely use the Lower Hamlets Dispensary, White Horse Street, when they are ill. It is a well managed institution and the people prefer to go there rather than to the London or Children's Hospital. Most of the letters cost about 6<sup>d</sup> per week, altho they can be got free.

St John's people do not think the people worth visiting. Church is practically a dead letter but Haden does not mind.

Dorcas House, Carr Street - deaconesses. Miss Sargent is the main stay of this.



Crimes

Housing.

Luncheon (St Matthews) has nurses working in the district.

Crime comes from the drunken families, where the parents do not send the children to school. The boys grow up neglected and become loafers.

The houses in Elsa Street are mostly 2 and 4 roomed and in nearly all cases are let by the house, not tenements. Rent are: - 2 rooms and kitchen 5/- + 5/6 a week; 4 rooms, one of them being a kitchen 7/6. Where the rent is more than 5/- there will generally be a lodger.

Mr J. has some peculiar ideas as to house property. He thinks that ~~the~~ some pressure should be put upon the people to be similar to that upon the owners. The owners are compelled to keep houses and drains in repair but the people will not take care of the place when it is put right. There is no law to make the tenant careful and Mr J. thinks that something should be done in this direction but he did not explain how.

~~The~~ The people cling to the neighbourhood and will not move out. Some have been here



a very long time and such regard themselves as the owners of the place and think they can do as they like. One family (the Darbigs) have been here for nearly 400 years. Form quite a clan. The people live and grow up in one of these houses. Thus in one house (2 rooms & a kitchen) there are 3 adult sons, a daughter and the man and his wife. The children have lived there since they were babies.

Mr. J. is a very interesting man; entirely absorbed in his work and speaks readily about it. Whilst he does not succeed in getting the men of the place to attend the hall, he evidently exerts a strong influence upon the children; and an influence which is probably greater upon those who leave their homes and go out to seek their fortunes than upon those who remain in the neighbourhood.



Mr W<sup>m</sup> Dodd

London City Missionary

Glo. E. Akell.  
June 5/97

See also Notebook on Section 93

Religion, which contains  
some extracts from Mr Dodd's journals  
and particulars of visitation with  
statistics. pages - 49-55.

District

Also Interview with Mr J. Gretton,  
Deacon of Trinity Congregational Church,  
in connection with which this Mission  
is carried on. Book 3. page 52

Persons Employed



## Shaftesbury Memorial Hall,

POPLAR.

(In connection with the London City Mission).

FIFTH

# ANNUAL REPORT

AND

# BALANCE SHEET

1895-6.

### Local Committee of Management.

Chairman and Hon. Treasurer:

MR. WM. JAMES WALKER,  
90, Amhurst Park, Stamford Hill, N.

MR. ADIN SHEFFIELD,  
98, East India Road, Poplar, E.

MR. JOHN GRETTON,  
232, High Street, Poplar, E.

MR. GEORGE NOKES,  
103, Bishop's Road, Victoria Park, E.

Missionary at the Hall:

MR. W. DODD,  
Shaftesbury Hall, Kerbey Street, Poplar, E.

Hon. Secretary:

MR. B. G. BLACKMORE,  
284, High Street, Poplar, E.

POPLAR:

H. PETERKEN, Trade Union Printer, 153, High Street

1896.



Given by Mrs Gretton of  
Trinity Chapel.

31  
missionary. of the  
Curly Street, Poplar.  
town.

but closely built  
H. Market + Cordelia  
t. + West - Elizabeth Place  
J. Walker Esq, Walker Bros.  
Auckland House, Basinghall St.

man. He has been on  
Hall 10 years. Built  
Shaftesbury.

working class. They  
are also indigent +  
a normal proportion  
the district. The  
Grundy Street and  
and Bygrove Street.  
his area: they get  
houses - the Abbott  
labourers.

agent connected with  
the



Mr W<sup>m</sup> Dodd  
London City

District

Persons Employed

CA 2

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the

## REPORT.

When issuing our report at this time last year, we were able to inform our friends that we had a balance in hand of £12 5s. 2d. This year the outlook is not quite so rosy, as the balance carried forward is only £1 14s. 11d.

We are quite satisfied, however, that our friends will keep us right for funds so we enter upon another season with confidence.

The work during the past year has been of a quiet, steady nature. Very thankfully have we seen the progress made in the elevation of the the people who come to the Hall. A gentleman sitting on the platform at one of the recent gatherings said, "What strikes me is the gradual improvement in the faces and general appearance of your people." Every time he came he saw a difference. The remark was amply justified as, in many cases, the improvement was little short of miraculous.

This is an age of miracles. Surprises in the scientific world meet us every morning as we open our papers; but there is no miracle equal to a dissolute, bad man changed into a good citizen. Not once, but many times has this happened at the Hall.

Glancing round the audience at any meeting, one may see respectable, humble minded men and women who only a short time ago were sunk in vice and misery. It is no small thing to see a drunkard become a sober man, a wife beater develop into a kind husband, or a depraved



Mr W<sup>m</sup> Dodd  
London City

### District

woman regain the purity and gentleness known "long since and lost awhile." Such are the victories at the Hall which the Committee rejoice in.

In closing this brief reference to the Spiritual work going on at Kerbey Street, we cannot do better than call the attention of our subscribers to the following summary of *ten years work* accomplished single-handed by our devoted and esteemed Missionary, Mr. Dodd.

We take the figures from an account of the operations carried on at the Hall, published in May last by the London City Mission:—

#### DISTRICT VISITATION.

##### NUMBER OF VISITS, &c.

|                                                              |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| From house to house and room to room .. ..                   | 42,096 |
| Readings of the Holy Scriptures .. ..                        | 14,065 |
| To the sick and dying in rooms and asylums .. ..             | 4,156  |
| Portions of Scripture and religious tracts distributed .. .. | 54,981 |
| In-door meetings held .. ..                                  | 1,494  |
| Out-door services held .. ..                                 | 381    |

##### RESULTS.

|                                                                                                                                                        |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Adults induced to attend public worship .. ..                                                                                                          | 596     |
| New communicants .. ..                                                                                                                                 | 252     |
| Families induced to commence family prayer .. ..                                                                                                       | 318     |
| Drunkards permanently reclaimed .. ..                                                                                                                  | 169     |
| Unmarried couples induced to marry .. ..                                                                                                               | 5       |
| Fallen women restored to their homes or otherwise rescued .. ..                                                                                        | 21      |
| Children sent to Sunday Schools .. ..                                                                                                                  | 576     |
| Employment gained by worthy persons through my recommendations to employers .. ..                                                                      | 191     |
| Shops closed on the Lords' Day .. ..                                                                                                                   | 15      |
| Free Dinners during the winter months for the poorest children attending the Board Schools round the Docks, prepared in the Hall in the district .. .. | 200,000 |

Persons Employed

The Committee are content to let these eloquent facts speak for themselves. It requires no great poetic instinct to weave around these figures a story of true pathos. The very angels might read the tale and rejoice thereat.

Turning to other departments of work we record with increasing satisfaction that the SINGING MISSION BAND have done splendid service at the Hall and in the open air. Their singing in the streets of Poplar during the Summer Sunday afternoons has on all occasions evoked genuine enthusiasm from the delighted crowds, who listened to the sweet young voices singing the story of the Cross.

The CHOIR and BRASS BAND are also doing grand work, and render the Services increasingly attractive to the people.

Thanks chiefly to the grants given by the Board School Children's Free Dinner Fund, we were enabled all last winter to give our usual 1,200 to 1,300 dinners each week to poor children, carefully selected by the Teachers, at the five Board Schools nearest the Hall. This went on from November until March, and many a child had no other really substantial meals during all these gloomy months.

The ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER is becoming quite a feature in our work. It took place on the 8th January, when about 250 really deserving poor (carefully selected) sat down to the time-honoured Roast Beef, Baked Potatoes, and Plum Pudding. Parliament has passed an Act fixing a certain limit to the loading of ships, and all who know anything about vessels are acquainted with the Plimsoll mark; but what about the loading of

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Missionary of the  
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town.

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+ West-Elizabeth Place  
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agent connected with  
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Mr W<sup>m</sup> Dodd  
London City

District

of a human ship? Is there any mark to guide one as to discretion regarding the amount of cargo such a craft as this may carry? We can only say that the capacity at these dinners is enormous! The pampered rich know nothing of the delight experienced by a really hungry person in filling up every inch of room with genuine beef and plum pudding. The Lord Mayor's Banquet is not in it with our annual dinner so far as real enjoyment is concerned. Every one is happy at our gathering. The people who eat are happy, the army of amateur volunteer waiters and waitresses are happy, and the policeman at the door is jolly also, as he contemplates the scene with good-humoured approval! Why, the man in blue so far relaxes his 6 feet of legal dignity that, if pressed gently, he will arrest a bit of steaming pudding and give it comfortable, safe lodgement somewhere under the white buttons. Oh, it is a grand night, and we mean to have another. Will the reader help us?

Much more might be written about the truly noble work performed at Kerbey Street Hall, but people will not read long Reports. In this they are wise as a rule, and we shall try to display a corresponding sagacity by closing our remarks at this point. We require *Funds*, but we cannot bring ourselves to whine and plead for them. Our friends are kind and will respond as hitherto. This we doubt not, and in faith go on with our work.

The thanks of the Committee are due to Miss Newell, Bournemouth; Miss Parsons, Harrogate; Mr. Blackmore, Poplar, and Mr. George Nokes, Bethnal Green, for sundry gifts of clothing. These gifts are most useful, and anyone sending cast-offs may be certain they are given to the right sort of people.

Persons Employed

Parcels of Clothing ought to be addressed to—

Mr. W. DODD,  
Shaftesbury Hall,  
Kerbey Street,  
Poplar,  
London, E.

and all subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer—

Mr. W. J. WALKER,  
90, Amhurst Park,  
Stamford Hill,  
London, N.

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Kerbey Street, Poplar.  
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M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Dodd  
London City

District

Persons Employed

Shaftesbury Memorial Hall, Gherben Street, Poplar.

## BALANCE SHEET.

| RECEIPTS.       |                                                                                                                                                         | £   | s. | d. |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| 1895            | Nov. 1 To Balance brought forward                                                                                                                       | 12  | 5  | 2  |
|                 | " Grants in aid of Free Dinners from the Board School Children's Free Dinner Fund, per Mrs. Pennington, from 8th November, 1895, until 19th March, 1896 | 61  | 4  | 0  |
|                 | " Rent for use of the Hall from the Trinity Church Sunday School (four quarters)                                                                        | 10  | 0  | 0  |
| 1896            | Jan. 4 " Trinity Sunday School, for our New Organ Fund                                                                                                  | 1   | 1  | 0  |
| 29              | " Sale of old harmonium                                                                                                                                 | 3   | 5  | 0  |
|                 | " Various Collections at the Hall for the New Organ                                                                                                     | 4   | 15 | 0  |
| 28              | " Annual Meeting Collection                                                                                                                             | 0   | 18 | 0  |
| Mar. 6          | " Children's pence at the door on sundry occasions                                                                                                      | 0   | 17 | 0  |
| June 9          | " Amount for Gas, per Mr. Dodd                                                                                                                          | 2   | 12 | 0  |
| July            | " Mr. Sydney Smith                                                                                                                                      | 1   | 5  | 0  |
|                 | " Collected by the Singing Band in the small box attached to their organ                                                                                | 4   | 1  | 8  |
| Sep. 27         | " Harvest Festival Collections                                                                                                                          | 5   | 2  | 8  |
| 1895-96         | " Amount of Subscriptions as per separate list at end of this Report                                                                                    | 24  | 8  | 6  |
| Carried forward |                                                                                                                                                         | 131 | 15 | 0  |

| EXPENDITURE.    |                                                                              | £  | s. | d. |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Nov. 2          | By Wages of Hall Keeper, from this date until the 31st October, 1896         | 21 | 4  | 0  |
| 15              | " Paid out in small sums to necessitous poor, per Mr. Dodd                   | 1  | 0  | 0  |
|                 | " Paid Singing Band                                                          | 1  | 17 | 6  |
| Dec. 4          | " E. L. Davis                                                                | 0  | 6  | 3  |
| 5               | " A. & M. Fail, for rice, flour, &c., at this date and up to 3rd April, 1896 | 8  | 2  | 6  |
| 7               | " Bell Organ Co., for New Organ                                              | 19 | 19 | 6  |
| 16              | " J. Leach, for Vegetables at this date and up to 3rd April, 1896            | 6  | 4  | 4  |
| 16              | " H. W. Cook                                                                 | 0  | 4  | 9  |
| 21              | " J. Radford, for Bread at this date and up to 3rd April, 1896               | 9  | 15 | 1  |
| Jan. 3          | " Australian Meat Co., at this date and on 3rd February                      | 2  | 8  | 0  |
| 8               | " M. Watkins, Cover for Organ                                                | 0  | 9  | 11 |
| 13              | " East London Water Works Co., and on 22nd September                         | 2  | 2  | 0  |
| 14              | " Sundries paid for at the Hall                                              | 0  | 5  | 9  |
| 15              | " S. Davis, hire of plates                                                   | 0  | 5  | 8  |
| 15              | " J. S. Dillway, mince pies                                                  | 1  | 5  | 0  |
| 18              | " Wright & Robinson, for beef &c., at this date and up to 7th October        | 19 | 3  | 6  |
| Carried forward |                                                                              | 94 | 13 | 9  |

RECEIPTS—continued.

Brought forward

£ s. d.

131 15 0

EXPENDITURE—continued.

Brought forward

£ s. d.

94 13 9

Jan. 22 " Pledger, Windett & Pledger

0 14 0

Jan. 24 " H. Peterken, Printing, and on 5th May

2 12 0

25 " R. Griffiths

1 14 2

Feb. 13 " Commercial Gas Co., at this date and up to 31st October

7 18 6

22 " Singing Band at this date and up to 30th July

5 8 11

Mar. 6 " Necessitous cases, per Mr. Dodd

1 0 0

14 " John Gretton

2 13 0

19 " Special Grant to the Missionary

3 3 0

Apr. 13 " Choir Fund

0 10 0

May 5 " W. Nicholson & Sons

1 4 11

5 " Necessitous cases, per Mr. Dodd

0 5 0

14 " A. H. Wilkins, Binding Music

0 15 0

June 11 " W. Thorrington for Coals

1 11 4

Oct. 24 " Special Donation to Head Office of London City Mission

5 5 0

31 " Relief to three poor cases

0 11 6

31 " Balance in hand

1 14 11

£131 15 0

Examined and found correct.

Signed, ALFRED FLOWER, White House, Bucklersbury, E.C.

10th November, 1896.

Missionary of the  
Curly Street, Poplar.

best closely built  
the Market + Cordelia  
+ West - Elizabeth Place  
J. Walker Esq, Walter Bros.  
ackland House, Basmphall

man. He has been on  
Hall 10 years. Built  
Shaftesbury.

working class. They  
are also indigent +  
a normal proportion  
the district. The  
Grundy Street and  
and Bygrove Street.  
this area: they get  
houses - the Abbott  
labourers.

agent connected with  
the



Mr Wm Dodd  
London City

District

Persons Employed

List of Subscribers.

|         |                          |     |     | £   | s. | d. |
|---------|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 1895.   |                          |     |     |     |    |    |
| Dec. 20 | Mrs. S. St. Clair        | ... | ... | 0   | 1  | 6  |
| 21      | Mr. Fred Whiter          | ... | ... | 0   | 5  | 0  |
| 22      | Mr. W. H. White          | ... | ... | 2   | 2  | 0  |
| 23      | Miss A. L. Champ         | ... | ... | 0   | 10 | 6  |
| 24      | Mrs. William Walker...   | ... | ... | 2   | 0  | 0  |
| 31      | Mr. James F. Walker      | ... | ... | 0   | 10 | 0  |
| 31      | Mr. Wm. Jas. Walker      | ... | ... | 5   | 5  | 0  |
| 31      | Mrs. Wm. Jas. Walker     | ... | ... | 2   | 0  | 0  |
| 1896.   |                          |     |     |     |    |    |
| Jan. 1  | Mr. A. Wright...         | ... | ... | 0   | 10 | 6  |
| 1       | Mr. J. Ralph             | ... | ... | 0   | 5  | 0  |
| 3       | Mr. G. W. Robinson       | ... | ... | 0   | 10 | 0  |
| 6       | Mr. Adin Sheffield       | ... | ... | 2   | 2  | 0  |
| 6       | Dr. Skelley              | ... | ... | 0   | 10 | 6  |
| 6       | Miss Ruth Walker         | ... | ... | 0   | 3  | 0  |
| 6       | Mr. Fred Walker          | ... | ... | 0   | 2  | 0  |
| 6       | Mr. Gordon Walker        | ... | ... | 0   | 2  | 0  |
| 13      | Mr. W. Jarvis...         | ... | ... | 2   | 2  | 0  |
| 16      | Messrs. Rylands and Sons | ... | ... | 2   | 2  | 0  |
| 29      | Mr. R. G. Blackmore...   | ... | ... | 0   | 15 | 0  |
| Mar. 4  | Mr. A. Wright            | ... | ... | 0   | 10 | 6  |
| 14      | Mr. F. J. Hitchman       | ... | ... | 0   | 10 | 0  |
| June 9  | Miss Cartwright          | ... | ... | 0   | 10 | 0  |
| July 3  | Mr. A. Wright...         | ... | ... | 1   | 0  | 0  |
|         |                          |     |     | £24 | 8  | 6  |

31  
missionary of the  
Curly Street, Poplar.  
town.

but closely built  
th - Market + Cordelia  
t. + West - Elizabeth Place  
J. Walker Esq, Walker Bros.  
ackland House, Basinghall St.

man. He has been on  
Hall 10 years. Built  
raftsbury.

working class. They  
nalsand indigent +  
a normal proportion  
the district. The  
Grundy Street and  
and Bygrove Street.  
this area; they get  
houses - the Abbott  
labourers.

agent connected with  
the



Mr W<sup>m</sup> Dodd  
London City

District

Persons Employed

31  
12  
Mr W<sup>m</sup> Dodd. London City Missionary of the  
Shaftesbury Memorial Mission, Kirby Street, Poplar.  
and 83 New City Road, Plaistow.

Mr Dodd's district is a small but closely built  
block in Poplar. The boundaries are: North - Market + Cordelia  
Streets; East - Christ St; South - Grundy Street; + West - Elizabeth Place  
and Annabel Street. Local Supt. W. J. Walker Esq, Walker Bros.  
Auckland House, Baschurch St.

Mr Dodd is a middle-aged man. He has been on  
the district 12 years and has had the Hall 10 years. Built  
as a memorial of the 9<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shaftesbury.

The people he describes as working class. They  
include a goodly number of casuals and indigent +  
disabled men, and more than a normal proportion  
of widows, this due to the poverty of the district. The  
poorest part of Poplar is between Grundy Street and  
Guildford Road and Christ Street and Bygrove Street.

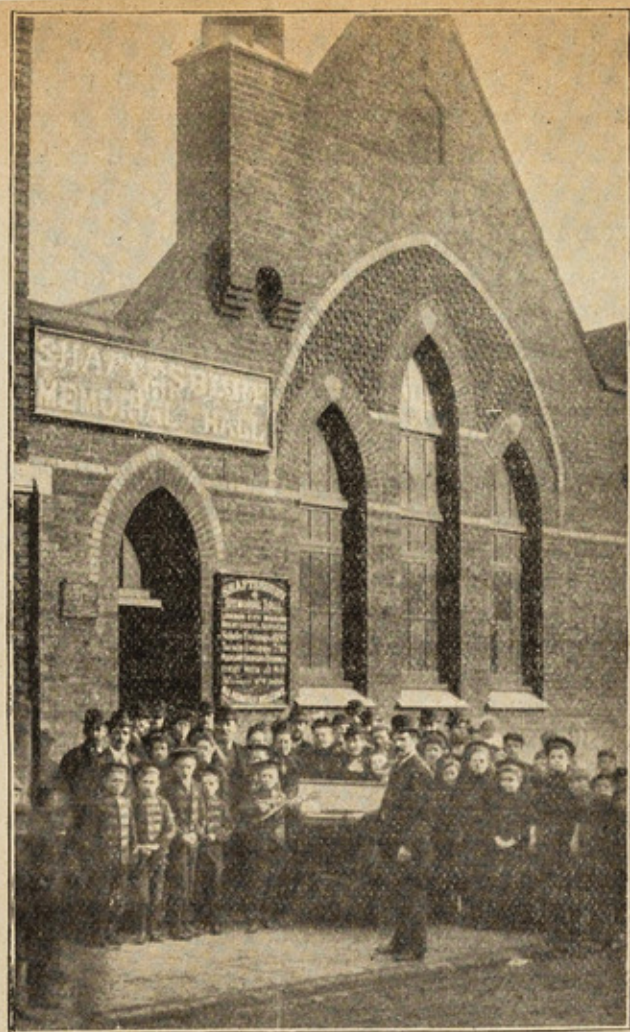
Very few mechanics living in this area; they get  
outside to the more respectable houses - the Abbott  
Estate etc. Barmen and general labourers.

Mr Dodd is the only paid agent connected with  
the



Persons Employed (cont.)

Building Used



THE MISSIONARY AND HIS WORKERS OUTSIDE THE SHAFTESBURY MEMORIAL HALL.

Services & Meetings held.

the Mission. He is assisted by 12 regular Sunday school teachers and about 20 ~~who~~ who take part in the social work. Also a singing band of 7 boys & 7 girls, who are trained to sing at the meetings.

The Memorial Hall will seat about 300 persons. At the back is a vestry which can be used to increase the capacity of the Hall by raising a revolving shutter. There ~~is~~ is a kitchen fitted with copper etc, enabling them to provide teas & dinners for 1000 people if necessary.

Services are as under:

Sunday 6.30 PM. Gospel Service, about 200 average attendance.

Ragged School 10.30 AM & 2.45 PM. About 300 children on the books. Average attendance in morning about 100, afternoon 200.

Tuesday. Prayer meeting. About 30 to 40 attend.

Of meetings etc. of a social character there are:  
Thursday. Pleasant Thursday evening, originally a temperance meeting; now, now made more popular - lectures etc. Average attendance about 200 persons, mostly adults.



*Remains of the  
"Ten years work in Poplar."*

LONDON CITY MISSION MAGAZINE, MAY 1, 1896.

89

"The chief weapon I have used in combating this evil is 'the Word of God, which is the sword of the Spirit,' and which has proved 'quick and powerful.'"

"The women, moreover, were warned of the evil infidelity often effected in the social life, and examples were cited to prove the statement. These narratives made some of the women so indignant that they burnt the papers before my eyes, for which I substituted pure and suitable literature.

"The newsagents were also conversed with, and the responsibility of dealing in such blasphemous literature was impressed upon their mind, so that several of them refused to sell the papers afterwards.

"I never see one of these papers now, and rarely meet with a professed infidel. Scepticism in various phases is, however, common, and has to be constantly dealt with. Here is cause for gratitude to God, for by His grace a number of those infidels I visited and reasoned with have been won to Christ, and are now active workers in His cause. Amongst them are two cornet players in an evangelistic band, a man and his wife, who are communicants at a church, and several others who are devoted workers in the suburbs.

**"HELPING THE ORPHAN AND FRIENDLESS."**

"A young man, who was eighteen years of age, commenced his troubles early. When little more than a baby, his father had died through an accident in the docks; and in his tenth year, through his mother's death, he was left an orphan. He then for three years stayed with an aunt, but on her removal he was once more left alone. Through his energy and perseverance he succeeded in passing as a messenger boy, and out of his little earnings he rented a room, which he kept scrupulously clean. For four years he performed his duties so well as to win the esteem of his superintendent. He then became eligible as a candidate for the regular staff of postmen, and succeeded in passing the examination, but to his amazement he was at last rejected because he had said (mistakenly) that his mother had died with cancer. This disappointment was indeed a sore trial. It meant the sudden banishment of the humble ideal of the orphan boy to be an efficient postman, with which aim he had rented the little room

adults a very poor class come.

Band of Hope. Friday. Junior 7 PM. 200 on books. <sup>About 150</sup> <sub>attend</sub>

Senior 8.15 PM. About 30 to 40.

Mothers' Meeting. Monday 3 PM. About 30 to 40 come.

Penny Bank. Monday 7. 30 to 8.30. About 600 depositors.

£230 was deposited last year..

Musical class. Saturday 8 PM.

Open Air Meetings form a prominent feature of the work. Every Sunday Afternoon a meeting is held in Christ's Street and a second is held in the courts of the district, visiting each in turn. At the meeting in Christ's Street they get at least 200 people. To make these meetings attractive the Singing Band consisting of 14 boys & girls with trained voices and accompanied with a portable harmonium. These sing hymns, duets & choruses which attract the crowds of dockers & costers and has been the means of drawing many men to the Mission service. To these meetings and the weekly visitation of the district, Mr D. attributes an improvement of Christ's Street on Sunday morning. <sup>(both boys & girls)</sup> The children are dressed in a uniform dress - dark blue with gold facing. The men show their appreciation by contributing £3 or £4 a year to the expenses. Put the money in a box attached to harmonium. No appeal made.



wherein he had devoted early morning and late evening hours for four anxious years.

"When I called to see him he seemed broken down with grief. I saw the difficulty. The mistake was beyond local power to rectify. After we had knelt in prayer, I said, 'A—, leave your trouble in my hands, and keep a firm trust in God.' I stated the facts on paper, and sent them to my Local Superintendent, who kindly brought them before the notice of the late Chief Secretary (Sir Arthur Blackwood). After due investigation, an official note was sent to the local office, and, to the great joy of the orphan youth, he passed on to the regular staff of postmen.

"He is now married, and has a nice home. The furniture is much more imposing than that in the little room of former days, and the couple are Christians and abstainers, frugal in habits, and happy in their home. Only a few weeks ago he sent me a kindly note, enclosing 5s. for our Mission expenses, showing that he has not forgotten the visit in the little sanctum, and the help rendered in time of need.

#### TWO REMARKABLE WORKERS FOR CHRIST.

"Mrs. R— was first married when she was barely fifteen years of age. In her ninth year she was an orphan, and two years later she was left friendless on the streets, from whence she was taken to a house, where she was to be the 'servant.' Naturally strong and well-formed, she became attractive, and it was here where her first husband saw and married her. Three years later she was a widow. After several years spent in her old life she met with Mr. R—, and in a short time they were married and came to live in E— Street. She was then thirty years of age. It was here I first saw her. I continued my visits. Though she could not read or write she had a sympathetic, open nature, and was soon under a good influence.

"I remember reading one day to her a part of Luke vii. She became very much troubled and excited. We knelt in prayer. I knew then that the spirit of repentance possessed her, as in her humble supplications her sinful life rose up while she confessed and prayed earnestly for forgiveness. She deeply repented, and the new life then followed. She became anxious about her husband's welfare, and it was arranged for me to visit him when he returned from work in the evening.

"After tea I called on Mr. R—, a squarely-built, muscular man, rather under the average height. Unwashed, he sat in the chair; nor did he rise as I advanced, with some misgiving, to shake hands. He was stern and reticent, and I had to do the talking. Learning that he was a boiler-scaler, and having myself a practical knowledge as a boiler-maker of his work, an interesting conversation ensued; so that the first night we became friends.

"I continued my evening visits, reading and explaining the Scriptures with the man and his wife, with a view to his conversion. On passing the house one morning Mrs. R— called me in and said, 'My husband is better since you visited him. He does what he has never done before. He kneels down and says his prayers night and morning.' This was indeed glad news. Three days after I was called in again to hear the news reversed. Jim had been out last night with his old mates, drinking rum; and had come home drunk. Still I continued to follow him up. For the second time the man signed the pledge, and, at my suggestion, it was framed and hung over the kitchen mantelpiece.

"I next urged him to come and see the dissolving views on the 'Life of Christ,' given by Mr. Wm. Jas. Walker. The pictures deeply impressed him, especially the last one, 'Christ knocking,' which was alternated with the singing of the hymn, 'Knocking, knocking; who is there,' by the little choir.

"The next day his wife said to me, 'Jim couldn't talk about nothing else last night but them pictures. He went to bed first, and when I went into the room he was on his knees, and tears was rollin' down his face. I couldn't sleep somehow for thinking about them views; but I hee'd Jim say several times in his sleep, 'Knocking, knocking; who is there.'

"Thank God that proved to be the night of Jim's conversion. Here were two trophies of divine grace, as shown in their subsequent life. They are both members of a Christian church; and their humble, devoted, self-sacrificing work for the Lord is almost incredible. They are not only willing to help the friendless, but also to nurse the sick and the dying, and take a real pleasure in doing so. There are generally two or three human wrecks in their home, whom they have led from the streets, helpless and friendless, being nursed and cared for, so as to give them another start in life.

adults a very poor class come.

Band of Hope. Friday. Junior 7 P.M. 200 on books. About 150 attend.

Senior 8.15 P.M. About 30 to 40.

Mother's Meeting. Monday 3 P.M. About 30 to 40 come.

Penny Bank. Monday 7.30 to 8.30. About 600 depositors.

£230 was deposited last year.

Musical class. Saturday 8 P.M.

Open Air Meetings form a prominent feature of the work. Every Sunday Afternoon a meeting is held in Chispe Street and a second is held in the courts of the district, visiting each in turn. At the meeting in Chispe Street they get at least 200 people. To make these meetings attractive the Singing Band consisting of 14 boys & girls with trained voices and accompanied with a portable harmonium. These sing hymns, duets & choruses which attract the crowds of dockers & costers and has been the means of drawing many men to the Mission service. To these meetings and the weekly visitation of the district, Mr. D. attributes an improvement of Chispe Street on Sunday morning. The children, <sup>(both boys & girls)</sup> are dressed in a uniform dress - dark blue with gold facing. The men show their appreciation by contributing £3 or £4 a year to the expenses. Put the money in a box attached to harmonium. No appeal made.



"During the past seven years many poor souls who had sunk have been reclaimed by these two humble, loyal servants of Christ. Both as faithful fellow-workers and personal friends, Mr. and Mrs. R— are to me invaluable.

#### "TWO HEROINES FOR CHRIST.

"Mrs. W— with whom I have often conversed, was led to give her heart to Christ and then to suffer for His sake. Her vicious husband was strongly opposed to her being a Christian, and did everything he could to stop her attending the Mission. When I talked with him he seemed to be a different man, but directly I was gone he would swear and blaspheme. Finding his wife persisted in going to the meetings he got worse, and resolved to take her life. However, she being a strong woman, and he a cripple, he thought it could not be done while she was awake; so he secretly took a knife and put it under his pillow. Her suspicions were, however, aroused; she said, 'I lay in bed with my eyes closed, but not asleep. I was silently praying, when he moved. I looked over, and he was just drawing the knife from under his pillow. I jumped out of bed and struck a light. We had a struggle, and I got the knife from him and said I would fetch a policeman and have him locked up, but he asked me to forgive him, and what could I do, sir; we are commanded to forgive our enemies, ain't we? and him being a cripple I did not like him going to prison.' For three years he did not give up his wicked purpose. Some nights he would get up stealthily when he thought she was asleep to accomplish his design. Thus through all the days and nights of these years this poor woman's faith and love for her Saviour was tried; but, thanks be to God, she stood the test. The end of her living martyrdom came. The man was afflicted unto death. He knew it, and we visited him in his wretched condition. Broken under his load of guilt, he wept as a child for his wife's forgiveness; nor would he attempt to ask for Divine pardon until he had obtained it. Then in the eleventh hour he prayed to Him who at such an hour Himself prayed, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.'

"The other heroine is Mrs. L—, the wife of a boiler-maker. His deep prejudice against religion, his violent temper, and his drunken habits were the forces by which this woman's faith and love for

Christ were long tested. Finding that his bursts of wrath could not deter her from attending the meetings, his next plan was to lock her in the bedroom. She, however, got the clothes-line and lowered herself out of the window and went to the meeting. He once hid her shawl and bonnet, and she came as she was. He next pawned her boots and spent the money in drink; but, in borrowed slippers, she came to the meeting. Several times I called on the man without gaining admission. One Sunday afternoon I was holding a meeting in Chrisp Street when he, in passing, stood to listen to the singing. I saw that he was moved, for a tear was brushed away as I shook hands with him. He said, 'Would you mind singing that other hymn again, sir?' 'Jesus my Saviour to Bethlehem came, Born in a manger to sorrow and shame! Oh, it was wonderful—blest be His name! Seeking for me!—for me!' We did so, and in the evening he came to the meeting. At the close he was very miserable. With drooped face he came with me into the inquiry room. We both knelt at the Throne of Grace, when down the furrows of that hard, rough, troubled face ran the signs of an inward struggle which ended in victory.

"I went home with him, and the persecuted wife's joy was simply indescribable. From that night the man never tasted drink nor lost his temper. He loved the very building, and never missed one meeting, and was always there at least fifteen minutes before the commencement. The night before his death (four years afterwards) his last effort was to dress and come to the prayer-meeting.

#### "SEVEN WORKERS FOR CHRIST IN ONE FAMILY.

"J. M—, a youth of sixteen, needed a sympathetic friend. His father, after eighteen months' illness, had died with consumption. The son and his widowed mother were trying hard to keep the family of five. In the winter he was thrown out of employment. Day after day, for six weeks, he tramped in search of work, until, with boots worn out and crippled feet, he was exhausted. I called at the house, and asked where he was. His mother said, 'When I looked into his bedroom he was on his knees, praying that he might get work.' I said to her, 'I have good news for him. Having spoken to a friend of mine he has, on my recommendation, promised to start your son at 14s. per week.' The next morning

adults a very poor class come.

Band of Hope. Friday. Junior 7 P.M. 200 on books. About 150 attend.

Senior 8.15 P.M. About 30 to 40.

Mothers' Meeting. Monday 3 P.M. About 30 to 40 come.

Penny Bank. Monday 7.30 to 8.30. About 600 depositors.

£230 was deposited last year..

Musical class. Saturday 8 P.M.

Open Air Meetings form a prominent feature of the work. Every Sunday Afternoon a meeting is held in Chrisp Street and a second is held in the courts of the district, visiting each in turn. At the meeting in Chrisp Street they get at least 200 people. To make these meetings attractive the Singing Band consisting of 14 boys & girls with trained voices and accompanied with a portable harmonium. These sing hymns, duets & choruses which attract the crowds of dockmen & coasters and has been the means of drawing many men to the Mission service. To these meetings and the weekly visitation of the district, Mr D. attributes an improvement of Chrisp Street on Sunday morning. The children <sup>(both boys & girls)</sup> are dressed in a uniform dress - dark blue with gold facing. The men show their appreciation by contributing £3 or £4 a year to the expenses. Put the money in a box attached to harmonium. No appeal made.



he was at his post, and ere long, through his perseverance and activity, he was earning 25s. per week.

"This timely act saved the family, and also strengthened the lad's faith in prayer. We agreed to unite in prayer for his mother's conversion, and our prayers were truly answered. A year



AN OPEN-AIR MEETING IN GRUNDY STREET DISTRICT, POPLAR.

later Mrs. M— married again. I continued my visits, and, soon after, the husband (a dock labourer), and next the eldest son, were converted to God. The work of grace has continued since the day I first visited the family. The children are now grown up, and there are seven truly devoted workers for Christ at my Mission-hall. Though humble, it is emphatically a Christian home; so

Musical Classes 21.8  
Open Air Meeting 21  
Band second 1  
Church St. 200

adults a very poor class come.

Band of Hope. Friday. Junior 7 PM. 200 on books. About 150 attend.

Senior 8.15 PM. About 30 to 40.

Mothers' Meeting. Monday 3 PM. About 30 to 40 come.

Penny Bank. Monday 7. 30 to 8.30. About 600 depositors.

£230 was deposited last year.

Musical class. Saturday 8 PM.

Open Air Meetings form a prominent feature of the work. Every Sunday Afternoon a meeting is held in Chin's Street and a second is held in the courts of the district, visiting each in turn. At the meeting in Chin's Street they get at least 200 people. To make these meetings attractive the Singing Band consisting of 14 boys & girls with trained voices and accompanied with a portable harmonium. These sing hymns, duets & choruses which attract the crowds of dockers & coasters and has been the means of drawing many men to the Mission service. To these meetings and the weekly visitation of the district, Mr D. attributes an improvement of Chin's Street on Sunday morning. The children <sup>(both boys & girls)</sup> are dressed in a uniform dress - dark blue with gold facing. The men show their appreciation by contributing £3 or £4 a year to the expenses. Put the money in a box attached to harmonium. No appeal made.



## Chrisp Street Sunday Market

In May 1896 an article appeared in the *London City Mission Magazine* describing Mr Dodd's work and entitled "Ten years' work in Poplar". It contains the following account of the Chrisp Street Market.

"Here the English costers, Jew, German, and other vendors (with a wonderful variety of cheap market commodities) line each side of the street with their stands, stalls, barrows, or light vehicles. Here the poorest class can buy a pound of meat for twopence, a whole rabbit for sixpence, a lady's or gentleman's brand new umbrella for the same price! Any garment suitable for either sex can be purchased for less than a shilling. Any complaint—acute or chronic—a person may be troubled with has been thoughtfully anticipated. The panaceas (prepared in tinctures, powders, or pills) are offered and urged on patients at a price next to nothing. Any person annoyed with toothache can be cured on the spot, or can have the enemy painlessly extracted gratis! Household utensils, haberdashery in rainbow colours, birds in cages, fowls, ducks, ornaments, music, literature; indeed, legions of things are offered at prices suitable to the poorest purchasers.

"Generally the market is full, but on a Saturday night in particular the scene is very imposing. The crowds of people that are then drawn from at least a radius of two miles increase into one dense surging mass of human beings. The long rows of shops, and chains of stalls, illuminated by gas jets and naphtha lamps, with an electric light in the centre, together with the Babel roar arising from the throats of the excited costers and vendors, make this market one of the sights of London, and leave impressions not easily forgotten.

"The variety of cheap commodities which the costers and vendors bring, and the contagious excitement they create, have a peculiar fascination for the poorest classes. They like it. It banishes for the hour the dull monotony of their lives, and touches and feeds their bartering instincts. Where the former go, the latter generally follow. This was curiously illustrated in the origin of Chrisp Street Market nearly thirty years ago. The costers then occupied High Street, a short distance south of Chrisp Street. The shopkeepers objected to the noisy excitement, and they united in a general appeal to the local authorities for their removal, which was finally granted.

"Driven from their market, the costers soon settled in Chrisp Street. To the dismay of the appealers, the labouring people followed, and the shops lost more than half their custom. After



a while Chrisp Street had to be closed for general repairs. The costers then returned to High Street, and were hailed by the repentant shopkeepers with bands and banners. But, as soon as Chrisp Street was re-opened, the unfortunate tradesmen saw the costers go back again, where they are to-day. There are now always shops to let in High Street, but not so in Chrisp Street.

35

After describing the work of the Band, Mr D. says "There is a visible improvement in Chrisp St." The old Sunday morning degrading scenes have gradually diminished. The ~~old~~ Sunday hours for marketing are less, and there is a manifest hurry to get through the business, so that by noon nearly all the shops are closed, the stalls gathered up, and a quiet Sunday aspect is everywhere visible."

Mr D. does not strictly confine his visits to his district but would go outside to visit if asked. On the district he visits consecutively, and goes over the district about 6 times in the year. Has about 650 houses on his district and not one that he has not called. Does not call regularly on all houses but goes where people need his ministrations most. Where the people were christians he would only go to be friendly, and obtain their sympathy.

When a nurse is needed Mr D. sends to

Visitation.

Nursing, sick visitation



### Charitable Relief

36  
Bromley Hall. Visits the sick when he hears <sup>any</sup> of any.  
There are also nurses in connection with the churches.  
Mrs Chandlers take the east side & Mrs Beardsall's  
the west side of Kirby Street.

Give assistance from a local committee connected with the Hall, which is responsible for financial matters. Mrs Walker is chairman. The amount given varies according to the amount of distress. Give meat, coal, groceries. About £10 to £12 a year.

Also give dinners to children in times of distress. From November to Easter, they would have over 300 a day for four days a week, & if necessary the local committee increase the number to 500 or 600 a day.

The children come from the Board schools; the Dock school sends 100 and others come from Woolmore St, Alton St, North St and Farlane Street. During the frost in 1895, this work was largely increased see following extract from the L.C.M. Magazine: —



"In the early part of 1895, for six long weary weeks, Poplar, in common with all the land, was ice-bound. The Thames and the ships were frozen together. To the lookers-on it was doubtless a wonderful sight; but to the thousands of poor dockers it was a scene of despair, as it brought them with their children face to face with starvation. It was then that the Hall rose in its strength, and became a place of refuge to the helpless and workless families. The Local Committee met and, after prayer, determined to act promptly. Daily the building was thrice crowded with frozen children, who were filled and thawed with hot Irish stew and thick slices of bread, and the Hall was re-filled for the fourth and fifth time by contingents of starving men, who, when they saw what was being done for their children and themselves, were visibly moved, and gave vent to their ringing cheers. In this and other ways, while

the frost continued, help was rendered to the workless men. We, who were night and day in the thick of that long, bitter struggle, know well that hundreds of lives were saved by the energetic assistance of the Shaftesbury Memorial Hall Committee. At the end of the six weeks' frost the men crowded the Hall and themselves proposed and carried a resolution of grateful thanks to all the ladies and gentlemen who had assisted them and their children. The next Sunday evening the Hall was again crowded, when a Praise and Thanksgiving Service was held. [On the first Sunday of every month a large number of our poor people join in the Communion Service at Trinity Church, where they are kindly received.]

### Other Religious Influences

Salvation Army work on ordinary lines. Nothing special. They vary; sometimes quarrel & then they go down.

Anglican Church. Don't think the Church has any system of visiting. They do visit and give relief but don't think they do more than visit their own people. I think Mr Beardall does most. Hear most of him. He has the poorest people and is generally liked. He is broader in his views but

has



### Co-operation

### Prostitution

has more genuine sympathy with the people than Mrs Chandler. Mrs C. is rather hard.

The Primitive Methodists do quite as well or better than any others I know; one chapel at Buledi Street; another at Chaispi Street - do a good work amongst the young people.

There is no active co-operation amongst the churches in Poplar, but there would be if the circumstances required it. At the time of the great frost, we were in harmony with each other and worked together.

Girard Street used to be a centre of prostitution but it has removed from there now and has no particular locality. The West India Dock Road & the East India Dock Road & the Queen's Music Hall are resorts at present. In the East India Dock Road the women walk between Kirby Street and Burdett Road on the north side only. This is the regular walk.

over



## Drink

## Thrift

## Housing, Rents etc

~~Would not say~~ The drinking habits of the people are rather bad but thinks there is a slight improvement. Don't know any women's houses. and think that the number coming over the Iron Bridge to get drunk after closing time is small. You could count them on your hands. There are a few roughs there and in that quarter several robberies have taken place. It is however quite as rough down Plaistow

More thrift now than 10 years ago - no question about that - even amongst some of the poorest people. A spirit of self-respect is taking hold of them.

Houses are mostly 4 and 6 roomed. 4-roomed houses 6/- to 7/- a week - generally two families in the house. Six-roomed houses 8/- to 9/-. Rents are a little cheaper than they were - certainly no higher. Thinks the newer houses outside are bringing the rents down. Young people when they marry never stay. Go to more respectable places - Plaistow etc. mostly to the east.



Mr E. Johansen  
Assembly Hall, Glengall Rd.

Geo. E. A.  
June 10/97

Character of People.

Buildings Used

Meetings Held

440  
CH 2  
Mr E. Johansen. 53<sup>a</sup> Alfred Terrace, East Ferry Road  
Cubitt Town. E.

Mr E. Johansen is a Scandinavian but has been in Cubitt Town 27 years. He is one of the principal workers connected with the Assembly Hall, Glengall Road, which is a branch of the N.E. London Gospel Mission. (Mr Chorley).

Mr Johansen has a shop or rather two shops at the above address, the house being a corner, a second shop has been built over the back yard. In the one he sell provisions and the other is an oil & colourmans.

The people living in the district are generally iron workers or men employed in the docks. Not particularly poor.

The Assembly Hall, seating 400 people and two small class rooms.

Sunday. 10 am. and 2.30 pm. Have about 500 children on the books and 18 teachers. Attendance about 80 in the morning and 230 in the afternoon.

over.



## Meetings held (cont<sup>d</sup>)

Prayer meetings on Wednesday &  
Saturday at 8 PM.

Persons Employed      Workers

Other Agencies.

Sunday 11.30 AM. Breaking of Bread. About 20 present.

6.30 PM. Gospel Meeting 200 to 250..present. It makes a difference who is conducting the meeting.

Once a month they break bread in the evening & then attendance is 50 or 60. This would be after the ordinary meeting. I might reckon this as the membership.

Open Air meeting in summer held before and after the evening service if weather permit.

Tuesday & Thursday 7.30. Gospel Meetings. 50 to 70 attend in the winter but only about 20 in the summer months.

Monday <sup>4th</sup> Mothers' Meeting. About 100 on the books. Attendance about 50 at the meeting.

Wednesday 7 PM. Band of Hope. Does not have anything to do with it.

An Evangelist is sent by Mr Chorley to conduct the services on Sundays and weekdays also.

A Biblewoman (Miss Fuller) also works in connection with the hall but is supported privately. They have also 18 Sunday school teachers and these are practically the workers who help in other parts of the work.

No clubs etc. Purely a Christian work



## Charitable Relief

## Other Religious Influences

## Visitation

42  
Give coal tickets and food during the winter. Also make soup and sell it at 1<sup>d</sup> per quart. Make about 150 to 200 gallons twice a week. Does not know the amount that is given in relief as it is done by tickets and the tickets go to Mrs Chorley.

<sup>(St John's. Mr Cowan)</sup>  
The Church of England is ritualistic. Does a good deal of visiting. There must be 20 or 30 people working in the district including one or two nurses. They are getting stronger; have built a club. The Priory, Glengall Road, with 4 or 5 English monks working in connection with St John's. The Primitive Methodists, & Wesleyan Methodist <sup>(Mr Pledge)</sup> are doing the usual kind of work. Christchurch is an ordinary Church of England. He can work with them and also with the dissenters but cannot get on with St John's <sup>(Cowan)</sup>. There is a better feeling amongst them. Mr Trowel, L. C. M. also works in the district.

Two ladies (Miss Steinmetz, <sup>(see p 44)</sup>) and Miss Gulliver visit in the neighbourhood.

When



When the evangelist who takes the services is staying in the Island, he also visits

Does not think the people save. Spend their money as fast as they get it.

Health extraordinarily good. He has never had an illness.

Rents are about 12/- for 6 roomed house. An ordinary house about 10/- a week.

Mr J. does not speak very hopefully of the prospects of the work. Thinks they have settled down & need some change.

Also says that a good many people go from this part of the island to Dr Barnard's P. S. A. at the Edinburgh Castle.

Thrift

Health

Rents

Prospects



Miss Steinmetz.  
Culbitt Town

Geo. E. Atwell  
June 18/87.

Characteristics of the People.

11  
2  
C2  
Miss Steinmetz. 25 Glengall Road  
Culbitt Town. E.

Miss Steinmetz is a tall fine woman of 50 to 55 years of age, with a strong yet kindly face. Well educated & possessed of some property she has come to live in Culbitt Town and work amongst the people. She and her servant are the only occupants of a 6-roomed house in the parlours of which she holds bible classes etc. These rooms were furnished in a tasteful & quiet style & harmonized with their owner.

Whilst living in the West End, Miss S. worked with the Salvation Army at Regent Hall. She now gives a good deal to the poor; & helps the Mission (Assembly Hall Glengall Road) & ~~pay~~ supports Mrs Gulliver, the Bible woman, who was formerly supported by the Mission (These facts I learnt from Mr Johansen & Mr Davis)

People are not a begging class. Doubt if there are a dozen families of this type. Nor are they hypocrites, do not pretend to be what they are not.



## Characteristics of People (cont.)

Like Country Village

Drink cause of Poverty

Independent People

## Peculiar Sectaries in District

Anglo-Israelites

Spiritualists

English Monks

Many have never left the Island. The place is more like a country village than any thing else, possibly because it is so cut off from other districts.

Drink is the worst cause of poverty. Dock ~~work~~ work is casual and causes some poverty. Great distress two years ago but very little last winter. The people are much more independent than the London poor. They do not accept help unless they really need it. Say "Give it to some one else; we have a day's work". "Much nicer" than the poor of Soho and Seven Dials.

Some very peculiar ideas amongst the people. Many Anglo-Israelites - A man started this idea here some 16 or 18 years ago. A woman, whose husband is a foreman stevedore, brought here one of their books, which her husband was reading (These are mostly pamphlets published at 3<sup>d</sup> to 6<sup>d</sup>). There are also a number of Spiritualists. The English Monks at the Priory, ~~let the boys~~ Give away new laid eggs, jam, etc to the boys, whom they invite to the Priory. Work in connection with the Church.



## Other Religious Influences

## The Assembly Hall & its work

The Church here (St John's) <sup>very active and</sup> is very high. The curate (Mr Hartley, I think she said) <sup>Rev Cowan</sup> is a very hard working man. They <sup>are</sup> getting the boys into their room. They oppose Miss S. & the Mission. Wherever we are doing anything, there they come and set up. <sup>(See page 48.)</sup> Christ Church has a very high service but they are trying to bring it down by degrees. ~~They~~ <sup>Wife a very nice Christian woman.</sup> ~~Wesleyans~~ are very friendly. On Saturdays we had a united prayer meeting but somehow the Devil got in.

Mr Trowel (L. C. M) works in the district. Has a hall & lives in Billson Street.

With regard to the work at the Assembly Hall, Miss S. did not speak at all freely. Evidently did not wish to speak as representing it and turned the questions by referring to Mr Johansen, whom I had seen. There appears to be a little difference between her & Mr Chorley. She believes that a permanent missionary or preacher is necessary for the success of the work and Mr C. has not seen his way yet to accede either from motives of economy or policy. Miss S. is



The evangelist is a man  
from Portsmouth.

### Mother's Meetings

47  
pressing the matter. She says that the attendance  
at the meetings depends just upon the ~~the~~ personality  
of the speaker. If they have somebody who is not  
known the number falls off. Only had 30 last  
Sunday & 20 children or 50 altogether (See page 41)  
That was very bad. Average is about 100. The  
people come if they are visited. They become  
sociable & friendly, ~~and then is the~~ There is a  
good deal of laxity as to church going even amongst  
Christians. The visit of a friend & trivial things are  
allowed to keep them away. With the permanent  
man, there would be more attachment & then he  
could visit. Mr Pledgers' congregation had  
much improved ~~the~~ <sup>(Wesleyan)</sup> the reason being that he  
was there constantly.

Mother's meeting is our work (e.g. Miss G & Miss G's).  
Very nice respectable women - wives of men working  
at Yarrow etc. ~~There is a~~ A Clothing and  
a Provident Club in connection. Save about £60  
a year. Always pay the money out at Christmas  
& is afraid a great deal of it is spent in eating  
& drinking. They hold a sale of work, just at the  
time



Poorest Women.      Attempt to reach

The Protestant Banner

when the money is returned so that the people should be induced to spend it in this direction.

Opened a room in Charles Terrace to get the poorest mothers, & started a mother's meeting for them on Wednesday afternoon so as to avoid their own and the Church's (H. John's) meeting. Last Wednesday the Church commenced one on the same afternoon quite close. Also tried to get these poor people in on Sunday evenings as they said they could not come to the hall. Not successful only a few <sup>about 6 or 7</sup> come. Those however <sup>that come</sup> are the class they wanted. Too poor to come to the hall. <sup>would have felt out of place there.</sup> ~~About 6 or 7 come.~~

Holds a Bible class at her house on Sunday at 10.30. About 10 attend. Also on Sunday afternoon. About 10 attend <sup>each class.</sup>

This is issued by Mr Chorley, who said some-  
one to distribute it in the Island. "It does not do  
good. It sets the clergy against us. One does not  
want to sneer at them. Poor men! they are blind.  
It is simply Church! church!! church!!! and if they  
can get the people to early communion it is  
abright, <sup>the</sup> they think."



Nursing.

Visitation

Poorest Street

Drink

Housing

A nurse on the district - thinks a good deal of the church and asks the people if they would like the clergy to call. In cases of sickness Miss Gulliver visits & supplies anything that is needed or gives letters for the hospitals.

Miss Gulliver spends all her time visiting and Miss J. visits any special cases. Go as often as necessary - 2 or 3 times a week if need be. Mainly visit in the two triangular patches of buildings, one on north & other south of Glengall Road.

Poorest streets in the district are Stewart Terrace, Charles Terrace, Samuda Street and Stebondale Street. Much drink in these parts but improving.

Very bad. Miss A. has put 5 girls into a training home. The mothers of 4 of these drank. The women are as bad as the men.

As a rule the people are not crowded. Rents are high. Very little houses in Charles Terrace, 4 rooms and scullery 10/- . A few in Manchester Road 7/- . These (Glengall Road) are 14/-, 6 rooms fitted



Thrifty.

Opinion

Much gossip

for family on each floor. Houses on other side are 12/- ~~these are~~ older houses & not so nicely furnished as Miss S.'s.

Does not think a penny is saved. As soon as anything happens, those who belong to the Provident Club always want to draw their money (See page 47)

Miss S. is a very interesting woman. Her charity is not doles. Does "not" care to give a 1/- here and a 1/- there. Tries to get the girls away & give them training for servants etc.

Says ~~that~~ "A great deal of gossip in the place. A woman has been turned out of her house because she said she did not like the street. 'A frightful place for this'"

Appears to have a good knowledge of the people and their ways and I should think that ~~Miss S.~~ the two ladies are a real influence in the homes of many of the people around.



Mr J. Aulds  
London City Missionary

Ch Arkell  
June 30/97

District.

Mission Hall

57  
CH 2  
Mr J. Aulds. London City Missionary.  
61 Grundy Street - Poplar. and L.C. M. Hall.  
77 Augusta St.

Mr Aulds is a thin grey headed old man and has been connected with the L.C. M. for 28 years. He was 7 years at Cubitt Town stationed in St John's parish under the then vicar Mr Carpenter, who <sup>was an Evangelist as was.</sup> ~~with~~ his successor Mr Stott ~~was~~. Whether from age or temperament Mr A. does not impress one as an active worker or one likely to have much influence upon the people amongst whom he labours. A contrast to his colleagues in Poplar, Messrs Galt & Dodd, both of whom have decided personalities. Is a member of Trinity Congregational Church.

Bounded on South by East India Dock Rd, West by Upper North Street, North by ~~North~~ Northumberland Street & East by Bygrove Street. Has about 500 houses.

Has a mission room at 77 Augusta Street, seating about 100 people. The lower floor of a small house, extended behind over the back yard.



## Services held

## Visitation

52  
Sunday afternoon 3 PM Sunday School. About 60 children. Could fill the room but cannot get enough teachers.

7 PM Gospel Service. 40 to 60 attend

8 PM Open Air Meeting in Randall's Market.

Have had 300 there but ~~average~~ 200 is about the usual number.

Monday 8 PM Bible class for young people About 30 attend.

Friday Prayer Meeting. Small. 12 to 20.

Wednesday Open Air Meeting in Randall's Market.

Large gathering. Mr Galt + Mr Dodds join with him. Get a large crowd. 200.

Visits consecutively from house to house + gets over the district once in about 4 weeks. Also visits the men in the Sawmills in Augusta St; the police at the Station in West India Dock Road and the girls at Bell's Match Factory during their dinner hour.

The girls he meets in their dining hall, goes round speaking to them personally and giving them books to read and afterwards mounts



one of the forms and speaks to the assembly. In this work have to make myself agreeable to them as the time is their own and unless they were quite willing to be visited they ~~was~~ permission might be withdrawn. There are about 200 to 300 gals at Bells.

Speaking of the other religious influences, he thought the Church people worked as well as any of them. His district includes parts of Neill's, Beardall's & Elliott's parishes.

Trinity Congregational to which he belongs is rather low now. Many empty pews. 20 years ago you could not have got a sitting there. Except the little Baptist Chapel in Elmhurst there has been no increase in the number of chapels since that time.

In visiting on his district he did not find 10% of church goers.

Mr. Auld's impressed me as a man, who had settled down to a routine and altho he may have a certain influence amongst the people he visits & has visited for some many years, such influence cannot be great.

### Other Religious Influence



Christian Community Hall  
115 High Street, Poplar.

Services Held.

Christian Community Mission Hall.

115 High St. Poplar. E.

Supt. Mr H Dunbar. 55 Ben Jonson Road. E.

Following particulars were supplied by Mr J Atkinson, General Secretary of the C.C. The local supts makes a monthly return.

Sunday 7 PM Gospel service. Average attendance (April 1911) was 30 adults + 15 children.  
" 3 PM Sunday School 6 teachers, average attendances of scholars 122.

Tuesday. 2.30 Mothers' Meeting. Average 41.

Wed. 7 - Band of Hope. Ten teachers & average 90 children.

Sat. 8. Mutual Loan & Sick Club. Average of 45 members attend each week.

Actual figures 60, 30, 60, 30 in consecutive consecutive weeks.











