Districts 20-25

—

Miscellaneous

—

Bk. 70

B211

Please Return to:
Charles Booth
9 Adelphi Terrace.
W.C.

BRITISH LIBRARY OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCE
M 420
COLL U
211

[i]

District	Name.			Address.	Page
20	Hayes Hadrian Wess^n		Staff of the Hampstead & Highgate C.O.S.	Hampstead N.W.	3+
	Ses Miss		Sec. of North St. Pancras C.O.S.		23+
18	Edwards Miss G.		Matron of St. Catherines Rescue Home	177 Drummond St. N.W.	43.
	Pennington Wm^l		Master of Board School. Union Fund	16 Crossfield Pl. St. Hampstead	55
	Reis Mr. C.A.		Master of St Pancras S.B.	57 Caine St. N.W.	61+
21	Morris	Mr R	Hon Sec. of Marylebone C.O.S.		71+
21	Dare	Mr H.J	Headmaster, Barrowhill Rd. Bd Sch^l		83+
20	Maurice	Mr & Mrs C.E	Connected with C.O.S.		89+
25	Le Marchant	Capt J.G.	St George, Hanover Sq. C.O.S.	48 Buckingham Palace Road	101
	Charles Empson	Mr & Mrs	Paddington C.O.S	37 Sutherland Avenue.	115
19	Payton	Mr	Relieving Officer, S. Pancras	167 Prince of Wales' Rd	125+
21	Townsend	Miss	Sec. Portland Town Association for United Work among Poor	12 Henry Street	135

Local Gov. 18_21 14.

Interview with Messrs. Hayns & Jealous, of the staff of the "Hampstead & Highgate Express," Hampstead, N.W.

Mr. Hayns has been on the "Express" more than 30 years, & Mr. Jealous about 15 years. Their professional duties bring them in frequent contact with the clergy & ministers of the district, & it was with a view to classifying them that I consulted them. We went through the list for Dist. 20, & they gave me the subjoined particulars:–

Watkins (St. Cuthbert's, Fordwych Rd.). Evangelical. Well-to-do congregation. Energetic, but nothing special. Temperance work good.

Taft. (St. James, West End Lane). High. New here, but much experienced among country poor. Great activity. Large section of poor round Netherwood St., where they have Mission Room & do a lot of work. Type of the very "Churchy" side.

Stone (St. Mary, Kilburn). Evang. Very active, but principally in church-building. A few poor.

Floyd. (All Souls, S. Hamp.). Broad. Nothing particular.

Bury (St. Paul, Avenue Rd.). Broad. Good

musical services, but not much else. Well-to-do. Think — they have day schools.

Spencer (St. Mary the Virgin, Primrose Hill). Ritualistic. Church House in Ospidans Freres, with ordinary agencies. A fringe of poor.

Herklots (St. Saviours, Sth Hampd). Moderately High. Curate (Hose) Ritualistic, but held in check. Herklots here 30 years or more. Mission room, soup kitchen, &c., in Fleet Rd., where very (very) many poor. Church congn fashionable, & supply good staff of workers for Fleet Rd. Probably systematic visitation.

Tremlett (St. Peters, Belsize). Broad. Wealthy. T. here a great many years. Support St. Peters Institute, adjoining church, for working men & young men, but not a large number of these. Do a good deal for poor churches elsewhere.

Kirkman (St. Stephen's). Broad. Fine building, but rather poor congregation. Has lost some of his best supporters thro' his queer temper. Here 20 years or more. A big parish, with a rather considerable no. of poor in Fleet Rd. & part of Flask Walk. Mission room on South End Grn & day school for girls & infants on Downshire Hill.

Boys school given up. H. is an exceedingly well-known figure in Hampd., where he is familiarly known as "Josh". Hob-nobs with 'bussmen, &c. He & curate visit a good deal among poor, & do what they can to organize entertainments, &c., but probably cannot afford to give much.

Streatfield (Christ Church Hampd.). Swang. New comer, succeeding to an important & flourishing church. The present Bp. of Exeter (Bickersteth) was here many years, & the lines laid down by him are still followed. Great supporters of Foreign Missions, Soc'y for converting Jews, Bible Soc'y, &c. Mission hall, with temperance & men's clubs, &c. A few poor in New End. This parish includes North End, where there is a little colony of rather poor folk, & a mission church built by the Hoare family, who interest themselves a good deal in the people here. A number of middle-class workers.

Girdlestone (Downshire Hill Chapel). No parish. A sinecure. G. a Biblical authority, & great man in Bible Soc'y.

Barnaby (Parish Church, Hampd.). Broad. Here about 25 years. Energetic, practical, downright. Much interested in local gov't. A lot of work is done here without much noise. Fair mission hall, day & Sunday

schools, Lads Brigade, &c. Not a rich congregation, but always money if needed. Fine old church, with Cathedral service. More poor than any other Hampd. parish. Includes, New Buildings, Wells & Campden Buildings, Perrins Court, pts. of Flask Walk & New End, &c. All well visited & well known. Relig. given adequately & carefully, tho' not C.O.S.'y. Helps poor to help themselves. Entertainments with cheap refreshments a feature.

Sharpe (Trinity, Finchley New Rd). Narrow Evang. Rich congregn, & good deal going on. First rate day school. Lot of visiting & Temperance work.

Sharpe. (Emmanuel, Mill Lane). Evang. Son of above. Follows on father's lines, save that this is a young & enormously growing parish. Very energetic young fellow, & many agencies at work. Good day school.

Emmanuel, St. James, & St. Cuthbert's have all been cut out of the original parish of Trinity.

A new church of Emmanuel is now being built, the old one, tho' enlarged not very long ago, having become too small. Well-to-do parish.

Salwey (St. Luke, West Hampd). New. Wealthy. No poor. Church now building.

Purcell (R.C. - St. Mary's, Holly Pl.). Old established & flourishing. Schools & orphanage.

Horton (Congl., Lyndhurst Rd.). Very attractive preacher, & one of the foremost men in the Congl. body. Fine church & big well-to-do congregation, full of activities. About 1100 church members. 80 or 90 visitors. Mission buildings in Warden Rd., Kentish Town, where much is done. Do not proselytize, but try to get those not going elsewhere. Parent of other churches, including one at W. Harpstead (Pierce). See Maunel, in office box.

Pierce (Congl., W. Hampd.). Able, attractive man. Following on above lines, but not many agencies yet.

Macdonald (Congl., New College Chapel). Only just come. Old, steady going place. Educational centre, with various social agencies. Few poor.

Vick (Bapt., High Rd. Kilburn). Pretty energetic. Over Broadsbury Hall.

Ebenezer Chapel, New End. Little old fashioned place. Calvinistic.

Brock - (Baptt., Heath St.). Here 30 years or more. Has been very active, but quieter now; under a cloud, owing to a brother's connection with Liberator frauds. Offered to resign, but his people scouted it. Gave him £500 & a year's holiday. This chapel did excellent work in the way of lectures, entertts., &c., when there was hardly anything else in Hampd. Now given up, because no longer necessary. Still do a good deal of useful work. Mostly well-to-do people, but some working class. Capital day school, taught by one master for 30 or 40 years. Flourishing, but may possibly be given up when present master goes.

Green (Jewish Synagogue). - Very nice man & highly prosperous flock.

Gillies (Presbytn., High St.) — Has been here 7 or 8 years. A typical, well-to-do Scotch church, very old establisht.

Bailey (Prim. meth., W. Hampd). Very active, particularly amongst children. Built with money received from demolition of an old chapel, in connection with Hampd. town improvement.

Herford. (Unit^n, Rosslyn Hill). Leading man amongst Unitarians. Very intellectual, well-to-do congregation. More awake than used to be. Advertises sermons, &c. Chapel about to be "opened up" to High St. British Schools attached.

Wesleyan Churches. All much alike. Moderately strong in Hamp^d. Had a very active man a little while ago in Westertale, who improved their position considerably, but new men not so good. Little heard of them.

Missions. Downing R^d, semi-private. A children's place. — Palmerston R^d, an independent, temperance hall. — Rest on list connected with churches or chapels.

— " —

Speaking of the places of worship generally in Dist. 20, my informants say they are all active; not one of them asleep.

Coming to Dist. 19, they do not know so much of the clergy, but gave particulars of a few, as follows:-

Dist. 19 Hayns & Jealous

Ogle (St. Michaels, Highgate). Comparatively newcomer. Was one of Bp of London's chaplains. Very active. Found the church was not doing mission work; has started such work, & is obtaining mission buildings on North Hill, Highgate. Good day schools, with industrial training home for girls. Boys taught manual work. The mother church of Highgate.

Ackland (St. Anne's, Brookfield). Broad. Here a good while. Energetic. Mission house in Highgate New Town, where lot of work goes on. Great interest in allotments. Helped very largely by Baroness Burdett Coutts.

Russell (St. Martin, Kentish Town). A rescuscitated church. Was a great scandal under former vicar, who did nothing for the greatly increasing population, & quarrelled with his parishioners. Russell commenced by raising more than £1000 to repair the church (a fine, artistic building with handsome spire) wh. had been allowed to get in a very bad state. He has started many agencies, & got together a capable body of workers. Going well now.

Mackeson (All Hallows, Mansfield Rd). Away now. Very energetic & ambitious, but broken now by failure to complete his great church of the Good Shepherd,

Sank over £12000 in this building, but only got as far as foundation, crypt & outer walls, in wh. condition it has stood for years – a huge roofless skeleton. Used to be thought the coming man. Was originally a leading man at St. Saviours; based ministry greatly in the Fleet Rd. District; then took orders & was appointed to this newly-made parish of All Hallows. Drew a big following, many of them from the then neglected St. Martin's parish. A lot of these have gone back now. He is decidedly Ritualistic, & it is thought that this offended many of the rich Church folk of Hampd., & prevented their helping him. They did subscribe a good deal to his dinners, excursions, &c, for the poor, but drew the line at his big monument to Ritualism. "Business" now carried on more quietly by the curate, Mr. Lombard.

Blaxland (St. Andrew, Maiden Rd.) Very active, mission rooms in Marsden Rd. Helped greatly with funds & workers from Hampd. Day schools.

Nicholls (Gregory, Haverstock Hill). Very energetic. Has a mission house.

Le Pla (Congreg.l, Gospel Oak). Active & successful.

Selbie (Congreg.l Highgate). One of oldest Congreg.l places in London. Large & viable congregation. Russell hall on North Hill. This ~~was~~ I inspire is the "Ignotus" of my interview with Mr Horton. H.R.

Typical men to see:- (District 20)

Taft	(High)	West Hamp.d	Clergy.
Stone	(Evang.)	Kilburn.	
Spencer	(Ret.)	Primrose Hill	
Herklots	(Mod.)	S. Hampstead	
Kirkman	(Broad)	Hamp.d Town	
Burnaby	(")		
Sharpe, jun.	(Evang.)	W. Hamp.d	

Horton	(Congreg.l)	Noncons.
Vick	(Bapt)	
Brock	(")	
Bailey	(Prim. meth.)	
Herford	(Unitarian)	
Purcell	(R.C.)	
? Supt.	Wesleyan	

Pov. 1st

Lorne Sorte 10-21 12

Interview with Miss Iles, Sec. of North St. Pancras Committee of the C.O.S.

Miss Iles has been Secretary of this Committee for 4 years. She is exceedingly bright and intelligent, knows her district thoroughly, and is quite one of the best C.O.S. secretaries I have met.

Speaking of the district as a whole at the end of our interview Miss Iles said she thought that both a levelling up and a levelling down was going on: both from her own observation and from what she hears from others she thinks that the poor are less poor: the levelling down is due to two causes: in the first place there is the outward movement of many of the 'red' people: but apart from this there is a real downward movement of many of this class: small middle class people are getting pushed to the wall with the result that many of them have sunk from the red to the pink status and hence Miss Iles thinks that much of the decay in the district ~~and~~ of St.

of Kentish Town Road (and generally in other similar districts) is due to this cause.

I went through her district by parishes with Miss Iles with the following result:-

St. Michael, Highgate, Rev Ogle.

A rich parish with just a few poor people who are greatly over-visited and over-relieved. Miss Iles has not a high opinion of Rev Ogle. The Congregationalists (Rev Selby) work hard: but they are on bad terms with the Church and there is much overlapping of which.

St. Mary Brookfield, Rev Hickland.

Highgate New Town in this parish is the poorest and roughest piece in the whole of this L.C.C. district: it was built to take the population cleared away for railways in Somers Town. The houses are utterly insanitary, and dirt and drink abound. The worst street is Cobra St. - Poor people who have known it for some years - say

notably the Religious Opinion - say that it is certainly no worse, and possibly better than it was. Such improvement as there is miss Iles thinks is largely due to the Church. Mr Hickland is an excellent and sensible man: he visits few except the sick.

St Mary Brookfield, Mr Trevelyan Cooke.

The parish is not poor but is going down. Lodgers are coming in in Dartmouth Park Road and others in the neighbourhood: there is most respectable looking street you will often find single old women living in one back room almost starving.

The church gives away a good deal with great lack of method: displacements out relief etc.

St Peter, Mr Hall.

The parish is not rich: mainly respectable artisans and a great deal of shabby gentility in Lady Somerset and Lady Margaret Street.

Mr Hall work among letters and will

Rev. Coe is gone, but his curate Mr Darby is more amenable. The church is very high.

St John, Clerkenwell Town Parish church. Mr Lord

This parish has been a good deal altered and improved by demolitions for the railway: it has only one really poor street, Pickerston St, which is going down.

Mr Lord has no district visitors and confines his relief chiefly to cases of sickness.

The Wesleyans in Lady Margaret Road (Mr Crutchison) are doing excellent work in a sensible way.

St Luke, Mr Elliott.

A decaying parish: every street is full of lodgers: a great district for actors (especially Fairford St): also lots of letter writers.

The poor women is not particularly poor: Hampshire St is better than Pickerston St.

Mr Elliott is sensible and amenable.

In this parish the Congregationalists (Mr Vaughan) give a good deal of trouble.

St Barnabas, Mr Welch

A small, queer parish: going down: a number of people who have seen better days.

Mr Welch is a weak man, in the hands of his District-Visitors.

St Thomas, Mr Handley

The parish going down. Rochester Mews Tomp. Mr Handley well intentioned but weak, unpractical, nervous: the church quite ineffective.

St Paul, Mr Tilly.

No really poor, but decaying: full of lodgers, shady gentility, lapsed, letter writers etc.

Mr Tilly has a great dislike to women, and has no dealings with the C.O.S.

St Mark's, Regent's Park, Mr Spencer Simpson.

The district round the church is decaying: Mr

in each street as Mon and Upper St. You will find numerous cases of out-relief. Pits of James St and Holloway Road are bad.

The Union is crowded: gives number of doles, supplements out relief etc.

Holy Trinity, Dr Cutts.

The parish has for long been poor but is getting poorer: many of the finer streets have gone down: while in the parts marked lights blue on the map Holloway and Hornsey Streets are very rough and tending towards black.

Dr Cutts is a good man but rather past work, which he leaves mostly to the curates, who are active and energetic: the church does not nominally give much relief, but the District Visitors are rich and give a good deal privately. The Collecting Bank has had a great success.

The Wesleyans in Prince of Wales' Road (Mr Wynne Jones) are rather a poor lot: their school, managed by a sister, is abominable; they utterly refuse to cooperate with others.

St Silas, Mr Bentley.

A small mission district: ~~par~~ Preston to poor and dirty.

Mr Bentley is sensible.

St Andrews Mr Blaxland.

The parish remains much what it was: very little movement. Wedington & the poorer part is improving.

Mr Blaxland is an excellent man perhaps a little weak. His wife is well, and increasingly well liked.

The Priory (R.C.) is rich and gives a great deal including dinners in winter (the only agency which does this): Miss Ibs suspects the motive of a good deal of their charity.

St Martin, Mr Russell.

A poor, unsatisfactory parish, utterly neglected by the late parson who was a scandal. Kitchen St is a terrible place: "more bad than poor". altogether this is a bad corner: full of drink, and

a great deal of immorality.

Altogether the parish wants a very strong man and has got a weak one. Mr Russell is pleasant but impracticable. He came up from a country living and was so shocked at the condition of the people that during the three years he has been here he has done little but raise money to relieve them. At the same time the district is deluged with relief from other sources: it is the happy hunting ground of the rich people from Hampstead. There is Lyadhurst Hall the Mission of Mr Horton's great church: they do no end of harm: give a great deal without method or control: their district visitors are rich and their name is a great plague.

The Domestic Mission (Mr Pollard) is also rich: gives relief freely: sends a great many children to country.

There is then too a Medical Mission of the usual character, lending medicine and the Gospel. The medical officer Dr Cook, is a good man and an efficient doctor.

Local Government.

Good Shepherd. Mr Mackison.

Mr Mackison is mad and Mr Lombard responsible for the work, which is well done: the District Visitors are uniformly efficient and well-trained.

This parish is less well-to-do than it looks: a good many poor and queer people in it. In Mansfield Road for instance you will often find one roomed tenants. Rochford St is rather a shady street.

Speaking of the Churches as a whole Miss Iles said that she thought that their social influence was great, their spiritual influence very small; as a spiritual influence she thought that the Good Shepherd was first: while St Andrews and St Marks were influences "to some extent".

As to Local Government. Miss Iles writes poorly of the Vestry: the personnel is bad: even the ablest and most prominent men are of a bad type

P.S. Nathan Robinson and Wolstenholme are retail licensed victuallers.

The streets are not well kept and there is incessant grumbling against the Sanitary Inspectors.

He seems loathe to report cases of overcrowding.

Interview with Miss G. Edwards at St. Catherines home 177 Drummond St. NW on 16 Nov. (Rescue work)

Miss Edwards is a very charming person of about 35 ~~who~~ a native of Sydney, N.S.W who having been interested in rescue work in Sydney & being on a visit to Canada was offered & accepted (at first temporarily) the care of this home. She is not paid - or at least no charge for her services appears in the accounts - but of consecrated at the Home with the girls.

The Home is recognised as connected with the "Church Mission to the Fallen" in so far that Miss Edwards' name appears as one of the "Mission Workers" & St. Catherine's Home is given as her address. It is possible that she receives pay from the Mission as they invite subscription for Salaries of Mission Workers & other purposes.

St Catherines Home was opened - "Solemnly blessed & dedicated" on 14 Dec 1896. owing its start to the Rev Father Materson, by him Miss Edwards was chosen. The report indicates

Edwards

2

that the mission workers had found a home necessary. this was Established first in Norton Crescent but moved shortly to its present quarters.

There is accommodation for 12 girls & actually there are now 13 there. the theory is to admit any body who asks admission & also to go out & seek those who can be brought in. & the practise is to receive as many as possible & send them on ~~to~~ other homes or refuges or penitentiaries after a probation. but some are selected for staying on. Miss Edwards thinks 2 years really necessary. "no use in mere white washing" a complete change must be worked out.

Whether they stay for a long or short time they are never prevented from leaving. they can leave on the shortest notice if they please & as a result never do wish to go. the discipline, otherwise, is very like that of a school

Miss Edwards aims at young girls not only are the old much more hopeless their bad habits being almost always aggravated by drinking. but what ever can be done is best done without mixing them with the young girls. So I suppose women of 24 & upwards & sometimes younger will be quickly transferred

3

This business of transfer seems to be carried on regularly - the homes are being ready to receive those sent them - & it is evidently an art to move the girls or women who desire to change their lives to the places most likely to suit them - to be sent into the country often desirable - & Miss Edwards mentioned that if she had with her two girls who when on the street had been companions she always separated them by sending one away.

Miss Edwards spoke of the repellant character of penitentiaries - & the emphasis of "refuges" ordinarily & said there was no other "home" carried on as hers was. (She did not think that the Catholics were successful).

Her home is made as comfortable as possible - some of the girls have told her that they have been restrained from going off "by thinking of their nice bed". They are fresh clothed from head to foot - the old clothes being washed & put in order, or destroyed, as may be best - If they leave soon they may borrow the new clothes but if they stay long the clothes become

Edwards

4

practically
their own & cannot be given to them out & out
if they left. They wear a uniform - very becoming
Miss Edwards said - in black & white - They
wear a cap as servants do - & it is as
servants or needle women that they are
trained - They do the housework & scrubbing
for 2 or 3 shops - They have their regular
hours for work & recreation & get out (always
in charge of someone - to take work home or
for expeditions - altogether - in charge of
Miss E. I should however think they
get very little exercise or fresh air - At
home they have a piano & ladies come to
read or play to them. They were taken
to the country for a summer holiday.

The whole aim is to help the girls
to break with the past - it is forbidden
them to speak of it at all - In the report
there is a considerable religious flavour
but it did not push forward in Miss
Edwards talk. Her I should suppose
is a very simple & practical form of religion.
The girls call her "Sister" - & are never satis-
-fied she said till they hear her come in at
night fearful lest she should be roughly treated

I

She is often threatened & undoubtedly runs some risk. We know, say the girls, what sort of people they are - meaning the foreign "bullies" - better than you do.

Besides looking out for & trying to buy in girls seen in the streets Miss Edwards goes after special cases heard of & to find them enters the houses. I hardly know how she manages this. If she is looking for some girl having had her described & knowing the streets she frequents or if they be her name also - she finds the other girls very willing to give assistance in finding her. She says she is herself now well known & St Catherines Home has a good name (as it well may have).

If a girl remains with her long enough to be completely ~~[illegible]~~ fit for the world she tries to get her a servants place & says there is no difficulty thereafter, which is the best thing, may follow.

When the girls come they are asked for their parents name & address & these are written to. If they wish the child to come home

6

if the home is a good one they are of course sent at once, but it is rare that this is wished. The parents are very thankful to know their daughter well cared for. They may perhaps visit her.

Miss Edwards is a very sensible as well as sympathetic woman and completely devoted to this work. She is no doubt much loved. She showed me a beautiful letter from one of the girls who had been moved on somewhere else. I showed suppose her success with those who remain must depend a good deal upon shuffling off those who do not suit to other less special institutions. It is also probable that the picture I got of the life of the home & its inmates was somewhat rose colour. It is something that Miss E is not at all depressed by the work.

She does not confine her work to the Rustington neighborhood – rather I think seeks suitable cases anywhere. She spoke of the extent to which the keepers of bee houses were in league – helping each other by moving the girls when under suspicion from one house to another.

GIA
16/12/98

Mrs Pennington, Hon Secretary of the Board School Children's Free Dinner Fund. (16 Crossfield Road, South Hampstead NW

Mrs Pennington is a somewhat feeble elderly lady, who has been connected with this work for many year. Her personal work is at the Lisson Grove Centre. The dinners for the elder children are given in the school room of the Baptist Chapel, Church Street. and those for the 'infants' in a hall at the back of the 'Blackbird' Coffee Tavern 82 Church Street.

When I reached the schoolroom (12.15) the first batch of children were just finishing their dinners while in the area a number of children were forming a queue and as those inside passed out, their place were taken by the later arrivals.

The elder children's dinner consisted of a sandwich e.g a slice of bread & a piece of meat, followed by a large helping of rice pudding (rice baked in milk). The children here were quiet & well behaved, the staff of ladies (about 12) being ample to keep them in their places & to feed them quickly.

Many were undoubtedly poor, pinched, pale

faces

faces, whilst their clothing was in many case ragged and thin. Some altho' poorly dressed looked well fed whilst here & there one was conspicuous by a clean healthy face & neat attire. Asking about such cases, Mrs P. said the ones pointed out were children of widows.

The tickets for the dinners are distributed in the 3 ~~schools~~ board schools in the district. The teachers make out lists of children & the cases are then visited by Mrs Pennington or some other lady; the dinner ticket being given on the report of this visit. A different coloured ticket is used for each school & the children's name is written on the back. These tickets are collected at the dinner & then sent back to the School teacher for re-distribution to the particular children.

The policy of the workers is to give tickets to the children of widows and children, whose father is unemployed or ill. The dinners are given three days a week; were commenced in November and the same children are fed regularly so long as the need remains.

The 3 infants at the Blackbird were fed on rice pudding and syrup roll. They looked much better than the elder children, scarcely one being poorly nourished

About 300 were fed at the school room and some 50 infants at the Blackbird.

As to the policy of free dinners, the appearance of the children hardly supports the theory that the children could not pay. If a charge of ~~some~~ a halfpenny were made, I think very few of the children would ~~be~~ go without the dinner ~~owing~~ for want of the money.

During the summer a few cases (about a dozen from each school) are given dinners at the Blackbird.

Report of interview with Mr. G.M. Reiss, an Hon. Secre of the S. S. Pancras C.O.S. Committee, at his City office 51, Lime St. (E.A.) Dec.7.98.

Local Gov't

P-21

13

Mr. Reiss is an old C.O.S. worker, and has been connected with this committee since 1877. He is a Jew, an East India Merchant, an old Balliol man, and about 50 years of age. He is a man of considerable ability, but his knowledge of the district covered by his Committee is no longer very intimate. Partly on this account& partly owing to the large amount of ground that it covers, our conversation was somewhat discursive. Mr. R. spoke quickly and interestingly on many points, but was conscious, I think, of the lack of precision in his knowledge and his method lacked composure! However, he was very friendly and finished by giving me the names of others who might be seen.

Poor Law administration he regarded as fair, from a C.O.S. point of view, and it had been so for the last 20 years. There is no policy,as there is in S. George's in the East, in favour of the practical abolition of Out-door relief, but that which is given, is given on the whole intelligently. The Board works closely in with the C.O.S. committee, but the co-operation is entirely due to individuals. There is nothing official, or semi-official about it, and they have no man on the Board who can be compared to Vallance or Crow-

Reiss - COS

63

(2)

der. Meanwhile, the Pension work of the C.O.S., like that of the Tower Hamlets Pension Fund, has steadily grown, and at the present time, something like £600 a year is given in t this form. He touched on the Natioal Scheme, and told me of what had appeared to him to be a significant case, of a man who was guaranteed a pension of 10/- a week by the C.O.S., and made happy in the assurance that when he could not work any longer this sum would be available. Then he ~~ex~~ went back to his work, and kept on, (his employers were kind), until one day when he was 77 he came and claimed his pension. He had only drawn it for a week, when he died. That old man Mr. Reiss thought was "a hero" in his way, and it was the spirit that he displayed that would, he thought, be weakened by a system of "compulsory pensions". The moral effect may be as he fears, but the confusion that he betrayed, and which I indicated, between a universal offer, and compulsory acceptance leading, as he appeared to think, to cessation of work, was one of the points that made me feel that Mr. Reiss is not thinking as closely on these questions just now as he did formerly. Lack of intimate knowledge of the district was illustrated by his uncertainty as to whether the Paragon had been pulled down and rebuilt or not. But, as he said, he lives in Kensington and has more and more of his time taken up by the City

Reiss - C.O.S.

He mentioned with approval the improvemnts in the system of classification in the workhouse, but said that there was still a certain amount of over-crowding in it.

As measured by the C.O.S., and this because of the extent to which it is used, is a fair test he thinks, there has been less distress in the district for the last two or three years. A feature of the poverty of the district, apart from Somers Town, is the large number of broken down people who apply. This is especially true of the part lying W. of the Tottenham Court Road, and in and about Burton Crescent -- middle-class poverty, he called it. It is in the same general n'hoods that the prostitution and immorality of the district are most rife. There are decidedly fewer rookeries than when he came, and he gave it as a general opinion that the light blue and dark blue bits had tended to improve and diminish. Although the habit of excessive drinking among women has "certainly" increased, there is less drunkenness among men, and the Education Act has begun to tell. The moral tone of Somers Town is however distinctly bad, and there is a terrible amount of ruffianism and bestiality. In other parts, especially in the Charlotte St. district, the Clubs are as bad as ever -- not worse so far as he knows, for in the whole of his time they have been notoriously bad.

Russ - C.O.S.

He mentioned Denry St. and Wellesley St. as being perhaps the worst in their district now, Little Clarendon St. he described as having improved. It used to be particularly notorious for the number of child prostitutes living there, but legislation has done much to clear the stain of this blot. It is pretty bad still, however.

There is a lot of loose charity in the district. In this connection he mentioned S. Mary's, Somers' Town, but added that he knew Mr. Reade, the late vicar, a very good fellow and they were great friends. As it happens, it is at S. Mary's, and at S. Pancras that the C.O.S. sends representatives to the parish relief committees, and in no other cases. He spoke highly of Paget, and likes Mr. Woods, whom he regards as being, however, a weak man. The churches as a rule do not dispose of large funds & incomings are mainly absorbed by general expenses. Some of the Missions of Somers Town are he thinks rather shady in the management of their finances, and he mentioned especially a Mr. Cox. At Whitefield's Tabernacle they are very loose intheir methods, and he mentioned Mr. Woffendale, the Presbyterian, as a man who did not hesitate to go in for direct bribery--anthing to get them in! But slack though many are still, things have much improved, and on the whole the local charities are "far, far better" than they were. The competition of the churches and religious bribery in various forms, as

distinct from relief, is still rife and deplorable, the spectacle of it doubtless suggesting many interesting reflexions to this cultured child of Israel.

The local Vestry is much better than it used to be, and is trying to carry out the better traditions in sanitary administration started in this district by Shirley Murphy, who, before he was made M.O. to the L.C.C. was in the same position in S. Pancras. The Vestry is much more active, and there is much less corruption.

The C.O.S. committee is not in as close touch as it ought to be with local Friendly Societies, but Mr. R. does not see signs of any great increase in their activity.

Mr. Reiss knows Tatton, and spoke of the founding of the Passmore Edwards Settlement with approval, and as one of the things that might well be mentioned as indicating local improvement of conditions, -- or in any case as making for such improvement.

Among several whose names he gave me, Mr.Reiss spoke with special admiration of Miss Gresham, of the West London Mission. She is a Poor Law Guardian, and the guiding spirit of the work of the Sisters of the Poor, to whom as a body is to be allotted, he thinks, the credit for any really solid good that the Mission is doing.He appeared to regard Hughes an an eloquent and voluble figure-head.

Jan. 12th. 1899

Interview with Mr R. Morris, Hon. Sec. of the Marylebone C.O.S.

Mr Morris has been Sec. of this Committee of the C.O.S. for about ten years, and is a man of about 40. He is genial, sympathetic, and intelligent, and is probably one of the best of the C.O.S. secretaries.

I saw Mr Morris a week ago to arrange an interview. He then said that he could not mention the names of individuals without asking the question to Mr Koch. When I called to-day he had not received Koch's reply, and our interview was therefore greatly crippled: but if Koch sees no objection to the mention of names he has promised to see me again. Mr Morris' line of argument was I think a very natural one. "We want above all things" he said "to be on friendly terms with ministers of all denominations: supposing I tell you something unpleasant about one of them and Mr Booth makes use of it in his book: however much it is valid the man

may sit on the case and say "That's me": if he demands the source of the evidence, or else suspects it our chance of influencing him is gone." I replied that Mr Booth would ~~in~~ take no notice of any such demand but it was less easy to find a reply as to the course which would be pursued in the case of a man bringing an action for libel: all I could say was that the risk of such a thing was infinitesimal.

Mr M. said that measured by quantity and area the poverty of Marylebone was rapidly becoming less owing to the extensive demolitions both in disrepair from and elsewhere: ~~but~~ the demolitions have had two effects: they have cleared out numbers who have left the parish altogether, and they have led to a general rise of rents in such poor quarters as remain with the result that the inhabitants of these have often had to make way for richer tenants. Rent indeed is here "the pressing question": the society usually find that their applicants must as a rule live near the centre and that they are paying

rents out of all proportion to their income. Though this is so throughout the district it is especially marked in the section portion between Great Portland St. and Cleveland St. (the St. Pancras boundary); here the rents and the consequent crowding are terrific: but they are said here to be some extent artificially raised by the demand for premises for gambling clubs, brothels etc. A prostitute told the R.O. the other day that she was paying £2.5.0 a week for a single room in Charlotte St. and that another girl in the same house was paying the same. The whole of this district is very shady and is becoming more and more the resort of foreigners, prostitutes, gambling clubs, and small restaurants which are used mainly as brothels. As to the map in this neighbourhood Mr M. thought there was now no reason for the great gulf which he made between Union St. and the ~~other~~ streets around it.

West of this the next area of which Mr M. spoke as very poor was that around Barrett St: here Gray's Buildings has improved but Fee's Court remains as poor and depraved as ever.

Lisson Grove, the chief poor area in this committee's ground, is greatly altered but mainly by demolition: in the streets where the structure is unaltered there is little or no change in the character of the inhabitants: the area immediately surrounding Christ Church still remains, the poorest and lowest. Hanover St, Highworth St, Union St, Devonshire Place etc. The inhabitants of the light-line streets in the north of the district are generally decent quiet people.

Portland Town, the remaining poor patch, remains almost exactly as it was.

Speaking generally on the question of Relief Mr M. thought that an immense amount was given in Marylebone by the wealthy neighbours of the poor ~~to~~ which passed through no organisation religious or lay: a very large proportion of the applicants of the Society are sent by rich people who say "We've been helping these people for a long time without much effect: will you see what you can do"? As to the attitude of ministers of religion

Morris- Marylebone C.O.S.

Mr M. of course does not approve of their methods: or rather he disapproves of their lack of method: for the most part they have no real principles: tickets and doles are still prevalent. they supplement out-relief and will even bargain with the guardians to share the burden of a case, while the High Church lean their relief mainly in the hands of sisters with disastrous results: (though not mentioning his name Mr M. referred especially to Mr Whitworth and All Saints: Whitworth had confessed to him as to me that his Relief was the worst in London): but though the Relief work is bad it is improving: the clergy are starting Relief committees, most of which Mr M. attends: there is a much greater tendency to work on C.O.S. lines e.g. not to attempt to touch hopeless cases. This attitude of the clergy is no doubt largely ~~to~~ ~~the~~ due to Mr M's own efforts: he has a disagreeable manner with perhaps unusual tact: "I have realised" he said "that we can only make our influence felt by persuasion: we've tried trying up the superior line and failed: whether they are or not these men look upon themselves

as expected, and want his lecture."

Jan. 10th. 1899

CD

Interview with Mr H. J. Dare.

Mr Dare is Headmaster of the Barrow Hill Road Board School Portland Town. He is a man of 40 looking much younger. He was educated at Neal Road Board School and was there for 14 years as Assistant teacher. He has been at this school for five years. He is exceedingly keen and intelligent and as usually with schoolmasters I enjoyed my interview and walk round with him immensely. Coming away with a renewed conviction that as an elevating influence the School swamps all the others: but from the point of view of our present enquiry the interview as is also usual with schoolmasters was unproductive: like the rest of them Mr D. is wrapped up in his school and can talk of little else.

As to Portland Town his evidence conflicts to some extent with our map: he denies that the district is poor: to compare it with such a district as Bissom from is absurd: there is

no difficulty of any sort in the school: the children are intelligent, healthy, well fed, well clothed: the necessity for giving food or clothing is of the rarest: in the first class, nearly all over 13, are 70 boys: in the summer many parents will not avail themselves of the L.H.F., while nearly all pay the whole amount required by the Board: a large number of the boys go into trades. This more coloured view of the district must I think be partly due to the fact that the Church schools take the poorest children leaving the best and many from outside Portland Town for the Board School. Mr D. said that whereas the tendency at first was for the more respectable parents to send their children to voluntary schools, things are ~~now~~ now turned: the respectable parents are usually also the most intelligent and anxious for their children's welfare, and they recognise that the Board Schools are more efficient than the voluntary.

As to the churches. Mr D. evidently knew very little about them, but he thought that

Dare - Schoolmaster

Mr Porch and his workers were very active among the poor. In the classes that he went into Mr D. asked who went to Sunday School, who to Bands of Hope. Except in the upper classes all appeared to go to Sunday School and about half to Bands of Hope. Of the Sunday Schools the most largely attended seemed to be All Saints'.

Jan. 20th. 1895

Locale 18-21 13

Interview with Mr and Mrs C. E. Maurice.

Mr Maurice is a man between 50 and 60. He is I believe a son of Frederick Denison Maurice. He and his wife have lived in Hampstead for 26 years.

Mr. M. has long been connected with the public life of Hampstead, but is associated especially with the C. O. S., and it was rather as the local representative of the C. O. S. that I saw him.

Mr M. is a very voluble little man whom I found it was best to allow to do most of the talking, with occasional interruptions from his wife. A great deal of the talk was rather irrelevant, but I found that questions when it was possible to put one in, which was seldom, usually led ultimately to fresh evidences.

Mr. M. had kindly got a good deal of documentary evidence, which I have placed with the papers.

Mr. M's most interesting evidence I think was as to the ~~so~~ unique character of Hampstead from the point of view of local government; until quite lately it retained many of the characteristics of a provincial town or village: this was due partly to its age and position on a hill cut off from London, partly to the character of its inhabitants: when the Maurices came 26 years ago there were about 12 well known, old established families in Hampstead to whom everybody deferred: they were known as "The Grandfathers" and nothing of any local import was done without their sanction and advice. Owing to these conditions ~~there~~ there was marked local unity and patriotism in which the only disturbing element was a tendency for Kilburn to split off from the old village: Kilburn indeed has never quite mixed with Hampstead and the "Kilburn vote" is always an uncertain factor. On the whole however there has been marked unity and public spirit leading to more efficient local government. This is still so to

some extent, but the death or dispersal of the grand fathers and the gradual absorption of Hampstead in London are changing the old order

As to the poverty of Hampstead the two poorest sites are (1) the district around Fleet Road - Lacon Road and Upper Park Road: here, in the large houses, which were built for the middle class, but ruined by the Free Hospital, there is a good deal of squalor, and (2) the Palmerston St. and Netherwood St. district in Kilburn: this is distinctly on the down grade. As to the old part of Hampstead there is a good deal of sporadic poverty: about Fleet Walk the poverty is high rents, poverty to misdirected charity: in this connection I seem to notice the village character of old Hampstead: everybody is known: "nobody escapes the net" said Mrs Maurice: not only does Hampstead send workers to many other parts of London, but has not even enough for her own wants: in addition to the workers of churches, chapels, the C.O.S. etc. there

are a number of fine places: the result is that Hampstead swarms with beggars: but they are less pampered than in the past: only the other day a notorious beggar was contrasting the present with the happy days "when you could get anything in Hampstead for the asking."

As to the churches - of the church of England none are sleepy but nearly all are Maurician theists are awake: evidently the Church and the C.O.S. clergy here are on unusually unfriendly terms: only two of the churches work cordially with the C.O.S. though some others profess to. Rev. M. finds the clergy terribly touchy and always standing upon their clerical dignity. The fact is that Rev. M. is rather fussy, my C.O.S. friend I expect puts up the backs of the clergy. Among the churches Christ Church has for many years been far the greatest power: this is in the time of Dr Pickersgill (now Bishop of Exeter) was always antagonistic to the C.O.S.: the present man Rev Stracalfield is more sympathetic,

but he has broken down in health and the work of the parish is now in the hands of the curates. The relief work of St. A. has always been in the hands of the district visitors, who give pretty much what they like and get a weekly bill of indemnity from the Vicar. Mr Dowsing at the parish church has always been an autocrat and keeps his district visitors quite in hand. Mr M. is a churchman but he said "Prospect Hampstead is a contractive place than probably a majority of the people of England would call themselves Church people, yet the influence of the non-Cons is really much deeper: there is no one among the churchmen who can do with his congregation as get out of them what Dr Horton can out of his people: and indeed Mr Brooke, the Baptist, Mr Brooke Hereford and Mr Monro Gibson are all men of higher calibre than the clergy".

Of the Poor Law Mr M. talked a good deal: the policy has always been one of out-

which, and the last election strengthened the party in power. Mr. R. thinks of course that there is too much out relief: he is known fully aware of the administration of the Work House and Infirmary, where humanity is the characteristic note.

Mr R., like others, mentioned Fleet-Road Board School and Mr Adams the Headmaster, as a great influence in Hampstead. In old Hampstead nearly all the children attend voluntary schools.

Feb. 14th. 1895

Interview with Captain J. S. Le Marchant, St. Geo. District Sy. C.O.S.

Capt. Le Marchant has been connected with this branch of the C.O.S. for 15 years and Secretary for 9 years. He is a strong, capable man, one of the best of the C.O.S. Secretaries.

The district covered by this Committee has changed very little in respect to poverty since the map was made: the only point in which there is a marked change is in the area bounded by St. George's Road, Pimlico St, and the Railways: Lower Winchester St, Cumberland St, Sutherland St and Aldersey St have all sunk greatly and are now entirely let in tenements, and Cambridge St is going the same way. Other streets in the district where there is a downward tending are Pulford St (south of Pimlico St) and Tufton St and Romney St, in the great poor centre behind the Abbey.

Le Marchant – St George's C.O.S.

Capt. Le Marchant went through the parishes with me as follows:-

St George's Hanover Sq. Rev Anderson: a Broad Churchman: politic man on the society etc: does little parish work and is not a spiritual force. Works well with C.O.S.

St Mark, North Audley St. Rev Jno Hadden. Hadden has only recently come from Aldgate: works with C.O.S.

Christ Church, Mayfair. Rev Dowsett: fairly worked: cooperates with C.O.S.

St Paul, Knightsbridge. Rev Montague Villiers. Well worked by sisters and clergy: "do a lot of good".

St Peter's Eton Sq. Rev Stones. Rev S. himself does little parish work but his curates are all good men and active. The parish is rich and gives about £100 a month in Relief, a large part of it in pensions: do not work with C.O.S. but are very careful and their curates are all good. They are more cooperating, with

Le Marchant - S. George's Cos.

the guardians and often supplement out-relief.

St Michael, Chester Sq. Canon Fleming. Canon Fleming turns everything in the way of parochial work to "his Mission man" who is a poor creature. The Canon is willing to assist the C.O.S.

St Barnabas, Pimlico.

Mr Gurney died dead: succeeded S. Hanbury Tracy. From spiritual point of view "nothing could be better". Relief work good.

St Gabriel, Pimlico. Mr Morris.

This parish is going down socially. Both spiritually and socially very active.

St Saviour, St Geo. Sq. Mr Washington. Good spiritual influence and active social work. Inclined to give doles.

Holy Trinity, Vauxhall Bridge Road. Mr Miller. Mr Miller feeble and his curates poor. Really worked in very way. Low church.

St James the less. Canon Blackley. Medium views: well worked.

St Mary, Tollhill Fields. Mr Napier. Clergy and sisters both doing good work.

St John Smith Sq. Canon Willmott. The Canon does little parish work, but sisters and clergy are active. Good temperance work.

St Stephen, Rochester Row. Mr Thornicroft. Very unsatisfactory. Mr T. unpopular: badly housed: no spiritual influence.

St Matthew, Mr Trachan. Clergy all unmarried and live in house together. Probably doing ~~more~~ more and better spiritual work than any other parish; also excellent temperance work. Have had a strong effect on the morals of Great Smith St. Religious work fairly good but not very cordial with C.O.S.

St Andrew, Holy Place, Mr Northcote. Very difficult parish: all flats: no home life.

Christ Church, Broadway, Mr Hopkins. Feeble.

St Margaret, Westminster. Practically no parish work under Farrar or Upton: many a preaching centre: wants a good parish priest.

A characteristic of the churches as a whole is that their relief work is exceedingly good and careful and nearly all work with the C.O.S. The following churches have Relief Committees: St George, St Gabriel, St Saviour, Holy Trinity, ~~St Paul~~ St Mary, St Stephen, St Paul, St John and St Barnabas, and on eight of these Committees are delegates from the C.O.S. Capt. Le Marchant doubts if in any other district of London Relief is so well organised.

On the spiritual side all the activity is on the side of the High Churchmen (Capt. Le M. warned me that he is himself a High Churchman). The spiritual influences he thinks are specially St Matthew, St Barnabas, St Mary, St Paul, St Gabriel, St Saviour, and St Peter.

Of the Non-Cons Capt. Le M. can hardly know little: none of them work with the C.O.S.: but Capt. Le M. is a guardian and

form or give non-Con ministers have recently been elected as guardians. The Captain has a poor opinion of them: they know nothing of the poor or of the problems of poverty: their sole idea is to give without enquiry. This opinion may be the better relied on from the fact that Capt. Le M. does not take the usual hard and fast C.O.S. views on Poor Law matters: he is convinced that you cannot do away with out relief and that if administered as in this Union it is probably an excellent thing. Under the New Poor Law Relief has ~~a~~ been larger, about £12 a week, but the Relieving Officers are first class men, who work in close cooperation with the C.O.S. and the Relief Committee: each case is carefully enquired into and carefully watched, and the Captain is satisfied that as long as you have out relief they can all such cases as you must assist, and to which the workhouse would be a great hardship and degradation. He also approves the system of cooperation of late

Relief Committees: the standard ~~way~~ accepted is 12/ a week for a couple and 8/ for a single person: many of them are serving from 2/6 to 5/ a week and the Guardians and the Churches compute for the remainder: in some such system with constant supervision the Capital ~~labour~~ labour is the solution of the Old Age Question.

Report of interview with Mrs. Charles, Miss Pickton, and Mr. Empson, all members of the Paddington C.O.S. at 37 Sutherland Avenue. Mrs. Charles is Hon. Sec. of the S. Paul's, Paddington, Relief Committee, and Mr. Empson is the Chairman of the Paddington Guardians. He was only with us for a short time.

Mrs. Charles has been connected with the Paddington C.O.S. for 20 years, but she is equally devoted to the parish relief committee at S. Paul's, the rules for which were drafted by her late husband and ~~to~~ which are ~~printed~~ given on pp. . Mrs. C. regards herself as a kind of apostle of C.O.S. principles, as applied to the parochial organization, and ~~that~~ relief committee at S. Paul's appears to be doing very useful work. Its usefulness is suggested by the two letters affixed from the late and present vicars of the parish. Mrs. C. talked a great deal about the Committee, and about the desirability of getting similar organizations at work in other parishes. Her own was started in 1877, and at the present moment there are four others at work in Paddington -- at S. Mary Magdalene, S. Matthews, S. Saviour's, and All Saints. On the whole the administration of relief in the district as a whole has improved, and the co-operation of the clergy is completer. One great difficulty in the way of the wider adoption of a better system is the district visitor. They are difficult to reform; the old less discriminating ways

Mrs Charles- Paddington C.O.S.

are so much easier to follow. The following were mentioned as the disorganized parishes: S. Peter's, Emmanuel, Christ Church, and S. John's, the last being especially difficult to work with. No good word was forthcoming on behalf of the Church Extension Sisters, one statement about them being that they at one time used their schools for shelters at night. No wonder that Mr. Kirkpatrick was indignant at this part of their work!

On the side of the people it was thought that there had been some moral response: that the habit of begging had been checked; the habit of thrift increased; and that the poor had been strengthened by the necessity of accommodating themslves to the conditions of a careful system. To this end, more important than the work of the C.O.S. committee and of the careful work in some of the parishes, has been the policy of the Board of Guardians. A sketch of the work here is given in the pamphpet written by Mr. Empson, (which see). One sign of the greater care was mentioned in the incresed co-operation from relatives that was now secured, the amount having gone up from £400 to £2000 in the year. It is clear from what Mr. Empson said that it is a hard-working Board. Most of the members are leisured men, and the great requisite for members is, according to Mr. E. time, and the willingness to take trouble. Two mornings a week is the least that a member ought

Mrs Charles - Paddington COS

to be preparedto give; he himself gives far more. They have a good clerk in Mr. Aveling, and certainly a good chairman in Mr. Empson -- a hard-working, conscientious, jerky, inarticulate sort of person, willing to take infinite pains.

With 3 of the parishes, as, I think, with the C. O.S. , there is a stamped legal agreement between the Boar and them, regulating and ensuring the co-operation in relief and in organization that they have agreed upon.

I asked as to whether the great diminution in outdoor relief was being accompanied by an increase in the number of pensions given to provide for those who could not get the out relief but who ought not to be forced into the house. This did not appear to be taking place, but it was not admitted that any hardship resulted. It was simply a better, wiser and more discriminating administration that had been adopted.

On the housing conditions of the district the two ladies appeared to take somewhat divergent opinions, Mrs. Charles thinking that the trend of rents was down in S. Paul's, and Miss Pickton thinking rather that in the district as a whole, the difficulties of getting accommodation had greatly increased. All agreed that there had been

Mrs Charles. Paddington C.O.S.

very little rebuilding, and that the great change that was at work in many parts was to transfer houses that had been in the private occupancy of single families into tenement houses for several. Queen's Park was mentioned as a district that was certainly getting poorer.

As regards drinking to excess, it was thought that the habit generally had not increased, although the practice of spirit drinking, especially whisky by young girls had, and private drinking among ladies "certainly".

The impression given by the interview was that much thought as well as hard work is being given to the committee, and to cognate local problems. Probably the chief influence in the past has been Mrs. Charles, who, a little proud of her achievements, has carried on the traditions of her husband and who has brought a great deal of "go" and capcity into the work, not simply as an organizer of charity but also as a church worker.

THE

RELIEF OF THE POOR,

WITH

RULES FOR A PAROCHIAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.

BY

C. E. CHARLES,

Honorary Secretary of S. Paul's, Paddington, Relief Committee; and also of the Paddington Committee of the Charity Organization Society.

PREFACES BY

THE RIGHT REV. THE BISHOP OF STEPNEY,

THE REV. H. V. H. COWELL,

AND

THE REV. ROBERT JAMBLIN.

A. R. MOWBRAY & CO.
OXFORD: 106, S. Aldate's Street;
LONDON: 64 & 65, Farringdon Street, E.C.

PRICE THREEPENCE.

PREFACES.

2, Amen Court,
S. Paul's, E.C.,
September 25th, 1898.

I have read the following paper, and think that it admirably sketches the true methods of Relief in London to-day. Such a parochial Relief Committee was worked at the Oxford House, for the parish of S. Matthew, Bethnal Green. It not only relieves the Clergy from becoming distributors of doles, and sees that impartial treatment is dealt out to the whole parish, but it gives scope to the work of laymen in the cause of the Church, and ultimately will do away with the idea that "people come to Church for what they can get." Character, after all, is the only permanent possession of mankind, and ought not to be trifled with.

It is only honest to say that, although I quite agree in theory with the writer about debt and back rent, yet that, in East London at any rate, exceptions have sometimes to be made.

A. F. STEPNEY.

I have been asked to write a few prefatory words to this paper; and I gladly do so. For, as Vicar of S. Paul's, Paddington, from 1873 to 1892, I learnt the great importance of the principles it sets forth; and I feel it a privilege to bear most emphatic testimony to the exceeding value of the parochial relief-system which it advises.

This system was formulated, at my request, by Mr. George Charles, a loyal and devoted son of the Church,

who brought a sagacious mind and sympathetic heart to bear upon it; and in many ways it proved a great boon to the parish.

It liberated the Clergy and District Visitors from the office of dealing out doles; which too often prove bribes to insincerity and an encouragement to improvidence; and enabled them to serve their poorer brethren the better, as sympathetic friends and kindly advisers. It checked favouritism. It economised means, by diverting them from the undeserving and applying them more judiciously. It prevented the overlapping of charitable agencies. It secures co-operation, which otherwise would not have been forthcoming. It coped with the causes of poverty, as well as its distressful outcome; and so, in many instances, uplifted applicants from their needy condition. And it gave me, as Chairman of the committee, a better acquaintance with the characters and circumstances of my people.

For these reasons I felt deeply thankful for its introduction; and time only strengthened my sense of its beneficial working. And it has been adopted in a large number of other parishes, to the great satisfaction both of Clergy and laity.

I would therefore commend it to the thoughtful consideration of all who, with pitiful hearts, are desirous of alleviating the sufferings of poverty, wisely and efficiently.

H. V. H. COWELL,
Vicar of Wilmington, Kent.

September, 1898.

Six years ago I came to London from a country parish of 1,700 people, where everyone, young and old, was personally known to me. The population was fairly

stationary, and each family, as a rule, occupied a separate house.

When I began my London work, I found a population of nearly 6,000, mostly poor, living within a space not larger than a big field in my country parish. Here were four or five separate families or tenants in a six-roomed house, many of whom were continually changing their abode, so that it was almost impossible to acquire any intimate knowledge of them.

The question of relief is immediately pressing: it will not wait a single day. The arrival of a new parson is the signal to the whole neighbourhood, that now is the one chance for the ne'er-do-weels of both sexes. If he tries to deal with them alone, he will be inevitably deceived, and will do much harm, besides wasting on the worthless the alms which should go to the deserving poor. But if there be a well-established Relief Committee, with all the resources of long experience and carefully gathered records, he has simply to pass on applications to the Hon. Sec., to be dealt with in due course, and the difficulty disappears as by magic.

This was my experience. I may say that in the early days of my work in London, whenever I was moved to deal privately with a case, I was invariably deceived more or less, and generally more rather than less.

And every year deepens my confidence in my Relief Committee and its methods.

I am known to be Chairman, and all grants are made with my concurrence. This is a proof that I am alive to the Christian duty of relieving the poor.

But as the grants are made by the whole committee, the responsibility of refusals does not rest upon my shoulders and hinder my spiritual work.

In fact, both the spiritual and temporal work of the parish are better done.

And further, such an organization is readily and

courteously recognised by other agencies which are doing the same kind of work. This, to a great extent, prevents overlapping of relief, and adds to the knowledge which is required to deal wisely with cases of distress.

I may mention, for instance, that the Paddington Board of Guardians have a definite arrangement with us, by which our respective spheres of work are defined, and a constant interchange of valuable information is secured.

I can confidently recommend to the Clergy the scheme here set forth. It has already been very largely adopted, and in many cases with the best results.

ROBERT JAMBLIN, M.A. (Cantab),
Vicar of S. Paul's, Paddington.

October 3rd, 1898.

Relief of the Poor.

By Mrs. Charles.

[Reprinted from "Workers together with God."] Edited by Canon Keymer. Published by A. R. Mowbray & Co.

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. . . . Every man shall bear his own burden."—Galatians vi. 2, 5.

Relief—this word means so much, and yet it is often so poor and meagre in practice.

Many an anxious worker is trying to "fulfil the law of Christ" by relieving the distress of the poor; but too often the distress remains, or is even aggravated by the well meant efforts to remove it. This may be partly due to the crude interpretation which many people give to the word: they consider that to relieve is to give money, and so they yield to that impulse or emotion which is satisfied by a hasty gift, an act of so-called charity, which to the rich may mean self-indulgence rather than self-denial, while to the poor recipient it may prove the reverse of a blessing.

Take the commonest form of apparent distress, the street-beggar: some persons insist on judging by appearances. "We must relieve," they say, "if only for the moment:" and so long as this is done, in accordance with the law of supply and demand, the street-beggar continues to flourish, for it is sometimes a profitable business, and a comfortable home may be supported by the skilful pavement actor whose get-up is so clever, and whose tale is so plausible. Again, take the begging letter-writer. Here the actor need not be seen, he may live in privacy, calling at the

that her poor may be duly cared for, and their character raised rather than demoralised.

The District Visitors will be the trusted agents of the Relief Committee, and it is essential that they should loyally support its authority. They will find that the principles of true charity will be readily understood, and accepted by, the self-respecting poor, and the necessary inquiry is not formidable, if conducted with courtesy and sympathy. Promiscuous begging should be discouraged, and relief seldom, if ever, suggested.

If possible, the "special case appeal" is preferable to a general relief fund; it is better calculated to arouse the sympathy of the giver, and it has been found that money is more easily raised if a definite object be set forth with a reasonable hope of permanent benefit to be obtained.

In conclusion, it is submitted that all these principles are included in S. Paul's words to the Galatians which have been placed at the head of this paper. The seeming paradox is charged with a deep meaning for those who bear, and those who share the burdens of life. Rich and poor must alike learn "so to pass through things temporal, that they finally lose not the things Eternal."

RULES FOR A PAROCHIAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.

[These rules were originally drafted by the late George Charles, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, for S. Paul's, Paddington, in 1876, and were revised by Mrs. Charles in 1898, with the approval of the Vicar of S. Paul's.]

1. Constitution. The Committee shall consist of the Clergy, Churchwardens (if able to serve), and four to six other members, who shall, in the first instance, be selected by the Vicar; vacancies will afterwards be filled up by the Committee. The Vicar shall be Chairman, and shall appoint an Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

The Committee shall meet weekly, on ....., at the ....., at ..... a.m. Three to be a quorum. District Visitors may attend, and be heard on any case of their own. Applicants may be required to attend, and, where possible the head of the family should be seen. The Committee will decide in private.

2. Applications. All applications for relief shall be made to the Relief Committee by the District Visitor, if there is one, if not, or in her absence, by any other person interested in the applicant. The Application Form must be carefully filled in and forwarded to the Hon. Sec., to be laid before the Committee.

On a second or further application, for or by the same person, a further Application Form must be filled in, bringing the history of the case up to date.

If any person other than the District Visitor shall apply, notice of the fact must be sent to the Visitor, asking her to forward to the Hon. Sec. any information she may have respecting the applicant.

3. Inquiry. All references should be taken up, statements verified so far as possible, and full inquiry made, before a final decision is arrived at. The Committee may refer any case to the Charity Organization Society for investigation and advice. Applicants whose residence in the Parish is less than three months will be referred to the Charity Organization Society in the first instance.

Overlapping. In order to prevent the overlapping of relief, the Committee shall, if possible, obtain weekly returns from the Board of Guardians, and the Charity Organization Society, of all cases dealt with by them in the Parish (or Church District). Should this be impossible, special inquiry must be made on each case from these, and other local relief agencies.

4. Relief. The relief granted shall be calculated to meet the needs of the case, and to improve the general condition of the family. In sickness, a medical opinion should be obtained, and wine or spirits given only on the Doctor's Certificate. Should the Committee be unable to relieve adequately, co-operation should be obtained from any suitable society, or from private sources.

5. Employment Register. An Employment Register shall be kept by the Committee for those persons whose employers' references have proved satisfactory, and for whom the Committee desire to obtain work.

6. Decisions of Committee. After the Committee Meeting, the decision on each case, with any relief granted, shall be forwarded to the District Visitor by the Hon. Secretary. In urgent cases, the Committee may send the relief direct to the applicant, sending due notice thereof to the Visitor.

7. Interim Relief. In urgent cases, immediate relief may be given by the Hon. Secretary or other Member of the Committee, but such relief must be reported at the next Committee Meeting. It is expected that the number of cases thus dealt with will be reduced to a minimum,

and that the relief so granted will be no more than sufficient to meet the emergency.

8. Accounts. In every case where relief is granted in money, a receipt shall be given to the Treasurer. The accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer, and audited annually. A financial statement shall be made periodically to the Committee by the Treasurer.

9. Records. Applications shall be filed, and a register of cases, recording all information received and relief granted, shall be kept by the Hon. Secretary, who will also keep minutes of the proceedings of the Committee.

10. Poor Law. No grant will be made to persons in receipt of out-door relief; such cases should be left wholly to the Poor Law, unless it should be desirable and possible to take them off the rates.

11. Ineligible Cases. Relief will not be given to the idle and improvident, nor to persons of bad character. Ordinary out-of-work cases will not be assisted, except in special circumstances, and where thrift has been shown in the past. All ineligible cases shall be left to the Poor Law.

The Committee will not, as a rule, give money for payment of debts, back rent, nor for funeral expenses.

12. Provision against Sickness. Every man will be expected to belong to a Friendly Society, or Provident Club, and will not be assisted a second time if he has still neglected this duty without sufficient reason.

All persons applying for free hospital letters will be expected to join a Provident Dispensary if possible.

13. Pensions. In cases of chronic poverty, caused by old age or infirmity, small pensions may be granted to meet help from relations, friends, and employers. This assistance should only be given where there has been industry and providence in the past, and where a sufficient income can be raised. Such cases should be reconsidered half-yearly, and the pension renewed if the relations and

friends continue their help, provided always that the pensioner's character and surroundings continue satisfactory.

14. Co-operation. In order to ensure the efficient working of this scheme, it is essential that no money should be given to the poor of the parish without the knowledge of the Committee. Any person desiring to assist any family from private sources, is invited to communicate with the Committee, who will be glad to welcome such co-operation.

15. Suggestions to District Visitors. The intimate acquaintance of the District Visitors with all details relating to those under their charge is of the highest importance, and District Visitors are urged to keep a private record in which all such details shall be noted. They should make constant efforts to promote thrift, and should urge their people to join Savings Banks, Sick Benefit Clubs, a Provident Dispensary, etc. Leaflets giving information respecting such local agencies should be distributed in every district.

NOTE.—It is advisable, if possible, that the members of a Parochial Relief Committee, but more especially the Honorary Secretary, should receive some definite training before undertaking the work.

A. R. MOWBRAY AND CO., CHURCH PRINTERS, OXFORD.

SURNAME of Applicant.....

PRIVATE and CONFIDENTIAL.

S. Paul's, Paddington, Relief Committee.

Date.....

N.B.—The District Visitor or other person filling up this Form of Application, is urgently requested to assist the Committee by giving, as far as possible, all the information asked for. Cases cannot be satisfactorily dealt with unless the Committee have a COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THE FACTS. All applications are received as coming from the head of the family—the father, if he be living, the mother, if she be a widow.

Address..... *Time at present Address*.....

Previous Addresses and Time at each { ....

Case sent by .....

Assistance asked for..... Name of Person for whom Relief is needed.....

Christian Names.	Married, Single, or Widow.	Age.	Occupation. Children's School.	Name and Address of Present (or Last) Employer.	Time out of Employ.	Cause of Leaving Employ.	Weekly Earnings. Full Work. s.	Full Work. d.	Present. s.	Present. d.
Man										
Woman										
Children (at home or away)										

Statement as to Health and Name of Medical Attendant .....

.....

No. of Rooms occupied.....

Weekly Rent .....

Rent due.....

Other Debts .....

Pawn Tickets.....

Club or Trade Society .....

Insurance ....

Provident Dispensary .....

Savings .....

What Church or Chapel do family attend?

.....

.....

.....

Relief from { Parish { Past ..... Present..... Charitable Persons ..... Club..... Relations.....

Names and Addresses of near Relatives. If unable to assist, the reason should be given.

Name ..... Address .....

Name ..... Address .....

Name ..... Address .....

Total Present Income .....

[Turn over.

References (other than present or former landlord)

Name..... Address.....

Name..... Address.....

Name..... Address.....

Statement, showing (1) the circumstances which render this Application necessary; (2) in what manner Applicants think they can be permanently benefited, with any othe information which the Committee should possess as to character, &c. Applicants should be impressed with the ABSOLUTE NECESSITY, in their own interests, of makin an exact statement of Total Means of Subsistence.

Visitor's Signature.....

This Form, when filled up, to be forwarded not later than Monday to the Hon. Sec., St. Paul's Parochial Relief Committee, 46, Waverley Road, Harrow Road, W.
The Committee meets on Tuesdays, at 10.30 a.m.

Interview with Mr. Payton, one of the S. Pancras Relieving Officers, at his residence ~~in~~ 167 Prince of Wales Road. (E.A.) Jan.26.99.

Mr. Payton has been in his present position for 30 years, and knows every inch of his Ward. It comprises the area lying S. of the Prince of Wales Road, and W. of the Kentish Town Road. During ~~ixix~~ the 30 years, he has seen the district go down and up, and recent changes have made decidedly for improvement. On this point he was emphatic; even the worst bits have shared in the change for the better. He attributes much of the improvement to the screwing up of the sanitary administration through the L.C.C. The difficulty of the district, perhaps its danger, is the greater congestion. Rooms are in great demand; rates and rentals have gone up. As regards the paupers of the district, they are now of a much better class; the ~~xxxxxxx~~ person~~xx~~ who makes the roughest applicant is generally found "on the rim" of London: excavators, labourers etc. and these have for the most part cleared out with the growth of London. Their place has been taken by the "handy man class"; those who have come down; not so rough, and "not so poor either". Meanwhile the administration of the Poor Law has been improving, especially during the last 16 years owing to the work of the late Mr. Allen. It was he that initiated the change of policy

adopted by the S. Pancras Board. P. used to have as many as 80 applications a week to deal with, but now only 30 or even fewer. This is due partly to the improvement in the n'hood, and partly to the improved administration.

The whole of his Ward is from 40 to 50 years old. The Ferdinand St. area is the worst on his round, and it has all improved, "is much better". There are very many single room tenements. Harmood St. has improved. Union Terrace was as bad as possible before the present renewals, and Mr. Payton practically corroborated the bad account of this spot given by the police. Arlington St. has not changed much; the N. end is and always has been the worst part of it. Leybourne St. has been rebuilt on the W. side; only two-room people now; cases used to be frequent; hardly ever has one now. Belmont St. has gone up; very rarely called there now; the Chalk Farm end still poor, especially two houses. Kelly St. has a shady reputation, or rather several of the houses in it have. But the number of brothels in the district much fewer than formerly; a coffee-tavern in Ferdinand St. (?No. 24) suspect. But many prostitutes of a low class living in and around the district. His own house is situated at the corner of a blind street, at an end of the Prince of Wales Road that is itself out of the line of traffic. Mr. Payton said that unless one

had lived in a house so situated it was impossible to appreciate the amount of public beastliness and immorality that went on. He enlarged on it to some extent, and the annoyance that he and his neighbours suffer from is certainly very horrible. Interference is not unlikely to lead to reprisals, and these take a somewhat primitive form. The knocking him up in the middle of the night is among the least objectionable, and the deposit of ordure upon his door-step the most beastly.

Afetr talking for a time in Mr. Payton's room, he suggested going out, and he took me to a few of the houses in Hethersett St. off Ferdinand St. In the first was an old man; nearly blind, but nevertheless chopping wood; very feeble and shaking; it was a marvel how he managed to do his work, "a gift" as he said, rather touchingly; he had been in the district nearly all his life, and for 30 years had workd in brick-fields that have long since been cleared away. The rooms in the house were let from 2/6 to 3/6.

(2)saw the room of a widow in receipt of parish relief, as was the old man; rent 2/6 or 3/-; the room comfortable.

(3) the room of another woman who was called downstairs to see us; fat; complained of back-ache, as she hobbled in; the room not bare.

(4)a poorer room belonging, with one other, to a woman

living there with her family; she was a strong-voiced denizen of the slum, fat and muscular; her daughter of 15 or so was ill in bed; the room cheerless and untidy but mismanagement rather than poverty probably the source of the discomfort. In the house were five families; much quieter than it used to be; the landlord was praised, but why, it was not easy to see.

(5) a woman with 7 children, including a 3 months' baby - a tiny and miserable mite that pined and whined as it lay.

In no house were the signs of extreme poverty to be seen; never a bare room and never a fireless grate; but much discomfort, and the standard low; the room of the loud-voiced woman was the worst that I entered. Each hou has a small yard, and only one W.C. [illegible]

(6) This was a different sort of home in Ferdinand St; a newsagents, to which Mr. Payton went to find out about an order that had reached him from a doctor that morning - "a case of mania"; we went upstairs escorted by the husband, himself a feeble and dazed person, and, as Mr. P. told me afterwards killing himself "eating away his brain" by constant tippling; the wife lay in bed in a quiescent maudlin condition, denied drinking, "except two-pennorth of whisky", and answered Payton's questions fairly rationally. It appeared that she had been sent away once before, and that the

Payton - R.O.

husband had got her back again. On this he prided himself, but only to be sat upon by the R.O. He was her husband, was he not, and the right person to keep his wife. The woman caught the remark, and interpolated "Yes, but not the women"; and then rasing her voice and stretching out her arm with a dramatic gesture, "Yes, the women are in it, not the wives, not the wives." The man stood stupidly by, and after this outburst the woman subsided. The scene was sufficiently sad; the man was getting senile and nearly 60 years old; downstairs in the little room behind the shop was his sister who had come to look after him, but she herself was not prepossessing; in the shop were the neatly arranged papers -- the half-penny dailies; the cheap fiction serials; the moral weeklies, "Home Chat" doubtless among them being sold by this sorry master of a sorry home. Payton's orders were to come round in the evening, and "not to forget". The woman would be sent away.

Payton was a man of perhaps 55 or more; quick, abrupt somewhat in dealing with some of his people, but cheery in speaking to his cases in Hethersett St. and well-received there; thanked by one or two for "all his kindness". On the whole not as much spoilt by 30 years' of official and hardening work, as might have been expected.

(21) Interview with Miss Townsend, Sec. of the Portland Town Association for United Work among the Poor, at the Office, 12 Henry Street. (E.A.) Jan.27.99.

Local Charities 10-21 11

This Association was formed in 1884, in order to put the charitable work of a poor and disorganized area upon a better footing and to secure the necessary co-operation among local people. The objects are stated at greater length in the page extracted from one of the Reports. The Association is closely allied to the C.O.S. both by the methods of its work, and by the personnel of those who assist it. It has many good workers in its ranks, but the most important and influential person is Miss Townsend herself, the Secretary. She is a lady of, parhaps, 55 or 60; fragile; well-informed; no less sympathetic than strict. I should suspect that if her resignation were necessary, the Association would be formally affiliated with the local branch of the C.O.S.

To a great extent the original plan of work of the Association is being followed out, but the sick cases are now handed over to the vicars of the three parishes in which they may occur, and it appearsthat the Noncons. have somewhat dropped away. The Reports give full and suggestive accounts of the work of the Association, which is very personal and careful in character. The management of the Pension cases is by far the most important

part of the work undertaken, and in the Report for '97, it appears that out of £425 spent in various forms of charitable work, about £347 went to pension cases. The Association, in addition to the pension cases, occasionally retains in its hands those that need prolongedattention. At the present moment they have from 35 to 40 pensions to distribute.

They grant loans, and their policy of always getting security from people of the same class as the borrower is worth noting. It has almost invariably worked successfully, whereas previously people were often defaulting.

The Work-room is used by widows or by women who are from some cause especially handicapped. They have 14 women on their registers, and a daily attendance of 8. Nearly all who come are pensioners. They also try to find work for those who come are able to undertake it, and for other applicants the branch of their work which aims at finding people employment is important. Their coal club is no longer important, other clubs on a more attractive basis having been started. In their own they give no bonus of any kind. The Association works in 3 ecclesiastical parishes, but mainly in S. Stephen's.

As regards the district of Portland New Town as a whole Miss Townsend was emphatic in her opinion that it

was on the up-grade. When the Association began its work the state of things was very bad, and begging and cadging were the rule. There is still much drinking and much poverty, and a good deal of over-crowding, one case being montioned in which parents and 7 children were all living in one room. But on the wholethings have improved, partly through changed economic conditions, and, so far as the feeling of independence is concerned, Miss Townend hopes, through the training and moral influence of the work of the Association. The poorest people of the district are certainly the R.Cs. One economic change that is working out to advanatge is the loss to the district of a great deal of the laundry work that used to come to it. Steam and large establishments are securing a great deal of the work that the women of Portland New Town used to secure. The result of this is that there are fewer loafing men who live on the earnings of their wives, and the men generally are, shethinks, playing their part better. But the district, in spite of improvement, is still poor, "a decidedly poor district". The people are as a rule stationary, moving within but not to a great extent outside of the n'hbod. Asked as to the chief occupations of the men, Miss T. answered "Oh! painters, painters, painters". In addition she mentioned builders' labourers, carmen, and gardeners, the last being to

WORKROOM ACCOUNT FOR 1897-98.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
Special Donation (Miss Behrens)	5	0	0
Sales...	7	10	5½
Club	2	14	9
Orders and Sales in Office	37	4	2½
Balance due to Secretary...	2	8	4
	£54	17	9

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Balance to Secretary	3	14	2
Materials	12	11	8
Wages	22	7	7
Sundries	0	12	10
Superintendence	15	11	6
	£54	17	9

Presented by
EMILY M. SAUNDERS.

Audited and found correct,
ANNIE E. RIDLEY.

COAL CLUB—BALANCE SHEET.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
In hand	0	3	5
For Cards	0	1	5
Pence	11	8	5
	£11	13	3

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Printing	0	2	6
Coal	11	0	0
Returned	0	8	5
In hand	0	2	4
	£11	13	3

Presented by
E. SOLOMON.

Audited by
A. K. CONNELL.

Townsend

141

(4)

a great extent, men working at Lords'

Sanitary conditi ns throughout the whole district have decidedly improved.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

This Association, which is entirely undenominational, has been formed to establish in Portland Town an office where all the scattered workers of the parishes of St. Stephen-the-Martyr and All Saints' may exchange information, and thus render mutual help in cases of distress, as well as more effectually to carry out wider schemes of benevolence needing combined action.

An office has been opened at 12 Henry Street, where the Secretary is in attendance daily from 10 till 1 (except Saturdays) to answer enquiries, to give information, and to conduct the general business of the Association.

It is earnestly requested that all charitably-disposed persons will make free use of the office, which has become a valuable centre for all the charitable agencies of the District, being worked in connection with the clergy and ministers of all denominations, with their respective Bible-women; with the City Missionary, Relieving Officer, Free Dispensary, and the Marylebone Charity Organization Society. By such co-operation friendly relations between rich and poor are manifestly promoted; by the removal, on the one hand, of fear of being deceived, and, on the other, of the temptation to deception.

Membership consists of a subscription of not less than 10s. annually. It is expected that members will make enquiry at the office before giving alms merely to prevent the danger of overlapping. Subscription to the *General Purposes Fund* is expected from those members alone who recognise the value of the office as a centre of action. The expenses remain at the original moderate estimate. But the division of the subscription list under two distinct headings leaves free all who wish to contribute to Relief only. It is the aim of the Association, wherever it is possible, to give employment, information, or advice, rather than money, and thus to encourage self-help.

The Committee meet every week at 11.30 o'clock on Tuesdays, and cordially welcome visitors.

A Free Registry is kept of Needlewomen, Charwomen, Young Servants, etc., of good character, and all employers are earnestly requested to make application at the office.

Letters for Hospitals, Homes, etc., and votes for other charities, are much in request. Orders for work are greatly desired for the work-room, and also gifts of old clothing, which, sold at very low rates, would, in sufficient quantity, make this part of the work quite self-supporting.

Portland Town Association for Useful Work among the Poor.

CASH ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31st, 1898.

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
Balance at the Bank	0	1	7
In Secretary's hands	1	1	1
Subscriptions and Donations—			
General Fund	210	18	0
Relief Fund	291	10	2
Private Pensions	72	16	6
Rents from Tenants	29	7	0
Loans repaid	11	0	6
	£616	14	10

Accounts presented by A. K. CONNELL,
Hon. Treasurer.

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Rent (3 quarters)				28	16	6
Rates and Taxes				14	3	11
Office—						
Salaries	100	18	0			
Postage	1	15	9			
Stationery	1	7	3			
Printing	5	14	6			
Gas and Fuel	12	0	4			
Repairs...	2	19	0			
Sundries	2	19	1			
				170	14	4
Relief—						
Pensions	275	6	0			
Private Pensions	72	16	6			
Temporary help	49	18	0			
Homes and Hospitals ...	12	2	5			
Charity Schools—Election Expenses	3	5	2			
Loans	12	10	0			
				425	18	1
Cheque Book				0	2	1
Balance in Hon. Treasurer's hands				5	0	0
Balance in Bank				15	0	4
				£616	14	10

Audited and found correct, ROBERT SWAN,
Hon. Auditor.

Townsend

a great extent, men working at Lords'

Sanitary conditi ns throughout the whole district have decidedly improved.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

This Association, which is entirely undenominational, has been formed to establish in Portland Town an office where all the scattered workers of the parishes of St. Stephen-the-Martyr and All Saints' may exchange information, and thus render mutual help in cases of distress, as well as more effectually to carry out wider schemes of benevolence needing combined action.

An office has been opened at 12 Henry Street, where the Secretary is in attendance daily from 10 till 1 (except Saturdays) to answer enquiries, to give information, and to conduct the general business of the Association.

It is earnestly requested that all charitably-disposed persons will make free use of the office, which has become a valuable centre for all the charitable agencies of the District, being worked in connection with the clergy and ministers of all denominations, with their respective Bible-women; with the City Missionary, Relieving Officer, Free Dispensary, and the Marylebone Charity Organization Society. By such co-operation friendly relations between rich and poor are manifestly promoted; by the removal, on the one hand, of fear of being deceived, and, on the other, of the temptation to deception.

Membership consists of a subscription of not less than 10s. annually. It is expected that members will make enquiry at the office before giving alms merely to prevent the danger of overlapping. Subscription to the *General Purposes Fund* is expected from those members alone who recognise the value of the office as a centre of action. The expenses remain at the original moderate estimate. But the division of the subscription list under two distinct headings leaves free all who wish to contribute to Relief only. It is the aim of the Association, wherever it is possible, to give employment, information, or advice, rather than money, and thus to encourage self-help.

The Committee meet every week at 11.30 o'clock on Tuesdays, and cordially welcome visitors.

A Free Registry is kept of Needlewomen, Charwomen, Young Servants, etc., of good character, and all employers are earnestly requested to make application at the office.

Letters for Hospitals, Homes, etc., and votes for other charities, are much in request. Orders for work are greatly desired for the work-room, and also gifts of old clothing, which, sold at very low rates, would, in sufficient quantity, make this part of the work quite self-supporting.

85