

## The Home for Destitute and Motherless Children,

(UNSECTARIAN)

CRESCENT ROAD EAST, SOUTH WOODFORD.

Dr. F. A. MARTIN FLEGG,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
Southdene, George Lane,  
Hon. Medical Officer.

FOUNDED  
1899.

Mr. A. WILLMOTT,  
Chartered Accountant,  
14, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C.,  
Hon. Auditor.

Miss R. A. HUTCHIN and Mr. HERBERT W. WHITE, Founders.

1st May, 1907.

DEAR FRIENDS,

In sending out our seventh Report we have the same story to tell as in previous years, and the text which has so often been used, viz., "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," is still our experience, and our hearts are made glad in being able to unfold to our friends the marvellous way in which *He* has helped us from all points of view; but it is quite impossible to explain in anything like its fulness the joy which is ours when often at our extremity God takes the blessed opportunity of proving to us His ability and willingness to send in answer to our prayers. In a nutshell our experience has been "As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things" (2 Cor. vi. 10).

We have 55 children now in the Home, and the greatest pleasure to us is that 23 out of that number are decided Christians, and it would do anyone good to hear the bright testimonies which they give of their conversion and daily battles.

In comparison with former years we have had a very severe testing with sickness. Diphtheria broke out last September, and since then we have had 11 cases. Two of our little ones have joined the Home above, one having succumbed to this disease and the other through an hereditary complaint. This has been all the more trying as it spread over such a long period, and one can imagine the feeling of disappointment, after having gone sometimes six weeks, for one or two cases to break out. Then again, we are obliged to nurse our own cases, and have had to call in a qualified nurse on several occasions, which has also been a financial strain. We are glad to report that we are now free, and thank God for answered prayer.

In three or four districts Working Parties have been formed by interested friends, and have largely helped us this year to clothe the children. I have a Report from one of them just to hand, which I shall give below in order that you may see how wonderfully God works upon the hearts of others.

"SEVEN KINGS, January, 1907.

"FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PEACE AND LOVE SOCIETY SEWING MEETING.

"As the outcome of a suggestion that a few friends should meet together once a week for social intercourse and for the making of useful garments for presentation to some Institution, on the initiative and through the kindness of Mrs. Poole, eight ladies met at 104, Lansdowne Road, Seven Kings, on January 6th, 1906. The suggestion was taken up enthusiastically, and it was decided that such Meeting was desirable, and that work should commence at once.

"To ensure its success a committee was formed, one lady acting as secretary and treasurer, one as collector, two others being appointed to cut out the garments for the workers. Other ladies were invited to join in the good work, and it was further agreed that the Meetings should be known as 'The Peace and Love Society Sewing Meeting.' Members agreed to contribute one penny or more per week.

"The Meeting always to be opened and closed with prayer. During the afternoon one member should read while the others were working, and the conversation should be of such a Christian character as to be mutually helpful to each and every member present. Meetings to be held weekly at the residences of those members who are able to provide the necessary accommodation.

"So that we should have a definite end in view it was agreed that the finished garments should be sent to the Home for Motherless Children at South Woodford. Knowing the difficulty experienced by the Matron of that Home in the matter of clothing for the little ones it is hardly necessary to say with what gratitude our work is always accepted.

"Our membership has increased, and several friends have come forward at different times with donations which have greatly helped us, and to those friends we tender our most sincere thanks.

"During the year we have made 86 pinafores, 46 nightdresses, 12 boys' overalls, 27 undergarments, 10 petticoats and 4 bed covers—185 total.

"Altogether our Meetings have been very successful, for which we praise God, feeling sure we are engaged in work *He* would have us do, and we trust that we may be guided aright in all our work so that it may be owned and blessed by Him, always remembering that Jesus said, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.'

(Signed) "(Mrs.) L. BIGGS, Hon. Sec."

Most of our readers know that I have been engaged for a number of years as a clerk in one of the London banks, but after careful consideration and much prayer I have been led to resign from that position and am now devoting all of my time and energy to *His* work. My greatest reason for so doing is simply an act of obedience to what I believe to be the call of God and the doing away with another prop upon which I had often been tempted to lean, instead of wholly upon Him, and now my wife and child (born to us on the 18th September) and self are looking to Him for our daily supplies, and believe that He who has supplied the needs of the Home for the past seven years will not fail us, but will, according to His word, honour our faith. This step was also taken with the full concurrence of my wife and in answer to the prayers of Miss Hutchin and Workers.

I will proceed to give extracts from the diary in order that you may see how the work is daily supported:—

MAY.—1st. 1s., 2s., 6s., 5s.—2nd. 14s., 10s. 6d., 10s. 6d., dripping.—4th. £1 4s., £1 14s., 2s., £2 2s. 6d., 7 pinafores, 3 vests, 5 petticoats, 4 chemises, 2 shirts, 1 bodice, 2 skirts, 1 blouse, 1 nightgown, 2 hats, 2 jackets, 2 dresses, 2 pairs boots, 2 pairs stockings, 3 under-garments.—5th. 4s., 4s., 10s., 2s. 6d.,





