

A Gift Will Help These Children

AT the approach of Christmas "The Lancashire Daily Post" makes its 40th annual appeal on behalf of the Shepherd-street Mission, Preston.

Up to date, £7,650 have been raised by these appeals. Last year there was a record total of £380 14s. 10d. We want to beat that, this year.

This is no casual appeal. It is something woven firmly into the fibre of the district, like a family birthday or other intimate personal anniversary. Christmas would not be complete for many good people if they did not make their gift to Shepherd-street. This tradition of generosity must be maintained and further built up.

NEED CONTINUES

When Shepherd-street Mission was founded by the late Joshua Williamson, we were not as conscious as we are to-day of the communal responsibility for securing freedom from want, freedom from fear. While we have progressed a little since those days, the need for the Mission and the Children's Home persists.

Indeed, war has brought increased calls on accommodation, the need for more money to meet increased costs of maintenance.

There is an average "family" of 50 at the Children's Home. At the moment there are actually 44 children, between the ages of three and 14. Some are there through domestic tragedies—not all due to sickness or death. They are innocent victims of the foolishness or wrong-doing of others. There are cases of children whose fathers are on active service and whose mothers are ill in hospital. Altogether, 16 are the children of men in the Services.

FOOD—WARMTH

These are youngsters taken by your generosity from often appalling circumstances; given warmth and food and love; taught to be decent men and women, and directed into the paths of decent, self-respecting life. It is a great work, worthy of generous support.

Of course, Christmas brings its special desire to capture something of the festive spirit for the youngsters. There will be the usual Christmas morning breakfast for 1,000 children. Foodstuffs are a problem which, however, it is intended to solve. There will be no sweets this year, but it is hoped there will be fruit. There will be toys, provided mainly through the generosity of Churches, particularly Leyland Congregational. Local secondary school children, Grammar School and Park will also help with gifts of reasonable fare and money.

Already, before the launching of this appeal, £5 has been contributed, anonymously, to our fund. It is from "One who wishes to make a pale face brighter"—which epitomises the appeal splendidly.

Single Australian girls from 18 to 35 are being called up in Melbourne for domestic service. Reuter.

28.10.43

"FAMILY TIES" AT SHEPHERD STREET MISSION

TRIBUTE to the splendid work which is continuing at the Shepherd-street Mission, Preston, was expressed by the Mayor (Councillor R. T. Vity), who presided, and other speakers, at the annual meeting of subscribers held in the Town Hall, yesterday.

Mr. W. A. Margerison (chairman of the committee), presenting the 67th annual report, said every effort was made to see that the unwanted and unfortunate children cared for by the mission had as healthy and normal a life as possible, without such things as distinctive dress or uniform. The superintendent, Mr. T. A. Slater, his wife and their helpers had accomplished the ideal of a real home, with "family ties" of esteem and affection, which could be seen in the many letters from boys and girls who had now gone out into the world, many of them in H.M. Forces. During the year the average size of the family at the mission has been 50.

COMMITTEE'S THANKS

The committee wished to thank the public for their unfailing support, financially and in other ways. Particularly were they indebted to the Watch Committee for another grant of a joint flag-day, of which the mission's share was £222; also to the editor and proprietors of "The Lancashire Daily Post" for the annual Christmas appeal, which last year brought in a record total of over £380. By that appeal, made for 39 years, the mission had benefited to the extent of £7,650. The collecting box at the Bowling Green Inn, Ribbleson, contributed a record sum of £30—making almost £100 so collected in the last nine years.

Mr. R. E. Smalley, one of the trustees, who presented the accounts in the absence, through illness, of the treasurer, Mr. H. Southworth, reported on a much-improved financial position, but stressed the point that all the money received is put to the best possible use. In addition to the "Daily Post" appeal, which was £53 up on the previous year, and the flag-day receipts, which were £15 up, subscriptions and donations were up by £110, house-to-house collections by £37, and Christmas stocking gifts by £50. With a net surplus on the year of £674, they had been able to wipe out an adverse balance from former years and to retain £161 in hand. Moreover, in the space of 40 years, the institution had increased its investments from £657 to £20,000.

WORK PRAISED

The report and accounts were adopted, on the proposition of the Rev. A. E. Folley, of the Fulwood Methodist Church, seconded by the Rev. G. H. Hurst, Vicar of Emmanuel, Preston, both of whom spoke highly of the work at the mission.

Mr. Folley stressed the foremost place which it held in the hearts of the people of Preston and district, and Mr. Hurst, alluding to a present tendency to State control, said no Government could ever provide such a real home environment and influence.

Thanks to the Mayor were expressed by Mr. H. Spencer and Mr. A. C. M. Lillie.

Shepherd-street Mission

At the Shepherd-street Mission on Christmas morning—as has happened every year since 1882—parcels were given to poor kiddies of the town. There were about 1,000 of them on this occasion. Tickets had been given out in the Preston schools to needy children and their little brothers and sisters. Each received a parcel containing a meat pie, cakes, fruit and a toy. The Mayor and Mayoress were present at the distribution along with the chairman of the committee (Mr. W. A. Margerison), with Mr. John Kenyon as Santa Claus, a role he has filled for over

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SHEPHERD STREET MISSION.

"THE LANCASHIRE DAILY POST" APPEAL.

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	315	5	0
Proceeds from Barnacre Whist Drive	9	7	6
S. C. R. H. C.	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. J. Hodgkinson, Fulwood	2	2	0
Ex-W.A.A.C.	0	10	0
"Sly"	0	10	0
J. J. and E. B.	0	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Dunderdale, Fulwood Hall-lane	0	10	0
June, Much Hoole	0	2	6
E. E. B.	0	5	0
In memory of Loved Ones, Holme Slack	0	3	0
Mr. C. W. Smart, Abberton, Royalty-lane, New Longton	0	10	0
From a Soldier in Sicily	1	0	0
"Friend," Catterall	1	0	0
Mother, Father and John, Ashton	0	10	0
M. Marsh	0	10	0
In loving memory of Kathleen, from her Godmother, M. Bailey	0	10	0
In memory of Mother—Sid & Ada	0	5	0
Peter and Barbara	0	7	6
Ship Half-pennies, per Kenneth Hill, Leyland	0	10	6
Nona, Morecambe	2	0	0
E. M. M.	0	4	0
In ever-loving memory of Daddy and Little Tommy	0	10	0
St. Mark's Young Men's Bible Class	1	0	0
J. J. and S. M. D.	2	2	0
Mrs. Peter Yates	3	3	0

SHEPHERD STREET MISSION

"THE LANCASHIRE DAILY POST" APPEAL

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	140	19	3
Grimshaw-street Sunday School	6	10	0
Sharps Commercial, Ltd., Workpeople's Comforts Fund	5	0	0
Mrs. J. R. Gray, 54, Jutland-st.	1	1	0
Thanksgiving—L. Bannister	1	0	0
S. A. T., Brindle-road	1	0	0
"A Thankful Heart"	0	10	0
E. S., Lea	1	0	0
Sunbury, Broughton	1	1	0
In memory of Mother—Martha, Jack and Winnie, 16, Edmund-street, Preston	0	10	0
J. and F., Leyland	0	10	0
Capt. L. H. Cartwright	1	0	0
In memory of J. T. D.	0	10	0
Walter's Christmas Box, R.A.O.C., M.E.F.	1	0	0
G. H. Pearson	0	10	6
John Francis	0	3	0
Baby Ronald Whittle	0	2	6
In memory of Lydia	0	2	6
For others—Angela, Penwortham	0	5	0
In loving memory of Mother, Eliz. Jenkinson, also Brothers, Charles Bradley, Albert Jenkinson	0	5	0
M. and W.	1	0	0
Loving memories of my Sister, Marjorie—From Desmond	1	0	0
In memory of Loved Ones—Widow's Mite	0	2	6
David and Brian, Ribbleson	0	5	0
F. M. L.	0	5	0
G. P. R. E.	0	5	0
Dorothy Bowes, Stanley-grove, Penwortham	0	10	0
Mrs. E. Hesketh	0	5	0
In memory of W. B. N.	0	2	6
From Two Sisters	0	2	6
Mr. & Mrs. F. F. Messham	0	10	0
W. O. Jones, Fulwood	1	1	0
In memory of Brave Hearts—From Mr. and Mrs. J. Porter, 235, North-rd., Preston	2	0	0