

SSM21

SHEPHERD-STREET MISSION.

Daily Post 27.12.30

A RECORD CROWD OF 1,500 PROVIDED WITH BREAKFAST.

Shepherd-street Mission provided breakfast for 1,500 children (300 more than last year, and a number), this figure being exclusive of ticketless ones. The Mayor (Alderman Atherton) opened the doors. The children were given bags containing food stuffs and Father Christmas (Mr. John Kenyon) in charge of a well-laden Christmas tree and a great pile of toys, and as each child passed him after receiving his or her food parcel the genial "father" gave to each of his temporarily adopted sons and daughters a toy according to the age and sex of the recipient.

The organisation and preliminaries associated with the distribution of the breakfast were undertaken by the superintendent of the mission (Mr. T. A. Slater), who had the assistance of a willing band of workers, who spared no effort in making the event an outstanding success. The cost was materially reduced by the generous gifts of fruits by Councillor M. Wade and Dr. and Mrs. Taylor. Mrs. Marsden, J.P., and Mr. A. Spencer were among the many who gave valuable help in administrative capacities, and Mr. W. A. Margerison, who has done wonderful work for the mission and its children's home, again held the responsible office of chairman of the committee.

Meantime there were revels proceeding at the mission's home, which is now sheltering no fewer than 55 little ones—another record in figures. After the 1,500 official guests and the dozens of "crushers" had been regaled with all the liberality possible, the mission's own children, superintended by the matron (Mrs. Chadwick), had their breakfast, and happiness was the order of the day. Dinner was a never-to-be-forgotten meal, the principal item of which was roasted turkey, which came to the table in a setting of rich gravy, delicately-browned roasted potatoes, and luscious vegetables.

There were further goodies at tea time, to say nothing about toys and games, provided, as was the dinner, by the boys at the Preston Grammar School, the headmaster of which (Mr. N. Hodgson) has taken a very practical interest in the mission since coming to Preston.

"UNCLE SAM'S" TREAT.

FIVE HUNDRED POOR CHILDREN ENTERTAINED.

Over 500 Preston poor children early on Christmas morning sat down to breakfast in the North-road Wesley School. For many years the ladies and gentlemen connected with the Preston Temperance Society have seen to it that these children start their Christmas celebrations, however modest they may be, with the happy thought that they have not been neglected and that others, more fortunate than themselves, are ready to help them.

The first Uncle Sam was the late Mr. Richard Seed, his successor to the title being Mr. A. Allan, a member of the committee.

The children were each given a bag containing a meat pie, biscuits, sweet cake, and other delicacies. Tea was served, and the children lost no time in emptying the bags. What they couldn't manage to eat at the table they took home. As they left, each was given a box of chocolates and a bag of fruit and nuts.

The Mayor (Ald. Atherton) and the Mayoress visited the school during the treat and were enthusiastically greeted. The committee consists of Messrs. W. Brown (chairman), A. Allan, T. Lang (secretary), J. W. Ditchfield, J. E. Jackson, T. Nuttall, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Haydock, Mrs. Thornley, Miss Haydock, Miss Newsham and Mrs. Leeming, while valuable help was given by Councillor Mrs. Pimblett, Inspector Fletcher, of the N.S.P.C.C., Mr. J. H. Toulmin, J.P., Miss Toulmin, and Councillor Wade (who provided the fruit) and others.

AT WRONG SESSIONS.

PRESTON GIRL SENT BACK FROM OLDHAM.

James Daily Post Oct 10 30

RECORDER AND ABSENCE OF JURISDICTION.

There was an unusual feature about a case that came before the Recorder at Oldham Quarter Sessions to-day. It was one in which Janie Eastham (20), who had been charged with stealing a Shepherd-street Mission box, containing 30s., from inside the Empire Hotel, Tithebarn-street, Preston, had been sent by the magistrates.

The Recorder said it was a case that had been sent to him by the Preston Justices, who had power to do so under certain circumstances. Before doing anything in the matter he would like Mr. Lloyd, barrister, of Liverpool, who had been briefed in the case, to give his view on section 14 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1925. The section said that the Justices before whom any person was charged with any indictable offence could be committed for trial to the Sessions of some other town, with a view of saving expense and delay, so long as the Sessions at the place where the offence was committed were not to be held within a month of that date. He understood that Preston Sessions were being held next Tuesday. That being so they would be held within a month of the date when the woman was charged at Preston. If he had any discretion in the matter it would be to send her back to Preston.

Mr. Lloyd said he had looked up this section, and was satisfied in his mind that that court had no jurisdiction in the matter. The question then arose what had they to do in the matter. He would suggest they had power to send her back to Preston to be dealt with at the sessions there.

The Recorder: If I have no jurisdiction why should not the people who brought her here take her back again. She was not sent here for trial, she was only sent to me for judgment.

Mr. Lloyd: If you don't make an order of some sort the girl is bound to be released.

The Recorder: I will do something then. I will direct that this matter is dealt with by the Preston Quarter Sessions. The Recorder then told prisoner he had no power to deal with her, and she would have to be sent back to Preston to be dealt with.

SHEPHERD-STREET MISSION BOX.

GIRL'S ALLEGED THEFT FROM A PRESTON

James Daily Post 7 Oct 1 HOTEL Oct 7 1930

Janie Eastham (20), of Preston, was committed for trial at Oldham Quarter Sessions by the Preston magistrates to-day, when she pleaded guilty to stealing a Shepherd-street Mission box, containing 30s., from inside the Empire Hotel, Tithebarn-street.

Mr. A. Blackhurst, who prosecuted, said that last Thursday morning Eastham went into the hotel and ordered a drink. The barman, Wm. D. Redfern, served her and then went upstairs. When he came down she had gone, leaving her drink practically untouched. Later it was found that a money box belonging to the Shepherd-street Mission was missing. The same afternoon Eastham went into the Old Dog Inn in Church-street and ordered a drink. When it was served she asked the licensee, Mr. Harry Vickers, to wait a minute whilst she went outside. Mr. Vickers assented, and when she returned he saw that a bulky object which he had noticed under her coat was missing. Then she paid for the drink in coppers, and Mr. Vickers observed that she seemed to have a pocketful of small coins. "Have you been playing nap?" he asked her, and she replied, "No; I got these playing dominoes." Then she went out, and later Mr. Vickers was told that a burst mission box had been found in the backyard, so he gave information to the police. Eastham was arrested on Monday, and when charged she replied, "That's not right."

Eastham took no interest in the court proceedings but stood in the dock, her head low, hiding her face from the public. When asked if she wanted to say anything she shook her head.

In committing her to the Oldham Sessions, which open on Thursday, the magistrates recommended that she should be remitted for Borstal treatment.