

Historical source: excerpts from 1910 Report

(our honorary Canvasser)

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... REPORT ...

OF THE

Deptford Ragged

AND

Industrial School,

GIFFIN STREET,

FOR 1910.

ESTABLISHED DECEMBER 1st, 1844.

"Rid them out of the hands of the Wicked."

London:

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CRIPPLES.

Hon. Supt.—Mr. A. N. WIGNER.

THERE are nearly 90 Crippled Children on the register, who are visited from time to time by a number of sympathetic ladies and gentlemen. Some of these children have been supplied with Surgical Appliances, Spinal Carriages, and Clothes, through the Ragged School Union, and many have been sent away for a fortnight's holiday by the seaside or in the country.

During the winter months Cripple Parlours are held once a fortnight at the School, when toys and games are enjoyed and a little brightness is thrown into their lives, and our subscribers would be delighted to see the hearty way in which many of these poor afflicted ones enter into the games and seem for a while to forget their infirmities.

The friends connected with Holland Road Baptist Church, Hove, again sent a hearty invitation for all who could travel to spend a day at Hove in July, when about 70 went. Special conveyances awaited them at Brighton Station to transport them to the beach—where pails and spades were provided for each, and a substantial dinner on the shore was highly appreciated. In the afternoon all went out sailing or rowing. Tea, with fruit, was then served in the schoolroom, to which all did ample justice. A short gymnastic display followed, and all were again driven to the Station; 10 of the more delicate were kindly invited to remain for a week.

To all it was a time long to be remembered, and heartfelt thanks are given to all the friends at Hove, and especially to Mr. Arnold Stooke (who was formerly one of our teachers), and Mr. Cobbold, by whom all the arrangements were so kindly and generously made, and the funds raised to defray the entire expenses.

Later on in the year, by the invitation of Nurse Little and friends at Trinity Congregational Church, all were taken in vans to Catford, when a hearty tea and an entertainment were provided for them.

DEPTFORD INSTITUTE for YOUNG MEN.

WE have to report good progress in all sections of the club.

The Bible Class, held by Mr. Laver on Sunday afternoon, has been splendidly attended, the number sometimes touching 40.

The Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. R. LEEDS, has made satisfactory progress. Outdoor services were held during the Summer on Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon, all the members of the Band assisting. Two prizes were awarded for attendance and progress and were won by T. SHAW and J. SMITH.

Gymnasium.—One of the old Ragged School Boys (T. SHAW), has kindly undertaken the leadership, and good progress was made. We hope, however, to do still better.

Football.—H. MATTHEWS (the Captain), piloted his team through a highly successful season, and succeeded in establishing a reputation for the team for fair play and gentlemanly conduct on the field, which is quite in keeping with the traditions of the Ragged School.

We open the New Year with a membership of 35, which we hope to increase as the season progresses.

TREATS.

WE were most fortunate in selecting a perfect day for our Summer Outing, when about 660 children, 130 adults, and teachers went to Ashted Woods. It is an ideal place for a Treat, and our subscribers would feel their kindness was much appreciated could they see the real enjoyment of our town children there. Prizes were given for the best collection of wild flowers. Various games, roundabouts, &c., were enjoyed, as well as a hearty lunch and tea. As usual races were held in the evening and prizes given.

Our Winter Treats were spread over 3 evenings—adult, senior and junior scholars—making a total of 936 teas. These are "Treats," and we feel sure many lifelong memories of Ragged School Treats linger in the recollection of those who enjoy them.

The excellent magic lantern pictures shewn afterwards by Messrs. Wigner, were as usual highly appreciated.

More children actually come to our Schools than we can admit, and even then there are *hundreds still in the streets* we would much like to reach and teach, but we simply cannot, our hands are full,