



THE CREST

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE SALVATIONS ARMY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA AND BERMUDA

THE SALVATION ARMY ARCHIVES, CANADA AND BERMUDA TERRITORY
26 HOWDEN ROAD, TORONTO ON M1R 3E4

Visitors at Museum

Over the summer the museum located at T.H.Q saw a large number of visitors including the former Director Majors Ira and Amy Barrow who were visiting from Newfoundland. Just recently a 'Seniors' group from Kitchener and Guelph toured the museum and spent a profitable and enjoyable two hours catching up on their Salvation Army history. Signing in are:



Gerry Leonard



Dr. S. Effer

War Crys & Salvationists On Line !



War Crys and Salvationists are continuing to be added on line. Currently there are 52 years of the War Cry on line including the very first War Cry published in Canada on November 1, 1884.

Access to the War Cry is through the Archives Website. Just visit the site and follow the links:

www.salvationist.ca/museum-archives

The site can also be accessed by going to: Salvationist.ca and in the main address bar click on **About Us**; then in the drop down menu click on **History** and follow the links to **War Cry Archives**. Scroll down the page to "CLICK" **here** to access The War Cry archives" and in the **date** search field type a year or in the **word** search field type a word and then click on the SEARCH BUTTON.

The Territorial Children and Family Ministries' Secretary Addressed The Historical Society at the Fall meeting.



Major Denise Walker

Major Denise Walker gave a presentation "Youth Work-Our Roots, Our Future." showing the evolution of Salvation Army Youth ministries over the past 100 years. She also brought the meeting up to date as to current youth trends, programs and future development of youth ministry.

"Now you have a threefold work before you:

1. You want to SAVE the children.

2. You want to KEEP them saved.

3. You want to TRAIN them so that they grow up, not only consecrated to the work of saving others, but also skillful in the war."

WILLIAM BOOTH at the launch of The Junior Soldier War. 5th January 1888



What is interesting is the fact that in the early days of The Christian Mission Catherine and William Booth saw little value in Sunday Schools or children's ministries. In a speech at the laying of the foundation stone, at Penzance, in 1882 William said, "We have tried Sunday schools, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, and have not found them successful." Catherine's objections were much stronger. She believed fervently that childhood training was a parental responsibility and ought to take place in the home.

Booth's right hand man, George Scott Railton held similar views. He admitted that 'there were earnest soul-winners in the Mission Sunday schools and that there were children saved who later became gloriously useful in the work' but he was never a supporter of children's' work.

At the 1876 Conference, the General Superintendent Reverend William Booth admitted that he had 'no real plan for dealing with the young' and ordered the abandonment of Sunday Schools, saying "So far as our experience of Sunday Schools has gone, they have been an injury to the Mission wherever they have existed."

So he ordered that no new schools or new work with children was to be undertaken and officers such as Captain John Roberts were ordered to put their efforts into saving adults. But Roberts who had devoted much of his energy to children's evangelization was not to be deterred.

“Would you like to come to a meeting especially for children?” said Captain John Roberts to Minnie Browell when he found her crying outside the hall in Blyth, in Northern England. Minnie had been refused permission to enter Army meetings. The meetings were crowded and Minnie was considered too young for adult meetings. Roberts listened to her pleas and decided to offer to her and her friends a special meeting for children only, on Friday July 30, 1880. She was overjoyed and spread the news of the special meeting for children at the Army hall. Soon Captain Roberts was fully occupied in running programs for children. The news of Roberts success soon reached William Booth and he announced his intention of visiting Blyth to see first hand what Roberts was doing. Roberts felt somewhat apprehensive but he need not have feared.

*William Booth was ever a pragmatist and when he saw the popularity of the children’s meetings and heard that children were making definite decisions for Salvation, he declared “ **We must have meetings like this all over the country!**” The rest is history.*

Booth appointed Roberts the first special leader of children’s work in his division and he was soon called to London to spread the idea nationwide. What of little Minnie? She attended the Wesleyan (Methodist) Sunday school but was attracted to the Friday evening meetings. She later married the famous preacher Lax of Populars.



During 1881, “Little Soldier’s Corps” were opened in various corps in Britain. Little “Captains” aged in their early teens and even younger wrote to the editor of The War Cry telling of carrying their own flags on street marches and leading meetings. The editor had enough of adult reports to fill the War Cry so General Booth decided on a new venture announcing “ We must have a special paper for children.” The paper was to be called “The Little Soldier” and Roberts was to become the first editor. Thus was laid the foundation of what was to become a worldwide ministry to children and youth. The many programs designed to suit all ages and bring children and youth to Christ and Christian service had their beginnings with officers like John Roberts, who said in response to another’s remarks “ John, you have children on the brain”, “ **No I don’t have children on the brain, I have them on my heart**”.

The Founder very quickly reversed his decision on working with children and gave his full support to Captain John Roberts. Soon advertisements began to appear in The War Cry.

WILL SHORTLY APPEAR

THE

LITTLE SOLDIER

Our children’s own weekly War Cry

With pictures and news about Salvation,

Just like the big people’s War Cry

Only Better

ONE HALFPENNY WEEKLY

The Junior work began to grow. Most corps had a Junior Captain (usually Aged 12 to 14) and a Junior Lieutenant) and these, with some adult direction conducted meetings and encouraged the other children to testify, to sell the Army papers and to seek for recruits. The Little Soldiers program prepared children for future leadership. (Thanks to Envoy Dr. George Hazell O.F and his book “ The Threefold Task” for much of the historical background shared above.)

Historical Society Meetings 2009 and 2010:

December 7th. T.H.Q. World Missions: *Major Gillian Brown*

2010

March 8th The Salvation Army and The Public: *Major John Murray*

May 30th 96th Memorial Service Mount Pleasant Cemetery

October 4th. To be announced

December 6th To be announced.

FROM THE TACKABERRY FILES



Newspaper clippings gleaned from the 24 volumes of clippings compiled by the late Major James Tackaberry

The Weekly Planet (Chatham) April 3, 1884

A woman belonging to the St. Thomas Salvation Army said that the Army had taken legal advice, and ascertained that the Council could stop the beating of drums in the street, but it could not stop bell-ringing and if the Council did stop drumming The Salvation Army lasses would secure cow bells and ring them nights all over the city. A bystander said he hoped they would not begin to ring the bells until the hens began to sit, and perfumed the eggs.

The Elora Express December 4, 1884

Captain Churchill of The Salvation Army, was thrown over the dashboard of a cutter in Guelph on Saturday and badly injured. She received severe cuts and bruises in the face. The horse she was driving ran away, thus causing the accident.

Huron News Record (Clinton) March 28, 1888.

The Salvation Army wedding took place in the Grand Opera House (Goderich) last Wednesday evening, in the presence of a crowded house. The leading participants were Adjutant Sweetman and Captain Russel. When in charge of the Army the lady was often called a sweet woman, but henceforth she will be called a Sweetman.

The Post (Brussels) February 12, 1886

The Salvation Army presented a new and startling device at Welland the other evening to attract attention, no less than a ballet performance along with the march on the street. The performer was a man, in a paper dress, to imitate the terpsichorean stars who twinkle at variety concerts.

