



THE CREST

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

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

BOY FARMERS

Brought To Canada.



The 'Boy Farmers' program was only a small segment of The Salvation Army's immigration scheme that saw the Army sponsor and oversee the migration to Canada of more than 250,000 immigrants from England and other European countries. The Army's scheme of migration for boys included a brief training in elementary agriculture at the Hadleigh (Essex) farms under ideal conditions and when passed for migration the boys were placed on ships and sent to Canada or Australia. A Salvation Army officer accompanied the boys.

Commissioner David C. Lamb writing for The British Empire Review on March 1928 wrote: General Booth's scheme for boys, inaugurated in April 1923, does

something to arrest the demoralization of youth which inevitably follows unemployment. The scheme provides British boys from fourteen to nineteen years of age with elementary agricultural instruction and training before taking them overseas and placing them in situations with farmers.

Upon arrival in Canada the boys were met at the port of landing by a Salvation Army immigration officer who escorted them to one of several distributing centres. In Ontario these were at Smith's Falls, and Woodstock. The Superintendent of these lodges arranged for the boys to go to selected farms for a trial period of one month. During this trial period the boys were visited by an inspector of The Salvation Army and if all was well an agreement for a period of twelve months was arranged with wages according to the ability of each boy. On a visit to Canada in 1924 Commissioner David Lamb was able to report that of 600 boys previously trained at Hadleigh farm there had been only one failure.



Stamp to be issued in October by Canada Post



A contingent of boys leaving the Old Country for Canada, under The Salvation Army scheme of immigration. The group is fathered by Major Kyle

The Salvation Army's Immigration Scheme Was Born In William Booth's "In Darkest England And The Way Out"

The late Commissioner William Dray wrote: "The Founder, General William Booth, proposed massive immigration schemes to alleviate the lot of Britain's poor during the late 19th century. The migration and settlement work of The Salvation Army is an integral part of the Founder's social amelioration scheme presented in: Darkest England and the way out."

250,000 Sponsored By The Salvation Army

It is estimated that 250,000 immigrants from the United Kingdom were assisted by The Salvation Army in coming to Canada during the first half of the century. They were processed with the help of the Army personnel in their native country, traveled in liners supervised by the Army and helped to settle in Canada by Salvation Army officers on this side of the Atlantic.

CHILD IMMIGRATION



A Group of Boy Immigrants.



A Group of Girl Immigrants.

The July 27, 1912 Young Soldier reported that in Great Britain there were no fewer than 350,000 unwanted children who by reason of parental neglect, inefficient guardianship, and the like were thrown upon the mercy of the state or upon public or private charity. It was not surprising that The Salvation Army turned its attention to the transference of these unwanted children and in June of 1912 the first party of CHILD EMIGRANTS under the Army's care landed in Canada and went to the reception house that had been prepared for them in Toronto. There they were cared for until suitable foster homes could be found or adoptions arranged.



BRIGHT YOUNG CANADIAN CITIZENS

William Bruce, Len Bruce and Alfred Bruce. These three boys were trained for farm work at Hadleigh, and are doing well in Canada. They are typical of thousands of others brought to this country by the Army.

War Cry June 1, 1929

Alfred Bruce became a well known and respected Canadian officer, much of his service being in the field of senior's work as administrator of some of the Army's largest senior citizen's homes. The Brigadier was just one of several farm boys and others who became Salvation Army officers in the Canada and Bermuda Territory. Brigadier David Strachan who spent many years in Men's Social work and the late Lt.Colonel Thomas Ellwood, an outstanding Training College officer made their initial contact with Canada and The Salvation Army



Brigadier Alfred(Ted)Bruce



Lt.Colonel John Ellwood



Photograph of Immigrant boys newly arrived in Canada. The Young Soldier July 27, 1912

YEAR OF THE HOME CHILD

The Government of Canada has designated 2010 'Year of the Home Child' and this October, Canada Post is issuing a stamp honouring these children. The Salvation Army played a significant roll (see previous page) in this part of Canada's history. These children, over 100,000 of them from the ages of 1 to 18 were sent to Canada between 1869 and 1948 and were sponsored by various organizations including The Salvation Army. The vast majority were treated well and went to homes where they were treated like family and did receive the necessities of life and the education they so rightly deserved. Sadly this was not always the case as a number, too many were abused and used solely as slave labour.

William Booth's first recorded interest in emigration work was recorded in 'The Christian' of May 17, 1871 when he advertised for help to send to Canada a family with nine children "brought to sheer starvation though once in a large way of business in the city." William Booth had a dream which culminated in the setting up of the 'Emigration Department' in 1903, under the direction of Commissioner David C. Lamb who gave leadership to that department for nearly 30 years.

In 1905 Mrs. Bramwell Booth went to Liverpool to break the Army's tri-color at the masthead of the SS Vancouver, the first emigrant ship to be chartered by the Army. On board were 1000 new citizens for Canada. Frequent sailings followed and in 1908 there were seven chartered trips using 4 ships. By July of that year 36,308 had emigrated under the Army's care.

All classes Were Selected for Emigration

The Army did not focus only on boys in its emigration scheme. During the first 25 years of the scheme all classes of British migrants were transplanted: men, women, girls, families and widows with children. Returning from Ottawa on January 12, 1923 after a meeting with Government officials Commissioner Lamb announced that the government of Canada and The Salvation Army had agreed to the goal of 25,000 immigrants being sent to the Dominion for the year 1923. These were to consist of mainly domesticated women and boys between the ages 14 to 18 for settlement in all parts of the Dominion

In the War Cry of May 12, 1923 Commissioner Lamb wrote: "In twenty years The Salvation Army has directed the migration and settlement of over 120,000 persons with less than 1 percent of failures."

They Came, They Contributed, Canada Grew Rich.

They came by the thousands and settled throughout the country from east to west. They worked hard and helped shape Canada as we know it today. This country was enriched beyond measure. Immigrants are still coming to our shores, a much more diverse group culturally but all seeking a better life as did the thousands who migrated from Great Britain during the nineteen hundreds. The Salvation Army's role has changed. We don't charter great ocean liners anymore to transport immigrants to Canada but the Army is here when they arrive. We welcome them and assist with the practicalities of settling in a new country and we extend the hand of friendship.

J.E.C

Historical Society Meetings 2010 and 2011:

October 4th:	National Recycling:	<i>John Kershaw</i>
December 6th.	The High Council:	<i>General and Mrs. Bramwell Tillsley</i>
2011		
March 8th	Salvation Army Music:	<i>Major Kevin Metcalf</i>
May 30th	97th Memorial Service	Mount Pleasant Cemetery
October 4th.	To be announced	
December 6th	To be announced.	



The Home Children Canada Emblem above was designed by Sydney Baker. In response to our request for permission to replicate his drawing, Sydney replied: "I am chairman of the Home Children Pacific Branch. You have my full backing for this."

The Home Children Of Canada Emblem

The Lion of England against a field of Red. Silhouette of an urban centre, where most Home Children came from. The ship bringing the children across the ocean, guided by the Star of Hope. Fields of grain and hills against a golden sky. Maple leaf in field of white (Canada's national colors) **SPES IN CANADA** (Latin motto - **Our Hope Is In Canada**).

LOOK FOR:

New Display commemorating 'Year Of The Home Children' at Museum Early October .

