

# THE TERRIER



THE FRIENDS OF HACKNEY ARCHIVES NEWSLETTER

No. 21

Winter 1991

## BRITANNIA POSTERS APPEAL

1991 brings news that a small but extremely attractive collection of theatre posters have come on the market... for a higher price than Hackney Archives Department's budget will stretch to.

There are seven posters, each 20" by 30", for six different plays, at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, in 1901 and 1902. This was the period following the death of Sara Lane, who had managed the theatre since 1871. On her death its management passed into the hands of her nephews the Craufords, who continued for some time her policy of producing melodrama, touring companies and pantomime. Hackney Archives Department has a good collection of Britannia playbills for the Lane era, but there is little record of what was actually performed after their time, and prior to the theatre's decline into an unsuccessful music hall and ultimately a cinema. These coloured lithograph posters (a detail is reproduced below) are not only extremely attractive in themselves, but also fill this gap.

The plays themselves seem to have been chosen to fulfil Mrs Lane's own criterion "The play must have a good moral, whatever it is; our people wouldn't care for anything that hadn't a moral". Some of their titles have a particular resonance at present. They include "On Active Service", "An Eye for an Eye" and "The Soldiers of the Queen" (subtitled "Briton and Boer"), as well as "True as Steel" (an industrial drama, complete with stock factory-owning villain); a revival of the enormously popular "The Sign of the Cross", starring Maud Jeffries; and George R Sims's "The Gipsy Earl".

We need to raise £1,150 by March 1991 to secure these posters for the borough where they belong: otherwise they will surely go overseas. We have £400 promised so far. Any help will be most gratefully received. Cheques, payable to the Friends of Hackney Archives, should be sent to the Treasurer, c/o Hackney Archives Department, Rose Lipman Library, De Beauvoir Road London N1.

## Other Archives Department news

New opening hours - adding Thursday opening, till 7 p.m. - have recently been introduced. It is hoped that the late Thursday opening will prove popular. Maintaining the extra hours is going to be dependent on staff availability, and in particular on relief staff being available when Julie John's YDS stint comes to an end and Sue McKenzie goes on maternity leave. As ever with a new facility, in the enduring atmosphere of cutbacks, the message is an old one. Use it, or take the risk you'll lose it.

Substantial works to the Department's famously inadequate air-conditioning system have just been completed. An improvement is already noticeable, but only time will tell whether the problem has been finally solved.

Isobel Watson





## THE LONDON ORPHAN ASYLUM, CLAPTON

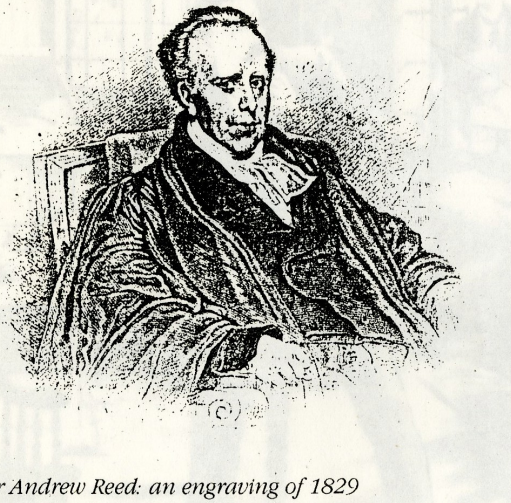
At the end of Linscott Road stands a Grecian ruin. Like many an elderly beauty it looks its best in the half-light for, though the basic structure still pleases, the surface is crumbling. Built in 1825 to house the London Orphan Asylum, in its heyday it was compared favourably with the 'flimsy geegaws' of Regent Street, Marble Arch and Nelson's Column.

The Asylum had been founded in 1813 by Andrew Reed, Minister of the Nonconformist New Road Chapel off Commercial Road. To start with the orphans were housed in rented accommodation and, by 1824, there were 101 boys at Hackney and 62 girls at Bethnal Green. Reed had set his heart on a purpose built school owned by the Charity; and he usually got what wanted for he was no vague 'do-gooder' but a forceful and effective personality. Here is what the Chairman at a fund raising dinner said of him:

'I am here tonight at the request of that great man, whose wishes are to me law, and, whose entreaties I felt as a command it was impossible to resist.'

Such remarks are commonplace on these occasions but this Chairman had not a reputation for casual amiabilities. He was Arthur Wellesley, First Duke of Wellington.

Though he had little personal wealth, Reed, a tall, handsome, persuasive man, was adept at involving the rich and powerful in his schemes. The Chairman at the First Festival Dinner in 1814 was the Duke of Kent, Princess Victoria's father. The Duke of York laid the foundation stone at Clapton, not without incident as the platform collapsed, precipitating the Duke and his illustrious party into the cavity below. Yet another of George III's sons, the Duke of Cambridge, opened the building on Thursday, 16th June 1825. Twelve of the girls strewn flowers in his path, and about 1200 sat down to



*Dr Andrew Reed: an engraving of 1829*

the late breakfast that followed. Among the 1500 who attended the evening concert in one of the dormitories were Robert Peel and the Duchesses of Richmond and of Leeds. Reed was almost overcome by the success of the opening, which had not been achieved easily.

During an active life Reed founded five charities, some still thriving to this day, but the London Orphan Asylum, set up when he was a young man of 26, was the first of them. Initially he met resistance from those who thought deprived children should more than earn their keep by working in East End factories for board and lodging only. Then he had difficulty in raising money for the new building with the costs soaring from £15000 to £25000. To crown all the builder went bankrupt, and he had to deal with the receivers and the sub-contractors. Only a man of great determination would have persevered. As he was to advise later:

'If you should still think, that there are difficulties in your way, begin immediately. This is the only course. Many declining to take it, have trifled through life, and left no trace of good behind them.'

The costs of caring for the orphans and providing new buildings were met by selling votes to subscribers, one guinea buying one vote. Such 'voting charities' were common throughout the nineteenth century. After persuading a subscriber to sponsor her child, a widow would have to present marriage, birth, death and medical certificates and satisfy a member of the Board of Management that the family had been in 'respectable circumstances'. The child would be categorised according to the previous income of the father; also help would not be given if the current family income exceeded pre-defined limits. The limits for another of Reed's charities, the Infant Orphan Asylum at Wanstead are shown below.

CATEGORY	FATHER'S ANNUAL INCOME (per head per week)	CURRENT INCOME
Creditable	£50 - £100	4 shillings
Respectable	£100 - £400	5 shillings
Very respectable	Over £400	7 shillings

Children of fathers with incomes below £50 were ineligible, as Reed considered they were already catered for. He was concerned with children suddenly faced with poverty and, as the last column indicates, drop in income was taken into account when assessing destitution.

These preliminaries over, the widow would obtain a list of subscribers and lobby for their votes. Suppose the Board decided they could afford to care for an extra 20 boys and 15 girls. Then the 20 boys and 15 girls gaining the most votes would be taken into care. A child could be admitted without election if large 'one-off' payments were made. Queen Victoria paid 600 guineas so that, for the rest of his life, Edward, Prince of Wales, could present a child at each election.

From its inception the Asylum undertook -  
'... to fix the habits of industry and frugality;- to train them in the paths of religion and virtue, agreeably to the Formularies of the Church of England.'





### Proposed Elevation Subject to Improvements.

This undertaking may seem surprising coming from a Nonconformist, but Reed had felt it more important to get all possible backing than quibble over denominational niceties. But, as time went on, he became increasingly irritated by the restrictions placed on Nonconformists and, in 1833, he wrote an open letter to the Lord Chancellor listing their grievances. In 1845 an Act of Incorporation for the Asylum was signed on 8th May. The undertaking to train children 'agreeably to the Formularies of the Church of England' may not have been rigidly enforced before, but now it was enshrined in law. By then Reed was no longer the pliant young man of 1813. He had seen what was coming and, the year before, he had founded a school for orphans of all denominations. Now he severed his links with the Asylum apart from accepting a Vice-Presidency.

This was by no means a disaster for the Asylum, as prosperous City firms, notably James Capel & Co, had been active on the Board for some time. James Capel himself was to become Treasurer. Compared to Reed, the 'City men' may have been more interested in vocational training than general education, but they took very seriously their duty to place youngsters 'out in situations where their principles shall not be endangered, and the prospect of an honest livelihood secured'. The aim was to train the girls as governesses and the boys for commercial life. Initially the Board went to considerable trouble to find situations for youngsters when they left but later, as the Asylum's reputation for producing capable and amenable employees grew, the demand often exceeded the supply.

It is almost certain that the monitorial system was used to educate the children in the early years. Here the teacher instructed several of the older pupils who then passed on

what they had learned to the younger ones. Later Kay-Shuttleworth's pupil-teacher system was used, particularly in the Girls' School. Here older girls, aiming to be teachers, would instruct the lower forms. This was almost as inexpensive as the monitorial system. In 1871 five of the eight mistresses were pupil-teachers paid between 4 and 12 guineas per year, and the grants received for training each pupil-teacher further reduced the expense.

The Headmaster, who was in overall charge of the Asylum, gained considerable status by being Chaplain also. In 1839 Rev Robert Heath was paid 200 guineas a year and got his house, coals and laundry free. He had four assistants paid £70 a year. But, as late as 1871, the Headmistress was paid only £105. Apart from the pupil-teachers there was an assistant mistress, paid £42 a year, and a matron, paid £63, who taught needlework and other domestic skills.

The external examiner employed to audit the progress of the school was severely critical of the Boys' School in 1863 but, by 1871, after additional masters had been appointed, he considered it 'a superior middle class institution'. By contrast he was most impressed with the Girls' School in 1863 under an exceptional Headmistress, Miss Brandenburger, but, in 1871, he felt her successor had let things slide by employing too many pupil-teachers. The curriculum included reading, writing, arithmetic, history and geography. In 1860 French, Latin, algebra and geometry were added to help with Civil Service examinations which recently had been opened to all.

Care was probably rated higher than education, as matrons were paid more than mistresses and in 1851 'housekeeping' cost £3756 and 'education' £1156.



Breakfast consisted of bread, never less than two days old, and half-a-pint of milk boiled with oatmeal. The midday meal could be broth and suet puddings but meat was served four days a week and green vegetables sometimes. Supper was bread with butter or cheese or treacle. The boys had light domestic duties but the girls did a lot of the housework, made their own clothes and mended those of the boys. There were 14 domestics, so the duties may not have been too onerous. Reed had believed that 'though suitable manual work might be done it was undesirable that the whole time should be engrossed by it'.

The Board employed medical consultants and were proud of the relatively low death rate of seven per thousand. Sick children were sent to seaside resorts like Herne Bay and Hayling Island to convalesce, at the Board's expense. The Asylum escaped lightly from the cholera epidemics of 1849 and 1854 but, in the epidemic of 1866, 200 children contracted typhoid and 15 died. What had been a pleasant, semi-rural site was now surrounded by factories and crowded housing. The epidemic had been heralded by a noxious smell and the source of this could not be traced. Also the medical consultants reported overcrowding with only 18 inches between beds. In 1826 there had been 206 children in care but this had risen to 453. The Board decided to look for a more spacious site outside London but convenient to the City.

They found it near Watford Junction on the London and North Western Railway. It covered 36 acres compared to the 8 acres at Clapton. The new buildings were opened in 1871 and the girls' and boys' schools stayed there until 1940, when they were evacuated, never to return. Today it may be objected that the Charity did not help those in direst need. But those helped were in need and, by 1940, there had been nearly 12000 of them. That cannot be bad, and I for one am grateful.

**Norman Alvey**

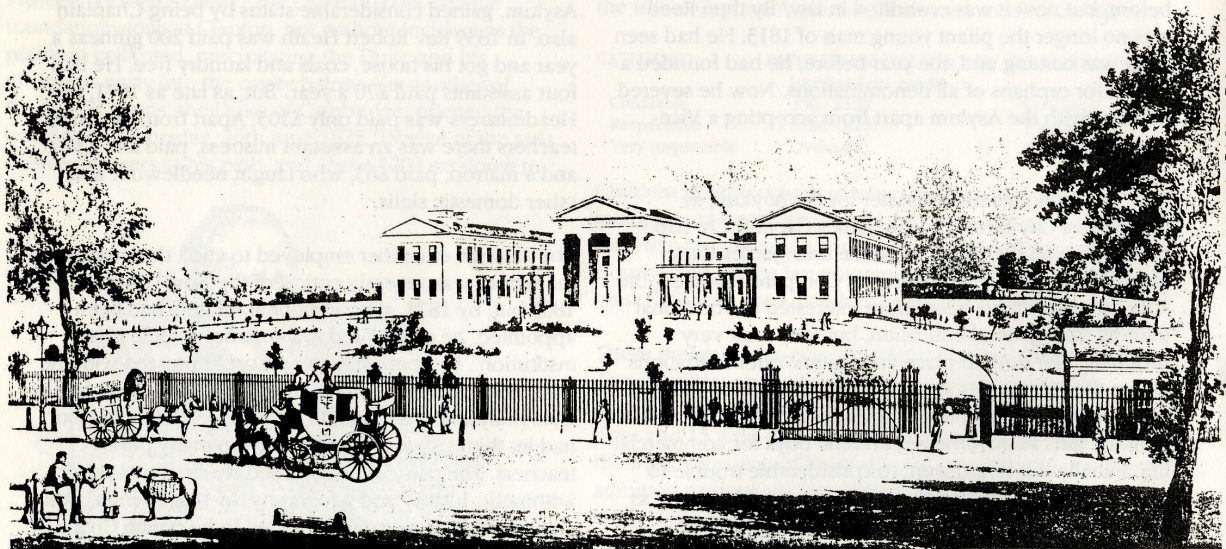
*The London Orphan Asylum was renamed the London Orphan School in 1915 and Reed's School in 1939.*

*Norman Alvey, who attended the school from 1930 to 1938, has recently brought out a book -*

**"Education by Election - Reed's School, Clapton and Watford"**

*which deals with the institution from 1813 to 1940 (when the voting system was replaced by a selection panel).*

**The book is published by the St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society at £4.95. It is available to personal callers from Hackney Archives Department. By post, it is available from the publishers, at 23 Tuffnells Way, Harpenden, Herts AL5 3HJ, at £5.55 (to include postage and packing). Cheques payable to "SAHAAS", please.**



G. HAWKINS & W. N. JONES, ARCHTDS. 18

*By the Order of the Trustees, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Officers and Subscribers of the LONDON ORPHAN ASYLUM. The South West View of the Building is with their permission, most respectfully dedicated by their much obliged and obedient Servant*

GEORGE HAWKINS.

*A lithograph of the Asylum by George Hawkins, 1826*



## FILMS AND FILM FOOTAGE IN LOCAL AUTHORITY ARCHIVES:

### An experience

#### Part Two

*In Part One (Terrier No. 20), the author considers local authority films in general, and describes her experience in identifying films in Southwark (Bermondsey) and Hackney.*

My experience with Newham Council's Planning Department was, yet again, different. It began, in fact, a year ago, in the sitting-room of ex-councillor Jack Hart, retired printer and film chronicler of the doings - and often, the demolitions - of East Ham. Every year he makes a record, with his Super Eight camera, of significant activities in his area, which he shows to his "Over Sixties" Club in his living-room, adapted for film viewing. During my visit I had the delight to see his own films, which one day will become valuable as a community's "family album". He also showed me half of a film I had been alerted to, entitled "Neighbourhood Fifteen". (I could not see the other half, for he had to attend to his sister who had just returned from hospital.) His was a Super 8 copy which had been lent to him by Newham, and which he could not himself lend without permission.

It took a year for Newham Council formally to confirm the existence of this film. A poor copy was found in the Planning Department archive. The next step was to locate a better copy, once deposited with the NFA, and finally to persuade the NFA that the film, quite deteriorated in parts, could be handled and copied onto video. This could not be done without an "insider", Richard Woodhall, to guide the project through the intricate labyrinths of local government. My only role was to be part of a concerted pressure to rescue the film and have it copied.

"Neighbourhood Fifteen", made in 1945 by Stanley Reed, who later became a director of the British Film Institute, is what could be called a classic "reconstruction film", with a story line and a young boy called Harry. With Harry, the film guides us through the old housing of West Ham, the annihilation of its people and environment during the war, and finally plans for its reconstruction by West Ham's Reconstruction Committee, the first local authority reconstruction committee to be established during the war, in 1941. There are some very fine shots of the area, including the docks. The Borough Architect appears also, as do other members of the council's notability. It is hoped that we can show the video of this film later in the academic year in the context of a public seminar with planners and architects from Newham Council.

### Some Concluding Thoughts

I hope that this brief account of my experience can give some idea not only of the diversity of situations still confronting the retrieval and protection of locally-made



*Conduit Court, Northwold Road, in the 1930's*

films, but also of the diversity of the films themselves. I've given a somewhat heroic account of this process. Not all locally-made films or films made by popular institutions in the period are presently going uncatalogued, unviewed and uncherished.

The NFA and the Scottish Film Archives remain the major custodians, but their institutional nature means that these films remain protected but largely unviewed. Their retrieval by local authorities, so that they can be part of a communal heritage, necessitates not only public funds for their restoration and duplication on to video, but also the personnel and facilities to make them available for viewing by their public. National regional film archives fare better in that they are administered by personnel living within their geographical remit, who have a greater commitment to having their films viewed locally. These archives have comprehensive catalogues. But interest by local authorities in their own films does, obviously, vary. For example, Elizabeth Oliver in her 1981 edited compendium cites 63 films held by Bristol Record Office made between 1902 and 1975 [1]. The question of more recently-made films and videos may yet have to be raised. Nor do we know quite precisely what happened to films we know to have been made and held by both the London County Council and the Greater London Council.

In my still very limited experience, archival films made by popular and reforming institutions, such as the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society and the St Pancras Housing Association [2] have received more recognition by their own institutions, being preserved, copied onto video, and (certainly in the case of the St Pancras Housing



Association) occasionally and profitably hired out to television film companies for use. The existence of an Education and Public Relations Department in proud institutions seems to be the best guarantee of an artifact of popular culture.

It seems to me that there is considerable work to be done, however, to ensure that these films do not, quite literally, vanish. They are not always necessarily "great" films, but they provide a memory in motion, visual reminders of emotions, of how ordinary people looked and moved, and what streets, long gone, looked like. For researchers like myself, they provide another wealth of material: visual and even unconscious cues which led to the acceptance of the modern, built environment. The models we see of "modern life" in the 1930's - the gas oven, the deck access flat, the sunlit classroom, the garden suburb - were not within the experience of ordinary working class urban dwellers. But when they were proposed after the war as part of national policy, they were accepted because people already "knew" them. They had seen them in films, often in settings which were part of the social and political intent of these films: schools, clinics, community halls. The settings for a new notion of collectivity, in which were shown films depicting alongside this new and "civic" collectivism, new notions of what was private, what was familial, what men, women and children each were to be, and what could be hoped for.

In this, local authorities played a central part, in transforming the images conveyed by policy into a reality. We live at a time when the very notion of what is a local authority, initiated in this period, is altering, for better or worse, beyond recognition. The artefacts which it produced, not only films, but also posters, models, pamphlets etc. to exhort, instruct, cajole, entertain and protect its populations are therefore vulnerable. They are part of ordinary history.

In recent years there has been a renewed public awareness of the need to preserve civic and popular monuments. Historians have also been busily writing accounts of local authority institutional and political history, and the question of citizenship has reappeared on the agenda of both scholarly and public debate. But in my view, insufficient interest has been given to the history of social relations between borough councils and their constituents; of what in essence made for popular consensus or dissent.

I think we will soon find it valuable, as the recollections of older people cease, to recognise that these films were not only about new "things" important "events" and forgotten notables, but about new ways of being and doing. In a film from the Bermondsey Borough Council's collection entitled "Maternity and Child Welfare", circa 1925, a mother shows what is promoted as the proper care of two small children during their day: their rising, feeding, washing. But the home environment of the film

is Victorian. There is a grate, no running water; the mother must work very hard to provide her children with what was becoming the expected standard of care. Her loving gestures, symbolised in a film, help to make more meaningful the fact that between the wars Bermondsey's infant mortality rates fell from being one of the highest in the country to being just below the national average.

**Elizabeth Lebas**

*Architectural Association Graduate School*

#### **Footnotes**

[1] *"Researchers' Guide to British Film and Television Collections"*, London: BUFC.

[2] *The films made by the St Pancras Housing Association in the 1920's were made for fund-raising purposes, much as promotional videos are made today. They include startling images of urban poverty around the area of Euston Station.*

## **CHARGING FOR MEDICAL SERVICES, 1745 STYLE**

Many Hackney notables were deeply concerned with the running of the London Hospital. At the time of its foundation, and ever since, it has served the populace of the City, of the area to the east of the City, including Hackney; and well beyond. Until the creation in 1948 of the National Health Service it was a voluntary charity. Like the later London Orphan Asylum, in its earliest days it ran on patronage lines. A modest subscription would buy a governorship; a governor could present patients for cure, and attend regular meetings to take decisions about the hospital's management. Patients were expected to attend the House Committee at the conclusion of their treatment, to "return thanks".

The Hospital has just celebrated its 250th anniversary. The early minute books of the Hospital (available for consultation at the London's archives centre, behind the main hospital block, in the former church of St Philip, Newark Street, E1) show that amongst the hospital's governors and managers were many familiar Hackney names - Henry Norris, John De Kewer, Peter Dobree, Dr John Andree - as well as such as Mr William Wilberforce.

Not only did worthy citizens spend their time managing and securing medical services for their clients, friends and servants; some of those in the business of medical supplies gave their services free. For example, one Richard Mears, of the King's Arms, Ludgate Hill, made trusses for the London, free of charge, in days before more sophisticated treatment for hernia was available (A.E. Clark-Kennedy, "The London", vol.1 p. 43).

Thus the House Committee of the hospital in 1745 were nonplussed when the local coroner declined to act with equivalent generosity. The following passage, reproduced verbatim from the Committee minutes (LH/A/5/2) speaks for itself.



"The Steward informed the Committee that the Swiss soldier who died a fortnight ago was become very obnoxious, and that the Coroner had refused to give a warrant for his burial without being paid his fees.

Whereupon it was ordered that the following letter be sent to Mr King the Coroner -

'Sir,  
The Governors of the Charity have ordered me to acquaint you, that they were in hopes you would have granted on Order for the Burial of the Swiss soldier (who is become a prodigious nuisance) without putting them to any expence; as they have nothing but the Benefactions of Charitable people; and they still hope you will be so good as to send it by the Bearer, who has orders to satisfy you, if you are not inclined to save this Charity that expence.'

Edward Goman returned thanks for a double Truss, made by Mr Richard Meares.

Taken out of the Pocket of the Swiss Soldier, four shillings and four pence, which was put in the Poors Box."

N. L. Padfield

## THE BISHOPSGATE INSTITUTE, ITS HISTORY AND COLLECTIONS

On the fringe of the City, a short walk from the Shoreditch boundary, the Bishopsgate Institute offers an excellent library, as well as a meeting place for activities of all kinds, serving the City, Tower Hamlets and Hackney. One evening in November a group of the Friends met there, to hear about its history from the Institute's librarian, David Webb, and to find out more about its very special archive collection.

The origin of the Institute was in a review of City charities undertaken in the late 19th century. Numbers of small charitable endowments, some of them going back 500 years, had outlived their original purpose. In 1891 the Charity Commissioners allocated funds from the Bishopsgate charities, to which was added a grant from the City Parochial Foundation. By 1894 the extraordinary building at 230 Bishopsgate was in use. Designed by C. H. Townsend, architect of the Whitechapel Art Gallery and the Horniman Museum, its originality caused outrage in its day; today it is largely unspoilt, and it is a subject for regret that there are not more buildings like it.

The remarkable London collection, now containing over a million and a half volumes, was founded by one of the earliest librarians, Charles Goss. Goss was also instrumental in the direction taken by the special collections, for in two years, 1905-6, the Institute acquired, under his guidance, two substantial personal libraries. First, that of George Howell (1833-1910), M.P. for Bethnal Green, which contains much material on the labour movement, and the political history of the late 19th century. As a direct result of the Howell connection the Institute acquired its single most celebrated item, the minute book of the First International (1866-69), recording inter alia the contributions (sometimes

evidently disruptive) of "Citizen" Karl Marx to its deliberations. For many years the policy of the Chairman of the Governors was to block all access to the manuscript. This policy was reversed only in 1941, when no less than the Prime Minister himself, Winston Churchill, asked for the volume to be made available to the then Soviet Ambassador. (It was thereafter swiftly transcribed, and a Russian translation published.)

The second substantial collection was that of George Jacob Holyoake (1817-1906), which specialised in the co-operative and secular movements in the eighty years up to 1900. More recent acquisitions follow this line of interest. The Institute houses the archives of the National Secular Society, including much manuscript material on Charles Bradlaugh; and the records of the London Co-operative Society (covering Greater London north of the river, and parts of Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Essex). The LCS records were rescued from a water-damaged building in the early 1970's; several hundred feet of ledgers that found their way into the Museum of Labour History are now being reclaimed for the parent collection. Most recently, the Institute has acquired the records of the Freedom Society, the pioneer East London anarchist organisation; and part of the Derrick collection on the co-operative movement.

Together, the pamphlets and manuscripts in these collections afford a rich seam of material for the study of radical politics and social history, and deserve to be better known.

To Charles Goss the institute also owes the founding of its magnificent collection for the study of family and London history. He it was who founded the marvellous collection of London street directories, going back to 1730 (with only a few gaps). There is also a substantial collection of other directories - Burke, Debrett and Kelly; Who's Who, both general and specialised; genealogical periodicals and many more. This made the Bishopsgate the natural choice as a headquarters (until 1977) for the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society; it houses the Society's collection of slides and photographs. Here too the London Topographical Society has a home, and a complete collection of its publications is available for inspection.

The Library has also specialised in the history of its own neighbourhood, which will prove now more than ever valuable, as that neighbourhood is changing so fast. The Institute celebrates its centenary in 1991; it has plans to extend (further into Tower Hamlets - but only in the sense that though the front of the building is in the City, the back is in Tower Hamlets!) We wish the Institute, its Library, and its friendly and helpful staff very many happy returns.



## BOOK ACQUISITIONS FOR THE LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION

*Making Sense of the Census: the manuscript returns for England and Wales, 1801-1901, by Edward Higgs*

An extremely useful book for anyone using the census for historical research. The author looks at the reasons why the census was taken, and the information that the government was trying to acquire on each occasion. (For example, the early administrators were much concerned with health issues.) He points out many pitfalls which may entrap the unwary, particularly those compiling statistics based on census data. \*For example, from 1861 to 1881 a lodger who ate with the family counted as part of the household; a lodger who catered for him or herself counted as a separate household when the number of households was counted, but in "relationship to head of household" was not described as "head" but as "lodger". Dr Higgs remarks "This plainly caused confusion amongst householders and enumerators, and subsequently amongst historians".

Studies have also shown that ten per cent or more of the birthplaces given may be inaccurate, either because people did not know where they were born or because they gave false information in the hope of getting poor law relief from the parish they then lived in.

An important chapter explains what information the enumerators were required to collect on occupations. The early censuses classed the whole family under the occupation of the householder. Later ones took little account of part-time or seasonal work, which particularly applied to women and children. Where women assisted in their husbands' business or occupation this is seldom stated. Retired people should have been designated as such after 1851, but the returns were not always consistent.

Family historians will find this book very helpful, and for anyone contemplating an academic study based on census returns, it is a must.

*The London experience of secondary education, by Margaret Bryant*

This study spans the period from Tudor times to 1900. It includes 18th century private schools (e.g. Newcome's, Perwich's); dissenting academies (including Hackney/New College, Homerton, Hoxton Square, Newington Green); livery company schools (including Haberdashers Aske's, Grocers, Skinners); middle class schools (e.g. Birkbeck); and polytechnics (including the Hackney Institute).

*Politics and the people of London: the London County Council 1889-1965, edited by Andrew Saint*

This is not a factual account of the services provided by the LCC: such information is available elsewhere. Instead it looks at the political composition of the Council at various periods, at its relationship with the national

political parties and movements, with central government and with the boroughs; and at the effects all these had on how the Council provided such services as education, housing etc.

*Soldiers died in the Great War, 1914-1919*

The Imperial War Museum has republished these lists. Demand for information about the soldiers of the First World War is growing, as they recede from grandparents to ancestors. Unfortunately many of the records were destroyed by bombing in the Second World War, but these lists of the dead normally give the birthplace, residence and place of enlistment for each man. We have bought the volumes covering the London Regiment, including the 10th (Hackney) Battalion, and the City of London Regiment, and also the separate volume which covers officers of all regiments.

*The making of the English Landscape, by W. G. Hoskins*

A local history classic, first published in 1955, by the man who pioneered local history as an academic discipline. It deals with the rural more than the urban landscape - but Hackney was rural until 150 years ago. The growth of daughter hamlets away from the main village, the enclosure of open fields, and the origin of "green lanes" are among the topics covered which directly relate to our borough. The later chapters deal with industrial and urban landscapes.

Jean Wait

## THE LONDON ENCYCLOPAEDIA

A new edition of this useful book, edited by Ben Weinreb and Christopher Hibbert, is in preparation. The Friends of Hackney Archives have been invited to draw to the editors' attention anything they feel ought to be amended, or any omission that ought to be remedied. Readers are invited, if they wish to contribute to this process, to write to the Secretary, Zoe Croad, 124B Kyverdale Road, London N16, by the end of February.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

*Wednesday 13th March 1991 at 6 p.m.*

**Visit to Wesley's Chapel and Library**  
49 City Road, EC1

*Tuesday 14th May 1991 at 7.30 p.m.*

*Annual General Meeting, followed at 8 p.m. by*

**The Stanley Tongue Memorial Lecture, by Jean Wait:**  
**"It happened first in Hackney": some local pioneers**  
at the Unity Club, 96 Dalston Lane E8

*Sunday 14th July at 2.30 p.m.*

**Dalston Walk, led by Keith Sugden**

Meet outside the Castle pub, Shacklewell Lane, E8

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**The Terrier is produced for the Friends of Hackney Archives, Rose Lipman Library, De Beauvoir Road N1 (071-241-2886) by Wednesbury Wordsetters, London E1**