

Poverty – Sources for Who Would You Choose? worksheet

Extracts from *Our Waifs and Strays Magazine* 1915 and 1920

FRANK F. A little lad of seven whose father is dead and mother has given way to drink. An elder brother who passed through one of the Society's Homes and is now doing well in the Royal Navy is anxious about the welfare of his youngest brother, and so thought that he could not do better than endeavour to obtain for him the same opportunities under the care of the Society as he had enjoyed himself.

STANLEY W. G. Aged seven. With father in an advanced stage of consumption and unable to work, and mother broken under the strain of worry, overwork, and lack of food, this little lad and his two brothers were getting neither proper nourishment, clothing, or supervision. The parents have always been clean, honest, and sober, and have done their utmost to keep the children

ELSIE E. Aged seven. One of seven motherless children, whose father has no regular employment. "Verminous, hungry, and in moral danger," was the description of the children, and, although they had a roof over their heads, the rent was unpaid.

REGINALD and ADELAIDE F. Aged seven and five respectively. Two little ones of a large family, whose father is dead. The following is an extract from the application form:—"The home is wretched, with real poverty. The baby girl had no boots or stockings till I took her some. I saw the two children in bed—there were no bed-clothes, only a few old coats over them." In his appeal for help for these two little ones the Incumbent closed with the following sentence:—"If you cannot take both, then please take the little girl."

GEORGE WILLIAM S. Aged eight. One of four children whose father died several years ago. Since then the mother has endeavoured to maintain her family by charring and similar work. She is described as a most hard-working woman who has done her best under very difficult circumstances. There seems little doubt about this, and the Society by taking George not only gives the lad himself a chance for the future, but encourages the mother in her efforts for her little ones.