

# Hope for destitute children

By Ebenezer Grimes

As every Londoner knows, life can be hard for the poor children who gather on the dark streets of our city. Many have no homes or families, and are left to sleep on the streets. Whenever the night is chilly, some of these children die because of the cold, or through lack of food.

However, one man is doing his best to improve this dreadful state of affairs. Thomas Barnardo came to London from Ireland just five years ago, in 1866, and he was shocked by the poverty and destitution he saw on the city streets. He started a Ragged School in the East End of London in 1867, to help destitute children get a basic education. This was



not enough for Barnardo, however. He soon realised that school was not the only thing missing from poor children's lives. They also needed somewhere safe to live, and enough food to eat. Therefore, last year, Barnardo opened a home for destitute boys. He often goes out into the dangerous slum areas in the East End of our city, and looks for children in need of a safe home. He told the Stepney Gazette: "At first I was keen to make sure that I did not take in too many boys, but I have recently changed my mind. I completely changed the way I work, because a tragic event happened. One night when the home was full, a boy called John Somers, known as Carrots, came looking for a bed. I felt I had no choice except to turn him away. To my shame, I later heard that Carrots died two days later, of hunger and cold. Since then, I have never turned another child away. The motto above the door of my home is now 'No Destitute Child Ever Refused Admission'."

In this report, point out:

**The name of the newspaper**

**The headline**

**The reporter's name**

**The opening sentence**

**Picture**