

**FRIENDLY VISITING
AMONG THE
POOR: A HANDBOOK
FOR CHARITY WORKERS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649588954

Friendly Visiting Among the Poor: A Handbook for Charity Workers by Mary E. Richmond

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

MARY E. RICHMOND

**FRIENDLY VISITING
AMONG THE
POOR: A HANDBOOK
FOR CHARITY WORKERS**

FRIENDLY VISITING AMONG
THE POOR

A Handbook for Charity Workers

BY

MARY E. RICHMOND

GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CHARITY ORGANIZATION
SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE



New York

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

LONDON: MACMILLAN & CO., LTD.

1903

All rights reserved

PREFACE

THIS little volume is intended as a handbook for those who are beginning to do charitable work in the homes of the poor, whether as individuals or as representatives of some church, or of some religious society, such as the King's Daughters, the Epworth League, or the Christian Endeavor Society. The term "friendly visitor" does not apply to one who aimlessly visits the poor for a little while, without making any effort to improve their condition permanently or to be a real friend to them. Friendly visiting, as distinguished from district visiting, originated with the charity organization societies, some of which are indefatigable in training volunteers to do effective work in the homes of the poor. Though I should be glad to find that my book was of some service to these societies, it was not prepared for their use alone, and no

v

104123


mention is made, therefore, of the organization of visitors into district conferences. For inexperienced workers, who need leadership in their charity, there can be no better training than the meetings of a well-organized conference under a capable chairman, and even the most experienced, by keeping in close touch with such a conference, can do more effective work.

The suggestions herein contained are not to be taken as all applicable to the work of any one visitor. Friendly visitors that tried to adopt them all would have to abandon their other interests, and their other interests make them more useful friends to the poor. Like the words in a dictionary, some suggestions will be of service to a few workers, and others will be found applicable to the work of many.

In addition to the standard authorities mentioned under General References, a list for supplementary reading will be found at the end of each chapter. These lists are in no sense a bibliography of the subject. A handbook such as this is chiefly useful in suggesting further inquiry, and, for beginners, I have thought best to include a number of references out of the

beaten track to stories and magazine articles that seemed illustrative of the matter in hand.

It will be seen that I have borrowed much in direct quotation in the following pages from those who have preceded me in writing about the poor, but my debt does not end here. Whatever I may be said to know about charitable work — my whole point of view and inspiration in fact — can be traced to certain definite sources. To some of the leaders of the Charity Organization Society of London, to Miss Octavia Hill, Mrs. Bernard Bosanquet, and Mr. C. S. Loch, it will be evident to my readers that my obligation is great. It will be evident also that I have been helped by Mrs. Josephine Shaw Lowell and other workers in New York, who, against such odds, are making advances in the reform of municipal abuses; and by that group too who, under the leadership of Miss Jane Addams, have given us, at Hull House in Chicago, so admirable an object lesson in the power of neighborliness. But more than to any other teachers, perhaps, I am indebted to those members of the Associated Charities who organized Boston's friendly visitors nineteen years ago, and have



led them since to increasing usefulness. Their reports have been my most valuable source of information. If I do not name also my friends and fellow-workers here in Baltimore, it is not because I fail to bear them individually most gratefully in mind.

BALTIMORE, January, 1899.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
CHAPTER I	
INTRODUCTION	I
CHAPTER II	
THE BREADWINNER	17
CHAPTER III	
THE BREADWINNER AT HOME	44
CHAPTER IV	
THE HOMEMAKER	64
CHAPTER V	
THE CHILDREN	76
CHAPTER VI	
HEALTH	95
CHAPTER VII	
SPENDING AND SAVING	108

	PAGE
CHAPTER VIII	
RECREATION	127
CHAPTER IX	
RELIEF	140
CHAPTER X	
THE CHURCH	166
CHAPTER XI	
THE FRIENDLY VISITOR	179
APPENDIX	197
INDEX	219