

No. 572.

20th December

27

Dear Mr. Pelly,

As I told your wife before leaving the Prize-giving, I was living in such a rush all yesterday that I forgot to bring with me a small X'mas present towards the funds of the Hebrew Mission School, so I now send it by cheque, with my best wishes. I was very sorry not to be able to stay until the end of the programme but the way in which the first two items were performed showed how carefully Miss Staples and her staff had coached the children.

With X'mas greetings,

Yours sincerely,

*P.L.*  
20/12

The Rev. Mr. R. L. Pelly,

Chaplain of the Old Church,

11 Mission Row, Calcutta.

*Cheque enclosed*





11 Programme

1 Carol A child this day is born.  
School

2 Action Song The Geishas  
Junior classes

3 Operetta The White Garland  
including  
Ribbon Drill

Secretary's Report

President's Address

Distribution of Prizes  
God save the King.



*The Incumbent, Head Mistress and Staff  
of the Old Church Hebrew Mission School  
request the pleasure of your company at their  
Annual Prize giving on Monday the  
19th December 1927 at 4-30 p. m. at the  
Welland Hall 5-1, Grant Lane.*

*President H. E. Stapleton Esq.*

**Mrs. B. C. Studd has kindly consented to give  
away the prizes.**



1st December

27

2m

My dear Papworth,

Re. our conversation on the phone the other day about the Rev. <sup>Mr</sup> Pelly's request to me to preside at the Prize-giving of the Hebrew Mission School on Monday, December 19th at 4.30 P. M.. I have since received a letter from Mr. Pelly (copy enclosed) as well as a Report in which inter<sup>s</sup> alia it is stated "We get no Government Grants. Such delight are for Schools which take Indians and Europeans only. For some mysterious reason the 'stranger in our midst' from Europe gets a privilege denied to one from China". Will you please let me have the promised note about what I am to say in my remarks from the Chair?

It is not clear if they have applied for a grant to the Presidency Divisional Inspector.

Yours sincerely,

*K.P.*  
1/12

W. F. Papworth, Esq.

Inspector of European Schools, Bengal.



Do No. 491.

26th November

27

Dear Mr. Pelly,

Many thanks for your letter of the 23rd inst., asking me to preside at the Prize Giving of the Hebrew Mission School. I am afraid it is a long time since I have had the chance of seeing anything of the schools of Calcutta which work under the European Code, but if it will be of any help to you for me to preside over your function on Dec. 19th, I shall be very glad to do so. I should, of course, like to have any literature on the subject of the school's past (& possible future) before hand.

Yours sincerely,

R.L.  
26/11

The Rev. R. L. Pelly.

Chaplain of The Old Church.

11 Mission Row, Calcutta.



Chaplain, Rev. R. L. Pelly.  
TELEPHONE, 1892, CALCUTTA.

THE OLD CHURCH,  
11, MISSION ROW,  
CALCUTTA.

Dear Mr Stapleton

I wonder whether you would be so kind  
as to preside at the Prize giving of our  
'Hebrew Pioneer School' at 4.30 on Dec. 19  
The School is an interesting one - chiefly Chinese  
Jews & a mixed mixture of other races. If  
you were able to do so, I would send you  
fuller particulars. It would be a great  
encouragement to our staff to feel your  
interest in their work.

Yours sincerely  
R. L. Pelly.  
Mr Papworth.  
will be sent  
re some remarks  
for 25 p. 26/11

Nov. 23. 27.



Chaplain, Rev. R. L. PELLY.  
TELEPHONE, 1892, CALCUTTA.

THE OLD CHURCH,  
11, MISSION ROW,  
CALCUTTA.

Nov 28 27.

Dear Mr Stapleton,

We are delighted to get your letter of Nov 26 saying you will preside at the prizegiving of the Hebrew Mission School on Mon Dec 19 at 4.30 at 5/1 Grant Lane off Bow Bazar near Bentinck St.

The School was originally founded as the Welland Memorial High School in Memory of a chaplain of the Old Church who died in 1879. Later its name was changed with the idea that it should cater for the needs of the Jews who are very numerous in that district.

It occupies now rather a unique position. Roughly a third of the children - there are both boys and girls - are Hebrews, but a still larger proportion are Chinese and the tendency is for the Chinese to increase. We have 3 Chinese teachers on the staff, a man and two women and some of the children teaching is given in Cantonese. The probability is that the school will devote itself increasingly to Chinese work.

At present our income is derived chiefly from Churches which support us as a Hebrew Mission. We are trying to find out whether if we lose this support we could secure any help from government. At present we do not attempt to conform to Govt requirements. In particular some of our teachers are not trained, notably our Head Mistress, Miss Staples who has been doing a really heroic work there for 19 years and with whom we should be unwilling to part

Many other races are represented, - Anglo Indian, Nepalis, Bhutanese Armenians etc, so that we are uncertain whether we should appeal to the European or the Indian side of Government education. We attempt to teach all ages from the youngest upwards. We are very conscious that our standards are deplorably low, but we believe we are meeting a need and we hope to carry on somehow.

Yours sincerely,

R. L. Pelly.



Note on the Hebrew Mission School.

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The school is situated at No. 5/1, Grant Lane, off Bow Bazar Street, consequently it is closely situated to Bentinck Street, and is not far removed from the lanes which open out of Bow Bazar to the north. These two areas would appear to be popular settling ground for Chinese people who in many cases appear to have been settled in these areas for some time. The school was at one time, under the name of the Welland Memorial High School, an important institution amongst the aided schools recognised under the Code of Regulations for European schools. As time went on however it appears that the Welland School declined in popularity with the result that some 20 or more years ago it was discontinued. On the opposite side of Bow Bazar Street there was an institution run by the same parochial endeavour ~~which finds its inspiration~~ in the Old Mission Church. This small institution was originally known as a Ragged School and it would appear that when the Welland Memorial High School came to an end the other institution took a greater place as a school for European and Anglo-Indian children who could pay in many cases little or no fees. The name of this ~~institution~~ <sup>Ragged School</sup> then became the Gouldsmith Free Day School, and with it ran in close contact the Parochial Homes for the maintenance and protection of Anglo-Indian boys and girls respectively. The European endeavour therefore became centred in the other institution with its two attendant homes, i.e. the Gouldsmith Free Day School plus the Old Mission Church Parochial Homes. In those days Jewish, Armenian and Parsis children



D. O. No. 867/XVI-28

Office of the  
Inspector of European Schools, Bengal,  
Calcutta, the 16th Decr. 1927.

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My dear Stapleton,

I enclose a note on the Hebrew Mission School  
the Prize-giving of which takes place on Monday the 19th  
December, 1927.

There is not much available with regard to  
the school as there are no inspection reports etc. to  
refer to since the school is unrecognised and has never  
been recognised in its present shape. I hope therefore  
that the somewhat meagre information that I can give may  
be of service.

Yours sincerely,

*W. H. Chapman*

H. E. Stapleton, Esq., M. A.,  
Principal, Presidency College, Calcutta.



children ~~were~~ subject to a 15% limitation of numbers, consequently it was not always easy to accommodate such children in the ordinary European school, and the old Welland building appears then to have become used for what has been described under the term the Hebrew Mission School which was intended to be primarily for the benefit of the poorer Jewish ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ community in the immediate locality.

At present, however, it appears that in the Hebrew Mission School between 50 and 60 percent of the numbers are ~~Chinese~~ ~~tian~~ children, about 20 to 30 percent Jewish children and the balance composed of other peoples amongst whom are Anglo-Indians, Nepalese, Bhutan~~ese~~ and Armenian children.

represented. A considerable source of income, however, of the institution is to be found in annual subscriptions derived from almost all over India, and which are based upon the fact that the school is with a definite intention towards the Jewish children.



11  
K. J. Haverhill  
16.12.27.