

In the first of these it is satisfactory to observe that it is affirmed as a remedy for the overtopping of relief "that the House of Industry is the best medium for the distribution of all out-door relief, and that everything should be done to facilitate its operations in this respect."

In this report a recommendation is also made that a farm of fifty acres be secured and buildings erected thereon, as the centre of charitable work. To this the Sub-committee say they are inclined to agree, but in view of the probability that the building and grounds of the Industrial School at Mimico may be available for the purpose, action is deferred.

In the second report the City Relief Officer admirably points out many difficulties in carrying out the scheme to thus combine the work of the various charities—even with the co-operation of the House of Industry, which he in effect states to be necessary—but the effect as a whole, would be the cause of drying up the channels of private beneficence and placing the whole burden upon the city.

Mr. Taylor, in his report, complains of the number of nights tramps are afforded shelter of the Lodge, and thinks it "altogether wrong." It should be stated in defence of the management:

1. That this accommodation was specially provided to relieve the Police Stations, where night after night these casuals were received.

2. In the absence of any power to commit those who apply oftener than a stated number of nights, refusing them shelter drives them back to the Stations or scatters them through the city to the great danger of the citizens.

3. That a labor test has been constantly applied, with the object of discouraging the profession in the absence of legal power to do more.

As this department of the operation of the House is carried on at the expense of the city the Board would carry out any regulation the city authorities may think fit to make.

The Board would venture to say that their successors will be glad to consider any proposition coming from the city to extend this charity or co-operation in any well devised scheme to improve any of the departments of the House.