

Home, and the same number for the Winnipeg Home, landed at Halifax and proceeded for the West under the very efficient charge of Mr. Struthers. The remainder, forming the Ontario contingent, went on in the ship to Portland, where they first set foot on American shores on the morning of the 11th. The United States officials—quarantine, alien and customs—dealt graciously with us, and the Grand Trunk representatives at Portland, than whom we meet none more courteous and obliging, gave us every facility for the entraining of the party, and sent us forward by a fast special that covered the distance to Toronto in twenty hours, enabling us to reach our destination on the morning of the 12th.



**An
Insufficient
Supply.**

AT the Home it was a case of quickly come, quickly go, and forty-eight hours sufficed to leave the premises well nigh again emptied. Seventy-nine little lads have been placed in foster homes, where their maintenance will be paid for until they are old enough to take situations. The rest have gone out to support themselves henceforward by the sweat of the face, and to contribute by their labour to the up-building of the wealth and progress of the Dominion. Following the distribution of the party came the rather perplexing task of making our peace with the many applicants whose demands we have been unable to fill, and whom we have again to put off for a later date. Some of these people, whose applications have been on our books for periods of from three to six months, were rather aggrieved at the disappointment, but the majority accepted the situation philosophically, and were satisfied with our assurance that we will do the best we can for them from the July party. The post cards announcing safe arrivals generally recorded favourable first impressions on both sides, and, with only one or two exceptions, this mutual satisfaction has survived the months' trial, and

the terms of engagement proposed have been readily accepted.



**Values and
Bargains.**

THE task of appraising values in drawing up agreements is always one of the most perplexing and critical that falls to our lot. We are called upon to fix a fair wage for the services of boys for a period in advance, generally of from three to five years, and while this would be a comparatively simple matter if boys would only grow and develop in some uniform ratio, it becomes a very much less easy operation when we have to consider that while some boys are backward and slow in growth, others shoot up in a year or two to almost a man's strength and capability. We have to study carefully the characteristics of each individual as we have noted and observed them, and we have not less carefully to consider the character of the situation. There are places where the work is much harder than others, and employers who expect more than others and should pay accordingly. To be sure, the agreement is not a hard-and-fast contract, but can be terminated on either side by a month's notice; but we never like to depart from the original bargain if we can avoid it. To raise the wages originally agreed upon, after an employer has had the trouble of teaching a boy his work, and when he is becoming useful, always seems an injustice on the one hand, while on the other hand, to have to reduce them is obviously calculated to discourage a lad and create in his mind an impression that his interests are being sacrificed. We have, therefore, to aim at the happy medium, allowing for the boy's initial inexperience and for the trouble and loss of time, and sometimes material, in training him, but providing for his receiving a full and fair value for his labour as he improves in usefulness. Our experience teaches us further that with certain gentlemen, perhaps especially those who themselves or their forbears originated from that