

direction of the City Council. In August of this year I visited one of the Toronto supervised playgrounds. In the centre of the grounds stood a two-roomed building with verandas and seats, chiefly for the accommodation of mothers with their infants. In one corner little boys and girls sat on sand heaps, too absorbed even to glance at visitors; in another they followed each other rapidly down a polished slide. All kinds of gymnastic appliances were in evidence for the older boys who were in a separate yard in charge of a male teacher. How delighted our grandmothers would have been to see rows of girls sitting demurely on benches under the trees stitching busily with all kinds of bright wools.

As I watched the throng of children all happy and all healthfully busy I reflected, that Theodore Roosevelt had not over-estimated the power for good of supervised playgrounds when he said: "They are the greatest civic achievement the world has ever known. Villeness cannot grow if healthful activities are constantly striking its roots, and every blow lessens the power of disseminating poison through the body politic."

The Vocational School is yet another recent development in education. The use of the word vocational, as an educational term, indicates the destined or appropriate employment for which nature and circumstances have specially fitted an individual. Experience has demonstrated that not all children who complete the elementary course maintain themselves creditably in High School work. Some have not the taste and the intel-

lectual stamina necessary for the higher course. Consequently a distinction ought to be made between those who are well fitted to do purely academic work and those whose tastes are distinctly industrial. Schools for this latter class of pupils are called Vocational Schools. They are open to all boys and girls who are able to pass a very simple examination in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. Upon admission pupils are placed on probation five months, during which time their fitness for the work attempted is tested. While the work in Vocational Schools is mainly industrial there is also an academic side. Such subjects as mathematics, literature, geography and history are correlated with the work done in the shops. Geneva, Switzerland, has made a specialty of Vocational Schools. They have there in actual operation schools with facilities for horticulture, agriculture, watchmaking, fine arts, carpentry and lathe work, forge work, plumbing and masonry. For girls the course in the schools of domestic science includes cooking, laundry, general housework, plain sewing, the making of garments, including dress-making, millinery, embroidery, drawing and designing.

The following clipping from a local paper indicates that the idea of giving children industrial training is making headway on this continent:—
"A plan to establish a dress-making institute in connection with Chicago's Public School system will come up at a dinner of the dressmakers of the city. The superintendent of the schools of Chicago, Ella F. Young, and representatives of the Chicago