

Officers and others coming in contact with children of this description seem almost unanimous on this point.

Social Insurance

This playground movement began twenty-one years ago in the United States, originating in Boston. Up to date, New York has expended \$15,000,000 and Chicago \$10,000,000. For 1907, Washington \$75,000; Philadelphia \$50,000; Denver \$50,000; Rochester, \$50,000; Kansas City \$204,000, and San Francisco \$741,000. It can be readily seen from the above that this playground movement is neither an experiment nor a fad, when we remember the length of time it has been in operation, and the sums of money expended by various cities for the purpose; undoubtedly it has long passed the experimental stage.

It is but a commonplace to say that "prevention is better than cure," but it is a saying which applies well in this case; money expended in this manner may be looked upon as a form of Social Insurance, in fact, as an investment. It is better to spend a moderate amount of money *voluntarily* in inaugurating and maintaining playgrounds, than to ensure to our coming men and women a high standard of physical and moral welfare, than it is in after years to be *compelled* to spend larger sums in building penitentiaries, reformatories, hospitals, asylums and almshouses.

"A nation's health is a nation's wealth." Let it be our ambition to see that we use every means at our disposal to insure both the moral and physical health of the children of Winnipeg. As parents, it is a duty we owe to our children; as citizens, it is a duty we owe to our city.
