

disorderly house Particularly suggestive were the 'model farms' in boxes three feet by two. In one a story-and-a-half cottage faced the high road with its realistic poles. Fields were neatly fenced off, a card in each specifying its imaginary crop. 'Barley, 7 acres'; 'Pasture, 10 acres' (with a spring in one corner); 'Buckwheat'; 'Wheat'; 'Woods, Chestnut, Hemlock, Pine'; 'Kitchen-garden,' boasting a well; even a 'Peach Orchard, finest in U.S.A.' Poor little tenement dwelling Moritz Somethingsky, aged eleven! May his peaches come true!"

A large percentage of the children in these schools are extremely poor, and materials with which to do the work must be furnished by the city.

When the Vacation School closes its doors for the day, the child of the tenements can still be very happy and safe in some one of the public playgrounds. There are not yet so many of these as are desired. Some are perforce on the ground floors of school buildings. Some are on vacant lots. Some are on the roofs of school buildings. Some are on piers, fenced in, and cooled by the breath of the sea. An experienced Kindergartner and her assistant conduct exercises on the piers as well as in the corner of every playground. On every ground there is a trained gymnast and the usual equipment of a gymnasium, and in a number of places along the water front the city maintains swimming pools and schools. Last summer the mothers were invited to the playgrounds, and out of this grew the mothers' meetings, which were well attended. Talks were given to the mothers on topics like the following: "Advantages of the Playground, its purposes," and on "Cleanliness," "Food" and "Clothing."

On July and August evenings, while the recreation centres are closed, the roofs of some of the school houses become gardens of delight, luring parents and children out of thronged and airless streets. Thousands of feet, nimble and slow, climb the long stairs to these roofs night after night. Then for three blissful hours the people play games or watch them, talk, dance, sing together, or listen to the music of a band. In general appreciation of good music, in neatness of dress and decorum of manners these crowds reached a higher average last summer than ever before.

Even in a hasty and superficial survey of the work done by the Board of Education one must not fail to note the "Free Lectures to the People." Over four thousand of these were delivered in Greater New York during the winter of 1903-04, the last for which exact figures are