

exercises by young ladies from our best city homes. Upstairs, the proceedings for the afternoon have been opened with singing and prayer; and when an hour has passed in sewing and conversation, the President will likely introduce some leading pastor or Christian worker to address them on some theme of domestic or Christian interest. Prior to this, however, three groups have been permitted to pass into the clothes-room, where at merely nominal prices they obtain the



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clothing which our friends so kindly send to us. The proceeds of this are all spent in supplying the refreshments which invariably follow the address of the afternoon. This meeting is indeed a bright spot in the lives of these women, some of whom work every day in the week but Thursday, and that they secretly reserve for this meeting. And no wonder, for each worker tries to follow her mothers into their homes, and do all she can to brighten their lives and lead them to Christ if not already converted. Through this agency many a heart is won for the Saviour, and the integrity of many a home is preserved.

BUNS AND COFFEE SERVICE

No sooner has this meeting dismissed than a small company of men appear, brooms in hand, to sweep the floor, after removing the table, and prepare for the weekly "free supper to homeless men." This meeting starts at 7.30 p.m. But long before the hour the men will be found lined up out on the street waiting for the doors to open. As many as 450 men have crowded in on one night. These represent men from all walks of life—broken-down merchants, fallen professional men, degraded hoboes, and occasionally men who have no stain upon their record, and have nothing worse against them than misfortune or lack of employment. The refreshments, consisting of a spiced loaf and large mug of steaming hot coffee, are now served by one of the Epworth Leagues of the city who provide this feast. Then follows a red hot evangelistic service, in which the address is usually given by the pastor, who accompanies the League. Then a fervent appeal is made, and sometimes a number will seek salvation. Many have been seen clothed and restored to their right mind by the influence of these meetings, and now occupy good positions. And wherever the men scatter in the summer-time—on the farms, the lakes, into the woods, or in the alleys of the city—the influence of these services follows.

These are the special meetings of one day in the week. But while these are in progress, remember that two nurse Deaconesses have been ministering to the suffering, whilst two other Deacon-

esses have been visiting the homes, and dispensing Gospel truth and comfort wherever time and privilege permit. Any other day in the week than Thursday, the calendar shows a larger list of meetings and classes.

WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE.

We believe "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Hence, everything possible is being done to interest and direct the minds of the children and young people. With reading-room, gymnasium, manual training, and athletic clubs for the boys, and kitchen garden, gymnasium, cooking school, other branches of domestic science, junior and senior girls' clubs, sewing classes, elocution and Bible classes, there is something that appeals to all whom we can reach. By such agencies we seek to direct their surplus energies in safe channels, and also to give them training which will better fit them to become citizens and home-builders. And we do not overlook the truly vital thing—the salvation of the soul. These agencies act as very good bait for the Gospel hook, so that in Bible classes and Sunday School, Sunday morning and evening children's services, many are led to Christ and noble moral ideals. Rev. Mr. Gray has charge of this department of our work, and is ably assisted by Miss Connor, children's Deaconess.

The work amongst the adults is also much extended. Class meetings, cottage prayer meetings and services in the main hall, always intensely evangelistic, feed the spiritual nature and lead many from the power of sin to God.

II. THE GOSPEL WAGON.

carries its message of glad tidings to man; and will never otherwise hear it. Sometimes the service is on the corner of a leading thoroughfare, where very many are passing to and fro; sometimes it is down in alleys and back streets, where numerous children play upon the street, and wearied mothers gather on the foot steps to the upstairs windows, whilst the men and the children gather about the wagon, aid in the singing, and oftentimes, with the truth of Gospel and song, drink in conviction and salvation. Last year about seventy people confessed their desire and purpose to lead new lives.

III. TRAVELLERS' AID.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the "Travellers' Aid" work in the Union Station. Many a young girl coming to the city has been befriended, employed, found a home for her, and help given her which has saved her from the awful fate into which some other innocent travellers have fallen. In other cases girls have been rescued from the very presence of those who were intent only upon their ruin. But, apart altogether from this, think of the help which the invalid, or

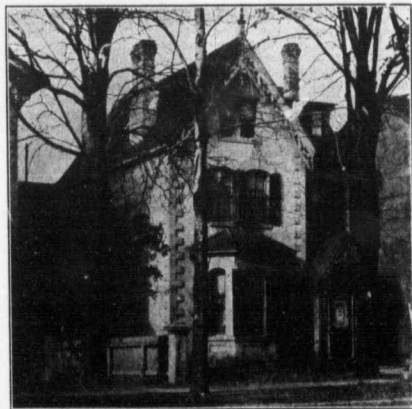
tired mother, or lonely child receives, and the gratitude which the solitary and the helpless feel because they have found "a friend in need." Truly this is Christ's work.

IV. THE VICTOR HOME FOR YOUNG WOMEN.

This institution is situated at 266 Jarvis Street, and is a veritable home for many a poor unfortunate girl. Ofttimes here will be found the strange young woman, who, sent from the Union Station, where she has arrived a solitary soul in a large city, simply awaits the employment which a day or two is sure to bring. Occasion-ally, also, an incorrigible is there. At other times some bright, smart young woman, who has fallen a prey to drink, will seek shelter until she regains her self-respect and sober conduct is established. But very many of these inmates are unfortunate girls who have been led into vice, and soon are to become mothers. So pitiable are these cases it is hard to find language to describe them. Perhaps the wrong-doing is the folly of a headstrong girl, who would be neither warned nor advised. Sometimes some of earth's best have been betrayed under promise of marriage. In other cases mere children are the victims, at times of their own ignorance, or of the lust of brutes old enough to be their grandfathers. But in this time of sorest distress which a respectable home can know these unfortunate girls are cared for, their children provided for, and we are thankful to say many are led to Christ and to pure living again. In the past year over 200 girls have been cared for, ranging from 15 years of age upwards. In the basement of the institution a laundry has recently been installed, which affords mild exercise for the girls, and a guarantee of good clean linen to the homes patronizing.

V. ITALIAN MISSION.

The Italian Mission, at 88 Edward Street, is the only Protestant mission ministering to the 5,000 Italian people who help to make up Greater Toronto's 340,000 population. Until this work was



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started, Rome had been doing but little for the Italians, but now has imported an Italian priest and nuns, and has set apart a church for their use. If nothing more

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