

the children who were brought into the Police Court, and the possibilities of saving them from becoming the criminals of the future, was also deeply realized by the workers, as well as the necessity for other means to help the children to rise to the plane of a good moral and physical life. Realizing that all these objects could be best overtaken by one strong Society, with the different works carried on as Branches under the supervision and direction of Committees, the Children's Aid Society was formed.

The Fresh Air Fund branch has been so fully before the public during this season that little need be said beyond what appears in the Report of the Committee charged with its oversight, and which will be found appended hereto. That to some extent it has been taken advantage of by a few, is to be expected, but the experience gained from year to year will make it possible to very largely, if not entirely, overcome that in the future, and in the meantime the excursions have been the means of real good to the large numbers who have participated in them. The Society is anxious to extend the principle of the Fresh Air change to a residence for a few weeks in the country. The work is capable of great expansion.

THE SHELTER.—On March 7th of the present year the Shelter was opened at No. 18 Centre Avenue. The object of the Shelter is to provide a temporary home for children taken from the Police Court, or from off the streets at night. Anything in the way of a permanent home is not contemplated, and, as far as the circumstances of each case will permit, will not be allowed. Cases, however, of extreme difficulty, even in the Society's short experience, have already arisen which compelled a partial departure from this rule. A father and mother were both committed and no one left to care for the children. In such a case it would have been nothing short of inhuman to have turned the children out into the streets. They were kept till properly disposed of and a provision made for their future. In this connection not a little difficulty has been experienced from the fact that in the rules for admission to some of the Homes in the City, no provision is made for children between the ages of *two* and *five*. This has made it difficult to enforce with strictness the rule as to temporary shelter. Appended to this Report will be found the Report of a Special Committee appointed to deal with the question of the length of residence in the