

ly seize on whatever will afford it. Unlike sighted children the blind boys and girls have no fixed tasks to prepare out of school hours but they have studies by way of preparation for the morrow nevertheless, and much done in recess is really connected with the work of the classes. Then, with the girls, knitting and crochet work are a never failing resource. Music practice again, with the more advanced pupils, leaves little time for leisure. So it will be seen that life in the Institution is a busy, active life, very different from what the imagination often pictures, and altogether the reverse of that which the blind child or youth is condemned to pass at home. It may safely be affirmed that, allowing for all the defects incidental to their various conditions, and often the lack of any early training, it would be hard to find any body of young people in this province more happy, lively, intelligent and self respecting than the pupils of the Ontario Institution for the Blind.

Domestic The character of the main building of the Institution is shown in the frontispiece. The ground floor is devoted to class rooms, business offices, reception room, etc., etc. On the floor above are the pupils' dormitories, officers' private rooms, nurses' apartments, and library. On an upper floor in the centre of the building is the large Music Hall, with its fine pipe-organ and a few rooms used for tuning and music practice. In the rear annex are the dining rooms, domestics' quarters, kitchens, store-rooms, and bakery; while, beyond these again, are the engine rooms and laundry. The workshop, is in a separate building. At a short distance from the main building are the houses of the Principal and Bursar. The engineer occupies the lodge house at one of the entrances to the grounds. With two or three exceptions the officers reside on the premises. The general management devolves upon the Principal, while the Bursar attends to all financial matters and the purchasing of supplies. The matron, subject to the direction of the Principal, has entire charge of the domestic departments. Then, in either wing, is a thoroughly competent nurse who attends to the boys and girls under her charge in all matters relating to clothing or health, subject, of course, to the matron's general oversight. The dietary is a very generous one, quite equal to that of any high-class boarding school if not superior to most. The pupils have a hot dinner daily, with dessert, and as great a variety as can be desired. At the same time, the pampering of the appetite is discouraged, and pupils so indulged, as is too often the case, at home, soon learn to enjoy the plain but plentiful and wholesome provision made for them.

The warming of the building and workshop is provided for by two large steam boilers connected with some twenty thousand feet of steam pipe and ensuring perfect comfort in the most inclement season. Baths and lavatories are connected with the main building and hot water is at all times available.