

plan for the rescue of the little ones abandoned to the world has ever been devised than that of the Children's Aid Society of Pennsylvania.

OUR OWN.

But there is a work to do among the children who are not abandoned to the mercy of strangers. Few of us know of the foul retreats of vice and want that exist even in Toronto. The hundreds who were taken out on the fresh air excursions during the summer months are now face to face with a long, cold winter. Many of them will need warmth even worse than they needed fresh air and lessons in cleanliness. Many of them will have to stand on the street corners all through bitter winter days selling papers to a public that often treat them coarsely and jostle them roughly and hardly ever stop to think that they are human, that they feel, that the piercing winter air is fingering for their very vitals, that they are weak and faint from hunger. There are other homes whence the pallid, shivering, ragged children will never come upon the streets during all the winter, but there will be present always cruel want and patient suffering and perhaps even the gaunt spectre of starvation. There is more occasion among us for our charity and our sympathy than most of us know, and we rush on in the keen pursuit of our various ambitions while want pleads at our elbows and children escape from hunger into crime. It is not that we are hard or indifferent. We are busy. Always busy. We respond readily enough when we are put face to face with inflexible facts. But we are sceptical about the appeals that are made to our sympathies and we have no time for independent investigation. Nor do we believe that even in Toronto there are mere children on the streets committed to utter profligacy, and of whom stories — bad, wretched stories—could be told, true as Christ's Gospel, that would shock us out of our ease and doubt and indifference, and leave us infinitely sadder and wiser too than most of us will ever become. We can well afford to give our earnest, anxious attention to the teachings of the Humane Convention.

OBSERVER.