

INDUSTRIAL ROOM REPORT, 1888.

THE Industrial Room was re-opened last January, in the Institute, corner Richmond and Sheppard Streets, and work was given out every Thursday until April.

For those to whom this branch of the work is new it may be stated that the Industrial Room was started five years ago, the object being to supply the needy, who are not employed elsewhere, with work at a fair remuneration, and to apply the labor test as far as possible in all cases.

Garments of all kinds are cut by the ladies at their own homes, who, if possible, superintend the giving out of the work, and inspecting it when returned. This last winter 144 women have obtained work, about 60 weekly. Two of our ladies are in the waiting room with the women every Thursday ready to give words of encouragement and advice, and at lunch time each applicant receives either a bowl of soup and bread, or a cup of tea.

Often the women have a long distance to come to the Rooms, and of course in many cases are obliged to wait some time for their turn, but the gratitude expressed by many, even by those living in the suburbs, fully compensated the Committee for their arduous task, and the many discouragements which this work involves. It is with great pleasure we notice the steady improvement of the work, both as regards sewing and cleanliness, and in consequence there was very little unsaleable work. This last winter we received a large order from the Infants Home. This was a great assistance and we were glad to give them the work at cost price. The committee hope that other institutions will follow their example.

Two women with baskets filled with saleable work were kept employed. They went about in the poorer districts, and were allowed 20 per cent. on all that they sold. This was found to answer very well, and another year we hope to have more of these basket-women.

Before the Annual Sale there was \$1,000 worth of stock on hand, about one-half of which was sold. Special thanks are tendered by the Committee to those who have assisted in the work during the winter, to those who gave so liberally to the refreshment table at the Sale, and to Miss M. Joseph, who did the work of the Secretary during her absence.

L. W. GREIG,

Sec. Industrial Room Com.