

Conditions, are, quite evidently, not enough for a family of five, yet, even this standard is maintained only if the mother buys carefully, does not waste, and does not let the children overeat. How shall an untrained girl who went to work at 14, or earlier, know enough to prepare the meals for her family, with such rigid forethought?

\$75.00 for clothing per year, will supply the mother and father with two pairs of very cheap shoes per year. The children also can have shoes, as long as they are young, but \$6.00 will hardly go far towards supplying shoes for three children who have reached the school age. The mother is allowed a suit or an overcoat, not both, in one year. All of the other clothing is planned with this same rigid economy. Even then, \$75.00 hardly proves sufficient.

What are the consequences of a standard of living like this? They are shown strikingly on the next chart. The wife goes out to work, and infant mortality, neglected children are the results. The family takes in boarders; overcrowding follows from this, and frequently a lack of privacy which breaks down all sense of modesty in the growing children. The family economizes on food and housing, and the results are under-nourishment and a high death rate. The children are forced to work under age, uneducated. The result is again in the next generation, unskilled workmen, badly paid. This consequence is brought out strikingly in a revolving wheel which shows five things that follow each other repeating in a sort of perpetual motion: —

**Low Wages.**

**Working Mother.**

**Child Labor.**

**No School.**

**Unskilled Labor.**

leading around again to **Low Wages.**

This is the final problem of the Industrial Conditions section, and indeed of the entire Child Welfare Exhibit. When the family goes to pieces, Society pays the bill in the form of Children's Institutions, Free Hospitals, Relief, Widows' Pensions, Social Insurance and many other forms of charity. Infant mortality is three times as heavy in the families of unskilled labourers. Every premature death means waste of human capital.

Is there any final solution? Several European countries are trying Minimum Wages' Boards which fix the lowest cost

which shall be legal to pay a man in a given industry. Other countries are trying Old Age Insurance, and Accident Insurance for working men. Some cities are offering recreation and medical advice free through their Park Boards and Boards of Health. All of these measures have their good points, but none of them as yet solve the problem entirely. What will Canada attempt?

### LAWS AFFECTING CHILDREN.

A child comes into contact with law, in other ways than through the Juvenile Court. Striking cartoons in this part of the exhibit show the results of our present method of dealing with husbands who fail to support their wives. A weak minded husband who is yet not a criminal, spends his Saturday nights drinking up his week's pay. The result is, starvation for the wife and children. Possibly he comes home and beats his wife and frightens the children, and turns the household into a place of torment. What can be done about it? All that is done at present is very inadequate. The Society for the Protection of Women and Children brings the man to Court, and if found guilty, he is sentenced to the city jail. In what way is his family benefited? The wife and children are still on the verge of starvation, the man is living in jail with criminals or other shiftless men, learning habits of idleness. When he comes out, the tragedy repeats itself.

Several other cities have recently begun to try new methods for cases of this sort. In Buffalo, Kansas City, Cleveland and some other places, when a man is arrested for drunkenness, non-support, or petty offences, a probation officer visits him in the jail before he comes to court. He inquires into the case, discovers the condition of the family, and then appears with the man in court. He gives his knowledge to the judge, not with the end in view of punishing the man more severely, but in order to devise some system which will benefit the family. If the case is the first offence, the prisoner may be put on probation, then he must report to the officer regularly, and must hand his wages to his wife in the presence of the officer. When once this has been done, it is only the exceptionally brutal husband who will extort the money again for a spree. Most of the drunken cases of Saturday night come because the man has followed the line of