

Other features of the Institute are a savings bank, an employment bureau, a collector's club, a pet fanciers' club, and a summer camp of large proportions. ⁺ ⁺

In the many activities of the Institute, the religious side of the boy's life is not overlooked. A largely attended meeting for boys is held every Sunday morning at ten o'clock, and a meeting for older boys at 4.30 on Sunday afternoon. Two Bible classes are held on week evenings, and the whole spiritual tone of the institution is of that practical, sympathetic kind that appeals to the boy nature.

The moving spirit of the whole enterprise is Mr. C. J. Atkinson, who has been associated with it from the very first. He does the work for the love of it, and the only reward he receives is the satisfaction that comes to him in seeing the young life of the neighborhood guided in the right direction.

What Boys Can Do

BY MR. H. C. HOCKEN.

IF you ask "What kind of Christian work boys can do, I reply, "They can do anything that their elders can, and oftentimes do it better, because of the greater measure of their enthusiasm.

To illustrate, it is a good man, and one who shows his earnestness who entreats his neighbor to accompany him to the class-meeting, or to church that he may hear the Gospel preached. There are few such men.

But I have known twenty boys out of a class of forty who persistently canvassed their companions to attend a means of grace that had helped them, and when these were brought in there was in the hearts of the little fellows the joy that comes to one who converts a sinner from the error of his ways. One such experience as this in the life of a boy is of greater force in keeping him steadfast than volumes of philosophy. This is Christian work that enriches both the helper and the helped.

I have known boys, with a truly Christian cheerfulness deplete their own meagre libraries in order that they might collectively send a case of books to a neighborhood, where the boys had no books of their own, and these contributions have formed a source of delight to the lads away off in the northern woods, where the neighbors are few, and the conditions of life difficult.

A company of boys, between the ages of twelve and fifteen, formed themselves into a committee to visit the sick. Not only did they visit one another when illness came upon them, but in all their neighborhoods they sought for those who were ill, and by constant visiting and kind attention they brightened many an hour—let their light shine not only where boys could see it, but where men and women took note of it and were helped by this example of earnestness and self-sacrifice.

I have found juniors to contribute of their means for missionary purposes with greater alacrity and cheerfulness than their elders. They did not give so largely, but it seems to me that their mite would be more acceptable than the offering of the man who gives tithes of all that he possesses.

At the earliest age that they can understand good from evil, they can begin to be Christian workers. The artless protest of the little folk when a companion does a mean thing should be developed, for it may be made to grow into a courage that will enable them some day to make the declaration of a St. Paul: "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to them that believe."

I know of a band of boys who lay it down a rule of their lives to endeavor to perform one kind act every day. They take as their motto these words: "I may not pass this way again; what good, therefore, I can do, let me do it at once." And in their daily walk and conversation they are actuated by the sentiment of their motto, are ever alive to accept their opportunities of doing good. I do not intend that you should under-

stand me as saying that every one of these boys live up to their motto as closely as they might. But each Sunday when they meet there are always some stories related showing that the motto has not been forgotten, and that opportunities have arisen to do good and that these have been accepted.

I have not attempted to tell you what girls can do, because



THE MANUAL TRAINING CLASS AT BROADVIEW BOYS' INSTITUTE

I don't know. I prefer to speak of what I know, and I know of boys. But I have not the least doubt that girls can do all that boys can, and in some directions perhaps more. I am convinced that the juniors only need to be directed by men and women of judgment in order to become of incalculable assistance in the work of the Church.

Dr. Alexander McLaren, the well-known preacher of Manchester, England, cites the fact, so often witnessed by travelers, of the blocks of stone in abandoned quarries—"great blocks squared and dressed that seem to be meant for palace or shrine. But there they lie neglected or forgotten, and the building for which they were hewn has been reared without them." God's great temple is in process of building. It will be built of what is available. You may stand off and find fault, and wonder why something better is not going in. But



THE COOKING CLASS AT BROADVIEW BOYS' INSTITUTE

the longer you stand thus the more chance there is that you will be left like these abandoned blocks of stone. There will be no place for you. "Be-ware," concludes Dr. McLaren, "lest God's grand temple should be built up without you, and you be left to desolation and decay."