

The training of children is one of the questions of the day which Rev. Thomas I. Gasson, S.J., discussed in an article recently published in Donahoe's Magazine. Father Gasson treats the subject in a most entertaining and practical manner. It runs thus —



"My Dear Kitty."

Many decades of years ago, a sweet-voiced singer sang the lament of the little ones in the following pathetic lines:

"Do ye hear the children weeping, O my brothers,
 Ere the sorrow comes with years?
 They are leaning their young hearts
 Against their mothers,
 And that cannot stop their tears,
 The young lambs are bleating in
 The meadows,
 The young birds are chirping in the
 nest,
 The young fawns are playing with
 the shadows,
 The young flowers are blowing to-
 ward the west—
 But the young, young children, O
 my brothers,
 They are weeping bitterly!
 They are weeping in the playtime of
 the others,
 In the country of the free.

They look up with their pale and
 sunken faces,
 And their looks are sad to see,
 For the man's hoary anguish draws
 and presses
 Down the cheeks of infancy,
 "Your old earth," they say, "is
 very dreary;
 Our young feet," they say, "are
 very weak!"
 Few paces have we taken, yet are
 weary—
 Our grave-rest is very far to seek,
 Ask the aged why they weep, and
 not the children;
 For the outside earth is cold;
 And ye young ones stand without,
 in our bewildering,
 And the graves are for the old."

SHIFTING SCENES. — Gazing
 out upon the shifting scenes of mod-
 ern civilization, with its garish
 colors here, its deep shadows there,
 with its bright sunshine in one
 land, and its lowering clouds in an-
 other, we must be struck at the
 sadness which surrounds the lives
 of many children. The days of child-
 hood should be days overhung by
 bright colors, sweetened by frag-
 rant flowers, and made cheery by
 blithesome music; yet for how many



Mothering.

little ones these are days of dreary
 blackness, of horrible discord, and
 of heart-rending grief. Even here
 in Boston, the acknowledged home
 of enlightenment and progress, we
 meet scenes that sicken the heart
 and bring tears to the eyes. Jour-
 ney through any of the congested
 districts of the city, and you will be
 startled at the squalor, filth and
 repulsiveness that environ the chil-
 dren of the poorer classes.

Look into some of their homes,
 miserable hovels, with begrimed
 walls, dirt-covered floors, creaking
 doors, unwashed windows, broken
 window-panes stuffed with rags,
 rickety chairs and tables, mouldy
 beds and tattered bed-covering, and
 you will not be surprised at the dis-
 eased, pale, gaunt children who seem
 to spring out from every corner, and
 who crowd the stairways and the
 hallways. In summer it is still more
 saddening to watch these misshapen
 masses of humanity, scurrying
 around to catch a breath of fresh
 air, or rushing after a lumbering
 ice-cart to snatch furtively a small

THE CRY OF THE CHILDREN!

piece of the cooling mass which will
 be generously divided among several
 claimants. For these little people
 are extremely generous, and no mat-
 ter how small or how trifling the
 treasure, it will be divided among
 friends and companions. Is it any
 wonder that the girls are slovenly
 and that the little fellows swear
 and use vulgar language with a
 readiness and a proficiency perfectly
 appalling? How difficult for Chris-
 tian virtue to flourish in a soil so
 unsuited for it!

PATHETIC AND HUMOROUS. —
 By the side of these woeful scenes
 we shall notice much that is path-
 etic, much even that is humorous. It
 is touching, for example, to note
 the affection which will be almost
 ceaselessly lavished upon wrecks of
 toys, upon dolls crumbling away,
 away, upon stray fragments of carts
 and of tops, upon a sad-looking kit-
 ten, a lean, wild-appearing cur, or
 a feeble, dyspeptic canary. The
 wealth of love, the extravagant ex-
 pressions of attachment showered
 upon these relics of bygone glories,
 convey a clear proof of the depths
 of feeling locked up, for the most
 part, in these tiny hearts.

It is doubly pathetic to watch the
 elder sisters as they act the part of
 nurse to the younger members of
 the family, and strive either to am-
 use the wayward, restless babies, or
 to keep the scalding tears away
 from the eyes of those whose tender
 frames are racked by pain and dis-
 ease.

There are humorous sides also to
 the picture. The important swag-
 ger of the bootblack, who is, for
 the time being, playing the gentle-
 man, while his companion blackens
 his decrepit foot-covering, the earn-
 est attempt to acquire the latest
 curve in ball throwing, the desire
 to win supremacy in clever boxing,
 the intensity displayed in feats of
 balancing, all these are pleasant
 traits which bring a smile to the
 face.

OUTLOOK DREARY. — But even
 when all the pleasing incidents have
 been enumerated, we are forced to
 confess that the outlook is dreary
 indeed, and that the problem of up-
 lifting these neglected children is
 one that calls for united action on
 the part of all to whom religion is
 something more than a day-dream
 or emotional poetry. That all those
 who profess the saving religion of
 Christianity have serious duties in
 the matter—duties above and be-
 yond mere philanthropy—is a truth
 that admits of no controversy. Even
 reason requires that we love all
 members of the human family with-
 out distinction as to age, sex, rank,
 or nationality, but Christian char-
 ity demands that we love ourselves
 and neighbor in view of our com-
 ing from God and going to God.
 "Charity differs from philanthropy
 in looking beyond the present life,
 and above creatures. A materialist
 and atheist may possess philan-
 thropy, but not charity." Our duty,
 therefore, is to help those strug-
 gling children to better themselves,
 to rise above their conditions, and
 to become sound, upright, religious
 men and women.

HOW ACCOMPLISHED? — Only
 by securing the assistance and the
 personal service of those who have
 had the advantages of excellent
 home training and of a thoroughly
 Catholic education, and who know,
 consequently, how to give practical
 advice upon the important duties of
 life. The workers must be intel-
 ligent, devoted, and unreservedly
 zealous for the welfare of children.
 The girls must be taught the useful
 arts of sewing, cooking, and of
 house-keeping; the boys, the rudiments
 of the trades. It is astonishing
 how deficient many of the little
 folks are in the most elementary
 branches. Many of the boys do not
 know how to drive a nail into a
 wall, many of the girls are unable
 to thread a needle properly, while
 as to the patching of a rent, their
 clumsiness is frequently most dis-
 tressing. With these facts confront-
 ing us, there is no time for the
 dreams of poetry, we need the prose
 of action. Guilds and similar socie-
 ties for the industrial training of
 children are an indispensable need
 of the day. All the girls should be
 thoroughly drilled in plain, substan-
 tial cooking by a person thoroughly
 competent to teach this important
 art. How many men are driven to
 the saloons and to pool-rooms by
 the unsavory, unpalatable messes
 served up to them at home!

Then, too, it is essential to in-
 struct the little ones in the details
 of house-keeping. There are many
 modern methods by which this

knowledge can be communicated
 both pleasantly and profitably.
 Here, again, is a point wherein much
 misery is caused to the working
 classes. Money is frequently squan-
 dered on useless articles, which, if
 wisely spent, would render the home
 attractive and useful. Sometimes an
 expensive piano is purchased, where
 not one member of the family can
 play; at another time, a dozen tea-
 kettles will be bought, because they
 can be had cheap; while the flam-
 boyant advertisements of the bar-
 gain stores lure unwise housekeepers
 to empty their purses for no pos-

sible advantage, either to themselves
 or to their families. If the children
 are schooled in the wise and thrifty
 management of a household there
 will be fewer homes wrecked by ex-
 travagant and bargain-seeking
 wives. Practical lessons must also
 be given in needlework, millinery
 and dress-making, and for these
 branches nothing can be accomplish-
 ed if the classes are large. The pu-
 pils of each division must be few in
 number so as to insure individual

lines laid down by the apostolic Dr.
 Dolan of the Cathedral in his ad-
 dress to mothers, spoken a few
 weeks ago. The mothers could be
 invited to the Guild or Association
 House, where a pleasant and in-
 structive talk could be given them
 on home topics, especially on the
 care of sick children. The field is a
 wide one and there should be no lack
 of subjects for discussion.

ABOUT PLANS. — It might be ask-
 ed whether these plans are feasible
 or not? Most assuredly they are.
 The good results accomplished by

The pictures which illustrate this
 article were taken by members of
 the Guild, the subjects being "our"
 children.

The Cooking Course. — Through the
 generosity of a student from the
 School of Domestic Science, the
 Guild has been enabled to open a
 course in cooking. A dozen little
 girls meet once a week to be in-
 structed in the art of preparing nu-
 tritious food from economical ma-
 terials.

Library of the Guild. — One of the
 most important and interesting fea-
 tures in connection with the Guild
 is the 'Library, which was opened
 in September.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Lang-
 don L. Ward, of the Boston Public
 Library, two hundred books were
 secured for us, thus establishing a
 branch of the Public Library at the
 Guild house. All children whose
 names are on the Roll of the Guild
 have the privilege of withdrawing
 these books. One hundred and fifty
 cards have already been applied for,
 and the number increases each week.

On presentation of her card any
 child is allowed to take home a
 book to be kept one week. This sys-
 tem has proved to be very popular,
 and the children show their appre-
 ciation by the enthusiasm with
 which they embrace the opportuni-
 ty. In two months five hundred
 and three books have been with-
 drawn.

In addition to these there are
 about seventy-five books of various
 kinds for children, and about two
 hundred magazines, which have been
 sent by interested friends. To these
 books, and to all the magazines, the
 children have daily access.

The advantages of having a branch
 so near to the homes of the chil-
 dren are obvious. It relieves them
 of the necessity of traversing such
 a distance to the main library, and
 encourages them to become better
 acquainted with some of our good
 books.

The reading room is open every
 afternoon from half-past three to
 six o'clock, when all children may
 come and read to their heart's con-
 tent, and something may be found
 to amuse or entertain all, from the
 tiny tot of the kindergarten, who
 cares only to look at the pictures,
 to the young lady of fourteen who
 prefers Dickens or Scott.

Stamp-Saving Society. — When the
 idea of saving their money was first

Various Notes.

VICTIMS OF ELECTRICITY. —
 A table has been compiled by the
 insurance companies of the losses
 by electricity during the nine months
 of last year. Some 246 persons
 were electrocuted, or an average of
 almost 30 a month; 515 were main-
 ed, 112 horses were killed, and there
 were 442 fires. No account has been
 made of the indirect accidents
 through the use of electricity, such
 as the trolley car accidents, electric
 mobile accidents and the like, but
 only where the direct electric shock
 caused the death or maiming or the
 fire.

The losses by electric fires alone
 have averaged over a million dol-
 lars a month. These losses have be-
 come so serious that the accident,
 life and fire insurance companies are
 considering the advisability of tak-
 ing united action against them. The
 insurance rate in these companies
 was fixed before the great and in-
 creasing use of electricity and the
 electrical risk was not figured in,
 so that the rates are upset and re-
 quire a readjustment through these
 additional losses.

If added to the direct deaths by
 electricity the indirect deaths were
 included the total is sufficient to
 make an appreciable change in the
 death rate.

PROFIT SHARING. — The direct-
 ors of the Bourne mills, Fall River,
 Mass., have just announced a divid-
 end to the operatives of 3.24 per
 cent. on the last six months' wages.
 This mill has worked under the prof-
 it-sharing scheme for 12 years, and,
 it seems, with great success. The
 wages are as high as the highest in
 Fall River; the mill is also one of
 the most prosperous for the stock-
 holders.

ABOUT BARBERS. — The new
 commissioner of health in New York
 city, Dr. Lederle, has announced his
 determination to institute cer-
 tain reforms in barber shops. The
 prohibition of the use of the sponge
 on the face after shaving, of the
 use of the powder puff, of the use
 of alum in stick form, and of the
 use of a towel more than once are
 among the proposed changes. The
 new regulations are to be posted
 conspicuously in every barber shop,
 and the customers are relied upon
 to see that they are enforced.

CIGARETTES. — We are pleased to
 see that the law against tobacco
 and cigarettes, etc., to children is
 being enforced in one of the Cape
 Breton towns. This law is a salu-
 tary one. We are not anti-tobacco
 cranks. We do not, as some of our
 friends, believe that tobacco ought
 not to be sold at all; but the law
 is sound which says it must not be
 sold to children.—Antigonish Cas-
 ket.

CATHOLIC BOOKS. — The secre-
 tary of the American Federation of
 Catholic societies says:—
 A movement is being inaugurated
 among the local federations of sev-
 eral of our larger cities to petition
 the public librarian of their centres
 to place more books of Catholic
 writers on the shelves of the public
 library, and to keep on file copies of
 Catholic papers recommended to
 them. The public librarian of Cin-
 cinnati has granted the request and
 a list is being prepared.

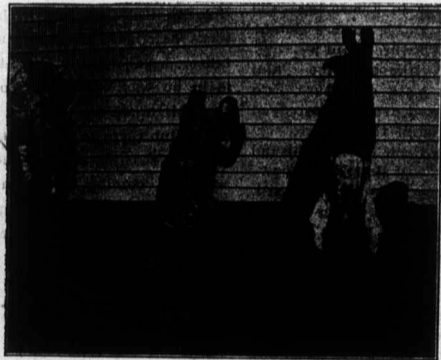
IRISH ENVOYS. — Arrangements
 are in progress in Chicago to tender
 a reception to William K. Redmond
 and Joseph Devlin, who are expected
 to arrive in Chicago on March 17.
 It was decided to hold a series of
 mass meetings in different sections
 of the city, beginning with St. Pat-
 rick's night, when Messrs. Redmond
 and Devlin will speak. They will re-
 main in Chicago two weeks, and
 will address meetings in various
 places.

THE DAY IN NEW YORK. — The
 Ancient Order of Hibernians of the
 city and county of New York will
 hold their usual street parade in
 honor of Ireland's patron saint. The
 First Regiment, Irish Volunteers,
 and the Sixty-ninth Regiment, N.
 G. N. Y., will act as an escort, and
 there is every promise that the cele-
 bration and parade this year will be
 the best in years.

IN MANCHESTER. — Arrange-
 ments are now in a very forward
 condition so as to enable Irishmen
 resident in Manchester and Salford
 to celebrate the great national feast
 of St. Patrick. On Sunday after-
 noon, March 16th, a mass meeting
 of Irishmen will be held at the Free
 Trade Hall, at which Mr. John E.
 Hugh, M.P., will speak. Mr. Coun-
 cillor D. Boyle will be the chair-
 man. On Monday evening a banquet
 will be held in the Grand Hotel,
 over which Councillor D. McCabe,
 J.P., will preside. The leader
 of the Irish Party and the member for
 Sligo will be present.



Loyal Friends.



Balancing Feats.

supervision and co-operation; other-
 wise the teacher will spend all her
 energy in keeping order, and the in-
 dividual child will be too inatten-
 tive to reap any fruit from the in-
 struction.

successful than the first, the average
 attendance being 134, making the
 aggregate attendance, since 1899,
 5,400.

The drugery of samplers is con-
 fined to the lower grades only, the
 elder girls making clothing for
 themselves.

Classes in dressmaking and millin-
 ery have proved very popular.

The Kindergarten.—A Saturday
 morning kindergarten, in charge of

The boys must be habituated to
 quickness of eye and to readiness of
 hand in the varied forms of mechani-
 cal labor. For this purpose it is
 likewise necessary to have the ser-
 vices of an experienced mechanic,



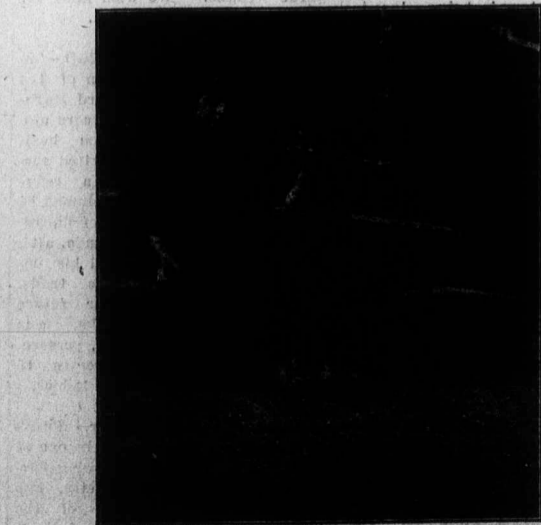
The Untrained Nurse.

suggested to the children of the
 Guild, it met with almost unani-
 mous approval. A few announced
 that they never had any money to
 save, but these, being very often the
 possessors of large stores of chew-
 ing gum and candy, were not en-
 tirely to be believed.

On the first day twenty-eight chil-
 dren applied for cards, and deposi-
 ted from one to fifty-five cents apiece.
 The number steadily increased, un-
 til now there are sixty-six, and new
 ones are being added each week. In
 some cases the children have taken
 out cards for their mothers or bro-
 thers and sisters at home.

The deposits average about ten
 cents, a few children bringing in
 twenty or twenty-five each week,
 but these are, of course, exceptions.
 The branch was opened on the sixth
 of October, and so far no child has
 drawn out her money.

The Clubs.—Almost every after-
 noon, from four until six, several
 clubs hold their weekly meetings in
 the Guild House. Each club is in
 (Continued to Page Three.)



Sitting For a Picture.

even if his charges are somewhat
 high. Nothing is gained by impru-
 dent economy in this regard.

But the work will be incomplete,
 unless it is supplemented by "Talks
 to the Mothers," somewhat on the

a professional teacher, relieves the
 mothers of the younger children dur-
 ing part of their busiest day, be-
 sides making possible the attendance
 of many of the girls in the sewing
 classes.

THE
 THE
 CON
 FRO
 PAG

charge of a Guild
 whom the children ta
 ery, lace-making, pa
 tic art (1), and lite
 clubs have been forme
 the little ones, and t
 to be able soon to p
 room for their pleasu

Distributing Station
 the co-operation of
 Hand Society and the
 friends the Guild Hou
 a distributing station
 vegetables. The possi
 department are pract
 ed, and the pleasure
 recipients out of all
 the slight trouble inv

Mothers' Meetings.—
 most important form
 is shortly to be taken
 guaring a series of
 thers' meetings. Seven
 dren's mothers have b
 bring their needlewo
 babies to the mother

found that the arrests
 creased almost fifty pe
 the quarter (June 15
 15) which includes the
 tion. It must be also
 that every arrest ent
 self-respect out of all
 the gravity of the offe

For years various
 associations have con-
 tention schools, and their
 serving of all praise.
 tuating attendance at
 dens seems to prove th
 ated play fails to hold
 of the older children
 hand, manual training

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

The question of pro
 under discussion on M
 Ontario Legislature,
 of Premier Ross was
 committee. The first c
 bill stating that the c
 printed on the ballots
 favor of the Liquor A
 was carried without m
 The second clause, in
 date of the referendum
 to stand.

The third clause wh
 those who are entitle
 also, on Mr. Marter a
 so asking, allowed to
 Dr. Pyne, said that
 Judges and registrars
 on the privilege of vot
 referendum.

The Premier said al
 were not more than
 Judges in the provin
 large number of regist
 Mr. Carscallen, Ham
 the Premier if the Gov
 considered the propri
 the women who had
 vote at municipal elect