

Youthful Offenders

How to Save the Sturdy Restless Boy From Developing
in the Wrong Direction.
J. J. KELSO.

There always will be more or less youthful delinquency. The exuberant energy and enthusiasm of the growing boy must find an outlet: And our modern life is so full of excitement and temptation of all kinds!

Labor saving devices and inventions have left little for the growing boy to do. Gas, electric power, telephones—no wood to split—no messages to run—while the congestion of large cities deprives the children of open spaces in which to disport themselves.

Motion pictures—while good in many ways, give the wrong kind of recreation—too much that is lurid—cabarets, drinking, cigarettes, revolver shooting—portraying vice and crime that in community life is absolutely illegal and criminal.

Departmental stores improperly expose goods that tempt the morally infirm.

Then too, adults who permit or encourage children to do wrong are seldom punished.

The poor child, and the children of the poor, bear all the burden, the disgrace and the punishment.

School life.—In the first place the usual school curriculum does not appeal to the sturdy restless boy of ten to fourteen—not enough action, too much book learning and too little of the hard work that develops the inventive genius. Truancy to some extent naturally follows, and then we hand the truant boy over to the policeman. And it is



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here that too often his criminal career begins. He recognizes and resents unjust treatment, and shows it by rebellious and sullen defiance.

The Juvenile Court is a great institution, but it may if unwisely administered or parsimoniously maintained, do as much harm as good.

Pitiful to see children of eight or nine arraigned for definite offences and duly proven guilty of crimes that to them are not crimes, but simply the very natural effort and desire to have a good time.

Trained Social workers and especially women should be enlisted in this momentous work for which they are so well qualified.

Why not also more women as Commissioners to deal with wayward children, made such by wrong training and social environment.

Too much centralization in juvenile court, school officials should have power to settle many of these youthful troubles, only referring the more serious cases to the central court.

Then should there not be fewer small newsboys on the

streets—street life is always bad for children and it would be far better to encourage elderly men unfitted for manual labor to develop this indispensable industry.

Probation officers of the right stamp are essential to success in guiding the young life of a large city. Only one probation officer to every hundred policemen. \$800,000 for the maintenance of the Police Department and \$15,000 to protect and supervise children and prevent the growth of evil, and yet some people wonder why miracles are not performed.

Only in theory, but not in practice have we begun to realize that child saving is all important to our civic and national life.

THE FUTURE OF PALESTINE.

The establishment of a great Jewish community in Palestine is now as certain as anything can be, contingent on an Allied victory. The forty small settlements already started, with a population aggregating 40,000, will be extended, enlarged, and drawn together into a self-governing republic under the auspices of the world's most liberal governments. And in the carrying out of the enterprise, the opportunity is presented to put to the test of practice those new social principles that have acquired universal acceptance in every enlightened democratic nation, but that have never been realized because of the inertia of the people and the power of the established order. The time is here when such a set of principles can be agreed upon by the most practical of men, provided only they are free of self-interest and have the courage of their convictions.

The new Palestine will be land of agriculture, a miniature California, its farmers dependent upon community enterprise for the irrigation works and the fertilization without which the soil cannot yield generously enough to support the increased population that is planned. All the experience of the most enlightened communities in the United States, Australia, Canada and other nations can be drawn upon to devise a method of financing and a system of land tenure that will assure the independence and prosperity of the humblest Zionist, provided only he have the will and the industry to contribute his share of toil. This question of land tenure is certain to be vital in the new colony. And there will be no excuse for a method of colonizing that will leave room for the land speculator, the taker of unearned increment, the usurious banker, or the monopolist of such community functions as the transporting and storing of the land's products.—The Public.

MONEY MADE FROM GARBAGE IN OLD COUNTRY.

The British Ministry of Food, in its educational campaign "How to Avoid Waste," showed samples of:

- Oils from fish waste.
- Potash from banana stalks.
- Fats from slaughter-house refuse.
- Meat meal for poultry from abattoirs.
- Dried house swill for pig and poultry food.
- Granulated poultry food from condemned meat.
- Guano fertiliser from condemned fish.
- Fish meal and grit for poultry from unsound fish.
- Metals from old tins and scraps.
- Disinfectant powder from flue dust.

A provincial mayor has collected a box of tinfoil, saved from a year's buttonholes, to be converted into tin.

The City of Liverpool has a plant for extracting poultry and pig foods, as well as fertilisers, from waste.

Sheffield and Nottingham specialise in getting iron out of unconsidered trifles, and Nottingham has also during the present year recovered 400 tons of manure from refuse.

Glasgow is systematically salvaging the by-products of waste. Other towns are introducing "digesters," the type of machine in which a dead horse can be "tipped, with the result that fats and oils are secured, in addition to dried and prepared animal foods.

It is reckoned that the metals found in dustbins total one ton per 1,000 of the population per annum, and that annually 250,000 tons of paper are wasted. Nearly everything thrown into the dustbin has a commercial or chemical value.