

work is to be carried on efficiently. There is probably no work which should appeal more strongly to the liberality of the general public, especially those possessed of means, than the Children's Aid Society, and yet it has always been difficult to secure sufficient funds to carry on this work to the best advantage.

HARD TO GET MONEY.

While visiting a small town in our province I found that the Children's Aid branch had only been able to collect the sum of \$12 during the year for the care and protection of neglected children, yet in one evening a children's mission band raised over \$30 at a bazaar to send to a far distant part of the world to help a mission to lepers. In one of our cities which is blessed with much wealth and culture, the Children's Aid Society is quite discouraged because in the year less than \$200 income could be secured, while at the same time a gentleman interested in a hospital for consumptives was able to raise \$8,000 cash and secure promises of double that amount apparently with very little effort. One reason possibly is that things distant and things big carry a stronger appeal to the imagination and the pocket-book. The Children's Aid Society, by following the simple method of improving the home life, and placing homeless children as speedily as possible, is not able to present a grand spectacle, whereas a big orphanage or hospital is more easily understood and appreciated—and yet this work for our young Ontario-born children is a first duty, and the Children's Aid Society, as the organized expression of the people's desire that every child should be protected in its rights, should receive a generous response. While this thought is fresh in the mind of the reader, let the secretary or the treasurer of the Children's Aid Society be cheered by a voluntary subscription for a substantial amount. Money freely contributed to the Children's Aid Society means a diminution in the number and expense of maintaining reformatories, prisons, hospitals, refuges and poor-houses. Every criminal and every tramp was once a bright, winsome little fellow with high hopes and a clean, untainted mind. That they subsequently became outcasts and wanderers was due to somebody's neglect. Why not do more to save the boys and girls while there is yet hope instead of letting them drift until habits are formed, character hardened, reputation shattered; and they are unable, even when willing, to abandon their evil ways. If our Children's Aid Societies were better organized and people everywhere realized the importance of prompt and practical aid so that every young life might be hedged around with saving influences, this province of ours would prosper, not only agriculturally and commercially, but also morally, and the prophesied millenium would soon arrive!