

We live in an age which necessitates special training not only in the professions but in the humbler callings of life. There is a growing demand for an educational system which will enable the pupil to earn his living, and not merely fit him for the high school. In response to this need the evening schools teach book-keeping, typewriting, architectural and mechanical drawing, and ship drafting; while for the women and girls there are classes in sewing, dressmaking, millinery and cooking.

The evening "Recreation Centres" occupy an important and unique place in the educational system of the city. Twenty-three public schools are kept open every weekday evening, except during the months of July and August, and boys and girls over fourteen are entertained there with manual work, picture-books, games, club-meetings, gymnastics and dancing. These occupations "furnish an outlet," says the City Superintendent of Evening Schools, "for the physical and mental activity of boys and girls employed during the day, to whom the methodical work of the evening schools does not appeal. Despite their long hours of labour they are physically and mentally active. They crave employment for these activities; if employment is not furnished them, many find it in the streets — find a kind that fits them for "gangs" rather than for citizenship. Only those acquainted with life as it is in tenement districts can realize what these spacious, well-warmed and well-lighted classrooms mean to the children of the street. "In one of our centres," says the same report, "a boy recently said to the principal: 'Say, I want to tell you something — but don't tell the rest of the gang — you have broken up a gang of thieves by keeping and interesting us fellows.' That lad revealed a double secret, for the power that holds the boys is the fulcrum on which all efforts for turning them into good citizens must rest." In two centres there are shower-baths. In all the buildings there are gymnasiums well equipped and sufficiently attractive to bring back the same boys and girls evening after evening. Drills have been recently introduced and are found effective in promoting correct carriage and a habit of prompt obedience. A large number of parents share the privileges of the Recreation Centres. The men especially appreciate having a place to meet their friends, and discuss the topics most in their minds, and thus the centres offer a counter attraction to the saloons of the neighbourhood.

"The Women's Clubs," says Evangeline Whitney, Superintendent of the Recreation Centres, "are growing in number and in interest. Mothers enjoy the novelty of coming to the school houses with their daughters. They don gymnasium suits and enter with zest into the