

the children of the district or parish. The home is in charge of a matron and trained nurses. During their residence there the children are taught habits of tidiness and personal cleanliness. Their stay depends on the child, but is limited to a month or six weeks, or not longer than is necessary (as there are others on the waiting list) before being transferred to the Block School at Leavesden, or if the child is a Roman Catholic then it goes to a certified Roman Catholic school.

(d) The Block School.—This is situated at Leavesden, near Watford (Herts), and some miles from London, in the country. There were over four hundred children under training. I made a careful inspection of this school, accompanied by Mr. J. S. Oxley, General Inspector of the Local Government Board. I paid particular attention to the type and physique of the children, and their daily life routine, and the opinion I formed was that fully sixty per cent of these children would meet the requirements of the Canadian Government regulations, and if given the chance many would develop into good, industrious citizens. In addition to the elementary instruction, the curriculum includes, for the girls, cooking, sewing, and general housework, and for the boys gardening, shoemaking, carpentry and other trades. Sports and games, and a splendid brass band are provided for the children; every endeavour is made to make their lives as happy as possible. The Superintendent and his wife, an experienced and estimable couple, are deeply interested in their charges. A number of children from Leavesden have been emigrated to Canada, under the auspices of the Church of England Society, and the Superintendent informed me that they had done well. Previous to its actual adoption into the school each new recruit, for reasons of health, spends a certain time in a lodge at the entrance to the grounds, and for three weeks it is under the scrutiny of the Medical Officer. A well equipped infirmary or hospital is provided in connection with the school.

A visit to the Camberwell Homes, under the guidance of the Assistant Inspector of the Local Government Board, interested me particularly, because very many of their children are emigrated under the auspices of Dr. Barnardo's and other agencies, and in due course come to our notice in Canada. The plan of receiving children of tender years into the Camberwell Homes and Schools is similar to that of other poor law schools and homes. It should be always borne in mind, however, that children are not permitted to remain within the gates of these institutions longer than is absolutely necessary. There is here also a receiving lodge for children from three to sixteen years of age. They first come to this probationary home and are bathed and given a thorough cleaning up, after which they receive fresh outfits of clothing. The medical officer visits the home twice daily and his preliminary examination always includes the weighing and measuring of each child and testing their eyes. Children termed 'ins and outs' are those who have parents (or one parent) living, whose parental rights, with respect to the child, as previously stated, are not affected by its admission to the home. In one such case, a family of seven children were 'in' and 'out' of the homes no less than ninety times in ten years, a thing allowable under the letter, but clearly against the spirit of the law. The outfit of clothing given to the children on their admission and discharge is the inducement to this species of abuse. There were five hundred and forty children of from three to fifteen years enrolled in this institution. Before passing on to the other cottages in the process of promotion