

has been given the children on Fire Prevention Day, and in addition there were no lessons during the morning session. Instead, at every school building the students took part in a programme of essays and stories about Fire Prevention, and in the afternoon they were expected to take part in the general clean-up that had been proclaimed by the government.

All the rubbish from attics, cellars, barns and back yards should be piled up so as to be ready to be carted away by the town officials. Experience has shown that the children interest themselves in a most enthusiastic manner in this work. A suggestion for a programme, which of course may be varied according to local conditions and the ideas of the teacher, is as follows:—

Singing of the National Anthem.

Reading of the Governor-General's Proclamation by a Pupil.

Recitation—"The Fire Brigade," or "Fire: Its Use and Abuse."

Short talk by the Principal on "Causes of Fire, and How to Avoid them."

Brief address by the Fire Chief or a Citizen—"The Necessity of Fire Prevention."

Composition by a Scholar—"Prevention of Fire in Home and Factory."

Debate—"Resolved: That the Life of a Fireman is More Dangerous than the life of a Policeman."

Composition by a Pupil—"What Things can Start a Fire at Home."

Short talk by Member of the Fire Department—"What Fire Means to the Fireman, and How School Children can Help Him."

Fire Drill.

It is not well to have the programme too lengthy, but have it snappy and full of vim. It is desirable, if possible, to have music.

EVERY SECOND COUNTS WHEN ONCE A FIRE STARTS.

The surest and safest way of sending in fire alarms is by the automatic fire alarm telegraph system installed for that purpose. It is more direct and quicker than the telephone if the alarm box is convenient. Most of the mistakes made by persons sending in alarms by telephone are due to the excited condition of the speaker, and there is frequently difficulty in understanding speech of foreigners and the names of streets, especially where they are similar. Uncertain or delayed telephone connections may also cause valuable time to be lost in reporting a fire to the department.

TEACHING CHILDREN HOW TO TURN IN A FIRE ALARM.

A novel plan was adopted by the Fire Department and school officials of Gary for teaching school children of that city how an alarm should be turned in. A regulation fire alarm box, and a fifteen-inch gong similar to those in use in the various fire stations, was exhibited at all the schools in connection with a course of fire prevention instruction outlined by the fire chief.

At each of the schools visited, volunteers were called for from among the boys to break the glass, and the pulling of the hook was left to the girls. It is said that the exhibitions commanded the genuine and undivided attention of every pupil.

It is well not to wait until a fire actually occurs to learn where and how to turn in an alarm. It is surprising how few people know the location of the box nearest their home or place of business.