

friends and loved ones. They have sheltered during the past year, 5,701 different boys and girls. It has been found best not to give those children help outright, and a charge of a few cents is made for meals and lodgings, work being furnished where a child has no other means of payment. Work is also furnished, and the doing of it is accepted as a money payment, wherever it is necessary in order to supply a child with clothing. The bath rooms are abundant and free, and a free reading room is also to be found in each lodging house. Penny banks have been opened, and last year the children deposited \$3,404. A "Business Fund" is also kept on hand at the different lodging houses, from which the boys are loaned the money needed to give them a start in life—to buy a bundle of papers, a boot-black's outfit, and the like. Night schools are held in all these houses, as in many of the industrial schools, for the benefit of children who must work through the day; and in all the buildings Sunday services are held. Every effort is made to bring the children to Christ as their personal Saviour. Next to this the main object is to get these street waifs out of the city and place them in good homes on farms. This work has been carried on since the founding of the Society, the majority of those so placed having grown up to become farmers and farmers' wives, while many of them are merchants, and some of them have risen to high positions of trust. One thing, however, has made against the Society in this effort: the want of adequate means of testing the children before sending them out. Sometimes those sent proved utterly unmanageable, and either ran away or were sent back by the farmers, every such instance, of course, blocking the way of the Society in that neighborhood for years to come. Mr. Brace, the founder of the Society, had long urged the necessity for a farm school, as a half-way station on the way to western homes; and since his death a large-hearted woman has given the Society the Brace Memorial Farm School at Konicso, N. Y. Every influence is brought to bear on the boys at the lodging houses to induce them to go to this school, where they are given an elementary education along with a practical training in farming, dairying, etc. Strong religious influences surround them, and they are kept until the superintendent feels that they may be safely sent to their new homes. Over a hundred have been sent out in the past year, with every prospect of a useful and self-respecting manhood, instead of the criminal career which seemed the only possibility for them before this Society found them out and helped them.

The farm is a new enterprise as yet, having been in running order little more than a year, and is at present the heaviest drain on the Society's purse, in proportion to the work done, of any of the missions; but this was to have been expected, and even in this first year it has produced crops to the value of \$2,500. In addition to this sum an appropriation of \$9,000 was required to meet all expenses. The expenses of the lodging house, which are intended to serve as feeders to the farm school, are much less, but they are older and better established, and the pennies paid by the children for the 231,120 meals, and 167,733 lodgings furnished, go towards the running expenses. In addition to these funds the Society paid out last year sums varying from \$2,000 to \$7,000 for each lodging house, or a total for the seven of \$26,345. In addition to this the emigration bureau, directly connected with these two departments, spent last year over \$27,000 in placing children in homes, 120 being taken from the farm schools, and the rest directly from the city; 1,010 boys and 716 girls were either placed in homes or given

employment through the Society, and work was also found for 109 men and 215 women, heads of families.

Another branch of the Society's work is known as the "Summer Charities." The Summer Home at Bath Beach, L. I., includes the main building, the gift of Mr. Stone, the Haxton Cottage for cripples, and the beautiful Astor cottage, which is a fitting compliment to the splendid gifts of this family to the city mission work of the Society. At this home the past summer 3,776 children spent each a week, the most of whom had never before seen a green field or heard the song of a bird. In addition 2,000 children were given a day's outing at the beach. The Health home at Cooney Island, founded by Mr. D. Willis James, gave from one to three weeks by the sea to nearly three thousand mothers and sick children, and a day's outing to over 3,000 more, while in the city a regular staff of fifteen physicians were kept constantly at work all through the warm weather ministering to the sick children in the tenements.

There is one thing that compels attention: the men and women who support these charities know how to give both their money and their time. It is refreshing to learn that women who are regarded by the public merely as women of fashion, work in these missions—visit the children in their homes, find work for needy women, pay house rent, coal bills, and supply all needed delicacies in homes made dark by sickness and pain, and steadily year after year provide Thanksgiving frolics, Christmas delights, and all sorts of evening entertainments for hundreds and hundreds of these poor little waifs. There is no doubt that they know how to give their money. Here are a few instances, taken at random out of many: One man supplies daily hot dinners through the winter to 225 children, and also supplies all their deficiencies in clothing. A woman supplied 41 families for months last winter with work—sewing, knitting, and odd jobs, and this was merely an aside—an eddy in the current of her benevolence. Another gives yearly, for ten months in the year, a daily hot dinner to the 450 children of the industrial schools; while another furnished last winter 26,000 meals for the same purpose, and still another 64,000. All this, and much more like it, represents only a part, and not always the largest part, of their generous gifts to those noble charities.

We Southern people have a way of thinking that the North ought to do these things—it is rich. Well, it is rich, and of course it ought to give. But is there anything among us which is as generous in proportion to our means as the beautiful buildings which belong to this Society, or the lavish stream that pours yearly into the coffers? What are we doing for our waifs and strays, or for the children in our incipient tenements? If some of them can be called incipient. As a mere matter of dollars and cents—a matter of taxes and State prisons and asylums—it is the most economical of all economies to spend money to save the children; to spend it to prevent crime instead of to punish the criminal whom our neglect has had a share in the making.—*Methodist Rev. of Wis.*

THE *New Era* says: The Anglo-Saxons are missionary at heart. Out of 139 missionary societies at work in the world, 121 are supported by Anglo-Saxon money; and out of the \$12,500,000 given for foreign missions, over \$10,000,000 came from the Anglo-Saxon race.