

errand boy lasted only three months, and was followed by two months' employment as cellar boy in a wine and spirit business. Then he drifted into the services of a private family as boots and "gardener" (*sic*), where he stayed for fourteen months. He left, it appears, in the spirit of comradeship, with another boy who wanted to better himself. At the age of 17 we find him engaged as a bottle washer for his previous employers in the wine and spirit business, but being dissatisfied with his earnings of six shillings per week, he left again two weeks before the date of our inquiry. During this last fortnight he had earned 9d. for organ blowing, and enough money to buy cigarettes from occasional "floor washing" and similar occupations. There is little likelihood of his ever resting content in a permanent situation.

P. B., age 17, served as errand boy for a very short time after leaving school at the age of 14. His father is a carter, and seems to have used his influence to find him a place as groom at the cavalry barracks. The boy did not, however, stay for more than a few months, when he "bettered himself" by taking a paper round in the city. He worked for one newspaper agent for eighteen months, and for another for nine months. His next move was to take employment as machine attendant at a soap works outside York. This seemed more promising, but he only stuck to it for two months, after which he went off again in search of higher earnings. This lad has a good character given him by several of his employers.

F. R. S., age 18, though a good scholar, was obliged to enter a blind-alley occupation at a glass works to help his father and mother to maintain the family, he being the oldest of six children. He left at the end of a year to better himself and got employment as bottle washer for a firm of chemical manufacturers. This engagement, however, only lasted for about half a year, and he had to go back to his former employers, who willingly reinstalled him, since he was an intelligent and decent lad. He earned ten shillings a week, but after nineteen months he was suspended for staying off without permission, in search of work elsewhere. As he wanted to be a clerk he took this opportunity of leaving his unskilled labour, without, however, having secured another situation. It had not occurred to him or his parents that it might be wise to add to his attainments by attending evening classes before taking the plunge, and on the date of inquiry he had been entirely without work or prospect of it for nearly two months.

B. M., age 18, was for less than a year in a confectionery works, and was dismissed for a reason not known. He immediately found