

TOPIC XX

WHAT WAS GOING ON IN OUR TOWN LAST WEEK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

A census, taken from the papers and other announcements and from personal knowledge, of the public and private social occasions of a single week, is bound to be very enlightening. It may suggest serious conditions, pressing needs, large opportunities.

The discussion, to be effective, must measure as well as enumerate the recreational opportunities, and should suggest what personal and co-operative endeavor might do to counteract the influence of commercial or degrading amusements.

TOPIC XXI

THE MOTION-PICTURE SHOWS IN OUR TOWN

The motion picture has suddenly become the universal source of amusement. Its possibilities, for good or evil, are almost unlimited. On the whole, its tendencies are for good, but each community decides for itself what class of pictures it wants, what the moral influences of these centers of entertainment shall be, and how they shall be, or shall not be, used for educational ends. Following are several lines of study which might be pursued at one time.

1. The General Situation.
  - (a) How many show-houses are there in our city?
  - (b) What license fees do they pay annually?
  - (c) What restrictions are they required to meet:
    - As to fire protection,
    - As to sanitation,
    - As to admittance of children,
    - As to censorship of films,
    - As to moral supervision?
  - (d) To what extent are these restrictions lived up to?
  - (e) What is the reputation of the persons who own and manage these houses?