

SERIOUS PROBLEMS OF CHILD WELFARE

The Feeble-Minded Menace—
Happy Homes for Normal Children—
A Mother's Losing Battle

There was an interesting session of the managing committee of the Children's Aid Society on Wednesday afternoon. Some of the problems that came up created considerable discussion, and the decisions reached in all of the cases cannot help but have tremendous influence on the future of the children immediately interested. The problem of feeble-mindedness, with the complications which arise from that unfortunate condition, was one which the committee were called upon to consider. On this head very few feel that the best they could do as a mere makeshift, looking to the near future when public opinion will be aroused to that degree that an institution will be provided for the care of those so afflicted.

The first case dealt with was that of a little girl whose mother died some

months ago, and whose father secured her admission into the home by means of misrepresentation. As it turns out, however, it was very fortunate for the little one that she was admitted. She is four years old, and the doctor after examining her, gave it as his opinion that she ought to be in the hospital for treatment. She is suffering from a nervous affection which, though severe, is not necessarily of a permanent character, but will yield to appropriate treatment. Steps will be at once taken to have the father place her where she can be taken care of with a view to her recovery. For some months past there have been in the Children's Home a little boy and girl, brother and sister, nine and five years old respectively. About ten days ago a lady came to the city and visited the Home. She took a fancy to the little girl, and obtained leave to take her to her own home with a view to adoption. At Wednesday's meeting the secretary read a letter from the lady's husband, in which he mentioned how much he liked the little one and asking if the brother could be sent them. As this is entirely satisfactory, arrangements will be made to have the brother and sister reunited.

Word was also received from another prospective foster-home, where a little chap of two years and a half has been placed. Here also the foster-parents expressed their entire satisfaction and asked that the adoption papers should be



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sent to them for signature. These have been prepared and sent forward for their signatures. They also made application for a little girl, and efforts will be made to find one for them.

The agent was authorized to take in two boys, both of tender years, if satisfactory arrangements could be made. The mother of these two boys, who are both bright, has been deserted by her husband for four years, and in all that time she has maintained herself and her children without the slightest help from him. Now, however, the burden has become too great for her, and there are no mother's allowances.

The children of a feeble-minded family presented the gravest problem. One of the boys belonging to this unfortunate family was admitted to the Home but it was found that he had been guilty of very grave misconduct. As the society has not the means to deal with such, and as it is manifestly unfair to the other children who are their wards to keep them, it was resolved to send the lad to some institution where he could be trained to do some useful work and be educated. His only sister is in the Home and an older brother has not a good record.

Constant Strain.
Mobbs—Mrs. Smith is simply mad on the subject of germs, and sterilizes or filters everything in the house!
Hobbs—How does she get along with her husband?
Mobbs—O, even their relations are strained!—Rehebooth Sunday Herald.

G. W. V. A. CONVENTION IN VANCOUVER JUNE 30

(Toronto Star.)
The dominion convention of the G. W. V. A. will be held in Vancouver, June 30. Definite word to this effect was received from the dominion secretary, C. G. MacNeil, this morning by Provincial Secretary W. E. Purley.
The voting strength of the branches at the convention will be based on the latest membership returns received at the dominion headquarters, Ottawa. Branches not sending delegates are asked

to give their proxies to the nearest neighboring branch who are sending delegates or to forward them to the office of the provincial command, so that representation may be obtained. Copies of resolutions to be presented at the convention should be forwarded to the dominion secretary-treasurer at once.
"A rate of one cent per mile has been secured on all Canadian railroads," writes Secretary MacNeil, "and it is anticipated that the postponement will be shown to be a beneficial move, as far as the work of the convention is concerned."

JUVENILE LABOR PROBLEMS.
London, England, June 8.—At the last meeting of the Divisional Council for the

London and South Eastern Division of the Ministry of Labor Employment Exchanges, the question of restricting the hours of juvenile labor was considered. The London (Central) Advisory Committee for Juvenile Employment had asked for the council's support to a proposal that the working hours of juveniles should be restricted by act of parliament to forty hours per week, inclusive of the eight hours' weekly attendance at continuation schools provided by the Fisher Education Act. The Council could not see their way to support the proposal in the form in which it was submitted, as a majority of the members were of the

opinion that if the hours of juveniles were reduced to the extent proposed, legal obligations should be imposed upon boys and girls to devote more time to education. A deputation from the Stepney local advisory committee contended that employers in certain trades were taking advantage of the present surplus of labor to engage girls in preference to older workers who were entitled to a higher rate of remuneration.

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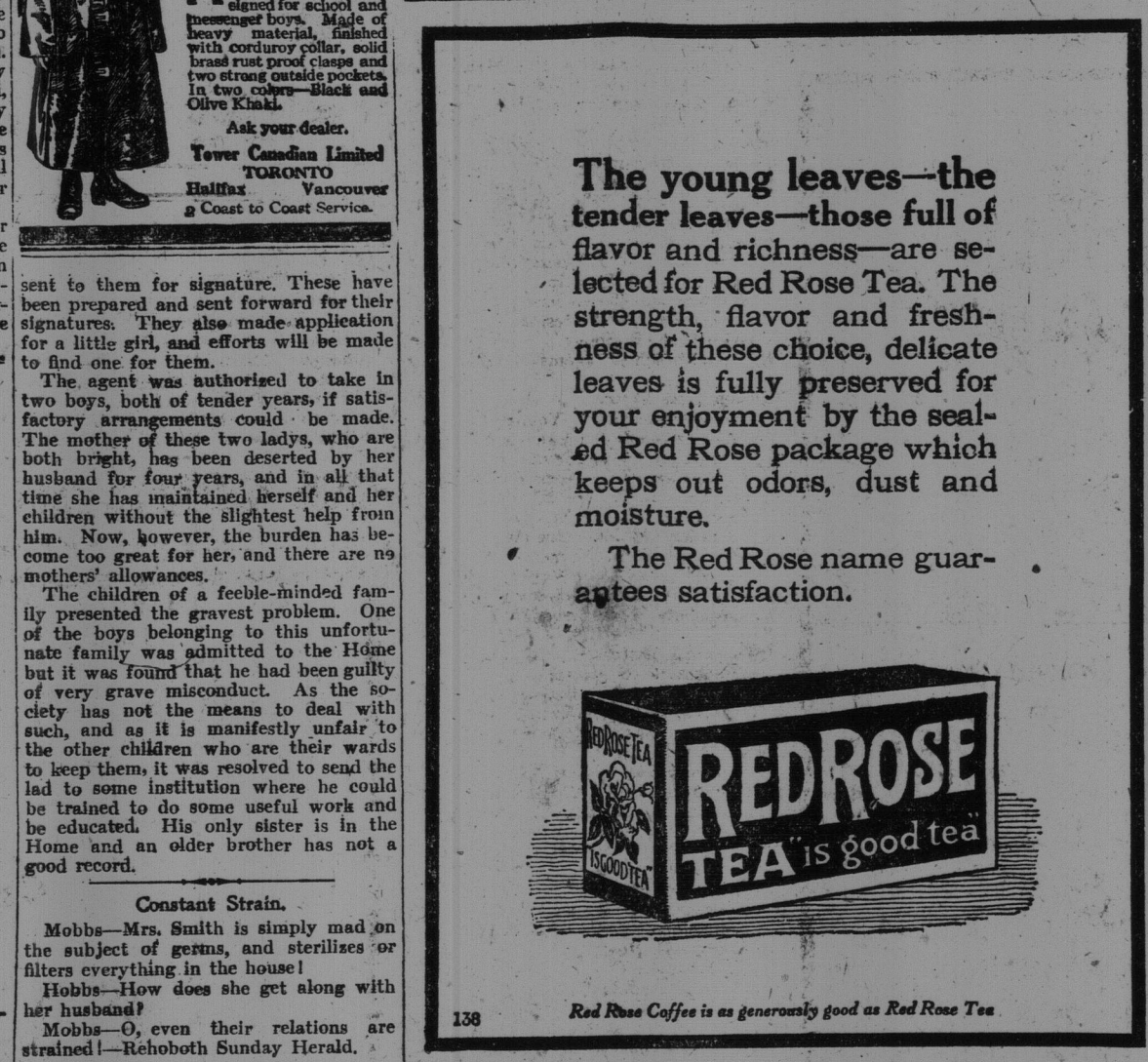
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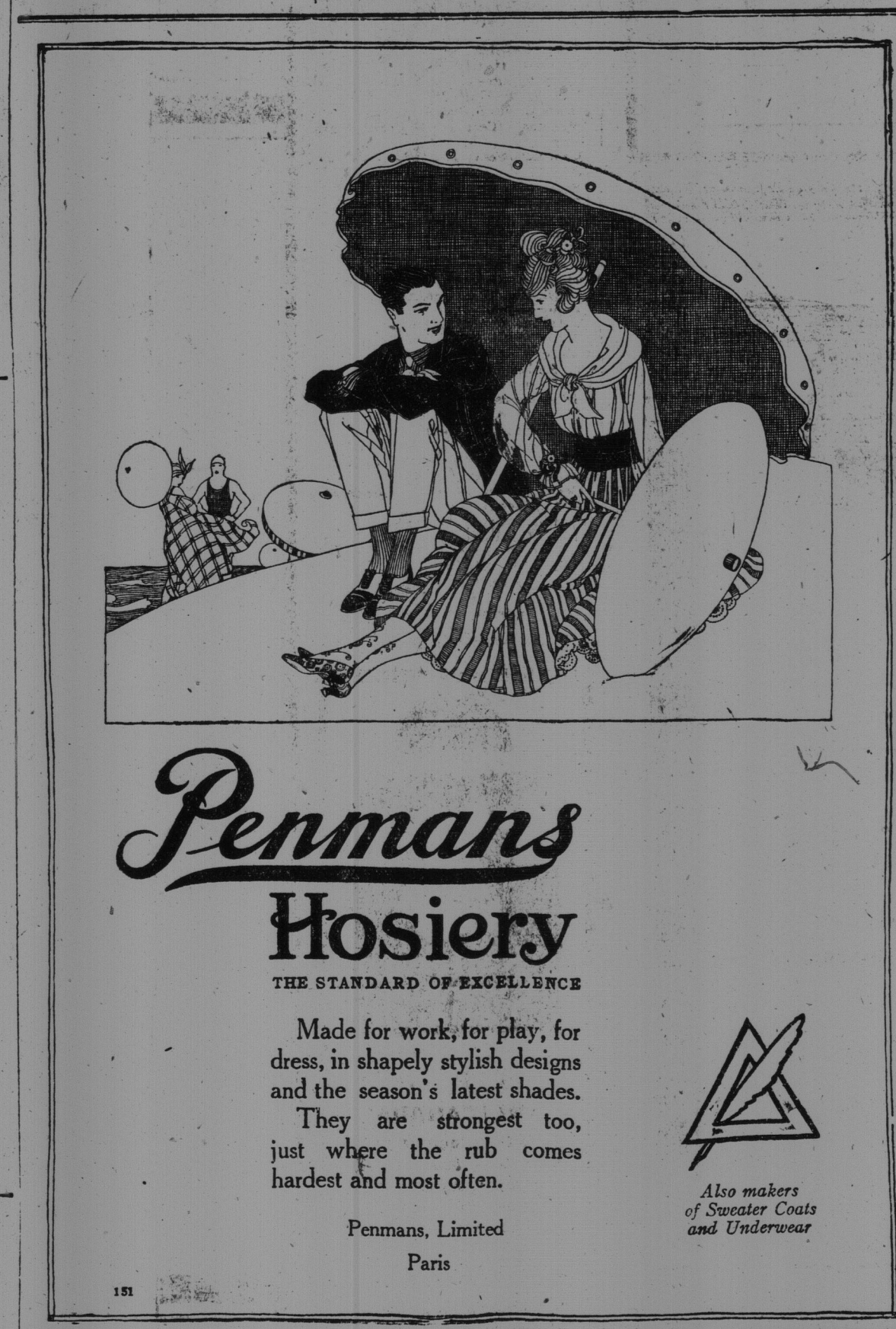
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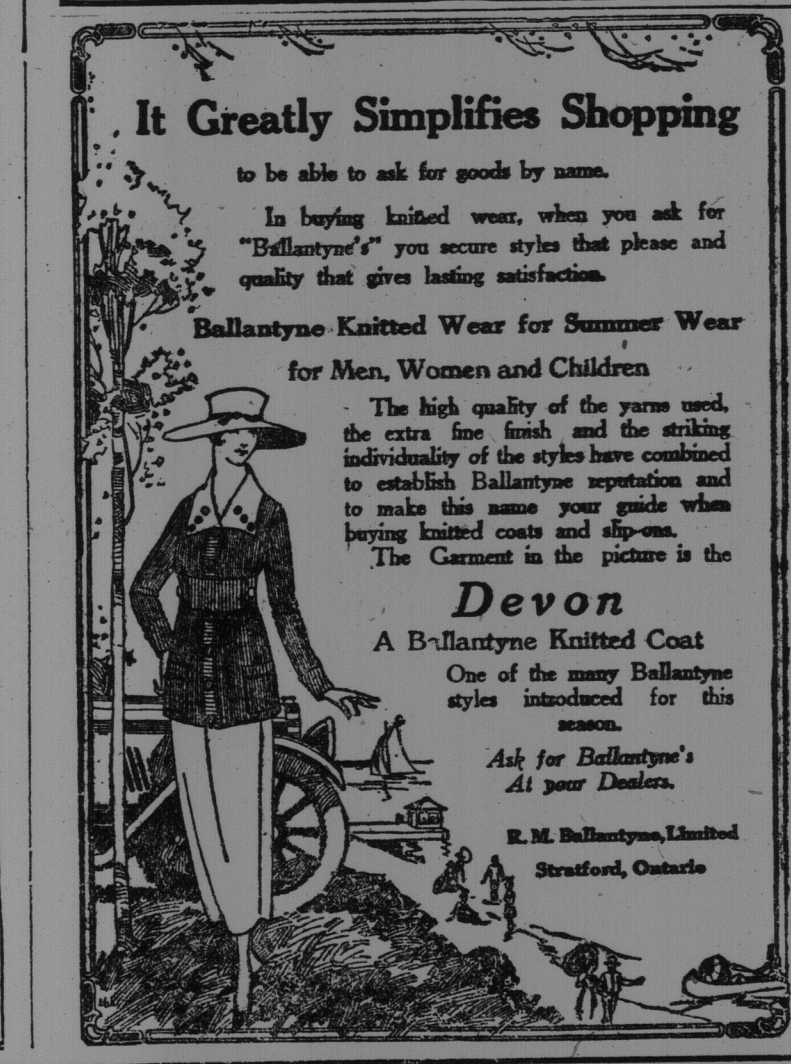
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