

Ontario Department of Agriculture

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES.

Children : Their Care, Training and Happiness as Future Citizens

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A lecturer not long ago was speaking on the importance of conserving the health of the nation by taking proper care of the children, and in the course of his remarks he said that there was a well-founded belief that the Government was doing more to ensure a good breed of cattle and live stock on the farms than they were to maintain a healthy race of men and women. He mentioned an instance where a large appropriation had been made to stamp out hog cholera in a certain district. At the same time there was an epidemic of disease among children and not the slightest effort made to combat it. His moral was:

"If you want to be taken care of by your country be a hog."

This, of course, is a little overdrawn and yet it may point a moral, or at least emphasize the importance of doing everything possible to provide that the children, who are to be future citizens, shall be fully safeguarded in their rights, that every boy and girl will be certain to have a decent home, good food, adequate clothing, opportunities for education, and also that their physical health should be carefully enquired into by experienced persons so as to make certain that they will have good eyesight, good hearing, good teeth, open nasal passages that there may be good breathing, a straight spine and sound feet and limbs. *Health* means *happiness*, and both together mean clean, *useful citizenship*.

It was, therefore, with great pleasure that I accepted the invitation of the Minister of Agriculture to tell the people of the Province something about the Children's Protection Act, and the work that is contemplated under its provisions. It is important to the success of this movement that everyone should understand the law and the system under which it operates. Without this knowledge no one can give the proper kind of assistance and the more people who read this pamphlet and other such publications, the more prospect there will be of providing a friend for every friendless child, and doing useful public service.

CAUSES OF NEGLECT.

Neglect of children is rarely a wilful and premeditated evil. Poor people often become discouraged and despondent; they are frequently out of work and not able to earn much even when employed; rents are high and food seems to be getting dearer every day, and it is just as often as not that drinking results from the despair that comes to men and women unable of their own strength to battle against the ills of life. Therefore, the emphasis in this work is always laid on *prevention*. Wherever a family is found in which the children are destitute and unable to attend school, hearing constantly oaths and blasphemy, and witnessing scenes of drunkenness and immoral living, it is our duty to bring to the attention of such people in a kindly way the wrongs under which their children suffer, and persuade them by friendly advice, and not infrequently by practical help, that they can and should do better, rather than take chances on losing their most precious possessions, the boys and girls of the family.

The whole plan of the Children's Aid movement is founded on this principle and has in the past resulted in thousands of homes being improved and children's lives made cleaner and happier with little more than a visit and a warning.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES.

The Act provides for the organization of Children's Aid Societies in every centre of population. There are about seventy of these organizations in existence in Ontario at the present time in addition to numerous small committees and correspondents, and wherever there is no such Society or committee, it is our wish and desire that the friends interested in children should get together and form a society. The objects are as follows:

First.—To carry out the provisions of the Children's Protection Act of Ontario, in receiving and providing homes for neglected and dependent children.

Second.—To systematically agitate against all that tends to rob children of the right to grow up in an atmosphere of purity and moral cleanliness.

Third.—To prosecute parties who contribute towards the delinquency of children.

Fourth.—To create a sentiment for the establishment of wholesome uplifting influences, such as small parks, playgrounds, gymnasiums, free baths, social centres and the like.

Fifth.—To establish a personal service corps, so that individual attention may be given to children by interested men and women.

Sixth.—To maintain an educational campaign on subjects relating to child-protection.

A resolution can be passed agreeing to enter upon the work with these objects in view, officers elected and a request sent to the Provincial Office for recognition and other assistance.

If, as is sure to be the case in many cities and towns, a Children's Aid Society is already organized, then valuable assistance can be given by readers affiliating with the Society, helping to raise money for its support, offering a home to some friendless little boy or girl, in addition to that wide personal influence that can always be exerted for good by those who have the inclination.

ENQUIRE FOR NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

One of the first steps taken by any Children's Aid Society is to enquire throughout its constituency for any neglected children or any boys and girls who are growing up under conditions that would lead to criminal or immoral conduct on their part. When the facts are ascertained, every possible effort is made to bring about improvement, and to this end all the charitable and benevolent agencies of the town are called upon for help. The old-fashioned plan was to take such children and have them committed to reformatories and other public institutions. The effort of the Children's Aid Society is to surround the children as far as possible with good influences in their own homes, removing the evil instead of the children. Experience teaches that normal life is always the best. Public institutions may be well conducted and no expense spared, and yet the moral life of children brought up under this congregate and artificial plan is rarely of the type that will withstand the struggles and temptations of actual life when the world is to be faced as it must inevitably be sooner or later. Public sentiment is the mighty force that keeps the community clean, and the Children's Aid Society has and can exert great influence in creating a high standard of public morals so that young children may be saved from degraded associations and inspired by an elevated sense of duty that will lead them to emulate all that is best and noblest in our community life.

CHILDREN CAN BE TAKEN AWAY.

Where these preventive measures fail, and after repeated warnings parents and others cannot be induced to improve their conduct for the sake of the children, then the law provides for the apprehension of such children and the submitting of all the facts to the judge or magistrate.

The court, after a careful review of all the evidence, can give the parents a further respite if they appear at all concerned, or a legal order can be made transferring the custody of the child or children to the guardianship of the Society.

THE CHILDREN'S SHELTER.

When this is done, or if a child has to be cared for pending a final decision, the Society cares for its wards in what is known as the Children's Shelter. This is the modernized form of the orphanage. It is simply intended to be a temporary children's home where boys and girls can come under refined and pleasant home influences and get some idea of right living. It is a clearing house, rather than a permanent home. Under the Act no child is supposed to be kept there longer than three months, and as a rule a month suffices to arrange for the child's future, either by return to its own natural parents, or transference to a foster home. Often a boy or girl who has been accused of petty theft or some other misdemeanor can, by a short stay in the shelter, be encouraged to avoid wrong-doing and settle down to steady, reliable conduct. The shelter can be of service in this direction only where the man and woman in charge are possessed of the gift of influencing child life. No one should be engaged in work for children anywhere unless they are constrained by that great love and sympathy for needy and erring children that can leave its indelible impress upon the child heart. Children are won to goodness, not by prison bars, nor by the plentiful use of the rod, but by those gentler and more effective weapons that appeal to the inner conscience, and the force of which is evidenced in tears of true repentance. Bad boys are merely good boys who have strayed into side paths and who may, in nearly every instance, be guided back to the main road if only the right persons do the leading. Our aim, not only in this pamphlet, but throughout the entire work, is to find the right persons and to impress upon every citizen that possibly he or she is possessed of all the necessary qualifications if only they would hear the appeal and use their talents for the reclamation and up-building of every boy or girl who may come their way.

MAINTENANCE OF CHILDREN.

While children are in the shelter as wards of the Society the municipality is under obligation to pay the board, the usual amount being \$2.00 per week. This makes the work of the Society lighter and the funds raised from benevolent sources should be used for the employment of a wise and discreet agent, who would act as the executive officer of the Society in the daily and hourly routine that is necessary if the

work is to be carried on efficiently. There is probably no work which should appeal more strongly to the liberality of the general public, especially those possessed of means, than the Children's Aid Society, and yet it has always been difficult to secure sufficient funds to carry on this work to the best advantage.

HARD TO GET MONEY.

While visiting a small town in our province I found that the Children's Aid branch had only been able to collect the sum of \$12 during the year for the care and protection of neglected children, yet in one evening a children's mission band raised over \$30 at a bazaar to send to a far distant part of the world to help a mission to lepers. In one of our cities which is blessed with much wealth and culture, the Children's Aid Society is quite discouraged because in the year less than \$200 income could be secured, while at the same time a gentleman interested in a hospital for consumptives was able to raise \$8,000 cash and secure promises of double that amount apparently with very little effort. One reason possibly is that things distant and things big carry a stronger appeal to the imagination and the pocket-book. The Children's Aid Society, by following the simple method of improving the home life, and placing homeless children as speedily as possible, is not able to present a grand spectacle, whereas a big orphanage or hospital is more easily understood and appreciated—and yet this work for our young Ontario-born children is a first duty, and the Children's Aid Society, as the organized expression of the people's desire that every child should be protected in its rights, should receive a generous response. While this thought is fresh in the mind of the reader, let the secretary or the treasurer of the Children's Aid Society be cheered by a voluntary subscription for a substantial amount. Money freely contributed to the Children's Aid Society means a diminution in the number and expense of maintaining reformatories, prisons, hospitals, refuges and poor-houses. Every criminal and every tramp was once a bright, winsome little fellow with high hopes and a clean, untainted mind. That they subsequently became outcasts and wanderers was due to somebody's neglect. Why not do more to save the boys and girls while there is yet hope instead of letting them drift until habits are formed, character hardened, reputation shattered, and they are unable, even when willing, to abandon their evil ways. If our Children's Aid Societies were better organized and people everywhere realized the importance of prompt and practical aid so that every young life might be hedged around with saving influences, this province of ours would prosper, not only agriculturally and commercially, but also morally, and the prophesied millenium would soon arrive!



CHILDREN'S FRESH AIR FUND.

Let us take this opportunity of thanking the many good men and women on the farms of our province who have invited the children of Toronto as fortnightly guests during the summer. Last year the Fresh Air Funds of Toronto sent over one thousand little boys and girls to spend delightful holidays in farm homes, and not one dollar was charged for maintenance. As delicate children are given the preference it can readily be understood what a health-restoring and joy-giving agency the Fresh Air Fund is. If anyone wishes to invite poor children to visit them during the summer vacation all they have to do is to send a letter with credentials to Miss Roberts, 21 Scarth Road, Toronto.

THE VILLAGE PLAYGROUND.

It may seem rather absurd to advocate the importance of a village playground when one can stand on the main street and see farms stretching out in either direction. Nevertheless, long experience and observation teaches that to give young people in the country some variety in life and relief from the monotony of existence, it is extremely important that more attention should be given to the social side of their natures. Too often the boys hang around the country hotel as their only resort, and form drinking habits from the simple and natural desire for sociability. The young girls do not do this, but they are equally in need of the joys of existence. The village playground, and above all a director, giving all his or her time to the work of recreation, would to

some extent meet the social need. If there could in addition be a social centre building with club rooms and hall for concerts, dances, etc., such a building would exercise a healthy, pleasure-giving influence that would offset to some extent the deplorable exodus to the cities. If the Women's Institutes would take this project up they would be doing the highest kind of service for the community.

AN IMPORTANT HEALTH PROVISION.

Not long ago a country doctor of long experience, in discussing work for children, mentioned a matter that should receive the attention of school trustees and the members of Women's Institutes. In many country schools the closets are located a considerable distance from the school building. Often the children in the early part of the winter leave the door open and the snow is allowed to drift in and this, soon forming into ice, makes it impossible to use the building. Then it is said that passage-ways are rarely cleaned of snow, with the result that the children, girls particularly, fail to attend to this important function at the proper time, and in this way completely upset their health. This doctor said he could without hesitation trace many of the diseases and chronic cases of ill-health to this cause, and he begged that in the public interest there should be less reticence on the part of parents and teachers in making the children acquainted with the vital necessity for regular habits and prompt response to nature's call.

ALL CAN HELP TO BEFRIEND CHILDREN.

There is probably no one of mature years, no matter how humble his position, who cannot help in some way to bring about an improvement in the condition of a neglected child, or in adding to the happiness of a boy or girl starting out in life, it may be without friends or influence and needing the kind word and the smile of encouragement. Some have exceptional opportunities for usefulness. For instance, editors control a mighty agency for good. The printing of items on child-saving work and the endorsement of the movement have a far-reaching effect. Clergymen also have the privilege of bringing before their people this work for our neglected and dependent children, referring particularly to the Christian duty of taking into their homes one of these children and giving him the benefit of Christian culture. The Crown Attorneys, Local Magistrates, County Constables, Governors of Gaols and other officials can do much by reporting cases of neglected children instead of allowing them to drift on in wrong-doing until the gaol becomes the only remedy.

Especially would the assistance of the Women's Institutes of the province be appreciated. They have exceptional opportunities for extending practical help to neglected children, poor families and children who are denied educational advantages. If they take up the work the whole attitude of the community toward the child will be improved.



City Children.

Needing a visit to the country to put color in their cheeks.

PRAISE THE CHILDREN.

The withholding of praise from children is a mistaken policy, for praise is the highest possible incentive to further good deeds. When children have struggled hard to win the kindly word of recognition and that word is not spoken they feel that their efforts are not appreciated and that there is no use in trying their best. Is it not true in the experience of each one of us that praise and the hope of praise has led us to attempt great things, and that a single word of commendation has sent us on our way rejoicing? Much more than can children be influenced in this manner, and always in right and worthy directions. The oft-repeated charge that praise leads to an unwholesome conceit is a false and groundless one, and has been the occasion of much unhappiness that could easily have been avoided.

EARLY CURE OF PHYSICAL DEFECTS.

It has often occurred to me on seeing persons afflicted with weak eyes, lame feet, etc., that many of these afflictions were preventable in early childhood. In poor homes where the struggle for existence is too keen to admit of much thought for anything else, or where a low standard of development makes people indifferent to the afflictions of children, defects that might readily be cured are neglected until they become too firmly established to admit of any material benefit from medical or surgical treatment. During the past years I have taken advantage of every opportunity that offered to encourage the sending of defective children to the Children's Hospital so that their ailments might receive prompt attention. I am glad to be able to say that the hospital has been most generous in receiving poor children without charge, and I have known quite a number of children who have received lifelong benefit from their sojourn in that institution. I would strongly recommend all Children's Aid Societies and charitable associations to look up cases of defective children and arrange for their admission to the Children's Hospital.

LEFT HIM TWO HUNDRED ACRES.

Several years ago a boy was placed with a farmer in the northern part of the province on a simple agreement providing for board, schooling and maintenance until he was old enough to be worth further remuneration. His progress was fairly satisfactory for a time but he developed a mischievous, thieving disposition that was a source of considerable annoyance to neighbors. The people did not wish to give him up but he was removed in order to preserve peace in the neighborhood. The farmer was so greatly attached to the lad that he came to Toronto and begged to have him back, promising that he would exercise greater care and endeavor to guide him aright in the future. He was allowed to take the boy home with him and matters went on smoothly after that. Later on the farmer died and left the lad a farm of about two hundred acres. It is not the richest kind of land but it served to show the bond of affection that had grown up between the two.

LOVED IN SPITE OF HIS FAULTS.

Another incident going to show that these children frequently ingratiate themselves into the affections of their foster-parents occurred quite recently. A boy who had been on a farm for about seven years was returned because he was restless and dissatisfied. The people had frequently spoken of returning him but when asked to do so would

give him another trial. When the boy came to Toronto it was evident that he was in poor health and an examination by physicians revealed the sad fact that he had an incurable disease rapidly growing and likely to terminate his life before very long. The foster-parents were notified of this as a matter of courtesy. A day or two later the farmer arrived in town and said it was his intention to take the young man home with him and that he and his wife would do their best for him. If he could not recover they would at least give him the best care in their power and if he died would bury him in their family plot. He was asked, "Did not the boy try your patience a thousand times and were you not rather glad to get rid of him?" "Yes," he replied simply, "but if we do not forgive how can we expect our Heavenly Father to forgive us. Wife and I have missed the boy and now that he needs our care we feel that it is our duty to help him." For his part, the boy was simply overjoyed at the prospect of returning to the farm. He wept many tears of repentance and begged the farmer over and over again to forgive him for all the carelessness and indifference he had shown and promised that if he ever got better he would work hard and try to repay his kindness. After lingering about two months the lad died and was given fitting burial in the village graveyard.

THE RESULT OF PATIENCE.

A lady having comfortable home surroundings applied for and received from the Society a little girl about six years of age. After two or three weeks she returned rather discouraged and stated that the child was not so bright or attractive as she desired. Although not fully resolved to give her up she wished to leave her in the Home until she returned from a visit to relatives in the States. The fact was impressed upon her that she was just the one person in the world to draw out all that was best in the child and make a fine girl of her, and that if the child was taken on the proposed trip the change of scene, etc., would brighten her up considerably and probably help to bring about the desired improvement. The result was that the lady took the child with her and before long became much attached to her. Patient and loving training has brought about a wonderful improvement and the girl is to-day in the same home and is one of the most attractive and well-mannered children in the entire district. In fact when the child and foster-mother were travelling on the train recently many of the passengers, although quite ignorant of the circumstances, commented on the nice appearance and ladylike bearing of the girl, comments which, of course, were very gratifying to the foster-mother.

RECLAIMING ONE AT A TIME.

There are many good people and even prominent Christian workers who do not realize any personal responsibility toward neglected or delinquent young people. While visiting a town to interest the public in child-saving effort, I was surprised when calling on the police officials to find a clergyman there asking for the arrest of a young servant of sixteen who had appropriated several small articles belonging to his wife. He evidently had not stopped to think what it all meant to the girl's future life—the arrest, publicity, degradation, and possibly future continuance in wrong-doing to the serious detriment of the community as well as the possible destruction of any good that might remain in the girl. I wondered if any effort had been made to bring the girl under personal religious influence, or to win her over by earnest entreaty to penitence and improvement. People are apt to forget that souls are saved not en masse but as units, and that the restoration of one individual is far more important than a whole series of brilliant sermons.

On another occasion I had an interview with a girl of fourteen whom quite a number of good people were anxious to have committed to a reformatory. She originally belonged to a village where any number of Christian people were pining away for some good work to do, and yet could not see that in the lives of such young people there were issues at stake calling more loudly for service than preaching the Gospel to the heathen, or making some great and heroic sacrifice, because it was the work near at hand that always should have first claim. (The girl mentioned that she had been to a certain Sunday School on different occasions and that she thought a great deal of the minister. Here, I thought, is the very influence that can save her, and immediately the clergyman was written to and all the facts explained together with the opportunity that presented itself of materially benefiting a young girl whose home life had never been helpful to her. His reply, received a few days later, was almost brutal in its candor. He was too busy, he stated, to bother with such a matter and there were reformatories established for dealing with girls of her description.

From these and other experiences I am convinced that religion is with some people an outward habit and has very little of that yearning after lost souls that never yet has failed to save and redeem.

HOMELESS CHILDREN NOT NUMEROUS.

Many persons have an erroneous idea as to the number of children who are in need of foster-homes. They get the impression that all they have to do is to come to the city and pick out the most attractive child from a group of 20 or 30 submitted for their inspection. After travelling around six or eight institutions and meeting with the reply at each place

that there is only one or two, if indeed any, children ready to go out, they get a different idea concerning this work. Sometimes, too, in writing, the description given of the class of child required is very minute and exacting. For instance, a letter received this morning from a lady in the country states as follows: "I would like to know something about the work for neglected children as I would be willing to adopt a girl about 12 or 13 years old, provided I could get one to please me—one who is healthy, bright, and intellectual and with a mild temper. Her work would be to help in the household and take care of three small children. A legitimate child preferred." It is the small children for whom homes are most desired, and we rejoice exceedingly when some good woman asks for a delicate child whom she can help grow strong and well.



These are the class of children for whom homes are desired. Friends west of Toronto willing to help might communicate direct with Rev. C. R. Miller, Berlin, Ont., or any Children's Aid Society.

And on each helpful spirit be
For this the children's charity
The children's benediction.





DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS?

Begging.—Any person sending children begging may be sent to gaol for three months or fined \$100.

Liquor-Selling.—Any saloon-keeper who gives or sells liquor to a youth under twenty-one years of age, is liable on conviction to a penalty of \$20.

Tobacco.—Any person found guilty by a justice of the peace of giving or selling tobacco to a boy under eighteen years, must be fined \$10 and the sum may be increased to \$50.

Pool Rooms.—The keeper of a licensed pool or billiard room who allows boys under sixteen years to frequent his premises, may be fined \$10 by any justice of the peace, half the fine to go to the informant.

School.—Every child between the ages of eight and fourteen years must attend school, unless excused for some good reason.

Factory.—No child under fourteen years can be employed in any factory.

Indecent Conduct.—Any person found guilty by two justices of the peace of committing any indecent act, may be fined \$50 and sent to gaol for six months.

Criminal Assault.—Any person who criminally assaults a girl under fourteen years of age is liable to imprisonment for life.

Pistols.—Any person who sells or gives a pistol or air-gun or sells ammunition therefor, to a boy under sixteen years of age, is liable on conviction to a penalty of \$20.

Neglected Children.—Can be removed from the control of vicious or drunken parents if there is no likelihood of improvement.



DESCRIPTION OF A "NEGLECTED" CHILD.

The following definition is taken from the Ontario Act:

"Neglected Child" shall mean a child under sixteen who is found begging, receiving alms, thieving in a public place, sleeping at night in the open air, wandering about at late hours, associating or dwelling with a thief, drunkard or vagrant;

Or a child, who by reason of the neglect, drunkenness or other vice of its parents, is growing up without salutary parental control and education, or in circumstances exposing such child to an idle and dissolute life;

Or who is found in a house of ill-fame, or known to associate with or be in the company of a reputed prostitute;

Or who is a habitual vagrant;

Or an orphan and destitute;

Or deserted by its parents;

Or whose only parent is undergoing imprisonment for crime;

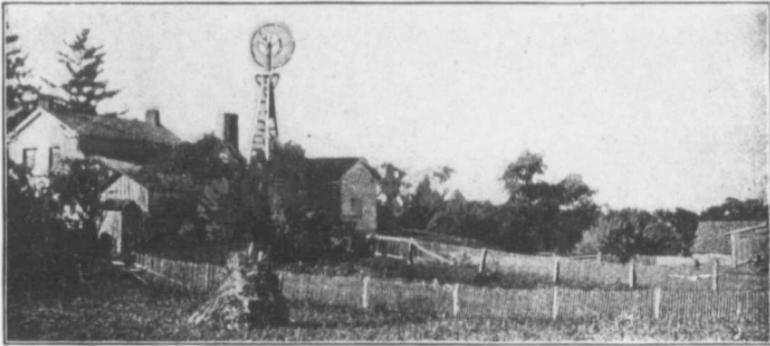
Or who, by reason of ill-treatment, continual personal injury or grave misconduct or habitual intemperance of its parents, or either of them, is in peril of loss of life, health or morality;

Or in respect to whom its parents, or only parent, have, or has been convicted of an offence against this "Act" or under the "Criminal Code";

Or whose home, by reason of neglect, cruelty or depravity, is an unfit place for such a child;

And "Neglected Children" shall mean two or more of such children.
Sec. 2.—Children's Protection Act of Ontario.

A personal interview by the agent of the Children's Aid Society, or a warning notice is the first step towards bringing about an improvement, and if parents continue to show indifference, a Judge, Police Magistrate, or where these are not convenient, two Justices of the Peace, can place the child under the guardianship of the Society.



Where memory loves to linger.

THE OLD HOMESTEAD.

Many of our brightest and cleverest public men were born on the farm and spent their early years in the country. This is one reason why we desire to get our homeless boys and girls away from the crowded city institutions to the free and healthy life of the farm. The children in the country enter into all the social activities of the home and are happy in the feeling of companionship and equality. Their help is prized and learning to work they grow strong and self-reliant, able in later life to take their share valiantly in the world's great workshop. If our friends in the country will help the children while they are young they will in turn lend their aid when older. Remember, however, always to treat them justly, for a child's sense of justice is keen and unerring.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY.

The responsibility of parents for the conduct of their children should never be overlooked. Often boys are arrested for wrong-doing and discharged or sentenced without the presence of the parents being required or proper enquiry made as to the contributory negligence of careless fathers. It is a rare case that children brought up in a normal home under reasonable control develop into law-breakers. It is the neglected child that becomes the delinquent, and it is the wrong conditions that should be dealt with rather than the unfortunate victim.



"Wish I had someone to love me."



ADOPTING A BABY.

One of the privileges of child-saving work is to be the medium in placing a tiny, helpless baby in the arms of a large-hearted woman who has been denied the blessing of a real-own baby. These little bits of humanity have a way of twining themselves around the heartstrings that is simply irresistible, and once taken into a home they are rarely ever returned. These are the genuine adoptions that stand the test of petty annoyances and disappointments. Not only do they grow like their foster-parents in character and disposition, but strange to say, even in facial expression. No one can make a mistake in adopting a baby at six months, and they will be amply repaid for their extra work in the long run.

" Oh, when at dawn the children wake
 And patter up and down the stairs,
 The flowers and leaves a glory take,
 The rosy light a splendor shares,
 That never more these eyes would see,
 If my sweet ones were gone from me.

" And when at eve they watch and wait
 To fold me in their arms so white,
 My burdens, whether small or great,
 Are charmed away by calm delight,
 And shutting out the world, I live
 The purest moments earth can give."



Stray Thoughts

Not alone reformation but regeneration should be our aim.

A small boy joined his companions one holiday with a sad expression of countenance. "Why don't you smile?" one of them asked. "I'm all dressed up," was his mournful reply. His mother had put on his new suit with the strict injunction not to get it soiled.

Parental neglect is the cause of seventy-five per cent. of juvenile delinquency.

Oh, little feet that such long years
 Must wander on through hopes and fears,
 Must ache and bleed beneath your load,
 I, nearer to the wayside inn
 Where toil shall cease and rest begin,
 Am weary, thinking of your load!

The human soul without education is like marble in a quarry—showing none of its inherent beauties until the skill of the polisher brings out its colors.

A storekeeper went to a great deal of trouble in serving a boy who wanted to buy a jack-knife. When asked why he bothered with the lad, he replied, "I was anxious to give him a good bargain, knowing that if I sent him away well pleased he might deal with me for the rest of his life."



With Life All Before Them.

In looking through the belongings of a noted criminal, a scrap-book was found which was entirely filled with clippings from newspapers describing various crimes that had been committed. The man admitted that he gained a good deal of information for his business in reading over these items.

Instead of always trying to keep children out of temptation, they should be taught to withstand temptation when it presents itself, otherwise those who are at all weak will be sure to fall when left to their own guidance.

There is in every child a spark of the divine that can be kindled into a glowing flame of noble aspiration and heroic activity.

Children must be dealt with individually—they cannot be reformed in bulk.

If only the number of officials it requires to run an institution could be employed to prevent children from needing commitment what a great work could be accomplished!

The superintendent of an industrial school had a number of large boys who were hard to manage. He adopted the expedient of making them assistants at a regular wage and they were transformed at once into useful helpers.

It is the unexpected that influences children. If they are counting on a whipping for some offence, that is the time to treat them with greater kindness and consideration than before. Surprises in this direction are often influential in bringing about an entire change of conduct.

About ten years ago a wretched-looking girl of eleven, delicate and miserably clad, took up her stand on a crowded corner on King Street for several days and begged in a pitiful voice for a little help. A gentleman whose sympathy took a practical turn laid a complaint and as her relatives were shown to be worthless people, she was made a ward of the Society. To-day she is a respectable young woman, earning a comfortable living and grateful for the kindness that rescued her from a vagrant and destitute life.

Florence was a little orphan girl, seven years of age, who had been carefully trained in her religious duties. One custom frequently impressed on her was that she should always cover her eyes with her hands at meal times and keep them covered until grace was said. After a time she was adopted in a home where grace was only repeated when there was company. The little girl duly covered her eyes and could not be induced to open them until a blessing had been asked. This she continued to do until the family decided that to show proper respect for the child's feelings they would ask a blessing regularly instead of occasionally.