

DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

IN

THE CITY OF TORONTO.

BY

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PREFACE.

The short account of the work of the Children's court, which stands at the beginning of the following study on " Dependent and Neglected children in Toronto" was written when the bulk of the material which is embodied in this study had been collected, and woven into its present form; it is, however, an important part of the work.

I have not thought it necessary to deal at any length with Children's Hospitals; the work these are doing is generally well known, and the principles underlying that work do not require either ^{guid} education or justification.

I have also, for reasons, which I set down later, given scarcely any space to the Homes which act as clearing-houses for certain English orphan societies. The short appendix mentions these Homes, and notes the existence of certain other lines of child -welfare work, which have not been examined in the body of the treatise. It does not, however, aim at completeness in any sense.

Aurora.

April 1915.

THE CHILDREN'S COURT.

The Children's Court is constituted under the Dominion Criminal Code, and under the Children's Protection Act of the Province of Ontario. The Ontario Act has the following provision:-

Juvenile Offenders.

"The lieutenant-governor may appoint commissioners with the powers of magistrates to hear and determine complaints and to enforce any of the provisions of the Children's Act, or against juvenile offenders apparently under sixteen years of age.

Children are to be dealt with and their cases disposed of in premises apart from and in a manner entirely distinct from ordinary police court procedure.

When a complaint is made or a charge is pending against a child, notice is to be given at once to the executive officer of the Children's Aid Society so that he can make a proper investigation of the circumstances."

The expenses of maintenance of the Children's Court are paid by the city, although the salary of the commissioner is ~~paid~~^{fixed} by the government.

The commissioner has power to deal with the following:-

1. Delinquent children, children guilty of an offence which if committed by an adult would entail fine or imprisonment.
2. Parents or others contributing to such delinquency.
3. Neglected children.
4. Parents or others guilty of neglect.

The powers of the court are thus very wide, and it is enabled to attempt a ~~correction~~^{reformation} of the human environment which has had a deleterious effect upon the child, instead of merely dealing with the child apart from his human surroundings.

The Children's Court follows the idea that in juvenile offenders the person and not the offence must be considered. However, it is found that this idea cannot be adhered to consistently, and exceptions are frequently made, where the treatment of the juvenile delinquent approximates to that meted out to an adult criminal. The reasons for privacy and trial in a separate court are too obvious to
1. Children's Protection Act of Ontario

require any explanation.

In dealing with child delinquency, anyone of the following courses is open to the commissioner:-

1. He may let the child return to his parents on suspended sentence.
2. He may put the child on probation and have him report to the court once a week.
3. He may send him to the Industrial School.
4. He may make him a ward of the court.

In some instances the child is sent to the Shelter of the Children's Aid Society, and further dealing with him is governed to a large measure by the report of the Inspector of the Society when the case is called again, this course may be followed if the child is guilty of the offence with which he is charged, if there is uncertainty in which case an investigation is needed and further evidence, or if even though not guilty of the offence charged, the evidence shows delinquency on the part of the child. The court does not regard the Shelter, in any sense, whatever, as a prison.

In a large number of cases the first course is followed, and the child returned to his parents, after advice and counsel directed where necessary and possibly^e as well to the parents as to the child.

A large number of the boys are put on probation, they report, during a period long or short, to the court. They are questioned, advised by the court. This work is actually done by two assistants of the commissioner^s, and these deal with an average of 142 boys every Saturday. Recently the commissioner has been sending some of the boys to "out-siders," clergymen and other reliable men, and this course has apparently been justified by results of 250 boys sent to "outsiders", only 25 have "repeated," a much smaller proportion than that of those who have reported to the officers of the court.

The third course is followed with great reluctance. The commissioner feels that the Industrial School is a place of danger to the boy. These Schools combine features of a prison, an asylum and an industrial school. There are in the school at Mimico about 300 boys of all grades of mentality, sophisticated

and innocent. It would probably be as much in the interest of a lad to give him a term in the Central Prison as in the Industrial School, under the conditions which now exist.

The fourth course is not followed at all, because the commissioner refuses to take the responsibility of becoming the guardian of a child, when he has so little opportunity of looking after the children, either directly or through trustworthy assistants. The Children's Court in Toronto is really shamefully understaffed. In addition to the commissioner there are four officers, two men and two women, and these are overwhelmed with work.

In dealing with neglected children, the Court works ~~so~~ closely with the Children's Aid Society ^{and} ~~that~~ a great deal of its work arises from complaints made by the Children's Aid Society, and, ^{even} where this is not so, the Children's Aid Society is called upon to deal with a large part of the neglect which comes to the attention of the court. The work, indeed, of this court is at some points, ^{almost} indistinguishable from certain phases of the work of the Children's Aid Society. The court has four assistants, one of these has charge of the work in connection with foreign children, and one of work in connection with Roman Catholic children. Two are visitors working one east and the other west of Yonge St. These investigate when children appear in the court, home conditions obtain evidence, etc.

It is this court which makes a child a ward of the Children's Aid Society where necessary, but the parent or natural guardian can appeal against this order, to a higher court.²

1. *Defective in Institutions. Appendix.*
2. *act for Protection of Children. Ontario 1908*

NEGLECTED and DEPENDENT CHILDREN in the CITY of TORONTO.

A study of the work being done on their behalf.

The demand for work in behalf of dependent children is found in the existence of a large number of children who are orphans, or who have been abandoned by their parents, or who are neglected by them, or whose parents are not capable of providing for them and caring for them. The hope of the work lies in the fact that the child life is plastic, and that what he is to become as a man, depends largely upon his nurture during the formation period.

In this dissertation I put to one side the question of the delinquent child. It will be necessary indeed, to encroach upon this subject for we can make no clear cut distinction between the dependent and the delinquent child.¹ The majority of the delinquent children are also dependent children, and child dependency leads to child delinquency. The delinquent child is not a criminal. He is an individual insufficiently socialized. It will be found as we pursue our investigation that juvenile offenders are to some extent dealt with by agencies which exist primarily to deal with neglected and dependent children. This will be noted in the proper place; there are, however, many agencies which exist primarily to "reform" delinquent children with these we are not to concern ourselves direct in this discussion, I do not pretend that this division of the subject is a scientific one. I make it merely for convenience in marking off a section of the problem for study.

The Ontario Statute² defines a neglected child as follows:-

"Neglected child shall mean a child 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 an habitual vagrant; or

1. Smith: Social Pathology, pg. 303.

2. Children's Protection Act of Ontario, as amended, April 1908

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 parent 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 child".

It is evident that dependent children are a sub-class of the class neglected, and that the classification neglected and delinquent can claim no exactness.

We find it impossible to make even a shrewd guess at the number of dependent and neglected children in a large city. There are large numbers of children who come within the meaning of the term neglected as defined by the act, but who are not brought into any relation with child-saving agencies, and there are also large numbers of children who are brought into momentary relation with some phase of child-welfare work. In a short study of the subject, we are compelled to give our attention to certain phases of the work done for neglected children, and to leave to one side the investigation of certain other activities which may have considerable significance. We are compelled to take account of time and mass, that is to say our attention is drawn to certain definitely organized agencies which deal with a large number of children and which continue in existence during a considerable length of time. It is only in connection with such agencies that we can obtain information the huge amount of momentary and individual work for children is beyond our reach.

There is abundant material it would appear for an investigation as indicated above in the reports and records of societies which deal with neglected children. The reports made to the government, the annual reports of the societies, the office records of cases etc. The annual reports, however, are of a very general character, and have little value for our purpose, the government reports are meagre and unsatisfactory. The books and records of the various

societies are a mine of raw material for the study of the question, but ^{the} ~~any~~ ^{is} lack of principle in the seeking of the information embodied in the entries on the one hand, and the fact that a stereotyped form of record is used on the other, makes it necessary to caution the investigator against a too great reliance upon records of cases for an understanding of the subject. The archives of the Children's Aid Society are by far the most complete and satisfactory of any I have examined. I have found it useful to inspect in person the work being done, to interview those at the head of the various agencies, particularly Mr. J. J. Kelso, Supt. of Neglected and Dependent children of Ontario. I have also had the opportunity of seeing the work of the children's aid Society at close range, having acted during some months as assistant Supt. of that Societies children's Shelter in Toronto.

The causes ^{of} dependency among children are largely uncontrollable. Hereditary influences, the unexpected death of one or both parents, industrial maladjustment, sickness of parents or other guardians, drunkenness or vice of parents and many other causes enter into the question. The German figures are as follows:

Orphanage -----	38.75%
Lack of work on part of Guardian -----	14.90%
Sickness of parent -----	11.88%
Abandoned by guardian -----	11.66%
Imprisonment of Guardian -----	4.7%
Abuse and Neglect -----	4.5%
Sickness of Guardian -----	4.34%
Laziness of Guardian -----	3.49%
Drunkenness of Guardian -----	1.54%
Mental or Physical Defect in Guardian -----	1 $\frac{5}{8}$ 74%

The remaining causes are of minor importance.

Large families among the poor are said to be an additional cause of dependency. It is claimed also that the number of dependent children in a community is closely related to the relief policy pursued by the community. It is often said that any community can have all the dependency it is prepared to pay for, cruelty and alcoholism are allied causes, and abnormal family conditions is an important cause

of dependency among children.

It may be of interest to set down the statistics relating to the children made wards of the children's Aid Society of Ontario in 1911.

Parental Record.

Deserted by	Father 24.	Mother 8.	Both 15.
Drunkards	" 14.	" 10.	
Immorality	" 4.	" 28.	" 23.
Criminal	" 4.	" 11.	" 3.
Orphaned	" 23.	" 45.	" 221.
Separation			" 30.
Vagrancy			" 39.
General Depravity			" 60.
Cruelty			" 8
Neglect			" 109.

Children's Record.

Truant	7.	Immoral	20.
Incorrigible	22.	Illegitimate	57.
Petty Theft	18.	Neglected	379.

These figures are not of much value with respect to the determining of the causes of dependency among children, nor would figures from the same source covering a long period be of great help. The entries are most useful, no doubt in the practical work of the Society.

" It is a first principle of charity to avoid breaking up the national relations of the family so long as the interests of the children are not in jeopardy". and it is an extension of this principle which leads to the placing out of children in foster homes when for any reason life in their own family has become impossible or is no longer compatible with their welfare. It may be argued that the care of children for whom permanent institutional care is necessary such as crippled and deformed children, and feeble minded, and children afflicted with an incurable disease rendering them helpless is also an application of this principle. The presence of such a child in the home of poor parents is too great a burden. Illegitimate children, foundlings and abandoned infants must if possible be

1. Nineteenth Report of Supt of Neglected & Dependent Children, Ontario
2. Henderson: Dependents, Delinquents, Delinquents, pg. 48.

brought into relation with their parents, and parental responsibility and affection awakened in their favour. A good deal can be done for children who may be regarded as parti-dependent by the crèche, summer outings, public playgrounds, medical inspection of public schools and even in some cases by grants of money to the parents.

The children with whom we have most to do belong to that large class which is entirely or almost entirely dependent upon society because they have no parents or guardians, or because these are unwilling or unable to care for ^{them}. In the care of these children, the opinion of those who are most experienced has crystallized on the proposition that the child should grow up in a home that every effort should be made to reconstruct the parents' home where it has failed, and if this cannot be done, a foster home for the child should be secured. It will be interesting to keep this ideal in mind as we pass on to examine some of the agencies which are at work in Toronto, seeking to help dependent and neglected children.

The work of the Childrens' Aid Societies stands first perhaps in interest and importance. These Societies work under the Provincial act of 1908 ~~and 1909~~. The object of this act is to "secure a just recognition of the right of every child to a happy and well trained youth; to punish cruelty and neglect of children, and to encourage a deep sense of parental responsibility; to provide family homes rather than institutions for homeless children, by urging upon good people the Christian duty and privilege of taking into their hearts and homes a forlorn child, and training him or her for a life of responsibility and usefulness".

The statute provides for the appointment of a Supt. of neglected and dependent children for the whole province, and the work of the Societies is unified through the Supt. He directs and encourages the various Societies, assists in the establishment of Societies where none has existed, directs and supervises the visiting of any ^{home} place where a child is placed, and where no Society exists the Supt. himself acts as a Childrens' Aid Society, and can exercise all the powers ^{conferred} ~~conferred~~ by the statute upon such Societies. ²

The Childrens' Aid Societies seek in every way to protect children from neglect and cruelty, and to see that those who have

1. *Childrens Protection act 1908.* 2. *Ibid.*

no home are placed in a foster home. The Society is empowered to remove children from homes where they are neglected, and by an order of the court these can be made wards of the Society.¹ The Children's Aid Society seeks to keep the home intact and even to reconstruct it when it has fallen to pieces when a child is taken away from the parents, this is not done until efforts have been made to restore normal home conditions.

In Toronto there are two Children's Aid Societies, one dealing with non-catholic children, and the children's aid Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which works among neglected and destitute children of Roman Catholic parentage.

We must when we come to examine the practical working of the Children's Aid Societies acknowledge that they do not go a great distance toward solving the problem of dependency among children, while it is true that they endeavor to prevent dependency it is also true that the child does not come within their view until things are already in a bad way and the attempt to put the home on a better basis is foredoomed to failure. The Societies rescue individuals, but they leave untouched the source of the evil, with which indeed they are quite inadequate to cope. A great deal of neglect never comes to their notice at all, and the attention is entirely given to families where the economic aspect of the question intrudes itself. Hardly any account is taken of the large amount of neglect of children on the part of well to-do parents which tends later on to produce a crop of dependents. It is only where the economic fortifications are weak that the child-rescue penetrates to the relief of the child. There is a vast deal of family degeneracy as well among the well-to-do as among the poor; the former is left untouched, and a greater part of the latter may easily escape notice².

A glance at the methods by means of which the Children's Aid Society discovers and get in touch with the need it seeks to remedy will show the justice of the above remarks, and at the same time ^{bring} living out the good features of the Children's Aid Societies methods.

The agents of the Children's Aid Society wait upon the

1. Children's Protection act.

2. *apprehive: Neglected children who escape notice of Relief Agencies.*

children's court and children are tried in their presence. If the offence is not very serious, or if there is not a very bad record the case is turned over to the Probation offices. If the magistrate thinks well of it, he may remand the child to the Children's Aid Society for a short time. In that event, the child is taken to the Shelter, and when the case is called again, it is disposed of in accord with the report of the agent of the Society. The child may be discharged, remanded again to the Children's Aid Society, given a term in the Industrial School, or turned over to the Probation officer.

The principle supposed to underlie this side of the work may be good; in practice the good obtained is meagre. The practice of bringing these young offenders into the Shelter is vicious. I have seen in the detention room of the Children's Shelter at the same time one boy of sixteen accused of burglary, another of the same age accused of co-habiting with the young girls of his neighborhood, one twelve years old accused of incorrigible truancy, two of about fourteen years accused of stealing a bicycle, one of eight or nine accused of setting fire to pens in the stock-yard, one of thirteen accused of placing a worthless piece of metal in a slot-machine. One may be fully in accord with the view that in dealing with children the offender and not the offence should be considered, but the result of shutting up together a number of boys of various ages and all degrees of viciousness has not a thing to be said in its favour. The beliefs that the Children's Aid Society can be in a position to make an intelligent recommendation, when the child has been in their custody for a few days, to the magistrate, ^{or} that they may have been able to influence the child for good during his stay at the Shelter are grotesque. This stay there is in effect nothing, but a mild form of imprisonment, a certain routine is gone through every day, the Supt. has no time to bring his personality to bear upon these boys or girls. He has far too much to do; the matron has a greater opportunity to influence these children for good, but the conditions are not favourable. The greatest personal influence exercised during this time of detention is by the boys upon one another and the influence of an attendant, usually a "cheap" man, comes next. The short stay in the Shelter - a good thing on the whole - works against the Societies officers getting to know the boy or girl very well, and against influencing him

strongly.

I should not like to apply the above remarks altogether to the work of the Roman Catholic Society. Unquestionably, religion gives the Sisters a lever that cannot be used to the same advantage by the Protestant Society, and the nuns who come in contact with the children are devoted women of high character.

The Children's Aid Society is aggressive and earnest. Two female visitors are maintained. One of these works in the section of the City east of Yonge St. The other works in that part of the City west of Yonge St. These visitors are well acquainted with the districts where neglect and dependency are apt to obtain. They are on the watch continually to discover cases where the intervention of the Society might be required. These visitors may advise and counsel parents, and in case it is thought necessary they report to the Secretary who acts also as the Inspector for the Society. Either he or his assistant then investigates the case, and takes whatever action is deemed advisable. Information may also reach the Inspector in other ways, a clergyman, a neighbor, the policeman, may be the medium or children may even appear themselves at the shelter seeking refuge. In cases where the parents are not dead, and have not forsaken the children, the effort is made to bring the parents to a sense of their duty, cruelty and neglect require sometimes only a warning from the Inspector to be discontinued, followed by periodical visits from one of the staff. Sometimes it is necessary to take the child away from its home for a short time, the child being removed to the Societies Shelter to be restored to the parents when they have shown the disposition and ability to care properly for him, where this result is not secured, and in the case of abandoned children, children of criminal parents and in other cases where the restoration of the child to the family is impracticable, the child is made by order of the court, a ward of the Society, and if under eleven years of age is placed out in a foster home, if above that age in service.

The Society of St. Vincint de Paul does not use quite the same methods in getting in touch with the children who need its offices. This Society has one paid officer who is at certain stated hours to be

found at his office. He does not hunt up cases, they must be brought to his attention. This difference in method is partly accounted for by the religious character of the Society, and by the smallness of the Roman Catholic population in Toronto. The parish priest plays a much more prominent part in the work of bringing neglected children into relation with the Society than do the Protestant clergy in helping the other Society in like manner. The agent of the Catholic Society distributes cards to the Roman ^{Catholic} people through the priests. These cards state briefly the aim of the Society, appeal to the people to the people for help and give the name and address of the agent, so that any interested may communicate with him. Unlike the other Society, the Catholic organization has no Shelter of its own. It uses various Roman Catholic institutions in the City for the purpose. The orphanage of the Sacred Heart at Sunnyside is used as the Shelter for children over five years of age, who are not charged with any misdemeanor, and for infants under five the St. Vincent de Paul home is used. The general policy of the Catholic Society is identical with that of the Protestant Society.

During the year ending December 31st 1911, the Children's Aid Society of Toronto received 608 complaints involving the interests of 1574 children. These were disposed of as follows:

Warning -----	239
Meditation and Advice -----	135
Assuming temporary custody of children -----	82
Co-operation of other institutions -----	70
Made Wards -----	29
Lost children returned to parents and discipline -----	35
In abeyance -----	18

The figures of the Catholic Society for the same year are as follows:²

Cases dealt with officially -----	464
Cases arising from children's court -----	254
Cases reported privately -----	210
^{Number} Cases of children affected -----	481

It should be noted that even when a child is made a ward of the Society, it does not necessarily imply a permanent separation from

1. Report on child welfare, Ontario 1912. pg. 69ff
 2. Ibid. pg. 71.

the parents. The child is sometimes returned to the parents on probation while remaining a ward of the Society. The Children's Aid Society claims a large measure of success in "educating unnatural parents to care for their own offspring, and to make themselves and their descendants desirable members of Society" when desirable home conditions cannot be maintained or restored, the Society casts about to find a foster home for its ward. as a general thing, children over the age of eleven are not given out for adoption. If children are placed out when they have reached a greater age, they are placed out in service under an agreement. In either case they will likely remain wards of the Society, until they reach the age of twenty-one.

The Childrens Aid Society professes to desire to get the children placed out as soon as possible, when once this course has been decided upon with respect to any child, and there is a continual stream of children passing through their hands, yet as we shall see a little later, there is a tendency for this ideal to become obscured by the claims of the institutional side of the work.

The Children's Aid Society of Toronto had up to December 31 st, 1911. placed 682 children in foster homes. During 1911., 58 were so placed. The figures for the Catholic Society~~s~~ are not available. The officers of both the Societies claim that a large majority of children placed out in foster homes, turn out well. The agent of the Catholic Society placing the number as high as 80% of those adopted. The Secretary of the other Society, while not wishing to commit himself to an estimate thinks the percentage of successes is large, according to the Secretary of the latter Society, illegitimate children turn out on the whole better than the children which were born in wedlock.²

Care is exercised when placing out the children in foster homes. Good references are always required. In the case of the Roman Catholic Society, the recommendation of the parish priest carries great weight, but references are also asked for from others, who know the applicant. Both of the Societies seek practically the same assurances as to the personal worth of the applicant, his character, his standing in the community. Searching questions are

1. Child Welfare, Ontario Report 1912. pag. 71.

2. a body of men and women

asked: Is the applicant addicted to drink? Is he industrious and thrifty? Have applicants a neat and comfortable home? Do you think that they would be too exacting in their requirements of a child? Are they kind hearted, honourable, and upright? What do you think is their reason for wanting a child? Are they both practical Catholics? (asked of Catholic applicants). Do you believe that they would treat the child as they would desire their own child treated under like circumstances? Would you consider this a desirable home for your own child under like circumstances? The Society also asks the applicant many questions calculated to reveal his motives in asking for a child, his financial circumstances, etc. Could you come to see the child? Have you ever had a child entrusted to you by any other institution or society? Would you expect to keep the child until 21 years of age? What is your principal motive in wanting a child? Do all the members of the family attend church? Is any member of the family an invalid? What is the general character of the hired help? Of what kind is your house? How many rooms? How many sleeping rooms? Would the child sleep in a bed by himself? For what papers and magazines do you subscribe? Do you own the property on which you reside? Distance to church? To school? Is school open all year around? References are required, and it is asked that these be given without consulting the parties whose names are offered. The references must be to persons intimately acquainted with the applicants and their home surroundings, well known and of good standing in applicants neighborhood. They should not be persons with whom applicants have business dealings, nor should they be relations. They should include the name of the applicant's minister and family physician.

Wherever possible a visit is made to the home of the applicants by the Supt. or his representative, before a child is sent to them. It would be well if this could be done in every case.

The adoption papers are of interest. The foster parents promise to bring up the child as their own, to train him so that he may lead a useful life. "We also promise and agree that we will not at any time while the child remains in our custody, engage in the business of selling liquor, that we will write the Society in

¹ Questionnaire sent to persons given as references
² " " " applicants
³ adoption agreements.

January and July of each year regarding the welfare of the child, and immediately in case of severe illness or accident, or should we change our post-office address, acquaint the Society with full particulars of such illness, accident or change of address.

Provision is made for the return of the child to the Society in case he is not suited to the home in which he has been placed, or in case the foster parents are for any reason thought to be unfit custodian's of the child. During 1911, twenty-two children were thus returned to the Society. It frequently happens that a child is changed from one home to another several times before a suitable home is found for him, this does not mean, however, that the fault is necessarily with the home or with the child who is sent. It may mean simply that for some reason or other, the foster parents and this child cannot get along together.

The Supt. of Dependent and Neglected ^{through his representatives} children visits the foster home at intervals, and the Society tries to keep informed as to the conditions in which the child is living, his happiness and progress, when a child who can read and write is placed in a foster home, he is encouraged to write occasionally to the Society.

The Children's Aid Society in its solicitude to maintain the home, sometimes evinces an undue delicacy in taking children from parents who are unfit to have children in their custody, and an undue haste in returning children to parents of evil character. Evil may result to the child in this way, cases of neglect and destitution arise and the attention of the Society is drawn to them. The parents are advised, warned, watched during a certain period, perhaps the children are taken away from them for a short time. The parents promise amendment, and give some evidence of a change for the better. The children are returned to them. The parents remove to a different part of the city, and leave no address. Meanwhile, the watchfulness of the Society has become relaxed, fresh cases crowd upon it, and interest in the less recent ones diminishes. Sometimes those with whom the Society has had to do before are brought under its notice again, and the second interference on the part of the Society accomplishes what the first failed to do. There must be many

instances where families which have been in contact with the Society

District visitors who give them whole time to the work, act under the Supt. and reports on all children, are made to him. The Toronto Society also

drop out of sight, only to reappear, if at all, when it is no longer possible for the Society to do anything for the children.

A few examples, may be given to illustrate the above remarks. They could be multiplied.

A family of three children were taken from their father. He was a drunkard and obviously unfit to have them in his care. He had no one to look after them when he was at work. When they were in the Shelter the father came to see the children regularly once a week. He was kind and brought fruit and candies for the children. He was most anxious to have the children return to him, when the children had been in the care of the Society for some months, the father prevailed upon the officers to let him have the children. He represented that the oldest girl would be able to look after the two younger children, get the meals and all the children would be at home with their father. He made promises to give up his drinking habits. He took the children to his home. He either never gave up his drinking habits or soon relapsed into them. He would come home frequently in an intoxicated condition. Sometimes he would not return at night at all. The girl got into the way of roaming the streets, and attending the theatre and the movies. When the money her father gave her failed, she cast about for a means of replenishing her purse. At that time many mothers who shopped in one of the large down-town stores used to leave their baby-carriages and go-carts in an archway opening off the street. The girl stole one of these go-carts, and sold it. Then she stole another. Finally, she took one with a baby in it, apparently there being no empty ones in the archway that day. She threw the baby over an embankment, where it died. She was brought up on the charge of manslaughter, and sentenced to a long term in the penitentiary.

A mother was warned by the agent of the Children's Aid Society, that her children would be taken away from her, if she did not amend her ways, and give them better care. The children were removed to the Shelter for a time, but were restored to the mother on her promise to lead a better life and provide for her children. She lived up to her promises for some weeks, and during this time was visited at intervals by the women visitors of the Society. Suddenly she disappeared. The society could find no trace of her,

and interest in the case gradually wore away. Some months afterward a policeman had occasion to visit a house of bad character, a house of ill-fame. He found this woman and her children there, living with women of the under-world. He recognized her, and notified the agent of the children's aid Society. The agent visited the place, and tried to induce the mother to let him have the custody of the children. She refused; whereupon the agent made arrangements to have the mother summoned to the police-court on a charge of being an inmate of a house of ill-fame. While she was at the court, he went to the house, took possession of the children, and removed them to the Shelter. Later, the court granted an order making them wards of the Society.

A mother living a careless, though apparently not a dissolute life, was induced to make her children wards of the children's aid Society (catholic). She had a genuine love for her children, and under the constraint of that love, and in order to have her children restored to her, she reformed to such an extent. that her priest advised the Society to restore to her, her children. This was done. Shortly thereafter it was found that she was living with a man, not her husband. The Society took the children again. The woman then contested the agreement by which the children had been made wards of the Society, and sued to recover them, but the court sustained the action of the Society, and confirmed the validity of the agreement.

While the aim of the Children's Aid Society is to keep the home intact where possible, and to find a foster home for the children when this cannot be done. The existence of the children's Shelter, tends in another direction, namely towards the building up of the institutional side of the work. A good deal of the energy and interest of the officers of the Society is drawn into institutional work.

Children are brought to the Shelter and kept there awaiting adoption. Many are taken to the Shelter pending the reformation of their parents. Some because they have no where else to go. Others because they are incorrigible, and some I have reason to ~~expect~~ ^{believe} because the parents want to be rid of them. Some are kept for a few days, some for weeks, some for months, and in certain cases even for

years. No foster home may be available for a certain child until considerable time has elapsed or other institutions to which a child should be handed over are full to capacity, and cannot receive the child; the temptation may even arise to retain the child in the Shelter because of the services she renders to the institution. To some extent all that is said later respecting the evils of institutionalism applies to this aspect of the work of the Children's Aid Society.. A great part of the work of the Children's Aid Society springs from cases in the Children's Court.

A great number of children who are neglected or destitute are brought into contact with the Society through the court, and the Society acts as an instrument of the court in dealing with delinquent children. Boys are remanded to the Shelter by way of punishment, and are kept there in a room with all the appearance of a goal-cell. These boys are brought into close touch with other boys, the time spent in the playground being spent together. Formerly, it was the custom to thrust any "bad" boy in among the "prisoner-boys" as they were called for a term varying from hours to days, according to the offence which he had committed. The folly of bringing together under one roof the children of all ages of drunken, dissolute and shiftless parents, and keeping them thus in association for any length of time is sufficiently obvious. The appearance of the names of many of those who were as children inmates for a time long or short of the Shelter, in present police court annals may mean that the contact of the Society with these children had little effect upon the course of their lives even if we refuse to believe that they were influenced by that contact in an evil direction. The fact that the Shelter is used as a place of detention for juvenile offenders, gives the children an impression that it is a penal institution. Many of them look upon it as a kind of short-term reformatory.

The Shelter should either be abolished, or its work restricted to housing children for the shortest period possible, pending investigation. If it is needful to keep the child for a long period, it should be placed out in a certified home, and boarded there, If this cannot be brought about, a system of small temporary homes might be organized. The detention room in connection with the Shelter should be abolished forthwith.

A glance at the list of admissions into the Shelter for any given year would serve to bring home the dangers that might arise from the policy of housing together the children with

The commissions of the children's court prefer to say "correction" the Shelter is supposed to be in no sense a penal institution the facts, however, are as I state them above.

whom the Society has to do. I give the record of admissions for the year ending December thirty-first, 1911.

Admissions.

For Shelter -----	157
Made Wards -----	20
Lost -----	18
Truancy -----	16
Incorrigible -----	18
Discipline -----	7
From Foster Homes -----	22
From Situations -----	6
From Hospitals -----	3
From other Institutions -----	4
From Temporary Homes -----	1
From Bail -----	6
Juvenile Court -----	407
In Residence December thirty-first, 1910 -----	69
	<u>759</u>

Discharged.

To Foster Homes -----	58
To Parents or Guardians -----	158
To Situations -----	13
To Temporary Homes -----	3
To Hospitals -----	6
To Various Institutions -----	44
To St. Vincent de Paul Society -----	73
To Victoria Industrial School -----	73
To Alexandria " " -----	18
To Suspended Sentence -----	199
To Discharged and Withdrawn -----	37
To Fined -----	6
To Bailed Out -----	15
To Miscellaneous -----	10
In Residence December thirty-first, 1911 -----	<u>46</u>

The Roman Catholic Society has no Shelter of its own, but uses the Roman Catholic orphanage for its shelter. Danger is apt to

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arise from the sending of these children in among the orphanage children. The Mother Superior at the Sacred Heart orphanage at Sunnyside, which receives many of these children for temporary care, cited a case where one of them had spread a knowledge of certain evils through the institution within two days after her arrival.

There is a tendency of the Roman Catholic Society to become a feeder of the orphanages and to merge their work in certain of its aspects in the work of these agencies.

We might say here that the work of the Provincial Inspector of Prisons and Charities should be extended to cover the Children's Shelter, and all other "Homes" in which Dependent children are found.

Administration and Finance.

The Children's Aid Society is made up of all who join the Society, and pay a fee of at least one dollar for the year. An annual meeting is held and this meeting elects a Board of Management; on this Board are always a number of men prominent in the city's life. Some physicians who give their time and services free of charge are also on the Board. There is also a representative appointed by the city council. The executive work devolves upon the paid officials of the Society. The Secretary and Inspector - the offices are combined - performs the greater part of this work. He consults frequently, however, with the President, and any change of policy or any proposal for further equipment must have the approval of the Board.

The Society is financed by voluntary contributions and by a civic grant. No distinction seems to be made between fees and subscriptions.

The total receipts for the year 1911 were \$18000~~00~~ made up as follows;

Donations -----	\$ 12,849.55
Civic Grant -----	4,000.00
Received from Parents ----	377.92
Contribution Boxes -----	1,082.33
Sundries -----	78.17

A glance at any months list of contributions reveals that the Society has a very wide constituency of supporters. Amounts vary from one dollar to twenty-five dollars, and the subscribers are

It must be admitted that the work of this inspector could be made of greater value by more frequent visitation by institutions.

individuals, miscellaneous clubs and organizations, benevolent and Friendly Societies, Labour Unions, Sunday Schools and other organizations.

The Children's Aid Society of St. Vincent de Paul is supported by a civic grant, and by the voluntary offerings of members and adherents of the Roman Catholic church. The organization of the Society is along lines similar to those outlined above, but the religious side of the work is emphasized, and the clergy are prominent on the Board of Directors. The executive work of the Society is done by the Secretary and agent, one man acting in both capacities. The City gives a grant of \$1500.00 to the Society, but no financial report is issued.

Agencies Caring for Destitute Infants.

This work is one of great difficulty, and requires on the part of those who have charge of institutions where these infants are cared for a strong interest and a high ability. There are two large institutions in Toronto which look after destitute infants, namely. The Infant's Home on St. Mary's Street, and the Infant's Home of St. Vincent de Paul on Sackville Street (R.C.) a visit to either of these Homes will convince anyone, that the facilities for doing their work are inadequate, and if he be a person who has looked into the matter at all, will probably convince him that the methods of these institutions are not suited to the work they exist to do. The conditions in institutions devoted to the care of destitute infants have been much improved in recent years, but there remains much to be desired on this head. As far as Toronto is concerned. the requirements of the Baltimore specialists are far from being realized. It is doubtful if those requirements exist in Toronto even as an ideal.

The Infant's Home on St. Mary's St. is seriously undermanned as far as expert help is concerned. With the best will, the few trained nurses cannot overtake the work, Women who are admitted to the Home with their babies. give their services, not only nurcing their own babes, but helping to look after others infants, and assisting also with the household tasks, wasking, sewing and cleaning. Many of these women are not at all fitted for the work of looking after the babies. Upon a visit to this Home, I saw a group of infants on a porch. with the

mother of one of them, in charge of the group. One of the babes had the appearance of having only a short time to live. The Nurse-Supt. who accompanied me said that he was suffering from inanition. ^{He lay} ~~The boy~~ on the floor too weak to move, and a lot of flies crawled upon his face and hands. No one drove the flies away. The Supt. seemed not to notice that the flies were there at all.

I am assured by the Superintendent of the Infant's Home that the death rate is low for such an institution. but I was not able to obtain a scientific computation of the mortality in these institutions. The infants are there some for longer, some for a shorter period, and many of them have the seeds of disease, when they are taken to the institution. In the Infant's Home, St. Mary's St., of a total of 186 cared for during the year ending November 24, 1911. 51 died, no less than 27 of these from wasting diseases. The large number of deaths due to wasting diseases is explained by the Home Physician thus: "A number of the children for some length of time, prior to being brought to the Home, have been poorly cared for, badly fed, and in some instances have suffered from some hereditary taint, since birth, and in consequence are much emaciated, and of very low vitality. A large number of these never seem to respond to the treatment and care of the Home".

While this is all true, it is probably true, too, that many of these little ones who perish would pull through if a place could be found for them in families, when they would have the love and the individual attention and care they so much require.

Conditions in the St. Vincent's Home (R.C.) are similar to those outlined above. This Home is a ^{branch} ~~part~~ of the House of Providence and the Sisters of Mercy are in charge of the Work. The Roman Catholic Home has also a ward for maternity cases in which about twenty mothers can be accommodated.

The conditions of admission into these Homes are as follows:-
The Infants Home and Infirmary admits destitute mothers with their infants on the sanction of the Board of Management. Married mothers and unmarried mothers are admitted, provided that in the case of the latter the babe is the first-born. Girls admitted with their babes are required to remain in the Home during six months, and nurse the little one, helping at the same time to look after other infants. They are

also required to help with the work of the Institution.^{4.}

Most of the children admitted into this Home are children of respectable married people, and have through the death of one or both parents been thrown on the world in a helpless and destitute condition. Unmarried mothers are placed in situations when they leave the Home, while their babes are allowed to remain in the Home until they are three years old. The mothers are permitted to visit them once a week. If the girls do not behave properly, they are compelled to take over the child, and their connection with the Home comes to an end.

When I visited this Home in August 1912 there were 87 infants there; between 60 and 70 of these were children of married mothers.

In some instances, the deserted wife is admitted with the child, and efforts are made to obtain a situation for her, when she becomes able to fill one.

The practice of giving her babe to the child mother when the latter is not doing right, and making then a sharp break between mother and babe on the one hand and the home on the other must be condemned. For the child's sake it should not be handed over to the mother when she is doing badly; for the mother's sake she should not be cast off, for this is her time of great need for help and redemptive influences.

The recommendation of the priest or some other responsible person is necessary to secure an infants admission to the St. Vincent Home. In this home, mothers who are admitted are required to remain and care for the infant, till the latter is one year old. The mothers are also required to assist in the laundry, which is run in connection with the House of Providence.

In both of these Homes, mother and child are kept together during the period of nursing and this is a good feature of the work.

Exception may be taken to the rule enforced by both Homes of admitting only such unmarried mothers, as come with their first-born. Unless there are other agencies which would take in a mother with her second infant, she is placed in a desperate plight. This regulation can be evaded by the unscrupulous. If rigidly enforced, it might conceivably lead to an increase of infanticide.

1. Constitution of Toronto Infants Home.

Homes and Orphanages:¹

In this section I deal with the five Homes found in Toronto:

1. The Children's Shelter of the Salvation Army.
The Army Shelter receives necessitous children - orphans, illegitimate or destitute. Children from 2-14 years of age are found here. Population c 20.
2. The Boys' Home. Receives destitute and neglected boys between the ages of 5 and 14, who have not been convicted of crime. Population about 100.
3. The Girls' Home. Needy girls between the ages of 3 and 14 received. Population 80-90.
4. Protestant Orphan's Home. Receives orphan children of either sex. The child is ordinarily supposed to remain in the Home until 12 years of age. Children from babyhood up to 13 and 14 are found.
5. The Sacred Heart Orphanage. Provides for Roman Catholic Orphaned Children; this Home is used also by the Children's Aid Society of St. Vincent de Paul as a Shelter. The average number of inmates is about

195

¹ To be read after heading homes and orphanages on next page.

A certain number of infants find their way to foster homes through the channels of the Children's Aid Society, but the great majority of those who pass through the homes melt very soon into the general community and disappears; it is therefore impossible to estimate the results obtained by these institutions with any degree of accuracy.

The organization of the Infant's Home and that of other Homes and Orphanages we are to consider below is similar. I shall therefore speak of the organization of these agencies when I shall have discussed the work of the Orphanages. The organization of the St. Vincent's Home, I shall mention in connection with that of the Orphanage of the Sacred Heart.

Homes and Orphanages.

When we come to examine agencies at work in caring for neglected children, who are not infants, we are met by problems which do not emerge so clearly in discussing the Infants' Homes. The matters of conditions of admission to the institution, the effect of the diet and the general hygienic conditions are still of great importance, but we have to do here with a question which enhance these things but also a good a good deal more; the problem of institutional life and its results confront us.

It should be borne in mind that these institutions with which I deal in this section are private institutions, but they are supported in part by grants from the City and the Province.

One must be careful in in looking into work of these institutions that he does not place a too great importance upon constitutions, rules, regulations etc. These must always be read in the light of the knowledge of the actual working of the Institution. It is never safe to take it for granted that the work of an institution proceeds exactly along the lines laid down in the constitution. Under the pressure of circumstances, rules give way or receive strange interpretations. Institutions that by their name and constitution are indicated as existing to help and care for a certain class of dependent children, are found receiving dependents not comprised in the class indicated by the name of the Institution and described in the constitution. Thus we have Orphanages, where children are received,

Insert in handwriting to be read here

whose parents are living, although the constitution of the Society distinctly says that the institution exists for the care of Orphans only.

Many of these charities have sought to surround their institutions with safe-guards to prevent imposition, and to discourage pauperism. We find e. g., in the rules and regulations of one orphanage the following:

"The objects of the charity shall consist of three classes 1. Orphans, 2. Children without a father, 3. Children without a mother. Preference shall be made of applicants in the above order. All applications for the admission of children shall be made in writing to the Managers (under cover to the Secretary) and must be approved by them; and the admission of the different classes shall be according to the poverty of the applicants. The election of the candidates for admission shall be determined by the Managers at their monthly meeting, and to such an extent as the funds of the Society will admit, any of the Managers may nevertheless in their discretion admit children into the Home in the interim, subject to such approval children admitted into the Home shall remain under the care of the Matron for at least one year, previous to their being apprenticed, unless circumstances may require this rule to be ^{deviated} ~~directed~~ from."

This rule as regards admission may be taken as typical, as far as the non-religious Homes are concerned. It is open to grave censure. No provision is made in connection with these Homes for kind, expert investigation of the cases, which come under the notice of the Societies. The Board of Managers is composed of a number of ladies interested in charitable work, but not at all likely to have time or inclination for careful investigation. Nor have they one or more trained investigators to advise them. The rule allowing a Manager to enter a child into the home at any time during the interim between the monthly meetings means in practice that children are admitted without careful enquiry being made into their circumstances etc. when the child has been admitted, unless some strong reason arises in the meantime, it is likely that no objections will be taken to the election of such child at the Board meeting. Such an objection would be regarded as discourteous to the lady who had admitted the child in the

1. Protestant Orphan's Home. Rules and Regulations Sec. 10.

interim.

As a general thing also, the Matron of one of these Homes can admit a child, and then ask the Board to confirm her action. The ladies of the Board are dependent very largely upon the Matron for information, and the Matron is usually a very ordinary person, and not at all likely to have the time or inclination to go carefully into any question with respect to the child's admission.

A great deal has been written about Institutionalism, and what has been said of institutionalism, ^{in general} may be said of the large institutions in Toronto, a soul-deadening routine prevails, and where a long period of residence in the Institution is the rule, the result is detrimental to the character of the child. Much earnest effort is put forth by those in charge of the Homes; a great deal of this effort is misdirected and unintelligent, and much of it counts little for good on account of the cramping system. A good deal of the waste is due to personal limitations of character and training in those who have charge of the Home.

From morning till night the children uniformed and dragooned follow a routine, and the child never escapes from the Institution even when he goes to school, he attends a school in the building, or in the grounds, a school which though it is a unit in the Public School System is a part of the Institution, when he goes to church he marches in company with the other inmates, and attends church as an inmate of the Home. Day by day everything is done at the tap of the bell. The routine followed varies from Home to Home. That followed in the Protestant Orphan's Home is typical of all. I give it below:

6 a. m. Bell rings, Boys get up.
6.30 a. m. Boys strip beds, wash and get ready to sweep and dust.
7 a. m. Prayers, Recital of Creed.
7.30 a. m. Breakfast of Staff.
8 a. m. Bell rings for children's breakfast, children line up and march into breakfast.
8.30 a. m. After breakfast children sing hymn.
9 a. m. School called.
12 - 1a. m. Luncheon, children line up at sound of bell, and marched into dining-room.

12-45 a.m. Luncheon of Staff.
 1-30 p.m. School called.
 4 p. m. School dismissed.
 5-30 p.m. Supper of Staff.
 4 - 6 p.m. Mending, repairing, cleaning, making-beds.
 6 p. m. Prayers, Bell rings and children march down to the Dining-room, where prayers are read.
 6-30 p.m. Children's Supper.
 7- 8 p.m. Recreation for smaller children.
 7- 9 p.m. Recreation for larger children.
 8 p.m. Bell rings for prayers.
 8.15 p.m. Smaller children retire.
 9 p.m. Older children retire.

When there is no school, the children do a certain amount of dusting, cleaning etc. in the morning, and when there is school, some of this work is done by the children before school is called.

The extraordinary attention given to routine may be judged from the Rules and Regulations of the Boy's Home and the Girl's Home. The time of rising, meals etc., and the disposal of time in general is laid down in the Rules, and in the Report of the Supt. of the Boy's Home, there is a description of the inner workings of the Home, which reveals something of the way in which the Supt. conceived of her duties, and also as it appears in the report without comment, the way in which the members of the Board regarded the work.

In looking into these Institutions in Toronto, I was oppressed by the feeling that discredited methods are followed, and that it would take an earthquake to bring about a change.

We find for instance that the attendants in these institutions are men and women of inferior education, training and character. Even the Supts. are often persons with no special ability for their work, chosen on the recommendation of some supporter of the cause because of a personal interest and engaged not because they are the best that can be procured, though at the meagre salary offered high-class personnel could not be obtained. Most of those engaged in Institutional work in Toronto apart from the work in the Roman Catholic and the Salvation Army Homes have drifted into that work,

and have not gone into from any special interest in it. There is, indeed, the danger that they may be employed from motives of charity.

Life in the institution is a poor substitute for life in the family. The child misses that gradual seeping in of Knowledge which contributes so much in the preparation of the child who grows up in a family for adult life. Even the work the boy in an institution is asked to do is not like the tasks which he would be asked to ~~do~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~like~~ ~~the~~ ~~tasks~~ ~~which~~ ~~he~~ ~~would~~ ~~be~~ ~~asked~~ ~~to~~ perform if he were growing up in normal surroundings. We find the boys making beds, washing floors, "setting" long tables, and there is little variety in the work. It is the same day after day. It is done with the regularity of clock-work. It inevitably suggests the work of the prisoner under the eye of the guard. This kind of work may be better for the boy than idleness, but from personal observation during some months duty as an assistant in an institution. I judge that it tends to make all work dreary and repulsive to the children. Things are not quite so bad with regard to the girls in the institution. It is possible even in an Orphanage to give the girls work to do like the work they will have to do when they go out into the world, sewing, cooking. As a matter of fact, however, there is little opportunity in the institution for a girl to learn to cook. The ranges are far too large to be used in that way in the Homes, and quantities of food are prepared for each meal far too great.

Those connected with the working of a large institution are apt to lose sight of the ultimate well being of the children, who are placed in the institution, and to be satisfied if the institutional machinery is running smoothly. It looks like success to the member of the Board who visits the place once a week, if the children are neat and clean, respectful and obedient, and in good health, and certainly the Supt. regards it as a large part of her work to satisfy the visiting of the Board in these particulars. Every effort is made to have everything in apple-pie order on the occasion of such a visit. It is natural enough that the member of the Board should be in a self-congratulatory mood upon the work they are doing. They see large, imposing buildings, where many poor children are housed, fed, clothed. These children are surrounded so these ladies

1. The Institution is visited weekly by members of the Board appointed for the purpose or acting in rotation. a long time member of the Board

imagine with good influences. They are convened daily for ^{ayers} progress and they attend a place of worship on Sunday. One need not impugn the motives of the ladies who serve on the Boards of such institutions as the Protestant Orphan's Home, the Girl's Home, and the Boy's Home, but one must confess that they have no adequate grasp of the problem which confronts them, and no clear idea of what they want to accomplish in the work they are doing for dependent children.

The child in the Institution is withdrawn from many of the experiences he would perforce meet, if he were reared in a family. The contacts of the child in normal surroundings are multifold, and every child meets different contacts. He is differentiated thus from his fellows; at the same time there is uniformity in this sense: Every child is made to see that he is expected to react upon the stimuli he receives in a certain way. He is thus made a social being. The life of the world, the life of others beats upon him continually. By imitation, by open and subtle compulsion he approximates to conduct regarded as normal for his age, sex, and position in life, but he moves within a large circle, and may differ very much from other individuals without being regarded as abnormal. The child in the Institution has his individuality quenched. He cannot know the number less stimuli that play upon the child without. The environment is made artificially uniform for all, and the institutional life tends to obliterate differences in the personality, instead of developing them. Living in the world, the child adjusts himself to the world, and is prepared for life in the world. Living in the institution he adjusts himself to life in the institution, and is not prepared for life outside its walls.

In these Institutions many of the children are kept for a good while during the most impressionable time of their lives; the greater number are then returned to their parents or other relations. It is surely a bad feature of this work that the child is taken away from the parent in so many cases, and returned when he or she has reached the age of thirteen or fourteen. The parents should have the young child in their care if they are fit to have him when he shall have reached the age of twelve or thirteen. But, however good this may seem, it cannot be brought about without a far-reaching change in the methods of present-day charity, Separation of the parent and the

child is an inevitable feature of the work as carried on at present. The practical difficulties which tell against any other course are too great to be overcome. It happens, for instance that a father is left a widower, with several young children. His wages may be insufficient to support himself and the children, if he has to pay wages to a housekeeper. He cannot leave his children alone, while he is at work. Or a mother is left with children, her husband has died or has deserted her. She is unequal to the task of supporting her children, and even if she can support them, what is to become of them while she is away from home earning the daily bread. To such men and women the doors of the Institution stand invitingly open. Here the children will be safe. The father or the mother will know where they are, can visit them frequently, and there is always the possibility of the children being brought back to the parent when brighter days shall have come. It is a good thing the charity worker on her part thinks, to have the children in the great good, Institution, rather than in a home where they are bound to be neglected. Then when the girl or boy has reached the age of thirteen or fourteen what more natural than that he and some of the younger children should be restored to the parent. The girl can keep house, and make a home for her father and the other children, the boy can support himself even if the other children are left in the Institution in the meantime. But these good thoughts of the charity worker often correspond very little with what takes place. The young girl who has been brought up in an Institution is not fit to keep house, and not fit to be left ~~alone~~ all day, alone, or with younger children in her care. The boy or girl who has been away from his or her father and mother during a number of years grows away from the parent. The sense of strangeness which has developed during the child's absence, may never wear away. He is in a pitiable situation, for the Home, which has been father and mother to the child, delivers him to the parent or relation, and that ends ^{its} ~~their~~ care for him. The Institution scarcely concerns itself any further about him; in a large number of cases the Institution loses all track of him within a few months of his leaving the Home.

The unconcern of these Institutions for their former inmates is one of the disconcerting features of their work. They should

not be permitted to slough off all responsibility for the child, when they have handed him over to the parent or other relation. They ought to exercise some care over the children whom they have had in their custody until these have reached the age of eighteen years. This would mean additional expense, and would necessitate the appointment of an agent to whom the boys and girls would report, and who would visit the children from time to time, giving them counsel and guidance. As things are at present the Institution does not mediate in any way between the child and the world outside, when he has left its doors. If the Institution is fit to have the custody of a child for a term of years, it should be fit to be made the guardian of the child, and to have that guardianship continued even after the child has been restored to parent or relation. Too often, under existing conditions, the child is handed over to father, mother or other relation, when he has become old enough to work. He is placed in some situation leading to nothing, and grows up to swell the ranks of casual labourers. Surely, it should be the duty of these Institutions to interest themselves in the boys and girls who have been with them, when they leave the Institution, and to use every endeavor to have them started aright in their life out in the world.

We cannot discover what these Institutions are really doing for the good of the community. During a decade, hundreds of children will have been cared for in and will have passed out from these Homes. What has become of them? Where are they? What are they doing? Except in the case of the few who have been placed out in foster homes, and those who have been apprenticed, the Institution knows nothing of any but those who have very recently left its care. We cannot know what these Institutions have accomplished, until their one-time inmates are traced, and their achievements in life recorded. It is quite necessary that some record of their movements after they have left the Home be obtained if we are to reach any sound judgment concerning the effect upon them of their residence in the Institution.

I give here some entries from the register of the Protestant Orphan's Home supplemented by information obtained from the Supt. The entries are given in the order of their occurrence in the register of the Institution and concern boys' inmates. This Institution receives

It should be distinctly understood that the Institution's responsibility also must not conflict with the interests of the child's parent or other relation.

children of both sexes from three to twelve years of age, but in exceptional cases this rule is broken, and a child older than twelve or younger than three is admitted. The entries follow:-

- J. L. age 12 American Mother dead.
- E. F. age 12 Father book-binder, Canadian, drinks heavily. Have had four boys of this family, and two girls in the Home. One girl still in the Home. Two boys went to Industrial School. One girl lives with married sister and works in a factory
- W. S. age 13 Placed in situation with druggist. Mother a nurse, four in this family have been in the Home, two girls and two boys, boy with mother working as messenger - Scotch.
- G. B. age 12 Father a drunkard. American. Mother dead. Sister placed from Home with farmer's wife.
- H. K. age 12 From Infant's Home. Mother dead, father insane, Canadian.
- F. R. age 11 Mother placed the boy and two girls in the Home, married again, and did not return. One girl placed out - English.
- E. M. age 13 In Home from age two, mother dead, father good worker paid for some time, not for last six or seven years .
- A. P. age 11 Father living, mother dead. Has paid regularly - English.
- H. H. age 7 Father dead, boy came here when three, mother took place in hotel, paid for a while, child dull - English.
- A. N. age 9 Mother in asylum, child in Home from two years. Have had four of this family in the Home. Father a policeman, Ran a boarding-house for a time. Two of children placed in situations, a girl in a store, boy with farmer - Canadian.
- W. H. age 9 Been in Home since two. Mother supposedly a widow. Mother used to come to see child, but does not come any more. Has reputation of being fast - English.
- H. G. age 12 Been in Home since 7 . Mother dead. Father skilled brass-worker. Have had three of this family. The eldest is now with brass works part of time, and attends school part of time. He is a kleptomaniac.
- A. G. age 10 Brother of above.
- J. W. age 10 Have had two boys and two girls of this family. Eldest brother placed with farmer. Father soft - English.

Mother dead, half-witted. J. W. been in Home several years. None of children bright. Very stubborn. Father time-keeper on C. P. R. married again to feeble-minded woman.

N. H. age 9 Four years in Institution. Mother dead. Father shiftless farmer. Never pays any more.- Canadian.

C.F & A.F. age 13 and 11. Have been five years in the Home. Two boys and two girls of this family have been placed out from the Home C. T. placed with Canadian Pacific R'y Co. as Messenger. Father drinks. Has been bandsman in Salvation Army, was poor in England. Two girls of this family are in Home.

A. B. age 11 In Home from infancy. Father drinks, mother workwoman married a Greek. Home raised three children of this family, who are doing well. Canadian.

C. W. age 10 Has been in Home since three. Father and mother separated. Father drinks; mother is running a laundry.

D. R. age 12 Has been Home four years. one sister in Home; father sailor wanderer. Mother dead, aunt comes on father's behalf; supports regularly.

W. M. age 8 In Home three years, mother in asylum, father was a policeman, father took up a farm, and does not come to visit W. M.

H.L. J.L. & E. L. Ages 6, 8, 20 respectfully. Had six of this family. Two girls were placed out. Father in engineering dept. in Eatons. - Irish.

K. B. age 7 Has been in Home from 2-1/2 Separation Case, father a n'er-do-well; mother delicate, worker contributes, has not been here for a good while.

V.R. & F. R. ages 8 and 10 respectfully; father dead; mother a tailoress. Father and mother were separated before his death; mother pays well.

I give here also a few items from the register of the Boy's Home, to illustrate the kind and extent of information available respecting the inmates of that Institution.

E. B. Mother waitress, born Kent, England. Father left for Vancouver girl in Girl's Home, mother in rest.

- E&S R. Father furniture-van helper, earns \$10.00 per week, to pay \$10.00 per month for two boys.
- G.R. H.R. Father cheesemaker, to pay \$8.00 per month for two; both parents living.
- A. H. parents living, to pay \$5.00 per month; father teamster.
- J. McG. Two girls in Girl's Home, one infant in Infant's Home. Mother dead a year; father bricklayer.
- F. P. Father labourer, to pay \$2.00 per month.
- W.W. & C J. Father and mother both living to pay \$6.00 per month.
- A. T. J. F. & W. J. Father fireman Canadian Northern. No record of mother.
- W. D. & G. D. Father killed; mother goes out washing, eldest boy delicate.
- H. E Born in Grace Hospital, mother deserted by husband; to pay \$5.00 per month.
- C. D. Mother deserted, working in Eatons.
- W. L. Mother deserted, going to work out, to pay \$4.00 per month.
- P. H. Mother a Saleslady.

It will be noted in connection with these entries that a sum to be paid by the parent or parents is nearly always set down. All of these Institutions encourage the parents or guardians to pay something towards the up-keep of the child placed in the Home. The object of this is to prevent the pauperizing of the parents. It is beyond words cruel to exact a payment of four or five dollars a month from a woman who is supporting herself by going out washing, and ^{where} \$10.00 or so per month is received from a skilled workman, ^{he} ~~He~~ easily comes to imagine that he is paying in full for the support of his children.

A long residence in the Institution is the rule. The Roman Catholic Orphanage and the Salvation Army Shelter are not such sinners in this respect as the other three Institutions. The greater number of the children are returned to their parents, and the work of placing out children takes a secondary place. During the year 1911, the Protestant Orphan's Home discharged 102 children, 93 of these were taken by their own relatives, 5 were apprenticed, 3 were transferred to other institutions and 1 died. During the same year the Boy's Home

discharged 18 boys, 16 of whom were removed by their parents, and 2 by death.¹ These figures are typical. The proposition would be about the same for the Girl's Home, and only a little lower for the R. C. Orphanage and the Salvation Army Shelter. A Study of the records of the three first named Institutions, makes it plain that the tendency is to keep the children in the Institution a long time, and to give too little thought to the problem of the child's career when he shall have left the Institution.

The Roman Catholic Orphanage and the Salvation Army are superior to the other Institutions in that they seek foster homes for such children as are given permanently into their care, while the other institutions follow the plan of apprenticing the boy or girl under indentures. The policy of indenturing the child leads to a lengthy stay in the Institution, and the policy of placing it in a foster home points in the opposite direction.

The Homes take precautions against an apprenticed child falling into unsuitable hands. It is doubtful if the safeguards are adequate and it is impossible to say to what extent they exist on paper only. One Society sets forth in its constitution that "children attaining the age of 12 years may be apprenticed to such worthy Protestant families as give satisfactory evidence to the Manager by the certificates of clergymen that they are proper persons to have charge of orphan children. They may also be apprenticed to any trade, provided the same satisfactory evidence is adduced regarding the character of those to whom they are to be bound. No child shall be bound to a tavern-keeper or person keeping a boarding-house, and no female child shall be apprenticed to an unmarried man; and it shall be particularly covenanted and agreed that a written statement shall be transmitted once a year to the Sec'y describing the welfare and conditions of the child, three months after the time of the several annual payments becoming due, if they are not then paid, notice shall be sent to the clergyman who recommended the person as a master, previous to enforcing the discharge of the debt".²

The other institutions have similar regulations. They all alike endeavour to keep in touch with the children who have been apprenticed. The Boy's Home has an associate Secretary whose chief function it is to see that the farmers fulfill their obligations toward the boys apprenticed, the payment of the annual fees, their winter schooling etc.

1. Report of Boys' Home, year of 1911. Prot. orphan's Home Rules, Sec. 11.

There is also a corresponding Secretary who writes frequently friendly letters to the boys, seeking their confidence, keeping their interest in the Home alive, and so trying to lessen the isolation some feel on the farm.

There is need for more thorough measures for ascertaining the fitness of those who apply to have a boy or girl apprenticed to them. The precaution taken in indenturing a child should not fall far short of those taken by the Children's Aid Society in adoption cases. The faith placed by these Societies in the recommendation of a clergyman is sufficiently naive. With the best will in the world, the clergyman is often so situated as to make his recommendation of little value. Children should not be apprenticed on the sole recommendation of a minister. The work might well be brought into relation with the work of the Children's Aid Society by having the visitors of that Society visit the homes where the children are placed, either as adopted children or as apprentices. This is done in Ontario, at least, by the Roman Catholic organizations, The Children's Aid visitors try to visit the children who have been apprenticed no matter what Roman Catholic organization has placed the children.

One notes, indeed, that the work of the Roman Catholic organizations is co-ordinated in a way unknown to the other Societies, all the Institutions are a part of the work of the church. The Roman Catholic Infant's Home sends on the Infants who remain with it beyond infancy, to the Orphanage, and the neglected children discovered by the Children's Aid Society are also placed in the Orphanage when detention is required.

Religion is invoked by the Roman Catholic sisters to a remarkable degree in dealing with the children in the Orphanage. The children of seven and upwards attend mass every morning, and they also attend confession. "In this way they are taught to think of their misdemeanours, and a tender, delicate conscience is developed".

The Catholic Orphanage reports that many more children could be placed out in foster homes than they can supply; while the Orphanage places out a number of children in this way, it recognizes the need of keeping the family together, of keeping parent and child in touch with each other, when they are separated, and of restoring the child to the parent or other natural guardian, but this policy so wise apparently, leads to the residence of many scores of children in the Orphanage for

years, and to a separation often just as complete from the parent, as if he had made the child over to the Orphanage to be placed in a foster home.

It is probable that work is being done by the Orphanages, which could not be done in a better way, but there is much to be said for the development of an entirely different kind of agency to do part of the work which these Homes do at present. A new type of Institution is required where a few families might reside, each family having separate apartments. There could of course be certain common rooms, if this was thought desirable, kitchen, dining-room, lavatory etc. but each family would have a large measure of home life. The children could be cared for by a trained attendant. The father or mother could live with the children in the Home paying for their own support, and something towards the support of the child. The parent, who is worthy of having his child, would thus be in continued contact with her, and brothers and sisters would not be separated from each other as is often the case now. The organization would also have the great advantage that it would know just where the father was, what he was doing whether or not he was likely to be capable of maintaining himself and family later on, or whether or not it would be wise to have him surrender the children, that they might be placed out in foster homes.

We need not look for a radical departure like this in the near future; development along the line of the cottage plan may be expected. 'Cottages in a colony are favoured, The Inspector of Hospitals and charities for Ontario inclines to this plan.' How much better that there should be a Children's Village (than that the children should be housed in institutions) established on a large farm outside the city with cottage buildings, schools, etc and all the advantages of country air and living". However, though this would be an advance upon the present Institutionalism, it would reproduce some of its essential evils; concentration of the dependent child population is not desirable.

Administration and Finance.

The Infant's Home, the Protestant Orphan's Home, the Girl's Home and the Boy's Home present the same type of organization. It is the type of organization which is so familiar to us. A committee or Board of Management with the usual officers, President, Secretary

1. of course children would attend the ordinary public schools, and the P. S. of the parent's choice

treasurer. An advisory committee is also found. The revenue is derived from fees from inmates, donations, interest on investments, collections. These institutions receive in addition to the ~~incomes~~^{monies} collected, a large number of donations of clothing, provisions, etc. One has for years made a practice of sending the boys with a handcart. The boys are sent by turn in pairs, around to the shopkeepers in the vicinity of the Home, to collect whatever these might be willing to donate. This hideous custom has two evil results; it develops the pauper spirit in the children, and results in the collection of food unfit for human consumption. A considerable part of the revenues of these Homes is secured by soliciting subscriptions. The plan followed is briefly something like this: The city or a part of it is laid out in districts and a district is assigned to one or two ladies of the Board. These either do the canvassing themselves, or get some one to do it for them. Subscriptions are thus obtained from many who otherwise would give nothing. It is inevitable that a great deal of the money collected in this way should be given with little or no intelligent interest in the work which it goes to support.

The Roman Catholic Institutions are under control of one or other of the Sisterhoods and the sisters do all the work in connection with the Homes. They are in close touch, however, with the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese. Thus the Sacred Heart Orphanage is under the control of the Order of the Sacred Heart. The Matron of the institution is a sister of the Order, and the Secretary, the teachers and practically all of the attendants are members of the Order, subject to its rules, and to the control of the Mother-House of the Order. This Orphanage is supported by a collection taken in the Roman Catholic churches of the parish, by subscriptions, by a civic grant, and by a grant from the Provincial Legislature. The Infant's Home is supported in similar fashion but the grants made to it are made through the House of Providence.

The Salvation Army Shelter is a part of the Woman's Social Department of the Salvation Army. The Home is supported by funds contributed to the Social work of the Salvation Army, and apportioned by the Department to this part of the work, inmates fees, and a grant from the Province. No civic grant is received.

Infants Home & Infirmary.¹

Receipts.

Collections -----	\$2,219.88
Donations -----	1,141.70
Government Grant -----	1,439.62
City of Toronto, fees for destitute children -----	1,963.08
Fees paid by relatives of inmates -----	969.75

The total receipts were \$8,366.84 and the interest on investments accounting for the balance.

Expenditure

The expenditures for the year were \$7,318.46 and of this amount \$6,679.64 was for maintenance.

St. Vincent's Infant's Home.²

The revenue of this Home amounted to \$10,793.48, with expenditure about an equal amount. Government grant \$1,408.64. Civic fees about \$1600.00. The amounts paid for inmates and the amounts raised from other sources are not available.

Salvation Army Children's Home.³

Revenue of this Shelter, amounted to \$1565.02 and expenditure \$1571.35. The Government grant was \$44.48 a certain amount is paid by inmates.

The Boy's Home.⁴

Receipts.

Total receipts were \$10,955.55, and \$2,000 investment account to cover deficit.

Boy's Board -----	\$2,136.00
Ontario Government grant -----	810.28
City of Toronto grant -----	1,000.00
Collections -----	2,320.10
Donations -----	391.50

The balance is accounted for by interest on certain bequests and investments.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure was \$10,694.04

Of this amount there was for Groceries and Provisions ----- \$3,683.15

Salaries and Wages ----- 2,510.05

1. Annual Report 1910

2. Prov. Inspector's Report 1911.

3. Prov. Inspector's Report 1911

4. Annual Report 1911

Clothing -----1,177.09

Balance made up of Fuel & Light, Repairs etc.

The Girl's Home.

Receipts.

The total receipts were \$8,904.53. The most significant items are as follows:

Fees -----	2,239.60
Donations -----	279.67
Dividends -----	1,684.21
Collections -----	2,027.60
Civic Grant -----	1,000.00
Provincial Grant -----	538.88

Expenditure.

The total expenditure was 8,682.16. The most interesting items follow:

Wages (Staff 2,202.09 Nurses 305) -----	2,507.09
Provisions -----	2,921.83
Clothing -----	629.93
Housekeeping -----	362.50
Commission -----	269.42
Rochester Germicide Co., disinfecting -----	30.00
Colombia Insecticide Co. " -----	25.00

The last two items, though the amount involved is small merit attention.

Protestant Orphan's Home.²

Bequests -----	\$4,365.40
Rentals -----	2,257.95
Relatives Contributions -----	2,640.00
City Grant -----	1,600.00
Layd Manager's Collections -----	1,587.97
Government Grant -----	1,067.40

The above are the more important receipts.

The total receipts are \$15,130.06

Expenditure.

The total expenditures were \$16,282.76 made up in part as follows:

Wages -----	\$2,168.50
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1 annual Report 1911.

2. annual Report. 1911.

Bread -----	1,208.83
Milk -----	1,131.01
Meat -----	482.41
Groceries -----	696.25
Fuel -----	1,154.73
Flour & Vegetables -----	476.00
Dry Goods -----	586.17
Boots & Shoes -----	556.42
Matron's Salary -----	600.00

I would call attention to the last item I have set down, a salary of \$600.00 for the Matron of a Home with an average population of 140 - 150 boys and girls!

Sacred Heart Orphanage.

Total Income -----	\$19,882.19
Total Expenditure -----	20,068.95

This income is derived from the following sources:

Government Grant -----	\$2,282.62
Civic Grant -----	3,300.00

Collections taken in every parish of the diocese.

Payment by relations of inmates \$4.00 to \$5.00 per month in some instances \$1.00 to \$3.00 per month where unable to pay a larger sum.

Destitute Sick Children.

There are two Hospitals in Toronto which confine their work entirely to children, viz: The Hospital for Sick Children, and the Hospital for Incurable Children. While these Hospitals minister to the needs of children whose parents are able to bear the expense of the residence and treatment in the Hospital, they also receive children whose parents are unable to do this; hence the propriety of considering their work here.

The Hospital for Incurable Children cares for children suffering from incurable diseases. The number of inmates is usually about thirty, and no greater number could be accommodated. This Hospital is supported by voluntary contributions, government and civic grants, small payments of parents and guardians for support of inmates.

A glance at the Statement of receipts for the year ending

Sept. 30, 1914. will reveal the source of the revenue:

Receipts.

Balance from Last Report -----	2,216.58
General Donations -----	2,992.66
Pay Patients (Municipalities \$366,00) -----	1,253.13
Cots Maintained -----	1,025.00
Cots Endowed -----	1,000.82
Sunday Schools and Churches -----	347.63
Societies -----	1,082.65
Contribution Boxes -----	2.58
Bazaars, etc. -----	115.92
City Grant -----	350.00
Ontario Government Grant -----	188.28
	<u>8,358.67</u>
Estates -----	2,200.00
Cot Endowments -----	700.00
	<u>\$13,475.25</u>

The expenditure for the year was \$10,360.46, the largest items being Housekeeping (including fuel, light and telephone) \$3,175.21 and Salaries and wages \$4,016.24

The Hospital for Sick Children is one of the greatest of charitable undertakings, and has for years been doing a noble work for Sick children. This Hospital owes its existence to the pity and liberality of a wealthy Toronto citizen.

Sick children not suffering from an infectious disease are admitted from any place in the Province. The work is supported by investments, endowments, government and civic grants, payments of inmates and public subscriptions. Inmates able to pay are charged \$4.90 per week in public wards, \$12.00 per week in semi-public and \$18.00 per week in private wards. Seventy per cent of the children are treated free. Large numbers of out-patients are treated, the number of these in 1913 being 25,507 and in 1914, 31,970.

The Hospital can accommodate nearly 200 patients, and on Sept 30, 1914 there were actually 187 patients in the Hospital.

In addition to the main hospital which is well-equipped in every way for the purpose for which it exists, the Hospital has also a large Summer Home for the children at Toronto Island, and on the grounds of this Home there is a Pavilion where children who have been exposed to

to the white plague, but not infected are treated.

The Hospital for Sick children appeals to a wide constituency as a glance at the receipts for the year 1914 will show.

Receipts.

On Maintenance Account--

General -----	\$18,805.23
Municipalities -----	3,034.01
For Pay Patients -----	19,470.51
Toronto Public Schools -----	1,183.26
Students' Fees -----	11,015.00
Ontario Government Grant -----	10,070.20
Toronto Corporation for City Patients -----	38,137.20
Ontario Public Schools -----	4,787.11
Sunday Schools and Churches -----	2,424.04
Fraternal Societies -----	4,215.80
Post Office Subscriptions -----	815.97
For Maintenance of Cots - -----	5,026.19
Income from Property -----	2,696.00
	<u>\$111,680.52</u>
Bequests and Legacies -----	17,836.30
For Cots named in perpetuity -----	11,879.90
J. Ross Robertson -----	21,590.19
	<u>\$162,986.91</u>

The expenditures on Maintenance account amounted to \$128,803.39 the main items of which were the following:

Housekeeping (including fuel, water and light) -----	\$50,316.26
Salaries and Wages -----	51,870.99
Dispensary -----	12,773.06

One feels that there is little to say about this beneficent work, except by way of praise. I do not know a point at which one might be directed to levy hostile criticism.

1. annual Report

APPENDIX.

NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

There are certain other agencies at work in Toronto, among dependent children which may be mentioned. Two Large Homes exist as clearing houses for immigrant children. These are the Barnado Home and Fegan Home. These Homes have no special significance in a survey of the problem as it has to do with the City of Toronto. Their inmates remain in the Home for a short time, and are then sent on to situations. Sometimes boys may be found there who have been returned from a situation as unsuitable, and there are some who remain a number of months in the Home, owing to the difficulty of obtaining a place for them. The Barnado Home receives about 650 boys each year, and the Fegan Home about 100. A study of the whole question of dependent immigrant children would be of great value.

There are in Toronto four creches or Day Nurseries, where little ones are cared for while their mothers are at work. Some of these also find employment for mothers. A creche may receive a child as old as ten years. There is a teacher to teach the older children on the Kindergarten system, the younger ones are supervised at play, and are taught - if old enough - table manners at meals. Charges are made for the children, 10¢ for the first child, and five¢ for each additional child per day. The creche may serve a useful purpose, until another principle comes to inspire our work for human betterment. We cannot believe that agencies making it possible for a mother to absent herself all day from her children and return at night worn out by toil has much good to contribute, in the long run either to mother, child or the community.

The agencies caring for partidependent children are many, and we cannot even make a note of them here. There are agencies which give the children of the poor a holiday in the country during the summer months. There are also a number of churches which work among the children of the poor and seek to help them by means of Boy's Clubs etc. The Playgrounds Movement is an example of the point where the work for neglected children merges into a movement for the welfare of all the children. In a complete survey of the question all the Maternity Hospitals, and Rescue Homes that house children should be examined, and certain aspects of the work of the Nursing at Home Missions. The truth is that the work for ~~the~~ children cannot be separated from the

and neglect,

work of coping with the whole problem of destitution, ~~and we are on a~~
we are on a NEGLECTED CHILDREN

hopeless quest, so long as we are restricting our attention to the poor and their children. I could multiply instances of neglect on the part of the well-to-do, just as fatal to the child, and quite as far-reaching in the evil effects upon the community, as anything dealt with by the Children's Aid Society, yet they remain unregarded. I give three instances by way of illustration.

A young man and woman have a little girl now five years of age. From the age of three she has been permitted to wander about with any older children who cared to have her. The father and mother have left her to her own devices for hours at a time. She may be seen unwashed and unkempt, riding with the driver of an express wagon, following a group of boys; The parents make not the slightest attempt to care for her.

A doctor with a wife and four children has been carrying on an intrigue with a woman. One of his own boys noticed that his father's motor-car was frequently standing before a certain house. This led to the discovering of his evil ways. The husband and wife quarrelled, and during some months they would not speak to each other, though living in the same house. Later the wife had to be removed to a Hospital for the Insane; she remained there for four months. She is now at home again, but is in a state of great physical weakness and mental depression. The husband is apparently quite unable or unwilling to forsake his wicked courses.

A hotel-keeper has two children - boys. He allows them to go into the bar almost as they please. They are likable boys, and of good promise physically and mentally. Before they have reached young manhood they are both dipsomaniacs, and before they reach the age of thirty, one indeed being but twenty-two. They fall into swift decline, and die. One leaves a wife and children.

Defectives in Institutions.

It is a disgraceful thing that every institution where dependent or delinquent children are housed should contain defective children, yet there seems to be no lively public opinion upon this matter. There are children in the Homes stupid to the point of imbecility; there are boys in the Industrial Schools who cannot be taught decency

and

morality, at any rate while there. Their influence upon the other boys is bestial. So good an authority as the commission of the Children's Court, characterizes the Mimico School as a seething caldron of vice and ^{nu}ccaption. He declares that a considerable prportion of the boys probably 25% are defectives, and that while such a condition obtains, it is a crime to send a lad to Mimico.