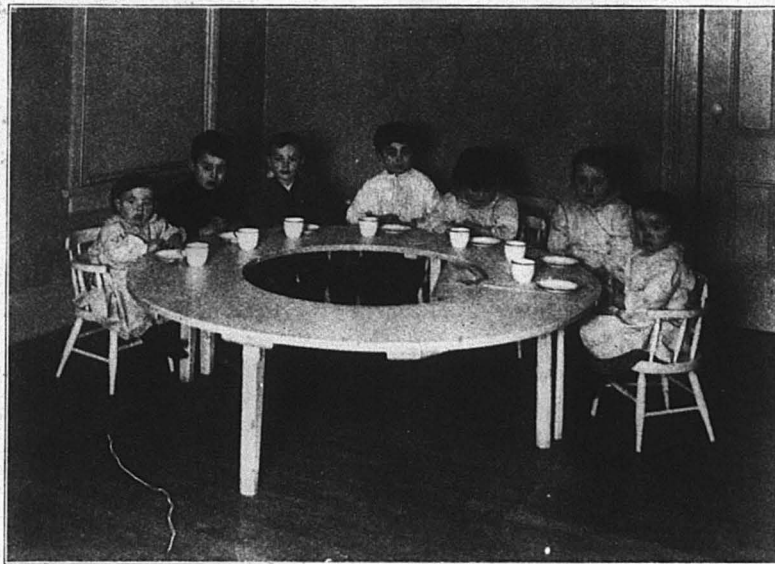


The Bulletin



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FEBRUARY, 1910.

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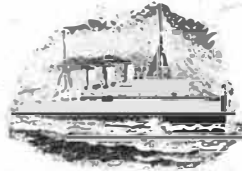
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The Bulletin

Vol. III.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY, 1910.

No. 7.

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

Child saving is now recognized as one of the most important social duties. But it is only a very short time since civilized men woke up to the understanding that it is necessary to protect helpless children against arbitrary treatment by ignorant or wicked adults who ought to be their natural protectors.

It was only in 1874 that the first Society in the world for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was founded in the City of New York by that great philanthropist, Henry Bergh, and already one year thereafter Rochester followed the good example, and in 1875 on September the 6th the certificate of incorporation was filed at the Mayor's office. The first officers were: President, Mr. Isaac Hills; Secretary, Mr. Newton M. Mann; Treasurer, Mr. W. H. Cheney.

In the year 1879 the Society joined with the Bergh Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The two Societies acted together under the same management until the year 1897, when the S. P. C. C. bought the building on Plymouth Avenue, now in use as the Shelter. The Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children were at first far from popular. Those opposed to them charged them with being unduly meddlesome and interfering with the rights of parents. But their work soon became recognized as one of the best factors of promoting civilization, and many societies were founded in America, in England, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, in Columbia and even in Porto Rico. It is owing to their efforts that legislation has been adopted everywhere, for the Protection of Children, regarding child labor, the employment of children in public performances, the better treatment of juvenile delinquents, the prevention of taking them to the police station, when arrested, the institution of juvenile courts, and the appointment of probation officers.

Delinquents under 15 years, and neglected children are taken to the Shelter and kept there by the wife of the very competent agent, Mr. Richard S. Redfern, until finally disposed of. Mrs. Redfern is a very kind and motherly woman, and all children who have to stay at the Shelter, under her careful treatment become closely attached to her.

One of the best fruits of the Society's labors is, that desertion of minor children is now made a felony, punishable by imprisonment, and that fathers are compelled to provide for their families under the constant supervision of a probation officer.

The best evidence of the growth of the work and influence of the Society is in a comparison of the report of the first year 1875-1876 with that of the year ending October 1st, 1909. In the first year 43 cases were investigated, 21 arrests made, 9 convictions secured, 8 children were sent to Orphan Asylums, 2 to the Western House of Refuge, 3 to Girls' Reformatories and for 3 homes were found. In the year ending Oct. 1, 1909, the report shows:

Number of children involved in the year's work, 4,418; investigations made,

1,616; children in the Shelter, 682; children lost and returned home, 134; meals served to children, 5,322; children's cases in court, 469; children committed to institutions, 68; children temporarily placed, 51; children returned to other cities, 18; children for whom homes were found, 14; children judgment suspended on, 59; children to report to Probation officers, 44; imprisonment imposed on adults for maltreatment of children, 6 years, 2 months, 10 days; received from delinquent husbands to be paid to their families, \$488.50; theatrical cases investigated, 103; theatrical applications granted, 83; theatrical applications denied, 13; theatrical cases prosecuted, 5; convictions in theatrical cases, 4.

This list will convince the reader that the Society is not as well known as it deserves, and that its work ought to be appreciated and liberally supported by all lovers of children. It is always ready to protect the young against cruel treatment, to insist upon letting them enjoy better homes, and a good sanitary condition. Its very existence prevents much wrong, and a great deal of abuse that formerly occurred without attracting any attention.

The Society is now presided over by Judge George A. Carnahan whose administration, assisted by a very active Board of Managers, deserves the highest commendation.

Those to whom the work of the Society seems worthy of assistance are requested to send contributions to Mrs. Martin B. Hoyt, Treasurer, 6 Prince street.

OUR EVENING SCHOOLS

Is the BULLETIN going to attempt the spelling reform together with the many other good things that it is trying to accomplish?

Not quite that; but we would like to ask how many of our young people, especially, have been able to spell opportunity in the words "Evening School."

This is the second season that Number Nine School has opened its doors to all who were interested in continuing their education; and so quietly and unobtrusively has this work gone on that we feel quite sure there are many who do not realize what is being done and what opportunities are being offered.

Circumstances compel many of our boys and girls to leave school before they reach the two highest Grammar grades and so they do not take up the history of our own country or get a chance to study formal grammar. Both of these interesting and useful subjects may be continued in the Evening School under competent instructions. We understand that a student who continues the work long enough, with proper energy and perseverance, may prepare himself for the High School this course also includes Arithmetic, Reading and Spelling.

For the graduate of the Grammar School who is unable to attend High School, but still wishes to continue his education, there are many courses of especial interest, for example: Manual Training, Stenography, Typewriting, Basketry, Cooking, Sewing, Millinery and Dress-making. The last year three special

courses have been added at the request of little groups who were anxious to work along certain lines. These courses are Embroidery, Physical Training and English Literature. This brings us to a suggestion which we are anxious to have all understand, namely, that a class may be formed in any subject desired, if twelve or fifteen people make application for the teaching of said subject and agree to attend regularly if such a class is formed.

The class in English Literature, a High School subject, has had a very interesting experience, during the many pleasant and profitable evenings spent together. The pupils have discussed and debated various problems suggested by their reading and, we are sure, they must have found real friends among that vast company of people who live in books and may become most helpful companions if one but searches for them.

The baths are open to the young women who form the class in Physical Training; a class which affords excellent opportunity for happy, healthful, exercise after being shut up all day in shop or store.

To be able to do fine needle work is an accomplishment of which any young woman may well be proud; and we suspect that this is one reason why the class in Embroidery is so successful.

We are told that pupils in the Millinery class are wearing stylish hats which they have made since the school opened. If one can do the work herself, a much better hat for the same amount of money is the result. This class is soon to take up the various steps which lead to those spring creations that are the delight of every feminine heart. This satisfaction in being able to make one's own things for the same money, holds true in regard to the work of the class in Dressmaking and plain sewing.

Bookkeeping and Stenography offer a chance for a start along business lines which, if followed with energy and determination, ought to lead to better positions and to higher wages.

Then there is Cooking, an art which, when successfully mastered brings pleasure, not only to the individual, but also to her friends. This surely is an accomplishment which may mean much to the future homes.

A very important part of the work of the Evening School is the opportunity which it offers to those who wish to become acquainted with the English language and to learn to read and write the new tongue. It is not necessary to say as much about this part of the work, as it seems to be better understood and more widely appreciated than some of the other good things that the school is trying to do.

One has only to stand near the door of the schoolbuilding as the students pass out to read the joy of accomplishment in their faces. To feel that one's leisure time has counted for something is well worth while, and it brings a sense of satisfaction that must be felt in order to be appreciated.

A thoughtful writer has expressed it well when he says: "Education for a man makes all the world his field; the lack of it often makes a field his world."

The Bulletin

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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 TELEPHONES.
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 152 Baden Street.

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Editorial

So many people would like to help at the Settlement if they only knew where they could be of use that perhaps it will be interesting to learn that teachers are needed for the crocheting and embroidery classes which meet on Tuesday and also for the groups that meet for games on Monday and Friday. Anyone who will lead in the games, bringing enthusiasm and a real love of play, is of service to the children far beyond what he usually imagines.

It may be difficult to see how learning to dance and to play can be just as valuable to the child as learning to do skillfully these useful things that will someday earn her livelihood or make her home clean and comfortable. If work were all of life it would not be so, but, from an inherent demand in all our natures, young boys and young girls as well as grown-up men and women, no matter how busy their lives may be, are going to gravitate sometimes toward fun and dancing. And the nature of the fun and dancing is going to be in accordance with the kind of fun and the dancing, orderly or otherwise, that they learned to like as small children. If you want good citizens, you must teach them how to have good times.—

"For the good are always the merry,
 Save by an evil chance,
 And the merry love the fiddle,
 And the merry love to dance."

For many years we have tried to save "nobody's children," but now we must try to save nobody's mothers. Well, who is nobody's mother? Perhaps you, certainly one of your friends. Nobody's mother is the good woman who imagines that she has no one to mother. She may say that she has never been so blessed, she may sadly tell of the blessing lost; in any case, the woman who has never asked

"Where did you come from baby dear?"
 and never heard the sweet prattling reply,
 "God thought about you, and so I am here,"
 is nobody's mother.

"What is home without a mother?"
 Our answer to this old time query has always pictured a group of friendless, sorrowing orphans. But the trouble with many, many homes without a mother is that they contain a husband and a wife. The menace to the modern family is that many think that husband and wife spell father and mother, and that house means home. In another column, we tell a little of what Rochester is doing towards the salvation of nobody's mother. For the work of the Children's Aid Society is very frequently a work of salvation of those who home the child as well as for the child who is homed.

The Bulletin in this issue which might be called the Children's Number, points out a few of the means employed to develop good citizens. Rochester has every reason to be proud of its highly developed sense of justice to childhood as is demonstrated in its splendid playgrounds and other institutions for the advancement of physical, mental and moral growth. We are beginning to realize that as the child is trained so the citizen will be bent and that it is better now to make outlays of time, care and money for physical, mental and moral education than to support institutions of correction which such far-sighted expenditure might have rendered unnecessary, homes for the morally or physically unfit.

We regret to note that there are still some things in Rochester which are tacitly tolerated such as children working at trades in the homes, after school hours but under working age, and also the employment illegally of children under age not only in factories but in retail shops. If only a finer sense of respect for law could be inculcated not only among those who violate laws but among those who for want of principle, or interest allow such things to be.

THE WELFARE OF THE CITY

An edition of one thousand copies of our Housing issue of last month found circulation, and it is with pleasure we announce a renewed interest in the housing conditions of this city as is evidenced by three items below.

The Municipal Building Commission has decided to incorporate in the new code a provision to the end that no frame building may be erected within three feet of the side or back line of the lot.

The Building Code Commission, appointed last year by the Mayor, has delegated Assistant Corporation Counsel B. B. Cunningham to thoroughly study the tenements of Rochester with a view to light, sanitation and ventilation.

The Chamber of Commerce has taken another step towards the solution of Rochester's housing question. It has appointed a committee of seventeen persons to investigate and recommend "such a solution as the committee deems practicable."

Some good Rochesterians who believe that a quiet city is a sign of a busy city, are asking that we no longer blow our factory horns, no longer have noisy flat wheel street cars, and no longer require our newsboys to destroy their throats to sell their papers. Truly useless noise is economic waste.

Unless Albany prevents the passage of the bill again by the cry of economy, the boys of Rochester who commit misdemeanors will be sent no more to county jails and penitentiaries to learn crime. During the year ending September 30, 1908, in this state 5,642 boys between 16 and 21 were sent to county jails and penitentiaries.

The November number of *The American City* was to have been largely devoted to Rochester, but the plan was abandoned at the request of the officers of the Chamber of Commerce, one of whom modestly wrote, "We do not wish to embarrass you or ourselves by telling of the

things which we have not done and may not be able to do." It is usually said that pride goeth before a fall, Rochester therefore must be safe. Modesty goeth before a rise. May we rise to lift.

WANTED—MOTHERING

For fourteen years the Rochester Children's Aid Society has, with the co-operation of the Board of Supervisors of Monroe County, sought to preserve for the children that first of all children's rights, a home. The children come into the care of the friends of this Society, through the courts or the overseer of the poor. In some instances they are voluntarily surrendered by parents who admit that they are unable to care for the little ones properly. They are received in all stages of dirt and degradation, and often with physical and mental defects. But there is always one great hope with a child, and that is, that it is a child. One of the most depressing features of all social reform work is the constant consciousness, that we arrive on the scene of our work of reform at a late hour, but with the little children we begin as near to the beginning as it is possible for an outsider to be. In the days of our ignorance, there used to be a theory that the adoption of a strange child, was a menace to the home to which it was introduced. All kinds of horrible developments were expected by the over watchful guardians, and because these things were so ardently expected, they sometimes came. But the old theory is dying fast. "Give me the worst boy in the city and the best—not the richest—home in the city, and I will soon show you one of the noblest of boys." "But," it is argued, "it is such a serious risk to adopt a child." "Yes, but it is risky and serious even to train the little ones born in our homes." So we might argue, but there is little need, for the children are their own evidence.

The Society is all the time seeking to find homes for the children, and it is good to know that it needs no baby advertisement to find them. A large amount of time and patience is spent in finding suitable places, but in the majority of cases the results justify all the trouble.

Naturally, the attractive, healthy children of good dispositions soon find homes, but in the course of time, even the little unfortunates are taken on their greatest credit, namely, the fact of their childhood. At present some three hundred and fifty boys and girls are in the charge of the Society. Some of these are in free homes, others are in homes where board is paid for, sometimes by relatives. The Catholic children are cared for by the Catholic members of the Board, and the Protestant children by their friends similarly.

The Children's Aid Society is a help to the children, and a help to the community. In the city of New York alone, children cared for in this way have become very worthy citizens. From the work there, there have come two Governors, two Congressmen, four state legislators, twenty-seven bankers, thirty-four lawyers, seventeen physicians, eighty-two teachers, and twenty-one clergymen, besides hundreds of others in business and journalism. It pays any city to help bring about such results. Then, on the other hand, homes that were childless and dreary, have been made bright and glad. Thanksgiving Day which used to pass without event and almost without comment, now has meaning, for it is the day when the children—long ago adopted—return home. With homes

thus transformed, and homeless children mothered towards good manhood and womanhood, we begin to see what it means to begin at the beginning, and let the little child lead, instead of being neglected and left behind.

THE SCHOOL CENSUS SYSTEM

The advocates of a strict enforcement of the Compulsory Education and Child Labor Laws have encountered one obstacle in their work, viz.: the need of some place where accurate and systematic records of children were kept and where a clearing house, so to speak, for the results of their investigations might be had.

In order to remove this obstacle a law was passed creating a School Census Board in each of the larger cities of the state, consisting of the Mayor, Superintendent of Schools and the Police Commissioner. The object of the board was to ascertain, through the police, the residence and employment of all persons between the ages of 4 and 18 years residing within each city. In accordance with this law the School Census Board of Rochester was organized last summer. It consists of Mayor Edgerton, Superintendent of Schools C. F. Carroll and Commissioner of Public Safety, Charles S. Owen.

A census was taken in October, twenty policemen being employed to make a house to house canvass. A typewritten copy of each record thus obtained was made. The original records were filed geographically by streets, and the typewritten copies were filed alphabetically by the family names of the children.

The law says that this census shall be attended daily, the parents and police being required to report any changes that may occur. The School Census Board will shortly install two systems, one by which the section of the law just mentioned will be enforced, and the other a weekly report from all schools, both public and private. Under the latter system a complete and up-to-date file will be kept showing the records of children by schools. The attendance officers or labor inspectors are immediately informed as to any child not in school or illegally employed.

The benefits arising from this correct to the day system are many. The school authorities will have accurate records of all children of school age. In the case of children under the compulsory school age, a follow up system will be in operation whereby each child will be pursued and required to attend school as soon as he becomes 7 years of age. The gap between the Board of Health and the school by which a child, who has received a school record and desires to take a long vacation before securing his work certificate will be overcome. Immediately after the issuance of a school record, the principals will report that fact to this office. A weekly report of work certificates is sent to us by the Board of Health. Consequently any child who has received a school record will be followed up and compelled to secure his work certificate without unnecessary delay or attend school.

If all persons and organizations concerned with the welfare of children will co-operate with the School Census Board, it will be almost impossible for a child to be absent from school or illegally employed without the proper officer being informed as to his actions.

HARRY C. TAYLOR.

THE PROBLEM OF THE LABORING CHILD

What do we mean when we speak of child labor in connection with a city like Rochester? We have had our attention so focused on the dramatic, and dreadful, spectacle of little children working all night in southern cotton mills, or in Pennsylvania glass factories, or in West Virginia coal mines, that we cannot hear the words, "Child Labor" without conjuring up a tearful scene which it seems impossible to locate in our law-abiding, charitably-inclined city. To fully appreciate, then, how child labor could exist in Rochester, we must understand the labor laws governing New York state.

In brief, Rochester, as a city of the first class, cannot employ a child UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS in factories, mercantile establishments, business offices, telegraph offices, restaurants, hotels, apartment houses, or in the delivery of merchandise or messages. This law applies equally to work performed during school hours, after school hours, on Saturdays and Sundays, and during vacation. No child OVER FOURTEEN AND UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS is permitted to work in, or in connection with, any of the above places without an employment certificate ON FILE in the employer's place of business. To obtain an employment certificate, the child must produce DOCUMENTARY proof of age; have the proper educational qualifications; show normal development; and physical fitness to perform work. Having obtained his employment certificate and placed it on file, no child in a factory is allowed to work more than EIGHT hours in one day, or six days in one week; or before EIGHT o'clock in the morning or after FIVE in the afternoon. In other places of business classed under MERCANTILE law, no child is permitted to work more than NINE hours in one day, or fifty-four hours a week, or before SEVEN in the morning or after SEVEN in the evening.

The majority of violations of child labor law in Rochester, come, either from failure to file an employment certificate, or for over-time work. Among this number are classed those cases reported as "over sixteen years of age" but which on investigation prove to be under age. The law still holds an employer liable although the child has falsified his age. If employers would demand DOCUMENTARY proof of age from all children of sixteen years applying for work, much future trouble would be obviated.

Secretary Harry C. Taylor of the Rochester School Census Board reports that out of four hundred cases investigated by the Attendance Officers, fifty-five were found to be illegally at work. Of this number, thirty-seven were entitled to employment certificates, and after obtaining them resumed work; while the remaining eighteen were compelled to return to school.

Of the forty violations filed with the Child Labor Committee during the past ten weeks, one fourth came under the jurisdiction of the factory law; one fourth entirely under the compulsory educational law (home work); and the remaining one half under the mercantile law. These city statistics are emphasized by the recent state report from the Commissioner of Labor. The Bureau of Factory Inspection reports 10,415 children at work during the year, 7.9 per cent of whom were illegally employed. The Bureau of Mercantile Inspection reports 6,070 children at work,

4.4 per cent of whom were illegally employed.

These figures do not prove that New York State manufacturers, as such, are more law-abiding than owners of hotels, restaurants, business offices or mercantile establishments, but that the factory laws are better understood and have been longer enforced. The so-called "mercantile law" is but fifteen months' old, and the Mercantile Bureau has only eight deputy inspectors, and one chief, for the entire state. It seems fair to presume that with increased knowledge of the law and extended supervision in this department of labor, equally good results will be obtained.

The object of the Child Labor Committee's existence is to help the child-worker; to further its needs and to protect its rights in the industrial world. To this end the committee first directs its energies to spreading knowledge of the law governing child labor among both parents and employers, and then tries to secure to the child all the benefits which this law affords. The committee stands firmly for as much education liberal or vocational, as it is possible for the child to obtain, and believes that in cases of dire need, help given to continue the child's schooling, on the scholarship plan, is money well expended.

The child who has been refused an employment certificate because he could not fulfil all the requirements of the law, needs a friend's assistance; such a friend the committee tries to become. If the child lacks sufficient education but one way is open to him, the path back to the schoolroom. This path may be made easier, though, by sympathetic encouragement and may result in the discovery of some special vocational tendency. Often "physical fitness" may be secured by having the child's teeth filled, adenoids removed or giving tactful, kindly advice to the mother about simple, nourishing food for children.

The greatest obstacle most children meet is the difficulty in obtaining documentary proof of age. In the case of a foreign-born child, the delay often becomes real hardship. Mr. George A. Hall, secretary of the New York Child Labor Committee, has compiled a pamphlet giving full directions how to send for birth certificates to all the European countries and to the provinces in the Dominion of Canada. The Rochester committee urges all children who expect to go to work on reaching the fourteenth birthday, to begin three months before that date to secure the necessary birth certificate, and is using this pamphlet to assist them in writing to the home country.

Sometimes children lose positions because unable to work the full time required by their employer's business necessities. In a few cases, other occupations have been secured suited to the child's legal hours. The committee feels an employment bureau run with especial regard to vocational training and future increased usefulness would be a rare chance to help child workers. Who will further such a scheme?

Even in New York state there are children who are not protected by law. There are still un-restricted occupations for child workers. These conditions need to be remedied. The child labor problem offers a field of service to every patriotic citizen. The child's future usefulness to the state, as well as his own health and happiness, depend largely on how well he is equipped for his life's work.

The Child Labor Committee needs helpers, men and women willing to give

thought and time to carrying on this cause. It is estimated that our population has increased ten thousand during this past year. How many children are included in this number? Our slogan is, "Do it for Rochester." Nothing we could do would so enhance her permanent value both commercial and moral, as to raise the standard of our child workers, making worthy citizens for our "city beautiful."

EMMA BOWEN BISSELL.

EDUCATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF A MILK DEPOT

In a paper read before the American Academy of Medicine at a conference on Prevention of Infant Mortality, and subsequently published by the New York Medical Journal, Dr. Ira S. Wile of New York City discusses the educational responsibilities of a milk depot.

He says "A rational discussion of the educational responsibilities of milk depots involves determining the reason for their existence. The principal reason is that physicians and laymen have awakened to the generous fact that one third to one half of all infantile deaths under one year of age are preventable. To think that 12,500 babies died unnecessarily in 1908 in the annual needless sacrifice of 100,000 babies in the United States is to see a transmuted Almotaur with human body and bull's head devouring at will in the labyrinth of ignorance."

Dr. Wile then goes on to discuss the causes of infant mortality which he divides into four big classes but concludes that ignorance is the largest factor and is "three times as fatal as hot weather even under the wretched housing conditions that so largely prevail." Therefore only by the dissemination of knowledge can mortality be decreased.

"The functions of a milk depot should not be merely to supply milk for infant feeding, but at least to teach mothers why it is supplied; that is, to build up an intelligent understanding of the necessity of a pure food supply: * * * * * Most of the instruction should be verbal. Too often the mother can read no language and the printed directions without pictures are used as fans or furtively crumpled and thrown away, while those with pictures are likely to be given to the babies to play with."

"The educational responsibility of an infant's milk depot is three fold: I. To the infant; II. the family; III. to the community. For the child, the milk depot's responsibility lies in attempting to supply a proper milk, i. e., its own mother's milk. The more mothers taught to breast feed their infants appearing at a milk depot, the better is the depot living up to its responsibility to the child.

The depot's responsibility to the family demands that its educational advantages extend to the home. Family responsibility must be increased. The hygiene taught must affect the whole house and household, any member of which is a possible source of danger to the infant.

Toward the community the responsibility is manifold. Depots should develop mothers knowing infant hygiene, capable, therefore, of bringing up their children to maturity. They must destroy the possible element of truth in the statement that "children grow up in spite of their parents, not by means of them."

"The mere dispensation of milk focuses all attention on milk, while dirty pacifiers, overdressing or pickles may be the cause of infantile mortality. * * * * * The responsibility of the milk depots demands that they endeavor to promote efficient motherhood, not merely that they serve as a quasi philanthropic milkman, whose services are needed only during the heated months. * * * * * The service of the milk at a milk depot is merely as a device to attract the mothers. The educational work is the power for their development into capable and safe mothers."

"When every member of an infant's milk depot is conscious of its educational responsibility and opportunity, the wastage of infant life will tend toward the hoped for vanishing point.

MECHANICS INSTITUTE AND SOCIAL SETTLEMENT

The cooking and housekeeping classes of the Social Settlement this year are taught by senior students of the Domestic Science Department of Mechanics Institute. Two cooking groups and two housekeeping groups with six girls in each group, have been organized. The aim of the work is to give the child such practical instruction that she will be able to help efficiently in her home, and at the same time to give her better ideals of household work. The small groups, with the informal relations between teacher and pupil make it possible gradually to accomplish much in both these lines. The child is encouraged to do at home each week something that she has learned in the class and report her success. The teacher comes to know the home conditions and so is able to adapt her teaching more and more to the needs of her little class.

The cooking lessons include the preparation of cereal, cocoa, toast, baked and mashed potatoes, cream soups, eggs, baked apples and apple sauce, dried fruits, muffins and gingerbread. In the housekeeping classes, the children are taught to sweep and dust, clean woodwork and windows, to make a fire and black the stove, to care for kitchen utensils and scrub the floor, to care for refrigerator and sink, and to wash dish towels and hand towels. A lesson in bed-making and the care of the bedroom gives opportunity for a talk on ventilation, and on bedding and its care.

The connection between the Mechanics Institute and the Social Settlement has been profitable to both, as it has given the children regular teachers and the students of the institute opportunity for work under practical conditions.

THE NEWSBOY

Have you noticed our newsboys lately? The next time you buy a paper, study the boy who offers it for sale. See if he looks to be ten years old, and if he has a badge on. Stop to think whether or no you would like your ten year old son to be on the street, outside of school hours, from six o'clock in the morning until ten o'clock at night.

When you've made up your mind that you would not, then help the Newsboy Section of the Child Labor Committee to raise the age of newsboys to twelve years, and to limit their hours to eight in the evening.

We have ignored the dangers of street trades for young boys because theirs was an "open air" occupation. We are beginning to realize that irregularity of meals, loss of sleep, and familiarity with vices of the street can't all be counteracted by fresh air.

Our superintendent of schools, Mr. Carroll, says emphatically, that no boy under twelve years ought to be on the streets selling papers. It is due to him, and to the Attendance Officers, Messrs. White and Greenstone, that our newsboy law has been so well enforced. By careful supervision the number of our newsboys has decreased about one-third during the past year.

We hope that the time will come when the sale of newspapers will be in the hands of those adults who, from accident or sickness, have become incapacitated for hard work, but who by legitimate street trading could still earn an honest living and maintain their self-respect.

E. B. B.

GIVE ME THE CHILDREN

Give me the children of the land,
And let me fill their days with smiles,
Let me but take them by the hand
And lead them where the sun beguiles.

Let me but have them for a space,
And in their little hearts instill
The joyousness of Nature's face
And with God's songs their spirits thrill.

Let me but teach them where to find
The blessings that were made for them,
And how in Service of Mankind,
Is found our choicest diadem.

Let me have these and I will give
For each back to my fellow men
A human flower that will live
And bloom a perfect citizen.

—John Kendrick Bangs.

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The Children's Charter

1. No child should be compelled to live in an institute, every child has a right to a home.
2. No child should be compelled to play on the streets, every child has a right to a garden of its own.
3. No child should be compelled to be a bread winner, every child has a right to at least eighteen years of childhood.
4. No child should be compelled to play and be amused all the time, every child has a right to share in the chores.
5. No child should be compelled to live in a house built for its parents, every child has a right to a house adapted to its needs.
6. No child should be compelled to live in tenements or congested districts, every child has a right to space, light and fresh air.
7. No child should be compelled to be ill-nourished, every child has a right, however poor its parents, to proper food.
8. No child should be compelled to have children's diseases, every child has a right to be always healthy and strong.
9. No child should be compelled to be an angel, every child has a right to be a real boy or a real girl.
10. No child should be compelled by disease, work or neglect, to die, every child has a right to live and be always happy.