

We are still doing the emigration work of the Y.W.C.A., but the G.F.S. withdrew their request for our co-operation in January of this year.

Six conducted parties left for Canada between March and June, 1921. Reports have been received from various conductors, and many of the suggestions they have made have been invaluable.

These personal links with the Empire we have found to be a very great help in the work, and they are greatly valued by those who travel under our auspices.

Again we acknowledge gratefully the unfailing courtesy and consideration shown us by the Overseas Settlement Office, and by the Agents-General and the Authorities representing the Dominions overseas, without whose co-operation much of our work would have been impossible.

One of our most interesting cases is that of a small Serbian boy who had been separated from his parents in the Serbian evacuation of 1914, and for the past four years had been in the care of the National Children's Orphanage. His father, who has since made good in America, sent for him, but two shipping companies refused to take him as he was not being sent out by any organization. Here the Church Army stepped in, took him under her wing, communicated with the Serbian Legation, with New York, with one of the aforesaid shipping companies, and finally despatched a happy boy to his father, in just over a fortnight after first hearing about him.

Another interesting case is that of a man who had been trying to emigrate for two years, and after being out of work for eight months was given a free passage for himself and his family, consisting of wife and two delightful children, aged ten and eight, under the Government ex-Service men's scheme. The man was to be placed by one of the provincial Governments on a farm, as a labourer, but the Church Army had the great happiness of securing a home for the wife and two children with some very kind Canadian people in Toronto, at a wage of thirty dollars a month and all found, and of getting the man a job through our Toronto Agents of twenty-five dollars a week and all found. This family is now saving rapidly towards the cost of a home for themselves, and they write most grateful letters.

A letter from a family in New Zealand who were helped out by the National Relief Fund speaks of the purchase of a little house with its own orchard, being paid for by instalments, and of the great kindness shown by the immigration officials and employers in their new country. Many other letters have reached us from different parts of the colonies, couched in grateful terms for the help they had received and glowing with hope for the future.

1920/1921

Sailings for Year ending June 30th, 1921 :-

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Infants.	Total.
Canada	408	338	126	20	892
Australia—					
Western	28	7	—	—	35
South	9	6	8	—	23
N.S.W.	23	18	2	1	44
Victoria	18	9	2	2	31
Queensland	16	21	4	3	44
South Africa	23	22	9	—	54
South America	3	1	—	—	4
New Zealand	60	31	18	3	112
Tasmania	2	2	1	—	5
India	2	—	—	—	2
Egypt	3	3	—	—	6
	595	458	170	29	1,252

OVERSEAS TECHNICAL TRAINING FARM.

HEMPSTEAD HALL, ESSEX.

Evangelist-in-Charge—Capt. Warner. *Matron*—Mrs. Warner.

The Training Farm at Hempstead Hall, Essex, which in pre-war days was used for the training of boys for Australia, but during the war was used for other purposes, has during the past year reverted to the Emigration Department. In October, 1920, the first batch of boys was sent to the Farm for training under the new scheme, and since that time 115 lads have been selected from over 500 applications.

The Training course is for a period of not less than three months, and includes milking, driving, feeding and attending stock and horses, smithy work, carpentering, work in the wood, and repairs to harness and boots. At the end of this period, those boys who have proved satisfactory are provided with outfit, free passage to one of our Overseas Dominions, and landing money. In each case work is guaranteed and arrangements are made for the spiritual and moral care and welfare of the boys after their arrival.

The first party sailed for New Zealand in February, 1921, and since then parties have left each month for either New

Zealand, Canada or Australia. In deciding to which of the Oversea Dominions the boy should go, consideration is given, as far as possible, to the desire of the boy, and in every case where he has friends or relatives who are able to provide a home and farm work for him on arrival, arrangements are made accordingly. The following table will show to which Dominions the boys have been sent:—

Australia	43
New Zealand	8
Canada	8

It is early yet to speak of results, but we have already had very encouraging reports—not only from the boys themselves, but from the Overseas Governments and the Church Officials, and it has been stated that the Church Army boys are the best type of emigrant entering Australia at the present time.

We are guided in our selection of the boys strictly by the following considerations: (a) whether a boy has directly or indirectly suffered hardship owing to the war, and (b) whether Overseas Settlement is the most desirable form of assistance.

Already the number of boys eligible under these two headings is far in excess of the means at our disposal, and a second or even third farm could easily be kept supplied with boys of the right stamp.

The Emigration Officer for New Zealand, on the occasion of a visit to the Training Farm, said:

That he thought there should be keen competition for Church Army boys, and that personally he would be glad to take the lot. He was especially pleased with the instruction in milking and care of stock, carpentering, blacksmithing, harness and boot repairing, etc., all of which were exactly the things required to equip for life in the Dominions. He had only one fault to find: and that was that everything was so happy and comfortable that he thought the boys would be loth to leave it.

On the same occasion, a representative of the British Government Overseas Settlement Office said:—

That he regarded the Farm as a most important imperial enterprise. He ventured to urge that the Dominion representatives should impress its advantages upon their Governments, and should recommend them to give it financial support.

LADS' LADDER.

55 BRYANSTON STREET, LONDON, W. 1.

President and Hon. Secretary—Lady Bagot, R.R.C. *Secretary*—
Capt. S. Kemp, C.A.

In the Lads' Ladder Department the work of the year has been more complex than ever, owing to the general slackness of trade. We have, however, secured situations for a goodly number of lads in spite of the prevailing difficulties. At the moment of writing comes a call from an employer who has had several of our lads, wanting another, having given the last two a better job in one case and an advance in wages in the other. A lad on our books for some time was sent; another lad just come in, overhearing our conversation as to whom should be sent, volunteered for the job at once at any wages, but had to wait his turn.

Lads from the streets, police courts, workhouses, casual wards, prisons, as well as those sent by our officers and sisters engaged in rescue work, all have their chance.

Most of our friends are well aware of the appalling state of unemployment; but our difficulty does not end with getting a job for a lad, for so many need a complete outfit, and practically all some clothing or underclothing or boots. The Secretary would be more than grateful if friends would send us a parcel of boots or clothing part worn or new, or as an alternative, a donation for that purpose.

E.M.D.—This lad found himself stranded in London, having walked from one of the towns in the north of England, owing to being out of work. We admitted him to our Youths' Home, where he did well, and after a time we obtained a situation for him, where he is still employed, and we have just heard from his manager that owing to his energy and satisfactory conduct he has been promoted to a better position.

While on holiday, the Secretary called to see a lad now in a good situation at a popular seaside resort, which was secured by our Local Officer who visits the lad occasionally. This lad was sent in rather a doubtful condition, but his scanty wardrobe was improved. Now, with regular wages and a