

Dr. Rogers: This is a practical question with us: what to do with our boys? We have had about twenty boys under pay for five or six years. We have boys that buy their own clothing. I have one boy who has been on the pay roll four years, and one who has been on two or three. We pay one twenty dollars a month, and the other but four. They are strictly under the supervision of the institution. There is no action of the board of trustees. One boy is a teamster, and the other assistant fireman and engineer, and very capable. The latter was a boy who became very anxious to see what he could do in life for himself, and it has been my policy when the boys became anxious to try their own experience in life to let them see what they could do, keeping a careful oversight of them. This boy was gone about eighteen months, and during that time he earned very good wages most of the time, but he discovered that he was an inferior workman wherever he was, and he became very sensitive¹. He was quick to notice that he wasn't a leader in any sense. He came back and wanted to know if I hadn't something for him to do, and I gave him work, and he has been employed on his own responsibility. When he went away there was a small indebtedness, perhaps thirty or forty dollars on account of clothing, that had never been paid. When he came back, he voluntarily paid for those clothes out of his first earnings. Another boy, who is a teamster and drives the clothes wagon, was anxious to go out and try his success in life. He had a sister in the institution who encouraged him in his discontent, and his father (unworthy the name of father) also encouraged him. I paid him about three dollars a month for a year or more, and out of that he would save a little and send to his father, who was being helped by the county, and was very unworthy. The father was determined that the boy should come home and get employment and support him. His father wrote to the boy that he had a place for him. He had made an arrangement with a physician for his son to serve as office boy, and had not explained things to the physician. I did, and I told him I

hoped he would give the boy a good trial; that he was faithful so far as he understood, and could take care of his horse, but would not have much tact with his office patients. I took him to the place, and as I was picking up my hat to come away, the boy begged to go back with me, and said he didn't want to live there. He had been wanting to go for months. I consented to take him home. The next day we organized this little trip for him around the institution with a pony and cart. We pay him four dollars a month, and he pays for considerable of his clothing out of that. He is very faithful. Most of them receive from fifty cents to three dollars and a half a month. The clothing is supplied from merchant stock. For a number of years we have had a savings account, and we find it more satisfactory to put the money on our own books, and have a system of checks for drawing it out as required, than to allow it to be held by the children. After it amounts to ten dollars and has been on deposit three months, it draws interest. It is placed in one of the reliable savings banks, and now amounts to about five hundred dollars. The interest receives from the bank is pro-rated among the children depositors. The children are very enthusiastic about it. We are having some other boys reach the age when they should be self-supporting, and it is a trying question what shall be done with them. They are not capable of taking hold of any regular places that we have now, yet I feel that we ought to make places, so as to retain them on the same plan indicated by Mr. Garrison.

Mr. Garrison: I am very glad to hear this report, for it is decidedly bracing. We have not in our school a single child that should ever go out and earn its own living. We try to inspire them all with an ambition not to be dependent on the state. If we are to make them independent, we must make places where they can be independent. We have a boy seventeen years of age who, three years ago, was taken from us and kept away nine months. He was put in three different places, one after another. Yet that boy can earn his own living under