

that these girls after a few years become salesgirls, but the large majority when they are too old for children's tasks seek employment in low-grade factories because they are unfitted for any special line of work.

"Few of the children employed in this work learn anything of permanent value. They are doing work which requires only a slight degree of skill. When they have spent the years of childhood in dreary toil they are doomed to continue in work that is unskilled and monotonous and with little increase in wages.

"From 12,000 to 16,000 children under 16 years of age leave school in Chicago each year and go into unskilled work. They go into box factories, where they 'turn in,' 'cover,' 'bind' and 'tie.' In candy factories they wrap and pack. In low grade tailor shops they pull bastings and brush.

"In department stores they are employed as cash girls, inspectors, stock boys, messengers. In boot and shoe factories they cut out threads, polish and clean shoes, tag, lace and assemble parts of shoes. In engraving shops they feed a hand machine. In moulding and picture frame factories they wrap and carry moulding. In knitting mills they sort, count, tie and label. In laundries they shake and mark clothes. In book binderies they fold or feed a wire stitching machine. In novelty shops they sort, count and tie tags. In bakeries they pack and label. A few are employed in press clipping bureaus, where they clip items from newspapers. Many go into soap factories where they wrap soap."

Miss Davis argues that both employers and parents are cheated in this game of taking the children early in life and putting them at work that doesn't look ahead and train them. The employers wonder why there are so few skilled workers available. Miss Davis says: "It's because so many have been taken young and put where they don't learn skilled

work. The parents of these children are cheated because the wages are low in these early years and health is hurt, and most of 'em end in blind alley work without any hope ahead.

"The test of any work is not whether children can do it, but what it does to the child. The mechanical, monotonous toil dulls the intellect. The stupidity of which I have heard so many employers complain increases as the days go by. These children go into work for which they are physically unfitted. Too often I have heard them complain of weariness. Many a child I have seen drop out of industry because rheumatism, heart trouble, tuberculosis or other diseases came. The speeding up processes produce nervous fatigue and exhaustion."

THOMPSON FOR THE KIDS AND WHAT'S BEST FOR THEM

Mayor-elect Wm. Hale Thompson at South Park av. Methodist Church, Sunday night said:

"Some call me a sportsman. Others call me a sport. I do not care what they call me but every time I can add a playground or a baseball field or a tennis court to the city's possessions I am going to do it.

"Give the boys and girls a chance to go where they learn to do right. Take them out of the alleys and ash barrels into the playgrounds. Give them athletic fields. Give them a place where they can get out into the open air.

"As mayor of Chicago, I will do my best as God gives me the light to see the right. I will try to be fair and just to all.

"I will keep my ear close to the ground to try to learn the wishes of the majority. Having learned it, I will act.

"I want you to help me. I am under no obligation to any politician or any interest. I am free to do what I believe to be the right thing to do. I appeal to you to support me."