



The Childrens Home

BY THE SUPERINTENDENT.

ferred from the old Rottnest Island Reformatory to the Collie Industrial School, and were immediately taken in hand by Ensign Caisley and his assistants, Ensign Baylis having the oversight of the boys' house and cooking arrangements.

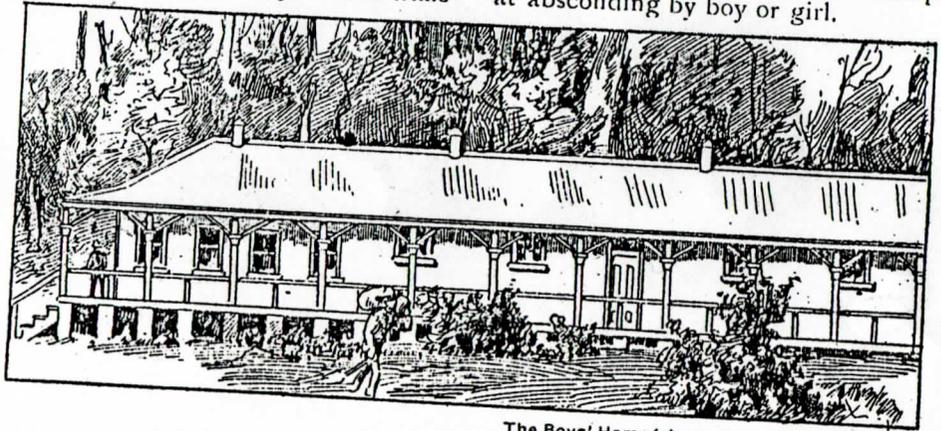
Both boys and girls have readily fallen into Army ways and methods; they have shown themselves apt at drills and physical exercises, as was evidenced in a demonstration given in the town of Collie near by. The prospects for the future

Are exceedingly bright.

The number of boys has risen rapidly, and now stands at thirty-five, with every appearance of being further increased in the near future. The girls total twelve. The Collie officers have obtained a good hold of their young charges, which is particularly evidenced in there not being even an attempt at absconding by boy or girl.

IN the year 1901 we could only describe our future hopes for things yet to be at the Collie; in the year 1902 we can write a history of things accomplished. In the year 1901 we wrote longingly of the day when there would be boys and girls at the Collie, with hearts to be reached and lives to be reclaimed for God; the past year has witnessed the consummation of these hopes, for the boys and girls are here, and the practical work of the Collie Homes has started.

The beginning was small. On September 26, 1901, the first batch of girls reached the Collie railway station, and were immediately driven out to the Girls' Home, where Ensign Finlay and her assistants were in charge. The next day fourteen boys were trans-



The Boys' Home (shown in two sections) on the

Machinery for giving boys a practical education in farming, dairying and pastoral pursuits is most complete. Convenient buildings have been erected, plant and implements purchased, also horses, sheep and cattle—in short, no expense has been spared to give the boys and girls a thorough education and apprenticeship in the different branches of domestic and farm life.

A Government Inspection of the Little Boys' and Girls' Homes.

The following article, culled from the "West Australian" speaks volumes for the good work done on the Collie. The Commissioner of Crown Lands, Dr. Jameson, accompanied by Mr. H. S. Ranford, Mr. A. Crawford (dairy expert), Mr. Ewing (M.P. for the district), Mr. Evans (manager of the coal mines), and Staff-Captain Suttor, formed the party, who were driven out to the Army settlement.

About five o'clock the party arrived at the first of the settlement buildings, a very neat-looking house on a hill overlooking the Collie River, and here a short halt was made for refreshment in the form of a very welcome cup of tea. The house has a very fine situation; all the hill sloping down to the river flats in front has been thoroughly cleared, and the river can be seen winding its way through the rich alluvial flats in the distance. It is intended to plant fifteen acres in front of the house this coming winter with fruit trees. To the right, below the house, is a windmill that pumps water from the river to tanks above the house, from which it is laid on all over the house and garden. This house is the Girls' Home, and is

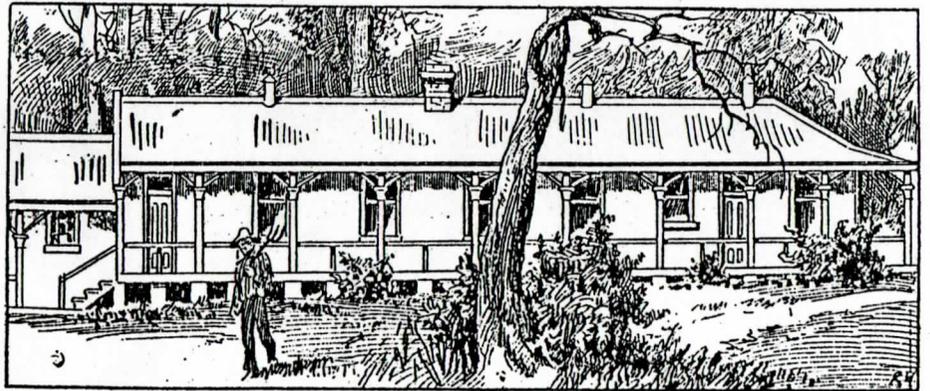
Called the "Home of Peace."

A more appropriate name could not be found—the calm old river flowing lazily below, the flat lands stretching away in the distance, with the cattle standing in the shade whisking the flies off, while on both sides and at the back there is the virgin forest. At this Home of Peace are kept the girls, varying in age from six or seven years to thirteen or fourteen.

We proceeded to the principal settlement, where the Boys' Home is—three miles distant—and arrived there a little after sundown. At the first glimpse of the settlement seen among the trees, it appeared like a flourishing township, and as we got nearer we could see the long, symmetrical buildings gradually growing into shape. We drive right up to Staff-Captain Suttor's house, which is situated at the extreme right of the settlement, on a high bank of the Collie River.

After a little rest we were taken over to a large hall to see the boys go through some physical exercises, etc. In this Home are forty boys, besides officers, most of whom were present in the hall.

Staff-Captain Suttor then introduced the Commissioner for Crown Lands, Dr. Jameson, and stated how glad they all were to have him amongst them that night. On Dr. Jameson rising to address them, he was listened to with the greatest attention. He spoke feelingly to the boys in kindly words that even the youngest could understand, and wound up with words of commendation to the officers. Mr. Ranford also addressed the boys, and spoke of the great interest he had always had in the settlement from the time it was first proposed, when it was but a wilderness. A visit was afterwards paid to the dormitories, when the boys were all in bed, and comfortable they looked, with the counterpanes of snowy white.



Great Collie Estate, W.A. The Girls' Home is of similar design.