

Things Made by Children.

BY ROBERT HENDERSON.



THE writer of this article has made it his business to search the whole country through for interesting little specimens of ingenious work done entirely by children. The result of this quest is set out herein.

In the very first photo. is shown the interior of the carpenter's shop at the National Industrial Home for Crippled Boys, at Kensington. A gorgeous doll's house is in course of completion for no less a person than His Majesty Chulalongkorn of Siam. The monarch does not want it for himself. This is, in fact, a doll's house with a history. When King Chulalongkorn was in Edinburgh a few months ago he was shown over a children's hospital. He was pleased with what he saw, and he asked his suite what acceptable form his satisfaction might take. Up rose Mr. Verney, Councillor to the Siamese Legation in London, and suggested a big doll's house. And the notion found favour with the King.

Now, Mr. Verney lives in Kensington, and it was his pleasure to place the order with the wonderfully intelligent children of the

above-named home, many of whom have been trained by one of the most experienced carpenters in the country, who is attached permanently to the institution.

Words fail adequately to describe this most sumptuous of dolls' houses. Its great size is apparent in the photo. There were real curtains to the windows, real carpets, pictures, china and glass, fenders and fire-irons, chairs, tables, beds, and every other requisite and luxury that the most exacting doll could think of—if dolls think at all, that is.

The tiny workmen took an amazing amount of interest in their big commission—which, by the way, was worth about £50, all on. These children did absolutely everything, even to cutting the glass for the windows and putting in the fire-places. It was arranged that King Chulalongkorn himself should take over the house from the diminutive builders and decorators when all was complete—when the last stair-rod was placed in position. We understand that the Siamese King displayed such emotion on seeing the completed structure, as to predicate a root-and-branch alteration in the architecture of Bangkok.



MAKING A DOLL'S HOUSE FOR THE KING OF SIAM.

The name of the house gave much trouble; for what is a house without an appropriate title? Some people have no title at all to their houses, but that is another question. Anyhow, the thing was, would "Chulalongkorn Villa" do, or would it suggest (or cause) profanity among the uninitiated? Or, again, should it be merely "Chulalongkorn"—just plain "Chulalongkorn," as it might be "Rosemead" or "Brierleigh"? Plainly, it was a delicate matter.

More interesting, however, was the ultimate use of this handsome and costly toy. Well, it was to be wheeled from ward to ward in the Edinburgh children's hospital, and while the babies might look and admire, they must on no account touch, lest the house fall into premature dilapidation.

Here is a portrait of Miss Rosalie M. Dewing Spurgin, of Gresham Lodge, Sidcup, aged fifteen. Little Miss Spurgin's handiwork is next seen—a most creditable model of a Great Northern locomotive, named (appropriately, as will be seen) the "Mystery." Now, in the course of our travels in search of these things, we came across any number of model engines made by boys, but only this solitary one made by a girl.

"It is made," writes Miss Spurgin, speaking of her little engine, "of cardboard, wood, and paper. It is painted green, picked out with black and red, and is quite complete, with spring buffers, lamps, taps, pistons, boiler, dome, and funnel. I constructed it secretly in the winter evenings of the year 1888. The work was attended with great difficulty, for I had to hide myself away behind a screen. My secret was well kept, however, and none of the family suspected what I was doing until I placed my model complete in the middle of the dining-table

on Christmas Day." Its size is 16in. by 3in., and 7in. high.

At that splendid institution, Reedham Orphanage, Purley, the small boys make model locomotives which are perfectly miraculous instances of the utilization of waste material. The art of constructing this model is, in fact, handed down from boy to boy as a heritage of fascinating pastime. The foundation is a scrap of wood; thin rolled cardboard goes to form the boiler and funnel; steps, levers, springs, etc., are made of wire and waste from watch-makers' shops. The coupling-chains are bits of toy watch-chains, and the lines round the boiler, shavings from old chocolate boxes. The model is 2ft. long, and only costs about 1s. 6d. for material.

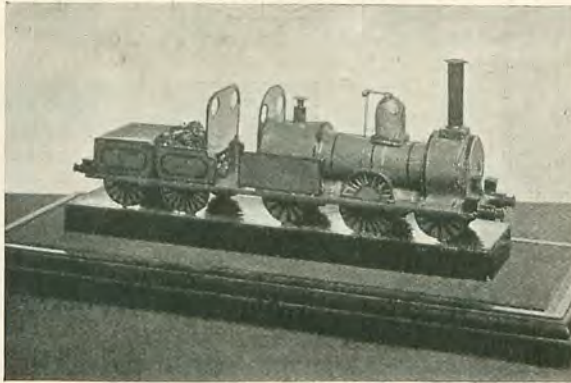
Feltham is another place visited by us in search of children's work. It is only about a dozen miles out of London, yet few seem even to have heard of it—always excepting people who live there. There is at Feltham one of the largest industrial schools in the world. It is under the London

County Council. The department we are most concerned with, however, is the Sloyd workshops, which are presided over by Mr. Henry Samworth, a most able instructor. The very small boys in this place produce articles of "bigotry and virtue" that are fairly staggering

in their originality of conception, variety, and perfectness of finish. No wonder Feltham is easily first in the work competitions held by the Children's Aid Society. The boy in the photo. on the next page is holding a very novel specimen of work—the Lord's Prayer wrought in a square of wood by means of a fret-saw. The same boy could indite an epistle to his friends on the same original lines. So expert is the lad



MISS R. M. D. SPURGIN.



MISS SPURGIN'S MODEL ENGINE.



THE LORD'S PRAYER CUT IN WOOD WITH A FRET-SAW.

with his saw, that it will be seen he fairly revels in all sorts of type, to say nothing of the elaborate scrolls and designs in the border.

The Feltham boys turn out, in fretwork, photo. frames, inkstands, brackets, boxes, cabinets, models, and many other articles. The tiny wood-carvers produce chairs, tables, stools, and other useful (and therefore, perhaps, uninteresting) objects. The turnery class have made hundreds of pairs of dumb-bells, besides enough clubs to arm a Matabele impi. Frankly, we ourselves took far more interest in the little things the youngsters made for their own private gratification, or that of their mothers and friends.

Observe the boy in the next photo. He has constructed a highly creditable model of a village church out of unconsidered scraps of wood and cardboard, and powdered glass. There is something peculiar about that church. You see the slit in the roof of the nave? Very well; that explains the use of the little model. As a fact, its maker designed it as a collecting box, for use at bazaars. Had he, we wonder, noticed the reluctance people have to part with money at these embarrassing functions? And was the notion that contributors might be able to say, with literal accuracy, that they had "put

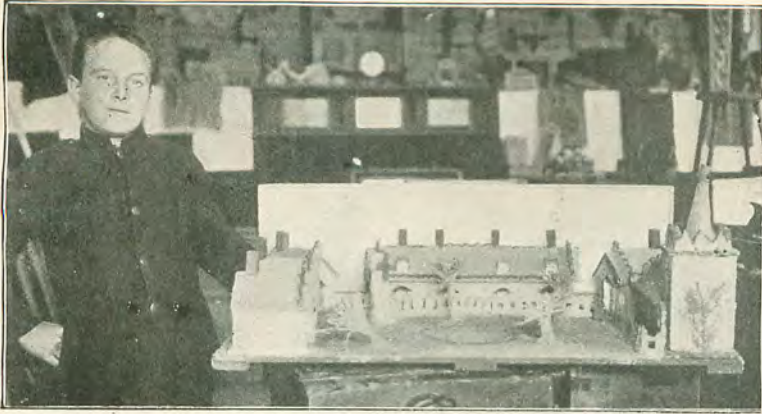
money into the church"? Anyway, it is a good idea.

Only give boys and girls a lesson or two in this sort of thing, and you will be astonished at the result. It is a splendid pastime, this half-unconscious training of the eye and hand; and the ingenuity and fertility of resource displayed by some of the enthusiastic little workers are nothing short of marvellous. Why, we have seen luxurious drawing-room chairs, that wouldn't disgrace Park Lane, made out of small soda-barrels, with just a piece cut out of the side at the top, and the seat and back stuffed with rags and unravelled rope, and then covered with cretonne. These were made entirely by little girls.

On the opposite page is seen a highly commendable piece of work done by the bright little boy seen near it. It is a complete model of an English village, with church, parsonage, cottages, village green, and pond. In order that the design might not appear too prim and stiff, the tree on the left-hand side was represented as having been partly blown down by the wind. This interesting model was first drawn to scale on paper by our clever little friend. The various buildings are composed of scraps of wood from the workshop floor, and little bits of broken china. The palisades and trees are made out of bits of cardboard-boxes.



A CURIOUS COLLECTING BOX.



MODEL ENGLISH VILLAGE MADE OF CARDBOARD, ETC.

The whole village is nicely decorated, and mounted on a strong wooden platform. The little pond on the green is merely a small piece of thick glass, the edges of which fade imperceptibly into the gravel round about.

Naturally we approached the patent agents on the subject of things made by children. We learn that the agents have taken out several patents for boys of sixteen or thereabouts. The most interesting case was that of quite a little boy who some years ago applied for a patent for "improvements in, and applicable to, umbrellas and parasols." The patent was so valuable that it was actually opposed by a firm in the trade on several grounds. For one thing, they said, the patentee is a minor, and as such cannot own his own property or have a patent granted to him. It was a test case, with any number of appeals. Mr. W. P. Thomson, of Liverpool, defended the case as patent expert for the boy. Lord Cairns decided that the law in regard to minors was for their protection, and not for their disadvantage (sound sense as well as sound law), and that the Queen had absolute power to grant a patent to a minor. So the ingenious little boy won his

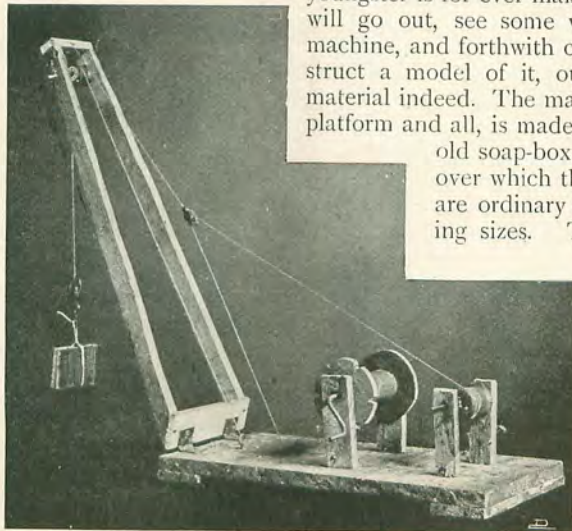
case. Then, again, the model-makers will tell you of marvellously well-constructed models made by children. One of the most remarkable model oscillating engines the writer ever saw was made by Master J. W. Record, of 3, Shortlands Terrace, Lea Bridge Road, Leyton, who was a very small boy at the time.

The boiler was a coffee-tin, the cylinder a bit of brass gas-pipe. Lead spoons, clock-works, bits of tin and wire—all these unpromising things did Master Record adapt to his purpose, until one is almost tempted to play upon his name in describing the resulting engine. The next attempt was something more than a toy, although the boiler this time had to be cut from sheet copper with the garden shears! This later engine is powerful enough to work a small sewing-machine. The little chap made his own drawings and even his own castings. He wants to become an engineer.

But for ingenuity and simplicity, commend to us the model crane seen in the accompanying reproduction. It was constructed in a single evening by Master W. J. McNab, of Rossie House, Lamb's Conduit Street. This youngster is for ever making something. He will go out, see some vehicle, building, or machine, and forthwith come home and construct a model of it, out of very primitive material indeed. The main part of the crane, platform and all, is made out of pieces of an

old soap-box. The three drums over which the "rope" is wound are ordinary cotton-reels of varying sizes. The smaller pulleys

are parts of window-catches. The handles and spindles are scraps of the iron "skimmer" with which the boy used to force his hoop along. Finally, the "rope" is twine from packets of



CRANE MADE FROM A SOAP-BOX, REELS, ETC.



FOUR GORGEOUS GUYS.

tea. With his model before him, the lad can give most luminous descriptions of the action and capacity of derricks and cranes of all kinds. His father (Mr. J. C. McNab) is superintendent of one of the Homes for Working Boys in London—institutions which are doing an enormous amount of good among working lads.

There are few things children love so well as the building-up of a really good effigy or guy. The accompanying photo. shows four of these, all in a row. They were made by the little boys at the Shaftesbury School, Bisley, which belongs to the National Refuges for Homeless and Destitute Children, 164, Shaftesbury Avenue. The guy on the left is intended to represent the Sultan of Turkey, for whom no indignity seems to be too great in this country. This effigy of the Caliph of Islam was made by two boys, who got some notion of the monarch's appearance from a portrait in one of the illustrated papers. The body is an old sack stuffed with straw. The fez is a jam-tin; and as to the belt, sash, medals, and other trappings, really, the less said about them the better, since allusion to their origin might cause a diplomatic rupture at the Porte.

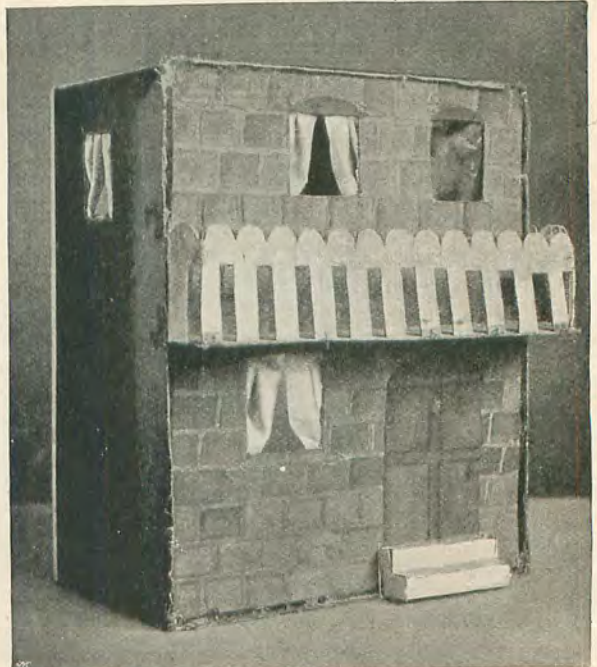
Cheek by jowl with Abdul is a "Japanese gentleman," obviously in an advanced stage of alcoholic

hilarity. It took three boys to make him. Briefly, he is an old suit of clothes filled to bursting with tailor's clippings and paper. The others are "a painter, his wife and their infant child," a touching little group, of course, but in bad company, and doomed to a worse end.

The little boys and girls at the various schools of the National Refuges amuse themselves by making a variety of interesting little models out of odds and ends. Take the specimen of the girls' work which is here reproduced. The first illustration shows the

exterior of a doll's house which was made out of an old bonnet-box. The back, or bottom, of the box is the front of the house. The door-steps and balcony were cut from the cover. The curtains are made out of the tissue-paper that lined the box.

You will perceive that the house has but two rooms. Tables and chairs are cut out of cardboard, and covered with crochet work



DOLL'S HOUSE MADE FROM AN OLD BONNET-BOX—EXTERIOR.



DOLL'S HOUSE MADE FROM AN OLD BONNET-BOX—INTERIOR.

done by the ingenious and industrious little girls themselves. The staircase is a little precarious, but it reaches the upper room all right. In the upper room are an artistically draped bed, a wash-hand stand, and other furniture. The inmates, like the house, were simple. They were made of scraps of Berlin wool fastened together, and they seemed perfectly satisfied with the appointments of the house. The husband spent an abnormal time in bed; in fact, he was always there, whilst his wife sat complacently below.

The dear little girls who planned and made this doll's house "preferred it to any other"—to quote the soap testimonials; and they were continually trying the effect of various re-arrangements of the furniture, such as placing the wash-hand stand in the drawing-room, and so on. In fact, children nearly always prefer toys which they have made themselves, or work which is copied from that done by grown-up people. "One frequent source of amusement with our children," writes Mr. Sydney Phillips, of St. Thomas's Hospital, "is the bandaging of their dolls with the aid of their (the dolls') dresses." Poor stricken little mites! They see so much bandaging going on around them, that they are irresistibly led to operate on their own dolls! A pathetic instance of childish mimicry.

It may not be generally known that a so-called "Spare-Time Movement" was started some years ago by Mr. Albert Bankes, of

Wolferton House, Dorchester. The notion was that, instead of importing German-made toys, these things should be made in spare time in every cottage in the kingdom. The value of foreign toys imported into the United Kingdom in 1895 was £997,647—say, a round million—which might just as well go into the pockets of our own people. The thing was to create and work out original designs in toys from old boxes, broom-handles, rags, and other waste material.

Here are two ingenious and diverting toys made by small children belonging to a local Band of Hope. They were sent in by Miss S. J. Hardy, of Catherine Street, Salisbury.



CURIOUS CARVED TOY.

The first is in two parts. There is a relatively heavy base, from which rise two very light rods, which support a small platform. Horse and rider are cut from a solid piece of wood with a pen-knife. Attached to the horse is a long curving piece of iron wire culminating in a piece of lead. You simply place the horse's hind legs on the platform and then push him up and down, when he oscillates in the air in a most remarkable way. The thing is puzzling to spectators from a distance,

particularly when the toy is placed against a dark background.

The second toy consists of a light cylinder of cartridge paper, covered with silk or cloth at both ends. The material at the bottom is continued up so as to form a coat for the little figure. Legs and arms cut out of cloth are also fastened on. All you have to do next is to drop a good-sized marble or leaden



THE ECCENTRIC TUMBLER.

ball into the cylinder, and then paint a face on the outside.

You then get a board and tilt it up at an angle. Sit the little man on the top end of this inclined plane, and he commences his antics, which are really very funny. He wobbles for a moment backwards and forwards, and then takes a series of violent somersaults head over heels, coming to rest at the bottom with many peculiar jerks and nods.

The Spare-Time Movement has set children all over the country making dolls, both for sale and for their own amusement. These dolls are wonderfully simple in construction. They are in the first instance mere oblong bags of calico, stuffed with odds and ends from the rag-bag, and with one end dragged in tightly to form a head. Then come the painting and dressing. The "guernsey" worn by a fisherman doll we saw consisted of part of an old stocking; his trousers were a bit of serge, and his sea-boots scraps of an old black glove. The net he carried consisted of odds and ends of string crocheted together. The doll was made by a bright little girl, only eight years old.

We also came across dolls made by children which were not exactly playthings. One was used as a dressmaker's model. Another brace of dolls we found in a school of art, where they were constantly called upon to decorate a model landscape. Finally, a whole set of rag dolls were found doing duty in the officers' mess of a crack cavalry regiment, where they illustrated the various changes the uniform had undergone.

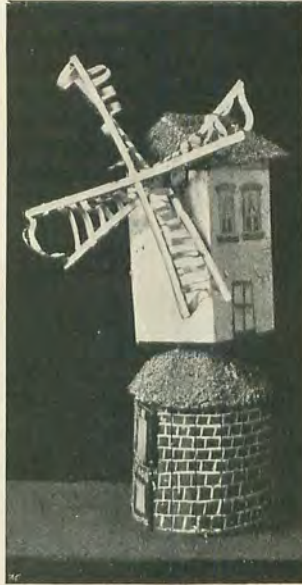
The next specimen of children's work to be reproduced is a very ingenious windmill made out of bits of wood and cardboard by a little fellow belonging to the House-Boy Brigade, 146, Marylebone Road. The remarkable thing about this

windmill is that it is independent of wind, being provided with an ingenious little engine inside which works the sails furiously. The model is entirely the work of the boy himself. Most of the youngsters at the above-

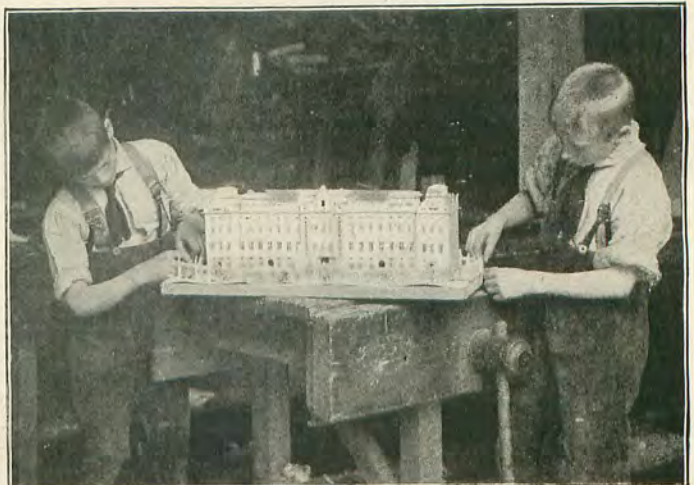
named excellent institution make interesting little models of this kind during the winter evenings. Once a boy is imbued with the idea of making things, he is always on the look-out for suitable subjects. Mr. J. Pendlebury, the courteous secretary of the Children's Home, Bonner Road, N.E., sent to these offices a little model steam-engine, which was made entirely by one of the boys, Sam Ferrel by name. This lad was at one time employed in stoking and minding the engine at the Home which supplies steam power to the laundry, so he had ample leisure both to study the original and to construct his model. This was composed of mere scraps of metal, yet it worked at high steam

pressure, and was to the other children quite the most entertaining object in the whole institution.

We next see a corner of the workshop at the Boys' Home, Regent's Park Road. Two little boys are putting the finishing touches to a cardboard model of Buckingham Palace, which they have made entirely by themselves. When finished, a lighted candle is placed



MODEL WINDMILL WORKED BY AN ENGINE.



MAKING A MODEL OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

inside the palace, so that every one of its myriad windows glows with warm, red light. Anyone, in fact, who will only take the trouble to ask for specimens of work, little things made by the children, for their own amusement—in any of the big institutions—such a person, we say, could not fail to be impressed with the extraordinary skill and ingenuity manifest in many of these spontaneous, unaided efforts.

In private families, too, it is the same. Here we show an elegant cottage built by a little boy as a birthday present for his sister. The builder is Master Leslie N. Furse, aged thirteen, of Englefield Green, Surrey. Leslie's father was having a house built, and the boy went with him to inspect it. The workmen allowed him to take away any broken pieces of brick that he could pick up. A knob of lime was another contribution, for this, mixed with some sand dug out of the garden, formed the mortar. "My father," writes little Master Furse, "gave me an empty packing-case, which I used, as far as possible, for the woodwork of my house; and some old slate-frames helped to make the window-sashes." Drain pipes and bath-room pipes were the stems of humble "clays." Having so constructed the wooden roof, the boy bought twopenny-worth of straw out of his pocket-money, and then set to and thatched it. The requisite paint was obtained by scraping some empty paint tins, and mixing the result with a little turpentine "begged from mother." The house is plastered right through with mortar mixed with flock, and all the rooms are properly papered.

It is a red-brick house, the woodwork being painted a chocolate brown. The lower room measures 27 in. by 22 in. The furniture in

this room consists of four chairs, with old gold velvet seats; two sideboards, two tables, two silver "whatnots" and bookcases combined, one couch, and one piano. The pictures are framed Christmas-cards. There are proper foundations to the house, composed of loose stones from the garden mixed with lime.

The staircase, which is right in front of the door, is carpeted with old Brussels, and there is a bathroom over the hall, supplied from a tank in the roof. When the house was photographed it was decorated for the Jubilee, and the four dolls that inhabit it placed outside, thus hiding the door. Master Furse's house is 4 ft. high, and is built under a big apple-tree in the garden.

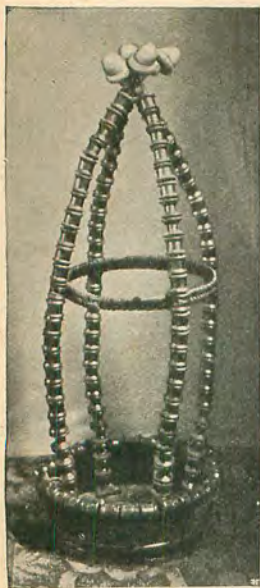
We found quite a number of interesting little things at the Princess Louise Home for Girls, at Norbiton. Here, for example, is a splendid bed for a doll of high degree. The foundation of the bed is simply a shallow cardboard bon-bon box opened, the cover being at right angles to the box itself. Hangings, mattress, bolster, pillows, blankets, sheets, and counterpane—each and every one of these is quite perfect, and owes its



BRICK AND MORTAR DOLL'S HOUSE—A BIRTHDAY PRESENT TO A LITTLE SISTER.



DOLL'S BED MADE FROM A BON-BON BOX.



UMBRELLA-STAND MADE OF
OLD COTTON-REELS.

existence to the ingenuity and skilful fingers of the little girls. The children at this institution, by the way, have won many prizes for making useful articles out of unconsidered trifles. It was here we saw the stuffed chairs made out of butterkegs and soda-barrels; and even odds and ends of flannelette were wrought into a substantial bath-room mat. The merest babies here either dress dolls in various styles, or

cover toy whips with crochet work. Miss Skinner, the indefatigable lady superintendent, points with pride to a handsome shield, which her little ones won in open competition, for interesting little specimens of children's unaided work. Talking of the utilization of waste and the like, just consider for a moment the neat little umbrella-stand which is here reproduced, and which is made entirely out of old cotton-reels, threaded on to iron wire. Miss Skinner collects thousands of these reels from shops and elsewhere, and then hands them over to her little girls to be transformed into really useful and ornamental articles of furniture. By the way, they make most beautiful photo-frames and brackets at Norbiton out of pinecones, picked up under the trees in the grounds.

One is amazed in visiting this place to notice the multitude of quaint and serviceable articles made by these clever children.



A QUAIN DOOR-STOP.

The funny doll which forms the next illustration is really a door-stop. It is made out of a wide-mouthed jar, or bottle, filled with stones, and then covered with scraps of cloth and provided with a head and hood. Every time the door strikes this benevolent-looking person (who stands behind it), she reels back with a hurt look, but quickly braces herself to withstand the onslaught. She is a personality of some weight—so much so, in fact, that we should not like her to descend upon the toes of even our worst enemy. Yet another article made out of old thread-reels—this time an ornamental jardinière, or flower-pot. Notice the flat

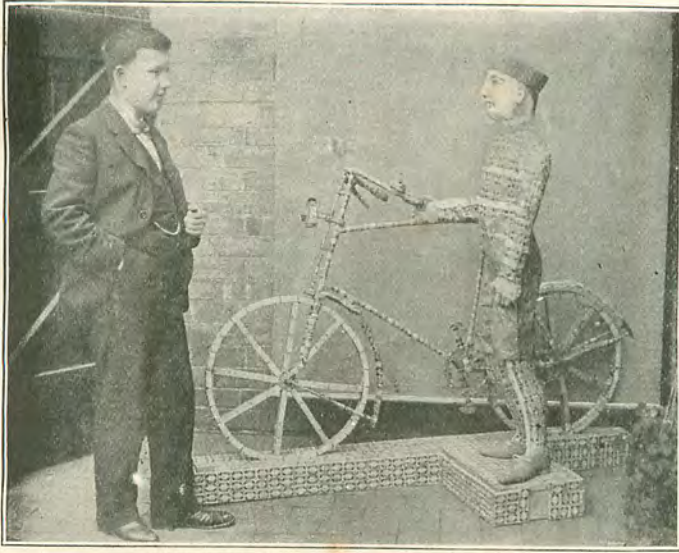


JARDINIÈRE MADE OF OLD COTTON-REELS.

layer of split reels around the top. They were dexterously split with one blow of a hatchet. These reel ornaments and articles of furniture are, of course, painted in gay colours by the girls.

A particularly interesting specimen of a little boy's ingenuity is next depicted. It is a large figure of a man and a safety bicycle, made entirely out of empty match-boxes. It was the work of Master Harold Blanckensee, aged fourteen, of 22, Upper Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. We are indebted for the photo. to Mr. S. Bowman, of The Hollies, Poplar Avenue, Edgbaston. The model was made for exhibition in a competition organized by Messrs. S. J. Moreland and Son, of Gloucester, match manufacturers. Each competitor's model was to use up not less than so many hundred boxes. The reasons for which are perfectly obvious.

Our young friend, who is seen contemplating his curious handiwork in the photo., glued his match-boxes together, and there is in the model no sub-structure or foundation of any kind. For the cyclist himself and



WONDERFUL MODEL MADE FROM MATCH-BOXES.

parts of the machine, the match-boxes had to be soaked in boiling water, to make them pliable. All the different colours in the man's dress, complexion, eyebrows, lips, etc., were obtained by peeling the paper off the boxes and using the different colours as required.

Here are the dimensions: Length of stand, $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft.; length of bicycle, 5 ft.; height of figure, $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Certain parts of the machine had to be modelled, or built, on an iron rod, which, however, was withdrawn when the soaked match-boxes had set and become hard. Altogether, no fewer than 1,700 empty match-boxes were used. One is glad to know that Master Blanckensee was awarded a silver English lever watch for this remarkable piece of work. Even the original photo., from which we reproduce, was developed and printed by the boy himself.

There is an organization in London which is particularly fruitful in the production of ingenious little things made by very small children. We refer to the Children's Happy Evenings Association, which is instituted to provide recreative evenings in the School Board buildings for the children attending school. Briefly, the notion is this: After hours the magnificently equipped Board school buildings stand idle and empty all the evening, whilst the children of the poor are compelled to amuse themselves as best they can in the street or

the crowded court. "Why not," argued certain philanthropic ladies, "get the use of the schools for the evening, and amuse and entertain therein such children as liked to come?" The ladies agitated, and the thing was done.

Surely there never was a society that made money go farther! For every pound subscribed, twenty children have "happy evenings" for seven months. Only £300 a year is needed to pay the expenses of the thirty-six branches, which amuse 7,000 children weekly.

One way in which the children amuse themselves is by making things—our

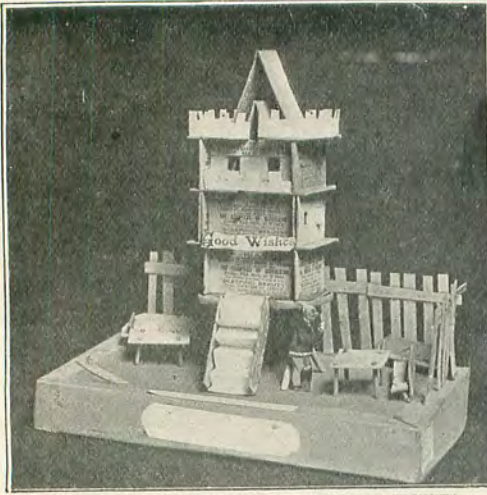
old friend, "the utilization of waste material." In fact, here is a delightful model of a bathing-machine, made out of old post-cards by a mere baby. Even the wheels are of the same material. The rope is a bit of window-cord, and the sea is represented by a bit of gauze and some cotton-wool.

The Happy Evenings are managed like this. There are "quiet" rooms for children who go in for reading and painting—that is, colouring pictures from the illustrated papers. Then there are what we may call "semi-quiet" rooms for the children who prefer making little toys and others who want stories told them. Finally, there are "noisy" rooms for sheer romping.

The illustration on the top of the next page



BATHING MACHINE MADE OUT OF OLD POST-CARDS.



CHINESE PAGODA MADE OUT OF ADMISSION TICKETS.

depicts a quaint little Chinese pagoda made by Rosie North, aged seven. Rosie is a pretty little thing, and one of the happiest of Happy Evenings. She made this wonderful pagoda entirely out of admission tickets to one of the association's own functions!

The children at the various branches turn out an enormous quantity of dolls' furniture. Some of the chairs are built up of cardboard and covered with gorgeous velvet, whilst others are merely opened pill-boxes, extra large, and draped with a scrap of silk. Both tables and chairs for some of the more *chic* establishments, however, are made with horse-chestnuts and pins. Complete Punch and Judy shows are made out of match-boxes, the various characters being represented by the matches themselves, suitably dressed.

The doll here shown was made in a

moment at one of the C.H.E.A.'s gatherings. The head is merely an empty egg-shell from the breakfast table, and the hood and dress (there is no body) a crumpled paper bag from the grocer's. The extraordinary expression of dolorousness is more accidental than anything else. The egg head has become a little loose and slipped side-ways, whilst the features are merely dabs of paint "thrown" on in the most perfunctory manner.

The life and soul of the Children's Happy Evenings Association is Miss Edith Heather-Bigg, of 14, Radnor Place, Hyde Park. To this most charming and vivacious of ladies (as well as to her sister, Miss Ada) the writer is vastly obliged for assistance most kindly rendered.

The last illustration reproduced is remarkable, not only as being the work of children, but of *blind* children. We asked Dr. F. J. Campbell, of the Royal Normal College, Upper Norwood, whether the little ones under his care made any interesting

models and such-like, where-upon he was kind enough to send along these things, which have been modelled in clay with amazing instinct by the blind children. There are a dove-cot, a pond with ducks, a stile, and a pair of bellows. It is indeed a strange and pathetic sight to see these and other articles being made at the great institution at Norwood, particularly when we reflect that the children can never have seen the originals in Nature.

Their skill, however, in making baskets, brushes, toys, and models of every sort is nothing short of miraculous; and doubtless the manufacture of these things

gives the little ones a sense of form which could in no other way be imparted to them.



DOLL MADE OF EGG-SHELL AND PAPER BAG.



LITTLE MODELS MADE BY BLIND CHILDREN.