The coming generation

Forbush William Byron
THE SOCIAL BETTERMENT SERIES

EDITED BY

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THE COMING GENERATION
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BY

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The feeling of social responsibility which characterizes our day has led to severe criticism of various phases of our modern world, and to innumerable plans for social reconstruction. In consequence, the actual achievements of social betterment have been frequently overlooked in our sense of imperative tasks and our distrust of Utopias. Nevertheless, steady advance has been made in correcting evils and in establishing laws, institutions, and precedents looking toward the genuine improvement of social conditions. The present series of volumes undertakes to describe accurately this advance for the general reader. Although written by specialists in their particular fields, the plan and method of each volume are not technical. The great reading public has been pretty thoroughly informed as to our social liabilities; the present series will list our social assets. Such a presentation it is believed will not lead to a complacent optimism, but will serve to reassure the rapidly growing class of those who are ready and even eager to join in all practicable efforts to right evils but who, at the same time, wish to maintain the continuity of social evolution.

Shailer Mathews.
PREFACE

HERE is the first endeavor to furnish in a single volume a short, readable account of all the forces that are working for the betterment of American young people.

If we are to know anything about betterment we must know something about the childhood which it is proposed to better. Instead of giving what might be a rather arid résumé of child study, however, the author has in the first part of the book, which deals with the betterment of boys and girls in their homes, introduced such discoveries about children as their parents and friends are likely to make. The second part is devoted to the means of giving children a fair start. The third part deals with betterment through education. In the fourth part the work of prevention, with delinquent and neglected children, is described. Book V is devoted to the matter of the religious and social nurture of the young. Finally, there is a summary, in which a program for united and general effort with and for boys and girls is briefly outlined.

There are references for further reading and a list of fuller bibliographies is given at the close.

WILLIAM BYRON FORBUSH

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

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