

## A Missionary Laboratory

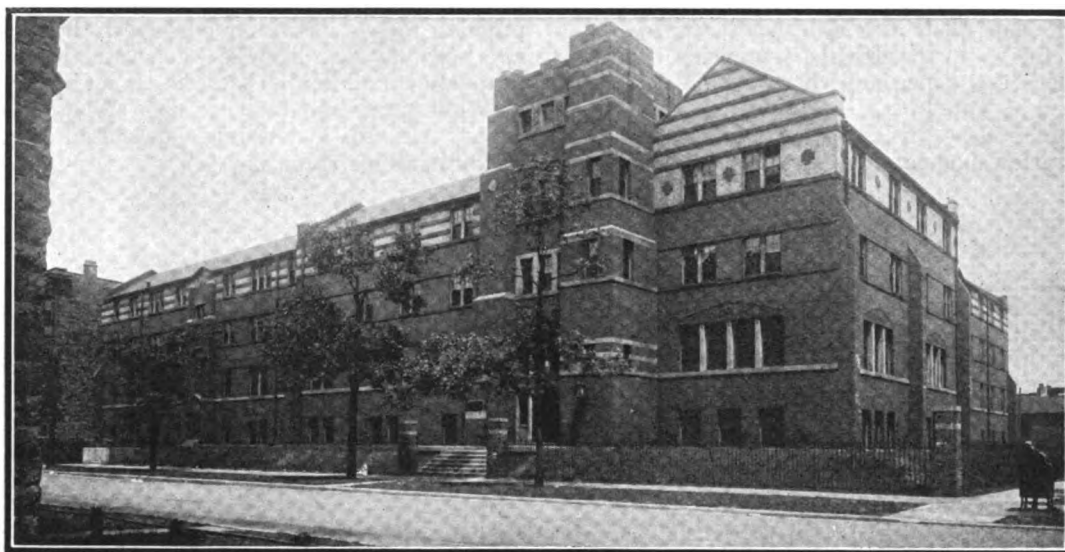
*THE LIFE SCHOOL IN WHICH THE YOUNG WOMEN GAIN EXPERIENCE*

**T**HE courses of an educational institution become valuable to the student only so far as the theories obtained are put into practice. Recitations and text-book learning are easily forgotten unless there is some practical lesson attached which becomes a part of the personal experience of the student. The Baptist Missionary Training School in Chicago is in a position to offer a real laboratory course in missionary methods.

Field work, calling and surveying is an art, practiced successfully only by those who are well trained. It is an important phase of missionary endeavor as well, and is one of the main factors in filling churches and Sunday schools. For this reason an experienced missionary of long standing with the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, Miss Martha E. Troeck, has been placed

dren and how to deal with them, the students come for observation and practice. Most of the children come from poor homes and are malnutrition cases. The mid-morning lunch of crackers and milk is helping to nourish the thin little bodies and paint the white cheeks rosy. It is quite a study in contentment to see the babies sucking happily on the straws which protrude from their pint bottles while the sunshine floods the little room in Raymond Institute.

The Juniors of the Training School run a very successful girls' sewing school which meets on Saturday afternoons and has an enrollment of over a hundred bright little new Americans. They represent the Polish, Lithuanian, German, Irish and Bohemian races, but at heart they are all loyal to the Stars and Stripes and seem



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in charge of the field work at the Training School as a resident member of the faculty. One afternoon a week the Juniors of the school call, under the direction of the missionary, who takes each one personally at first, after which they go out in groups of two. In this way the students learn to approach the New Americans tactfully in their homes or on the streets. The religious message and Christian Americanization ideals are stressed always when making these calls, for "Christ in Every Home" is the motto of the Society. Surveys of various districts are planned for the purpose of studying the population, housing conditions, social centers and religious needs of the people.

The real laboratory of the Training School, however, is Raymond Institute, Thirty-first and Halsted Streets, close to the stockyards. It has been found a very suitable and successful station at which to centralize the activities of the school. Here a kindergarten meets daily under the efficient leadership of Miss Carmen, the teacher of kindergarten methods at the Training School. And here, o, since all missionaries need to know something of chil-

to get along peaceably with no race riots of any sort.

The Seniors manage a small girls' club of their own; a boys' club of over forty which meets Saturday mornings for games, songs, Bible verses and patriotic habit stories; and a domestic science and home-making club which assembles at the Training School building on Saturday afternoons for an enchanted session of baking, stewing and roasting.

In this practice work the student missionaries find valuable methods for future application on their fields, and lessons are learned which save time and unhappiness later. How do they find time for all these many activities in connection with their actual classroom work and household duties, you ask? We wondered ourselves, but that is a secret which the efficient Training School student learns by experience and cannot be coaxed to impart. Perhaps the lights burning occasionally at five in the morning in the library have something to do with it. At any rate, it is only fair to add that the students are the healthiest, happiest group of girls we have ever had the pleasure of seeing.