

May 8th, 1930 - Camp appeal - app. 495

THE BIG CITY AND A BOY

A stuffy room - no window - so no air, and two other kids in the bed are not so good for a boy's sleep - Mother's tired - she scrubs in New York offices nights - so there is only a cup of coffee for breakfast.

"Say, you gotta help with the dishes."

"Aw, Ma, I'm gonna work."

Sells papers - helps Tony black a pair of shoes - five cents - riches! - shoots pennies at a crack - loses them all - bankrupt! - goes for a swim - dirty water by the dock, but never mind.

Plays punchball in the street - sees pal get hit by auto - shoots crap - ties can to dog's tail - has a fight - steals fruit from peddler when his back's turned - plays marbles in a lot.

Awful hot - plays sides against old building.

"Say, there ain't anybody in that building, bet yer my rock makes a bigger hole in the window than yours."

Goes down to the railroad lots and plays in box cars -
"Cheese it, there comes a cop."

Goes up to Montgomery Park to play ball but is crowded out by the older boys. One of the fellers shares his eats with him.

"Say, doesn't a swim feel good after all that stuff?"

Plays tag in the evening, climbing over docks, porches, through back alleys and up on roofs.

Sits on front steps of deserted building and listens to smutty stories told by older boys - smoking cigarette butts which they throw aside and some picked up during the day.

Gets to bed at 12 o'clock.

Awful hot.

Many boys in our neighborhood spend, or waste, summer days like this. Your help sent ninety-seven to the country last year.

WHITTIER HOUSE' BIT OF GREEN

The word Pomona means something to the downtown kids of Jersey City. In fact it means a lot. That's the name of the camp maintained by Whittier House of 174 Grand Street, in the hills of Rockland County, New York. Every youngster who has ever been there knows what a wonderful place it is, and those who have not, are looking forward to seeing it this summer. It means open country, a brook, woods, fresh air and beautiful hills. There's a real barn to live in, of course nicely fixed up with proper beds, but none the less, a barn.

Everybody's up at 6:30 for reveille, flag raising, salute, report, 5 minutes' setting up exercises, a dip and cleanup for breakfast. Next door is the dining hall where fresh milk and country vegetables are ready for country appetites. Not a cent's wasted on frills, always plenty of good wholesome food. After breakfast comes camp cleanup, maybe some baseball practice - no trucks to dodge. Two kids are on K. P. (helping the cook - next time they'll come when they are called!)

Then a swim before dinner, and doesn't a kid want to eat after that! Into the bunkhouse and a half hour's rest - perhaps a soccer game. Two kids practice signalling - look out for your eye! A hike to the lake - after this no need to cleanup for supper. At half past six, Red and Fatty practice their stunt for the evening. At eight comes the show and stories, Daniel Boone, Crockett and Kit Carson, and then a ghost story, and such a ghost! 9:15 and all in the bunkhouse - 9:30 lights out! Nine hours' dreams of treasure hunts and swan dives.

There's no skimping on food or leadership, which means a kid enjoys his summer and comes back better in health and every other way. The only skimping may be the number of boys who can go. This number is limited by the amount of money available. It costs \$1.00 a day for each child and though each family pays something, those who need it most can afford it least.

Will you share your vacation with one boy for one or two weeks or will you help TWO kids to go?