

Queens' College Boys' Club

HIGH STREET, PECKHAM.

IN 1899 the Rev. J. W. MAUNDERS founded a Club in his district for the very roughest boys, in fact most of them had seen the inside of a prison. The Club and Bible Class fast developed, and outgrew the small income at hand. In 1901 Queens' College came to the rescue, and adopted the Club as its special work in South London, Mr. MAUNDERS being appointed Missioner. Since then the Club has done a great work, at least 500 boys having passed through it. The work is now in charge of the Rev. R. L. GARDNER, who has 300 boys on his books.

Boys are admitted into the small boys' club before they leave schools; the rougher they are the better. On leaving school they enter the big club. The Bible Class is now and always has been the main feature of the work. The average attendance is between 60 and 70, though no compulsion is brought to bear on the boys to make them attend if they do not wish to do so. Many of the boys find their greatest comfort at the Club in the winter, for most have bad homes, and some none at all; these latter sleep regularly in common lodging houses, if they have the necessary few pence, otherwise they "sleep out." The work amongst these, the poorest boys, is most encouraging; help is badly wanted on Monday Wednesday, and Friday evenings.

Not the least of the difficulties which confront the Managers of the Club is the difficulty that exists in getting suitable employment for those boys who are out of work. It would be of the greatest help if old Queens' men, now in business or in touch with business houses, would let the Club Manager know of any vacancy which would be suitable for any of the boys.

Treasurer: Rev. C. T. Wood, Queens' College.
