

Children's Garden at Dayton, Ohio, U.S.A.

Every Saturday morning about 1200 children, varying in age from 4 to 14 years, are the guests of the National Cash Register Co., at Dayton, Ohio, U.S.A. The youngsters gather in the great hall at the factory or at the City Club, and they are taught to retain health, form good habits, and become good citizens. This item in the welfare work undertaken by the company was commenced about three years ago among the boys and girls living in the worst part of Dayton, who did considerable damage and had become a general nuisance. Instead of having the youngsters arrested, Mr. J.H. Patterson "got them to do things." Every boy was given a garden, the company providing the land, tools, seeds, and a competent instructor. The ringleaders of the boys were placed in charge. The outcome of the experiment was the formation of the Boys' Garden Company, organized and chartered under the laws of Ohio. The company has offices and directors, and declares a dividend, so it is small wonder the boys work splendidly and achieve wonderful results. Gardens are now provided for quite small boys and girls, as well as for older girls. Not only do the youngsters work these gardens in admirable fashion, but they have turned their attention to the gardens attached to their homes and created an enthusiasm for gardening among parents, relatives and friends. The result of this wonderful work is seen throughout the Slidertown district, which, from being one of the worst parts of Dayton, has now become one of the most beautiful under the title of South Park.

--from *The Gardeners Chronicle* [UK], August 14, 192? (1920?, 1926?)