

cise the whole system sympathises, and thus the health becomes impaired."

Again, "nothing is more rare than to find among the insane a person of a judiciously cultivated mind."

Can we not all call to mind instances of women whose whole systems sympathise with the starvation of their brains, and is not the sight one of the saddest the world produces? In capacity run to seed, and in lives which might be purposeful, fertile in good for the community, and happy in these results, cramped, deteriorating, and dragging out an aimless and joyless existence, conscious of the "dire compulsion of un-fertile days." To what purpose is this waste?

Dealing with Teaching as a Profession for Women, Miss Hogarth points out that teaching is, "thanks to our colossal indifference to the whole question of education, the one profession which has required no previous training . . . it is no exaggeration to say that there are thousands of teachers employed in private houses or at private schools to-day whose claims to efficiency no educational court would for a moment allow, and who hold their position in virtue of the ignorance and credulity of their employers, or of the cheapness of their labour. But there are signs of a change. The scheme for the registration of teachers marks a step in advance, and denotes that the educational authorities, at any rate, feel that classification is desirable. Public opinion is being gradually awakened, and there is evidence to show that the time is not far distant when the skilled labourer will no longer be undersold by the unskilled, and when a course of honest hard work and study will have to be undertaken by every woman who proposes to maintain herself by teaching." It is the application of this principle to their own profession which is involved in the demand of Trained Nurses for their State Registration.

Miss Billington's paper on Journalism contains much of interest. In this profession it seems that experience rather than definite instruction is the best preparation. A sound general modern education is essential, a knowledge of the classics desirable; history and geography in the form that understands the making of great nations, and political influences, are invaluable; French is necessary, German extremely useful, and any language may prove a valuable acquisition. So far it is not through the various schools established for the teaching of journalism that the leaders of the profession have come to their pre-eminence. "So much of good journalism depends entirely upon personal ability, instinct, and judgment, that it may be doubted whether the higher attributes of the calling can ever be conveyed in the form of set lessons. Those who have attained to high places in the profession have done so entirely by their individual perseverance and effort."

Of Medicine as a Profession for Women it is satisfactory that Dr. Ethel Lamport is able to say: "No longer can the medical woman be disregarded or ignored, passed over, or snubbed. She has made her way steadily and perseveringly (painfully and laboriously too, in the case of the pioneers), until her professional status is accepted and acknowledged. If her medical brethren cannot be said always to welcome her addition to their ranks, yet they receive her, with more or less cordiality according to their, or her own, individual attitude

towards professional fellow-labourers. . . . . The large and increasing practices of many women doctors show them to be both needed and appreciated." It is sad that it has still to be recorded that, although the Royal College of Surgeons was not unwilling to admit women to its qualifying examinations, the Royal College of Physicians refused to do so, and the question fell through for a time. This attitude to accredited members of their profession on the part of an educated and learned body such as compose the College of Physicians seems well-nigh incredible in the twentieth century. The Oriental attitude of men to women dies hard.

Miss Irwin's article on Public Work for Women on Local Government Boards as Factory Inspectors is of extreme interest. She deals with it under two aspects—first, in its relation to the general social development; and, second, the nature of the work itself and the requisite qualifications. "With regard to the cry which is still heard from time to time that the general tendency of the woman's movement is to divert women from the interests and duties of the home," Miss Irwin says:—"It would appear on a closer study that this cry is inspired by what is really a very superficial view of the case. It is true that the number of women who add the duties of citizenship to those of the family circle is rapidly increasing year by year, but it by no means follows that these latter are being neglected." She then proceeds to show the real nature of these new developments of women's interests and activities, namely, that women are merely following their traditional interests and work (not always consciously) into the new fields whither these have gone. Thus, in the great departments of Lighting and Sanitation, "when gas and electricity were unknown the making of candles and the provision of oil came under the department of the House Mother." In the same way, "when the water supply was represented by the village well, and sewage systems were either non-existent or only to be found in a very elementary form, the provision of water and the maintenance of household cleanliness rested mainly in the hands of women. The Municipality is merely an expansion of the Household, and what, therefore, more natural and fitting than that the interest of the woman should be maintained in its administrative work?" Pure water, efficient drainage, satisfactory heating and lighting arrangements, pure air, sanitary streets and dwellings, the education of children, the care of the sick, the poor, the helpless, and the orphan children of the State are all departments of public life in which women are intimately concerned. Logically, Miss Irwin points out that, as the municipal economy is merely an expansion of the family, so the State is an enlargement of both. She looks forward to the time when "growing public common sense and sense of justice will finally admit them to a share in the selection of those who constitute the highest body corporate of all—the Parliament and Council of the nation."

Of Miss Armour's paper on "Sanitary Inspecting," a branch of work for which trained nurses have special qualifications; Mrs. Jopling's, on "The Education of the Artistic Faculty"; and Mrs. Kendal's, on "Some Pros and Cons of Theatrical Life," the stern limitation of space permits no more than the bare mention. The book should be procured and studied by all who are interested in the subjects with which it deals.

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