

feather beds in dark rooms and put where as much light and air as possible may be had. Many things which are sources of contagion are removed and the most hygienic conditions the homes will allow are carried out.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF PHILADELPHIA.

By MISS ANNA L. STANBEY,
School Nurse.

Report of School Nurse of Philadelphia, three and a half years' work, beginning with one school and leading up to six.

Total number scholars ... 6,600

Pediculosis	...	...	...	1,959
Ringworm of body	...	...	...	206
Ringworm of scalp	...	...	...	99
Impetigo	...	...	...	262
Eczema	...	...	...	342
Favus	...	...	...	14
Scabies	...	...	...	50
Pustular dermatitis	...	...	...	59
Acute conjunctivitis	...	...	...	451
Corneal ulcer	...	...	...	15
Blepharitis	...	...	...	10
Trachoma	...	...	...	3
Defective vision	...	(corrected)	...	482
Discharging ear	...	...	...	10
Adenoids removed	...	...	...	11
Enlarged tonsils removed	...	...	...	20
Cleft palate operated	...	...	...	1
Orthopædic defect, placed under treatment	...	...	...	9
Carious teeth, taken to Dental Clinic	...	...	...	20
Tuberculosis, sent to Sanitarium	...	...	...	20
Poorly nourished, proper diet obtained	...	...	...	20
Miscellaneous (infected wounds, abrasions, burns, etc.)	...	...	...	952
Mentally defective, taken to Psychological Clinic	...	...	...	12

In November, 1903, the Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia placed a nurse in the public schools to supplement the work of the Medical Inspector. One school was selected in the heart of the foreign district, and the children being almost exclusively of Jewish and Italian parentage, the field for usefulness was a peculiarly rich one. In 1904 the work was extended to four more schools. A regularly systematic inspection was carried out, followed by very good results.

The number of schools now visited by the nurse comprise six, with a total number of scholars of 6,600. Five are visited daily, three in the morning and two in the afternoon. All cases whom the Medical Inspector deems advisable are treated in school. There is at each place a small medicine chest containing ointments, bandages, absorbent cotton, basins, etc., for that purpose. The cases treated are all skin diseases, conjunctivitis, infected wounds, and minor surgical cases. All children excluded by the Medical Inspector, except scarlet fever, measles, mumps, and diphtheria, are visited in their homes by the nurse, after school hours and on Saturdays, who sees to it that they are placed under medical treatment and returned to school as quickly as possible. Many times she is obliged to take the child to a

dispensary, otherwise it would receive no treatment.

Much time has been spent in the homes in getting parents to have defective vision corrected, indeed, this has meant a great expenditure of time and persistence on the part of the nurse in getting the parents to see the necessity of having poor vision corrected, also devising ways and means to pay for the glasses.

Another phase of the work is in getting the parents' consent to have adenoids and enlarged tonsils removed, it requiring repeated efforts to gain permission.

The Supervising Principals and teachers alike have given their heartiest co-operation from the first, and it is seldom that a child needing medical attention is overlooked in the class room.

The Visiting Nurse Society supports the nurse in this work, doing what the City should do in the physical care of the school children.

The Work of Nurses for Hop-pickers.

As the hop-picking season comes round, the interest taken by nurses in the pickers is proved by the fact that a number of them give their services gratuitously in connection with hospital or first-aid work in the hopping districts. Last year no less than twenty nurses did so.

The Rev. Francis G. Oliphant, of the Church of England Mission to Hop-pickers, writing from Teston Rectory, Maidstone, pleads for donations and subscriptions, for parcels of illustrated literature for the reading rooms and club tents, and for bundles of old linen to aid the nurses in their ministrations to the sick. Parcels forwarded to Mr. Oliphant at Watlingbury Station will be thankfully acknowledged by him.

As evidence of the value of the work done by the workers of the Mission, Mr. Oliphant quotes Dr. Reginald Farrar's report to the Local Government Board, Blue Book 252, 1906, on the Lodging, etc., of the Hop-pickers. Dr. Farrar says: "Credit for improvement in the condition of hop-pickers is largely due to Missions. It is generally agreed that there has been of recent years, owing to the influence of missionaries, a notable decrease of drunkenness among hop-pickers, and this in itself conduces to a higher standard of decent living. Apart from the religious work of the Church of England Mission to Hop-pickers, with which this report is not concerned, the social work done by this Society does much to promote the comfort and welfare of the pickers." Last season the Society had forty missionaries, twenty trained nurses, and thirty-three lady workers distributed in thirty-seven parishes where sixty thousand immigrant pickers were employed. All the officers of the Mission are honorary, and the fifty-three ladies, including the nurses, only accept board and lodging for their services. The work of the nurses is greatly appreciated, for there are many minor accidents requiring attention, so that their help is very valuable.

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