

In regard to the alleged delay in admitting a child, who subsequently died, to the wards of the Birmingham General Hospital the Board of Management, after full inquiry are satisfied that the child received all necessary and proper attention on its first visit, and was not then in a dangerous condition, the burns being only superficial.

That there is no doubt the child was at the hospital at, or very soon after, nine o'clock on Thursday morning, and there is satisfactory evidence that he was seen within a very few minutes by the consulting officer who was then in attendance, and inasmuch as the case had been previously seen by the house surgeon, it was quite in order that the child should be passed on to that gentleman, who, although there were various cases awaiting attention, is quite clear that he saw the child before, or by, 9.40 o'clock.

They have no doubt whatever the father refused his permission to the retention of the child in the wards of the hospital, and they consider that the house surgeon exercised a wise discretion in giving him time for further consideration, and that no time was lost when consent was given, as a bed was at once secured, and the child was actually dressed and warded by 10.25 o'clock.

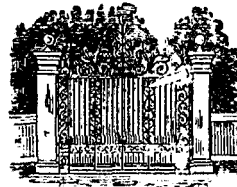
Speaking at the Annual Meeting of the Children's Fresh Air Mission, Mr. Percy Alden, M.P., said that before many years had passed those who were interested in the causes of the physical degeneration of the race would recognise the necessity for sending all town children for a period of the year into the country. He had had the experience of escorting one hundred children bound for the country through London streets. For real excitement and peril, he remarked, the Cup Tie at the Palace or mountaineering faded into insignificance by comparison.

At the recent Annual Meeting, Mr. Daniel Williams, J.P., Chairman of the Management Committee, showed that the hospital is in a better position than ever, in spite of the fact that the expenditure has increased owing to the erection of a fine operating theatre and a beautiful children's ward. The number of patients, too, has largely increased, necessitating an addition to the nursing staff.

The secret of this remarkable success lies in the fact that some years ago the authorities decided upon a form of popular government and control. Llanely is essentially a working class community, and by a bold stroke a management committee was formed equally representative of all the employers and workmen of the town. This committee had worked splendidly together, and has arranged systematic contributions from the various works. During the last year, for example, the workmen contributed the splendid sum of £735 19s. 8d., which was supplemented by £326 3s. 2d. from the employers, making a total of £1,062 2s. 10d. from the works.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN



That the teaching profession is in process of being monopolised by women is strongly evidenced by the results of the recent King's Scholarship examination. The examination is a sort of "little go" for the teachers' certificate, and it was taken by 8,562 women and 1,807 men. In 1870 the numbers of men and women were nearly equal.

The conference on thrift and insurance for women extracted some very pertinent and sensible remarks from several speakers, and the statement that the low wages paid to the majority of women workers is the real deterrent to saving on their part cannot be denied for a moment.

"Save in exceptional cases, the average salary, even of a professional woman, is not over £150," remarked an elementary school headmistress at the Conference. "I believe experts on thrift suggest £10 as the basis of the average year's savings. Say a woman does manage to save £10 a year between the ages of 25 and 50, what has she got at the end of that time? About £310 all told, if invested in the Post Office Savings Bank."

"Of course, some women might with care and strict economy save more. I know a woman now who is saving at the rate of £50 a year, at the sacrifice of her health and by denying herself all pleasures. The modern woman wisely prefers living to mere existence. She likes to have an occasional Continental holiday, to patronise theatres and concerts, and if she would keep abreast of the times she must subscribe to a library, and sometimes indulge in the luxury of buying books. Unless she wants to drop out of her own social world and circle of friends she must entertain a little and dress fairly well. The salary paid to the average business women will not allow of this saving."

Unless a woman is prepared to starve mentally, or live the life of a mole instead of a human being, to save more than £10 a year appears impossible. What is needed is equal wages for equal work with men, then there may be some hope of inspiring women with the power to save. We agree with Mrs. Pollard, who remarked that "women needed rather to be taught how to spend money wisely than how to save it foolishly," but we think she took too rosy a view of their wage-earning powers when she said "that we may safely put £150 per annum as the average salary of the educated working woman."

"In China," it is reported, "elderly women are regularly employed as gossips, and they are paid well. They go to the best houses, beating a drum to announce their arrival, and to offer their services. If they are accepted they tell the choicest scandal and every sort of news that they think may interest

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