

mocratic country. Such a one cannot fail to be struck by the results obtained during the last 30 years, by steady perseverance, combined action, and a large-hearted sense of brotherhood amongst the people as a whole.

The Alderdomskjemmet, Old Age Pensions Home, welcomes the incomer in the motto over the entrance. "In autumn or harvest time look back with thanks and forward with hope."

There is accommodation for 420 inmates, and the necessary conditions are:

- 1st. Men or women of 60 years of age.
- 2nd. Unable to support self and those dependent on them.
- 3rd. Not under sentence for any fault.
- 4th. Not a spendthrift.
- 5th. Not had poor law relief during last 10 years.

The bedrooms are for 2, 4, or 6 persons, with general dining and sitting rooms. The latter, with their green paint, bright red curtains, comfortable chairs, little tables with plants, and flowers have a cheerful, cosy air.

Separate suites are set apart for those in good health, the infirm, and those suffering from senile decay.

The diet is plain, wholesome, and generous. The cost of upkeep works out at about 520 kr. per annum per pensioner; of this the State pays half and the town half.

There is another "Home" for paupers. This one is intended for the unfortunate and deserving old folk. The effect of this has been to diminish the poor rate. People are more careful up to the age of 60, in order to qualify themselves for admission, if necessary. In the words of the courteous director who accompanied us, "All lands give pensions to public servants, Denmark to veterans."

The Labour Bureau, Guldbergsgade 26n, is an object lesson in the methods of bringing employers into touch with those seeking employment in as effectual and expeditious a manner as possible. There is no philanthropy here, the State has undertaken to be the medium of communication, and by its well organised system of coloured cards, and checks, realises that time is money, and boasts that it "can settle a man in five minutes, and a woman in ten."

Co-operation is the basis of most industries. The bacon factory at Ringsted, doing a large export trade with England, has 12,900 farmers engaged in it. Some supply 100 pigs per annum, some two or three, the majority 25-30.

The Esbjerg Butter Factory is worked by 230 farmers with 1,400 to 1,500 cows. The percentage of cream is recorded regularly,

and all milk and cream pasteurised before use. We were told that 48 hours after the cows were milked, the fresh butter is on the London market. It is usual in all these co-operative concerns to pay down a certain sum on delivery, and then divide the profits at regular times, after deduction of working expenses with, as the managers assured us, most satisfactory results.

There is no space to touch on the education system, with its excellent rural high schools. But as a final hint, I would suggest that the intending visitor should write to Pastor Bjerre, Sorff, and try to spend a few hours in that delightful Danish village. The good Pastor, who is also an M.P., has a charming house nestling at the head of the lake, enclosed in earthworks thrown up by the Vikings when they sailed up and took possession of the spot.

This year Miss Butlin is taking a party to Norway, from August 19th to 30th, with a very comprehensive programme of lectures and visits, particulars of which may be obtained from her at Old Headington, Oxford.

M.A.

The Congress on School Hygiene.

The Second International Congress on School Hygiene was opened on Monday last at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, by the Earl of Crewe, Lord President of the Council, who stated he had the gracious command of the King to express to the delegates present the interest with which his Majesty regarded the subject with which the conference was concerned, and his hopes that its discussions might be a great success. In regard to the medical inspection of school children, Lord Crewe said there might be legitimate differences of opinion as to how best to carry it out, but as to its importance there could be no two opinions. Classification was the grammar of science, and in applying the science of hygiene to the question of education they were beginning to see how necessary it was to classify.

Sir Lauder Bruton, President of the Congress, in his most interesting Presidential address, said that those present were met from every part of the civilised world, throwing aside every subject of disagreement, and were intent only on one common object—the health of the children. One of the most important subjects was that of medical inspection in schools, because this was the keystone of physical education. A most difficult question was how to combine educational work with physical training.

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