

out the treatment prescribed by the doctor, for consultations for consumptives, and for mothers and infants were started in that slum.

On the vexed question of payment, Miss Chaptal contended that those who want the help of the dispensary most are those who really cannot afford to pay for it, but they pay for it in other things than money. You expect them to learn hygiene, and then to make their homes better. In this wise you get from them better conditions for the town you live in, and asking and getting, said Mlle. Chaptal, would you give nothing in exchange?

At all these consultations much depends, said Mlle. Chaptal, on the nurse or nurses in charge. In district nursing a nurse will always find a large field for her work among those for whom she is the incarnation of good.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SESSION said she thought the meeting should give Miss Chaptal a special vote of thanks for reading her paper so strikingly in a language which all could understand. She added she was asked to explain that the title "Social Service Work" was not the title of a particular paper, but covered all the papers written about the new kind of work which is being undertaken by nurses.

SOCIAL WORK IN GERMANY.

SISTER MINNA SOMMERFELD said that the foundation of nearly all the religious institutions of both confessions was more owing to social needs than to nursing itself. The care of the poor, of prisoners, of fallen women, however, had often to be neglected because of the terrible distress of the sick. The care of the parish poor was still almost entirely in the hands of religious associations, though, unfortunately, they cannot nearly meet the increasing demands.

Social work for nurses (as it is called) on preventive lines is gradually opening up to German nurses, though the effect of the charitable work of religious communities has been to induce societies to undervalue the nurse's service, so that nurses cannot always afford to undertake these lines on the conditions offered them.

In the propaganda against tuberculosis and in the child-saving campaign, nurses are taking a prominent part. The German Nurses' Association takes an active interest in assisting such movements. The Children's Station of the Zürich Parish Relief is under the superintendence of one member of this Association, while the Stuttgart Town Orphanage is in charge of another. The Association has also supplied two Sisters to the large hotels of Berlin. They take charge of the health of the entire number of employees, 900 in all. A similar post is that of Ship Sister.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SESSION said: I am afraid that when the Congress goes to another country that very few of us will be able to make such contributions in the language of the land of the Congress as many of our foreign visitors have done to-day.

FLOATING HOSPITALS.

An interesting paper on the above subject, sent by St. John's Guild of New York, was read by Miss Delano.

In the summer of 1873 New York City was visited

by a spell of hot weather, and it occurred to a member of the editorial staff of a large daily paper to take some of the newsboys for a trip in a barge, with the assistance of the St. John's Guild. The beneficial results were so apparent that another trip was taken the same year, and, owing to gifts from the public the next year, eighteen such trips were given. One of the projectors of the scheme, who was on board on one of the first trips, asked a small lad if he was enjoying himself, and received the reply, "Yes, but I wish me mither and the sick baby wuz along." This remark started the idea of taking mothers with babies, and since then in the development of the work this has been borne in mind. The vessel now in use is not the excursion barge of the beginning, but a hospital completely equipped to care for day patients. The present mortality among infants during the summer months is very much less than in former years, and authorities give credit for a good measure of the reductions to this floating hospital work.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SESSION said that she thought if the paper they had just heard had been read a year ago, some very good use might have been made of the London County Council steamboats on the Thames.

THE FACTORY NURSE.

A most interesting paper on the "Factory Nurse" employed by the Cleveland Hardware Co., was also read by Miss Delano. The paper stated that the successful work carried on by the Benefit Association, and the Emergency Hospital, had induced this company to employ a trained nurse to give her entire time to this work. She was employed through the Visiting Nurse Association of the city so that the benefit of its experience and supervision might be obtained. The nurse reported both to the company and the Association. She took complete charge of the factory dispensary, and has general supervision of the hygiene in connection with the entire plant.

The nurse was in the dispensary every morning, and was then open to consultation for any employee. Further, her services were also available for any member of the employee's family. The work she had been able to accomplish during the year was beyond the limits of a paper to explain. She made a report of accident cases on a regular accident form, giving the information usually required by accident companies. She also made a report in the case of sickness in the home, this acquainted the company with the condition of the home, the patient's statement as to the cause of sickness, and, in addition, she presented a general statement. The most interesting part of her work was stated to be a systematic investigation of the home of each employee. Her subsequent report was very valuable indeed to the company, enabling them to understand the conditions of their working people, and in many cases, through a larger contact with civic institutions to materially aid their employees without any particular outlay, or giving of charity, but simply by an exchange of knowledge. This was, the paper stated, especially true in connection with children of employees.

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