

public schools and other institutions. The report urges that the consumption of very white bread, when it forms the principal staple food, may produce evil results, which may develop into physical deterioration, deficient brain power, teeth degeneration, consumption, constipation, appendicitis, and the drink craving. A copy of the report can be obtained from Miss May Yates, Hon. Secretary, 5, Clement's Inn, Strand, W.C.

The splendid work which the Royal Southern Hospital at Liverpool is performing, not only on behalf of the poor in the south end of the city, but in the much wider spheres of the training of nurses and tropical research, recently received an impetus by the opening of a new out-patient department, as well as of the Hulme lift. This department has been named to commemorate the work of Mr. William Adamson, the President, whose devoted service to the hospital for many years past has been of a most practical and beneficial character. Subsequently the visitors had an opportunity of inspecting the children's, tropical, and other wards, the operating theatre, and X-ray rooms, with all of which they were very much interested.

Nearly £80 was realised by the Ladies Association of the Bedford Hospital at a sale at the Bedford Kindergarten Training College recently. Lady Amptill, who subsequently presided at one of the stalls, was welcomed by Miss Walmsley, Principal of the College, and in opening the sale, and wishing it all the success it deserved, said it was the child of the Hospital Fête in the summer, which was held on a terribly wet day.

Miss Butler, Acting Medical Superintendent of the Hull Sanatorium, has been appointed for a further period of six months.

The Royal National Hospital for Consumption at Ventnor has received a donation of £1,000 from Mrs. Bell to endow a bed in perpetuity in memory of her late husband, Dr. J. Hougham Bell, a member of the board of the hospital.

The Penal Reform League held its Annual Meeting in the Council Chamber of the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Tuesday last, when an interesting address was given by the Hon. Secretary, Captain Arthur St. John, on his tour in America, which he visited last year in connection with the International Prison Congress. Those who desire to know more of the prison question should join this excellent League, the object of which is "to interest the public in the right treatment of criminals and to promote effective measures for their cure, rehabilitation, and for the prevention of crime." The address of Captain St. John, to whom applications for membership should be addressed, is 7, Holly Village, Highgate, London, N.

Hygiene in Relation to Rescue Work.

A very interesting Conference on "Hygiene in Relation to Rescue Work," was held at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W., on Thursday, November 24th.

MORNING SESSION.

The Lady Laura Ridding, President of the National Union of Women Workers, which convened the Conference, presided at the Morning Session, and said that the Conference was really the sequel to one held at Portsmouth last year. The Union felt the need of gathering statistics on this question, and a Sub-Committee of the Rescue Committee had been appointed to deal with the question, which was approached by the Union primarily from the Christian point of view.

PHYSICAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE IN HOMES FOR WOMEN.

Dr. Jane Walker presented the first paper on the above subject, and said that the functions of a Rescue Home were to receive persons brought there, or who came there willingly. Rescue work should be applied to both sexes, but as things were at present these Homes dealt with women who were the victims of vice. She emphasised the fact that a large number of such women belonged to the feeble-minded class, and it was well known to rescue workers that nearly every unprotected feeble-minded girl sooner or later became a prostitute. Such girls could be cared for in Homes and protected up to the age of 16; after that time protection could not be enforced.

In connection with the hygienic precautions necessary in carrying on a Rescue Home, Dr. Walker advised that each girl should be provided with a number on admission, with which the crockery and linen she used should be marked and be used by her only. She should have a bedroom, or cubicle, to herself, and when she left everything she had used should be boiled, and her mattress should be disinfected. The whole secret of the prevention of infection was scrupulous cleanliness in every detail. A woman doctor should be attached to every Rescue Home.

THE VENEREAL DISEASES.

Dr. Florence Willey said that there was a fallacy current amongst social workers that there was one specific venereal disease, and that it resulted from vice. She explained that there are several diseases—syphilis, gonorrhœa, and chancre—caused by distinct micro-organisms. Dr. Willey urged that young men and women should have clear instruction on sex questions, that girls should demand a high standard of purity, that more facilities for the treatment of patients suffering from the venereal diseases were needed, and that patients attending such clinics should not be marked persons. The whole community suffered from the presence of these diseases in its midst; every other consideration must go, and they must be treated, cured, eradicated.

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