

## SCHOOL CLINICS.

### AT HOME AND ABROAD.

(Concluded from page 251.)

The second part of "School Clinics" consists of a general review of treatment schemes and school clinics, now in operation in Great Britain, and tables are published giving details of 112 centres at which treatment schemes, or school clinics, are in operation. In these centres diseases of the teeth, throat, eyes, nose, skin, minor ailments, ringworm, impetigo, tuberculosis, pediculosis and other abnormal conditions are treated; in a number of cases the X ray treatment, which has proved the most efficacious for ringworm, is carried out. By far the most numerous are the dental clinics, and experience has shown the great necessity for their establishment. The clinics are provided either by the County Authorities, London boroughs, county boroughs, urban districts or rural districts. The Dunfermline School Clinic, the only one in Scotland of which details have been obtained, is maintained by the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust.

Of seventy-six centres fifty-one are provided entirely out of the rates, one receives a substantial subsidy, five others slight assistance from the authorities, either in the form of money grants or free accommodation, and nineteen are wholly philanthropic organizations.

In the majority of cases the clinics were started as the result of a scheme being drafted, and its adoption recommended, either by the medical officer of health or the school medical officer, or by the education committee. Application is then made to the Board of Education for sanction, the circumstances are investigated by the Board, and, as a rule, after a few months delay the work is started. At Guildford the

necessity for a school treatment clinic arose through the action taken by the local county hospital, the medical staff of which declined to treat "school cases." The attitude of the medical profession in the neighbourhood is now reported as being friendly to the clinic.

Interesting experiments are the "flying clinics" set up by the Flint, Monmouthshire, and Somersetshire County Councils. These are exclusively for eye cases. Bradford seems to be alone in treating stammering. With the exception of about six clinics which do their work after school hours, or on Saturdays, practically all clinics carry on their work during school hours, although many of them continue it beyond.



THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE, HUMBIE.

In regard to the attitude of doctors, the majority of clinics report this to be "satisfactory" or "sympathetic"; in a few cases it is "neutral," and in only three instances, hostility is reported.

Parents for the most part appreciate the clinics, and the few objections which have been raised are attributed to the charges made for dental treatment.

The staff of a fully-equipped school clinic usually consists of one or more whole-time or part-time doctors, oculists, and dentists, one or more health visitors or nurses, and in three instances a professional teacher of physical remedial exercises.

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