

SCHOOL CLINICS ABROAD.

Part three, which deals with school clinics abroad, refers mainly to dental clinics, and much of the information contained in it is derived from the School Dentists' Society's publication "Objects and Aims."

In Australia, the State of Queensland has appointed a chief dental inspector at a salary of £300 a year, and two assistant inspectors at £200 a year. Free treatment is given to necessitous cases. South Australia also has a dental officer. In Austria the establishment of the first school dental clinic in Vienna, in 1911, was largely a result of the discovery made in 1890 that over 90 per cent. of the young men fit for conscription had defective teeth, and later

Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States have all recognised the importance of conserving the teeth, and established dental clinics in various centres. An interesting examination conducted in Stockholm proved that children with relatively sound teeth suffered from enlarged tonsils to the extent only of 0.5 per cent., children with moderately decayed teeth 3.12 per cent., and in those whose molars were almost completely destroyed the percentage was 9.5.

Germany shows the greatest number of such clinics, the one at Strassburg, as we noted last week, being of special excellence. It is provided with commodious cloak rooms, a large waiting room, two operating rooms, a rinsing room, and rooms for the director and staff. The rinsing room shown in our illustration contains eight wash basins with fountain spittoons, obviating the use of tumblers and their resultant risk of infection.

We are able to produce this picture, and also the charming one of the children's village, Humbie, belonging to Edinburgh Children's Holiday Fund, by the kindness of the National League for Physical Education and Improvement, by



RINSING ROOM, STRASSBURG DENTAL CLINIC.

investigations carried on in several school districts showed that 98 per cent. of the children had bad teeth. The waiting room is supplied with toys and pictures, fresh flowers, and aquaria, so that the children may amuse themselves while waiting their turn. The school dentist is a favourite with the children who willingly come for treatment. It is estimated that 6,000 necessitous children will have to be dealt with annually in the district served by this clinic alone.

Brussels has a complete dental service paid for out of the town budget. In Canada, Toronto, Quebec and Winnipeg all have their dental clinics. Denmark, Finland, France,

whom the book under consideration is published.

The aim of the book is to show that "medical treatment and supervision are not ends in themselves. They are subordinate to a greater end. They are intended to secure for the child, primarily, his highest educational value, and ultimately his highest social value. But neither his educational value, nor his social value can be fully secured unless his physical basis is made adequate to the requirements of his long and arduous education. Physical education therefore becomes an integral part of the general school curriculum," and this education must be conducted under constant skilled supervision.

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