

SOCIAL SERVICE.

A HOME FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN.

The Fallow Corner Home for Homeless Children, North Finchley, N., of which the founders were Miss E. B. Kingsford (its Hon. Secretary) and Miss B. Wright (the Hon. Matron), was opened in 1898 to meet a much needed though little recognised want, that of making suitable provision for the infants of unmarried working girls whose former lives have been thoroughly respectable. None but a first child is ever eligible.

The objects of the Home are to provide healthy surroundings, good food, careful attention, and, later, sound education for such children, and so to lay a stable foundation whereby they may develop into healthy, useful members of the community, instead of being the stunted, ill-nourished specimens of humanity which only too often result from unscrupulous "baby farming."

A scarcely less important aim is to bring a kindly influence to bear upon the mothers and to ensure their getting that for which they—often with extreme difficulty—pay.

A more useful or humanitarian bit of social service can hardly be imagined, and it is one which should command the liberal support of those who realise the difficulty of the problem of bringing up this particular class of children to be useful members of society. Not only should the work be maintained but it should be extended, for a number of pitiful applications are received, which, from lack of means and space, cannot be entertained. The work is of real benefit to the State, in counteracting the waste of life and health going on at the present time which must bear such bitter fruit in a future generation. Yet its founders are compelled to realise that though it is one of the very few homes which give a fair chance to children heavily handicapped in the race of life through no fault of their own—it can only exist for a few more years, unless means can be raised for paying off the mortgage and loans on the property. A relatively small sum would put the Home on a permanent basis, and allow of its being handed over to trustees £4,000 would complete the purchase, and then a committee of management should be able to raise the necessary £500 per annum. The mothers' payments for the last three years have averaged rather more than two-thirds of the upkeep. £470 was the balance.

As things are at present the Home must cease when its founders are no longer able to work it, and it would be not only regrettable from a humanitarian point of view, but wasteful on the part of the community, were this allowed. We hope that those who are able, will also be found willing, to give it the necessary support. Visitors are always welcome any afternoon except Wednesday between two and four o'clock, and some acquaintance with the children cannot fail to arouse interest in the work. The Home may be reached by G.N.R. and N.L.R. to Highgate, and thence by electric tram to Granville Road.

OUR FOREIGN LETTER.

FROM PARIS.

The final examinations have just taken place at the School for Nurses, at the Salpêtrière, at Paris. Sixty-six pupils have obtained the School certificate, two have been put off till next year by the jury, composed of hospital doctors and surgeons, who expressed themselves as highly satisfied with the practical instruction given at the School.

This result redounds to the credit of the Matron, Mlle. Clement, who, for many years, devoted herself to the instruction of nurses in the hospitals, and who to-day has the honour of being at the head of the fine building of the Salpêtrière.

The question of the reinstating of the Sisterhood in the hospitals will shortly bring the School for Nurses to the fore, in the discussions which will arise, and we can but congratulate ourselves on seeing it in full prosperity, so much so that its adversaries have been compelled to do homage to the nurses coming out from this School. Several of them are already at the head of very important services, such as surgery at Salpêtrière, maternity at Lariboisière and the Sanatorium of Angicourt. Over 300 certificated nurses are at present in the Paris hospitals, where the doctors and surgeons ask for them in preference to others.

A great honour has besides called the attention of the whole of France to the School for Nurses of the Salpêtrière. M. R. Poincaré, accompanied by M. L. L. Klotz, Minister of the Interior, visited on July 17th this fine establishment, which is known to many of our comrades who have passed through Paris, and who are always sure to meet with a hearty welcome there.

The President of the French Republic was escorted in his visit by M. André Mesureur, Administrator of the School and professor, by Dr. O. Crouzon, hospital doctor, as also doctor of the School, and he inspected with the greatest interest the pupils' comfortable accommodation, library, drawing and reception rooms, the prettily-furnished bedrooms and tennis court; he spoke to the Matron, Mlle. Clement, and questioned the monitresses and pupils.

He stopped at the bedside of the pupils then in the infirmary, which is open, not only to the pupils, but also to former pupils, as well as the feminine staff of the Salpêtrière. A pupil was pointed out to him who had been undergoing a series of punctures of anti-typic vaccine at the time of incubation of typhoid fever, and thanks to which the malady had proved very mild.

The President of the Republic and the Minister of the Interior made a lengthy pause in the rooms for physiotherapy, where the pupils do massage, for aërothermotherapy and electrotherapy, where they perform intravenous punctures, under the direction of Dr. Crouzon.

In the large amphitheatre were assembled, besides the actual pupils, the certificated pupils already

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